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**ST THOMAS AQUINAS
 COLLEGE**

PO Box 500
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 Tynong, Victoria 3813

COLLEGE CHRONICLE

Tuesday 23rd November 2021

Word from the Principal



Dear Parents, Students and Friends of the College,

In preparation for next year, I am advising you of some important changes to school fees. I preface this by reminding you that St Thomas Aquinas College is committed to providing the best possible Catholic education to all its students. The College is significantly funded by the State and Commonwealth governments, but its funding is substantially lower than government schools. Therefore the College relies heavily on school fees paid by parents and guardians. This is essential in helping the College to remain economically viable and to help meet the ongoing gap between government funding and the cost of providing quality educational outcomes, excursions and learning experiences for our students.

Although operational expenses are a continual struggle, our independent school fees remain amongst the lowest in Australia.

We would like to emphasise that the College operates on a totally not-for-profit basis, which means that all funds, including school fees, are used solely to further the daily operations and ongoing development of the school. Increases to school fees have been carefully considered and approved by the Board of St Thomas Aquinas College within the last few weeks.

You are therefore formally advised that compulsory family Tuition fees for 2022 will be as follows:

Sub School	Child #	Annual Tuition Fee
Primary	1	\$2,210
	2	\$1,990
	3	\$1,770
	4	\$1,550
Secondary	1	\$3,150
	2	\$2,840
	3	\$2,520
	4	\$2,210

Please note that the Family Cap will not be applied in 2022. In acknowledgement of the many large families attending the College, the charging of tuition fees will now be capped at four children per family, with the fifth and any subsequent siblings participating on a tuition free basis.

Example: Parents with two children in Primary and three in Secondary would pay, for example, \$2,210+\$1,990 for the Primary students and \$3,150+\$2,840+\$0 for the Secondary students (i.e., total of \$10,190).

You are able to view the full 2022 Fee Schedule on the College website under the 'Enrolments' tab on the home page and also in your Parent Lounge account under the 'School Links' tab, then click on 'Policies & Procedures'. Please read this document carefully as it describes all relevant school fees in detail.

The College expects all parents and guardians to contribute to the cost of the education of their children and it understands the sacrifices that are often required. At the same time, the College is very sympathetic to those families suffering financial difficulties as a result of the current situation.

If you believe the increase in fees for 2022 will cause your family genuine financial hardship, please contact the College Bursar, Mrs Shellie Evans via (bursar@stac.vic.edu.au) for a confidential discussion.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely yours in the Two Hearts,

Father Cranshaw
 (Principal)

VIRTUE THIS WEEK

FORTITUDE

"Nothing emboldens the wicked so greatly as the lack of courage on the part of the good."

Pope Leo XIII

COLLECT - Last Sunday after Pentecost

Stir up, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the wills of Thy faithful people, that they more earnestly seeking the fruit of divine service, may receive more abundantly healing gifts from Thy tender mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.



Instaurare omnia in Christo
 To restore all things in Christ



Our Deepest Sympathy

We extend to the Holden family our deepest sympathy on the tragic loss of their son and brother Brendan. His sister Victoria has just completed Year 12 here at the College. May eternal light shine upon him and may he rest in peace. Amen.

ST GERARD LEAGUE

Mrs Jill Robinson provides Christmas hampers every year to around 30 families in our community. (This year 26)

Collection Progress Report:

- 0/26 Christmas Puddings
- 0/26 Christmas cakes
- 0/26 Chocolates
- 1/26 biscuits
- 3/26 vouchers

As you can see she needs your help. Please leave your donations for hampers in or next to the basket in the church hall.

Alternatively you are able to contribute a donation. Transfers can be made to the following account.

St Gerard League
BSB: 063 532
Account: 10382071

NOVENA TO ST JUDE



O Holy St. Jude!
Apostle and Martyr,
great in virtue, rich in miracles,
near kinsman to Jesus Christ,
faithful intercessor of all who
invoked your special patronage in
time of need.

To you I have recourse from the
depth of my heart,
and humbly beg great power to come to my assistance.
Help me in my present and urgent petition.

(Make your request)

In return I promise to make your name known and cause
your name to be invoked.

St. Jude, pray for us and all who invoked thy aid.

*Pray this 9 times a day for 9 consecutive days. On the 8th day
your prayers will be answered for this prayer has never known
to fail. Please don't forget St Jude once your favour is granted.*

HATS FOR 4th TERM

For those students who need to be at the College, we remind them and parents, that the wearing of hats whilst outside during recess and lunch is compulsory in 4th Term.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

To form in each youth the true and perfect Catholic



ENROLLING NOW



Ph:5629 2500 office@stac.vic.edu.au



Offered by the Families at St Thomas Aquinas College

Holy Mass	78	Sacrifices	65
Rosaries	385	Hail, Holy Queen	30
Holy Communions	50	Little Office of BVM	3
Spiritual Communions	37	Aspirations	150
Morning Offering	30	Novenas	6
St Michael's Prayer	192	Seven Sorrow of Our Lady	10
The Memorare	62		

This Spiritual Bouquet was given to Mr Stanton from the College community after the recent passing of his mother.

St Cecilia

22nd November

It is under the emperor Alexander Severus that this young Saint, one of the most fragrant flowers of Christian virginity and martyrdom suffered for the Faith she had chosen; to choose it was at that moment as certain an end to earthly felicity as it is a guarantee, at every epoch, of the eternal felicity of those who remain faithful to it. Cecilia was the daughter of an illustrious patrician, and was the only Christian of her family, she was permitted to attend the reunions held in the catacombs by the Christians, either through her parents' condescension or out of indifference. She continually kept a copy of the holy Gospel hidden under her clothing over her heart. Her parents obliged her, however, despite her vow of virginity, which most probably they knew nothing of, to marry the young Valerian, whom she esteemed as noble and good, but who was still pagan.

During the evening of the wedding day, with the music of the nuptial feast still in the air, Cecilia, this intelligent, beautiful, and noble Roman maiden, renewed her vow. When the new spouses found themselves alone, she gently said to Valerian, "Dear friend, I have a secret to confide to you, but will you promise me to keep it?" He promised her solemnly that nothing would ever make him reveal it, and she continued, "Listen: an Angel of God watches over me, for I belong to God. If he sees that you would approach me under the influence of a sensual love, his anger will be inflamed, and you will succumb to the blows of his vengeance. But if you love me with a perfect love and conserve my virginity inviolable, he will love you as he loves me, and will lavish on you, too, his favours." Valerian replied that if he might see this Angel, he would certainly correspond to her wishes, and Cecilia answered, "Valerian, if you consent to be purified in the fountain which wells up eternally, if you will believe in the unique, living and true God who reigns in heaven, you will be able to see the Angel." And to his questions concerning this water and who might bestow it, she directed him to a certain holy old man named Urban.

That holy Pontiff rejoiced exceedingly when Valerian came to him the same



night, to be instructed and baptized; his long prayer touched the young man greatly, and he too rejoiced with an entirely new joy in his new-found and veritable faith, so far above the religion of the pagans. He returned to his house, and on entering the room where Cecilia had continued to pray for the remainder of the night, he saw the Angel waiting, with two crowns of roses and lilies, which he would place on the head of each of them. Cecilia understood at once that if the lilies symbolized their virginity, the roses foretold for them both the grace of martyrdom. Valerian was told he might ask any grace at all of God, who was very pleased with him, and he requested that his brother Tiburtius might also receive the grace he had obtained, and the conversion of Tiburtius soon afterwards became a reality.

The death appointed for her was suffocation by steam. Saint Cecilia remained unharmed and calm for a day and a night, in the *calderium* despite a fire heated to seven times its ordinary violence. Finally, an executioner was sent to dispatch her by the sword; he struck with trembling hand the three blows which the law allowed, and left her still alive. For two days and nights Cecilia would lie with her head half severed, on the pavement of her bath, fully sensible and joyfully awaiting her crown. When her neophytes came to bury her after the departure of the executioner, they found her alive and smiling. They surrounded her there, not daring to touch her, for three days, having collected the precious blood from her wounds. On the third day, after the holy Pontiff Urban had come to bless her, the agony ended, and in the year 177 the virgin Saint gave back her glorious soul to Christ. It was the Supreme Pontiff who presided at her funeral; she was placed in a coffin in the position in which she had lain, as we often see her pictured, and interred in the vault prepared by Saint Callixtus for the Church's pontiffs. The authentic acts of her life and martyrdom were prepared by Pope Anferos in the year 235. When the tomb was opened in 1599 her body was entirely intact still.

2021 CALENDAR

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
22 Nov	23 Nov	24 Nov	25 Nov Yr 7 - 9 exams commence	26 Nov
29 Nov	30 Nov Yr 7-9 exams finish	1 Dec	2 Dec G6 Graduation Mass & Breakfast Secondary Activities Day	3 Dec Term 4 Concludes at 12:30pm 6pm Presentation Night
6 Dec 2022 Foundation Class Orientation Morning Yr 12 Formal	7 Dec	8 Dec	9 Dec	10 Dec

OFFICE HOURS

8:15am - 3:30pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

TERM DATES

2022 4th Term: Wed 6th Oct - Fri 3rd Dec
1st Term: Monday 31st January