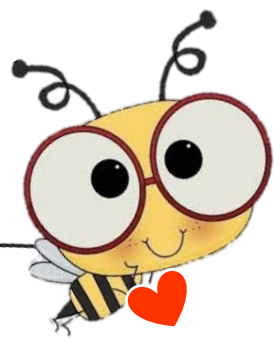


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



a century of Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School • 1925-2025

Dec. 22, 2025 - Jan. 9, 2026

Next week!

Monday, Dec. 22 – Friday, Jan. 2 – Christmas break! Enjoy your time off! Spend time with family. Sing Christmas carols. Go to Mass. Have hot chocolate (add whip cream). Bake Christmas cookies. Eat Christmas cookies. Visit with friends. Read a good book. Go sledding. Go ice skating. Sleep in. Stay warm. Be safe. Be good.

Merry Christmas!
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

After break!

The virtue of the week is **orderliness**: keeping oneself physically clean and neat and one's belongings in good order.

Monday, Jan 5 – School resumes!

Tuesday, Jan. 6 –

- Parent Rosary, 2:45pm, inside church
- Parent Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:05pm, inside church
- School Board meeting, 6pm, Ministry Center

Wednesday, Jan. 7 –

- All-School Mass, 8:15am. Please remember Mass uniforms.
- Gym Time, 11:10am, Saint Thomas Gym

Friday, Jan. 9 –

- Storytime, 10am, Preschool Center

January STA Events!

Mark your calendars and spread the word! We've got some exciting open house events happening throughout January.

Kindergarten Spotlight

January 14, 6-7pm

Meet our amazing Kindergarten teachers, explore classrooms, and learn how we nurture faith, curiosity, and a love for learning.

School Showcase

January 24/25 After Masses

All are invited to enjoy student-led tours happening after all Masses and learn what makes Saint Thomas special. Tours will take place after 5pm and 7,9,11am Masses. Donuts and coffee will be provided in the Ministry Center.

Preschool Palooza

January 28, 6-7pm

All prospective 3,4, and Young 5 students and their parents are invited to explore our new Preschool Center. Meet our teachers, enjoy crafts, games, snacks, and a scavenger hunt!

Let friends and neighbors know about these events and tell them, "You belong here!"

Looking ahead!

Jan. 14 – [Kindergarten Spotlight](#)
Jan. 15 – All-School Spelling Bee, 1:30pm
Jan. 16 – Second quarter ends
Jan. 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / No school
Jan. 24/25 – [School Showcase after all Masses](#)
Jan. 26-30 – Catholic Schools Week
Jan. 27 – Uniform holiday
Jan. 28 – [Preschool Palooza](#)
Jan. 30 – Family Dance: Ready! Set! Glow! (If you're interested in helping with this event, please email erinbrede@stthomasgr.org.)

School lunch!

Here is our [January 2026](#) lunch menu.

Mass participants for Jan. 7

- 1st reading: Claire R
- Petitions: Marie K, Kate W, Quinn S, Addison K, Anna H, Hailey B
- Altar servers: Alaina B, Sarah H,
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Dawson S, Patrick B
- Ushers: Leo D, Gage F
- Xylophones: Eliana K, Mari B, Corrine J, Emma St
- Bells: Olivia S, Anna K, Izzy C
- Song leaders: Fulton N, Emma G, Mia P

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

Breaking bread, building faith!

Family dinner-time discussion topics:

- Can you imagine how much Mary loves Jesus? How would you describe Mary's love for Jesus?
- How can we make the spirit of Christmas last all year?

Catholic Schools Week Mass!

On Tuesday of Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 27), the Bishop will be celebrating Mass at the Cathedral at 10am. Saint Thomas has 20 seats for this Mass. We hope some STA families can join us. If you and your family are interested in attending, please email Genevieve Boyle (genevieveboyle@stthomasgr.org).

King's Table Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who bought gifts, made cards, wrote prayers, and delivered everything to the Kings Table families!

Your generosity and kindness have blessed these families in numerous ways. Wishing you a blessed Christmas! ~ *Home & School*

We want your feedback!

There's still time to give your feedback! We ask parents to reflect on the last few months of school and share their input on teachers, administration and the principal. This is one way we partner with you as the first educator of your children. These surveys help faculty and staff recognize their strengths and areas for improvement.

Surveys: [Teacher](#) / [Admin](#) / [Principal](#)

Auction sponsorship opportunities!

Calling all STA business owners! Interested in being a 2026 Auction Sponsor? Reach out to Lucas Van Drunen (lucas.vandrunen@gmail.com) and/or Lindsay Keegan (keegan.d.lindsay@gmail.com) 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. To get started, visit studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school and check out the [2026-27 Blackbaud Financial Aid parent application guide](#) and the [2026-27 parent instructions](#) to help.

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 while you pray the rosary. If you are interested, use our [Saint Thomas Traveling Rosary Sign Up Genius](#).

Parish News

Winter Community Dinner: Join us for fellowship, fun and a free Spaghetti Dinner! Hosted by The Knights of Columbus on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 6pm. RSVP by Jan. 19 to the Parish Office (616-459-4662).

Catholic Central News!

Cougar Youth Skate: Skate with the Catholic Central Hockey Team, Dec. 30, 3:30pm. Check out this [Cougar Youth Skate flyer](#) for more details.



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN
14

Kindergarten Spotlight: 6-7pm

Meet our amazing Kindergarten teachers, explore classrooms, and learn how we nurture faith, curiosity & a love for learning.

JAN
24/25

School Showcase: After Masses

All are invited to enjoy student-led tours and learn what makes St. Thomas special! Tours after 5pm/7am/9am & 11am Masses. Donuts & Coffee in the Ministry Center on 1/25.

JAN
28

Preschool Palooza: 6-7 pm

All prospective 3, 4 and Young 5 students are invited to test drive our new Preschool Center. Meet our teachers, enjoy crafts, games, snacks & a scavenger hunt!



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



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