



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter February 12th, 2024

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 Scholastica Term: Friendliness

- Acting in a becoming manner towards others



~ Upcoming Events ~

February 13th

Special Presentation: Zach Good, 6:30-8:30 p.m., parish hall

February 14th

Ash Wednesday

February 16th-19th

Mid-Winter Break

March 1st
Financial Aid Application Deadline
Next School EF Mass

March 5th
Technology Discussion Night, 7-8:30 p.m., school library (see below)

SAVE THE DATE: April 19th
St. Thomas Gala – Weber’s Inn



Thank you!

Registration for next school year was due last Monday, and I wanted to reiterate my gratitude for your ongoing support and desire to entrust your children to the care of our school. As we continue to work together for the glory of God and the sanctification of these young souls, I pray that God, through the Blessed Mother, continues to shed His grace on us to help us serve Him faithfully in this endeavor.



From the Headmaster

We had a special guest with us today at assembly. Mrs. McClelland gave a wonderful presentation to the students about St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes, whose feast day was yesterday. Bernadette was only 14 when Our Lady began appearing to her in 1858. She was a poor peasant girl, and not a particularly good student. Yet she was an obedient servant of Mary and a faithful bearer of her message to do penance and to pray the rosary. Mrs. McClelland was excited to discover a connection to Ferrero Rocher chocolates, which were created by their owner in honor of the grotto (“rocher” – “rock”, in French) where our Lady appeared to Bernadette. Their very shape is representative of that grotto, reflecting also Mr. Ferrero’s deep devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes. For more information on this connection, you can check out this article: <https://aleteia.org/2020/06/24/how-ferrero-rocher-chocolates-were-inspired-by-the-virgin-mary/>. The students received these chocolates, along with prayer cards, at lunch today – an early Valentine’s, perhaps!



Bernadette's life was hardly a happy one, by human standards. After the apparitions, she entered the convent, but struggled with sickness for much of the rest of her life, which she endured with joy and thanksgiving (see below for her "Testament of Gratitude"). She died at the age of 35 in 1879. She is a wonderful witness to the simplicity of focus and desire with which we are called to have as Christians. As a told the students, Lent is a perfect time to recover some of that simplicity, especially if what we give up enables us to pray more.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow at our evening talk! Its announcement has been generating interest in the wider parish and community, so I anticipate some non-school attendees as well. As I announced last week, we will have childcare available for the duration of the evening, located in the school library.

Prayers for Mrs. Jackowski

Mrs. Jackowski, one of our middle/upper-school Math/Nature Studies teachers, is scheduled to be induced this Thursday. She will be wrapping things up at school this week, after which Mrs. Raney and Mr. Votel will be taking over her classes while she is gone on maternity leave. Please pray that everything goes well for her!

Trivia Night Earnings

I am pleased to announce that the school received over \$2000 in profits from the Trivia Night fundraiser. Most of the funds will be put towards classroom libraries, while some will be reserved for further beautification of the school, which will be an ongoing need over the coming years!

Upcoming Lenten/March School Events

Mrs. Deemer, the teachers, and I are finalizing details for the events and competition of March is Reading Month, which will begin during library times the last week of February. This will be a fun opportunity for Mrs. Deemer and the teachers to highlight the importance of reading worthwhile books. More details are coming later this month.

Mr. Votel is working to coordinate, with his 6th-grade class, a Lenten food drive for Hope Clinic. More details will be forthcoming in the next week or two.