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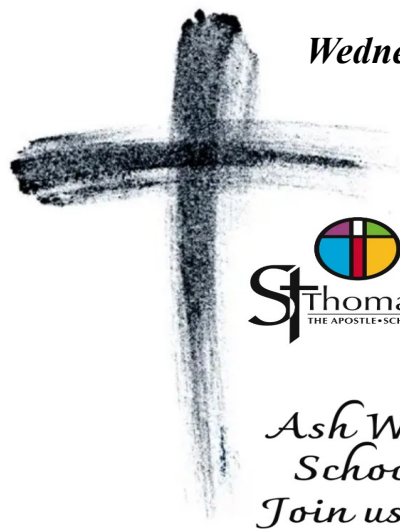
Newsletter—February 13, 2026

We Teach Truth - Build Character - Inspire Service



[Registration Link](#)

Wednesday, February 18



For you are

DUST

and to dust you shall

RETURN

Genesis 3:19



*Ash Wednesday
School Mass
Join us - 2:30 pm*

Save the Date

**St. Thomas
Progressive Dinner and
Auction 2026**

November 14th, 2026

An evening of fine dining, dancing,
live and silent auctions!

Or use this link to sign up!

<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/IHHaKXGZ>



ST. THOMAS BIDDY BASKETBALL PROGRAM

We are excited to offer a Biddy Basketball Skills and Drills Program for students in Grades 1-4 who attend St. Thomas School. This program is designed to help our Junior Comets build basketball fundamentals in a fun and supportive environment.

DATES: MARCH 16TH-APRIL 24TH (NOT OVER SPRING BREAK)
TWO PRACTICES PER WEEK - MON/WED OR TUES/THURS

Grades 1 & 2: 5:00-6:00 PM
Grades 3 & 4: 6:00-7:00 PM

When signing up, please indicate which two days your child prefers. We understand schedules may change and are flexible-this is simply to help us gauge interest.

We are also in need of parent volunteers to help make this program a success. Volunteer time will count toward required volunteer hours.



REGISTER NOW

NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 20TH

\$25

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Outdoor Recess:

Students should be encouraged to engage in physical activity during recess year round...including winter---unless temperatures are dangerously cold or when it is raining. Every child, unless excused by reason of ill health, is expected to comply to the outdoor guidelines set at St. Thomas. Please keep in mind that winter air does NOT cause or worsen minor symptoms as long as children are dressed appropriately. Extended indoor recess requests require a doctor's note.

Guidelines

Students will be outside at all recesses when the temperature (including wind chill) is 15 degrees or above and it is dry. Temperature is checked throughout the day during cold weather.

Students need to dress adequately for cold weather by wearing coats that close, hats or ear bands, pants or tights/leggings, and mittens or gloves. Students will also be required to stay within the designated areas to avoid unnecessary wetness. Students may bring boots to wear for warmth, however, *playing IN the snow during recess is not allowed.*

TUITION STATEMENT FOR TAX PURPOSES:

Your family's 2025 tuition statement may be printed from your FACTS account using the following instructions:

Visit FACTS <https://factsmgt.com/login/>

- Log into your account (Family Portal)
- Click on View Details
- Click on View Payment Summary
- Select 2025 and print your report



HONORING THE GREAT LEADERS
OF OUR NATION

MONDAY FEBRUARY 16TH
NO SCHOOL!
ENJOY YOUR DAY, COMETS!



RAISE SOME DOUGH
Help support us!

25% of sales will benefit
St. Thomas the Apostle School

February 26, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
1101 W Bird Boulevard
Peoria, IL

In Cafe Drive-Thru
Pick-Up Delivery

Enter promo code **FUND4U** at online checkout.

Panera
FUNDRAISING

It is that time of the school year again to file your application for Grant & Aid. Both St Thomas School and John Lancaster Spalding scholarships require completion of a FACTs application and upload of supporting tax documents by **April 24, 2026**. Visit [St Thomas Grant & Aid](#) to apply. If you need assistance uploading documents or filling out the application form, please reach out to Sheris and she will be happy to assist you. sheriscatton@stthomas-church.net



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We have very exciting news, the Holy See has officially announced that the beautification of Venerable Fulton Sheen will move forward!

Please view the video - It is about 2 minutes long. It is Bishop Lou talking about the announcement. This is also where you can sign up for notifications about the cause for canonization of Fulton Sheen.

<https://www.celebratesheen.com/>



Catholic Diocese of Peoria

February 2026

NEWS RELEASE

STATEMENT REGARDING CAUSE OF FULTON SHEEN MOVING TOWARD BEATIFICATION

From Bishop Louis Tylka, Diocese of Peoria

"The Holy See has informed me that the Cause for the Venerable Servant of God Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen can proceed to Beatification. The next step in the process is the celebration of Beatification, in which Fulton Sheen would be declared Blessed.

In the Catholic Church, beatification is the first major step to sainthood, granting a deceased person the title "Blessed" and allowing limited public veneration (like in a region) after proving heroic virtue and one verified miracle. Canonization is the final step, declaring the person a saint, permitting reverence across the entire Church, and requiring a second miracle after beatification, making their veneration universal. Essentially, beatification opens the door for local honor, while canonization opens it for the whole world, recognizing a saint as being in heaven with God.

We are working with the Dicastery of the Causes of Saints at the Vatican to determine the details for the upcoming Beatification. The date and event details will be released soon through [celebratesheen.com](https://www.celebratesheen.com).

Archbishop Sheen was declared Venerable when Pope Benedict XVI recognized his life of heroic virtue on June 28, 2012. The miracle attributed to Sheen's intercession was recognized by Pope Francis on July 6, 2019.

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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.

Track It Forward is an app is available on the Apple app store and Google Play. You may also see it called Volunteer Time Tracking in the app store when searching for it. We encourage parents to download the Track It Forward app to their phone to ensure hours are logged upon completion. Go to: Find an Existing Site and type in St. Thomas the Apostle Peoria Heights. Click to register.

Email Questions to comethours@gmail.com



TRACK IT FORWARD



DOWNLOAD THE TRACK IT FORWARD APP

PLEASE ONLY CREATE ONE LOGIN PER FAMILY!