



# THE BUZZ!

Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School | Dynamic Education Centered in Christ

## Plan your week!

**Parents, please join us virtually for our Chapel talk every morning.** The Chapel talk link is <https://meet.google.com/rgb-ofxa-vhj>. The virtue this week is temperance: The restraint of our desires so that we can do what is right and good.

**Monday, Nov. 22 – Monday morning parent rosary, 8:15am, Church Lower Level.** (Please enter through the northeast church entrance and head down the stairs.) Parents, join us as we pray the Rosary to kick off the week. Pray for our children. Pray for their teachers. Pray for our world.

**Monday, Nov. 22 – School mass, grades 1-3.** Please remember to wear mass attire, white shirts and ties (boys) and skirts/jumpers (girls).

**Monday, Nov. 22 – Middle School parent/teacher conferences, 4-8pm.** Parents, please use our [Parent/Teacher Conference Sign Up Google Doc](#). Find your child's teacher's Sign Up Link to choose your conference day/time. Then note the Google Meet Link, which you will use to get into the virtual meeting.

**Tuesday, Nov. 23 – Last day of school before Thanksgiving break.** This is a FULL day of school.

**Wednesday, Nov. 24 – Friday, Nov. 26 – No School. Thanksgiving break.** Eat some turkey (or tofurky, if that's more to your liking) and mash potatoes. Try some cranberry sauce, maybe some stuffing and a little pumpkin pie (don't forget the whip cream). Get outside. Read a book. Call your grandma. Have some leftovers. Practice your jump shot. Enjoy your family. Stay happy and healthy. Have a great Thanksgiving.

## Mark your calendars!

Nov. 30 – Uniform holiday

Nov. 30 – Coffee Talk with Ryan and Marygrace

Dec. 1 – First deadline for Blackbaud/SMART Aid Financial Assistance

## Check out the lunch menu!

Here are the next few lunch menu items:

- Monday – Hot dogs
- Tuesday – Tomato bisque
- Wednesday – No school

## Sign up today!

♥ We are using Blackbaud/SMART Aid for our **financial assistance program**. The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2022-23 year is open. **The first deadline to apply is Dec. 1, 2021.** Visit [studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school](http://studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school) and check out these [Blackbaud/SMART Aid online instructions](#) for help in creating an account. For information and instructions about applying for aid, please contact the Blackbaud/SMART Aid support:

- Phone: (800) 360-8027
- Email: [financialaidsupport@blackbaud.school](mailto:financialaidsupport@blackbaud.school)
- School Name: St. Thomas the Apostle
- School ID: 13303

♥ The **GRACEAC winter II sports** link is open for registration. This is for 5th-8th grade girls basketball. Please use the [GRACEAC Winter Sports Sign Up](#). The deadline to sign up is Dec. 6. Practices will begin the week of Jan. 3.

♥ GRACEAC plans to offer **Catholic United skiing** in the upcoming winter II season. This will be the first time offering the program! Catholic United ski will be open to 6th-8th grade boys and girls. Parents will register and pay the \$250 per player fee through the [GRACEAC Winter Sports Sign Up](#). We will be holding a parent meeting for Catholic United ski on Thursday, December 2 from 6-7pm at Cathedral Square in room D/E on the second floor.

♥ We invite all Saint Thomas school and parish women to join us **Friday, Dec. 3 at 7 pm in the Church for our annual Advent by Candlelight**. Check out the flyer at the end of this Buzz. If you are interested in attending, please register by Dec. 1 with our [Advent by Candlelight Google form](#).

♥ We are slowly **welcoming parents back into the building** and want to make sure that every parent has a chance to see us in action. We've got a [Sign-Up Genius Lunchroom Volunteer](#) for parents who can spare a few hours to volunteer once in a while. Find out if your child really does eat their fruit and veggies at lunch! All volunteers must be Virtus trained.

## Keep in mind!

♥ Buy Catholic Central Sports gear -- Friday, November 26 2-4pm and Mondays in December (Dec. 6, 13, and 20) from 5-7pm. All at the CAT on Leffingwell. Contact [weemoore@comcast.net](mailto:weemoore@comcast.net) with questions.

♥ **Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays:** Every Tuesday throughout the school year from 8:30 am - 5 pm, Eucharist Adoration is offered in the Saint Thomas Church for quiet prayer and reflection. Please use our [Eucharistic Adoration Sign Up](#) or just come as you are able. If you have questions, please call the Parish Office at (616) 459-4662.

♥ **Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders**, check out these [Catholic Central admissions activities](#) and [West Catholic admissions events!](#)

♥ **Cannonsburg is offering affordable ski and ride** options for you and your K-12 student. For more information, check out this [Cannonsburg Ski Club order form](#) or contact Tiffany Fox at (616) 745-8876. The deadline to sign up is Dec. 1.



# Advent by Candlelight

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH AND SCHOOL 2021

We invite all Saint Thomas parish and school women to join us Friday, Dec. 3 at 7pm for our annual Advent by Candlelight Service.

Hear Suzi Furtwangler, retired Saint Thomas School principal, speak about taking care of ourselves during this season. Suzi will share ideas for spiritual, emotional, and physical health during Advent and always. This year, we will gather in the Church for music, prayer and a reflection followed by an optional reception in the Church Lower Level.

Please register by Dec. 1 on the Parish website or by completing this [Advent by Candlelight Registration](#).

Come alone, with family members, friends or watch virtually. If you plan to attend virtually, please register so that we can send you the link.

Questions? Please contact

Pam Strobel ([pamstrobel@stthomasgr.org](mailto:pamstrobel@stthomasgr.org)) or  
Betsy Edgerton ([betsyedgerton@stthomasgr.org](mailto:betsyedgerton@stthomasgr.org)).