



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

## St. Thomas K-9 School Newsletter

October 31<sup>st</sup>, 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 Nicholas Term: Studiousness

- A keen and moderated desire to know



## ~ Events Calendar ~

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

Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Saint Costume Day**

Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Dress-up Day**

Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

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

Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
**No School**

Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
**3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confessions; Angel House Award Day**

Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>  
**Turkey Trot**

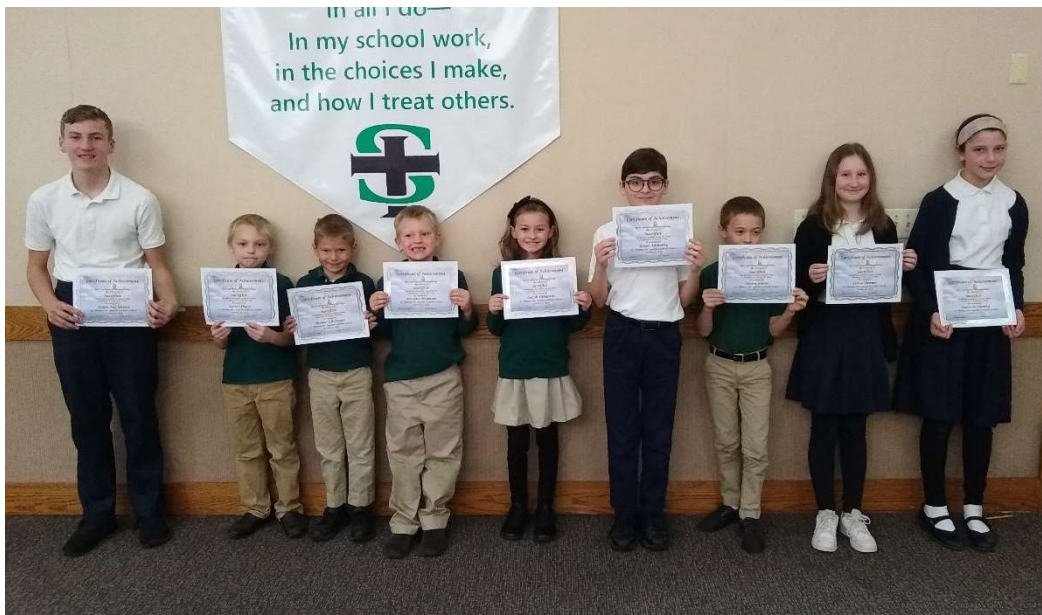
Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>  
**St. Thomas High School Open House in the Parish Hall (6:30-8:00)**

## From the Headmaster

### **Margaret Mary Virtue Award Recipients**

Congratulations to our award-recipients from each grade for the virtue of sacrifice! I am proud of each of them and of all the students for their dedication this first term!

- Kindergarten: Ben Meinhart
- First Grade: Bernard Atzinger
- Second Grade: Xavier Sharp
- Third Grade: Ceilidh DiMattia
- Fourth Grade: Henry Sauter
- Fifth Grade: Joseph DiMattia
- Sixth Grade: Teresa Deemer
- Seventh Grade: Charlotte Hanley
- Eighth Grade: Aidan McClelland



### **Angel House Winner: Margaret Mary Term**

Congratulations to Gabriel House for pulling off a tight, 6-point victory for the first term! All the houses competed extremely well, setting us up for a great race through the rest of the year. Gabriel House members will receive a pizza-and-milk-shake lunch next Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>!

### **Communion Fast**

I reminded the students at assembly this morning about observing the fast before Communion. The morning Mass presents a different scenario for students than last year. Please help your son or daughter be aware of the time in case they are having a late breakfast. Depending on the priest, 8:00 school Masses can be anywhere from 35-50 minutes. I assured the students that it was perfectly fine not to receive Communion.

### **Parent-Teacher Conferences and Report Cards**

Report cards will be published for parents to see online by 3:30 on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Conferences this year will run from 1:00-8:00 on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, which is a half day (11:40 dismissal). 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. Because it is a solemnity, no homework will be assigned that 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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

### **Poinsettia, Wreath, and Garland Sale**

As in years past, St. Thomas School is offering Christmas poinsettias, wreaths, and roping for sale. Proceeds go to the school. See the attached orders document for details. Orders are due by November 16<sup>th</sup>, and pick-up will be on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **School Projects Update**

Work on the retaining wall around the playground has begun and will continue for perhaps 7 weeks. For now, the playground area is closed, and classes have recess in the gym. We are still using the parking lot for dismissal. It is certainly not ideal to not have playground access, but this is the first step in a major and lasting overhaul to our playground area.

### **Upcoming Parish Events – See Attached Fliers!**

#### **ALL SOULS' DAY NOVEMBER 1**

All Saints' Day is a holy day this year! Our Masses are at

- 7 PM October 31
- 7 AM, 8 AM (School Mass), 12 noon, and 7 PM November 1

#### **REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES NOVEMBER 2**

Make plans to join St. Thomas Church for some of our special events on Wednesday, November 2, All Souls' Day.

- We have a "Book of Remembrance" in the Divine Mercy area of St Thomas church throughout the month of October where you can enter the names of people you would like remembered at our All Souls' services on November 2.
- A pizza dinner will be available in the parish hall from 4-5 (RSVP using the QR code below so we can order your meal!)
- We will pray *The Office of the Dead* at 5 PM for all the names in our Book, as well as for those who had funerals at our church or parishioners who have passed away since All Souls Day 2021.
- After the office, we will walk together in a prayerful pilgrimage to St. Thomas Cemetery where we will pray a Divine Mercy Chaplet for All Souls.
- At 7:00 there will be an Extraordinary Form Requiem Mass

