

# St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School

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

# St. Thomas PreK-11 School Newsletter

March 24th, 2025

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 Boniface Term: Religion

- Giving God His due in worship and service

## **School Lenten Focus: Making Time for Prayer**

Please consider, as a family, how you might dedicate more time to prayer this Lent, and consider also lifting up the school in prayer, that the Lord would continue to guide us and shed His mercy upon us.

~ Upcoming Events ~

 $\frac{March~25^{th}}{\text{Solemnity of the Annunciation - No School}}$ 

# March 28<sup>th</sup> (No dress-down day due to Reading Month)

April 4th

Upper-School Drama Performance, Kerrytown Concert House, 2 & 7 p.m.

April 5<sup>th</sup>
School Gala – doors open at 5:30

April 7th

Monday Morning Prayer and Coffee, school library, 8:30-9:15 a.m.

April 9th

Art and Poetry Night (attendance required), parish hall, 6:30-8 p.m.

April 17th-April 27th
Easter Break

SAVE THE DATE: May 16<sup>th</sup>

Drama Club Performance, Arthur Miller Theatre, 2 & 7 p.m.

**Check out Flocknote for Parent Association Info:** 

https://sta2school.flocknote.com/dashboard



# St. Joseph's Table

Mrs. Deemer worked her magic again this year and set up a fantastic table. Each class a chance to visit, hear about St. Joseph, and receive special bread baked for the occasion. Many thanks to our baking helpers, Pia Gavigan and Melissa Canzano, and especially to Mrs. Deemer for making the feast day special and memorable for the school!



# Scholastica 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)

Marlee Meier, Jonathan Sauter

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

Mia Arambula-Chavez, Lola Fisher, Victoria Miller, Max Sproule, Clare Moilanen, Alex Wood, Ellie Dauw, John Lee, Francis Pearson

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

Henry Sauter, Madeleine Hanley, Ella Meinhart

#### Upper School (9th-11th Grades)

Cum Laude (3.33-3.66 GPA)

Lydia Galbraith, Stasio Fil, James Hiester

*Magna Cum Laude* (3.67-3.99 GPA)

Gabriela Martire, Fulton Deemer, Paul Restuccia

Summa Cum Laude (4.00 GPA)

Charlotte Hanley

#### From the Headmaster

We have one week to go in our reading competition. Among the Angel Houses, Gabriel is leading with 44 points, followed by Raphael with 36, followed by Michael with 28. The winner will be announced at next week's literary trivia contest, which will take place in the parish hall during assembly time.

The day off this week might feel a little random, though I doubt any student is complaining about it! I want to continue to highlight the liturgical calendar as the more important calendar. To the secular world, tomorrow is a work day; to us Catholics, it is a feast day. Though it is not a holy day of obligation, I encouraged students to make a point of pestering their parents to take them to Mass, which is the supreme way by which we can honor the day. I also reminded them that they can take a break from Lenten observances tomorrow. We ought to mark the day with celebration and setting aside time for God.

This fit very well with our virtue for Boniface Term: religion, the virtue by which we give God His due, thereby establishing a bond with Him. We owe worship and thanks to God, who is supremely Beautiful and who is our Creator. At the heart of worship is sacrifice. As Catholics, we have the True Sacrifice, True Worship, who is Christ Himself. While it is natural to seek to establish a bond with God, it is only through Christ that we are actually in right relationship with the Father. The Mass is our Sacrifice, the supreme act of worship on earth, since it is Christ Himself who offers and is offered to the Father on our behalf. We have a great opportunity to participate in this highest act of worship tomorrow and to thereby give God His due and draw closer to Him in love.

Last Thursday, we had a lovely evening with Dale Ahlquist, who spoke about the advantages of classical education in forming complete thinkers and human beings. We had a great mix of school parents, parishioners, and others from the

surrounding Catholic community. It was a lovely time of fellowship, conversation, and listening to a fun and insightful talk.

#### School Gala

We are now in the last week for gala ticket sales, which close this Friday!

You can refer others to our school website for ticket purchasing, sponsorships, donations, and other information. <a href="https://sta2.org/school/featured-events/greengoldgala2025/">https://sta2.org/school/featured-events/greengoldgala2025/</a>

# Diaper and Food Drive Update

Our diaper and food drive is also humming along, with two weeks to go! Below are average items per student for each class. Let's make a last push these last two weeks to help support moms in need!

K: 4.75

1: 2.27

2: 3.08

3: 3.14

4: 8.42

5: 1

6: 14.46

7: 12.33

8: 2.22

9:0

10/11:0

## 9th Grade Girls' Sacred Art Mission

Every Friday, the 9th grade ladies have been working with Miss Gregor and Miss Benz to work and pray through a mosaic of the seven days of creation. Once completed (by the end of May, God-willing!), their art will replace the fish tiles that currently adorn the preschool entrance to the school. This will provide a chance for the young ladies to make a lasting impact on the school's culture by way of sacred art.

As a little history to the "fish bowl" entrance, some may be under the impression that it is so named due to the presence of the fish. In fact, the name comes from

when the hall/entrance area used to have windows on both sides, giving a "fish-bowl" effect. We will be letting go of the fish to make way for something both more ennobling and more meaningful for our school and its mission.

#### **Drama Performances**

This year, we have two performances to look forward to. On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, our upper schoolers, directed by Mr. McCoy, will be performing *The Wedding Trumps the Funeral*, a one-act/one-scene play I put together. Set in 1950s Cleveland, it looks at an Irish family working through the tension between keeping the Catholic Faith and navigating the modern world. And yes, both an upcoming marriage and a dead person are involved. The upper schoolers will be performing at the Kerrytown Concert House, which is a short walk away from the school. We will be inviting middle schoolers and any parents for the 2 p.m. showing, which will be free. The 7 p.m. showing will be ticketed.

The after-school drama club, led by Mrs. Votel, will be performing  $\mathit{Two\ Orphans\ of\ Boston}$  at the Arthur Miller Theatre, the same venue as last year, on Friday, May  $16^{th}$ . We are planning on running that day according to the same general plan as last year, with an early dismissal to allow for students to gather at the theater to watch the free matinee at 2 p.m. The ticketed evening performance will follow at 7 p.m.

# March Reading Month

#### **Special Events in March**

- FRI, MARCH 28
  - Last day to earn points for the reading competitions
- GRAND FINALE: MON, MARCH 31
  - During morning assembly, we will have our second annual game of Literary Trivia. Two representatives from each of grades 1<sup>st</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> will be selected to compete in trivia competitions (broken up by grade bands) with questions composed by their teachers about literary subjects. Winners of the reading competitions will also be announced.