

VOL. 1, ISSUE 6 | MARCH 18, 2022

CLASSICAL TIMES



Updates for the parents of St. Thomas More Academy



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Confessions - March 25
- Picture Day - April 12

Fr. Oscar Regojo will offer confession for students in grades 3-5 on Friday, March 25.

Picture day is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12. Students should wear their school uniform. Please check your email for more information!

Dear Parents....

Recently we began holding an all-school assembly right before lunch each day. The bulk of this five-minute assembly time is designed for me to have a conversation with the students about the readings from Mass, the saint of the day, and/or about virtuous behavior.

Lately, I have talked about the importance of creating a Lenten plan and having both something good we give up and something better we are adding to our lives. E.g. giving up chocolate and adding reading from the Gospels each day for five minutes. I also told them how important it is to do our best to keep secret the good things that we do.

The past three days, the Gospel has addressed the Pharisees. Yesterday, I started by telling the students that I was the *most* humble. I said it as seriously as I could. In just under a second, even though I showed no sign that I was joking, the vast majority of them bust out laughing. They could easily see just how ridiculous my statement was.

The Pharisees looked good on the outside, but they really just wanted others to think well of them. Today, Jesus told the story of the rich man and Lazarus, and it says he told it to the Pharisees. Ultimately, the rich man was selfish. He only cared how he looked and not about caring for those in need around him. For us to be truly good, we need to be careful to hide, when we can, the good we do and instead of being selfish, be a person for others.

I encourage you to talk with your children each day about what they remember from the homily at Mass and from our daily assembly.

*Anthony Biese,
Head of School*

COMMUNITY INTENTIONS

For Maximilian Isaac born to Peter and Michelle McAuliff on 02.22.2022.

For the continued healing of Edmund Doran who is recovering from surgery in Indianapolis. Edmund's patron saint is St. Edmund Campion.

Student Corner



Christopher, Kindergarten

Q: What is your favorite part of the school day?

A: Recess!

Q: What do you like to do at recess time?

A: Well, there is a game that we play at recess. It's called "rainbow tag" because we use the rainbow ball that we have in our classroom and recess bag. There are two teams each with three players on them. They are trying to get the ball and make sure the other team doesn't get it. And, you can throw it up in the air and run around.

Q: Who likes to play "rainbow tag"?

A: All the boys.

Q: Who is the best at "rainbow tag"?

A: Thomas is really good! He's really fast and he's really good at throwing. One time it was all four of us against him!

Q: What do you enjoy about going to school at STMA?

A: I like doing art!

Q: What do you enjoy doing in art?

A: I am very good at drawing because I use very good colors. It is very fun!

Q: What have you drawn in art?

A: We've drawn tulips, a boat, an island, and some water.

Q: What are you looking forward to in 2nd grade next year?

A: Learning the virtue song! I'm looking forward to seeing what the second half of it is.

Q: What is the first half of the song?

A: 🎵 *The virtues, the virtues, you don't have to choose. 'Cause you can have all of the virtues. Faith, hope, and charity, that's the one for me. The virtues, the virtues, the virtues.* 🎵

Lucy, 1st grade



Michael, 2nd grade

Q: What has been something you have really enjoyed at STMA this year?

A: Our poems.

Q: What poem have you memorized recently?

A: "Why the Robin's Breast is Red"

Q: Can you recite it for me?

A: *The Savior, bowed beneath his cross,
climbed up the dreary hill, and from the
agonizing wreath ran many a crimson rill;
The cruel Roman thrust him on with
unrelenting hand, till, staggering slowly
'mid the crowd, He fell upon the sand.*

*A little bird that warbled near, that
memorable day, flitted around and strove
to wrench one single thorn away; The
cruel spike impaled his breast,--and thus,
'tis sweetly said, The Robin has his silver
vest incarnadined with red.*

First two stanzas
-James Ryder Randall



**Cecilia,
3rd grade**

Q: What has surprised you about this school year?

A: At first, when I came, I was very nervous. I didn't expect to have super, super great friends! And now, I'm really close with a lot of the people in my class. I think they are all really wonderful people.

Q: What is one of your favorite memories with your classmates?

A: I love when we do drama class. I love doing that because we all act out and we all have a lot of fun!

Q: What are you acting out now?

A: I think it is going to be from the book we are reading: *Farmer Boy*.

Q: What do you enjoy about your teacher, Mr. Furneri?

A: I really like when he is reading the stories because he puts a lot of emotion into it and he really gives us an idea for when we do drama class because he acts a little bit out and it's really funny!

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: History.

Q: What history are you learning right now?

A: American History. We are in the pre-revolutionary war.

Q: What do you like about history?

A: Well, I like comparing it to now days. Especially with American History, you can compare it to how it is and you can see how much it has changed, but you can also see what is the same.

Q: What are some of the similarities between then and now?

A: The Americans wanted freedom and they wanted just laws and they kept that throughout history.

Q: What are some of the differences?

A: Well, a lot of the times, places would have kings instead of republics, but now days they don't have monarchies.

**Josiah,
4th grade**



**Samuel,
5th grade**

Q: What are you enjoying about STMA?

A: Recess!!!

Q: What do you do at recess?

A: Football!

Q: What do you enjoy at school outside of recess?

A: Altar serving.

Q: What inspires you to be an altar server?

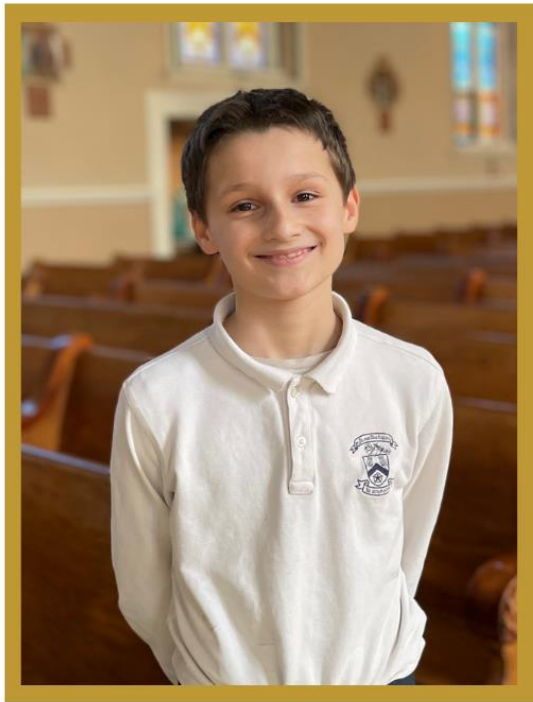
A: Because I just love it and serving Our Lord at the altar.

Q: How long have you been an altar server?

A: Since I received communion in the 2nd grade.

Q: Do you have a favorite part of altar serving?

A: Incense!



Peter,
5th grade

Q: What have you enjoyed the most about going to school?

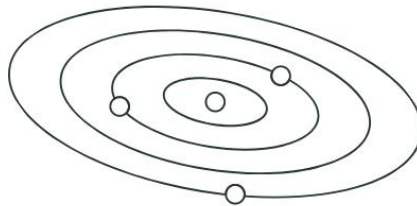
A: I really like science - learning about the natural world, energy, and things like that.

Q: Who teaches you Science?

A: On Mondays my dad teaches me, but on Fridays, Ms. Cramer teaches us Science.

Q: What has your dad taught you about Science?

A: More physics. Like why orbits work and how inertia works.



Q: What is inertia?

A: Inertia is what makes something keep going. Inertia is like, if you push something, it will keep going until the air resistance, which is an opposite force in friction, stops it.

Q: What are you looking forward to in 6th grade next year?

A: I'm interested about the changing of the uniform, and also, I'm looking forward to having more homework 'cause when I was little, I always thought only big kids got homework because in homeschool I didn't get any homework and I was really excited to go to school and actually get homework!

Faculty Feature



Mr. Furneri,
2nd/3rd Grade Teacher

Q: What has been the greatest blessing of this year?

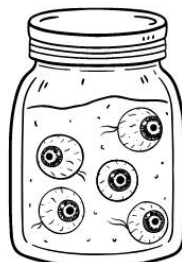
A: Most definitely the students. Coming from the homes that they have, they are full of love, life, joy, and a deep piety. It makes my job tremendously easy and tremendously fun.

Q: What have you enjoyed about teaching?

A: I enjoy the theatrics, the show. I get up there... you have 19 little eyes glued to you.

Q: Who's missing an eye?

A: Oh. I haven't told the parents about that yet...



Q: What have you learned about children this year?

A: I've learned that children have an incredible ability to get to the heart of the issue in a single moment with their childlike faith. I've learned more of what Our Lord meant when he said: "Unless you have the mind of a child you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven" because they get right to the heart of the issue, accept it inside themselves and move on.

I've learned to be very grateful for the Incarnation - that Our Lord isn't an idea but something they can touch and see and smell. Because teaching Theology to them isn't teaching them ideas but it's teaching them: "these are the animals Our Lord saw," "he rode on a donkey," "these are the fish they pulled out." And, they love that.



PHOTOS

Bingo Night - February 27, 2022













ST. THOMAS MORE, PRAY FOR US!