

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 • 1925-2025



Nov. 3-7, 2025

Next week!

The virtue this week is **patriotism**: paying due honor and respect to one's country, with a willingness to serve.

Sunday, Nov. 2 – Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour! **Also, remember pants or skirts with leggings now!**

Monday, Nov. 3 –

- **Please note: This is NOT a late start day.** On previous school calendars, it was incorrectly listed as late start. This is a normal, 8am start day.
- **West Catholic Band Performance, 1:45pm**

Tuesday, Nov. 4 –

- **Parent Rosary, 2:45pm**, front of church
- **Parent Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:05pm**, front of church

Wednesday, Nov. 5 –

- **All-School Mass, 8:15am**
- **Picture make-ups / re-takes, 10am**, Ministry Center. If your child is getting re-takes, they can bring a shirt for pictures to change into and then change back into uniform after pictures. Order pictures online at inter-state.com/order and use order code 0266NCU.
- **Gym Time, 11:10am**, STA Gym

Thursday, Nov. 6 – Hearing / Vision re-screening

Friday, Nov. 7 – Storytime, 10am, Preschool Center

Auction sponsorship opportunities!

Calling all STA business owners! Interested in being a 2026 Auction Sponsor? Reach out to [Lucas Van Drunen](#) and/or [Lindsay Keegan](#) to learn more about our sponsorship opportunities.

Blackbaud Financial Aid window open!

The window to apply for financial assistance for the 2026-27 school year is open. **The first deadline is Dec. 1, 2025.**

Visit studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school to get started and check out the [2026-27 Blackbaud Financial Aid parent application guide](#) and the [2026-27 parent instructions](#) to help.

Parent teacher conferences!

We will be having parent teacher conferences on Nov. 13 (evening) and Nov. 14 (daytime). Please use our [STA Parent Teacher Conference Sign Up](#) to choose a time to meet with your child's teacher.

Home & School help!

We're providing dinner for our teachers during fall conferences, on Nov. 13/14. Please consider helping if you can! Use our [H&S Conference Dinner Sign Up](#) to bring something for our amazing teachers. Thank you!

Looking ahead!

Nov. 9 – Boosters Corn Hole Tournament (Adults only)
Nov. 13 – Parent teacher evening conferences ([Sign up!](#))
Nov. 14 – Parent teacher afternoon conferences ([Sign up!](#))
Nov. 14 – Half day / Dismissal at 11am
Nov. 16 – Father Stephen's installation Mass with the Bishop, 11am
Nov. 21 – Soup's On Women's Bowl Painting Party, 6:30pm ([RSVP!](#))
Nov. 25 – Uniform holiday
Nov. 26-28 – Thanksgiving Break

School lunch!

Here is our [November 2025](#) lunch menu. FYI...**we will no longer offer alternative lunch on Fridays.**

Mass participants for Nov. 5

- 1st reading: Mackenzie S
- Petitions: Taygan D, Max V, Dominic N, Caroline L, Kenny F, Nora V
- Altar servers: Christopher A, Roz W, Madeline S
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Fulton N, Toby W
- Ushers: Will M, Lincoln L
- Xylophones: Mari B, Eliana K, Corinne J, Emma St
- Tone chimes: Max W, Reagan K, Finley M
- Song leaders: Roz W, Emma G, Mia P

If your child is listed above and you know they will not be attending Mass, please email Mr. Baxter.

Women's basketball group!

The Thursday night women's basketball group will now be meeting at 8pm in the Saint Thomas gym! All Saint Thomas moms are welcome! Contact Val Wieten (616-822-9051) with questions.

Breaking bread, building faith!

Family dinner-time discussion topics:

- Why did God create the family?
- What does it mean to "offer up" our joys and sufferings for others?

Parent parties!

We are looking for party hosts for 7th grade. Thank you for considering! If interested, please contact Genevieve Boyle (genevieveboyle@stthomasgr.org).

FYI...consider using our new preschool building (at no cost) to host a parent party!

Here is the list of the upcoming parent parties:

P3 – 11/13 @ the Preschool, hosted by the Kohlers
3rd grade – 11/1 @ the Johnsons
6th grade – 11/8 @ the Pfennigs

Look for an email with details (time/location). Contact Genevieve with any questions.

Recess help needed!

Recess volunteers needed!
SAINT THOMAS NEEDS YOU!
Consider joining the ranks of the few, the proud and become a recess volunteer! We need Saint Thomas parents to help monitor Wilcox Park from 11am to 12:30pm, Mon-Fri for recess. Contact Jonathan Fey (jonathanfey@stthomasgr.org). Volunteers must be Virtus trained. Please prayerfully consider becoming a recess volunteer and playing a role in one of the best parts of the day – RECESS!



Uniform update!

Following our uniform policy, students now must wear pants or skirts WITH leggings between Nov. 1-March 31. One of our uniform providers, My Aplus Uniforms, is having a sale – 30 percent off all in-stock merchandise from now until Dec. 23. Shop online at www.myaplusuniforms.com. Also, **the physical store, located at 2055 28th St. SE, Suite 18 in Grand Rapids, is closing on Dec. 23.** They will still be available for online purchases.

Traveling Rosary!

Our mission effectiveness team would like to invite you to participate in our Saint Thomas Traveling Rosary. Lift up our school staff teachers parents and kids and your daily prayers while you pray this rosary. If you are interested, use our [Saint Thomas Traveling Rosary Sign Up Genius](#).

Parish News!

Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner – All are invited! Saint Thomas the Apostle Church will be hosting the annual Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 27, from 12-2pm in the church lower level. All are invited to join in the celebration at 1449 Wilcox Park Drive SE, GR, MI. RSVP on our parish website or call (616) 459-4662.

CC News

Catholic Central High School has some upcoming events that are open to the larger community.

- [CC Girls Basketball Pre-Season Camp](#), Nov 1, 8, 15 @ the CAT: Players will sharpen their shooting skills, improve defensive fundamentals, and prepare for the upcoming season. We will always end with a game of 3 on 3 and 5 on 5. Register at www.catholiccentralcamps.org.
- [CC 7th Annual Mattress Fundraiser](#), Sunday, Nov. 2, 11am-4pm

THE ST. THOMAS BOOSTERS
CORNHOLE
TOURNAMENT

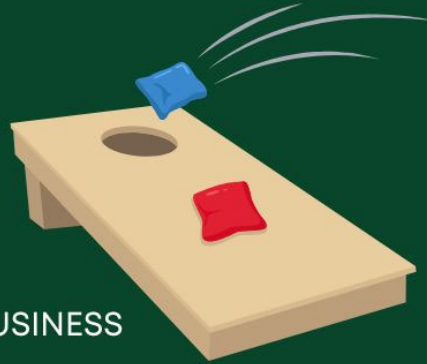


LIONS
WATCH
PARTY

9 NOV 2025

4:00 PM | ST. THOMAS GYM

- ALL ADULTS WELCOME
- LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
- FOOD TRUCK OPEN FOR BUSINESS



RSVP

ASHLEYEMMERSON@DOGRSCHOOLS.ORG

CALLING ALL SAINT THOMAS WOMEN!

what: **WINE, CHEESE & PAINTING**

why: **TO BENEFIT CCWM'S SOUPS ON EVENT**

when: **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 @6:30-8:30PM**

where: **SAINT THOMAS PRESCHOOL MAIN ROOM**

**COST: \$15 TO KEEP THE BOWL YOU PAINT, \$10 TO DONATE THE BOWL,
OR \$20 TO MAKE BOTH DONATE ONE AND KEEP ONE.**

RSVP HERE!

**RSVP by
Nov. 10**

**HOSTED BY THE SAINT THOMAS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**