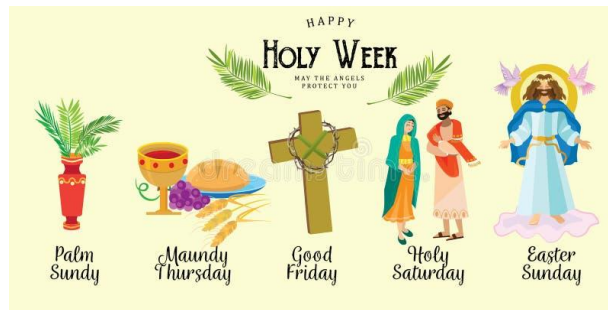


## St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



March 30, 2026

### The Note!

I pray you all enjoyed the nice weekend we had. Looks like a lot of rain coming our way. This is the holiest week of our church calendar. There are different liturgies for the three days (Triduum) leading up to Easter Sunday. If you've never attended these services, maybe try this week with your kids.

Thanks to everyone who attended the musical this weekend. It was a fun one! Lucy was excited to get a picture with her kindergarten buddy from her 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, Kinsey Barber. It's a true testament to the good we have at St. Thomas! Once a Saint, Always a Saint! If you ever wonder what your son/daughter could get involved in at NCHS, I would highly recommend the Fine Arts programs. Band and Musical have helped my girls in so many ways from building confidence to developing work ethic. I can't say enough!!



I spoke to the kids this morning about the start of **Holy Week** yesterday on Palm Sunday and how every day this week is important in understanding the Passion of our Lord. Last night, the high school CYO under the leadership of Linda Hemrich and Lori Tevault walked us through the living Stations of the Cross, starting our Holy Week off in a real and tangible way.

From [All About Lent and Holy Week](#) by Katherine Bogner from the Peoria Diocese

Monday: Extravagant Monday – Mary of Bethany anointed Jesus's feet with fragrant oil, a beautiful act of worship. What are some ways you show Jesus you love Him?

Tuesday: Today, Jesus predicted that Peter would deny him 3 times before the cock crowed. Think about anyone you might need to forgive or ask forgiveness from.

Wednesday: Spy Wednesday – Judas accepted money in exchange for betraying Jesus, looking for an opportunity to hand Jesus over. Reflect on ways you have hurt God or others.

Thursday: Holy Thursday – At the Last Supper, Jesus gathered His Apostles and gave them the gift of the Eucharist. Judas ate too. Pray that we can open our eyes to see Jesus truly present in the Eucharist.

Friday: Today we remember the worst thing that has ever happened, the death of Jesus on the Cross. So, why is it called “Good” Friday. This day is named Good Friday because Jesus’s death frees us from sin and allows us to be welcomed into heaven. Find time to pray the Stations of the Cross.

Saturday: Holy Saturday – On this day we ponder the three days that Jesus’s body lay in the tomb. The very first Holy Saturday must have been quiet and still as His disciples watched and waited. We also welcome those in the process of joining our church, especially our St. Thomas School families: Liz Houser and Hank Matherly (3<sup>rd</sup> grade), Jess and Karli Burley (son Kase is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade), Chad Miller (daughter Joey in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and son Ben in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) and Julie Pitcher-married to Jason Pitcher (stepson Wyatt in 7<sup>th</sup> grade). Please keep all of these catechumens and candidates in your prayers.

Sunday: Easter Sunday – As the sun rises we rejoice because Jesus is risen! Holy Week is filled with sacrifice and sadness, but it ends with the glory of the Resurrection. Sing the Gloria and the Alleluia with all the joy in your heart!

### **SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:**

Monday: Track practice

Tuesday: SB @ Effingham 4:00, Track @ St. Anthony 4:00

Wednesday: **All-School Mass** (6<sup>th</sup> in charge), K-2 Easter Egg Hunt, Early Dismissal 2:00, Track @ T-Town 4:30 (track athletes stay after school)

Holy Thursday: Mass @ St. Thomas and St. Mary’s 6:30

Good Friday: St. Mary’s 3:00 (Stations at 2:15), St. Thomas 6:30 (Stations at 5:45)

Holy Saturday: St. Thomas 7:00

Easter Sunday: Mass @ St. Thomas 7:00/10:00, Mass @ St. Mary’s 8:30

Monday: No School



**ATTACHED/IN PACKET:** Daddy/Daughter Dance photos (if taken), Jasper Unit #1 Pre-K/Kindergarten screenings flyer, Upward Basketball (K-5 only), Meyer Twins Art, Activity fee reminder for track athletes

\*In the packets is a flyer about **Pre-K/K screenings**. If you have a pre-K aged child, this applies to your family. If you are sending your child to St. Thomas for Kindergarten, you do not need to attend these screenings. Our teachers will do screenings during registration. Let me know if you have any questions.

\*We do have a graduate who is looking for students to **tutor** this summer. Let me know if you're interested in reaching out to him, and I will provide his contact info.

\*We had several students place in the **Catholic Daughters of America Education Contest**:

Art 1: 1<sup>st</sup> Jillian Volk, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nora Geier

Art 2: 1<sup>st</sup> Kelby Iffert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Blake Bierman

Poetry 1: 2<sup>nd</sup> Kinsey Barber

Essay 1: 3<sup>rd</sup> Blake Hermann

Photography 2: 1<sup>st</sup> Jennelle Hinterscher, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eli Ochs

WAY TO GO, SAINTS!

\*Jasper Unit #1's Special Needs department will be holding a meeting in our library on Wednesday, May 6 at 4:00. This **Timely and Meaningful meeting** is required and is for any private school or homeschool families who might have questions about any special education offerings the district provides. Let me know if you plan to attend.

Thanks!

\*Just a reminder that we have **early dismissal at 2:00 on Wednesday, no school Thursday, Friday and Monday**. I pray your Easter is full of blessings and joy!

\*Detergent orders were due today, but if you forgot, please send them with your kids in the morning!

\*The **Garage Sale** is quickly approaching. Please send in your worker sign-up sheet as we are very short-handed so far. We are also hosting a **porkburger sale** on the Friday, so if you want to help with it, you could earn fair share hours as well.

\***From church**: Fr. Tomy is trying to finalize his plans for Holy Week and Easter Masses. He would like to have 4 servers, so that we can have a cross bearer, two candle bearers and one to help with incense at each Easter Mass including Holy Thursday. Please take a look at your calendars and see if any of the available Mass times work for you. We are also still looking for 2 Lectors for Holy Saturday. Please let us know if you are available to help. Of course, there are also other available ministries to fill, so please help out where you can.

\*I'm still interested in hearing from any moms/dads interested in **coaching baseball** next year as well as **5<sup>th</sup> grade basketball**, which is girls and boys. Please let me know.

\*If you weren't able to receive the **sacrament of reconciliation** last Wednesday night, this is a wonderful time to receive God's forgiveness and start fresh during the season of Easter and Spring – Renewal and Growth.

\*Pictures are being sent home today that were taken at the **Daddy/Daughter Dance**. I'm also including a link to those pictures if you want to print any of your own. Thanks to the organizers for all you did to make it a special night!

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/BqD6kXFbe95V36Ta8>

