



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Middle School Newsletter | May 1, 2026

6TH GRADE

Language Arts: We learned about creation myths, and compared the Creation Story from Genesis with the Greek myth. We also started writing the scripts for our Greek Mythology Podcast projects.

Social Studies: We continued our Ancient India unit. We discussed Buddhism, Hinduism, the Caste System, and the important empires in Ancient India. Next week, we will discuss an important emperor. The students will look at documents, answer questions, form an opinion, and write a short essay. Then, they will get their Ancient India Study Guide and their test will be on Friday, May 8.

- Asoka Essay - Due Thursday, May 7
- Ancient India Test - Friday, May 8

Science: We have continued to focus on Earth's place in the solar system. We focused on how inertia and gravity work together to keep objects like Earth and the Moon in orbit. We then learned about the phases of the moon and what causes eclipses. We will look more at the moon and tides next week.

Theology: We looked at life after Jericho, and what happens next? Next week, we start talking about the need for a king and the consequences that it will have.

Math 6G1: Students learned about finding the area of triangles, trapezoids, and kites. They also took a quiz over that material. Next week, students will learn about 3D figures, finding the surface area of prisms and pyramids and also finding the volume of rectangular prisms.

- Tuesday, May 12 - Chapter 7 Quiz 2 (7.4 - 7.7)

Math 6G2: Students learned about subtracting, multiplying and dividing integers as well as using integers to solve problems. Next week, they will finish up integers with an assessment. They will also learn about an intro to statistics, statistical measures, and measures of center.

- Tuesday, May 5 - Integer Test

7TH GRADE

Language Arts: We learned about life in the Netherlands during Nazi occupation in order to understand what the Franks' lives were like before they went into hiding. We used text evidence to make inferences about the relationships between our characters at the start of our play.

Social Studies: We continued our conversation about the start of the Revolutionary War. We discussed the first battles, and the one last chance for peace. Next week, we will continue to discuss the Revolutionary War. We will look at items that convinced people to fight for independence and officially declare independence. Students will then write their own Declaration of Independence.

- Personal Declaration of Independence - Due, Saturday May 9th

Theology: The students wrote, produced and starred in the production of Maximillian Kolbe this week. They were great. Next week we delve into the book of Revelation and all of its imagery.

Science: We started the week with the Chapter 8 Test on Monday. Then we moved into an introduction to wave types and properties to lead into Chapter 10: Waves of the Electromagnetic Spectrum.

Math 7G1: Students learned about finding the perimeter and area of composite figures that include rectangles, squares, circles, semicircles, triangles, and trapezoids. Next week, students will learn about constructing polygons and finding unknown angle measures.

- Monday, May 4 - Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)
- Tuesday, May 12 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.5)

Math 7G2: Students learned about finding square roots and cube roots as well as using the Pythagorean Theorem. Next week, students will learn about rational and irrational numbers as well as the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem.

- Tuesday, May 5 - Chapter 9 Quiz 1 (9.1 - 9.3)
- Tuesday, May 12 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.6)

8TH GRADE

Language Arts: We wrapped up our revisions for the Final Project, and saw an example Final Project presentation, as we began working on our slides. We also continued our unit on Sentence Diagramming.

History: We continued discussing the Civil War. We talked about the important generals, the important women, the battles, and the Emancipation Proclamation. Next week, we will continue discussing the Civil War. We will talk about Gettysburg, prisoners of war, Sherman's March to the Sea, and the end of the Civil War.

Science: We concluded our new material on the human body this week by learning about the structures and functions that lead to the creation of new life. We then discussed the development of a zygote into an embryo, then into a fetus, and finally to birth, including some of the effects this process has on the mother's body. Study guides for the Chapter 10 Test have been available since Monday, and we began reviewing in class on Friday. The test is next week on Tuesday.

- Tuesday, May 5 - Chapter 10 Test

Math 8G1: Students learned about finding square roots and cube roots as well as using the Pythagorean Theorem. Next week, students will learn about rational and irrational numbers as well as the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem.

- Friday, May 8 - Chapter 9 Quiz 2 (9.4 - 9.6)

Math 8G2: Students learned about graphing quadratic functions. Next week, students will continue to learn about quadratic functions and using intercept form as well as comparing linear, exponential and quadratic functions.

- Tuesday, May 5, Chapter 8 Quiz 1 (8.1 - 8.3)
- Tuesday, May 12 - Chapter 8 Quiz 2 (8.4 - 8.6)

Theology: In between MAP testing, we talked about the role of the Spirit and how it connects the Four Marks of the Church. The Eighth graders are presenting Aloysius Gonzaga at chapel on Thursday, so they are in the research and planning stage. Next, we will present Aloysius Gonzaga and learn about the role of the Church.



8TH GRADE END OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES/DATES

We are approaching the end of the school year, and for our 8th graders, this means a lot of graduation/end-of-the-year activities. Here is a list of a few of those activities:

- Memory book and graduation video pictures due to Jenn Ford – May 1
- Class trip to Mackinac Island – Monday, May 18 (Parents who would like to chaperone, please email Mrs. Hoedeman.)
- Anointing Mass – May 20 - at 8:15am
- 8th Grade Exams – May 26-28
- 8th Grade Last Mass – May 27
- 8th Grade Breakfast - Hosted on the students' last day of school by parents, May 29
- 8th Grade Last day of school – May 29
- Cedar Point Trip (parent-organized; not a school-sponsored field trip) – June 1
- Graduation – June 3



Sports Physicals

SAT, MAY 9
9 AM- NOON

\$20 per student; Cash or Check
Made payable to St. Thomas Boosters

St. Thomas Gym
1429 Wilcox Park Drive SE

Dr. Michael App, MD, MPH

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Sign up here

The flyer features a white background with various sports balls (soccer, basketball, baseball, football) scattered around. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner. The right side of the flyer has a dark green background with a circular portrait of Dr. Michael App, MD, MPH, wearing a white lab coat and glasses. Below the portrait is a blue banner with his name. At the bottom right is the school's logo and name.

ASA, IHM, SJV, SPA, STA, & ST. ROBERTS PRESENT:

Friday, May 8th
7TH & 8TH GRADE
DANCE

IHM GYM
7PM - 9PM

JOIN US FOR A HAWAIIAN LUAU AT IHM!

A NIGHT FULL OF FUN, DANCING, AND TROPICAL VIBES AWAITS!
DRESS IN YOUR HAWAIIAN BEST AND GET READY TO HULA!

FOOD SIGNUP



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NIGHT INCLUDE:

- PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED
- DJ, DANCING, AND A LIMBO CONTEST
- FREE THROW CONTEST
- SNACKS AND MORE!

(THERE WILL BE CHAPERONES
FROM ALL SCHOOLS)

Questions?

Contact Rachelle Rizik at rachelle.rizik@gmail.com

2026 West Catholic Color Guard Spring/Summer Schedule:

May:

Wednesday 6 th	6-8:30 pm	Open Spin
Wednesday 13 th	6-8:30 pm	Open Spin
Wednesday 20 th	6-8:30 pm	Signups/Auditions

June:

Wednesday 3 rd	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 10 th	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 17 th	6-8:30pm	Practice
Wednesday 24 th	6-8:30pm	Practice

July:

Wednesday, 22 nd	10AM-6PM	GUARD CAMP!
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All practices will meet at WC outside the band room, unless other instruction is given. Please, let me know if you will be unavailable to attend any rehearsals as soon as you can or at least 7 days prior. Remember that all practices are important for everyone to attend. Even if you can only make part of a practice every little bit will make us better! Also, bring plenty of water and dress appropriately for the weather we may be outside. Practice schedules may change because of COVID or space restrictions.

Looking Forward To A Great Season,

-Liz

616-304-1752,
Liz.ForteSewingAndDesign@gmail.com

Catholic Central Color Guard

Anyone at CC is welcome to
come to the Open Spins and
Tryouts!

7th and 8th graders are also welcome at the
Opens Spins to see what is like for when
they get to high school or for the next
winter season



Important Dates

Open Spins:

Tues May 5th 6-8:30 pm

Mon May 11th 6-8:30 pm

Tryouts:

Tues May 19th 6-8:30 pm

Where and what to bring

Located in the Catholic Central Band
Room. Wear comfortable clothing you
can move in and bring a water bottle!

Contact Info:

(616) 304-1752

liz.fortesewinganddesign@gmail.com