



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas K-9 School Newsletter

August 29, 2022

School Mission Statement

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School exists to form disciples of Jesus Christ. Educating in the Eucharistic culture and classical intellectual tradition of the Catholic Church, students are led to encounters with the transcendental good, true, and beautiful. In wonder, confidence, and virtue, students are prepared to engage our broken world for the glory of God, the good of others, and for their own sanctification.

Virtue for the School Year: *Devotio* (Devotion)

- Having the will to give oneself readily in the service of God

Virtue for Margaret Mary Term: Sacrifice

- Offering something to God by setting it aside out of reverence for Him



~ Events Calendar ~

View the complete St. Thomas School Calendar [here](#).

Thursday, September 1st

Jeans Day

Friday, September 2nd-Monday, September 5th

Labor Day Weekend Break

Wednesday, September 7th

Parent Orientation Night (parish hall), 6:30-8:00 PM

News/From the Headmaster

Faculty Orientation



It was a great blessing to have all the faculty and staff back together after the summer break. I am excited and encouraged as I work with this year's teachers and staff, who have already been forming strong relationships and going out of their way to support one another and work as a team. A school at heart is a community of teacherships united in friendship and love of the truth. Our orientation week was an experience of that for me, and I think for our teachers and staff as well.

First Day and Week!

We had a great first day and week. I have greatly enjoyed meeting and interacting with the students! The school is an empty place over the summer, and it is good to see it filled and lively again. I am still learning names, but I fully intend to have all of them learned in the next few weeks. It has been a pleasure to get to know your children and to see them with each other. Thank you again for entrusting them to St. Thomas!



A Note on the Virtues for the Year and for the Term

I have already begun to talk with students about devotion and sacrifice, both of which are aspects of the virtue of religion, the disposition to give God His due. Devotion helps us to remain committed to serving God, particularly in worship. This virtue is central to living out our love and adoration of Jesus. We are focusing in particular on how we can practice this virtue at Mass. Today we talked about having “custody of the eyes.” This helps us to focus on what is most important, which, at Mass, is the supreme Sacrifice being offered on the Altar. Keeping our eyes fixed on the Altar and on Jesus in the Eucharist can be a small sacrifice offered to and with Jesus.

Afternoon ESP Starting 9/6

Our afternoon Extended School Program will be starting up again the day we get back from Labor Day break (Tuesday, September 6th). Preschoolers begin at 3:10 and K-9 students begin at 3:25. Please register with Khrista Boes, our bookkeeper,

and pay the \$15 registration fee if you plan on using ESP this year. **Please see the accompanying attachment for full details.**

Robotics Club

Bob DiMattia, a father of a new family at the school, is interested in starting a robotics club at St. Thomas. A flyer is attached in this same email with his contact info if you have any questions or want to join. The season would run through the fall and end in December. This will be an after-school program, likely 1-2 days a week, depending on the age group. Mr. DiMattia will be communicating directly with parents who have expressed interest and relay more specifics about the program.

Jeans Day

We missed the last Friday of the month last week, so we are moving the August jeans day to this Thursday, September 1st. Please refer to the attached dress code for proper jeans day wear.

School Policies/Reminders

P.E. Clothes

A reminder to parents of 6th-8th graders to pay \$24 for gym clothes. This can be done at the office with cash or check, or on EFunds.

Dress Code Reminders

Please refer to the dress code for policies on shoes, socks, and belts. These three items have been the most frequently violated areas. Boots are not allowed, and shoe height should remain at or below the ankle area. Shoes must be of uniform color – either black or dark-toned, with girls allowed to wear all-white shoes. Socks need to be crew, and thus at or above the ankle bone. Boys need to wear belts. Beginning after Labor Day, we will begin calling home for repeat offenders to have proper wear brought to school.

Lunch Ordering

Hot lunch ordering will begin for the month of October (more details to come). **Please note that, this year, the school will not place a lunch order for any student whose parent did not submit an accompanying payment with their order.** That will cut down on the confusion and headache surrounding outstanding balances.

Parent Orientation – September 7th, 6:30-8:00 PM

We will be in-person for orientation this year. This will be an opportunity for you to hear about how the school is doing and what we're doing at the school this year, and to check in with teachers. I look forward to seeing you there!

Note on PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the online system that the school uses for grades, assignments, attendance, etc. New families should be receiving a letter this week that will allow them to login to PowerSchool for the first time. Returning families should be able to use their existing login information to access PowerSchool.

Volunteers Needed!

St. Thomas Parish Picnic

The annual parish picnic will be held on Sunday, September 11th from 1:00-4:00 PM. We will need parent volunteers to help run various stations and provide food. I am including the sign-up form links. Thanks!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945afae2cabff2-stthomas3>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945afae2cabff2-parish>

Sacristans for the School Masses

Thanks for those who offered to help serve as a sacristan for the school Mass. For now, the parish is able to cover this, but I will let you know if any need arises.

Substitute Teachers

Please let me know if you'd be interested in being on the substitute teaching list. This is a major service to the school and any help would be greatly appreciated. The school pays subs \$12 an hour.

Rescue Project

St Thomas Church is excited to offer three opportunities for school families to participate in Fr John Riccardo's new program called The Rescue Project. We will be offering a weekly evening format for parents, a home-based monthly format for the whole family, and a weekday format for school moms with young children. The Rescue project focuses on how the Gospel message is explosive, extraordinary, and the life-changing news of Jesus' defeat of the power of Sin and Death. The Rescue Project is an 8-week program that consists of a community meal, video and discussion groups. This is such a wonderful opportunity to get to know other St

Thomas families! To register go to <https://www.mission-suite.com/forms/78880665-a69f-4c5e-b270-b07683875b21/submit>. For more information *please contact Caroline Gambale Dirkes, Director of Evangelization: 734.761.8606 X 2904; cdirkes@sta2.org*

The Rescue Project for School Moms

**** Young Children Welcome**

Dates: Thursdays, Sept 29- Nov 17th

Place: Room 250

Time: 9am-11am

Cost: \$20 (light refreshments)

The Rescue Project for Families

Dates: 2nd Saturdays (monthly format)

Place: Meinhart's House

Time: 4:00pm-7:00pm

Cost: \$50

In Christ,

Michael Sauter