

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



October 14, 2025

THE NOTE!

What a busy, but awesome weekend. Homecoming win, my nephew's beautiful wedding, a wonderfully executed Harvest picnic and then a day off to recover. PERFECT! I saw several hands this morning and hope to hear stories of the deer that didn't make it through the weekend! Thanks to all of you who made it a great weekend for your kids!

I was pleasantly surprised this morning with the WTHI-TV 10 Make a Difference Award. Thank you to all who made it possible. The kids were dressed in St. Thomas blue and all of my kids, Ben, my sister, my parents, former students, friends, school parents, etc. were here to help me celebrate. I pray that this will bring much-deserved attention to our amazing school and our small, but mighty community! Thanks to everyone who believes in what I am trying to do every day with the help of amazing teachers, staff, students and families! I am surrounded by individuals who truly make a difference!

As we wish **Mrs. Tarr the best of luck** and pray that she transitions smoothly into her new job, we **welcome back Mrs. Kathy Pitcher** to help in Kindergarten until Christmas break. We are searching for the best teacher possible to take over in January. Please keep us in your prayers during this time!

Congratulations to Miss Kylie Higgs, NCHS Homecoming Queen 2025 (and St. Thomas alumni) and Owen Schackmann, NCHS Homecoming King 2025. It was a beautiful day/evening and the Eagles got a win!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Tuesday: Grade cards home, Pastoral Council mtg. 6:00, GB @ St. Anthony 6:00

Wednesday: **5th-8th Class Mass** (6th in charge), P/T Conferences 3:30-8

Thursday: FCA 7:40, 7th/8th Brain Games field trip, GB @ Paris Mayo 6:00, P/T Conferences 3:30-8

Friday: **NO SCHOOL**

Saturday: Good luck to JCJH Cross Country's Chloe Holsapple at state, NCHS Marching Eagles Band Classic, Mass @ St. Thomas 4:30

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

ATTACHED/IN PACKETS: Concessions Stand/Door Worker sign-ups (below),
Quarterly Financial/Fair Share statements, P/T Conference appointments

*In your parent packets, you'll find the **Parent/Teacher conference slips** with your specific date and times highlighted. If for some reason they won't work, let me know as soon as possible, and I'll do my best to find you something else. Thank you for making them a priority. This truly is what makes St. Thomas special – parent involvement and commitment.

*This week, Thursday, **Mrs. Smith will be out of the office.** PLEASE include my email in all communication as I will be taking care of the office including end of day procedures. We wish her a much-deserved vacation and safe travels!

*I want to say a big thank you to those who have already volunteered to purchase **air conditioners for our classrooms.** We are so blessed with these wonderful examples of Generosity, the virtue we happen to be focusing on this month. Thank you, Amanda and Ryan Connor, Lea and Matt Creadore and Nutrien Ag./Trevor Stevens.

*Below are the links to sign up to work at basketball and volleyball games. You can sign up to **work in the concessions stand or at the door taking entry fees.** All 7th and 8th parents should sign up as the money is used for 8th grade trips and graduation costs. We encourage other parents to as well to make everything go smoothly. If you have any questions, you can email Helen Weber, weberfamily0728@gmail.com.

Concessions:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18WZ7NxFyaQJFxfXyEK3K5cegVAxXnWSnpA7rKBtg5CM/edit?usp=sharing>

Door Workers:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/191QyImQZYzkligtAzKowovQ2hehhqnpAZfav9bjUYg/edit?usp=sharing>

***Trivia Night 2026** will be held on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th. Mark your calendars to have a date night working the fundraiser or being a part of a table to compete. The committee has met and planning has begun. Please let me know if you'd like to donate something on behalf of your family or business. Our live/silent auction are a huge part of the success!

*Please plan to attend our first annual **Rosary Walk** on Wednesday, Oct. 22nd (next week) at 6:30. I will be learning more tonight at the Pastoral Council meeting. I would love to see many of our families participate. More info. will be in the bulletin and next week in the parent letter.

*Mrs. Vahling will be taking two teams of 7th and 8th graders to the **ROE 12 Brain Games** competition in Lawrenceville this Thursday where teams will work together to

build and create. Good luck to Team #1: Will Hartrich, Claire Schackmann, Lena Patterson and Logan Vogt and Team #2: John Hartrich, Emrey Frichtl, Dakota Milner and Margaret Bierman. Thanks for representing St. Thomas!

*I recently found an online Catholic gift shop called **The Little Rose Shop**. This was a nice reflection she shared today which definitely hit home for me: In last Sunday's Gospel, ten lepers cry out to Jesus for mercy, and He heals them all. But only one turns back to say thank you.

Only one.

It's easy to read that and think, "I would've gone back." But then I think about how often I race from one thing to the next, juggling dinner and laundry and the million other tasks that fill up a day. How often do I pause to say, "Thank You, Lord," when something actually goes well? When the nap overlaps with quiet time, when the toddler eats a vegetable without a meltdown, when the doctor calls and says everything looks normal?

Gratitude isn't just good manners, it's a way of seeing. A way of returning to Jesus.

What if we made a habit this week of finding 3 little things at the end of each day to thank God for? Or simply whispered "thank You" the moment something unexpectedly good happens? These quiet moments of thanksgiving are how we return to Jesus, again and again, like the one leper who saw the miracle and turned back.

Let's be that one.

**Reflection written by a member of The Little Rose Shop Team*



“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.”

- Jane D. Hull