



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas PreK-11 School Newsletter

October 28th, 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 Nicholas Term: Meekness

- Moderating anger according to right reason



~ Upcoming Events ~

October 29th

PSAT (Juniors)

Gabriel House Award Day

Wine and Poetry Night, school library 6:30-8:00 (details below)

October 30th

School All-Saints' Celebration (see below)

October 31st

No School – Parent-Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

November 1st

No School – All Saints’ Day (holy day of obligation)

November 6th

Dress-up Day

November 7th

Upper-School Open House, school library 6:30-8:00

November 8th

School EF Mass – Sung (chant) Requiem

Chili cook-off, parish hall 6:00-9:00 p.m.

November 11th

Martinmas Celebration, 1-3 p.m., Wheeler Park

November 19th

Art and Poetry Night (required student attendance), parish hall 6:30-8:00

November 27th-December 1st

Thanksgiving Break

Check out Flocknote for Parent Association Info:

<https://sta2school.flocknote.com/dashboard>



Margaret Mary Term Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students for their great work this past term!

Middle School (6th-8th Grades)

Cum Laude (3-4 B's and 2-3 A's in Academic Subjects)

Francis Pearson

Magna Cum Laude (1-2 B's and 4-5 A's in Academic Subjects)

Lola Fisher, Henry Sauter, Max Sproule, Clare Moilanen, Alex Wood, Ellie Dauw, Teresa Deemer, Jonathan Sauter

Summa Cum Laude (All A's in Academic Subjects)

**Mia Arambula-Chavez, Madeleine Hanley, Eloise Meinhart,
John Lee**

Upper School (9th-11th Grades)

Cum Laude (3.33-3.66 GPA)

Gabriela Martire, Fulton Deemer, James Hiester

Magna Cum Laude (3.67-3.99 GPA)

Charlotte Hanley, Thomas Kratochwill, Paul Restuccia

From the Headmaster

Last week, the full-time teachers, Mr. McCoy, and I participated in a two-day workshop with the Institute of Catholic Liberal Education (ICLE) on mimetic instruction. This is year II for the diocese in the three-year process of working with the ICLE to shift schools towards a liberal arts' focus. We are clustered with the two other schools in the diocese that have already committed to this direction: St. Mary's in Williamston and Resurrection in Lansing. It is always a time of good conversation and comradery when our faculties get together, and last week was no exception! Teachers had an opportunity to watch each other give short lessons and give feedback, as well as participate in sample lessons to demonstrate various approaches to having students practice imitating and applying what they imitate. It was a fruitful time for us to continue to reflect on classical education, as well as a chance for our teachers to demonstrate the depth of their knowledge and their engagement with the deep questions we were led to ponder during the workshop.

This week is a kind of fall "triduum" – All Hollows' Eve, All Saints' Day, and All Souls' Day. At assembly today, we talked about what each of these days celebrates, doing a short refresher on the "4 Last Things" and Purgatory. I also reminded the students that this Friday is a holy day of obligation. We then transitioned to a short initial reflection on the virtue of meekness, which is the moderation of anger according to right reason, which is part of the virtue of temperance. We discussed what it means to "moderate" our passions and how this is something we need to do in order to live a strong and holy life. Far from making us weak, meekness gives us strength to pursue what is good and just according to the truth. In coming weeks, we will be exploring this virtue more and its connection the overall virtue for the year, hope.

Reminders

- Don't forget that our **wine and poetry night** is tomorrow evening at 6:30 in the school library! I hope to see you there for a delightful evening led by Miss Benz and Miss Schoenle.
- Don't forget to register for the **Chili Cookoff** on November 8th! This is a fantastic opportunity to support our athletics department while having a great time and delicious chili! See attached flyers.
- Report cards were published last Wednesday. Everyone should have received an invitation from the classroom teacher(s) to sign up for parent-teacher conferences this Thursday, which will take place in the classrooms. If there are other teachers that you would like to meet with, please reach out to set up a mutually agreeable time. I look forward to seeing you all this Thursday!

All Saints' Celebration

The school will celebrate All Saints' Day this Wednesday. Students are encouraged to come to school dressed as a saint. Those not wishing to dress up may come in their school uniform. After Mass, we will pray a litany of saints as a school in the church. We will then make our way to the parish hall to allow the K-4 students to show off their costumes. In the days leading up, 5th-11th graders will be participating in a class competition to deliver the best encomium, a short speech offered in praise – in this case – of the saint they are dressed as. The winner from each class will receive a prize and deliver the short speech to the school that morning. During the course of the day, classes will be having their own celebrations as well.

Upper-School Open House – Nov. 7

Our open house for the upper (high) school will be held in the school library on November 7th at 6:30 p.m. Please help spread the word if you know of anyone who might be interested in joining the upper grades. We are excited to be adding the final grade next year!

Mr. Votel and Miss Schoenle Are Getting Married!

All St. Thomas students, parents, faculty, and staff are invited to their Wedding Mass on November 30th, at 1:30, at St. Thomas! There will be an STA group photo taken immediately after the Mass. Please pray for them as they prepare for this sacrament, and they hope to see you there!