

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

January 27-31, 2025



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

Saturday, Jan. 25 – Saint Thomas Community Dinner, 6-8pm, Church Lower Level. [RSVP here.](#)

### Sunday, Jan. 26 – Celebrate our parish!

- **Pack the Pews!** Have your children wear their school uniforms to Mass.
- **Rumble with the Rams Game**, 1pm, Saint Thomas Gym (see flyer).

### Monday, Jan. 27 – Celebrate our community!

- **Home & School Parent Rosary**, 8am, Ministry Center with donuts & coffee!
- **All School Mass**, 10:10am. Don't forget Mass uniforms! Parents and guests, please sign in at the back of church to attend.
- **Mass at the Cathedral**, 10am.

### Tuesday, Jan. 28 – Celebrate our students!

- **Uniform holiday**
- **Education Foundation Breakfast**, 8am, Church Lower Level. [Purchase tickets here](#)

### Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Celebrate our nation!

- **Uniform holiday.** Wear red, white and blue to celebrate our nation!
- **Preschool / Kindergarten Round UP!** 9am and 6pm. [RSVP here](#) (Please note: There is no regular preschool or kindergarten because of Round UP!)
- **0-5ers Gym time**, 11:10am, Gym

### Thursday, Jan. 30 – Celebrate vocations!

- **Uniform holiday** – Wear your favorite Catholic school apparel.
- **All-school ICE CREAM PARTY!** \*Please consider [volunteering for our CSW Ice Cream Party!](#)

### Friday, Jan. 31 – Celebrate Saint Thomas!

- **Uniform holiday.** Wear your team colors.
- **0-5ers Storytime**, 11:10am, Library
- **All-school Catholic Schools Week Rally**, 2:30pm, Church Lower Level.
- **STA Family Dance (aka "Snowflake Shuffle")**, 6pm, Saint Thomas Gym. Family Dance [SIGN UP GENIUS for food/drink/volunteer opportunities.](#)



Catholic Schools  
United in Faith and Community



## Sledding!

During PE, all classes will be sledding at Wilcox Park. Remind your children to bring their sleds (with their names on) and their winter gear on the day that they have PE ([STA PE schedule](#)).



## Looking ahead!

Feb. 6 – Parent Teacher evening conferences (optional)

[Conference sign ups](#)

Feb. 7 – Half day (dismissal at 11am) / Parent Teacher afternoon conferences (optional). [Conference sign ups](#)

Feb. 10 – Parent speaker series (see flyer)

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

Feb. 25 – Uniform holiday

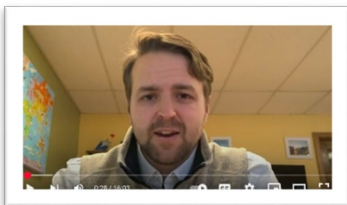
March 5 – Ash Wednesday / Late start (8:30am)

March 7 – No school / Teacher professional development

## School lunch!

Here is our [January](#) lunch menu.

## Preschool update!



Along with the opening of our new preschool building, our preschool programming is also being updated.

Check out our updated [STA preschool programming for the 2025-26 school year](#) and this [Corcoran's Corner](#) that explains these changes.

Here is the weekly update of the preschool building renovation:

- Drywall is continuing and will be wrapping up the beginning of February.
- Painters will begin priming and painting the first coat during the first week of February.
- Data cabling will continue through next week.
- Electrical rough ins in the attic will continue through next week.
- Wiring was run for card readers and electric strikes.

## 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](http://www.graceac.com).

## Social media challenge

Facebook Followers: We've got a challenge for you! Share our Facebook posts during Catholic Schools Week. Look for the posts that say "Share this post" and you'll be entered to win a Hornet Hoodie! One winner for every day of Catholic Schools Week!

Help us spread the word of our awesome Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School during Catholic Schools Week!

Please note: This is only for the official Saint Thomas FB page, not the Saint Thomas Talk FB page.

**Challenge accepted?!**

## Blackbaud Financial Aid!

The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2025-26 school year is open.

Visit [studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school](http://studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school) and check out the [2025-26 Blackbaud Financial Aid parent application guide](#) and the [2025-26 parent instructions](#) to help.



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# RUMBLE 2025

SPONSORED BY THE SAINT THOMAS BOOSTERS

## WHAT?

Saint Thomas faculty/staff/board members compete in a rumble of a basketball game against the Rams, an area 11 Special Olympics team, which includes our own Mr. Drew!

## WHERE?

Saint Thomas Gymnasium

## WHEN?

Sunday, Jan. 26, 1-2:30pm

## WHY?

To bring All in Week to a rumbling conclusion and kick off Catholic Schools Week.

There will be:

- hot dog stand
- concessions
- free throw shooting contest
- best student costumes
- best adult costumes

All proceeds go directly to our athletics program.



# You Belong Here!

AT THIS EXTRA SPECIAL BASKETBALL GAME!

# SNOWFLAKE SHUFFLE



January 31, 2025  
6:00-9:00 PM | St. Thomas Gym



## FAMILY DANCE

*featuring*

pizza dinner, fire pit, photobooth & dancing

**RSVP HERE**



Blue, White & Silver Attire Encouraged | Open to grades PRE-8 | Free Admission

Also, check out our Family Dance [SIGN UP GENIUS for food/drink/volunteer opportunities](#).  
Thanks for your 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

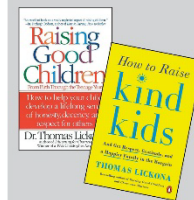
6:00 pm **COMPLIMENTARY  
RECEPTION WITH WINE  
AND HORS D'OEUVRES**

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](http://thomaslickona.com)

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of West Michigan



**SAINT PAUL  
THE APOSTLE**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
EXCELLENCE IN ALL THINGS

**Saint Thomas the Apostle**  
Catholic School



**PLEASE RSVP FOR  
PLANNING PURPOSES**

**QUESTIONS?**

email us at [gmissioneffectiveness@gmail.com](mailto:gmissioneffectiveness@gmail.com)