

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

May 19-23, 2025

Next week!

The virtue is **patience**: bearing present difficulties calmly.

Sunday, May 18 – Middle school choir concert, 6pm, Church.

Students should arrive at 5:50pm in their Sunday best. All choir members are expected to attend.

Monday, May 19 – UNIFORM HOLIDAY (due to field day)

- **Field Day**
- **Parent to Parent series (Grades 6-8)**, 8:15am, Ministry Center
- **Dine & Donate at Big Bob's Pizza (661 Croswell Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506)**. Mention Saint Thomas when you dine in or carry out and 20 percent of your bill will go to our new preschool building.

Wednesday, May 21 – K-4 Spring Music Concert (see flyer on later page), 6pm, Church Lower Level.

Friday, May 23 –

- **All School Mass/ Anointing Mass**, 10:10am, Church. Our 7th and 8th graders should wear their Sunday best for this special Mass.
- **0-5ers Storytime**, 11:10am, Library
- **Pep Assembly**, 2:30pm, Gym

School lunch!

Here is our [May lunch menu](#). Please note these lunch details: We are no longer offering doubles. The salad bar is available until May 23.

Board Bio!

In addition to being our PE teacher, Ashley Emmerson is a member of our Saint Thomas Education Board. Find out a little more about Ashley in her [Board biography](#).

Preschool Stock the Kitchen/Office

We are looking for a few items for our preschool kitchen and office. Check out our [Preschool Kitchen and Office Sign Up Genius](#) to see if you've got items around your house that you could donate.

Anxious Generation Book Study @ IHM

IHM is hosting a book study on *Anxious Generation*, Mondays at 6pm, beginning on May 12. Check out this *Anxious Generation* [book study schedule](#) and [flyer](#) for more details.

Breaking bread, building faith

Family dinner-time discussion questions of the week:

What does it mean to persevere?

Who is someone you know who shows perseverance?

Mark your calendar!

May 26 – No school; Memorial Day
May 27 – Uniform holiday
May 30 – 8th Grade last day/last Mass, 10:10am
June 4 – Graduation, 6pm
June 5 – Dine & Donate @ Coldstone Creamery (more details to come)
June 6 – Last day/Half day
June 7/8 – Eucharistic Procession to the preschool after all Masses
[2025-26 school year calendar](#)

New kindergarten requirement!

Students entering kindergarten or the first year of school are required [Public Act 316 of 2023] to have dental assessments within six months of the start of school. If your child has had their dental check up this year and it was on or after February 21, 2025, please go back to your dentist and ask them to [complete this form](#). If you have your dental visit coming up before school begins, please take the form with you. The form must be submitted to the Saint Thomas office on or before August 21. For more information, please see this [flyer](#).

Registration 2025-26!

The time has come; the time is now. Submit your registration paperwork 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 checkup, upload old forms and we can help upload new ones as you get them!

Fall sports registration

Registration for GRACEAC fall sports is OPEN until June 15 at midnight. After June 15, there will be a late fee for any registrations. [Register your child ASAP](#) for flag football, boys soccer, volleyball, cross country or sideline cheer to avoid the late fees! Questions? Contact Athletic Director Jeremiah Sluggett in the school office.

Lunch Account Balances!

We have many families that have a negative balance in their students' lunch accounts. We need all families to check and submit funds to cover what they owe. Please add enough funds to cover your balance and for hot lunches for the rest of the year. Check out these [IC Instructions for adding funds to lunch accounts](#). As a school, we have a negative balance of nearly \$3,000. **We need to take care of this ASAP.**

Field Day note!

Please be mindful of uniform holiday dress code. On a uniform holiday – including field day, students need to wear shorts/skirts that are an appropriate length. If students come to school out of uniform code, they will call home for a change of clothes.

Smart watches!

We are starting to see more smart watches in the building. Any wearable devices with screens that can connect to cellular or wireless networks **are not allowed in school.**



June 15
deadline

Meals for Mrs. Stegehuis!

Former STA teacher Mary Sue Stegehuis will be having back surgery and can use our help with meals for a while. There are three adults in the household, with no food aversions or allergies. Sign up using this [Take Them a Meal link](#).

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](#).

Questions for Mr. Corcoran?!

If you have any questions about anything, [please submit them to Mr. Corcoran](#).

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

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.

Check out this [Amazon wishlist](#) for specific items. Call Helen at (616) 774-8471 or jimhelenmilo@gmail.com with questions. Thank you for your support!



SPRING CONCERT

A CELEBRATION OF
MUSIC AND GROWTH

Wednesday, May 21

St. Thomas Church lower level cafeteria

Student arrival: 5:45 PM
Concert begins: 6:00 PM





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

GRADES K-5

Summer Art Camps

WITH BETH JACOBSON

3RD-5TH GRADES: \$225 K- 2ND GRADES: \$185

*SIGN UP 2 OR MORE SIBLINGS, RECEIVE A \$10 DISCOUNT PER CHILD!

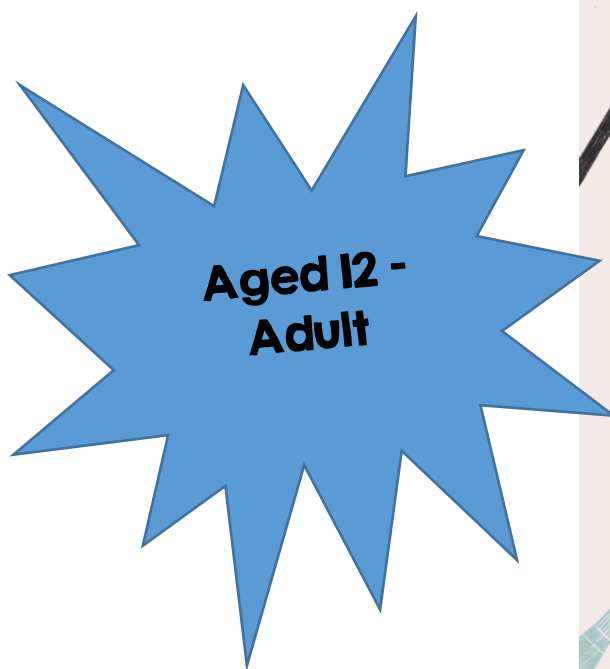
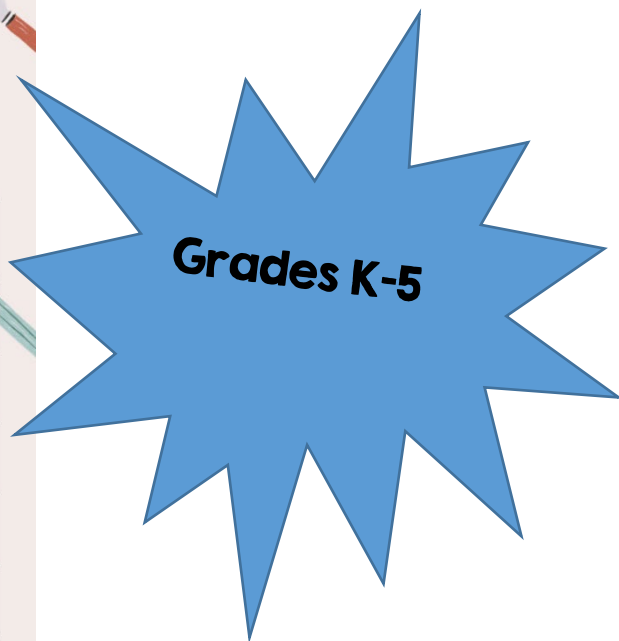
AT THE SAINT THOMAS PRESCHOOL CENTER, 1530 FULTON ST E

JUNE & JULY Mondays-Thursdays	3rd - 5th Grades 9-11:30am	K - 2nd Grades 12:30-2:30pm
6/9-6/12 WATERCOLORS	Flowers, Plants & Glass Vases	Flowers & Succulents
6/16-6/19 DRAWING	Dogs & Cats	Dogs & Cats
6/23-6/26 ACRYLICS	Sweet Treats & Scale	Sweet Treats
6/30-7/3 WATERCOLORS	Fireworks & Landscapes	Fireworks & Fruit
7/7-7/10 DRAWING	Vehicles & Summer Fun	Vehicles & Summer Fun
7/21-7/24 ACRYLICS	Oceans (fish, turtles, shells)	Oceans (fish, turtles, shells)

PLEASE NOTE THE SAINT THOMAS SUMMER PROGRAMMING RUNS OPPOSITE THE ART CAMPS SO THAT STUDENTS MAY ATTEND BOTH. THE SAINT THOMAS PROGRAMS ARE K-2ND 9:00-NOON & 3RD - 5TH 12:30-3:30 WITH A BREAK FOR LUNCH.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

QUESTIONS? BETHMARIESTUDIOGR@GMAIL.COM



AGES 12-ADULT

Summer Fine Art Workshops

LEARN TO PAINT & DRAW WITH BETH JACOBSON!

AT THE SAINT THOMAS PRESCHOOL CENTER

\$55 PER WORKSHOP OR PACKAGES OF 2 (\$105), 3 (\$155), OR 4 (\$205)

JUNE	TUESDAYS, 3:30-6pm	THURSDAYS, 6-8:30pm
6/10 & 6/12 WATERCOLORS	Flowers & Succulents	Flowers, Plants & Glass Vases
6/17 & 6/19 DRAWING	Animals, Fur & Feathers	Faces & Expressions
6/24 & 6/26 ACRYLICS	Sweet Treats & Scale	Sweet Treats & Scale

JULY	TUESDAYS, 3:30-6pm	THURSDAYS, 6-8:30pm
7/1 & 7/2 (TUES/WED) WATERCOLORS	Fireworks & Fruit	Fireworks & Landscapes
7/8 & 7/10 DRAWING	Vehicles & Summer Fun	Vehicles & Summer Fun
7/22 & 7/24 ACRYLICS	Oceans (Animals & Habitat)	Oceans (Animals, Islands & Surf)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

QUESTIONS? BETHMARIESTUDIOGR@GMAIL.COM