



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admiratione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter April 22nd, 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 ~

Wednesday, April 24th

Uniform Swap, 2:00-4:00 p.m., parish hall (see flyer)

Thursday, April 25th

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

April 26th

Dress-down day

May 8th

School May Crowning – before 8:00 school Mass (info forthcoming)

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

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

May 27th
Memorial Day - No School

June 7th
Last day of school - 9-11 a.m. picnic (info forthcoming)



National Latin Exam Awards

This past March, the 7th-10th graders took the National Latin Exam. The 7th graders completed the introductory level, the 8th graders the beginners' level, and the 9th-10th graders the intermediate level. Today at assembly we presented certificates to those students who achieved an award-level score on their respective exams. In addition to the higher overall number of award recipients, I want to especially highlight the increased number of recipients of the Silver Maxima level, as well as our first Gold Summa, the top level on the exam! This is a testament to the work of our Latin teachers, Mrs. DeRocher and Mr. Lennon!

7th Grade

Cum Laude: Sam Garred

Magna Cum Laude: Teresa Deemer, Luca DiMattia, Jonathan Sauter

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: John Lee, Serena Jeyaraj, Francis Pearson, Ellie Dauw

8th Grade

Cum Laude: Julian Magenau

Magna Cum Laude: Amelia Eustice

Gold Summa Cum Laude: Charlotte Hanley

9th-10th Grades

Cum Laude: Jame Hiester

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Paul Restuccia



From the Headmaster

Thank you again to all those who supported and attended our gala last Friday! The night was an amazing success. I hope to pass along overall numbers later this week, but already I can say that we saw big jumps in our attendance and earnings from previous years! This will provide a valuable buttress to our scholarship funds, the need for which will likely continue to increase in the coming years.

Speaking of Latin...I took the opportunity at today's assembly to remind students about some reasons as to why we have all students study Latin (beginning in 5th grade) learn Latin prayers and chant. Latin can seem like a particularly useless language, since it is not living and has no clear connection with job placement or career advancement. Today, I highlighted the way in which Latin is part of our heritage as Catholics and Americans. We talked about the meaning of the word "heritage," and I pointed out the essential role that passing on and receiving a heritage has in our human development. Without an anchor in what has come before, we lose a basic orientation for our identity and way of life. An essential part of the education we are engaged in at St. Thomas is this handing on of a tradition that students can learn to love and think deeply about. Latin is an important part of

that, linking us to the Church and her worship and teaching, as well as to an immense cultural heritage originating with the Romans.

As I told them, while it is true that it is not likely that you will be asked about your knowledge of Latin when applying to be a computer programmer, it is also the case that, whether you want to be a computer programmer or a caveman or anything in between, you will have to answer the question “How ought I to live?” That is a human question, one that getting a good job can never adequately answer. The reception of a heritage helps us to answer this question well, and Latin is one key aspect of this heritage, without which we would be missing out on some of the important ideas and ways of seeing that this heritage provides.

Art and Poetry Night – This Thursday!

I am excited to see what each class is able to present in art, poetry, and drama at our Art and Poetry Night this Thursday evening starting at 6:30 p.m. This is a required all-school event. The evening gives the entire school community a chance to delight in the arts, a state of mind that is essential to a classical education. **Students should come dressed up, as they would for a dress-up day at school.**

Upper-School Seminary Visit

Right after returning from Easter break, the 9th-10th graders made their way to Sacred Heart Seminary to meet once more with the transitional deacons for whom they made confessional stoles. Thanks again to Mrs. Widawski, Mr. McCoy, and Mr. Lennon for leading them through this wonderful mission in service of the priesthood (see next page for picture).

