

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admiratione "Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-10 School Newsletter May 6th, 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 ~

<u>May 8th</u> School May Crowning - before 8:00 school Mass (info forthcoming) Dress-up Day Parent Association Meeting - 2 p.m. in parish hall

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) NO ESP

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

<u>May 20th</u> Declamations Contest, Monday Morning Assembly, 8 a.m.

May 24th Extraordinary Form School Mass

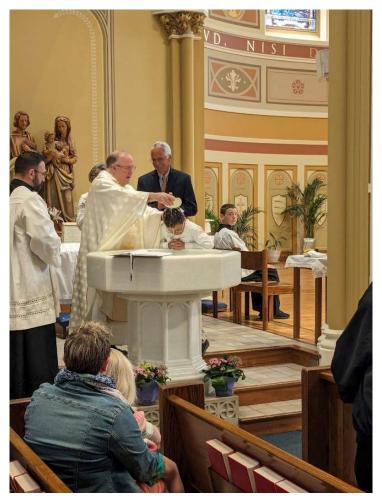
> <u>May 27th</u> Memorial Day – No School

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



Congratulations!

Congratulations to many of our second graders on receiving their first Holy Communion this past weekend! Congratulations also to Jesse Deja, who was baptized and who received first Holy Communion at our all-school Mass last Thursday!



From the Headmaster

At assembly today, we talked about the upcoming feast of Pentecost, which is anticipated by a novena starting on the Friday after Ascension Thursday – this week! After reviewing the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit (Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety, and Fear of the Lord), I mentioned that I would be asking the school community to pray at home this novena, which focuses on asking for the 7 gifts. Fr. Gerald has made copies available in the church. You can find the novena online at https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/novenato-to-the-holy-spirit-for-the-seven-gifts-309.

Please do consider praying this as a family! I will be focusing end-of-the-day prayers on the Holy Spirit during that time as well. As I told the students, without the Holy Spirit, our hearts would grow cold and hard, and our faith would die. Our school is in constant need of his vivifying presence and the renewal and deepening of love that He brings. As fallen human beings, we tend to fall into thoughtless, comfortable routine, which engenders a carelessness even in the presence of the great mysteries and gifts of our Faith. We must constantly be on guard against the presumption that simply "doing the right things" and "checking all the boxes" will assure us of God's favor. Christian humility, however, reminds us of the centrality of love in the Christian life and in the spiritual life of our school – not merely human love, but divine love, which calls us to an ever-deepening devotion and commitment. Now is the perfect time to call on the Holy Spirit to kindle His fire in us!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the play this Friday! Miss Schoenle and the students have been working very hard in preparation, and I am excited to see another great way to showcase our school. Don't forget to turn in the permission slip for your child(ren) if they are going to watch the 2:30 performance! As a reminder, there will be no ESP this Friday.

May 15th Talk by Karen McClelland

Ladies from the school and parish are invited to a talk, giveaways, and brunch the morning of May 15th, from 9-10:30. Our middle schoolers will provide babysitting in the school library. Please see the attached flyer for more details on this great way to connect with other ladies from the school and parish.

Parent Association Meeting

Please join us this Wednesday, May 8th, at 2 p.m. in the parish hall for our end-ofthe-year PA meeting. I will be reviewing the updated parent association vision and guidelines (please see attached). We will also be looking at next year, particularly events requiring long-term planning (e.g. the Gala) and the kick-off picnic in August. Everyone is welcome!

Yearbooks Now on Sale!

Parents can order the 2023-2024 yearbook using the QR code copied below (see also the attached flyer, which is available in the school office as well) and submitting your student(s) name(s) for whom you want one ordered. Each yearbook is \$25. Parents will be billed through FACTS only. Books will be distributed during the last week of May to those who have paid. We have a limited number available based on estimated sales, so we will sell on a first come, first served basis.

