

WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

# The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



Nov. 20-24, 2023

## This week!

The virtue this week is **temperance**: The restraint of our desires so that we can do what is right and good.

Monday, Nov. 20 –

- Parent Rosary, 8:15am, Church Lower Level Nursery
- Grades 1-3 Mass, 10:10am, Church

Wednesday, Nov. 22, Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24 – No school; Thanksgiving break.

## November lunch menu!

Here is our [November lunch menu](#). If your child wants hot lunch, remind them to order it in the morning with their homeroom teacher. Families are billed through Infinite Campus.

## Looking ahead!

Nov. 27 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

Dec. 8 – Immaculate Conception/Late start, 8:30am

Dec. 10 – Vespers Service, 6pm, Church

Dec. 17 – Nativity Program (see last page for details)

Dec. 25-Jan. 5 – Christmas break; no school

Jan. 15 – MLK Day; no school

Jan. 18 – All-School Spelling Bee



## Blackbaud Financial Aid for 2024-25 school year

The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2024-25 school year is open. The first deadline is Dec. 1, 2023.

Visit [studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school](https://studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school) to get started and check out the [2024-25 Blackbaud/SMART parent application guide](#) and the [2024-25 parent instructions](#) for help.

## Home and School News!

- **Christmas Trays:** Please help us treat our teachers and staff to trays of Christmas goodies! We will do this on Wednesday, Dec. 6, for St. Nicholas Day! Please sign up using our [STA Cookie Tray Sign Up Genius](#).
- **Thank you:** A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the conference meal for teachers! It all came together to be an awesome spread, and it was much appreciated!
- **Stock the Lounge:** Let's show our appreciation for our teachers by stocking the lounge with their favorite snacks! You will only be asked to stock the lounge one time. For Nov. 13-21, we are asking families with last names beginning with G-H to bring treats. Please use our [Stock the Lounge Sign Up](#). We appreciate your generosity!
- **Christmas Service Project:** Our Saint Thomas School community is sponsoring three families in need this holiday season. Look for sign-ups and ways to help soon!

## Other stuff!

♥ **Saint Thomas Thanksgiving Dinner:** We will be hosting our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 23, from 12-2pm in the lower level of church. All are invited to join in the celebration! RSVP for the dinner and/or volunteer to help on the [parish website](#) or call the parish office to sign up.

♥ **West Catholic Events:** Visit the [West Catholic High School website](#) for upcoming events/admissions info.

♥ **Catholic Central Events:** Visit the [Catholic Central High School website](#) for upcoming events/admissions info.

♥ **Cannonsburg Ski Punch Card:** Punch cards are for K-12 grade students and offer discounts on lift tickets, rentals and private lessons. Check out this [Cannonsburg flyer](#) for more information.

## GRACEAC Girls Basketball Sign Up

If your daughter is interested in playing GRACEAC basketball, the sign up is open. GRACEAC basketball is open to girls in grades 3-8. Please sign up through the [GRACEAC website](#) – either Grades 3-4 Girls Basketball or Grades 5-8 Girls Basketball.

**The deadline to sign up is Dec. 1.**



Dec. 1  
deadline!

# SAINT THOMAS SKI CLUB

ENJOY WINTER TOGETHER



## THE NITTY GRITTY

- Social club, open to all students
- Transportation provided for middle schoolers and 4th/5th graders with a middle school sibling
  - Students who choose this option must be an independent skier
  - Approximately \$80/student for the season (final cost TBD)
  - Only includes after school transportation to Cannonsburg
  - Lift tickets must be purchased separately
  - Chaperones will be on the bus and at the ski lodge, but not on the slopes
  - Parents are responsible for pick-up from Cannonsburg by 8:45pm
- Begins after Christmas Break
  - 6 Fridays to be coordinated with Saint Paul and IHM (dates TBD)
- There will be a designated area at school to store ski equipment

**Questions? Contact Meredith Maczka [mkm9404@gmail.com](mailto:mkm9404@gmail.com)**

To learn more about Ski Club, contact Meredith Maczka ([mkm9404@gmail.com](mailto:mkm9404@gmail.com)) or complete the [Saint Thomas Ski Club Google form](#).



# Save the Date! An Advent Nativity Service



Performed by Grades 1-4

Friday, December 15: School Rehearsal 2:20



Sunday, December 17: Performance 4:00

Saint Thomas Stage



What to wear:

Grades 1, 2, 4: Dress up in your Christmas best!

Grade 3: Dress in your Nativity Costume.



## Advent by Candlelight 2023

Friday, December 1 at 7 pm

**All Ladies of the Parish and School are warmly invited!**

Please join us as we gather in the Church for music, prayer and a reflection followed by a festive reception in the Church Lower Level.

*Be inspired by the music and reflections of Aquinas College President, Dr. Alicia Cordoba.*

Come alone, with family members, friends or watch virtually. If you want to invite friends and reserve up to a table of 8, please note that on the RSVP form.



Please RSVP by November 29th on the Parish website or by calling the Parish Office at (616) 459-4662.

Questions? Contact Pam Strobel ([pamstrobel@stthomasgr.org](mailto:pamstrobel@stthomasgr.org))