



Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School

“School of Distinction”

*Dynamic Education
Centered in Christ*

THE PEACEMAKER...

PIECES

Vol. 15 Issue 11

January 26, 2011

February Conferences:

February Parent/Teacher Conference letters were sent home with each student last week Friday. This conference time was based on your Fall conference time. **If this time does not work** out for any reason, please contact your child’s teacher **as soon as possible** to reschedule. Conferences will be held on these dates:

Tuesday, February 15 - 5:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 17 - 12:00-3:00 p.m.

and 5:00 until 8:00 p.m.

VARIETY SHOW THIS FRIDAY

Please join us for the annual Saint Thomas Variety Show this Friday, January 28, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the lower level of the church. Come enjoy some of the many talents that God has given our students.



Next Week is Catholic Schools Week

Monday, January 31

Volleyball Game: 8th Grade vs. Faculty/Non-Uniform “Spirit Day”

Tuesday, February 2

Mass with Bishop Hurley, Student Service Drive & Class Thank-You Letters to Parish Families who Support our School

Wednesday, February 3

“Catholic Graffiti”

Thursday, February 4

Ice Skating Party Field Trip/Non-Uniform “Spirit Day”

Friday, February 5

School Mass & Hot Lunch with Special Guest

A flyer with additional information for the week’s events and a Special Guest order form are attached. Forms are also available on our website: www.stthomasgr.org.

Registration 2011/2012

Registration packets for next school year will be sent home this **Friday, January 28**. Our Registration deadline will be February 17. For your convenience, once again coinciding with Parent/Teacher Conferences, Sue and/or Suzanne will be available **Tuesday evening, February 15**, from 5–8 p.m. & **Thursday afternoon and evening, February 17**, from 12:00 – 3:00 & 5 – 8 p.m. to process your registration materials. Family registration fees are as follows:

\$75 for one student

\$200 for three students

\$150 for two students

\$225 for four or more students

Chastity Presentations

The Chastity presentations are now scheduled for the 5th, 6th and 7th graders. We are awaiting word on the date for the 8th grade. Letters were sent home on Friday, Jan. 21st, with the 5th & 7th graders and on Monday, Jan. 24th, with the 6th graders.

Please pray for the speakers as they prepare to assist parents in teaching about the gift of chastity and pray for the students and parents to have open minds and hearts for the message.

5th Grade - Monday, February 14th

6th Grade - Thursday, February 10th

7th Grade - Tuesday, February 15th

If you have any questions, please contact one of us.

~ Margaret Murphy and Krisann O’Neil



ATTACHMENTS

- Catholic Schools Week Flyer
- Special Guest for Lunch Order Form
- February Calendar
- February Hot Lunch Menu
- Home & School January Minutes
- Booster Water Bottle Flyer
- Summer Youth Ministry Flyer

With Love from Our Principal

Happy Anniversary!! Next week we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week together. We have reason to celebrate... 351 children receive a quality education in our award winning school. The Diocese of Grand Rapids is experiencing the devoted leadership of Dave Faber, and I can tell you that there is an energy and excitement in the Principals and schools. Collaboration between our Catholic schools is generating ideas, programs and services that will benefit all Catholic school teachers and students. Our own students are testament to the value of Catholic schooling...Blare Gooch was featured in Parenting magazine as one of their top kids for his efforts at Blare's Bears for Haiti. Last week, he appeared on Eight West, a local news show. If you would like to see his interview, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxYGzDEbmUs>. It is clear that Blare is living his Catholic faith loudly in his young life. Another student, Taylor Molotky donated his entire book collection to our library. This echoes our theme this year, *The Gift You Have Been Given, Give As A Gift*. These acts of generosity and kindness, thinking beyond your own needs to the needs of others is a hallmark of an education centered in Christ. As prospective families walk through our halls, children greet them, and welcome them to our school. Parents who are volunteering in our building often introduce themselves and speak to the special feeling in our school. Nearly every family mentions the overwhelming feeling of community in our school. We have much to celebrate together next week. Make sure that you look at the information included in this Pieces regarding the many things we will do to commemorate the wonderful gift of Catholic education.

Our connection to Aquinas grows almost weekly! Last week, a senior in the Sustainable Business School asked if she could do an internship with our school to bridge sustainability in business with sustainability in a school environment. We have several Education students offering to do free tutoring during the school day, as well as after school. I continue to meet with Nannette Clatterbuck, the Assistant Provost at Aquinas to find ways to innovatively connect our programs, resources and people.

We will soon begin our registration period, so I have been looking ahead at the next few years and making some plans for space. In several cases, classes have reached their maximum size and will not have openings next year. Other classes still have several openings, some only a very few. Most pressing is the need to establish whether to stall the growth of some incoming classes because we have simply run out of space! This is a decision that we will make together. Father Jim and I have formed a committee comprised of representative members of our various school and parish committees, the school and parish staff, parish and school individuals and Father Jim, Jeanne and myself. We are commissioned to look at some scenarios that may be considered as we move into our future. Our student population is ardently attempting to grow, yet we have no additional classroom space available. The group is going to look at spaces within our school and see if we can find a creative solution to such a lovely, wonderful dilemma. I have asked Lyndsay, our Aquinas College student from the Sustainable Business School to work with Dawn Olney to look at the sustainability of growing by one more class, and do a cost analysis of some of the changes that our committee recommends. I will keep you informed, and know that we will soon be inviting all of you, as well as the parish, into the conversation and decision making.

So here we are at the very middle of our year together, about to celebrate the gift of a Catholic education, and the gift of our children. Jeanne and I will soon have a survey posted on our website inviting you to help us to grow as your administrators. We ask that you take a few minutes to give us some feedback by completing this survey. Look for that invitation in this Pieces.

My sincere thanks to you for your support, dedication and trust, but most especially, your partnership in Catholic education.
~ Suzi Furtwangler

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January 2011

That the riches of creation be preserved, valued and made available to all, as a precious gifts from God to mankind.

The Church Speaks

"The Catholic school loses its purpose without constant reference to the Gospel and a frequent encounter with Christ."

THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1977
~ Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education

Drop off and Pick up Reminders

- Please do not park in the Ministry Center Parking lot unless you have a pink parking permit.
- Students do not cross the parking lot without a parent. Please use the crosswalk.
- When picking up students in the gate line, please stay in the line. Do not pull out of line to pick up students.

Project Robots!

Just before break, the 7th grade science classes received an exciting Christmas present; a \$3,000 grant to implement an addition to their curriculum called “Project Robots!” The program and grant were written by Mrs. Stegehuis and funded through the Grand Rapids Community Foundation Mini-grant Program.

The goal of the project is to inspire students to consider STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) as realistic career options by giving them first-hand experience with the processes involved with the creation of robotics.

Designing, building and programming robots lets students experience the creative problem solving and team work that engineers experience every day. This portion of the project will take place in both the 7th grade science and, along with Mrs. Jazwiec’s help, 7th grade computer classes using a kit called the “Pico Cricket”. These are small interactive computers that let students design and program creations like musical sculptures, interactive jewelry and programmable houses or more traditional robotic devices.

This experience will be combined with presentations by parents who are engineers (volunteers welcome), who will bring the excitement they feel about their careers into the classroom, inspiring our 7th graders to check into some of these exciting career choices.

Enrollment Advisory

If you are discerning your options for the next year, please be aware that while we support the opportunity to attend either Zoo or Blandford Schools for your child’s 6th grade year, we cannot hold a space in their class for their 7th & 8th grade years. This information should be a part of your decision making process, as we are already creating waiting lists for the 2011/2012 school year in some of our classes.
~ Suzi Furtwangler

MAP™ Test Score Information

Our testing window will be declared closed on Wednesday, January 26 if all students are complete as we still have a few make-up tests to give. Test scores and interpretation information will be sent home to parents via US Mail during the week of February 14. Our teachers will be receiving training from the diocese in a series of in-services geared to each grade level the first few weeks of February about the test scores and how to use them to inform instruction. If you have any questions about these scores, please contact your child’s teacher at the end of February.

Yearbook Cover Chosen

Thank you to all students who entered a cover for our 2010/2011 school yearbook. Each entry was truly amazing. It was enlightening to see our school theme, The Gifts You Have Received, Give as a Gift, reflected, realized and understood by the students through their artwork! The students voted and the winning entry was created by 8th grader Jordan Ziemke.

Thank you

Thank you to our Student Council for the wonderful framed print of the opening of Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School back in 1925! Thank you, too, for the gift box of candy and most of all the list of our faculty and staffs’ individual gifts! It is a blessing to work with such thoughtful children!

Email Address Request

We would like to create an email database that can be used to communicate emergency, vital or relevant information to families in a fast and efficient manner. Examples would be school closings, weather information, hot lunch changes etc... This would not be the final or only communication, but it would be very helpful in providing information to families quickly. If you would like us to include your email address in this database, please fill in the information below and return to the school office. Thank you for your help. ~ Suzi Furtwangler

Email address: _____

Student/Family Name: _____

Signature: _____

Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up and Information Sessions

Do you have questions about the development of your 3, 4, or 5 year old? Are you wondering the best time for your child to enter school – Preschool or Kindergarten? Do you wonder what you can do to prepare your child for the most positive school experience? Are you interested to know what a normal day in the life of a kindergartner or preschooler looks like? Are you seeking a dynamic education...In a supportive Catholic community...Where a Christ-centered mission is central to all that we do? If you find yourself nodding, “Yes” to any or all of these questions, I would like to invite you to our Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up and Information Session on Wednesday, March 2 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. or 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center (Courtyard Entrance). This is a chance for you to meet other interested parents and our faculty. Investigate what our program offers. Children will visit the classrooms and share a story and discovery time. Parents will learn how to help prepare their child and interact with a panel of professionals. Call the school office today at 458-4228 to let us know which session you plan to attend.



Online Survey

Please give us your feedback! Once again during conferences we will have principal and assistant principal evaluation surveys online and ready in the computer lab for you to complete. Thank you to the 22 responses we received during Fall conferences, however we need more! Your feedback is very important to us in helping us evaluate our performance and growth as administrators. If you do not have time to stop in the computer lab, the survey will be available on our website beginning February 15th at: www.stthomasgr.org. Thank you again.

~ Suzi Furtwangler and Jeanne Walch

Spiritual Adoption

The next meeting, for Jr.High students who have chosen to spiritually adopt a baby in danger of abortion, is Monday, January 31st. The meeting will be during the Religion classes. Looking forward to praying with you! Keep up those powerful prayer! ~ Mrs.Valente

Educational Outfitters Fit Day

**February 17, 2011 During Conferences
12 – 7 p.m. in the lower level of church
BOGO LOGO SALE**

(buy one logo item get one free)

Stop by and try on clothes for sizing purposes, or order on-line. Don't forget we deliver to your school every week at no charge.

www.educationaloutfitters.com
School Code: MI0425

An Invitation To Pray The Rosary in Church

Every day at Saint Thomas School you can pray the Rosary with other parents and friends.

3:00 pm every **Monday, Wednesday, Friday** (right before school ends)

8:00 am every **Tuesday, Thursday** (right after school starts)



Protecting God's Children Awareness Sessions

If you are new to our school or still need to attend Virtus training, (required for all school volunteers), please note the upcoming sessions:

Saint Joseph the Worker (Wyoming)
225 32nd St. SW

Friday, January 28, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m. (conducted in Spanish)

Saint Pius X (Grandville)
3937 Wilson Ave. SW

Monday, February 28, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.

Cathedral Square (Grand Rapids)
360 Division S.

Wednesday, April 13, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.

If you plan to attend one of these sessions, and have not already registered, please register online as follows:

Go to www.virtus.org

- Click “Registration”
- Click “Begin the Registration Process”
- Select Diocese of Grand Rapids as the organization.
- You will be required to enter a UserID and password (of your choice)
- Fill out registration form
- Choose a location

Cash for Class

Cash for Class is back! Earn money for our school.

How the Program Works This Year

Shop at any Family Fare Supermarkets location and give our school code at the checkout. Purchase amounts will automatically be credited to our school group account. Our school's rebate will be determined as a percentage of all group's purchases. Total contribution to participating school groups this year is \$60,000. Cashiers will now be asking if you are shopping for a particular school and in-store marketing will be increased to promote the program.

Our school code 94715.

The Program Event Weeks for this semester are:
February 6-12, 2011 and
April 10-16, 2011

A CHALLENGE SCRAPBOOKING FUNDRAISER!

Come and work on those scrapbook pages, greeting cards, or just organizing your photo albums!

When: Friday, February 18 (6:30 PM to 11 PM) and Saturday, February 19 (8:30 AM to 9:30 PM)

Come either or both days, and pick your time slot(s)!

Where: Saint Thomas Church basement

What is included:

--All your meals on Saturday, as well as snacks and drinks both days.

--Curbside service and scrapbook assistance from the girls to help you get your books done!

--Consultant available from whom to purchase supplies.

How much: Suggested donations--\$25 for any 4-5 hour block(s) or \$75 for both days

Registration: Call Sue Edgerly at 363-5832 or email her at sledgers2@hotmail.com to receive a registration form.

First Annual Parish-Wide Preschool SOCK HOP

All school & parish families with children aged 2-Kindergarten are invited to attend our first ever Preschool Sock Hop.



Sunday, February 13th
3-4:30 p.m.
Lower Level of the Church



The event is being sponsored by our Preschool and Kindergarten classes and hosted by our 8th grade leaders. Families may bring their older siblings, but keep in mind that all activities will be focused on the little ones. Eighth grade students will be available in the nursery to watch younger toddlers and help with babies. There will be games, prizes, crafts, and dancing to music provided by professional DJ and parishioner, Bryant Zimmerman.

Please join us for this FREE, fun-filled event for our youngest ones! Questions: Call Kathy Barth at 742-0173.

ELECTRONIC Sign Up for the Pieces Newsletter

In an effort to be "more green" and save paper, we are encouraging families to receive the Pieces electronically. In addition to saving paper and ink, the Pieces is much more engaging in color, especially as we continue to include more photo collages of the happenings and community of Saint Thomas the Apostle School. If you receive the Pieces electronically, you can also forward it to family and friends who may wish to follow what your students are doing or view a special picture. Please know that paper copies of the Pieces are always available both in the Welcome and Information Center in the school entrance and in the church basement if you should ever wish to have a paper copy of a specific issue. If you would like to receive the Pieces electronically from now on, please complete the lines below and return to the school office. Thank you!

Email address: _____

Student/Family Name: _____

Signature: _____

Saint Thomas Library News



Thanks to Our Book Donors

Thank you to Taylor Molotky in 8th grade who donated books from his personal library to our school library. Being that this is his last school year at Saint Thomas, he wanted to give back and leave a part of himself with Saint Thomas.

The Library Celebrates Winter Book Themes

We are celebrating the cold weather with cold stories that include: All You Need For A Snowman by Alice Schertle, Snowmen At Night by Caralyn Buehner and Frozen Noses by Jan Carr. What better way to enjoy winter than to "Chill Out and Read?"

Have you ever wondered how snow crystals form? What shapes snow crystals take? Or if there are ever two snowflakes alike? The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder by Mark Cassino answers all of the questions and more! Look at real photos of snow crystals and learn about the different shapes snow crystals can be.



Please Return Library Books Promptly Each Week!

Remember, all books are due one week from check-out and students will not be allowed to check out future books until their accounts are cleared. Overdue notices will be sent home via email unless otherwise noted or parent email address is unavailable. It is also important to note that report cards go home with students who have cleared library accounts. In the event a student has an overdue book when report cards are distributed, the report card will be held until the missing book is either returned or the account is settled.

Our Current Library Collections

Thanks to Gabe Skinner and Charlie Muraski for sharing their Pokemon collection with us. They have everything from trading cards to stuffed animals. Make sure you check out their collections when you are in the library.



Do you have something special that you collect that you would be willing to share with your fellow students? If so, just let us know and you could be our next featured collector.

Saint Thomas Library Info



Coordinator:
Marnie White
Denise Deveau
Contact Info:
libadm@stthomasgr.org

Please have students return their books *on or before* the listed due date. No new books may be checked out until all past books have been returned.

Community Events and Opportunities

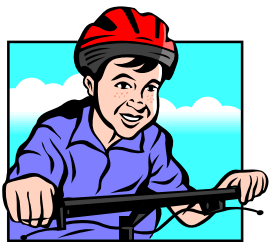


CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL INFO NIGHT

Catholic Central High School is holding an information night for incoming freshman and new students **TONIGHT, January 26th** at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. Please join us if you have questions, would like a brief tour of the campus, and to hear from various departments regarding different aspects of our school. Also, please note: the last HSPT scheduled that will provide accommodations is February 12th. More information can be found on line at www.grcatholiccentral.com under the Admissions tab.

ADD/ADHD and Your Child

CLC Network will sponsor a parent seminar titled "ADD/ADHD and Your Child" with Robert Bulten, M.D. and Douglas Bouman, Psy. S. on Thursday, February 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. This seminar will be held at CLC Network (4340 Burlingame Ave. S.W., Wyoming, MI 49509). Admission is free but seating is limited. Pre-register by email: knienhuis@clcnetwork.org or phone Karen at (616) 855-3123.



Grand Rapids Right to Life

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Bike, Hike and Run for Life on Saturday, May 7 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Riverside Park in

Grand Rapids! Start collecting pledges early and join GRRTL at the park to either bike, walk or run for your pledges! Watch for upcoming pledge forms or for more information, contact Barb, Kelley or Amanda at 532-2300 or visit www.grrtl.org.

"Thinking Green"

The Care of Earth Committee Dominican Sisters – Grand Rapids invites you to the beginning part of their meeting with speaker Dr. Karel Rogers, Professor of Biology Emeritus, Grand Valley State University and author of *Thinking Green: Ethics for a Small Planet*. Dr. Rogers will emphasize our human oneness with Earth; drawing connections between the choices we make and the multi-level impacts those choices have on our environment. This meeting will be held on Saturday, January 29, 2011 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Dominican Center at Marywood~2025 E. Fulton Street-Grand Rapids, MI. A free will donation will be accepted.

Joyful Noise, Inc. Presents Selfless Love Celebration

Amanda Vernon in concert with the Hark Up small jazz ensemble and dance performances by Reflections of Grace and Hearts In Step Outreach Team. Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ladies Literary Club,

61 Sheldon Boulevard SE, Grand Rapids, MI. Tickets are \$12.00 at the door or buy in advance for a discounted rate. Tickets can be purchased online at selflesslove.eventbrite.com or call toll free 1-888-PSALM-98.



January is Radon Action Month

Healthy Homes Coalition has a goal of testing 100 homes for radon this month, and to accomplish this goal, we are giving away FREE radon tests all month to all homeowners in Grand Rapids. Normally, families have to earn under 80% of Area Median Income and house a child under 6 years old to qualify for a radon test, but for this month only, we are giving tests away for free to everyone when normally there would be a \$5 charge if over income and no children under 6 years old.

Families can give us a call to sign-up, or simply come in to our office any day M-F from 9am - 5pm to pick up their FREE Radon test!!!

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that seeps up through the foundation of a home. Radon can be found in homes built in 1880, or 2010. In the United States, Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer! Help us protect our neighbors and meet our goal of testing 100 homes this month!

SUPER SCIENCE SATURDAY!

Join us to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry 2011 and Grand Valley State University's 50th Anniversary on Saturday, January 29 at GVSU. Interactive, hands-on science fun for K-12 students, teachers, parents, and community members! No registration required! For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/rmsc or contact the Regional Math and Science Center at (616)331-2267.



THE GIFTS YOU HAVE RECEIVED, GIVE AS A GIFT

PICTURES REMOVED FOR INTERNET SAFETY PURPOSES

Front Row: Joseph Blanco, Amelia Kuhn, Ben Bridge
Middle Row: Margaret O'Neil, Jarred Baxter, Mary Grace
Doyle, Claire DenBraber
Back Row: Jessica Trenshaw, Charlie Jordan, Cody Hermiz

Front Row: Anna Rosloniec, Carolyn Lignell,
Elizabeth Jermstad, Jacob Jaracz
Middle Row: Patrick Fitzgerald, Jacob Augustyn,
Sam Bongiorno
Back Row: Stephanie Kaminski, Taylor Rodgers,
Isabella Deveau

PICTURES REMOVED FOR INTERNET SAFETY PURPOSES

Front Row: Laney Henry, Kristen Salinas, Maggie Rott,
Stephen Woodruff
Middle Row: Bri Spica, Maegan Gibbons, Lauren Kuzee,
Lydia Dykema
Back Row: Emma Heffron, Emily Mauren, Anna Valente,
David Flynn

Front Row: Anna Herold, Grace Rellinger, Daniel Corcoran,
Gabe Skinner, Michael Redmond
Back Row: Caroline Gell, Regina Faber, Chris McWain,
Blare Gooch

Catholic Schools Week 2011

January 31st – February 4th

Monday, Jan 31st Volleyball Game: 8th Grade vs. Faculty/Non-uniform "Spirit Day"



The 8th grade class will challenge the Faculty & Staff to a game of volleyball in the Saint Thomas Gym at 1:45 p.m. Please join us to cheer on your favorite team! Popcorn will be provided for the students.

Tuesday, Feb 1st Mass with Bishop Hurley, Student Service Drive & Class Thank-You Letters to Parish Families who Support our School

Student Council Members will be attending 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Andrews Cathedral with other Diocesan students. (Bus pick-up @ 10:20) Coins collected by our students will be taken to this Mass in support of our student service drive: "Change for Water...Water for Change", which funds and drills water wells in remote villages in Malawi, Africa. Student Council will host IHM students and their principal for lunch. Our student body will also write Thank-You letters to Saint Thomas Parish families who have supported our school.

Wednesday, Feb 2nd "Catholic Graffiti"

Students will write messages on the "chalkboard" placed outside the Spanish room. Teachers can bring classrooms down or students may visit during class changes or before/after recess. Students may write positive thoughts on what it means to be at a Catholic school; Catholic school shout-outs or favorite Bible verses.

Thursday Feb 3th Ice Skating Field Trip/Non-Uniform "Spirit" Day

All School Skate @ Patterson Ice Arena: buses will leave @ 11:15 a.m. and return to school at approx. 1:45 pm. If students bring their own skates, skates must be dropped off in the school office in the morning. Skates will be provided at the arena with no cost to students. Permission slips will be required for your child to attend this event. Hot lunch (sack lunch) will be available that day and served in the classrooms at 10:40. There will be NO PM Kindergarten or Pre-school. However, Kindergarten students are welcome to join us with their parents at the rink. Wear Saint Thomas colors for SPIRIT DAY! Please send a healthy snack for the afternoon when the students return.



Friday, February 5th School Mass & Hot Lunch with Special Guest



Students and faculty are encouraged to invite a special person in their life - grandparent, godparent, Confirmation sponsor, aunt/uncle, etc. - to celebrate Mass with them at 9:55 a.m. and join them for lunch. Order forms were sent home in the pieces. Adult lunch cost is \$3.00. This may be deducted from your family account or paid with check made payable to Saint Thomas Food Service. Please report to the school and sign-in by 9:30 am if you plan on attending Mass with your student. After Mass, the Student Council will award the 8th annual *Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award*. Elementary students eat at 11:20, and Middle School students eat at 11:42 in the lower level of the Church.



Catholic Schools Week 2011 Special Guest Hot Lunch Order



Your Special Guest is invited to have lunch with you on Friday, February 4th. Elementary students will have lunch at 11:20 a.m. and Jr. High will be at 11:50 a.m.

Enjoy a Delicious Spaghetti, Garlic Bread and Salad Lunch!

The cost for lunch is only \$3.00. This may be paid in the following ways:

- Check: payable to Saint Thomas Food Service
- Hot lunch account

*****Orders Due: No later than Monday, January 31 to the school office.**

Please place your order ahead of time as we will NOT be able to assure that we can accommodate any "walk-in" orders that day. Thank you.

This order form is **ONLY** for guests, students will order in the usual way.

Guest Name: _____	cost: _____
Guest Name: _____	cost: _____
Guest Name: _____	cost: _____
Guest Name: _____	cost: _____
Guest Name: _____	cost: _____

Total due: _____

Please indicate method of payment:

- Please charge my hot lunch account
- Check enclosed: payable to Saint Thomas Food Service

Parent signature: _____ Family Name: _____

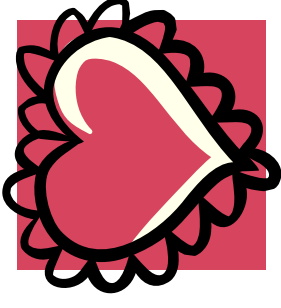
Office Use only:

____ Initials of processor ____ Paid in full ____ Date rec'd



Saint Thomas the Apostle School

February 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6	<p><i>JANUARY 31</i></p> <p>Non-Uniform Day "Spirit Day" 1:45 p.m. 8th <i>Vs. Faculty Volleyball Game</i></p>	<p>1 11:00 am Student Council Mass at Cathedral</p> <p>12:45 p.m. David Lockington—GR Symphony visits Reading with Stars</p>	<p>2 <i>"Catholic Graffiti"</i></p>	<p>3 Non-Uniform Day "Spirit Day" 11:15 –2 pm All School Skating Party No P-4 enrichment class or Kindergarten.</p>	<p>4 All School Mass 9:55 Special Guest at Lunch & Mass</p>	5
7		8	9 7:00 pm Ed. Comm. Meeting. Pieces home	10 6:00-7:30PM MDI Meeting. 1:30 pm 5th Gr. Morality & Chastity Presentation	11 Mass 9:55	12
13	<p>14 Jean Pass Day 12:45-1:45 4th grade Red Cross 1:30 p.m. 5th Gr. Morality & Chastity</p>	<p>15 9:30 & 1:00 p.m. Kindergarten visits GR Ford Museum 1:30 pm 7th Gr. Morality & Chastity Presentation 5-8 PM Conferences</p>	<p>16 11:40-12:15 Student Council Officer Meeting 2-3 p.m. Juliet Dragos Visits/Reading with Stars</p>	<p>17 11:00 dismissal 12-3 p.m. & 5-8 p.m. Conferences Educational Outfitters Uniform fit Day 12-3 & 5-7 pm in LL Registration Due</p>	<p>18 No School Mid-Winter break</p>	19
20	<p>21 8:15 a.m. Gr. 4 Reconciliation Retreat 7:00 PM Gr. 4 Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation</p>	22	23 Student Council 11:30-12:30 Pieces Home	24 1:15-2:15 PM and 7 PM Famous Americans 3rd Grade	25 8:30-9:15 TTS Grs. K-5 Grs.6-8 During Religion Class Mass 9:55	26
27	<p>28 Non-Uniform Day</p>					

Saint Thomas the Apostle Hot Lunch Menu *January 31-February 11, 2011*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 Chicken Enchiladas Beans Rice <hr/> <u>B Lunch:</u> Hummus Wrap → <hr/> <u>C Lunch Soup:</u> Chicken Noodle →	1 Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes	2 Pizza Honey Carrot Coins*	3 Bag Lunch Sloppy Joes Baby Carrots Fruit Milk	4 Special Persons Lunch Spaghetti Lunch
7 Beefy Nachos* Corn <hr/> <u>B Lunch:</u> Grilled Cheese → <hr/> <u>C Lunch Soup:</u> Curried Lentil →	8 Jambalaya Cornbread	9 Pizza Honey Carrot Coins*	10 Otto's Chicken Drumstick Mashed Potatoes*	11 Macaroni and Cheese* Cornbread

* Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Recipes

Some Items on the food bar this month:

Lettuce	Vanilla Yogurt	
Cheddar Cheese	Homemade Granola	
Croutons	Fresh Apples	Peaches
Carrots	Fresh Oranges	Hummus
		Pita Chips

HOME & SCHOOL MINUTES

JANUARY 12, 2011

8:00 A.M.

Present: Lisa Mullen, Dawn Olney, Jeanne Walch, Suzi Furtwangler, Denise Deveau, Mark Wadaga, Tracy Bandlow.

Lisa Mullen reported on behalf of Janet Jepsen that Vocations was being celebrated the week of January 10 which is the official vocation week. One thing the students will be focusing on is having a moment of silence every day. The parent luncheon, however, will be celebrated March 18th. The committee believes that more people will be able to participate during the March time frame. Save the date cards will be going out and one speaker has been confirmed. The theme this year for vocations is from Mother Therese, "In the Silence of the Heart God Speaks." Watch for more information to come on the luncheon in the bulletin, Pieces, and through personal invitations.

Jeanne Walch discussed Catholic Schools Week being held the week of January 31th. The plans for the week include Student/Staff Volleyball game, Mass at the Cathedral for Student Council Members, Skating Party and Mass at the end of the week. She is still working to finalize some of the details.

Janiece Spicer, chair of Auction 2012, had Lisa Mullen report that she is looking for volunteers. Some of the sub-committees include decorations, event cashier, data entry and marketing. The auction date has been set for October 2012. If anyone is interested in building on the momentum that has been created, contact Janiece Spicer at 616-881-9159 or Janiece.spicer@gmail.com. She is planning on attending the Home and School Meeting on March 16th to share more with our members.

Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up in February and the Home and School will be sponsoring a Soup/ Chili luncheon February 17th. Those that have volunteered will be getting phone calls and anyone else interested can contact Tara Simonait or Lisa Mullen.

Home and School is working to keep the lines of communication open between its members. We are working to get the website update with all that Home and School funds and sponsors.

Dawn Olney reported on the current budget. As of January 11, 2011, the association's expenditures are \$15,621.37. All auction contingency items have been funded in addition to field trips. Some of our future events that the association is funding include the skating party, carnival and arts programming. Dawn put a reminder out to all those committee heads to submit their reimbursements right away so monies can be distributed. Also, Dawn and the Home and School Board Members are working on the 2011/2012 Home and School budget.

Lisa reported on Carnival, Operation Christmas and Cookie Trays on behalf of the chairs. Carnival will be March 5th with a traditional Carnival Theme. Volunteers are always needed and to contact Sue Kuzee if you have not already signed up. Operation Christmas was a huge success. Maureen Jones, chair, could not say Thank You enough for all the donations and volunteering on this program. St. Thomas students sent roughly 650 boxes to needed children. This was the best year ever! Finally, Home and School received all the thanks you cards that came in from the donations that were made for the Cookie Trays. Great Job, Jennifer Dalrymple and her volunteers! The staff loved all the food.

Please consider joining us on March 16th at 12:15 for our next meeting.

Submitted by Lisa Mullen

Saint Thomas Hornets Water Bottle

Support the Saint Thomas Sports Boosters by
purchasing a water bottle (or two)
and show your SPIRIT!

Available at the Concession Stand,
School Office, or
By calling Marc Wadaga at 616-458-7966

\$8 FOR ONE
\$15 FOR TWO
\$20 FOR THREE



2011 Summer Youth Ministry Calendar



St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Reach Out for Christ Youth Ministry

June & July & August

Various service opportunities at Marywood/Dominican Center, The Gleaner's Food Truck, Kids Food Basket, and much more. Check the Church Bulletins and our Website for updates!
www.roc-youthministry.catholicweb.com

June 12-18 **DYMO Camp**. At Camp Pinewood in Muskegon. Includes outgoing freshmen through graduating seniors. Cost: Approx. \$350.00. (Scholarships available through Bright Horizons; some scholarships available through R.O.C.) www.DYMO.org. Discover your values. Learn more about your faith. Find new sides of yourself to express. Relax. Grow. Build new and lasting friendships. Enjoy yourself. Experience a week in a wonderful woodland environment with other young people like you. Teens will experience Catholic Christian living, leadership formation, opportunities for small group discussions, creative expressions in the arts, prayer and a variety of liturgies, swimming, sport activities, hiking and loads of fun. Adult leaders must be 21 yrs.+ and go through an application process. Registration deadline: May 15th.

June 20-June 24 **"Just 5 Days"**, a Catholic service learning program created for incoming 7th, 8th and 9th graders. Mission trip to St. Joseph, Michigan. \$200.00. (Some scholarship money available through R.O.C.) www.just5days.org. Young Teens will experience service, hands-on learning activities, high energy activities, creative and visual elements, engaging and meaningful prayer and liturgy experiences, as well as community building; all while learning about Catholic social teaching and the importance of justice...and having fun doing it. Adult leaders must be 25 yrs.+ . Registration deadline: March 1st.

June 23-26 High Adventure Retreat. Rock climbing and hiking in Torrent Falls, KY. Includes incoming freshmen through graduating seniors. Cost: \$250.00. (Some scholarships available through R.O.C.) www.torrentfalls.com Located in Eastern Kentucky, Torrent Falls Resort is nestled on 42 acres of majestic cliffs and gorgeous trees, where one can commune with nature. Experience three waterfalls, the highest being 165 ft., the tallest in Kentucky. Torrent Falls flows over a mammoth size natural rock house, reported to be one of the largest in the area. The resort is adjacent to the Red River Gorge Geologic Area and within minutes of Natural Bridge State Park. It absolutely embodies the natural beauty and splendor of the area. Torrent Falls Climbing Adventures was guilt with the entire family in mind. Routes vary from easy and scenic to fun for experienced rock climbers. Whatever your level of experience. There is a route for you!" Adult leaders must be 21 yrs.+ Registration deadline: March 30th.

July 15-17 Steubenville Youth Conference. (Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH) More than 2,000 Catholic youth gather for powerful talks, empowerment, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation. This event is open to incoming freshmen through graduating seniors. Adult leaders must be 21 yrs.+ Cost: \$250.00. Registration deadline: March 30th.

July 17-21 Social Justice & Service work week in Grand Rapids. Collaboration with St. Robert of Newminster's Youth Ministry. Help others, make a difference, get 50 volunteer hours, and enjoy learning about our Catholic Faith. \$190.00, includes 13 meals, 4 nights, tee shirt, transportation during the week, and a bowling night. Includes incoming freshmen through graduating seniors. Registration deadline: February 21st.



Please contact the Youth/Young Adult Office for more info
459-4662 x209
preynolds@stthomasgr.org