WHAT'S BUZZING AROUND THE HALLS OF SAINT THOMAS?

The BUZZ

DYNAMIC EDUCATION CENTERED IN CHRIST

Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School • est. 1925

Oct. 19-23, 2026

Next week!

The virtue this week is **orderliness:** Keeping oneself physically clean and neat and one's belongings in good order.

Sunday, Oct. 18 – 1st Grade Family Party @ the Rossis, 4pm. Email Clare.delgado14@gmail.com or hollykammel@gmail.com with questions.

Tuesday, Oct. 20 –

- **Eucharistic Adoration, 9am to 5:15pm**, Church
- **Parent Rosary, 2:45pm,** Church
- **Parent Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:05pm,** Church

Wednesday, Oct. 21 – No Mass. Lunch in the classrooms (due to 8th grade NET retreat). Lunch change: corndogs. No salad bar.

Thursday, Oct. 22 – Lunch in the classrooms (due to 6th grade NET retreat). Lunch change – cereal. No salad bar.

Friday, Oct. 23 – GRANDFRIENDS' DAY! Welcome to all our Grandfriends. Please RSVP for Grandfriends' Day and check out this Grandfriends' Day Sign Up Genius to help!

- **Mass, 8:30am. Mass uniforms.**
- **Fall Book Fair, 8am – 12pm,** STA Library
- **Half day / 11:15am dismissal**
- **8th Grade Parent Party @ the Williams.** Email Clare.delgado14@gmail.com or hollykammel@gmail.com with questions.

Sunday, Oct. 25 – Trunk or Treat, 3pm, Church parking lot. Cars must be parked by 2:55pm.

Financial aid 2027-28!

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about the 2027-28 school year. Blackbaud applications are open! First round applications are due Nov. 30! Visit the Blackbaud website at studentfinancialaid.blackbaud.school and check out the Blackbaud 2027-28 application instructions for help in creating an account. For information and instructions about applying for aid, check out the Blackbaud 2027-28 online instruction guide. If you have questions, please contact Blackbaud support at (800) 360-8027 or financialaidsupport@blackbaud.school.

School Name: St. Thomas the Apostle
School ID: 13303



Looking ahead!

Oct. 25 – Trunk or Treat, 3pm
Oct. 27-29 – Fall Book Fair
Oct. 30 – End of first quarter
Oct. 30 – Last day to wear shorts and skirts without leggings
Oct. 30 – Uniform holiday (No costumes allowed, grades 1-8)
Nov. 2 – Second quarter begins
Nov. 2 – Pants and leggings with skirts required
Nov. 4 – Picture retakes
Nov. 7 – Strategic planning listening session, 9:30-11am
Nov. 12 – Evening parent teacher conferences
Nov. 13 – Half day / Dismissal at 11:15am
Nov. 13 – Afternoon parent teacher conferences
Nov. 20 – Uniform holiday
Dec. 15 – STA Advent concert

Mass participants for Oct. 23

- 1st reading: Claire VW
- Petitions: Patrick B, Fiona S, Izzy C, Olivia S, James B, Kate W
- Sacristan: Eleanor V, Dylan S
- Gifts: Briggs D, Bryson H
- Altar servers: Jack D, Peter B, Chris A
- Ushers: Sarah H, Eva L

Breaking bread, building faith!

Family dinner-time discussion question: During the **Epiclesis** at Mass, the priest calls upon the Holy Spirit to transform the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. How can we invite the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and help our family grow closer to Jesus?

School lunch and updates!

Here is our October lunch menu. Please note these lunch changes: **Wednesday (Oct. 21) – corndogs and Thursday (Oct. 22) – cereal. No salad bar either day.**

The October breakfast menu is: cereal, goldfish grahams, apple juice and milk. Please remember, there will be NO extra entrées/doubles or alternate meal options in October.

Home & School News!

We've got upcoming parent parties scheduled:

P3: the Boogs, Nov. 6
P4: the Kammels, Nov. 14
Y5: the Delgados, TBD
Kindergarten: the Johnstons, Nov. 7
1st grade: the Rossis, Oct. 18
3rd grade: the Kennedys, TBD
7th grade: the Pfennigs, Nov. 14
8th grade: the Williams, Oct. 23

Invites and more information will be coming soon from those who are hosting! **We are still looking for 2nd, 4th and 6th grade hosts.** Email Clare (Clare.delgado14@gmail.com) or Holly (hollykammel@gmail.com) if you are able to host or have questions!

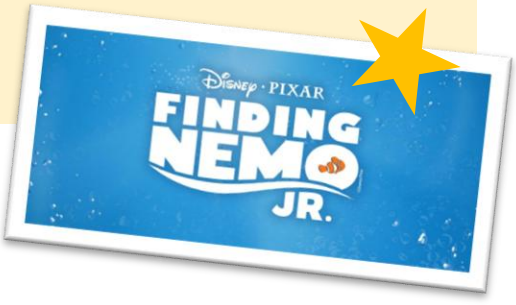
Spelling Bee!

It's T-I-M-E for our annual STA All School Spelling B-E-E! If your child is interested in participating in this year's event, please use our STA Spelling Bee Sign Up by **Monday, Oct. 26.** This is a hard deadline. No entries will be accepted after Oct. 26. Classroom spelling bees will happen before Thanksgiving, and the final bee will be Jan. 14 at 1pm.

Musical auditions!

All 3rd–8th grade students are invited to audition for our upcoming *Finding Nemo* production. Come ready to share your talent, energy, and love of the stage!

Audition practice sheets and music will be available in the school office and at the audition. Auditions will take place in the Music Room on **Wednesday, October 28 from 3:30-5pm.** Rehearsals will be in the lower level on Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30-5pm. The performances will be April 13-15.



SAINT THOMAS HORNETS ARE

FALL-ING

FOR BOOKS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

FALL BOOK FAIR

FRIDAY OCT 23 8AM-12PM

TUESDAY OCT 27 10:30AM-4PM

WEDNESDAY OCT 28 9:30AM-4PM

THURSDAY OCT 29 8AM-12:45PM

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

GRAND FRIENDS DAY

in partnership with the
THE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Please join us for Mass, special student-led tours, classroom visits & the Book Fair!

23 October 2026
8:15-11:15 AM

Saint Thomas the Apostle
1429 Wilcox Park Drive NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

RSVP

Please register using QR code or link

SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 25, 3-4 PM

St. Thomas Church Parking Lot



Cars must be parked by 2:55 pm.
No exceptions!



Prizes for Best Costume and Best Trunk!



All are welcome!
Bring candy for 150+