



Updates for the parents of St. Thomas More Academy



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Open House - Nov. 16
- Parent-Teacher Conferences - Nov. 19
- Thanksgiving Break - Nov. 19-28

Open House for prospective families is Tuesday, November 16, at 7:30 PM in the school gym. Please invite your friends!

Parent-teacher conferences are on Friday, November 19. There will be no school that Friday.

Thanksgiving break includes the entire week of Thanksgiving. Enjoy the time off!

## Dear Parents....

We talk about the common good often, but if you're like me, it's difficult to wrap your head around what the "common good" means. St. Thomas Aquinas teaches that the common good is a good which can be participated in by many, without suffering any diminishment or division. It can't, therefore, be the sum of material or individual goods - it's not like a communal Halloween candy bowl, or even the safety of each person in a group. Instead, the common good is first the goodness of the various communities to which we belong - our family, our neighborhood, our school, our church - and it isn't opposed to our personal good, since our personal good participates in it.

What I want to share with you is that at STMA's inaugural All Saints' Day Mass and festivities, I caught a real glimpse of a goodness that is larger and more loveable than any one of us, but to which each of us belongs as an indispensable part. STMA began with a small group of parents seeking the best for their own children. It has grown to include you and your families, and will hopefully keep growing to include many more, all united by the vision and mission of leading the children of South Bend to freedom in Christ. And so, even as the school requires sacrifices of all of us, and has plenty of room for improvement, this good to which we all belong is very beautiful, and worthy of our love. Ultimately, as our All Saints's Day activities reflected, the common good is found in God, in whose infinite goodness our nascent community participates - and as long as we stay centered on Him, we cannot fail.

*Dr. Margaret Blume Freddoso*  
*Head of School*



# Solemnity of All Saints



I want to extend my sincere gratitude to all who helped plan and celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints at St. Thomas More Academy. A special thanks to Maggie Doran and Katie Otteson for their leadership over the feast and festival and to Jerome Cole for his tireless dedication to our liturgical celebration.

In the office at STMA hangs the "Adoration of the Lamb" by Jan van Eyck. On more than one occasion, a visitor has walked in, seen the image, and immediately declared it the "goal" or "purpose" for which St. Thomas More Academy exists. It is not hard to see why. Upon the altar lies the pascal victim adored by all the angels and saints. The martyrs and monks, virgins and clerics, laymen and women encounter the Lamb who was slain and respond in worship.

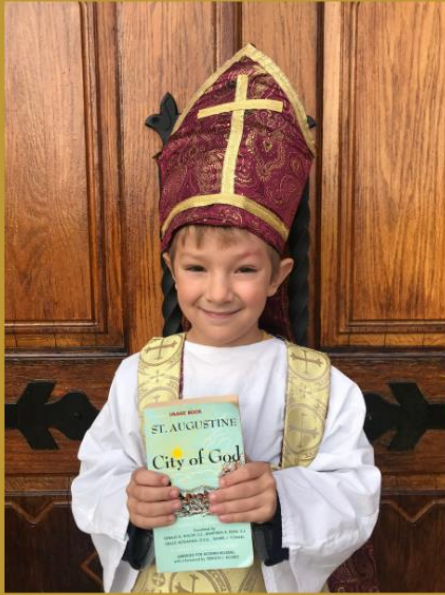
One of the highlights of Monday's Solemnity was the Eucharistic Procession after Mass. Van Eyck's "Adoration of the Lamb" took on flesh as the servers with their candles and incense led the way, Fr. Dominic lifted high the Lamb of God, and all the saints approached in adoration. More clearly than at any other moment, the ultimate goal and purpose of St. Thomas More Academy was made present - to know and to love him who first loved us.

May the holy men and women who now adore before the eternal throne of God, intercede on our behalf that we - parents, students, faculty, administration, and board members of St. Thomas More Academy - may be freed from all attachment to sin and enjoy forever the victory of the saints!

*Emily C. Nye*  
*Assistant Head of School*



# Student Corner



**Stephen Nagy, Kindergarten**

**Q:** Who are you?

**A:** St. Augustine

**Q:** What do you know about him?

**A:** He was in his house and he went outside and he started praying at a pear tree and then he started crying.

**Q:** Why was he crying?

**A:** Because he was sad for what he did. He was arguing with God.

**Q:** You have a famous book that St. Augustine wrote - *The City of God*. Are you going to read it when you grow up?

**A:** I kinda want to.

**Q:** Who are you dressed up as?

**A:** St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta

**Q:** What do you know about her?

**A:** She helped the sick

**Q:** What did we do special at Mass today?

**A:** The procession

**Q:** Why did we do the procession?

**A:** We wanted to celebrate all the saints who were God's helpers.

**Ginny Meyer, 1st grade**



**Kidist Swick, 2nd grade**

**Q:** Who are you?

**A:** St. Kateri Tekakwitha

**Q:** What did you enjoy about our festival today?

**A:** The broom sweeping competition. I won!

**Q:** What was your favorite food from the feast?

**A:** The mac and cheese!

## Please Note...

If your family has recently lost a loved one, is struggling with serious illness, or undergoing a major life transition (like welcoming a little one) please reach out to Ms. Nye at [enye@stmasb.org](mailto:enye@stmasb.org). The St. Thomas More Academy community would love to support your family with meals, prayers, and any extra assistance. Thank you.



## Continued...



**Q:** Who are you?

**A:** St. Pope John Paul II

**Q:** What do you know about him?

**A:** He was shot five times. One was aimed for his chest and it hit his miraculous metal and that is how he survived. John Paul II went back later and forgave the guy who shot him. He also blessed my mom and dad's marriage.

**Q:** What do you want to imitate in Pope John Paul II?

**A:** Probably his virtue of patience because I don't have much of that.

**Raphael Pienta, 3rd grade**

**Q:** Who are you?

**A:** St. Jose Sanchez del Rio

**Q:** What is his story?

**A:** He wanted to join the Christeros. He died at the age of 15 or 16. He was a martyr. A guy shot him, and when he was walking to the place where he was shot, he was being stabbed all over. He was yelling "Viva Christo Rey" while he was walking to his death.

**Q:** What would you like to imitate in the life of St. Jose Sanchez del Rio?

**A:** Bravery.



**Benji Cremers, 4th grade**



**James Tormey, 4th grade**

**Q:** Who are you?

**A:** Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

**Q:** What do you know about him?

**A:** He died at the age of 24, and he liked mountain climbing.

**Q:** What does it mean to be a saint?

**A:** To follow God and realize that he is there. To pay attention to God and help people.

**Q:** What was the funnest thing you did on All Saints Day?

**A:** Eating. I liked the rice crispy treats and the chicken!

## Community Intentions

- For Marie-Therese Bernadette born to Sue and Steve Judge on October 22nd. Therese is the youngest sibling of Henry (5th), Andrew (3rd), and Thomas (1st).
- For the healing of Sue Judge who is recovering from postpartum preeclampsia.
- For the repose of the soul of Vicente Munoz, paternal grandfather of Dominic (4th) and Madeleine Munoz (2nd).



# PHOTOS

OCTOBER 2 - NOVEMBER 5















*ST. THOMAS MORE, PRAY FOR US!  
ALL YE HOLY MEN AND WOMEN, PRAY FOR US!*