

From the Home School Association...

Greetings to all from the St Thomas Aquinas Home School Association. As we close out the 2005-06 school year, we can all feel very proud. Our fundraising efforts have been extremely successful – thanks to the hard work of our families. As a school community this year, we raised over \$40,000 to support the many programs and activities that enhance St Thomas for all who are there. The halls of our school ring with the sounds of our beautiful new piano, purchased by the HSA for our children. Our library, playground and our many events, including Catholic Schools Week, Missoula Children's Theatre and our trip to the Bridgeport Bluefish game, have all been possible as a result of your efforts. Finally, one of our biggest priorities this year at HSA has been to demonstrate to our teachers how much we



appreciate and support their efforts on behalf of our children. Job well done, teachers and parents alike!

Opening up the lines of communication among our families was an HSA priority this year. To this end, in April, we held our first Family Focus Group to share information, hear questions and concerns, and prioritize our goals as a school community. This event was a success and families have asked for and will get more opportunities like this to participate in the planning process for our school. So, what are our priorities and goals? Our families have spoken: a strong curriculum backed by qualified, dedicated teachers



and resources to support their efforts, together with an unwavering commitment to respect and compassion among our students, teachers and administrators — all of this strongly rooted in our faith-based education structure. It

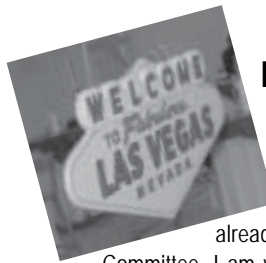
is with this charge that we move forward.

So what is ahead for us? In the coming year, the HSA board, led by our new co-presidents, Colleen Murphy and Trish Donelan, will continue to be the voice of our families. The HSA will work with our dedicated administration, our School Advisory Board and the Friends of St Thomas to meet the goals we have in front of us, as well as establish and begin to implement a long-term strategic plan for our school community. Like anything else, we cannot do this without the support and participation from all of our families. Whether your role is to volunteer to read or to do an art project in one of our classrooms, to manage one of our major fundraisers, or to participate in the strategic planning process, every effort is critical to achieving our goals. We look forward to a successful year for St Thomas, one in which each and every family feels blessed to be a part of our environment of education, commitment and faith.

Anne McCrory, President
St Thomas Home School Association

Thank you to the Home School Association,
Students and Parents for my lovely gift! It was
my pleasure to be your School Secretary for
these last few years!
Catherine Lopata

From the Development Committee



Greetings to All!

It is hard to believe that another school year is winding down and the beach season is already upon us. As President of the Development Committee, I am very pleased to say that St. Thomas Aquinas School has had another memorable year and is at the forefront of some new and very exciting times ahead. The Development Committee is also at the cornerstone of great things as well.

The Development Committee became an incorporated 501(C)3 non-profit foundation under the name "Friends of St. Thomas School, Inc.", also known as FROST for short. This designation has helped us facilitate accepting tax-deductible contributions as well as allowing us to apply for grants, corporate and individual donations, and other available monies on both the local and national levels.

FROST has continued the established St. Thomas Aquinas School fundraisers of the Basket Bonanza and Golf Tournament, and with the incredible support and efforts of our school volunteers, donors, and local merchants, the school raised \$80,000 between the two events. FROST set out in the 2005/6 school year with the goal of both bringing our school community closer together, as well as growing our reach by forming the Grandparents/Special Person club and the Alumni Association. The reception to both of these new groups has been overwhelming. Most recently the Grandparents/Special Person's club was provided a refreshment social that featured musical performances by the students prior to the school's Celebration of the Arts program. The school and parish have planned a 130th Anniversary Gala Event for this coming Columbus Day weekend that all alumni, parishioners, parents, and staff will be invited to attend. Please look to the school's new live website:

www.saintthomasaquinasschool.net for ongoing updates to this upcoming event, as well as to other programs and events at the school. Both of these groups are open to anyone that wants to be involved, and we also look to you for ideas or events that you would like to see come true at St. Thomas Aquinas School.

Friends of St. Thomas School is busy working on plans to improve the look of the school as well. We are in the midst of the final plans to create a new and more beautiful front entrance to the school that will feature a Marian Garden, new railings, a flag pole, and stone walkway. In addition, the money raised at our recent fundraisers will be put towards a new athletic field and playground, audio/video systems in more classrooms, and replacement windows to the front of the school.

Where FROST is also breaking new ground, but not for "brick and mortar" changes, is with the establishment of a scholarship fund for families with financial needs. A scholarship fund is in the process of being established, and going forward a portion of all money raised at our two fundraisers will be used toward the upkeep and expansion of financial need scholarships. With the rising cost of education everywhere, FROST does not want to see families that want their children to benefit from a Catholic education to be left out because they can not financially support it.

When I accepted the role of President of the Development Committee last summer I followed my belief that if you lay things out in an orderly fashion, results will come to you. While we have more progress to make, I am very pleased to report that with the efforts of everyone associated with St. Thomas Aquinas School and our community, together we have helped bring St. Thomas Aquinas School to new heights and improve the programs and facilities at the school. I would like to especially thank Pat Maury and Anne McCrory for it is with their support that we were able to collectively move the school in a new direction.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer where ever your travels take you!

Best Regards, Eric Scholl



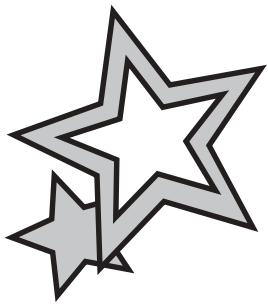
The Diocese of Bridgeport has a new model for Catholic School Education . . .

School Advisory Board

The newly formed School Advisory Board represents the institution of the Diocese of Bridgeport and is under the authority of the Office of Education of the Diocese of Bridgeport. The purpose of the School Advisory Board is to provide the leadership to foster an environment which provides underlying Catholic values, long term strategic planning and financial stability. This includes goal setting for finance, facilities, and marketing and development. The role of the School Advisory Board complements the school's mission which is to nurture and foster the spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical and social growth of the student through its religious and academic curriculum and extracurricular programs.

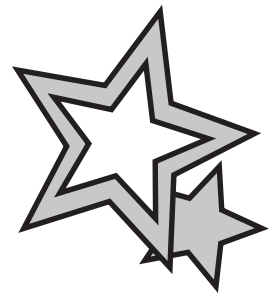
The School Advisory Board is comprised of not more than 13 members proposed by the pastor/principal and approved by the Bishop. This includes at least five members with experience in the areas of strategic planning, finance, facilities, marketing and development, the Home School Association President, the Pastor, and the Principal. Members may serve two to three years terms with the year running from July 1st thru June 30. The current members of the School Advisory Board include Father Martin, Pat Maury, Pam Martin (Chairman), Sister Catherine (Vice Chairman), Eileen Ianniello (Secretary), Anne McCrory, Mark Fasano, Philip Martin, Pat Toole, Amy Gillis, and Dan Caruso.





Saint Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion

October 6, 7, and 8
Celebrating 130 years as a Parish
and 85 years as a School



Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

I am happy to tell you that the St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Committee is working hard planning a grand three day anniversary celebration for all past and present parishioners and school parents, young adults, alumni, and friends in honor of our 130th parish anniversary and 85th school anniversary. The Anniversary Reunion will be held on Columbus Day Weekend, October 6, 7, 8, 2006. Special festivities include a Walk Down Memory Lane visual presentation and reception, Saturday evening dinner at the Sacred Heart University Pitt Center, a Sunday Anniversary Mass of Remembrance with a continental breakfast and an afternoon reception for high school and college students. This celebration is not intended to be a fundraiser; however, the success of these events rests in your willingness to provide input, assistance and participation.

The committee needs your help to identify past parishioners, friends, relatives and young adults whom you would like to have invited. This is your chance to reminisce with special people, so let the committee know their names and addresses. They also need your input to identify and find alumni and parents of alumni. Do not assume that because you or your classmates may be connected to the parish community that the Anniversary Committee has the necessary information, they do not. You need to forward names (including maiden) and graduating classes as soon as convenient to the school office. A memorial mass will be celebrated in honor of our deceased alumni as well, so please include their names and graduating classes so that they can be remembered.

The committee is looking to keep the cost of participating in all the events as low as possible, so that everyone can attend. You can help by becoming a sponsor and/or by placing an ad in the parish anniversary book and the alumni keepsake booklet which are being planned. Payment of a one-time fee will place your advertising in both of these treasured publications.

Please send in your personal photos, movie film, videos, and memorabilia of life in our parish today and/or yesterday (including First Communion group photos, receptions in the old hall, class photo etc.)



Our
Mrs.
Gogol!



as soon as convenient. All photos will be scanned and returned (please put your name on the back). Old movie films (i.e. 8mm) and videos which feature many members of the community and/or the older parish/school facilities, will be transferred to digital media and returned. Memorabilia includes parish and school organization and event documentation, graduation documentation, old uniforms and newspaper clippings. Don't rely on others to send in photos; this is your chance to become an important part of the memories we will share now and into the future.

In addition to your participation in all the events, the committee is looking for volunteers to help with contacting friends, mailing invitations, organizing reservations, and working at the events. **School Parents, this is your chance to fulfill some of your volunteer hours over the summer months in the convenience of your home.** If you have any questions or would like to help in a specific capacity and/or during a specific timeframe, please contact Lee Anne Boyle at 374-3689 or email leeanne.boyle@snet.net.

Please complete the attached form and send it along with photos, film, or memorabilia to St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion, 1719 Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824 preferably by July 1st. Completed forms may also be faxed to the school at 255-0596.

Thank you,
The Anniversary Committee

St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion Information

Title (Please check): Mr. Mrs. Ms Mr. and Mrs. Other: _____

Name (First and Last, Alumni please include Maiden): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Parish (Please check all that apply):

- Parishioner Staff Alumni or Attendee in Class of: _____
 Past Parishioner Religious Parent of Alumni with children in the classes of: _____
 Current School Parent Friend Grandparent or Special Person of (family name): _____
 Sponsor/Donor/Advertiser

Please name young adults in your household:

Young Adult (High School or college student) Name and Age: _____

Young Adult (High School or college student) Name and Age: _____

Young Adult (High School or college student) Name and Age: _____

Parish organizations you have been affiliated with: _____

Your assistance in locating alumni and their parents would be appreciated. Please attach a list of known classmate information, if available.

Please invite (Please name relatives, young adults- having a separate address, classmates and/or past parishioners that you would like to us to invite. Attach list if necessary):

Title and Name: (If alumni please include Maiden/Class) _____

Address: _____

Relationship to Parish (please choose from list above): _____

Title and Name (If alumni please include Maiden/Class): _____

Address: _____

Relationship to Parish (please choose from list above): _____

Title and Name: (If alumni please include Maiden/Class): _____

Address: _____

Relationship to Parish (please choose from list above): _____

Deceased Alumni Information

Name (Include Maiden): _____ Class (estimate): _____

Name (Include Maiden): _____ Class (estimate): _____

Service

I am available to help (Please check all that apply):

- In June (i.e.: phone calls) Generally available to help.
 In July (i.e.: mailings) I am available to host an information table after Mass
 In August (i.e.: reservations) I would like to help with _____
 In September (i.e.: confirmations) _____ (fill in your preferences)
 In October (i.e.: event activities) I will write down memories of St. Thomas and send in.

Please see Advertising, and Sponsor information on back of page

Please send completed form by July 1st to:

St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion, 1719 Post Road, Fairfield, 06824

St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion

Ad Information

Payment of a one-time fee will place your ad in both the Parish Anniversary Book and the Alumni Keepsake publications. For information about ads, call Kerry Miller at 254-1695 or email Graciemlr@aol.com. Checks should be made payable to: St. Thomas Anniversary Reunion.

Size of Ad:

_____ Full Page \$200 _____ Quarter Page \$50 _____ Inside Front or Back Cover \$250
_____ Half Page \$100 _____ Business Card \$35 _____ Outside Back Cover \$500

_____ Ad Attached (Camera Ready preferred)

_____ Ad will be emailed to: Graciemlr@aol.com

_____ Copy for Ad _____

Sponsorship Information

Sponsorship of an event or part of an event is essential to make this celebration possible.

Sponsors will receive acknowledgement in the Parish Anniversary Book and Alumni Keepsake Booklet and appropriate signage at the events. For more information call Michele Modugno at 259-8232 or email entmom@optonline.net. Please consider one of the following sponsorships (detailed information will be forwarded):

_____ Memory Lane Reception	_____ Sunday Continental Breakfast
_____ Memory Lane Presentation	_____ Invitations and mailings
_____ Trolley Tour of Town	_____ Beer and Wine
_____ Shuttle Bus (St. Thomas to SHU)	_____ Young Adult Reception
_____ Anniversary Dinner	_____ "I Survived the Tunnels" Adventure
_____ Music (Friday/Saturday)	_____ Photo and Audio-Visual Reproductions
_____ Other Sponsorships Available	_____ Improvisation Group (Young Adult Entertainment)

Note: *Organizations and groups within the parish and school may also want to consider sponsorship opportunities.*

Please send completed form by July 1st to:
St. Thomas Aquinas Anniversary Reunion, 1719 Post Road, Fairfield, 06824



Spiritual Enrichment Committee

The focus of the Spiritual Enrichment Committee is to supplement the students' knowledge of our Catholic Faith (saints, traditions and practices) through monthly assemblies and special events.

This committee was founded in January of this year, inspired by Mrs. Maury's vision to take advantage of our special role as a Catholic school. The Committee has been able to draw on many talents to enrich our children's understanding of their faith. In that short time, we have seen St. Thomas Aquinas (in the person of Father Jean Ehret) and St. Patrick (played convincingly by our own Mr. Kennedy) visit our school and make real

the messages of these two Saints. In March, they sponsored a traditional "St. Joseph's Table". This tradition, while providing yummy treats for our students, also taught the lesson of sharing what we have with the less fortunate. (Operation Hope received a share of our table that day.) In May, students from Notre Dame High School came and spoke about their experience in building homes in Appalachia. We've been able to have speakers that have enlightened us on the meaning of the Miraculous Medal, Fatima and the Rosary and Divine Mercy Sunday. And lastly, Father Charles Allen from Fairfield University came and inspired us on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (ask your children what the Gifts are ... we'll bet they can tell you!).

A lot accomplished in a short period of time! Plans for next year's assemblies are already in the works.



From the Sports Committee...

The 2005-2006 Sports Committee had a wonderful year with many memories including the basketball tournament in Massachusetts. Hooray for our Wildcats!

The 2006-2007 Sports Committee is already busy working on the new school year and the Parents Sports Survey was the first step. If

your family has not returned the Sports Survey, everyone can still participate by mailing in the survey by addressing to: Sports Committee, c/o St. Thomas Aquinas School, 1719 Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2006!

St. Thomas Aquinas School
June 11, 2006



Alexandra Katherine Aufiero	Warde High School
Robert William Aufiero Jr.	Fairfield Prep
John Martin Berardino	Ludlowe High School
Douglas C. Bergner	Canterbury School
Jane Elizabeth Burnett	Ludlowe High School
John Z. Burnett	Ludlowe High School
Shannon Lynn Colburn	Notre Dame
Colleen Frances Colpi	Lauralton Hall
Katherine Agnello Cunningham	Lauralton Hall
Andrew Michael DeCarlo	Ludlowe High School
Danielle Yvonne Demakos	Notre Dame
Ryan Douglas DeSilva	Fairfield Prep
Julia Michaeline Fasano	Lauralton Hall
Brian John Flaherty	Fairfield Prep
Maggie Ellen Giambalvo	Warde High School
Mary Catherine Gutierrez	St. Joseph High School
Emily Catherine Hooper	Ludlowe High School
Connor J. Houlihan	Warde High School
Lauren Bittig Keenoy	Lauralton Hall
Peter A. Kirby	Warde High School
Casey Lynn Laufer	Notre Dame
Kristie Lauren Lettera	Nutmeg Conservatory
Elise Ann-Marie Lopata	Lauralton Hall
Robert G. MacDonald	Fairfield Prep
Alexandra Lee Marx	St. Joseph High School
Alice Teresa McCrory	Ludlowe High School

Ryan P. McHugh	Fairfield Prep
Christopher Jeffery Morrison	Fairfield Prep
Ryan Patrick Morrison	Fairfield Prep
David Joseph O'Brien	Hopkins
Madeline Louise Parisi	Lauralton Hall
Sean D. Potter	St. Joseph High School
Patrick C. Quinn	Fairfield Prep
Jessica Margaret Schloth	St. Joseph High School
Kenneth Ryan Sneider	Fairfield Prep
Lindsey Elizabeth Sullivan	Ludlowe High School
Brian Aubrey Thornton	Fairfield Prep
Patrick John Tommins	Ludlowe High School
Carolyn Laura Toner	Convent of the Sacred Heart
Brianne Marie Toole	Staples High School
Brett William Tynes	Warde High School
Darric John White	Fairfield Prep
Taylor Cushing Williams	Lauralton Hall
Maeve Daly Zimmer	Lauralton Hall

St. Thomas Aquinas School
1719 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 255-0556



Anniversary Reunion Celebration! Coming October 2006