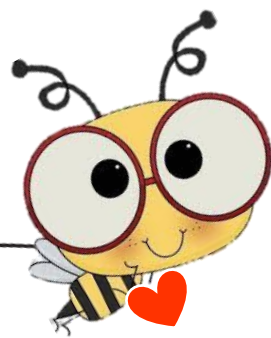


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

The

BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



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

Jan. 25-30, 2026

Catholic Schools Week 2026! We ♥ Saint Thomas!

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

MONDAY

JANUARY 26

CELEBRATE 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

TUESDAY

JANUARY 27

CELEBRATE STUDENTS



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

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

THURSDAY

JANUARY 29

CELEBRATE NATION




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

FRIDAY

JANUARY 30

CELEBRATE TEACHERS



- Dress code: Spirit Day
- Red Glasses Award presentation at Chapel 
- Bring in a card or small treat for a teacher or staff member
- Middle school field trip to Main Event
- "Ready Set Glow" family dance 6-8:30 pm in the Gym

Catholic Schools Week events!



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Winter Community Dinner, Jan. 24, 6pm: Join us for fellowship, fun and a free Spaghetti Dinner! Hosted by The Knights of Columbus. 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](#).

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 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. Please use our [Preschool Palooza Google form to RSVP](#).

Ready! Set! GLOW! Family Dance, Jan. 30, 6-8:30pm:
Join us to celebrate our Saint Thomas School Community!
All school families are welcome. There will be pizza, music, glow sticks, face painting, and more! You can still [sign up to bring items or volunteer at the Family Dance](#).

School lunch!

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

Mass participants for Jan. 28

- 1st reading: Eliza L
- Petitions: Ryan M, Kathleen C, Lina S, Hailey B, Ben P, Anna H
- Altar servers: Eden R, Mary B, Maddie S
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Nari G, Jack J
- Ushers: Anthony N, Gage F
- Xylophones: Leo D, Molly H, Mackenzie S, Emma Sa
- Bells: Ari, Makbel, Rowan
- Song leaders: Ros, Mia P, Emma G

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



CSW movies for students

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week, our students will be watching some of Father Stephen's favorite movies. **If you do not want your child to watch the assigned movie, please email your child's homeroom teacher.** The movies are:

- Finding Nemo, grades K-2
- Prince of Egypt, grades 3-5
- Cool Runnings, middle school

We are looking for a few parent volunteers to help with CSW movies and more. If you're interested, please use our [CSW Volunteer Sign Up Genius](#).

Breaking bread, building faith!

Family dinner-time discussion topics:

- If we had a family mission statement, what would it be?
- What is something kind someone in our family has done for you recently?

Upcoming Sacrament events

8th Grade Confirmation Candidate-Sponsor Session, Jan 25, 2:30pm. Fr. Stephen will lead a Question and Answer Session with all 8th Grade Confirmation Candidates and their sponsor and/or parent(s) in the Lower Level of Church.

2nd Grade First Communion Session, Feb 1, 2:30pm. Fr. Stephen will lead a session of prayer and reflection for 2nd Graders and their parents in preparation for their First Communion Mass, followed by a commemorative plate-making opportunity in the Lower Level with The Mud Room.

Looking ahead!

Feb. 3 – School Board meeting, 6pm
Feb. 5 – Parent teacher evening conferences
Feb. 6 – Half day / Parent teacher afternoon conferences
Feb. 13-17 – No school / Mid-winter break
Feb. 24 – Uniform holiday
March 5 – Dinos with Dads
March 6 – No school; teacher professional development
March 10 – 8th Grade Confirmation
March 11-12 – Accreditation Site Visit
March 19 – 4th Grade Songfest

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.

Spring musical auditions!

Due to this week's snow days, the remaining auditions for *The Lion King* have been rescheduled for Monday, January 26, after school, from 3:30-4:30pm in the Ministry Center.

This is a great opportunity for students to be part of an exciting production! We encourage all interested students to audition. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Katie Lewis at katherinelewis@stthomasgr.org.



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

YOU BELONG HERE!



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



Join artist and STA parent Beth Jacobson
for a creative evening out!

Painting Workshops

STA Preschool Center
Thursdays 6:00-8:30pm
Ages 12+, \$65, all materials included!*

Follow this link to sign up:



- **January 29th**
Snowman (Watercolors)
- **February 26th**
Sweet Treats (Acrylics)
- **March 19th**
Irish Landscape (Watercolors)
- **April 23rd**
Spring Florals (Acrylics)
- **May 14th**
Butterflies (Watercolors)



*Early bird pricing--sign up and pay 1 month prior
to class and receive \$5 discount!
Questions? bethmariejacobsongr@gmail.com