

# St. Therese Catholic School

## December 2023

### STS Newsletter

Go Crusaders!



*Mission Statement: To provide Faith, Service and Learning opportunities for students, families and communities in a Christ-like environment.*

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## UNIFORMS

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**Here are some links for uniforms. While in the past we have used Dennis uniforms, we have not contracted with them in the past three years. You may buy the polos or sweatshirts from only the school by clicking on this link:**

**<https://www.stthereseschoolabq.org/uniforms>**

- **If you are needing the **plaid jumper**, you can order from Dennis here:**  
**Dennis uniform basics (Prek-4<sup>th</sup> grade) [girls jumper](#)**
- **If you need a plaid skirt, we have some sizes for new skirts in the office. 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade, if you need a particular size, we will order these in bulk and you can purchase from us.**
- **Dennis Uniform also has a **basic store**. This means you can buy their plain stock, such as navy blue slacks, white blouse/shirt, but nothing with a logo. [Dennis uniform basics girls](#) and [Dennis uniform basics boys](#)**
- **Remember boys wear navy slacks, girls may wear navy skorts or the plaid jumper/skirt. Girls need a navy crisscross tie and boys a regular navy tie for Mass.**
- **You can also check out the closet for gently used uniforms, which are all free of charge. If you have any questions on uniforms, just drop me an email [m.giglio@stschool.org](mailto:m.giglio@stschool.org)**

## DECEMBER LITURGY

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<b>1</b>	<b>FIRST FRIDAY</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>MASS OF OUR LADY</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>ST. JOHN DAMASCENE</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>ST. NICHOLAS</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>ST. AMBROSE</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>ST. JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>ST. DAMASUS I</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>ST. LUCY</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>ST. PETER CANISIUS</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>ST. JOHN OF KANTY</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS, ST. STEPHEN</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS, ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>4<sup>TH</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS, HOLY INNOCENTS</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>5<sup>TH</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS, ST. THOMAS BECKET</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>6<sup>TH</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>HOLY FAMILY</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (USUALLY A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION BUT THE BISHOP ABROGATED THIS HOLY DAY THIS YEAR)</b>

## SCHOOL MASS SCHEDULE – DECEMBER

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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 3</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> grade hosts the Mass</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 8</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> grade hosts the Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 14</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> grade hosts the Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 21</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> grade hosts the Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 28</b>	<b>No Mass Christmas break</b>

**Adoration will follow most Masses on Thursday.**

### **December Events**

- **December 2-3 Arts and Crafts fair in the Parish hall**
- **December 5 Confessions for grades 3-8<sup>th</sup>.**
- **December 6 St. Nicholas day students to place shoes outside the classroom in the afternoon.**
- **December 7 No Mass on Thursday due to Holy day on December 8; regular uniform today.**
- **December 7 Spelling bee Schoolwide in the Parish Hall gym**
- **December 8 Immaculate Conception, Holy day of Obligation: students to wear Mass uniform today.**

- December 11 Home and school meeting in the library @ 5:30 pm
- December 20 Christmas program in the Church @ 6pm
- December 21 SED (student early dismissal) @ 12:30; Christmas celebrations in the classroom
- December 22 – January 8 No school Christmas break

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## Financial Corner



We had a great Thanksgiving lunch on November 17 and along with the lunch, we had a cork pull which was very fun. Many left with great bottles of libations. The school raised \$1080 from the cork pull.

We also had the day of giving on November 28. The school raised \$2975 from the day of giving. Part of these proceeds go toward the lighting improvements and other safety improvements happening on the campus.

We closed October finances within our budget and the school is doing well fiscally.

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## Faith Formation

### St. Andrew Christmas Novena

*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour*

*vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother.*

*Amen*

***It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30th) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested.***

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The month of December is dedicated to the [Immaculate Conception](#). The first 24 days of December fall during the liturgical season known as of [Advent](#) and are represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of December mark the beginning of the [Christmas](#) season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold — a symbol of joy, purity and innocence. (click on Immaculate Conception, Advent and Christmas for more information on these areas)

### ***The Holy Innocents***

During this octave of Christmas, the Church celebrates the memory of the small children of the neighborhood of Bethlehem put to death by Herod. Sacrificed by a wicked monarch, these innocent lives bear witness to Christ who was persecuted from the time of His birth by a world which would not receive Him. It is Christ Himself who is at stake in this mass-murder of the children; already the choice, for or against Him, is put clearly before men. But the persecutors are powerless, for Christ came to perform a work of salvation that nothing can prevent; when He fell into the hands of His enemies at the time chosen by God it was to redeem the world by His own Blood.

The feast of the Holy Innocents is an excellent time for parents to inaugurate the custom of blessing their children. From the Ritual comes the form which we use on solemn occasions, such as First Communion. But parents can simply sign a cross on the child's forehead with the right thumb dipped in holy water and say: May God bless you, and may He be the Guardian of your heart and mind—the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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St. Therese had its accreditation on November 27, 28, and 29. Catholic school accreditation is a process for determining the quality of a school's overall work looking at four domains:

- ✓ Catholic Identity
- ✓ Governance and Leadership
- ✓ Academic Excellence
- ✓ Operational Vitality

St. Therese school examines itself in order to understand what is working well for the total school community and what it needs to do better to meet the learning needs of the students and to ensure long-term viability and vitality. We wrote a self-study on each of the four domains listed above. A team of educators came to the school observed, interviewed, and looked at evidence of what was written. Below is the Executive Summary of Finding from the WCEA:

<https://www.stthereseschoolabq.org/wcea-2023-1>

## Arts and Crafts Fair ---December 2-3, 2023



Our annual Arts and Crafts Fair is Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 in the Parish Hall gym. Tables sold out very quickly! Please come shop for Christmas gifts that will be unique and special.

Thank you!



Zayda De La O and Bianca Schirmer are St. Therese School co-presidents for the Home and School Association. Both women have worked tirelessly to make sure this event, as well as other events in the school are successful. I am so blessed

*and pleased to have these two work with me, the staff and the school to create community events.*

*Darlyn Benton and Bobbi Stevens are our Business Manager and Secretary, respectively. They also work hard behind the scenes on all these events and yet are able to do fantastic at their jobs!*

*John Schultz, our maintenance man, works also above and beyond duties at the school to help with community events!*

*I want to thank all four women and John for their hard work, their humility and love that they have for the community, the students, the families, staff, and the school. My love and prayers are constant for them, as they are for our community.*

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**Service Hours** We are in the second quarter of the school year, and many have given of their time or donated items to the school. Please make sure to log your hours in your FACTS SIS account. To do this:

1. Log into your FACTS SIS account
2. Click on Family on the left side of your screen
3. Find service hours
4. Click Add +
5. Add hours
6. Add description (volunteer or food / goods)
7. In the note, just BRIEFLY state what you did i.e. Halloween carnival, donated food for party, etc.
8. We will verify the hours throughout the year



# Enrollment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Enrollment for the Fall is underway. Many have secured seats for next school year! Currently, returning families have the opportunity to enroll their student(s) for a registration fee of \$200 until December 31.

January 1, 2024, enrollment will open to those seeking a Catholic Education that is not currently part of our community. Registration fee will go up to \$250 on January 1. I have had many interested in St. Therese and have given quite a few tours and have several scheduled in the weeks to come. As many of you know, Fatima Catholic School is closing in May. Families are seeking to continue their children's Catholic education.

Please consider enrolling during this reduced registration period to secure a seat for your child. To enroll:

1. Log into your FACTS SIS account.
2. Scroll down to Apply/Enroll
3. Click on Enrollment/reenrollment
4. Click on blue link that state "click here to open enrollment"
5. Under the Packet Status, click on "Start Enrollment Packet"
6. Go through all the pages and make sure all needed boxes are filled. If you get a yellow triangle on the left screen, you must address those areas. Finally, click on the last page and submit enrollment. You are welcome to check with me to see if your enrollment was submitted successfully.

Email me [m.giglio@stschool.org](mailto:m.giglio@stschool.org) with any questions or issues you may have.



## School Dress Code

**Just a reminder that students (male and female) should not have highlights or colored hair, artificial ns, non-prescription contacts or wear make-up. Boy's hair should be cut above the collar and not have any shapes or razor art in their cuts. For both boys and girls,**

hair/bangs should not cover their eyes. We ask that girls keep hair items to a simple hair tie or STS uniform headband or scrunchie. No big bows or jewelry/beads in their hair. Shoes and other items for your student: please make sure that shoes should be regular sneakers that are white, black or blue; no high tops, no Vans with checks or designs, no light-ups and no wheels on the shoes. Please no boots; heels on student shoes no more than an inch. Please keep socks conservative: white, black, or blue. A small swish is fine, but no graffiti or images on the socks. Please do not have students wear the no show socks. They must be ankle or knee socks for both boys and girls. Thank you for helping in honoring the dress code for the school! This is referenced in the handbook.



*Virtus* is an Archdiocesan training for all volunteers that helps adults learn to recognize the warning signs of abuse, and it shows them the appropriate way to respond to suspicious behavior. If you are planning on attending or volunteering in any capacity at the school, even if only driving or being with your own child, please take the time to take “Protecting God's Children” online. The certificate is turned into the front office and is good for five (5) years. This will also cover any volunteering in any of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe communities. Visit [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) and take your class today.

## ***Annual Notifications***

### **Legal Notice**

The Archdiocese of Santa Fe and St. Therese Catholic School comply with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) by providing access for the review of the Management Plan at this school. The Management Plan is kept in the principal's office and will be updated as various situations develop and inspections are completed. Arrangements may be made with the principal of the school or to the executive director of general services at the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

### **Civil Rights**

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color,

national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



You can attach your Smith's Rewards card to St. Therese Parochial School with your Smith's digital account. Visit by clicking or copying/pasting for info how to set up this easy fundraiser:

<https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-inspiring-donations>



**APIAL is our sport program. Registration is currently active for the following sports: co-ed flag football (elementary) deadline for registration is 10/13/23 and boys basketball deadline for registration is 10/31/23. Please click the link: <https://sites.google.com/view/apialathleticsregister/sts> to register today. No registrations will be accepted after the deadlines. Registration includes the student information and payment which is all available on the APIAL link above.**