STA At-a-Glance

Week 12: November 17 - November 24, 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The STA Annual Poinsettia sale - last day!

Once again the STA Parent Association is proudly selling beautiful **Christmas poinsettias**, wreaths and seasonal arrangements. The funds raised will be used to improve and enhance STA student extra-curricular activities.

The order deadline is **today at midnight** and plant pickups will take place on **Wednesday, December 3**. Pick-ups will be located at the back of the school, east end of the parking lot by the makers lab metal garage door.

We thank you in advance for your support.



Do you have friends or neighbours who are considering a new school for September 2026? STA will be hosting its **Open House** on **Thursday, November 26.**
Guests are invited to connect with teachers and current students to experience the STA Advantage. Throughout the evening, families can meet key support staff including our department heads, grade-level advisors, LRC coordinators, and Athletic Director and as well learn more about our school clubs, extracurricular offerings, and athletic programs.
Registration is not required.

- 5:30 pm - Doors open
- 6:00 pm - Principal's Remarks by Mr. Krol
- 6:15 - 8:00 pm - School tours/meet the teachers

JOIN US – OPEN HOUSE

NOVEMBER 26 | 6:00 pm



Applications now open until November 30, 2026

OPEN HOUSE	**Thursday, November 26, 2026**
5:30 pm	**Doors open**
6:00 pm	**Principal's Welcome, Main Gym**
6:15 - 8:00 pm	**School tours / Meet the teachers**



St. Thomas Aquinas Regional High School
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KUDOS



A Heartfelt Thank You – 37th Annual STA Christmas Craft Fair and Market

On behalf of the STA Parents Association, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of our 37th Annual STA Christmas Craft Fair and Market.

Once again, our school was transformed into a wonderful Christmas shopping destination, with festive decorations throughout the building and an incredible variety of unique products, handmade items, and gifts from over 150 vendors and artisans.

We sincerely thank all our vendors for being part of this special event, as well as the many community members who came out to support them. Your continued support helps make this one of the most anticipated community events of the year.

Our Used Book Sale was also a great success. Thank you to everyone who generously donated books and to all those who helped organize and run the sale.

The ever-popular Raffle Basket fundraiser was once again a highlight of the event! We are extremely grateful to all the individuals, families, businesses, and vendors who generously donated prizes and gift baskets. Congratulations to all our lucky winners.

We would also like to thank everyone who supported the event by shopping with our vendors and enjoying the delicious food offered by our cafeteria and School Store. Every purchase and contribution makes a difference.

An event of this magnitude would simply not be possible without the dedication and teamwork of our school community. Our sincere appreciation goes to all the parents, students, teachers, staff, and volunteers who contributed their time and energy, from the early planning stages, decorations

and setup, to welcoming vendors, assisting visitors, working various shifts, and cleaning up at the end of the event.

A special thank-you to everyone who stepped in at the last minute, filled unexpected gaps, and offered extra help whenever needed. Your flexibility and willingness to go beyond what was expected made a tremendous difference. We truly appreciate everyone who made time in their busy schedules to support this event.

Special Recognition – Event Coordinators and Key Volunteers

We would like to recognize and express our special thanks to the following individuals who took on key responsibilities and went above and beyond to make this event possible:

- Monica Barichello – Decorations and Setup
- Teresa Moon – Cafeteria Coordination
- Lizette Barba – Coffee Shop Coordinator
- Paola Plecko and Andrea Cevela – Raffle Coordination
- Leigh Oikawa – PA Treasurer and Finance
- Peggy Zicha – Used Book Sale
- Herika Piccinini – Permits and Food Safety
- Adela Nichols, Amanda Barrios Mata, and Marion Honquilada – Vendor Coordination
- Mariannina Calabrese – Advertising, Flyers, and Communications
- Chris Cristea – Electricity and Technical Support
- Luc Rochon and Wilson Lee – Vendor Shuttle and Transportation
- Daniel Mosquera and Chris Cristea – Signage and Parking

Special Thanks – Going Above and Beyond

We would also like to give special recognition to those who went beyond their assigned roles, stepped in whenever help was needed, and willingly took on additional responsibilities without hesitation.

We would especially like to recognize those who were not originally part of the organizing team but became an important part of it, helping wherever needed throughout the event.

Ekaterina Southerland, Sherrie Fuentealba, Amir Ardehali, Amanda and Victor Barrios Mata, Carmen Domínguez, Bernadeth Misola, Zeralynne Moscovich, Renne Van Eck, Sylvia Olsen, Susan Parker, Farzaneh Tabanfar, Karen Woodfield, and Karen Kero – your generosity, initiative, and willingness to help made a real difference. We truly appreciate you!

School Staff and Custodial Team

Our sincere thanks also go to our school office staff and all STA staff members who supported us throughout the planning and the event.

A special thank-you to our custodial team, especially Allan, Emmanuel, and Ruel, for their assistance, patience, and support throughout the weekend.

Finally, to everyone who volunteered, donated, participated, attended, or supported us in any way: THANK YOU!

The success of this event is a true reflection of what can be accomplished when a community comes together with a common purpose.

We are truly grateful for your continued generosity, commitment, and support of our school community.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

With sincere appreciation,

Paola La Pica

STA Parents Association Chair

Christmas Craft Fair and Market Coordinator









Grade 12 Update

Thank you to the parents, alumni and community members who participated in our Grade 12 Career Day on Monday, November 16. Over 50 panelists shared their educational and work experience with our Class of 2027. Their feedback encouraged our students to be lifelong learners and pursue curiosity in all they do.
Thank you Ms. Martins and Ms. Atkinson for organizing this event and everyone for their time and commitment in making this event a success!



Kudos to all of the STA, St. Edmund's, St. Anthony's, and Holy Trinity students who donated candy for Our Good Shepherd Ministry Candy Drive! Your generosity will go a long way to brighten the day of those in need!

Kudos to all of the staff and grade 11 and 12 student leaders who worked hard to create a memorable day for the grade 8s on their retreat! It was a beautiful reminder that we can find God in the ordinary moments, the beauty of nature, and in the love of those around us!



OFFICE UPDATES



myEducation BC Parent Portal Login
Term 1 Learning updates (ie report cards) will be released on-line on **Wednesday, December 9**. STA parents will be able to access their child's Learning updates through myEducation BC's parent portal.
In order to access this information, please ensure your myEducation BC parent account is active. Please click on this **link** and complete the login information with your Login ID and password. Step by step instructions are **here**.
Any questions, please send an email to the **office**.

Purdys Christmas Chocolate Sale until November 30

Grade 12 students are selling Purdys chocolates as fundraising towards their Dinner Dance event in June. Yummy chocolate, gift giving and supporting a grad - it doesn't get any sweeter than that!

Click **here** to link to the 2026 Purdys Christmas Chocolate Sale. Pick up is **December 9**.

Instructions for ordering Purdys Christmas Chocolates online



Graduation Photos by Custodio Photographers
All **Grade 12s** need to book an appointment to have their photo taken. Click here for more **information**. If you need to schedule your appointment, please contact Custodio Photographers at 604-291-6344 or e-mail at custodio@telus.net.

STA Olympic Weightlifting Club (The Team)



Unleash Your Power. Step On the Platform. Join SAINT STRONG.

How strong are you now - and how much *more powerful* do you want to be?

Whether you need explosive speed and strength to dominate in your favorite sport, or you are curious about competing in the challenging and technical sport of Olympic Weightlifting itself, **STA Olympic Weightlifting Club (The Team)** is where you start.

- **Explosive Power FOR Your Sport:** Build the speed, stability, and total-body power that separates the good athletes from the elite players. Perfect for pre-season and in-season athletic development.
- **Master the Lifts AS Your Sport:** Learn the specific techniques of the snatch, clean, and jerk and train to become a true Olympic Weightlifter.
- **All Are Welcome:** Boys and girls, completely new to the weight room or experienced lifters looking to hone technique, are invited to become SAINT STRONG. We build strength, skill, and community.

Not sure what Olympic Weightlifting is all about? Don't stress - come check out a practice, meet the team, and find out how good it feels to get stronger.

WEEKLY PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Every Monday & Thursday 3:10pm – 4:30pm STA School Weightroom

Take the First Step: find your Preseason/Open Gym permission form **here** and start your **SAINT STRONG** journey this week!

UPCOMING EVENTS

November
20 - SCHOOL CLOSED - Pro-D Day - No classes in session
26 - Open House 5:45 - 8:45pm
27 - Men's Hostel Ministry - Baked Goods or Sandwich Drop Off at 8:00 - 9:00am
27 - Spirit Day
December
2 - Special Schedule - 1:00pm Dismissal
6 - The Door Is Open
8 - Art Exhibition and Christmas Concert (Bands only)
9 - Learning Updates published to myEd BC
10 - STA Choral Concert and Drama Showcase
17 - Parent Teacher Student Interviews at 3:30pm
17 - Spirit Day
18 - Parent Teacher Interviews at 10:00am - 3:00pm - NO CLASSES IN SESSION
December 19 - **January 3** - Christmas Break - SCHOOL CLOSED





CAMPUS MINISTRY



There is an Alpha club meeting every **Monday** after school in room 409! All students are invited to Alpha! Alpha is hosted by students in grade 11 and 12. Come join us for pizza and stay to learn something new about your faith and make new friends! If there is anything you would like prayers for, today is a perfect opportunity to come by and be prayed with! See you there!

Winter Wear and Food Collection - Thursday, November 19 at 8:00 - 9:00am

On our upcoming food collection date, we are also collecting new and gently used men's and women's jackets and shoes, please drop those off anytime this week! Now that it is getting very cold and rainy out, there are lots of people in need of warm jackets and dry shoes! These donations will assist individuals served by the Archdiocese of Vancouver's Ministries, including the Catholic Men's Shelter, The Door Is Open, the Migrant Farm Worker Ministry, and the ministry supporting those released from prison.



Thank you for your generosity!



All Soul's Month - November
All Souls' Day is also known as The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, which is celebrated on November 2. This is a day of prayer for those who have died. Catholics are encouraged to pray for the faithful departed, to remember them, and to give thanks.

During the month of November, we will be offering our weekly school masses for the deceased loved ones of our community. We invite you to include the names of your loved ones at this **link**.

Student Service Hours Opportunities

CHRIST THE REDEEMER
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Christ the Redeemer Parish will be holding its Annual Feast on **Saturday, November 21,** and they are looking for volunteers to help with cleaning tables and childminding during the event. Sign up sheet is at the office.

PARENT PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

North Shore Artist Event

- Friday, November 20 at 4:00 - 6:00pm (2 volunteers)
- Saturday, November 21 at 9:30am - 1:30pm (2 volunteers) and 1:30pm - 5:30pm (2 volunteers)

For details contact: **sta.pa@aquinas.org**