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Newsletter—September 26, 2025

We Teach Truth - Build Character - Inspire Service



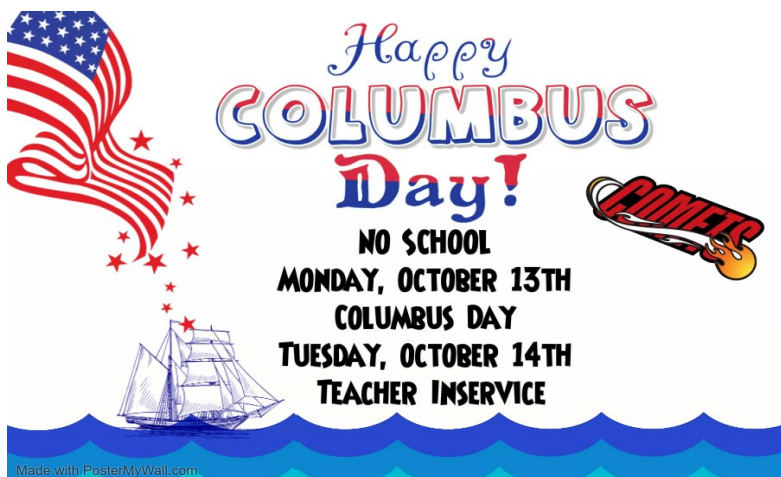
Friday, October 3, we will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

The feast commemorates the life of St. Francis, who was born in the 12th century and is the Catholic Church's patron saint of animals and the environment.

We will have our annual Blessing of the Animals on Friday, October 3 at 8:40 a.m. (lasts about 20 minutes)

Parents are welcome to bring their family pet and gather in the space marked off by cones. Students will come out and may join the parent for the blessing of their animal.

Please keep pets in the center of the cones. As the students come out, they will line up around the coned off area.



WE ARE HIRING

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL IS LOOKING TO FILL AN AFTERCARE SUPPORT POSITION FROM 3:00-5:30 P.M. DAILY MONDAY-FRIDAY.

The position would be great for someone in college or retired and looking for a part time position. This person would be helping our aftercare director. Aftercare supports families that need coverage after school from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Please contact:
Maureen Bentley, Principal
maureenbentley@stthomas-school.net

2025-2026 School Year | #309-685-2533 | Teach Truth, Build Character, and Inspire Service!



Donut Sunday

COME JOIN US AT THE 10AM MASS TO SEE THE STUDENTS FROM EACH GRADE LEVEL PARTICIPATE IN THE LITURGY AND ENJOY DONUTS IN THE PARISH HALL AFTERWARDS.

- SEPTEMBER 7, 2025- 8TH GRADE
- OCTOBER 5, 2025- 6TH & 7TH GRADE
- NOVEMBER 2, 2025- 1ST GRADE
- DECEMBER 7, 2025- 4TH & 5TH GRADE
- JANUARY 11, 2026- PRE-3, PRE-K, AND KINDERGARTEN
- FEBRUARY 1, 2026- 2ND GRADE
- MAY 3, 2026- 3RD GRADE



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COMET PALOOZA

Day is HERE!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF OUR FALL FUNDRAISER
INFLATABLES, DJ MUSIC, GAMES, SNACKS AND FUN!!!

ENJOY AN OUT OF UNIFORM DAY-

PLEASE FOLLOW THE HANDBOOK GUIDELINES!

MAKE SURE TO BRING A LABELED WATER BOTTLE &



SOCKS!!!

MEGA BLAST!



On Friday, October 31, our primary grade children (K - 3rd grade) will have a Halloween celebration. The children may bring school appropriate costumes (weapons and costumes of a violent nature are to be avoided) and change shortly before their parade. Starting at @ 1:10 p.m. the Kindergarten children will parade through the 1-3 classrooms. K - 3rd grade will go to the gym to parade for parents who wish to come.

The Parade for Parents will begin @ 1:20 p.m. in the gym. In order to avoid congestion in our hallways, ALL parents are asked to come to our gym between 1:10p.m. - 1:15 p.m. for the parade. Please enter the school through the gym door entrance, which will be open @ 1:10 p.m., and go directly to the gym.

Parties for grades K-8 will start at 1:30 p.m. in their classrooms and will conclude @ 2:15 p.m. to allow time for an end-of-the-day wrap-up with the children before the 2:30 p.m. dismissal. We are requesting that parents leave the classrooms at 2:15 p.m.! In order to promote greater security and safety for our children, we also ask that parents NOT take students from the classroom at 2:15 p.m., but wait for them to be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. Your cooperation and support is appreciated!





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YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
ST. THOMAS
Progressive Dinner
Safeguarding our Children
Saturday, November 8th

5:00-6:30 PM

Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails hosted at
the home of Laura & Allen Cullinan

7:00-8:30 PM

Small group dinners at private homes
Prior to the event, attendees will be emailed their host homes

8:45-10:30 PM

Dessert and auction at the
Country Club of Peoria

Price per person: \$50

Register online or via this form, please make checks payable to
St. Thomas the Apostle and turn in at the parish or school office.

Registration deadline: October 27th

When ordering tickets, please list any dietary restrictions or
allergies. Any questions, please reach out to the parish or
school offices.



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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.

2025 Saint Philomena Chess Tournament

Saturday, October 25th, 2025

3216 N. Emery Ave, Peoria, IL

Register Here—

<https://www.kingregistration.com/event/25StPhills>



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Ahoy-Matey! Pre-3 celebrated National Talk Like a Pirate Day like anyone would expect... searching for buried treasure and following our map to marks the spot, swabbing the decks with Danny Go, snacking on Pirates Booty, reading Shiver Me Letters and so much more! Yo-ho-ho Pre-3 is the life for me!

PEORIA FC UNITED SPRING MLS GO REC LEAGUE

Registration Link Live October 1st @ peoriafcu.com



1X Training Per Week Led by Our Professional Staff at our Home Mossville Complex
1X Game per week on Saturday Mornings at our Home Mossville Complex
MLS Team Jersey Included with Registration for League!
Ages 4-14!



Please reach out to adoc@peoriafcu.com with any questions

OCTOBER 23RD & 24TH

**12:15 DISMISSAL-
AFTERCARE STUDENTS
PLEASE PACK A LUNCH**