



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas K-10 School Newsletter November 6th, 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 Nicholas Term: Patience

- Bearing evil with an equal mind



~ Upcoming Events ~

November 7th

Angel House Reward Day

November 8th

Dress-up Day

Turkey Trot Pledges Due

November 9th

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

November 10th

Turkey Trot (see below for dress that day)

November 14th
Upper (High) School Open House, 7:00 p.m.

November 16th
Order forms for poinsettias and wreaths due (see flyer)

November 17th
Dress-down day

November 22nd-26th
Thanksgiving Break

NEW DATE: December 12
Art, Poetry, and Music Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m., parish hall (see below)



Margaret Mary Term Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students for their great work this past term!

5th-8th Grades

Cum Laude (3-4 B's and 2-3 A's in Academic Subjects)

Marlee Meier, Vincent Pearson, Isidore Rutherford, Max Sproule,
Clare Moilanen, Luca DiMattia, Samuel Garred, Anna Walusek

Magna Cum Laude (1-2 B's and 4-5 A's in Academic Subjects)

Oliver Derderian, Lola Fisher, Cyril Walusek,
Ella Meinhart, Theresa Deemer, Serena Jeyaraj,
Francis Pearson, Jonathan Sauter, Amelia Eustice

Summa Cum Laude (All A's in Academic Subjects)

Mia Chavez, Henry Sauter,
Madeleine Hanley, Ellie Dauw, Charlotte Hanley

9th-10th Grades

Magna Cum Laude (3.67-3.99 GPA)

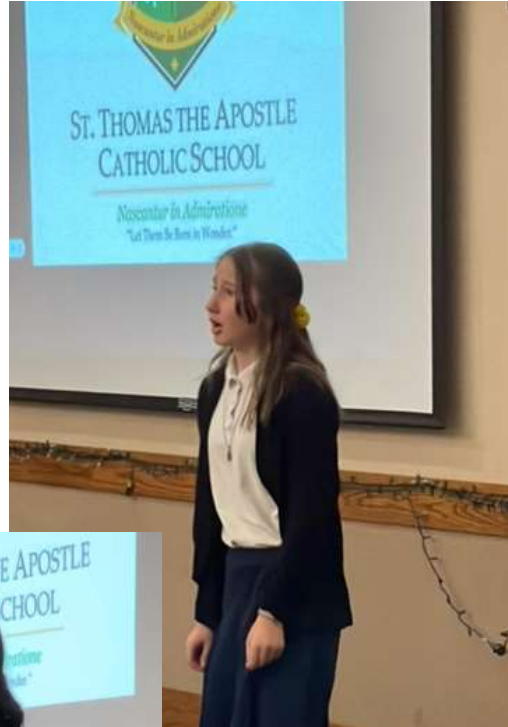
Fulton Deemer, Paul Restuccia

All Saints' Day Saints





“In Flanders Fields” Recitation at Assembly



From the Headmaster

It was great seeing and talking with many of you at parent-teacher conferences last Friday. Thank you again for your great love and commitment to your children; we are honored to be able to partner with you in their education! If you were not able to make it last Friday, please feel free to reach out to teachers, whether classroom or specials teachers, to schedule a meeting. I can vouch for all of my teachers in saying that they truly care for your children and have great insights to share about them!

This week is a full one. Angel House Award Day for Raphael House members is tomorrow. They will be able to dress down, and will be receiving a treat at lunch and an extra play time in the gym. On Wednesday, dress-up day, Turkey Trot forms are due. On Thursday, we have our wine, cheese, and poetry night, and Friday is Turkey Trot day!

This Friday will also be a bonus, special dress-down day. Students should wear their Turkey Trot shirts. This time only, they may wear appropriately fitting warm-up pants or sweatpants, but no shorts, spandex, or leggings. Don't forget to submit the \$7 donation and pledge form by this Wednesday.

The winning recitations of "In Flanders Fields" were wonderfully delivered at assembly this morning by our 5th-8th grade girls. The grand-prize winners for both boys and girls will be announced at next week's assembly.

This poem provided a good opportunity to remind the students about Veterans' Day and why it occurs on November 11th. I asked students to listen for the flower mentioned in the poem – the poppy – which was often seen growing on top of the recently-made graves along the Western Front during World War I.

This is generally a month for remembrance and for thinking about the "Four Last Things" – death, judgment, heaven, and hell. I talked about why these are "last things" and how these help us as Christians to focus on what is most important every day. All of these things are very real and final; the stakes are high! We called to mind the 2 ways spoken about by Christ in the Gospel of Matthew – the one wide and well-traveled, the other narrow and not often traveled. Every day is a gift, an occasion for new graces and time to make up for our past sins. The time we have is so very precious, and we should never waste it. Every day, our most important consideration is, "How can I grow closer to Christ today?" All of us, ultimately, will travel one of those two ways, and we shouldn't kid ourselves into thinking that our ultimate destination is already determined. So we must "work out our salvation," cooperating with the new graces that Christ has for us every day.

Introducing Our New Choral Music Teacher

I am pleased to announce the hire of Miss Emily De Long, who will be our long-term substitute for the remainder of the school year for K-10 music. Emily attended Hillsdale College, pursuing pre-med and history. She is currently taking a sabbatical before she completes her degree. Going back to her time in high school, she has had a number of years' experience singing with professional and college choirs, including the National Catholic Youth Choir, the Cathedral Choir of Phoenix, and the Hillsdale College Choir. Miss De Long has a deep love and appreciation for sacred music and classical education. She was able to observe Mrs. Setterholm's classes and is very excited to be part of our school and its mission. She starts this week!



Rosary Group for the School

Please join your St Thomas the Apostle School community in praying for our teachers, staff, and students while school is in session. Padre Pio said that the rosary is the weapon for these times, so let us use it for the guidance, growth and protection of our beloved school!

Our mission is to start a Living Rosary during the school year on each day of the week for this intention. The Living Rosary is basically the idea that a group commits to saying a full rosary together by splitting up the decades. See the attached document for more information on how the Living Rosary got started, but Pope Saint John Paul II started a group in his parish during the Nazi invasion and continued to promote these groups in parishes throughout his lifetime.

We ask that each parent sign up to commit to saying one decade of the rosary each weekday. A decade consists of one Our Father, ten Hail Mary's, one Glory Be and the Fatima prayer if desired (O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of Thy mercy.). Opening prayers (Apostles Creed, Our Father, Three Hail Mary's and Glory Be) are only said before the First Joyful Mystery. Closing Prayer (Hail Holy Queen) is only said after the Last Glorious Mystery.

Please [sign up here](#) for a decade and we will send out daily reminders starting Monday November 13th. There can definitely be more than one parent per mystery; the more rosaries the better!

Thank you so much for your prayerful commitment to our school.

Prayer for the School

Please join other parents in offering a Divine Mercy Chaplet once per month for our school, students, and staff. We will meet on the Second Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted) in the School Chapel directly after drop off in the morning, shortly after 8am. Each decade will be offered for a different intention. If you are unable to join physically, please join wherever you are able!

Book Club Starting Nov. 7th, 1:45 p.m. – St. Augustine's *Confessions*

Our first meeting will include getting to know each other and also go over the introduction to the book presented by Fr. Gregory Pine & Fr. Jacob Janczyk on the Catholic Classics Ascension Podcast (dated 9/14 & 10/2). Ascension Press has made reading this classic VERY EASY. Fr. Gregory & Fr. Jacob are reading it over the period of 60 days on Catholic Classics podcast and they include a lively commentary which helps us to better know this amazing Saint and Doctor of the Church.

If you have any questions on how to access this FREE podcast you can call or text me (Laura Hess 239-340-5617) You can find all the details for listening, podcast pacing guide, and ordering the physical book in the link below. If you have your own copy - you can use that as well. It will be fun to have other reading and sharing different translations/versions of this book.

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catholicclassics>

We will meet every Tuesday when school is in session at 1:45pm in the school library. We will not meet on days in which there is no school. The podcast episodes are well done in which you could listen and join at any time - you don't have to buy or read the whole book to enjoy this book club. Join us on GroupMe: 'Classical Parent Book Club' https://groupme.com/join_group/92838021/aqjevP39 OR text me at 239-340-5617 and I can add you to the group!