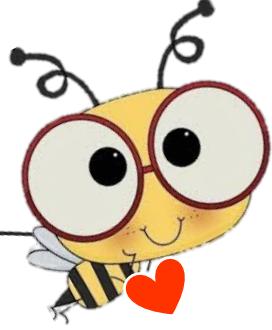


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

# The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST

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



Jan. 19-23, 2026

## Next week!

The virtue of the week is **docility**: willingness to be taught.

**Monday, Jan. 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr. / No school**

**Tuesday, Jan. 20 –**

- **Eucharistic Adoration, 9am to 5:30pm, Church**
- **Parent Rosary, 2:45pm, Church**
- **Parent Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:05pm, Church**
- **Spring musical auditions, 3:30pm, Ministry Center.** Please use our [STA Lion King Audition Sign Up Genius](#) to register your child and see the last page for more information.

**Wednesday, Jan. 21 –**

- **All-School Mass, 8:15am.** Please remember Mass uniforms.
- **Gym Time, 11:10am,** Saint Thomas Gym
- **Spring musical auditions, 3:30pm,** Ministry Center. Please use our [STA Lion King Audition Sign Up Genius](#) to register your child and see the last page for more information.

**Friday, Jan. 23 –**

- **Storytime, 10am,** Preschool Center
- **Hot lunch change: Mozzarella sticks** (Not Little Caesar's pizza).

## GRACEAC spring sports sign up!

Registration for GRACEAC spring sports is open. The available sports are: boys baseball, boys and girls lacrosse, girls softball, girls soccer, girls and boys tennis and girls and boys track & field. If your child is interested, please register using the [GRACEAC Spring Sports Sign Up](#). The deadline to sign up is Feb. 15. After Feb. 15, there will be a late fee.

## Catholic Schools Week approaching!

We're gearing up for Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 25-30. We've got lots of fun activities planned to celebrate Saint Thomas school and students and teachers. Check out the CSW flyer at the end of the Buzz.



Catholic Schools  
United in Faith and Community

## Spring musical auditions!

We are excited to announce that Saint Thomas will be having a Spring Musical! We will be performing *The Lion King*. All 3rd-8th grade students are eligible to try out. Auditions will be held Tuesday, Jan. 20 and Wednesday, Jan. 21, 3:30-5:30pm in the Ministry Center.

Please use our [STA Lion King Audition Sign Up Genius](#) to register your child. For more information, email [katherinelewis@stthomasgr.org](mailto:katherinelewis@stthomasgr.org) or check out this [Lion King tryout flyer](#).

## Looking ahead!

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](mailto:erinbrede@stthomasgr.org).)

Feb. 3 – School Board meeting, 6pm

Feb. 5 – Parent teacher evening conferences

Feb. 6 – Half day / Parent teacher evening conferences

Feb. 13-17 – No school / Mid-winter break

Feb. 24 – Uniform holiday

## School lunch!

Here is our [January 2026](#) lunch menu. Please note: There is a change to the lunch menu: Friday, 1/23 is mozzarella sticks. Friday, 1/30 is Little Caesar's pizza.

## Mass participants for Jan. 21

- 1<sup>st</sup> reading: James P
- Petitions: Ryan M, Clara S, Owen S, Addison K, Benjamin P, Harrison B
- Altar servers: Henry B, Grace M, Gabby M
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Nari G, Jack J
- Ushers: Sophie VK, Eden R
- Xylophones: Rebekah, Eliza, Eden, Gabby
- Bells: Gloria P, Claire U, Madeline, Rilyn D
- Song leaders: Lucy H, Alaina B

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:

- What is the virtue of docility?
- Who is a saint who inspires you, and what do you admire about them?

## Family dance!

We are gearing up for our Ready! Set! GLOW! Family Dance on Jan. 30. If you are interested in helping with this event, please use our [Family Dance Sign Up Genius](#). Many hands make light work! Thanks!

## Proper shoes required!

Thank you for sending your children in proper footwear. We have noticed a difference.

For the safety of students, please make sure your children have shoes with enclosed toes and heels. Shoes must be either **leather or tennis shoes**.

From the Parent Student Handbook:

*“Students must wear socks with shoes. Students may wear leather shoes or tennis shoes with enclosed toes and enclosed heels. High top sneakers worn with socks showing above the shoe are allowed. Students may wear boots to school on rainy or snowy days, but must change into shoes for indoors. Outdoor boots, fashion boots (Hunter, UGGS), cowboy boots, and ankle boots are NOT uniform approved.”*

## January STA events!

**School Showcase, January 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 7:30, 9, 11am Masses. Donuts and coffee will be 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!

## 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). Visit our Community Dinner webpage to RSVP or [sign up to volunteer for the Community Dinner.](#)



## Spring Musical Auditions

**January 20/21 - 3:30-5:30pm**

### Please prepare:

- Song: 16 - 32 bars (1 minute)**
- A short monologue or reading (up to 1 minute)**
- Optional: Dance segment**

For more information, contact [katherinelewis@stthomasgr.org](mailto:katherinelewis@stthomasgr.org)

# SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

JANUARY 25-30, 2026

## SUNDAY

JANUARY 25

### CELEBRATE ST. THOMAS



- Wear your uniform to Mass
- Middle schoolers to offer tours after 7:30, 9 & 11 am Masses
- Coffee & Donuts in the Ministry Center

## TUESDAY

JANUARY 27

### CELEBRATE STUDENTS



- Dress code: Pajama Day
- Fr. Stephen's favorite movies & popcorn for K-5

## THURSDAY

JANUARY 29

### CELEBRATE NATION



- Dress code: Red/White & Blue
- Chapel speaker: Dr. Casey Parini
- Staff v. 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball game in Gym

## MONDAY

JANUARY 26

### CELEBRATE COMMUNITY



Catholic Schools  
United in Faith and Community

- Dress code: Uniform day
- Parent Rosary at 8:15 am in the Ministry Center
- Students to make cards to honor and welcome St. Stephen's community
- Student "Show & Tell"
- Kick off "Be the Change" competition

## WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 28

### CELEBRATE VOCATIONS



- Dress code: Mass uniforms
- "Balloon Rosary"
- Fr. Stephen's favorite movie & popcorn for Middle School
- Class donuts
- Preschool Palooza, 6-7 pm

## FRIDAY

JANUARY 30

### CELEBRATE TEACHERS



- Dress code: Spirit Day
- Bring in a card or small treat for a teacher or staff member
- "Ready Set Glow" family dance 6-8:30 pm in the Gym



## 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!



**LOCATION:** St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Center

1530 Fulton Street E, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Registration information for the 2026-2027 school year will be provided!

All prospective students welcome.



**REGISTER HERE** >



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL