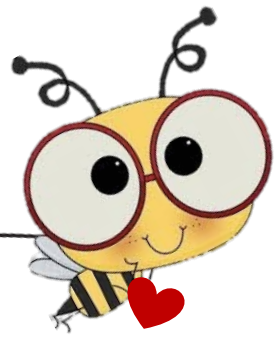


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

the BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



a century of Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School • 1924-2024

Feb. 3-7, 2025

Next week!

The virtue is **moderation** – attention to balance in your life.

Monday, Feb. 3 –

- **No Mass today due to a funeral.**
- **No hot lunch today due to a funeral.** Please send a sack lunch with your child.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 –

- **0-5ers Gym time, 11:10am, Gym**
- **Middle School award ceremony, 2:40pm, Church**

Thursday, Feb. 6 –

- **Evening parent / teacher conferences (optional), 4-8pm. [Conference sign ups](#)**

Friday, Feb. 7 –

- **Grades 4-8 Mass, 10:10am.** Don't forget Mass uniforms! Parents and guests, please sign in at the back of church to attend.
- **Half day (dismissal at 11am)**
- **Afternoon parent / teacher conferences (optional), 12-3:30pm. [Conference sign ups](#)**



Looking ahead!

Feb. 10 – Parent speaker series (see flyer)

Feb. 17-18 – No school. Mid-winter break.

Feb. 25 – Uniform holiday

March 5 – Ash Wednesday / Late start (8:30am)

March 7 – No school / Teacher professional development

March 11-13 – Spring Book Fair

School lunch!

Here is our [February lunch menu](#). Please note: **There is NO HOT LUNCH on Monday, Feb. 3** due to a funeral. Please send a sack lunch with your child on Monday.

Home & School thanks!

THANK YOU to all who helped to make Catholic Schools Week a special week of celebration and gratitude! We are blessed by this community, and we appreciate you!

Message from Father Jim!

Saint Thomas parishioners, thank you so much for your offertory support over the past year. Your commitment is a testament to your faith and a blessing to our Parish and School community. Our staff and volunteers work diligently to be good stewards of your gifts and provide excellent, faith-filled programming. Although inflation has increased costs by 21% over the past five years, our offertory collection has increased by just 1.4% over that same time period. If you are not already doing so, please consider increasing your offering on an annual basis so that we can keep pace with inflationary pressures. Again, I thank you for your participation in the financial support of our Parish. With gratitude ~ Father Jim

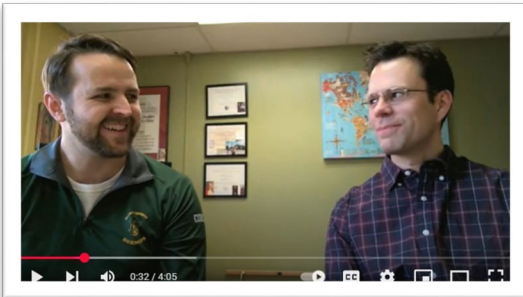
Upcoming registration!

Drum roll please...registration for the 2025-2026 school year is almost here! You will receive an email from "info+stthomasgr" in the next few weeks, asking you to complete the "Intent to Enroll" and submit the registration fee in Finalsight, our enrollment database. Returning families will have a two-week window to register before we open up registration to prospective students. Questions?! Contact Betsy Edgerton or Cammi Lawrence in the school office. You belong here again...so get registered!



Corcoran's Corner!

We are happy to welcome Mr. Jon Fey as our first ever Director of Safety and Security! Mr. Fey is a current parent, recess volunteer, parishioner and member of the Saint Thomas safety and security committee. With prior experience in law enforcement and safety and security administration, Mr. Fey will begin assessing our safety and security needs to improve our policies and procedures, faculty and staff training and physical security. He will help create a cohesive security plan across our whole campus, working with both the school and parish. We are committed to providing a loving, faith-filled, and safe environment for our students, staff, parishioners, and visitors at Saint Thomas. Learn more about Mr. Fey in this [Corcoran's Corner](#).



GRACEAC Spring sports registration is open!

Registration is open for Spring GRACEAC sports, which includes: boys baseball, boys & girls lacrosse, girls soccer, girls softball, boys & girls tennis, boys & girls track and field. Sign up at www.graceac.com.

Traveling Rosary!

Our mission effectiveness team invites you to participate in our Saint Thomas Traveling Rosary. You can pray with your family while driving back and forth from school or pray a decade of the rosary each night. If you are interested, please use our [Saint Thomas Traveling Rosary Sign Up Genius](#).



Blackbaud Financial Aid!

The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2025-26 school year is open. Visit studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school and check out the [2025-26 Blackbaud Financial Aid parent application guide](#) and the [2025-26 parent instructions](#) to help.

Raising Kids

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
PROVERBS 22:6

IN TODAY'S
WORLD IS

Hard

...BUT WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

JOIN US AS WE KICK OFF OUR PARENT SPEAKER SERIES RENEWING THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Heart of Mary schools invite you to join our parent speaker series this 2024-25-26 school years. The goal of this series is to educate, equip, and support parents in navigating key issues affecting children today, specifically technology and morality, through the lens of our Catholic faith.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10
6-8:30 PM | CATHEDRAL SQUARE**

360 Division Ave. S | Grand Rapids, MI 49503

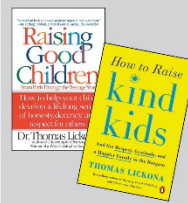
6:00 pm **COMPLIMENTARY
RECEPTION WITH WINE
AND HORS D'OEUVRES**
6:30-7:30 pm **PRESENTATION**
7:30-8:30 pm **CONVERSATION &
FELLOWSHIP**

DR. THOMAS LICKONA

Thomas Lickona, Ph.D., is a developmental psychologist and professor emeritus at SUNY Cortland. As founding director of the Center for the 4th and 5th Rs (Respect and Responsibility) from 1994 to 2022, he earned national recognition for his work in character education and teacher/parent training.



Dr. Lickona's presentation will focus on children's moral development. We are excited to offer *How to Raise Kind Kids* and *Raising Good Children* for purchase at the presentation.



for more information on these books and more visit Dr. Lickona's website thomaslickona.com

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of West Michigan



**PLEASE RSVP FOR
PLANNING PURPOSES**

QUESTIONS?

email us at gmissioneffectiveness@gmail.com