



## *St. Thomas Aquinas CES*

### *Week at a Glance: December 9-13*

*Live with Love!*

<https://sta.ycdsb.ca/>

*Learn with Joy!*

#### **Greetings St. Thomas Aquinas Community,**

Welcome to the second week of Advent. This week we light the second purple candle of Advent known as the candle of Love. The light of this candle reminds us of the coming of Jesus, the light of our world who brings us hope and fills us with God's love.

The Catholic Virtue for December is *Hope*. This focus for this virtue is:

- ❖ I will prepare for Christmas by waiting with Hope, Faith, Joy and Love;
- ❖ With God's grace, I will never give up hope;
- ❖ I will maintain a positive attitude and look for the brighter side of situations.

**Holiday Food Drive:** The Luke 4:18 Social Justice Committee is organizing a Holiday Food Drive in support of the local food bank. Non-perishable food items are being collected from Monday December 9 to Thursday December 19. Items of need include diapers, formula, cereals, canned food items etc. All items can be dropped off to your child's classroom or in the front foyer. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support during this Holiday season.

**Pets & School Property:** We recognize that the walk to and from school is a great opportunity to exercise your canine companion. If you do bring along your dog when you drop off or pick up your child(ren), please remain off school property (with the exception of those with service dogs). Keep your dog leashed and out of reach of passing children. Some students may experience allergies, anxiety and/or fear when in the presence of dogs, both large and small. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**Winter Weather Reminders:** Please ensure your child(ren) is prepared for the weather with coats, hats, gloves and boots. Extra socks, mitts/gloves and clothes are also recommended as these items can become quite wet during recess play. Also please ensure that your child(ren) has indoor shoes and outdoor boots so that we may keep our classrooms and school safe and clean for staff and students.

**Christmas Holiday Theme Week:** STA will be having a Christmas Holiday Theme Week from December 16-20 to celebrate the Holiday Season. Please see the attached flyer for details. [STA Holiday Theme Week](#)

**Hot Lunch Session January to March:** The next session of the Hot Lunch Program will continue from January 6 to March 7. Our Hot Lunch program will consist of the following:

- Tuesdays: Subway
- Wednesday: Nonna's Lakeside
- Thursday: Bailey's Homestead
- Friday: Quick Pizza

Payments can be made online through the School Day app or cash or cheque (made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas) and are due by December 20, 2024. Please call the school if you have any questions.

**Social Media and Online Safety Evening for Parents:** Our Lady of Good Counsel is hosting a parent information evening with Paul Davis on December 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm. All parents of the STA community are invited to attend. If interested in attending please complete the link to RSVP, [RSVP for parent info meeting](#). Please see the attached flyer for further information. [Paul Davis Information Night Flyer](#)

**Parish News:** For Our Lady of the Lake Parish news, please see the attached link [Bulletin Dec 8](#)

**Upcoming Dates:**

December 16-20: Holiday Theme Week [STA Holiday Theme Week \(1\).pdf](#)

December 17: FDK Christmas Concert at 6:30 pm

December 18: Grade 1-3 Christmas Concert at 6:30 pm

**Have a great week,**

*F. Rossy*

**Principal**