

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



October 20, 2025

THE NOTE!

The official layering season has begun. A little chilly this morning, but 70 degrees this afternoon! Beautiful! Just send hoodies/jackets, and we'll figure out what they need later. Thanks to our morning recess parents who withstand the chilly temps!

Thanks to Mrs. Vahling and our two **Brain Games teams** for representing St. Thomas on Thursday. Team #1 placed 4th out of over 20 teams and move on to the next level this spring at Rend Lake College. Way to go! Our teams were: Team #1: Will Hartrich, Claire Schackmann, Lena Patterson and Logan Vogt and Team #2: John Hartrich, Emrey Frichtl, Dakota Milner and Margaret Bierman



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: 7/8 Boys' Basketball begins after school 'til 5, GB H Martinsville 6:00

Tuesday: Mrs. Bierman @ Principal/Pastor meeting in Springfield, GB H Flora 6:00

Wednesday: Rosary Walk (meet in parish center at 6:30), Booster Club mtg. cancelled, so all can attend Rosary Walk

Thursday: 6th Grade Vocations Day @ St. Anthony, GB H Palestine 6:00

Friday: **All-School Mass** (3rd in charge), Father Zach Samples will speak to 3rd-8th about vocations following mass, Yearbook after school 'til 5:00, VFB H Marshall 7:00

Saturday: Oblong Spooktacular Parade – Band marches, Mass @ St. Thomas 4:30

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

ATTACHED/IN PACKET: Pumpkin Carving Contest flyer

*In order to support the **1st annual Rosary Walk**, our **Booster Club meeting** for Wednesday is cancelled. The officers will work together via email to ensure all is planned.

***7th/8th Basketball practice begins today.** The link below is for **Saints basketball gear**. The boys will also be ordering a warm-up shirt separately. Everyone is welcomed to order this gear. The option to put name and/or number on the back of shirts/sweatshirts as well. There is also a duffel bag on the order form.

<https://stthomassaintsbasketball202526.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

*The 8th grade class would like to **thank BJ's Saloon** for donating goodies for the mission party. Thanks Bryan and Cindy Bower!

***7th/8th Basketball families:** Please respond to the email I sent out about warm-ups. I need to know the boys' sizes, so we can get them ordered ASAP! I will have you pay for them later.

*I've talked to all **5th-8th graders who plan to play basketball or do cheer** about the importance of every assignment, quiz and test. Eligibility will be pulled on Fridays by noon to determine if they are all eligible, passing Religion, Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Science and Spelling with at least a 70%. If not, they have to sit out the next week of games. Please help us by prioritizing school. Without it, there is no sports. Behavior will also be considered when evaluating the ability to play each game. If they aren't respectful at school, they will not be representing our school on the team.

***Thanks to our 2nd-8th graders** who are creating Christmas cards to be sent overseas with homemade stockings created by some local ladies, including Diann Ruholl. What a great way to show our Generosity and thanks to those serving our country.

*Just a reminder to be in touch if you have anything you'd like to **donate to our annual Trivia Night** for the silent or live auction. SO many have talents that we'd love to have shared!

*We will be asking the 5th-8th graders at lunch today if they'd like to **help with our yearbook** this year. They are having their first meeting Friday after school until 5:00 in the library.

*This Wednesday is the first and hopefully annual **Rosary Walk for the parishes of St. Mary's and St. Thomas**. Father Tomy has worked with the Pastoral Councils of St. Thomas and St. Mary's to make this happen. It's going to be a special event for sure! There will be glow-in-the-dark rosaries for all and you are encouraged to bring a candle. We will process from our meeting place in the parish center around the school and the block, stopping to announce each of the Glorious Mysteries. We will conclude with the Crowning of Mary in the church. **PLEASE prioritize this event**. It will be a powerful display of our faith during this month of the Rosary. We pray through Mary to her son, Jesus. Walk with us!

You are also welcomed to **bring any Marian items (statues, rosaries, etc.) that you would like blessed**. They can be placed on tables in the church before coming over to the parish center. There will also be **chairs in the parking lot for those who do not want to do all of the walking**, but want to participate. The first

mystery will be in the parish center. The last will be in the church. See you all at 6:30 this Wednesday.

*Just a reminder that if you are in the pick-up line, you are **in a school zone**, so you should not be on your phone once the kids start exiting the building. Thanks!

*I was so pleasantly surprised last week with the Make a Difference Award. As my family and I watched it Friday night, I was so humbled and thankful for this job and the people I get to work with every day, including all of your kids and your families. I truly do my best to love and challenge your kids! The high expectations at St. Thomas may seem too much at times, but I KNOW they are what will shape our kids into faith-filled, hardworking and respected adults! Thanks for trusting me and St. Thomas School!

*If you haven't already, **please sign up to work in the concessions stand or at the door for basketball and/or volleyball games.** The links are below:

Concessions:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18WZ7NxFyaQJFxfXyEK3K5cegVAXnWSnpA7rKBtg5CM/edit?usp=sharing>

Door Workers:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/191QyImQZYzkligtAzKowovQ2hehhqnpAZfa-v9bjUYg/edit?usp=sharing>

I received this from a principal friend and thought it was a great reminder for all of us parents.

Things You Should Not Share With Your Kids

1. Your financial struggles – they need security, not stress.
2. Details of your marital conflicts – protect their emotional safety.
3. Your personal regrets – they're not your therapists.
4. Negative opinions about family members – it confuses their loyalty.
5. Adult secrets – they deserve a childhood, not burdens.
6. Criticism about their other parent – it damages trust.
7. Your insecurities – they learn confidence from your example.
8. Trauma details – they can't process what you haven't healed.
9. Unfiltered emotional outbursts – they absorb everything you express.
10. Gossip – they copy what you normalize.

