

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

April 21-25, 2025

Next week!

The virtue is **self control**: joyful mastery over one's passions and desires.

Monday, April 21 – Easter Monday / NO SCHOOL!

Wednesday, April 23 – 0-5ers Gym time, 11:10am, Gym

Thursday, April 24 – Confirmation Retreat, 9am

Friday, April 25 –

- **First communion retreat**, Lower Level
- **0-5ers Storytime**, 11:10am, Library
- **No hot lunch**; please send a lunch with your child

Mark your calendar!

May 1 – May Crowning

May 5-9 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5 – [Primary Educator series](#) (K-2nd grade), 8:30am

May 5 – Parent speaker series, Wait until 8th (see flyer). [RSVP](#).

May 7 – Kindergarten Kick Off, 9am (No P4 that day)

May 9 – Boosters Golf Outing. [Register to golf or sponsor!](#)

May 9 – 7th / 8th Grade Dance (at IHM, more details to come)

May 12 – [Primary Educator series](#) (3rd-5th grade), 8:30am

May 18 – Middle school choir concert

May 19 – Field Day

May 19 – Dine & Donate @ Big Bob's Pizza in EGR (more info to come)

May 19 – [Primary Educator series](#) (6th-8th grade), 8:30am

[2025-26 school year calendar](#)

School lunch!

Here is our [April lunch menu](#). There is no hot lunch on Friday, April 25. Please send a lunch with your child.

Teacher Appreciation Week!

Teacher Appreciation Week is Monday, May 5 - Friday, May 9! We are hoping to shower our wonderful teachers and staff with lots of love and appreciation for all they do for our children and school. One way we are planning to do that is with a luncheon on Wednesday, May 7. We need several volunteers and many items.

Please use our [Teacher Appreciation Sign Up Genius](#) to help if you can!

Thank you! ~ Genevieve Boyle,
Home & School president

Program Effectiveness Survey!

The Office of Catholic Schools is distributing the [Program Effectiveness Surveys](#) to all parents, staff, and students in grades 5-8 and 9-12. We will continue to alternate with the Catholic Identity Surveys next year. Please complete this survey by Friday, May 16.

Help stock our preschool!

We are ready to stock our new Preschool! We are reaching out to our Parish and School community in hopes of fulfilling our school needs. We are looking for gently used or new items for the teacher's lounge and office. Please check out our [Stock the Preschool list](#) for items that we need.

This is a great opportunity while spring cleaning to see if there are any unused items at your house that we can put to good use!

If you are interested in making a donation, please send an email to veronicaperdue@stthomasgr.org or keegan.d.lindsay@gmail.com. Thank you!
~ Veronica Perdue, Preschool Directory

Sports uniform turn in!

If you have any sports uniforms from past seasons, please return them to Mr. Sluggett. Thank you.

Registration 2025-26!

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. Preschool programming options are available now. Log into your Finals site account to make your selections. 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 checkup, upload old forms and we can help upload new ones as you get them!



Breaking bread, building faith

Family dinner-time discussion question of the week:

What is one way we can make our home more peaceful?

New baby welcome!

We have a new member of our Saint Thomas community – Scarlett Mae was born on Thursday, April 17, weighing 8lbs, 15oz. She was welcomed by parents Megan and Michael and big brothers Christopher, David, Brandon and Damian. Welcome, Scarlett! We're so glad you're here. If you are interested and able, check out the [Mealtrain Sign Up for Scarlett's family](#).



Celebrate the Sacraments!

Congratulations to all those who have received Sacraments.

Meg Hines – Communion, Confirmation
Gabby, Grace, Cain Miller – Baptized
Finn and Liam VanEck – Baptized
Casey Parini – Baptized, Communion, Confirmation

Congratulations!

Catholic Schools Art Show

May 2, 2025 Friday 3:30pm-7pm

May 3, 2025 Saturday 9am-5pm

Cathedral Square Center, Grand Rapids, MI

More information to come, including the STA students who have artwork at the show.

Blackbaud Financial Aid!

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

Strategic plan!

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

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](#).

From the Parish

Vacation Bible School dates are June 23-27, 9-11am. Get more detailed information about registration and program info on the parish website: <https://stthomasapostlegr.org/children/vbs/>.

HELP Baby Supplies and Diaper Drive

Saint Thomas' Respect Life ministry is coordinating a Supplies Drive to support HELP Pregnancy Aid. Join us by dropping off disposable diapers (newborn, 1-2), new pacifiers, sippy cups and PJs (boys and girls, size 12 mo. and up) in the HELP collection box in the back of church from Mother's Day, May 11- Father's Day, June 15. Call Helen at (616) 774-8471 or jimhelenmilo@gmail.com with questions. Thank you for your support!



Please join us
to support
Saint Thomas Athletics



**Friday, May 9
8:30am**



**The Mines
GOLF CLUB**



Sponsors and foursomes are
needed to make this event
possible!

Click here or visit
www.STAGolfOuting.com



Calling All Diocesan Parents: Join Us for our Speaker Series #2 **Renewing the Catholic Family**

WAIT 8th

u n t i l

For the second speaker in our series, we welcome nationally-acclaimed Brooke Shannon, the Executive Director and founder of Wait Until 8th. Brooke works with parents and communities across the country to help families establish a healthy relationship with technology. She is a national speaker on how to parent in the digital arena, having appeared on the Today Show, Good Morning America, NPR and many other outlets. You don't want to miss this! Childcare available.



Sponsored by:



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
of West Michigan

Save the date: Monday, May 5

6-6:30pm: Complimentary Wine & Appetizers
6:30-7:30pm: Presentation
7:30-8:30pm: Q&A, Conversation & Fellowship



Admission is FREE
but please RSVP



Cathedral Square: 360 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids, MI 49505



SAINT THOMAS

the Apostle Catholic School

summer programming

Join us this summer at Saint Thomas! Morning sessions for kids going into kindergarten - 2nd grade. Afternoon sessions for kids going into grades 3-5.



June 9-12

Soaring with Superheroes
9am – 12noon

Soccer
12:30-3:30pm



June 16-19

Around the World
9am – 12noon

Basketball
12:30-3:30pm



June 30-July 3

Launch to Space
9am – 12noon

Frisbee
12:30-3:30pm



July 7-10

Oceans and Water
9am – 12noon

Softball/Baseball
12:30-3:30pm



July 14-17

Exploring Dinosaurs
9am – 12noon

Soccer
12:30-3:30pm



July 21-24

Knights and Princesses
9am – 12noon

Basketball
12:30-3:30pm



July 28-31

Circus Spectacular
9am – 12noon

Frisbee
12:30-3:30pm



August 4-7

Farm Fun
9am – 12noon

Softball/Baseball
12:30-3:30pm



Registration

[Registration Form](#)
[FAQs](#)

Questions?

secretary@stthomasgr.org



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

The Primary Educator Series

At Saint Thomas, we recognize our parents as the primary educator of their children. Our faculty and staff are here to support you in educating, raising, and teaching your children. Guided by our mission of providing dynamic education centered in Christ, we work to support you in raising virtuous, wise, compassionate, responsible children who will one day bring their strong character into adulthood.

Join us for our Primary Educator series, where we discuss

- the joys and challenges of raising children
- parenting
- standing firm in our beliefs

These sessions will be led by Mr. Corcoran, Mrs. Johnson and a grade-level teacher. We will begin with a short presentation and then have time for parent discussion. Children are welcome.

This series will take place in the Ministry Center from 8:30-9:15 am.

Talk 1 - Parents of kindergarten through second grade - *May 5*

Talk 2 - Parents of third through fifth grade - *May 12*

Talk 3 - Parents of sixth through eighth grade - *May 19*

Please fill out this [survey](#) to let us know topics you would like to discuss.