



# SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

**Middle School Newsletter | Dec. 8, 2023**

## Midde School Exam Schedule

Middle School Exams – Dec. 19, 20, 21 (dismissal at 11:30am)

1<sup>st</sup> Exam – 8:20-9:50am, 2<sup>nd</sup> Exam – 10-11:30am

| Monday                    | Tuesday<br>9:15 - 11:30          | Location                | Wednesday                      | Location                | Thursday                        | Location                | Friday |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
|                           | Choir/Band<br>8:20 - 9:09        |                         | <b>6 SCI</b><br>Proctor: Adam  | Baxter<br>Bendon        | <b>6 SS</b><br>Proctor: Rachel  | Hoedeman<br>Eggenberger |        |
|                           |                                  |                         | <b>7 ELA</b>                   | Cafeteria               | <b>7 THEO</b>                   | Cafeteria               |        |
|                           |                                  |                         | <b>8 MATH</b><br>Proctor: Evan | Hoedeman<br>Eggenberger | <b>8 SCI</b><br>Proctor: Nicole | Baxter<br>Bendon        |        |
| <b>Break 9:50 - 10:00</b> |                                  |                         |                                |                         |                                 |                         |        |
|                           | <b>6 MATH</b><br>Proctor: Rachel | Hoedeman<br>Eggenberger | <b>6 THEO</b><br>Proctor: Jen  | Baxter<br>Bendon        | <b>6 ELA</b>                    | Cafeteria               |        |
|                           | <b>7 SCI</b><br>Proctor: Adam    | Baxter<br>Bendon        | <b>7 SS</b><br>Proctor: Nicole | Hoedeman<br>Eggenberger | <b>7 MATH</b><br>Proctor: Evan  | Hoedeman<br>Eggenberger |        |
|                           | <b>8 SS</b>                      | Cafeteria               | <b>8 ELA</b>                   | Cafeteria               | <b>8 THEO</b><br>Proctor: Jen   | Baxter<br>Bendon        |        |

### MIDDLE SCHOOL VESPERS SERVICE THIS SUNDAY, DEC. 10!

Our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Saint Thomas choir will perform traditional Advent songs with reflections for our Annual Vespers Service on **Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Church**. Middle school choir members should arrive by 5:45pm and should be dressed in "Sunday best," preferably in red or green. Please join us! Everyone is welcome.



## 6th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We took a deep dive into the last genres of poetry that students need to know for their final projects. We studied the background and structure of each genre, went over examples, and then took time to start writing our own. Next week, we will continue poetry and verb lessons, and work a bit more on our poems. Students' poem portfolios will serve as their ELA midterm.

**Social Studies:** We finished our unit on the origins of civilization. The students took a test on Friday. Next week, we will be looking at Mesopotamia, and then we will begin to review for exams. Study guides will be available starting Tuesday, and then we will be reviewing and getting ready for the rest of the week.

**Science:** We have been discussing the history of the Earth this week by learning about the geologic time scale. We are focusing on how much of the planet's past looked very different, with Earth having gone through many changes. We will be continuing to focus on the different eras and periods of our history moving into next week, before we begin preparing for exams. Study guides were available starting Friday, but we will begin working on them in class next week.

**Theology:** We continued to learn about the life of Joseph. We talked about how his faith kept him going. We had a test on Thursday. Next week we will view the Exodus as God's greatest act of saving love in the Old Testament.

**Math 6G1:** Students learned about the area of parallelograms and the area of triangles. Next week students will learn about the area of trapezoids and composite figures. Exam reviews will come out next week.

**Math 6G2:** Students learned about solving percent problems and converting between the US customary system and the metric system. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 5 with a test. Exam reviews will come out next week.

- Monday, December 11 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, December 12 - Chapter 5 Test



## 7th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** students worked in their groups to start wrapping up our final project presentations. We also practiced making predictions, and making connections by using metaphors. We will begin presenting our final projects next Thursday; the students will have their group presentations in place of an ELA exam.

**Social Studies:** We discussed the Vikings and Christopher Columbus. We discussed how they both discovered America and the lasting impact they had, specifically Columbus. Next week we will finish discussing European Exploration, and then the students will get their study guide for exams on Tuesday. We will also be reviewing and getting ready for exams next week.

**Theology:** We looked at the lives of the Apostles. We explored what they did, where they lived, where they preached and even how they were martyred. We took a chapter test on Thursday. Next week we will look at the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. We will be able to explain the purpose and value of signs, symbols, and rituals.

**Science:** We have been learning about solutions, colloids, and suspensions. We also focused on solubility and how to change the concentration of solutions, as we move into introducing acids and bases. This material will bring us into next week, before we begin preparing for exams. Study guides were available starting Friday, but we will begin working on them in class next week.

**Math 7G1:** Students wrapped up Chapter 4 and took the test. They also learned about ratios, rates and proportions. Next week they will learn about graphing proportional relationships and writing proportions. Exam reviews will come out next week.

- Thursday, December 14 - Chapter 5 Quiz 1 (5.1 - 5.3)

**Math 7G2:** Students learned about solving special systems of linear equations and solving linear equations by graphing. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 5 with the test. Exam reviews will come out next week.

- Monday, December 11 - Chapter 5 Vocabulary Quiz
- Tuesday, December 12 - Chapter 5 Test



## 8th GRADE UPDATES

**Language Arts:** We worked on our final projects this week, and looked at some poems that use literary devices to examine how we can include a literary device in our own poems. Next week, we will work on our final projects, and begin presentations on Wednesday. 8th graders' presentations and poems will serve as their midterm for ELA.

**History:** We discussed the importance of being a citizen, as well as, what immigrants must do in order to become naturalized. The students also took their test on the Constitution this week. Next week, we will discuss George Washington, starting with how Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton felt about George Washington. The students will get their exam study guides on Tuesday, and we will be reviewing for the majority of the week.

**Science:** We have continued learning about genetics this week by learning about DNA replication and how the genetic code directs the cells to create proteins. This material will bring us into next week, before we begin preparing for exams. Study guides were available starting Friday, but we will begin working on them in class next week.

**Math 8G1:** Students learned about graphing linear equations in slope-intercept form, graphing linear equations in standard form and writing equations in slope-intercept and point-slope forms. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 4 with the test. Exam reviews will come out next week.

- Wednesday, December 13 - Chapter 4 Vocabulary Quiz
- Thursday, December 14 - Chapter 4 Test

**Math 8G2:** Students learned about scatter plots and lines of fit, arithmetic sequences and piecewise functions. Next week they will wrap up Chapter 4 with the test. Exam reviews will come out next week.

- Tuesday, December 12 - Chapter 4 Vocabulary Quiz
- Wednesday, December 13 - Chapter 4 Test

**Theology:** We looked at the first mark of the Church One. We talked about how we all united. We had a chapter test on Thursday. Next week we describe how the Church is Holy. We will also identify the means the Church has to become Holy.



## GRACEAC SKI DOWNHILL RACING/SLALOM 2023-24

If your middle schooler is interested in participating in the GRACEAC co-ed downhill racing team, the sign up is open. GRACEAC ski downhill racing/slalom is open to boys and girls in grades 6-8.

Please sign up through the [GRACEAC website](#). The deadline to sign up is Jan. 8.