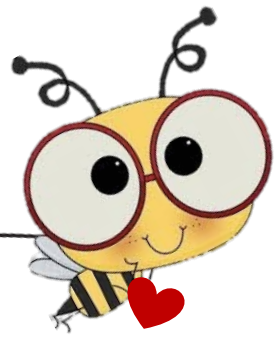


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

# the BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



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

Feb. 24-28, 2025

## Next week!

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

**Sunday, Feb. 23 – Deadline for returning families to register for the 2025-2026 school year!**

**Monday, Feb. 24 –**

- **Grades 1-3 Mass**, 10:10am. Don't forget Mass uniforms! Parents and guests, please sign in at the back of church to attend.

**Tuesday, Feb. 25 – Uniform holiday**

**Wednesday, Feb. 26 –**

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

**Thursday, Feb. 27 –**



- **Dave & Buster's Family Fun Night**, 4-7pm. [Purchase a power card for \\$20](#) and join in the fun while D&B donates 50% back to our preschool building fundraising. Remember to mention Saint Thomas when you purchase.
- **Visiting speaker @ OLC**, 6-8pm (see flyer)

**Friday, Feb. 28 –**

- **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

## 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 Finals site. **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 2025-26!**

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 up, upload old forms and we can help upload new ones as you get them!

**Register today for  
2025-2026!**

## Looking ahead!

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 13 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Songfest  
March 15 – Party in your Parka Ice Skating Party (more details to come)  
March 28 – Pep assembly  
March 29 – Euchre Tournament (see flyer)  
March 31 – Bandtastic  
April 7-11 – No school / Spring break

## School lunch!

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

## Preschool building update!

Here is an update of what's going on in the preschool building:

- Drywall finishing completed on 2/17.
- Hanging doors and door trim completed on 2/19.
- Installed borrowed light window frames.
- Completed Sprinkler lines and filled with water on 2/20.
- All Data cabling is complete.
- Painting has begun and will continue over the next few weeks.
- Lighting is being installed on the ceilings throughout.
- ADA and Playground meeting.
- Sprinkler lines were moved to accommodate wall projectors.
- Wainscoting and chair rail installation started on 2/21.

## Parent speaker series!

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Feb. 10 for Dr. Lickona's presentation. It was a great evening! Here are the [slides from his presentation](#) for your learning. Mark your calendars for our next event on Monday, May 5. Brooke Shannon will present about the effects of technology on children. We hope to see you there!

## 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.

## 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 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)**

# HELP With Books



**Who:** Saint Thomas the Apostle School K-8 students

**What:** Students will collect **NEW** children's books for ages 0-5 for [HELP Pregnancy Aid](https://helppregnancy.org/). For more information on HELP, go to <https://helppregnancy.org/>.

**When:** During March is Reading Month

**Why:** HELP Pregnancy Aid hands out blankets and books to children of families at their center.

**How:** Saint Thomas students will bring in **new** books for small children (ages 0-5). It is suggested that the students could do a **service at home** to earn them.

**Reward:** The class that brings in the most books by **March 31** will receive a **class uniform holiday** on the day of their **teacher's choice**.



**SAINT THOMAS**

# *Euchre*

## **TOURNAMENT**

**SPONSORED BY THE SAINT THOMAS BOOSTERS**



**WHEN?**

**MARCH 29, 2025  
7-10PM**

**WHERE?**

**SAINT THOMAS GYM**

**WHY?**

**'CAUSE YOU'RE AWESOME AT EUCHRE!**

**OR**

**'CAUSE YOU WANT TO LEARN EUCHRE!**

**OR**

**'CAUSE YOU JUST NEED A NIGHT OUT!**

**WHAT ELSE?**

**BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES AND AN  
APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE!**

**AND IF YOU'VE GOT A CARD TABLE THAT  
WE COULD BORROW, PLEASE LET US KNOW!**

**RSVP**

**[ASHLEYEMMERSON@DOGRSCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:ASHLEYEMMERSON@DOGRSCHOOLS.ORG)**