



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Nascantur in Admirazione*

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

## St. Thomas PreK-11 School Newsletter

August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### *School Mission Statement*

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School exists to form disciples of Jesus Christ. Educated 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: Hope

- Having a firm trust that God will help us be with Him in heaven

### Virtue for Margaret Mary Term: Magnanimity

- Pursuing what brings great honor



## ~ Upcoming Events ~

August 27<sup>th</sup>

**4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Altar Boy Training, 3:20-4:20, church (see email from Mr. Votel)**

August 29<sup>th</sup>

**Dress-down day**

August 30<sup>th</sup>-September 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Labor Day Weekend Break**

September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Girls Lector Training, 3:20-4:05, church (see email from Mr. Votel)**

September 5<sup>th</sup>

**Back-to-School Night, 6:30-8:15 p.m., parish hall**

September 8<sup>th</sup>  
Parish Picnic, 1-4 p.m. (see attached flyer)



First Day of School!

















## From the Headmaster

Welcome back to school! It has been an immense blessing to welcome the students back. I am very much looking forward to this school year and the ways in which God will work in the students through the formation they receive at St. Thomas! I want to thank you for all your work in getting the necessary supplies and uniform items together. The students look great!

At our year-opening assembly I told them a story about a man who sought for the treasure God had given him. This year, we are focusing on the virtue of hope, a virtue that causes us to look to and seek after our heavenly homeland in the midst of this “vale of tears.” So much of being a great Christian and human being relies on this quality of being a seeker, of not being satisfied with passing pleasures and temporary gains. I pray that God bestows that quality on all students who come through our school!

We had a blessed in-service week. Every year, I thank God for our great faculty and staff. It is a joy to see them bond and to see their common desire to serve the school and the students in light of a common vision. In addition to the many classroom preparations, we took time to pray together and to hold a book discussion for Christopher Dawson’s *Crisis of Western Education*. It is a great gift to have teachers who love Our Lord and who form a true community of thought in reading and discussion.

I look forward to seeing you all at Back-to-School Night next Thursday evening. The evening will begin with my introduction and presentation. Parents will then be invited to attend teacher-run sessions in classrooms. We will make the parent handbook available – both electronically and in paper-form – that day/evening as well.

One valuable takeaway from Back-to-School Night will simply be becoming familiar with our teachers and what they are teaching! We have a somewhat complicated staffing arrangement for our middle and upper grades, but that is allowing us to offer the classes we need, especially as we track in Latin and Math.

It appears that we will be able to start choral music classes next week! I hope to be able to officially announce our new hires for the position next Tuesday.

## Calendar Note

This year, at the beginning of each month, we will be sending home a month-at-a-glance school calendar with the oldest and only. I will also be sending it electronically with the newsletter. We hope to have September’s out before Labor Day break, so you can look for that later this week.

## Lunch Ordering

Hot lunches will begin in October. Please keep a look-out for the ordering due date in September. Please also give us feedback on the survey sent out by the Parent Association last week. This year,

we are looking to incentivize parent volunteers for lunches. With enough coverage, we hope to continue to offer weekly lunch options every day but Wednesday.

## Fall Athletics

Practices for fall athletics begin today. Mrs. Boes will be setting up the registration and payment through FACTS, at which point we'll send out a notice to parents with instructions on how to officially register and pay. This year, for these kinds of payments, we will be using FACTS to streamline and track incoming money.

## Parent Association Meeting

After conferring with the current PA board members (Pia Gavigan, Bob DiMattia, and Laura Hess), we decided to push the first PA meeting into September. Please be on the lookout for the meeting date from our PA via Flocknote.

## Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge

The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus congratulates the twelve boys and seven girls who recently contested Council 587's penalty kick Soccer Challenge at the school year kick-off picnic!

John Lee won the Boys (12-14) division with a score of 200 points, hitting the top corners of the goal on eight of his fifteen PKs.

John Meinhart won the Boys (9-11) division with a score of 130 points.

Mia Arambula-Chavez won the Girls (9-11) division with a score of 115 points.

Each of these winners is eligible to participate in the next higher level of the Knights' Soccer Challenge at a time and place that will be identified soon.