



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter March 25th, 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 Boniface Term: Prudence

- Applying right reason to action in pursuit of the good



~ Upcoming Events ~

March 27th

**Report Cards Published
Parent Survey Responses Due**

March 28th-April 7th

Easter Break

April 19th

St. Thomas Gala - Weber's Inn

April 25th

Art and Poetry Night, 6:30-8:00 p.m., parish hall

CALENDAR UPDATE: May 10th Early Dismissal
1:30 Early Dismissal for Drama Production at Arthur Miller Theatre, 2:00 p.m.;
7:00 p.m. Evening Performance (see below)

May 16th
K-10 Choral Music Meditation, 6:30-7:30 p.m., church

Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter!

Virtue Award Recipients: Friendliness

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen by their homeroom teacher to receive the friendliness virtue award for Scholastica Term.

- K: Elizabeth Shereda
- 1st: Sebastian Caldwell
- 2nd: Matthew Biskner
- 3rd: Savina Jeyaraj
- 4th: Abigail Moilanen
- 5th: Isidore Rutherford
- 6th: Claire Moilanen (not pictured)
- 7th: Anna Walusek
- 8th: Gabriela Martire



Congratulations to Michael House on Winning the March Reading Competition!

Michael House pulled off a victory with 57 overall points over three weeks of reading, edging out Gabriel (53) and Raphael (52). Michael House members will receive a special board game and treats session with Mrs. Deemer at a date to be determined after Easter break. The middle-school house reading competition results are still forthcoming.

Congratulations to 6th Grade on Winning the Canned Food Drive!

Averaging over 33 items per student, the 6th-grade class topped 2nd-place 4th grade (over 25 items per student) and 3rd-place 5th grade (over 23 items per student) for the victory. Most importantly, Mr. Votel and the 6th graders were able to deliver 1,895 items to Hope Clinic today! Thank you for your support!

Literary Trivia!

Many thanks to Mrs. Deemer and teachers for organizing and running our literary trivia competition last Friday. Thanks also to students that served as questioners, scorekeepers, and cheer leaders! Each side, Green and White, was comprised of three teams (one 1st-4th grade and two 5th-10th grade). Congratulations to the White team on coming out on top!





Special Reminder – Gala Tickets/Update

Tickets can be ordered on our website at <https://sta2.org/school/st-thomas-school-scholarship-gala-auction-2024/>.

Please consider helping out with donations for our raffle baskets. A flyer (see attached) was sent home over a week ago, but we have received few responses thus far! Thanks for your help in supporting our Gala.

From the Headmaster

As we turn our attention to the holiest week of the year, know that I will be keeping you all in my prayers. This is truly a time of great grace for the Church, as she joins with Christ in His passion, death, and resurrection.

Back in the fall, I mentioned our intentions to update our emergency plans. This is something that I meant to have completed sooner, but that didn't go according to

plan! The plans are now updated, based on input from both school and parish side. The chief area of focus was the section pertaining to our emergency response to a physical threat on campus. We have already adapted the way we have run our drills so as to emphasize the fluidity and live decision-making that will mark this kind of event. Protecting our students is based on the following main areas of focus: door security, live information and communication, and active, ongoing localized responses in light of known circumstances. The plans are not a public document for security reasons; however, I would be more than happy to sit down and discuss further with any interested parent. We take this issue seriously and will continue to reflect on how we can best face the challenge presented by a potential physical threat, commending all to Our Lady's care.

Over a month ago, our 9th and 10th graders took the 9/10 level Classical Learning Test (CLT-10). We recently received the results. Collectively, on a test with a score total of 120, they scored an average of over 13 points higher than the average score from students nationwide, which, I believe, is a testament to the impact of our upper-school formation, even in the short-term!

Solar Eclipse – April 8th

Our area of Michigan will experience a partial eclipse from just before 2 p.m. to around 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 8th. Right around dismissal will be the time nearest “totality,” when we will experience a 99% eclipse. We will be sure to instruct the students on avoiding looking directly at the sun, which can cause eye damage during a partial eclipse. If you feel more comfortable doing so, you are welcome to pick up directly from the school office entrance that day as well. You can learn more at <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/safety>.

Drama Club Production

This year, for the middle/upper-school drama club, Miss Schoenle and Mr. Massett have rented out the Arthur Miller Theatre the week of May 6th-10th, with the main performance occurring at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 10th. In addition, we would like to give the students and teachers an opportunity during the day to see the play, since not everyone will be able to make it to the evening performance. **May 10th will be an early dismissal for the entire school at 1:30, allowing parents to pick up and drive students to watch the 2:00 performance at the theater, which is a less-than-10-minute drive away.** More details forthcoming after Easter break!

Parent Survey

Please take time this week to fill out the parent survey for the current school year, using the following link: <https://forms.gle/AaaJePr7DVuAL3ch7>. As always we

appreciate your feedback! This is an anonymous survey that includes both multiple choice and short answer responses. Please keep in mind that the purpose of this survey is to offer feedback in a constructive mindset. If you have deep frustrations or concerns, I would love to hear about those too, and I would invite you to reach out for an in-person conversation. If possible, please complete by this Wednesday, March 27th. Thanks!