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Newsletter—April 4, 2025

We Teach Truth - Build Character - Inspire Service




ANNUAL ST. THOMAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
 Sunday, April 6th 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
 Served with all you can eat Pancakes & Sausage, Coffee, Juice & Milk



St. Thomas THE APOSTLE Catholic Church

Pictures with the Easter Bunny after 10am Mass until 12:30!

**\$10/ADULTS
 \$5/KIDS
 \$30/FAMILY**
KIDS 2 & UNDER EAT FREE!
***CASH OR CHECK AT THE DOOR!*
 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS!!!**

Roberts Printing Co.

St. Thomas School Presents
 Disney The Spring Musical
FROZEN JR.  **GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!!**

FRI-7PM SAT-7PM SUN-2PM
4/11 4/12 4/13
PND AUDITORIUM

Purchase tickets early & in person at the STS front office. (NO backpack mail) OR Tickets sold at the door! Cash or checks made out to St. Thomas School.

\$10 GENERAL ADMISSION

CONCESSIONS & FLOWERS FOR PURCHASE!




PNP Easter Bunny Breakfast
 Saturday, April 5, 2025
 9:00am-11:00am
 in the PND Commons

**Adults: \$5 | Kids: \$3
 Families: \$20**




Fine Arts Day
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH
 See you there!

We are less than two weeks away from Fine Arts Day. This fun, creative celebration cannot happen without your help. There are many opportunities still available. Please take a look at the [sign up](#) to see how you can help make this day a success!



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SPRING Pictures

WEDNESDAY APRIL 9TH
St. Thomas School



The background will be as shown.
Feet and pants will show.
Please plan accordingly.

Scan QR code or visit this
website below to register

<http://regis.viewyour.photos/direct/91104/27270394>

Register your contact information to
receive proofs! You will receive a link
within 24 hours of picture day.

(be sure to watch your junk/spam folders)



CHOOSE AND ORDER YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE

TSS
PHOTOGRAPHY



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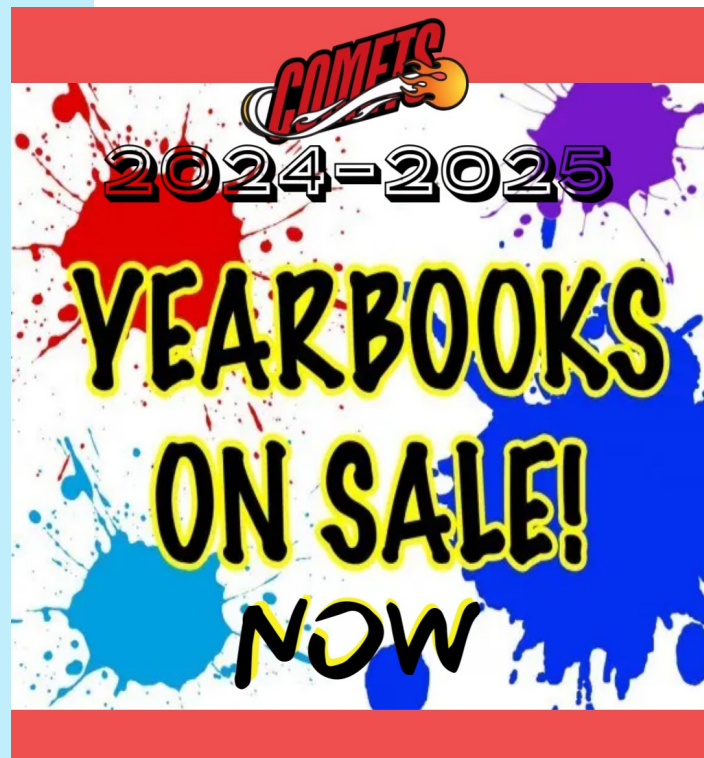
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Members of the STS Comet band combined with St. Paul and Holy Family to compete at the IGSM band competition against 12 other local middle school bands. The eight students prepared three songs in only one rehearsal and received a ranking of I, the highest attainable score at the competition. Under the name of "Peoria Catholic School Band", each school brought home a plaque for the school and medals for each participating student.

Congratulations to all!



The 24/25 yearbook is on sale. Please use [this link](#) to order your copy now.






CMGConnect DIOCESE OF PEORIA




End-User Instructions

Getting Started:

1. Go to <https://Peoria.cmgconnect.org/>
2. Create a new account by completing all the boxes under the **Register for a New Account** area. This includes your address, primary parish, and how you participate at your parish or school. If you have questions please contact your parish/school coordinator.
3. Your dashboard will show you the required and optional training curriculums that have been customized for your particular role within the Diocese.
4. Click  under the Safe Environment Training-Peoria to begin.
5. On the last page of the curriculum, submit your background check information.
The curriculum will be marked "Resume" until your background check is processed and reviewed by the diocese. Processing can take up to 7-10 business days.
6. If needed, you can access your completion certificate after you are certified by returning to the training dashboard and clicking **Print Certificate**.



For technical assistance, contact us via the  button found in the bottom right corner of the web page.

Last Updated: 02/13/20

REMINDER: Diocesan requirement for volunteers.

Please check to see if you have expired! Training is good for 5 years.

All volunteers of the school and parish (those who work with or have contact with children) must have completed the Safe Environment workshop prior to working with our children.

To complete the training go to

<https://cmgconnect.org/> online training hub

Find your Diocese - Peoria

Set-up an account

Complete Safe Environment Training for **Volunteers**—not employees

Create ONLY ONE user account. If you have forgotten your log in – email safeenvironment@cdop.org

If you have already completed the online training, it will show as complete when you log in.

If you have expired, you must take the RENEWAL Training – complete the background check and CANTS at the same time. These are uploaded – do not print and send to the office. Follow the prompts to submit.

We appreciate your support by completing these mandatory steps for volunteers. If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Statements for Childcare & Tuition for Taxes:

If you go to the FACTS Family Portal you can get all of your tax information. Next to the words PAYMENT PLAN AND BILLING, you can click on VIEW DETAILS. On the next screen, you can click on VIEW PAYMENT SUMMARY. That page breaks down tuition and other expenses by child for the calendar year.



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John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund Protocols & Procedures

The John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship is an endowment fund established with contributions from the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria. If you would like to make a donation that would provide families the opportunity of a Catholic education for their children, click on the button to go to our online giving page. Scholarships of \$700,000 were recently awarded for the 2024-2025 school year.

Applications for scholarship grants will be available for the 2025-2026 academic year beginning in November 2024. Assistance is open to students enrolling, or intending to enroll, in any Catholic school, grade kindergarten through 12, located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are parishioners in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application procedure will be available here on the website or by contacting any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria in January. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for next year must *reapply*.

John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund Protocols and Procedures: 2025-2026

Deadline Date: Friday, April 25, 2025

PROTOCOLS:

- A family applying for Spalding Scholarship assistance must be an active member in good standing of a parish in the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.
- The student[s] for whom the aid is being sought must be enrolled in good standing [or seeking to be enrolled] in grades K through 12 in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All scholarship assistance will be based on a family's financial need objectively assessed. The diocese will use FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment Services to determine financial need.
- All scholarship assistance will also be dependent upon the recommendation of the pastor that the family is an active member of the parish in good standing
- If a student changes schools during a school year, tuition assistance grants will follow the student as long as the student is enrolled in and in good standing in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Peoria and the family is a member in good standing of a parish in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All awards are for one school year only. A family must apply for Spalding Scholarship assistance each school year.
- The number of grants and the amount of each grant for the school year will be dependent upon the funds available and the size and need of the applicant pool.

Payment of Spalding Scholarship Grants will be made twice a year directly to the Catholic school a student attends. These grants will be applied to the family's tuition obligation. It is anticipated that tuition assistance grants will be announced in early June 2025.

PROCEDURES:

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance from the Spalding Scholarship Fund must complete an online **FACTS Grant & Aid Application** at online.factsmgt.com/aid. **The application and required supporting tax documents must be received online by FACTS by the application deadline date of Friday, April 25, 2025.**

- The FACTS application, payment of the application fee, and any required supporting documents are to be transmitted online to FACTS according to their directions.
- Families must also request the pastor submit a recommendation to the Office of Catholic Schools verifying good standing in the parish.
- The application process is complete only when the pastor's recommendation has been submitted to the Office of Catholic Schools and when a completed parent financial aid application, required supporting documents, and the application fee have been uploaded and submitted to FACTS. **Only completed applications, which include supporting documents, submitted on or before the Friday, April 25, 2025 deadline will be considered when Spalding assistance awards are determined.**



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Thank you!

OUR PROUD SPONSORS OF THE MONTH

Diane & Doug Oberhelman

Heights Flowers

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICK SUYDAM

Dave & Pat Donnelly

The Kiser Family

Mark Nance

The Schamberger Family

The Coad Family

The Wayne Family

The Dobereiner Family

Jimmy & Eryn Scherer



QUINN JOHNSTON

MITCH M. GILFILLAN

**SHERMAN FAMILY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**



"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Proverbs 11:25