

January 25, 2019



ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

FIAT NEWSLETTER

Catholic Schools Week 2019

Dear Friend of Annunciation Parish & School,

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Catholic Schools Week 2019 is January 27-February 2. The theme, "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.", encompasses the core products and values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, we, as educators, are growing with them. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed. The official CSW logo brings the theme to life. The open book made up of multi-colored pages symbolizes how all areas of Catholic schools blend together, with faith — symbolized by the cross — at the forefront. Catholic schools are vibrant, dynamic and excellent. (Information from [NCEA](http://NCEA.org).)



Catholic Schools

Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandi Chakeres,
Director of Faith Formation

Invite Others to Come to Our School Open House!



We all probably know families who have children (or grandchildren) who will be preschool-8th grade for the 2019-2020 academic year. Please extend an invitation to these families to come and see all that makes Annunciation Catholic School shine! Our Open House for prospective students/families is Sunday, January 27 from 12:00-2:30 p.m.

FIAT: Faith In Action Today
Annunciation Parish & School
Religious Education/Faith Formation News
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Special points of interest:

- Did you know that January is Poverty Awareness Month? Find more information from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops [here](#).
- Have you visited the Vatican web site for kids lately? Check it out [here](#)!
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) to get all our latest news and see all our latest photos!

**Icon at top left of page: Archangel Gabriel (Annunciation), 16th Century, Russian Heritage, Location: Andrei Rublev Museum in Moscow. Used with permission of St. Isaac of Syria Skete (Orthodox Byzantine Icons, Inc.); 25266 Pilgrims Way, Boscobel, WI 53805 www.skete.com

The Patron Saint of Catholic Schools: St. Thomas Aquinas

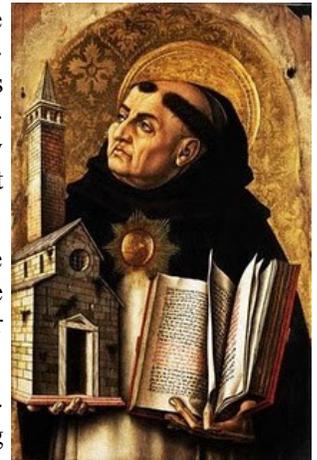
Thomas D'Aquino was born in the year 1225 in Roccaseca, Italy, the youngest son of a noble family. At a very young age, indeed as a child, his parents sent him to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino. They hoped he would one day be the abbot of this monastery. This monastery was almost suppressed in 1239, and Thomas was sent to Naples to study at the university. It was there that Thomas was introduced to the Dominican Order, which had recently been established in 1216. Thomas's family did not want him to become a Dominican. But against their wishes, he took the Dominican habit around 1242 or 1243.

Thomas saw a great need for a systematic presentation of Christian theology, and in 1266 he began to write and dictate this effort. While this work was left unfinished, it remains one of the greatest theological works of all times – the “Summa Theologiae.” The Summa brings together Christian theology, Scripture, writings of the Church Fathers, and the philosophy of Aristotle.

Even if you have never read any of the above scholarly works of Saint Thomas Aquinas, chances are you are quite familiar with some of his work. He had a very deep prayer life and a strong devotion to the Eucharist. In the year 1264, Pope Urban IV inserted the Feast of Corpus Christi in the universal calendar. It is said that the pope asked Thomas to write the text for the Office and Mass for this feast. While sole authorship of these texts is sometimes questioned, they are nonetheless attributed to Saint Thomas Aquinas. These include “Tantum Ergo,” which is part of the longer hymn, “Pange Lingua,” and “O Salutaris.” These Eucharistic hymns are still sung in our worship today, and you are familiar with them, especially if you celebrate Benediction, and celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

In March of 1274, Thomas became ill while traveling to the Council of Lyons. He died March 7 at the Benedictine Abbey of Fossanova. Thomas Aquinas was canonized in 1323. In 1567 Pope Pius V proclaimed him “Doctor of the Church,” and he was given the title, “Angelic Doctor.” In 1880, Pope Leo XIII proclaimed Saint Thomas Aquinas the patron of all Catholic educational institutions. He is also the patron of philosophers, theologians, and booksellers.

Read more about this saint, his connection to Saint Albert the Great, and why he was once called the “dumb ox,” [here](#).



Saint Thomas Aquinas
Carlo Crivelli, 1476

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Friday, January 25: Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, The Apostle (7th Grade Patron Saint)
- ◆ Sunday, January 27: Begin Catholic Schools Week; Annunciation Catholic School Open House Noon-2:30
- ◆ Tuesday, January 29, 6:00-9:00 p.m.: Plenary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
- ◆ Thursday, January 31, 9:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- ◆ Thursday, January 31, 6:00 p.m.: Annunciation Catholic School Talent Show
- ◆ Saturday, February 2, 5:00 p.m. Mass; Celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas); Blessing of, and Procession with, Candles
- ◆ Sunday, February 3: Blessing of Throats at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses
- ◆ Tuesday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.: St. Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting

***It's Happening at
Annunciation!***

Choose a Catholic School!

a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools

