

Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy News

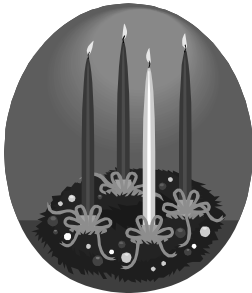
December 4, 2009

Academy News

The **Holiday Tour of Homes** is being held Friday, December 4th from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday, December 5th from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. There are 5 area homes on the tour to be visited and enjoyed. Tickets are \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door.

The Senior Class of 2010 is selling **Jozwiak's Discount Cards**. With this card, Jozwiak's offers a discount on a food item each month. The cost of the card is \$20. The seniors are sponsoring the sale of these cards to help defray the cost of their graduation. You can purchase a Jozwiak's Discount Card from any senior or by calling the school office.

There are only 2 weeks left to order Scrip before Christmas! If you are interested in placing an order, simply fill out the pink order form sent home in your brown envelope and return it to school by Monday to ensure delivery of your order by the following Friday; or you can call or stop in at the office to place an order. Scrip cards make great gifts!



December 4 & 5----Holiday Tour of Homes
December 4-16-----Scholastic Book Fair
-----Elementary Campus
December 8-----All School Mass – St. Joseph's
-----Church – 8:30 a.m.
December 10-----No 8:30 Mass at St. Mary
December 16-----Santa's Helpers - Elementary
December 18-----Christmas Program K-5 & Band
1 p.m. - Elementary Campus
December 21-----Spiritus Retreat – Grades 3-5
-----Elementary Campus; Grades 6-8
-----Middle Campus
December 23-----Christmas Vacation Begins
January 4-----School Resumes

Home & School News

The next **Home & School Meeting** will be Wednesday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m. at the High School Campus. Hope to see you there!

The **Angeli's Flower Cards** are still available for \$25 each and they make great gifts. They will be on sale until January 1st. You can purchase them at either school campus.

Academy T-shirts will not be ordered again until the end of January, so please hang on to your order forms until then. Thanks to all those who have purchased the t-shirts. They are a great way to advertise our school!

Elementary News

Thank you to all the parents who donated desserts for our Thanksgiving lunch on November 24th. Your generosity enabled us to donate some of the treats for the Thanksgiving Dinner held at St. Mary Gym.

The children are enjoying finding out and meeting their "prayer buddies" for this Advent



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season. We've also collected a lot of food items to be donated to St. Vincent de Paul this week. Thank you! Next week we will be collecting cleaning supplies for the Haven of Hope, the homeless shelter in Marinette.

A note about our Christmas Program is in this week's family envelope. It also includes information on dismissal after the Christmas Program. Please return the form by Friday, December 11th.

The teachers and students have been working on our "badge of honor". This is part of our character education and focuses on a sense of communio and responsibility for our students. The four virtues we chose to focus on are kindness, honesty, respect, and helping. Each student will have a badge to bring home, one will be displayed in the classroom, and a large one will be put in the hall. We can refer to this badge of honor as we look at our relationships with classmates, friends, and family.

Middle School News

After mass on Wednesday, students picked names of children in need off of the tree at church. We are asking for monetary donations that the students will use to shop for items for these children. We appreciate any amount that can be given. It should be sent in by Tuesday, December 8.

The students are also in the process of making cards for a terminally ill 5 year old Michigan boy who will not live to see Christmas 2009. His wish is to see how many greeting cards he can receive. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

A reminder that students are collecting items for local nursing home patients during the month of December. Items can be brought to school and dropped off on the third floor landing table. Ideas for gifts include lotion, soap, slippers, socks, crossword puzzle books, magazines, etc. Items should be wrapped and labeled if it is for a man or woman.

High School News

The High/Middle School campus was honored with a surprise visit Wednesday. Bishop Ricken was on his way back to Green Bay from Gaylord, Michigan when he called to ask if he could stop by for a visit. His Excellency addressed the assembled students and prayed with us the prayer to St. Thomas he has written for us. He also shared a very encouraging story. It seems that when Bishop Ricken was in Wyoming there was a Catholic school on the edge of closing due to low enrollment and lack of funds, if you can imagine that. At the Bishop's suggestion and with his assistance the students, faculty, and families adopted St. Anthony as their patron and stormed heaven for his intercession on behalf of their school. Within a few years they had built a new school and were struggling not to stay open, but to accommodate an ever-increasing number of students. I'm reasonably certain St. Thomas would want the same success for us.

Three Saint Thomas Aquinas students attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in Kansas City, Missouri November 19-22. The theme for this year's sessions was "Christ Reigns". The students were a part of a group of 104 students from the Diocese of Green Bay. They were a part of a group of 23,000 students who attended different sessions strengthening their faith. The students found the entire experience very rewarding and came back with a deeper faith and the strong desire to daily live their faith.

The 2008-09 yearbooks were given to the high school students on Tuesday, November 24th. Ask your son/daughter to share this memory book with you. The editor, along with her staff, put in many hours at the NWTC computer lab striving to make this the best yearbook ever. The adults who volunteered to oversee the project were: Mrs. Mary Tandias, Mrs. Teresa Brostowitz, and Mrs. Elaine Sevensen. Congratulations to all who worked on this project. It is truly a trip down memory lane at the high school, highlighting the events of the past school year.



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If you're concerned about keeping up with energy bills, a call to Wisconsin Public Service can be the answer. Working with WPS upfront can prevent you from falling behind, with billing plans, assistance programs, special payment arrangements, and more. Additionally, you are encouraged to apply for financial assistance. WPS can provide information on energy assistance programs that will pay a portion of your winter heating costs if you qualify. Call 24-Hour Customer Service at **800-450-7260**.

