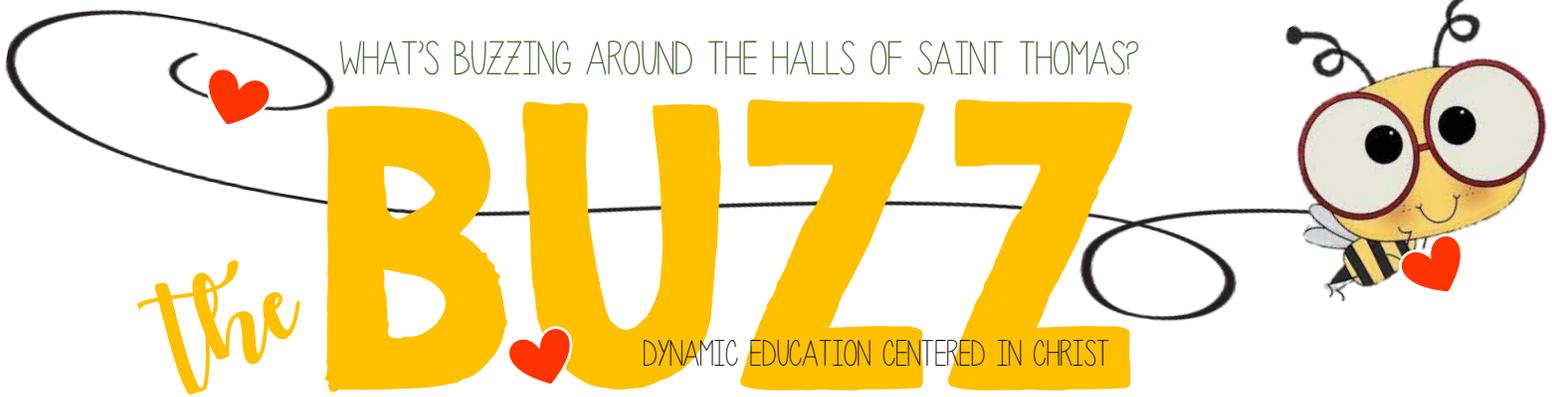


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?



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

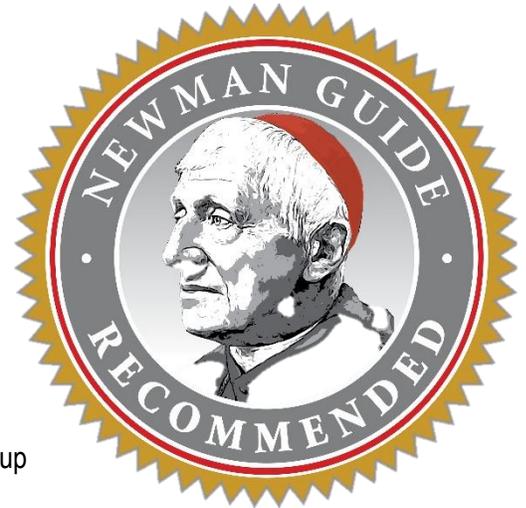
Feb. 16-20, 2026

Saint Thomas receives national recognition

Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School has been recognized by the Cardinal Newman Society as a Recommended School, a distinction that affirms our status as a school of Catholic excellence. This recognition confirms what we already know: our school faithfully integrates strong academics with a vibrant Catholic identity, rooted firmly in the teachings of the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

We are especially honored to share that Saint Thomas is one of only 37 elementary and secondary schools in the country to receive this recognition. Even more notably, we are one of just two schools in the state of Michigan to achieve this distinction. This places our school among a select group of Catholic institutions nationally that have excellence in faith and academics.

We are thrilled by this recognition, which honors the daily commitment of our faculty and staff to providing an outstanding education—one that is deeply rooted in the rich traditions and truth of the Catholic Church. Thank you for your continued trust, support, and partnership in the mission of Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School!



Next week!

The virtue of the week is **perseverance**: Taking the steps necessary to carry out objectives in spite of difficulties.

Sunday, Feb. 15 – Deadline to sign up for GRACEAC spring sports.

Please register using the [GRACEAC Spring Sports Sign Up](#).

Wednesday, Feb. 18 – Ash Wednesday

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

Friday, Feb. 20 – 0-5ers Story Time, 10am, Preschool Center

Sunday, Feb. 22 – Together We Win (formerly Rumble) Game, 1pm, Saint Thomas Gym. See last page for more details.

2026-27 Enrollment!

Enrollment for the 2026-27 school year is open! You should have received an email from Finalsite Enrollment with information about enrolling. **Current families will have until Feb. 15** before we open enrollment to new families. By completing enrollment, you can save a spot for your child for next year. If you have any questions, contact Admissions Director Cammi Lawrence (clawrence@stthomasgr.org).

Looking ahead!

Feb. 23 – [3-5 Parent to Parent Series](#), 8:30am
Feb. 24 – Uniform holiday
March 2 – [6-8 Parent to Parent Series](#), 8:30am
March 5 – Dinos, Dads, and Devotions, 6pm
March 6 – No school; teacher professional development
March 10 – 8th Grade Confirmation
March 10-12 – Ignatius Press Book Fair
March 11-12 – Accreditation Site Visit
March 19 – Grandfriends' Coffee Club, 8:30am
March 19 – 4th Grade Songfest

School lunch!

Here is our [February lunch menu](#).

Mass participants for Feb. 18

- 1st reading: Rebekah H
- Petitions: David W, Bryce B, Caroline L, Iris V, Mavis H, James V
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Canaan G, Jane G
- Alter servers: Mary B, Henry B, Eden R
- Ushers: Mia P, Emma G
- Xylophones: Mari, Corinne, Eliana, Emma St
- Song leaders: Quinn, Lina, Kate W
- Ashers: Corinne J, Georgia B, Grace M, Gabby M, Eliana K, Molly H

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:

- How can we make our home a place where Christ is always welcome?
- What are some small ways we can show our love for God through our ordinary daily routines?

Parish News

Saint Thomas Parish has many upcoming events and opportunities for school families to get involved in. Check the Parish bulletin or this [flyer of upcoming Parish events](#) for more information.

Drop off / Pick Up Reminder

We're seeing a lot of families dropping kids off or picking them up in front of school. This is absolutely not allowed. For the safety of our students and our community, we ask that you drop off and pick up **ONLY** in the carline, the gateline or park in the parking lot and walk to drop off or pick up your child. This is for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. If you are dropping off late or picking up early for an appointment, you may park in front of school and walk in.

Also, a reminder to **treat Wilcox Park Drive as a one-way westbound street** at pick up and drop off times. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

A note from our STA librarian!

As we approach March is Reading month, check out this [letter from our librarian](#), with some suggestions for book titles. Also, check out our [Saint Thomas library online book catalog](#).

GRANDFRIENDS COFFEE CLUB

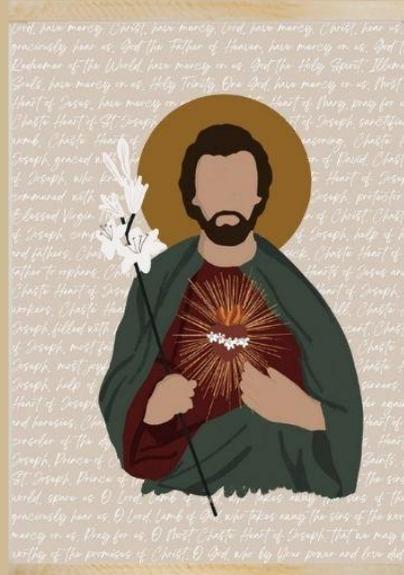
Celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph

New parishioners from St. Stephen's and members of our Grandfriends Club are invited to join us for Chapel followed by coffee & pastries to celebrate St. Joseph's Day!

WHEN: Thursday, March 19 @ 8 AM

WHERE: Saint Thomas the Apostle
1449 Wilcox Park Drive
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

RSVP: Please RSVP [here](#) or with QR code





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

Painting Workshops

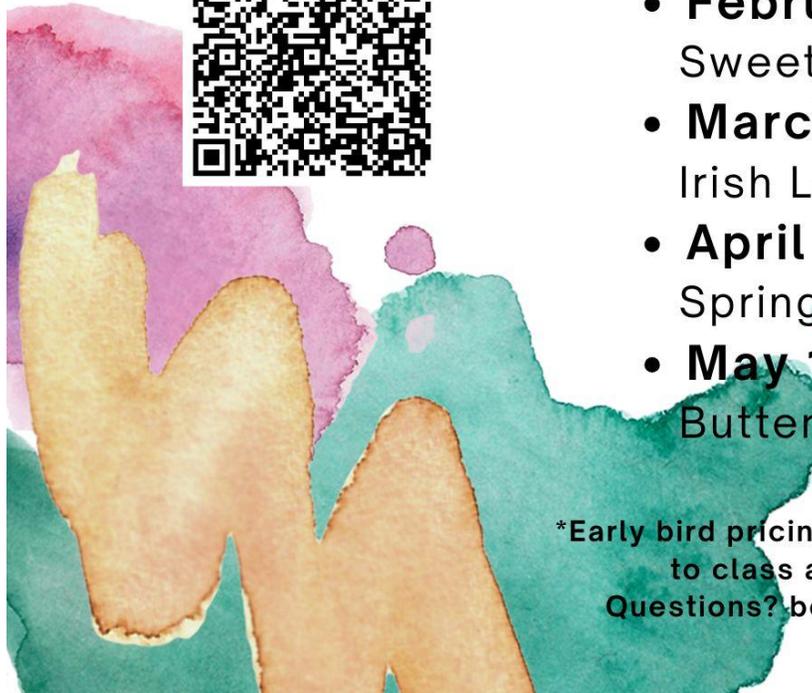
St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Center
1530 Fulton St. E, Grand Rapids, 49503

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? bethmariestudiogr@gmail.com

Together WE ALL WIN!

All Players • All Abilities • One Community

Sunday, February 22 @ 1:00PM
Saint Thomas Gym
Admission is FREE

Join us for this extra-special, family - fun annual basketball event celebrating the power and importance of inclusion in our community!

Saint Thomas faculty, staff, and school board members take to the court vs. Special Olympics Area 11 Rams showcasing team work making the dream work.

Event Highlights

- Hot Dog Stand
- Concessions
- Free Throw Shooting Contest
- Best Student Costume Contest
- Best Adult Costume Contest

Bonus Impact

A generous donor is contributing \$5 for every person in attendance **so simply by showing up, you're making a difference.**

Bring your family, invite your friends, wear your school spirit or your best costume, and help us pack the gym for a cause that matters.

This is more than a game—it's a celebration and a reminder that inclusion is not optional; it's essential. All proceeds from the event support our School Boosters and our Educational Foundation. Combining dynamic athletics and academics for ALL.

