



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione
"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas K-9 School Newsletter

October 24th, 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](#).

Friday, October 28th

End of Margaret Mary Term; Jeans Day

Monday, October 31st

First Term Virtue Award Presentation – All-School Assembly (8:00)

Wednesday, November 2nd

Dress-up Day

Thursday, November 3rd

Half Day (11:40 Dismissal) – Parent-teacher Conferences (1:00-8:00)

Friday, November 4th

No School

Tuesday, November 8th

3rd-9th Grade Confessions; Angel House Award Day

Friday, November 11th

Turkey Trot

Tuesday, November 15th

St. Thomas High School Open House in the Parish Hall (6:30-8:00)

From the Headmaster

St. Crispin's Day!

Today at assembly, I talked about the Battle of Agincourt (1415) and read Henry V's famous speech in Shakespeare's play. I reminded them that the Christian life is a battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil, and some of our weapons are prayer and sacrifice. I urged them to continue using both of these weapons as we near election day on November 8th. We want to be like the soldiers who loyally and bravely fought for their king, winning a great victory, rather than those who left and lost their honor. Besides, as I have been telling them, the prayers of children are especially effective!

First Term Virtue Awards

Each homeroom teacher (K-8) will select one student to be the recipient of the award for sacrifice, the virtue we have been focusing on for the Margaret Mary term. The award recipients will be announced at morning assembly next Monday (10/31 at 8:00 in the parish hall). Parents are welcome to join us that morning. Parents of winning students will be notified beforehand.

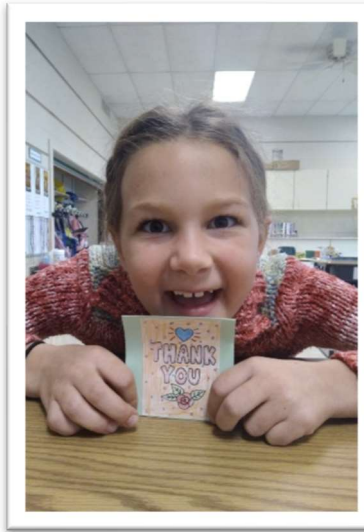
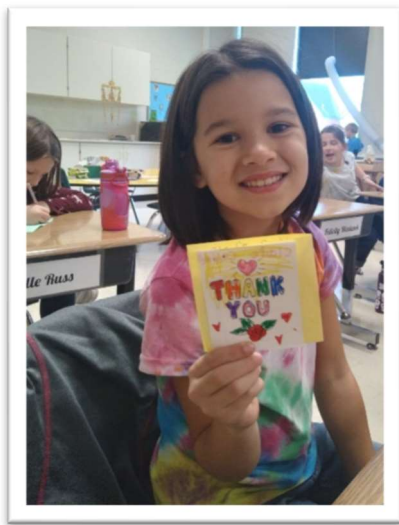
We will be honoring 9 students in all, but I have been impressed by all the students' growth so far this year. It has been a great blessing for me to get to know your children, to see their docility, cheerfulness, and friendships. I joke with Mrs. Steffy that we're doing well because we've had no catastrophes and the building's still standing, but I can in all seriousness attest to much more than just that! I believe that we have a real culture of friendship at this school, and I am encouraged by dedication of both teachers and students as we enter our second term.

Angel House Winner

Mr. Pietryga has been updating and encouraging the students every week on the Angel House Competition. The race is close entering the final week, with only 12 points separating first and third place! The winner of the Angel House Competition will also be announced at next Monday's assembly. The winning house will receive a dress-down day and pizza and milk shakes for lunch on November 8th.

Thank-You Cards for Fr. Bill and Fr. Gerald

Each class wrote thank-you cards for our priests, who have so graciously been offering our school Masses! Here are some contributions from our second graders:



State Honors Choir!

I am extremely proud (and Mrs. Herrmann is too!) of Theresa Deemer, Serena Jeyaraj, Stasio Fil, and Julian Magenau who auditioned for and were accepted into the Honors Choir for the state of Michigan! Their names were announced on the PA at the end of last week. These students had to put in extra work submitting videos as part of the application process. This achievement is a testament not only to their work and talent, but also to the great formation that Mrs. Herrmann provides our students in the choral arts!

Parent-Teacher Conferences and Report Cards

Report cards will be published for parents to see by 3:30 on Wednesday, November 2nd. Conferences this year will run from 1:00-8:00 on November 3rd, which is a half day (11:40 dismissal). **A sign-up email was sent out last week.** These conferences are mandatory. **As a note, there will be no ESP on that day.** Generally, we will not have ESP on half days.

All Saints' Day

For the Solemnity of All Saints this year, students can come to school dressed as a saint of their choice. Costumes should be appropriate and wearable for the whole school day. We will have an all-school Mass that day. Students will receive a special treat at lunch, and teachers will be adding their own special touches to the day.

High School Open House

We are hosting a high school open house for interested parents in the parish hall from 6:30-8:00 the evening of November 15th. This event and an updated brochure are posted on the school [website](#). We will be advertising it at various places as well. Mr. McCoy and I will be presenting on the high school vision and plans, and we will also have teachers and current high school parents present to answer questions and to give tours as needed. Come and learn more about what the school is adding in the coming years, and invite anyone you think might be interested!

Other News/Parish Events

School Projects Update

The State Street steps are finished and look great! Work on the retaining wall around the playground is scheduled to begin this Wednesday (10/26), at which point the playground area will be closed and classes will have recess in the gym. We will still use the parking lot for dismissal.

Upcoming Parish Events – See Attached Fliers!

- Every Wednesday from 10-11:30 am there is a Play & Pray group in Room 250 of the parish offices.

- First Fridays for Tots will continue next month in November.

- Our parish's All Saints Party will be on Sunday, Oct. 30th, after the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses.
 - We need volunteers to run the stations - contact Caroline Biskner or sign up using the signupgenius QR code.