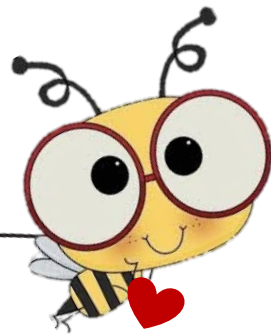


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

# the BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



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

Feb. 17-21, 2025

## Next week!

The virtue is **perseverance**: taking the steps necessary to carry out objectives in spite of difficulties.

**Monday, Feb. 17/ Tuesday, Feb. 18 – Winter break; no school!**

**Wednesday, Feb. 19 –**

- **0-5ers Gym time**, 11:10am, Gym

**Friday, Feb. 21 –**

- **Grades 4-8 Mass**, 10:10am. Don't forget Mass uniforms! Parents and guests, please sign in at the back of church to attend.
- **0-5ers Storytime**, 11:10am, Library

## Looking ahead!

Feb. 23 – Love & Logic first class

Feb. 25 – Uniform holiday

Feb. 27 – Dave & Busters Family Fun Night (more on next page)

Feb. 27 – Visiting speaker @ OLC (see flyer)

March 2-4 – Parish Mission at Saint Thomas

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

March 7 – No school / Teacher professional development

March 11-13 – Spring Book Fair

March 28 – Pep assembly

## School lunch!

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

## Registration 2025-26!

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is here! You should have received an email from "info+stthomasgr." Please complete the "Intent to Enroll" and other checklist items and submit the registration fee in Finalsite. The deadline to register is Feb. 23. After that, we open registration to prospective students. Register by Feb. 23 to guarantee your child's seat for the 2025-26 school year!

Questions?! Contact Betsy Edgerton or Cammi Lawrence in the school office. You belong here again...so get registered!

Please note: If you have a preschooler, kindergartner and/or a 7<sup>th</sup> grader for next year, you must submit immunizations and health appraisal to be complete. If you are waiting for an upcoming well-child check, upload old forms and we can help you upload new ones as you get them!

Register today for  
**2025-2026!**





## Dave & Buster's Family Fun Night!

Join us for a fun family evening at **Dave and Buster's on Thursday, February 27 from 4-7pm.**

Along with delicious food and drink, they offer arcade games, tabletop air hockey, ping pong, billiards and more! Whatever you can dream, you can play at D&B!

Between now and the Feb. 27, [purchase a power card for \\$20](#) so you're ready to play when you arrive OR dine in and play during our winter break! Either way, Dave and Buster's will donate 50% back to our preschool building fundraising. Remember to mention Saint Thomas when you purchase.

## Preschool building update!

Here is an update of what's going on in the preschool building: We've begun painting and doors are being installed.

## Looking for "peppy" volunteers!

Our next school pep assembly is March 28. We are looking for new parent volunteers to join the pep assembly crew. Contact Tina Berkemeier (616) 498 - 0055 if you would like to help.

## New century, new look!

Over the next several months, in celebration of our 100-year anniversary, we will begin releasing our brand new "look and feel" for our logo on printed materials, social media and our website. David Shankin, a Saint Thomas parent, school board member and graphic designer, graciously donated his expertise and time to refresh our cross, fonts and colors in a way that honors our first 100 years and welcomes the next century with an updated look and feel. You'll love it as much as we do!

## Love and Logic at STA!

Parenting the Love and Logic Way, **Feb. 23, 2 – 4 pm**, Saint Thomas Ministry Center, Never before have parents faced so many complex challenges! To help navigate, Love and Logic offers a variety of simple yet effective parenting resources designed to support families from birth to adulthood. Saint Thomas will offer the Parenting the Love and Logic Way® training course beginning Feb. 23 for six weeks on Sunday afternoons. The cost is \$85/ couple, which includes a parent booklet. Childcare will [Register on the Parish Website](#) or call (616) 774-8471.

## Late arrival reminder!

We have noticed more and more students showing up late to school. Students must arrive before 8am to not be counted as tardy. Late arrivals to chapel and school are very disruptive to our morning routines. Please be mindful of this.



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



## Welcome to our littlest Hornet!

We want to welcome the newest member to our Saint Thomas community. Benedict "Bennett" Jacob Noto was born on Feb. 5 to proud parents Scott and Nicole and siblings Anthony, Frankie, Domenic, Quentin, Vincent and Agustin. Welcome to the world, Bennett!

## From Saint Thomas Parish!

♥ **Parish Mission:** Pilgrims of Hope ~ In God's Will is our Peace, Sunday, March 2 - Tuesday, March 4 Join us for prayer, inspiration and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for Lent. [Get more information about our Mission](#).

♥ **Family Service Opportunity** – March 12, 6-7:30pm. Kids Food Basket (1300 Plymouth NE, GR) works to pursue a hunger-free West Michigan in a way that promotes the passion of our local community. Volunteers (5 and up) needed to help prep food for sack suppers. Please register by March 3 to save your spot. Contact Bonnie Burke at (616) 458-5674 or [burkegr@hotmail.com](mailto:burkegr@hotmail.com) to inquire or [register on the KFB website](#).

♥ **Lenten Mobile Blood Drive**, March 16. Our next Saint Thomas Blood Drive is Sunday, March 16, 8:30 am-1:00 pm in the Ministry Center. [Register to donate blood](#) or sign up on our parish website. Give alms by giving blood and help save lives. Call Lori F. at (616) 459-4662 for more information.



OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION  
**FAMILY SERIES**  
*Building Stronger Families*  
**TOGETHER**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM IN CHURCH**

***ALL ARE WELCOME | CHILDCARE PROVIDED***



**DIGITAL DISCERNMENT: THE 5 HABITS  
OF A TECH-READY HOME IN AN  
UNFILTERED WORLD**

Presenter: Chris McKenna  
Founder of Protect Young Eyes

It is impossible to create a home that removes all risk of digital harm. It IS possible to create one that is confident and prepared for today's digital spaces. We call it the Tech-Ready Home Framework. This presentation with founder Chris McKenna breaks down 5 foundational habits. Do you know what's better than any parental control? Do you know why your router is the most important digital device in your home? Do you understand the toxic trio? Do you know why Tik Tok is so compelling to young brains? Get ready for a ton of practical tips, solutions, and ideas you can implement with your families at home. You don't want to miss this timely presentation!



Stay afterward for a special half-hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.  
We can't wait to see you there!

**SCAN TO  
REGISTER**

**THE OLC FAMILY SERIES IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE OUR LADY  
OF CONSOLATION EDUCATION FOUNDATION (OLCEF)**

25TH ANNUAL | ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE

3  N 3  
BASKETBALL  
TOURNEY

SUPPORTING THE SPA ATHLETICS PROGRAM

SUNDAY  
MARCH 9  
2025

4th - 8th Grade Girls & Boys  
Doors Open at Noon, 1 pm Tip  
Catholic Central Athletic Complex  
2770 Knapp NE  
\$120 for a 4 Person Team\*  
\*Limited to the 1st 60 Teams


3 GAME MINIMUM | 1ST PLACE TROPHY  
GREAT FOOD | CONTESTS | FUN FOR ALL!

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 14TH TO BE GUARANTEED A T-SHIRT  
TEAM SIGNUP DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 21ST



ONLINE REGISTRATION AT [BIT.LY/SPA\\_3ON3\\_2025](https://bit.ly/spa_3on3_2025)

CONTACT DERRICK WISINSKI AT 616.813.3177 OR  
[DERRICK.WISINSKI@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:DERRICK.WISINSKI@OUTLOOK.COM) WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

  
SAINT PAUL  
THE APOSTLE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL