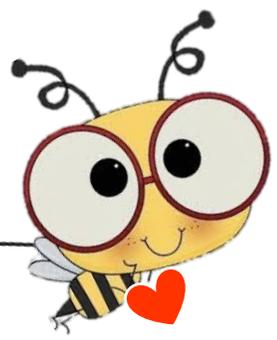


WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST



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

March 9-13, 2026

Next week! MARCH IS READING MONTH!

The virtue of the week is **fortitude**: The ability to overcome fear and remain steady in our will in the face of obstacles.

Tuesday, March 10 –

- **Spirit Day for March is Reading Month (wear STA spirit wear or green and gold/yellow)!**
- **Book Fair, 8am-4pm, Ministry Center**
- **Eucharistic Adoration, 9am to 5:30pm, Church**
- **Parent Rosary, 2:45pm, Church**
- **Parent Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:05pm, Church**
- **8th Grade Confirmation, 7pm, Cathedral of Saint Andrew**

Wednesday, March 11 –

- **Accreditation Site Visit**
- **Book Fair, 8am-4pm, Ministry Center**
- **All-School Mass, 8:15am.** Please remember Mass uniforms.
- **0-5ers Gym Time, 11:10am, Saint Thomas Gym**

Thursday, March 12 –

- **Accreditation Site Visit**
- **Book Fair, 8am-4pm, Ministry Center**
- **Auction Fundraiser at EVEREVE, 6-8pm (1948 Breton Rd SE)**

Friday, March 13 – 0-5ers Story Time, 10am, Preschool

Auction fundraiser!

Are you looking for a Spring clothing refresh? On Thursday, March 12 EVEREVE in Breton Village will be donating 15% of all their proceeds to the Emerald Auction. Join us from 6 to 8pm, Jenna Smith will be hosting snacks and wine while you shop. Please share with your family and friends! EVEREVE (1948 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI).

2026-27 Calendar!

We've got a draft of our [2026-27 school calendar](#). Please note, this is a working calendar. We will add items as they arise. If you have any questions about this calendar, please contact the office.

Book Fair info!

The Ignatius Book Fair is coming next week, March 10-12 in the Ministry Center. Check out the [Ignatius Book Fair link](#) to set up a family account where you can access classroom book recommendations as well as wish lists for teachers. You also can order books directly from this website and help our school in the process! Questions? Contact our librarian Sue Edgerly (libadmin@stthomasgr.org).

EVEREVE
Fashion
Fundraiser

EVEREVE GRAND RAPIDS

Looking ahead!

March 16 – [K-2 Parent-to-Parent Series](#), 8:30am
March 17 – St. Patrick's Day assembly with Irish Dancers
March 19 – St. Joseph's Day (red shirt day, pasta collection)
March 19 – Grandfriends' Coffee Club, 8:30am
March 19 – 4th Grade Songfest
March 20 – Party in your Parka, 6pm ([Complete this waiver](#) to attend)
March 21 – Rock your Socks Day / Down Syndrome Awareness Day
March 21 – Euchre Tournament
March 22 – Family Literacy Event, 12:30pm
April 6-10 – Spring Break; no school
April 24 – First Communion retreat
April 26 – First Communion Mass, 3pm
May 3 – First Communion Mass, 3pm
May 4-8 – Teacher Appreciation Week

School lunch!

Here is our [March lunch menu](#). Please note these upcoming lunch changes:

- Thursday, March 19 – Pasta and meatballs
- Thursday, March 26 – Hot dogs

Mass participants for March II

- 1st reading: Molly
- Petitions: Mary B, Eli M, Colin J, Ceci W, Forest H, Joseph S, Henry T, Edward E
- Sacristan: Eliana K, Asher K
- Gifts: Suzy, Dexter
- Altar servers: Eden, Alaina, Maddie P
- Ushers: Eliana, Paige
- Xylophones: Leo, Molly, Mackenzie, Emma Sa.
- Song leaders: Fulton, Emma G, Mia

Breaking bread, building faith!

Family dinner-time discussion topics:

- How can we listen to God's Word more attentively – at Mass and at home?
- What does it mean to be stewards of God's creation as a family?

Whitecaps reading!

The Whitecaps Reading Program has begun. Students who wish to participate will be receiving a reading log sheet. If they read for 20 different days in the month of March, they receive TWO free tickets to the Whitecaps game on Friday, June 5 at 6:35 pm. These are due BEFORE spring break this year on April 1.

Auction request

The Emerald Auction team is seeking donations for this year's event and we would be grateful for any gift basket items, vacation homes, gift cards, sporting tickets and/or experiences you would kindly be willing to donate.

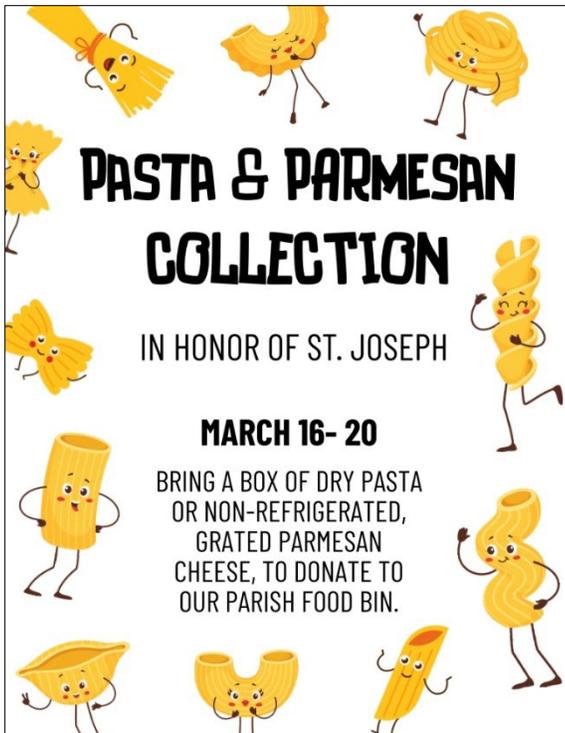
Please contact Lindsay Keegan at keegan.d.lindsay@gmail.com or 773-368-7252 with any questions or donate online by visiting our [Auction website](#) and click on "Donate an Item for Auction."

Red Glasses Movement!

Our school will participate in the Red Glasses Movement to honor the legacy of Audrey Jandernoa, who was a preschool friend and classmate to many of our current 7th-graders. We are kick off an art supply drive for Artists Creating Together (ACT), an inclusive art organization. We invite our school community to donate art supplies to support ACT. Check out this [ACT Wishlist of items to donate](#) throughout the month of March. Questions? Contact Mr. Walsh.

St. Joseph Day Meal for Teachers

We are hoping to start a new tradition of celebrating St. Joseph's Day with a pasta meal for our teachers and staff at lunch. If you can contribute to the lunch on Thursday, March 19, please use our [St. Joseph Day Sign Up Genius](#) to contribute. All food items can be brought to the office or teacher's lounge on March 19, by 11am.



**PASTA & PARMESAN
COLLECTION**

IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH

MARCH 16- 20

BRING A BOX OF DRY PASTA
OR NON-REFRIGERATED,
GRATED PARMESAN
CHEESE, TO DONATE TO
OUR PARISH FOOD BIN.

The poster features various types of pasta (like shells, penne, and spaghetti) and Parmesan cheese wheels, all with cute, smiling faces and small legs, arranged around the central text.

Celebrating St. Joseph



GRANDFRIENDS COFFEE CLUB

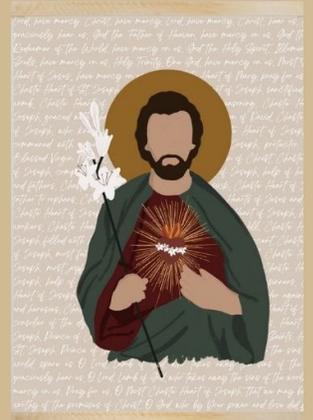
Celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph

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



SAINT THOMAS

Euchre

TOURNAMENT



WHEN?

**MARCH 21, 2026
7-10PM**

WHERE?

SAINT THOMAS GYM

WHY?

'CAUSE YOU'RE AWESOME AT EUCHRE!

OR

'CAUSE YOU WANT TO LEARN EUCHRE!

OR

'CAUSE YOU JUST NEED A NIGHT OUT!

WHAT ELSE?

**BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES AND AN
APPETIZER OR DESSERT TO SHARE!**

**AND IF YOU'VE GOT A CARD TABLE THAT
WE COULD BORROW, PLEASE LET US KNOW!**

RSVP

BOOSTERS@STTHOMASGR.ORG



READ AROUND THE WORLD



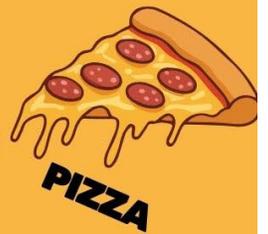
LITERACY DAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

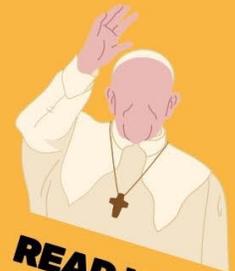
PRESCHOOL BUILDING 12:30-2:30PM



PreK - 5th graders: Get your passport and travel from room to room with your family to see how reading takes you places!



**READ BY
CAMPFIRE!**



**READ WITH
POPE LEO!**



SAFARI ADVENTURE!

***BRING GENTLY USED
BOOKS TO DONATE TO
CARLTON LOFTS.**



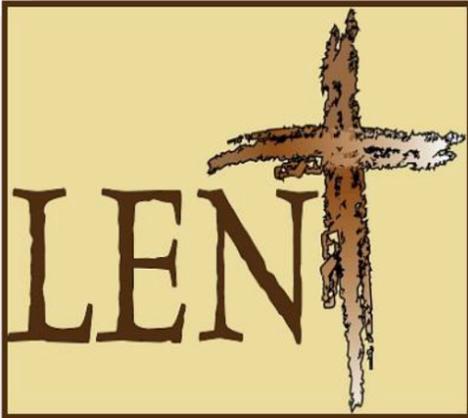
VISIT SPACE!

RSVP: SIGN UP HERE





Opportunities for Prayer and Spiritual Growth



**2026 LENT & EASTER PRAYER,
CONFESSION, AND
MASS SCHEDULE**

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays from 9 am to 5:30 pm
Evening Prayer is recited at 5 pm.

Ash Wednesday – February 18

Celebration of Holy Mass with
Distribution of Ashes – 8:15 am, Noon and 7 pm

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, Feb 20, 27, Mar 6, 13, 20, 27 at 7 pm

Individual Reconciliation (Confession)

Thursdays, 5:45 – 6:45 pm at *St. Stephen*
Saturdays, 3 - 4 pm from Feb 21 - March 28
Friday, March 13 from 6:30 - 8 pm *Thursday*,
March 19 from 5 – 8 pm
Friday, March 27 from 6 - 7 pm
Wednesday, April 1 from 6 - 8 pm

Holy Thursday, April 2

7 pm – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper*
8 – 11:30 pm – Altar of Repose in Ministry Ctr.
11:30 pm – Night Prayer in Ministry Center

Good Friday, April 3

12:30 pm – Stations of the Cross
1:30 pm – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion*
(Note new time for the Lord’s Passion service!)

Holy Saturday, April 4

12 Noon – Blessing of Easter Foods
9 pm – Easter Vigil Mass*

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses will be celebrated at 7:00, 9, and 11* am
9:30 am at *St. Stephen Church*

**These services will be livestreamed.*

Men’s 33-Day Consecration to Saint Joseph

Sunday, February 15, 4 pm Kickoff through Thursday, March 19
Men, take advantage of this opportunity for spiritual growth under the
guidance and intercession of St. Joseph-Husband of Mary, Foster-Father of
Jesus, and Terror of Demons. RSVP: bit.ly/33Joseph or on Parish website.

Soup and Fellowship prior to the Stations of the Cross

Fridays, Feb 20, 27 and Mar 6 13, 20, 27 at 6 pm in the Church LL
Stations of the Cross at 7 pm in the Church
Meatless soup is provided. Bring a salad or a loaf of bread to share.

Women’s Lenten Morning of Reflection

Saturday, February 21 from 8:30 - Noon in the Ministry Center
All women are invited to this time of fellowship, prayer, and spiritual
renewal as we begin our Lenten journey. Guest speaker, Julie Bevins, wife
of Deacon David Bevins. RSVP by February 19 on the Parish website.

Lectio Divina of the Gospels

Mondays, Feb. 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 from 7:50 - 8:50 am in the
Rectory Fireside Room
Lectio Divina or “divine reading” is a process of engaging with Christ, the
Word of God, through four steps: reading, meditation, prayer, and
contemplation. Gather to reflect on the Sunday Gospel and grow in your
relationship with Christ. Facilitated by parishioner Mary Clark-Kaiser.

**Corpus Christi Lent Edition: An Evening of Adoration and
Stations of the Cross with Confession**

Friday, March 13 from 6:30 - 8 pm in the Church
A soup supper will be offered at 6 pm, family time of Adoration at 6:30
pm, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7 pm. Confessions will be heard
throughout Eucharistic Adoration.

The Light is On for You! An Evening of Confession

Thursday, March 19 from 5 - 8 pm in the Church

Opportunities for Almsgiving and Service

Contact Lori Fedewa at lorifedewa@stthomasgr.org to inquire:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS): For Lent For Life

CRS Rice Bowl invites you to reflect on how your Lenten sacrifices can
help families around the world overcome the challenges of hunger and
poor nutrition. Pick up your CRS Rice Bowl in the back of Church.

Family Service Opportunity: Kids Food Basket (KFB)

Wednesday, March 4, 6 - 7:30 pm at KFB (1300 Plymouth NE)
Join us in assisting KFB at their GR location. Volunteers (5 and up) are
needed to help prep food for super sacks. Register on the Parish website.

Blood Drive

Sunday, March 15 from 8:30 am – 1 pm in the Ministry Center
Appointments are encouraged. To sign up, call Versiti at (616) 233-8509 or
see the Parish website.

Community Cuisine Night at Carlton Lofts

Help coordinate/prepare a weeknight meal and engage with Carlton
Lofts residents in a meaningful and impactful way; one in Feb. and one in
March. Watch the Parish bulletin or website for the schedule of dates.