

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

March 10-14, 2025

MARCH IS READING MONTH!

Next week!

The virtue is **fortitude**: overcoming fear and remaining steady in doing what is right and good in the face of obstacles.

Sunday, March 9 – 8th Grade Confirmation Session, 2:30pm, Church. This is the final session for Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors (or a parent) in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 19 (at 7 pm).

Monday, March 10 –

- 4th Grade Reconciliation Retreat, 8:15am – 3pm
- Grades 1-3 Mass, 10:10am. Parents and guests, please sign in.
- **NO HOT LUNCH. Please have your child bring a lunch.**
- 4th Grade Reconciliation Celebration, 6:30pm, Church

Tuesday, March 11 –

- Uniform holiday, "Dress like a Book Character Day"
- Book fair opens, Library, 8am – 4pm. Cash, card and check accepted.

Wednesday, March 12 –

- 0-5ers Gym time, 11:10am, Gym
- Book Fair, Library, 8am – 4pm. Cash, card and check accepted.

Thursday, March 13 –

- 4th Grade Songfest
- Book Fair, Library, 8am – 4pm. Cash, card and check accepted.

Friday, March 14 –

- Grades 4-8 Mass, 10:10am. Parents and guests, please sign in.
- 0-5ers Storytime, 11:10am, Library



Saturday, March 15 – Party in your Parka, 6-8pm. Southside Ice Arena (566 100th St SW, Byron Center, MI 49315). Thanks to the Slobodnik family, skates and ice are provided. **You must sign this waiver to participate.** Dress warmly. Consider bringing bike helmets for any novice skaters. The concession stand will be open for business.

Looking ahead!

March 18 – Read My Shirt uniform holiday
March 21 – Rock Your Socks Day (Uniforms with mismatched socks for Down Syndrome Day)
March 24 – **State of the School, 6pm**
March 25 – Uniform holiday
March 26 – Read in day (in classrooms)
March 28 – **State of the School, 8:30am**
March 28 – Pep assembly
March 29 – Euchre Tournament (see flyer)
March 31 – Bandtastic
April 7-11 – No school / Spring break
May 9 – Boosters Golf Outing
May 18 – Middle school choir concert

School lunch!

Here is our [March lunch menu](#). Please note these lunch changes:

- **Monday, March 10 – NO HOT LUNCH. Please have your child bring a lunch.**
- Monday, March 17 – Chicken poppers with mashed potatoes

Registration 2025-26!

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is here! Thank you to all who have completed the registration paperwork. To those who have not, submit ASAP to guarantee your child's seat for 2025-26. Questions?! Contact Betsy Edgerton or Cammi Lawrence in the school office.

Please note: If you have a preschooler, kindergartner and/or a 7th 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!

Uniform reminder!

April 1 is approaching – the date when students can wear shorts and ditch the leggings. Please take a moment to pull out shorts and examine skirts. Make sure short and skirt length is appropriate before April 1. We are noticing lots of short, short skirts.

Breaking bread, building faith

We are starting a new feature in our weekly Buzz newsletter. Parents are the primary educators of their children and we are here to support you. In an effort to support healthy families, we will provide a weekly dinner-time discussion question.

This week's questions:

Mr. Corcoran spoke about using "great intention" this Lent. What is one thing we can do with greater intention?

What is something that made you laugh this week?

Strategic plan!

Wondering what's driving our actions? Check out our [strategic plan](#).

After-school clubs!

We are offering a program through Afterschool Enrichment Solutions. The classes run 3:25-4:25pm. If you are interested in signing up your child for Chess, Coding or STEAM, go to www.learningmeansfun.com/signup and complete the online registration. If you have any questions, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at (847) 482-9999 or email registration@learningmeansfun.com. The deadline to register is March 16.

- [Chess](#) (Grades K-8). Wednesdays. Course code: TGR3.26.25
- [Let's Code It](#) (Grades 2-5): Tuesdays. Course code: TGR3.25.25
- [STEAM](#) (Grades K-5): Mondays, Course code: TGR3.26.25

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.

Love & Logic!

Love & Logic Parenting Course is still accepting Sign Ups! Parenting the Love and Logic Way® training course beginning March 9 for 6 weeks on Sunday afternoons from 2 - 4 pm in the Ministry Center (March 9, 16, 23, 30, and tentatively April 6 and 13.) The cost is \$85 per couple, which includes a parent booklet, via cash or check to Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish. [Register for Love & Logic](#).

From Saint Thomas Parish!

♥ **Jubilee Indulgence Study of Lumen Gentium** ("Light of the Nations"). Tuesdays, March 11 and 18, 6 - 7pm, Ministry Center

♥ **Men's Lenten Renewal Breakfast**, Saturday, March 22, 8:30 - 9:30am, Church Lower Level. All men are invited to this event of fellowship, prayer, spiritual renewal, and food after the 8am Mass! [RSVP by March 17](#).

♥ **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 Blood Drive is Sunday, March 16, 8:30am-1pm in the Ministry Center. [Register to donate blood](#) or sign up on parish website. Call Lori F. at (616) 459-4662 for more information.

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