



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas K-10 School Newsletter October 9th, 2023

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: Faith

- Assenting, through grace, to God's revealed truth

Virtue for Margaret Mary Term: Truthfulness

- Telling the truth when one ought, as one ought



~ Upcoming Events ~

October 10th

Technology at Home – Presentation and Discussion, 7:00 p.m. (see below)

October 13th

Fall Festival, 12-4 p.m., playground area

October 17th

School Pictures

EF School Mass Parent Follow-up Meeting, 2:30-3 p.m., school library (see below)

October 23rd-24th

No school: ICLE Training Days for Teachers

October 25th

Upper (High) School Meeting for Parents, 2:15-3:05, School Library (see below)

October 27th

Last Day of Margaret Mary Term

November 1st

All Saints' Day - No school

November 3rd

No school: Parent-Teacher Conferences, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

November 9th

Wine, Cheese, and Poetry Night, 7:00-8:15 p.m., school library (see below)

November 10th

Turkey Trot

November 14th

Upper (High) School Open House, 7:00 p.m.

NEW DATE: December 12

Art, Poetry, and Music Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m., parish hall (see below)



2nd-Grade Play: The Parable of the Good Samaritan



Extraordinary Form Mass

A special thanks to our schola of 9th-10th graders, who, under the direction of Mrs. Setterholm, sounded truly impressive, especially for their first time singing the Mass! Thanks also to the altar boys, who, under the direction of John Perrotta and Joe Lipa, did a great job serving at the altar.



From the Headmaster

We enjoyed a couple of performances at assembly today, and we look forward to upcoming ones as well. Our 2nd graders did a wonderful job acting out, in costume, the Parable of the Good Samaritan. As our 2nd-10th graders use their Bibles more and more this year, we hope to continue to make our curriculum and school culture

more permeated with Scripture! I followed up with a reading of G.K. Chesterton's "Lepanto," commemorating the 1571 naval battle of that name. At the October 30th assembly, winning 5th-10th-grade boys from each class will recite, for a grand prize, the famous speech from Shakespeare's *Henry V* in commemoration of St. Crispin's Day. At the assembly on November 6th, winning 5th-8th-grade girls will recite, for a grand prize, John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" in commemoration of Veterans' Day.

Today at assembly I also reminded the students about the importance of the rosary and of carrying one with them. I asked all the students to pray a rosary this week for our school and for the Church. The rosary is a powerful weapon in our Christian battle!

New Date - Art and Poetry, Choir Concert / Choir Update

We had originally scheduled our art and poetry night in mid-November and our choir concert in mid-December. Both of these dates have been removed from the calendar. There is now only one evening scheduled, combining art, poetry, drama, and music, on December 12th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Not only will this cut down on commitments during an already-busy time of year, but it also accommodates the fact that we currently do not have a teacher to replace our current long-term substitute, Mrs. Setterholm, who will only be with us through the end of the first term. I have had a number of leads of the summer and into September, but all of them have fallen through for one reason or another. As we pray we find someone to continue choral music class at the school, something that is an integral part of our classical curriculum, I am working with the faculty to come up with a "plan B."

Reminder: Parent Meeting on Technology Tomorrow

Thank you again for making the effort to come out tomorrow evening (7:00-8:30 p.m. in the parish hall). I look forward to seeing you there and hearing the great insights that Mike Hanley has to offer! Please come with your questions and concerns, as there will be time for discussion as well. Mr. Mileski will be overseeing childcare with the help of middle-school girls in the school library.

Fall Festival Reminder

As a reminder, for our Fall Festival this Friday afternoon, students can bring in a \$5 donation and receive a dress-down day for the festival day. See the email I sent out last Friday for more details.

EF School Mass Parent Follow-up Meeting

Next Tuesday, October 17th, from 2:30-3:00 p.m. in the school library, I will be in the school library to meet with any parents interested in giving feedback on EF school Mass and in hearing about our current plans going forward. Fr. Bill will be out of town, but I am hoping that Fr. Gerald will be able make it.

Wine, Cheese, and Poetry Night – Nov. 9th, 7:00-8:15

Please join me in the school library for wine and cheese as we enter into an evening of “leisure” and read and discuss the poem “God’s Grandeur” together. This will be a chance just to allow our minds to play over the meaning and beauty of a poem, precisely the activity of the mind towards which we are leading our students. No preparation or reading beforehand is required. Come experience an evening to pursue something beautiful together and see firsthand what we mean by “classical education”! I am currently working on providing babysitting once more; stay tuned!

Moms’ Social Night



Come meet with other St. Thomas moms on Friday October 20th at 7:00 pm at the St. Thomas Parish Hall for a social night and recipe exchange! Our theme will be "School Survival Meals." Please email Emma Sauter (sauterrn@gmail.com) or Megan Dimattia (megandimattia@icloud.com) with one of your go-to weeknight meals, or lunchbox ideas (a link to the recipe would be great). We will compile into a packet to share. Please also consider bringing an appetizer or dessert to share! Don't have a recipe to share? Come anyway!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4AA8A92BA5F94-44785992-stthomas>

Upper (High) School Parent Meeting – Wednesday, Oct. 25th

All school parents are invited to attend a meeting specifically focused on updates and information about our upper school. The meeting will begin at 2:15 p.m. with a Divine Mercy Chaplet in the school chapel and proceed to an overview and discussion session in the school library. The purpose of this meeting is as follows:

- To join in prayer for the upper school
- To hear about specific highlights, trends, and stories among the 9th-10th graders
- To see the latest overview of thoughts for next year and the “bigger picture,” including our place in the broader diocesan picture
- To hear about our upper school November open house and plans for promotion
- To propose thoughts, feedback, or questions

Your support and input are of great importance to the continued development of a full PreK-12 school. Thank you for making an effort to attend!