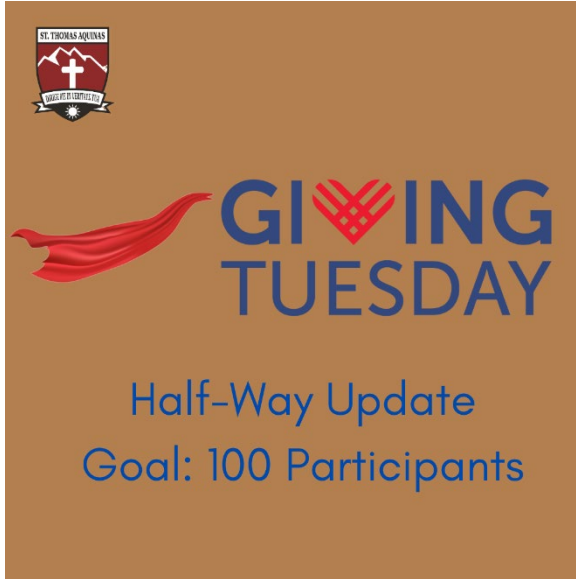




# STA At-a-Glance

**Week 15: December 2 -  
December 9, 2025**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR LEAGUE OF SUPERHEROES!**



Thanks to the incredible generosity of three lead families, our Mission Possible Campaign on GivingTuesday is already off to a powerful start. Their early commitments have created the momentum we need - and now we're inviting every family in our community to join them.

These lead gifts were made with one purpose: **to inspire others to give.** When families see that others have stepped forward in a meaningful way, it shows confidence and demonstrates that every contribution - large or small - moves us closer to our goal.

Your participation matters. When everyone gives at a level that's meaningful for their family, our collective impact becomes

extraordinary. Our goal is 100 participants and we are already at 61.

Please consider joining our lead donors by making your gift [here](#).

Together, we can reach our goal and create something lasting for STA students and our community.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2**

Do you have friends or neighbours who are considering a new school for September 2026? STA will be hosting its Open House **tonight**.

Visitors will have the chance to visit with teachers and interact with students to experience the STA Advantage. Highlights of the evening include: clubs tables in the gym, band performances, and opportunities to speak with our Academic Advisor, Athletics Director and PHE/Academies/Kaizen Department Head.

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**

December 2 | 6:00 pm

Applications now open  
until December 5, 2025

[aquinas.org](http://aquinas.org)



## A SEASON TO CELEBRATE!



Congratulations to the **STA Senior Girls Volleyball** team for an amazing 2025-26 season:

- placed 5th in the province out of hundreds of AA high schools
- coming 3rd in BC Catholics
- winning their first ever Sea to Sky Zone Championship
- winning banner for North Shore Championship
- winning the Brentwood Fall Tournament

This is an incredible achievement and a testament to their resilience, teamwork, and determination. Every player contributed to this success, and they should all be extremely proud of what they accomplished.

A huge thank you to Coach Chris Spence, staff sponsors Jacob Christopher and Meghan Dahl, parents of the team, our team, and finally our graduating seniors: Brianna D, Jada G, Suri I, Irene K, Evelyn S, Amaya A, Anusha S and Melanie M. Kudos to them!

## OFFICE UPDATES

### Is your family extending the Christmas break?

If your family is planning to extend the Christmas break either by leaving prior to December 19 or returning to school after January 5, 2026, the student will need an extended absence form from the office. This form must be signed by a parent and each one of the student's teachers must also sign it and provide any noted homework assignments. The form must be returned to the office once completed.

The office staff will also require an email from the parents advising the school of the absence. Please email [office@aquinas.org](mailto:office@aquinas.org) with the necessary information.



### **Christmas Concert (Choral and Band) and Art Exhibit - Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00pm**

We warmly invite all families to join us for our Christmas Choral and Band Performances and Art Exhibition on **Tuesday, December 9**. The **Art Exhibition opens at 6:00pm**, followed by the **Christmas Concert at 7:00pm**. After the concert, please stay for **refreshments and treats** at approximately **8:30pm**.

The Art Exhibit showcases the learning and expression that has occurred in the art studio throughout the fall term in Art 8, 9 and Art Studio 10, 11 and 12. The Band and Choral performances will entertain as you listen to both the sounds of the Concert and Jazz Bands and the beautiful harmonies of the Concert Choir.

This is a **free community event**, and all are welcome - we look forward to celebrating the season with you!

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### **School Merchandise available for Pickup**

Christmas has come early! If you ordered school merchandise to be picked up at school, please come to the school store on the 2nd floor from 2:30 - 4:00pm on the following dates:

- December 8
- December 10
- December 12

Feel free to send your student for the pick up if that's more convenient for you.



### **SHAD CANADA**

**SHAD** is a month-long summer program for students currently in Grades 10 and 11 who are interested in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics). Students live on one of 30

Canadian university campuses for the month of July and take on a wide variety of social and economic challenges with a STEAM lens. Working in teams and with mentors, participants develop STEAM-based solutions. Products, pitches, presentations to panels, this is an entrepreneurial experience with a social impact twist. Students also get to tour the city that they are visiting and participate in a variety of social activities. Not ready to leave home for a month? An online version of SHAD is also available.

Financial aid is available. More information is [here](#).  
Deadline to Apply: **Monday, January 5, 2026**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December

2 - STA Annual Open House

7 - The Door Is Open

9 - Christmas Concert - Art Exhibition

12 - STA Concert Choir with Orpheus Men's Choir at Mount Seymour United Church

17 - Spirit Day - Ugly Christmas Sweater / Pajamas

19 - Pro - D Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

20 - Christmas Break. School Re-opens Monday, January 5 - Day 1 Late Start



**CELEBRATION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
SUNDAY | DEC 7, 2025 | 11:30AM

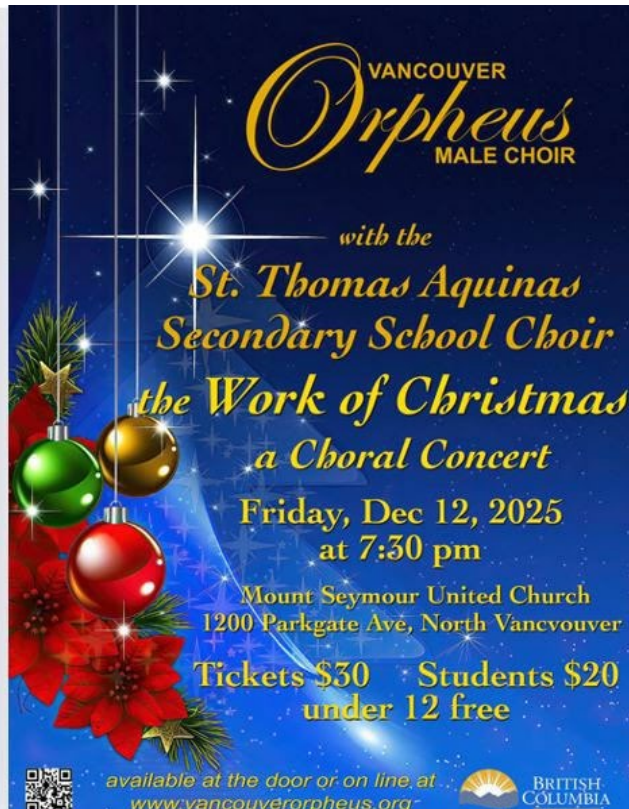
Holy Trinity School Gym  
128 27th St. West, N. Vancouver

- Tortas de Carnitas
- Mexican Tamales
- Quesadillas
- Hot Chocolate
- LIVE Mariachi Band

Join Us!

\$15 per person (Adult) | \$5 per child (12 & under)  
Kids 4 and under are FREE

TICKETS ON SALE AFTER MASS or AT PARISH OFFICE



VANCOUVER  
**Orpheus**  
MALE CHOIR

with the  
**St. Thomas Aquinas  
Secondary School Choir**

**the Work of Christmas**  
a Choral Concert

Friday, Dec 12, 2025  
at 7:30 pm

Mount Seymour United Church  
1200 Parkgate Ave, North Vancouver

Tickets \$30 · Students \$20  
under 12 free

available at the door or on line at  
[www.vancouverorpheus.org](http://www.vancouverorpheus.org)

KUDOS



### **Kudos to Gr.8 Boys team**

The STA Grade 8 Boys Basketball team kicked off their season with a second place finish at the Douglas College Invitational. The team navigated several injuries and absences to advance to the final. Victor D and Benjamin D won game MVPs, while Damian K was awarded an all-star medal. Thomas G also had a great tournament, playing heavy minutes with all the injuries. Go Saints!



### **Congratulations to our Wrestling teams**

Both our Junior and Senior Wrestling teams have kicked off the season and competed in their first matches of the season! On the Carson mats on November 27, Santiago V, Caden G and Matteo B represented STA with strong performances, each securing at least one match victory.

On November 28, Daryna D, Oscar B, Amir F, Jeremy M, Grayson A, and Ramtin F demonstrated exceptional effort and resilience throughout their matches at Sutherland, showcasing promising potential for the season ahead.



In November, the **Cooking Club** met again - twice! - to cook two different types of tacos: Tinga de Pollo, and Birria. Led by Gr. 12s, the Cooking Club participants chopped, baked, boiled, fried, and blitzed their way to culinary perfection!

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

### Youth Alpha - Wednesday, December 3 at 3:15pm

The Alpha Youth Series is all about creating a space where you can explore your biggest questions about life and faith in a way that feels open, real, and respectful. It's a place where real conversations happen, and friendships can grow in an inclusive, welcoming environment. We will go through the series together as a team, discussing and learning about ourselves and our faith. Starting this Wednesday, come join us in the alumni room. Fr. Lucio from Holy Trinity parish and various other STA leaders will be there to support you! See Gabby R, Gaby M, Ephraim C, Paige K or Ms. Hughes if you have any other questions.





### Candy Drive - Thursday, December 4

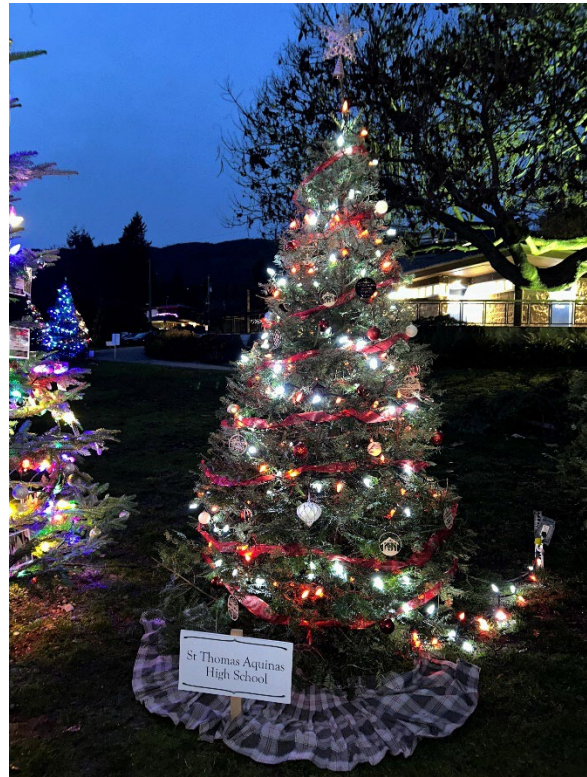
Everyone is welcome to help make the candy bags for Good Shepherd ministry from our Halloween candy drive! We'll be working on them Thursday after school in the cafeteria! There is lots of candy to sort and lots of bags to put together for those in need!



### The Door Is Open - Sunday, December 7

The **Door Is Open** is a Catholic Charities outreach service that provides meals and services to residents and transients in the Vancouver's eastside. Students prepare and serve a meal to those living on the downtown eastside while earning service hours. The school bus will depart from STA on **Sunday, December 7** at **9:00am** and return at approximately 1:30pm. Uniforms are not required. Students must register and submit a permission form with the Campus Ministry office. Spots are limited.

Find our **STA Tree** in the Forest of Miracles at the **Dundarave Festival of Lights** as we work together to end homelessness beautifully. Each tree represents charitable donations through the West Vancouver Community Foundation. Every dollar given supports the work of vital front-line agencies right here on the North Shore to prevent homelessness and provide emergency shelter. Find our tree by the Beach House restaurant and enjoy the beauty of all of the trees lit up together!



<p>DOOR IS OPEN RCAV MEN'S SHELTER HARVEST PROJECT COVENANT HOUSE</p>	<p><b>DAY 1 - DEC 3RD</b> <b>HYGIENE ITEMS</b> (FULL SIZE TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTHPASTE, DEODORANT, SHAMPOO, RAZORS, ETC)</p> <p><b>DAY 2 - DEC 4TH</b> <b>WINTER ACCESSORIES</b> (TOQUES, GLOVES, SCARVES)</p> <p><b>DAY 3 - DEC 5TH</b> <b>COFFEE &amp; TEA</b></p>	<p>SPECTRUM MOTHERS SOCIETY GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY NORTH SHORE FAMILY SERVICES QUEEN MARY HAMPERS</p>
<p><b>DAY 4 - DEC 8TH</b> <b>WRAPPED CHRISTMAS GOODIES</b> (CHOCOLATES, COOKIES)</p> <p><b>DAY 5 - DEC 9TH</b> <b>BOX OF GRANOLA BARS</b> <b>BOX OF CEREAL</b></p> <p><b>DAY 6 - DEC 10TH</b> <b>TOYS</b></p>	<p><b>12 DAYS OF GIVING</b></p> <p>HELP US CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS IN NEED BY BRINGING IN NEW ITEMS TO GIFT!</p>	<p><b>DAY 7 - DEC 11TH</b> <b>BACKPACKS &amp; CROSSBODY BAGS</b></p> <p><b>DAY 8 - DEC 12TH</b> <b>SOCKS, UNDERWEAR, &amp; T-SHIRTS</b></p> <p><b>DAY 9 - DEC 15TH</b> <b>HOODIES</b> (TEENS &amp; ADULTS)</p>
<p>DAYS 1 - 5 3 ITEMS = 1 SERVICE HOUR</p> <p>DAYS 6 - 12 1 ITEM = 1 SERVICE HOUR</p> <p>SUGGESTED VALUE PER SERVICE HOUR = \$10 - \$30</p>	<p><b>DAY 10 - DEC 16TH</b> <b>SWEAT PANTS</b> (TEENS &amp; ADULTS)</p> <p><b>DAY 11 - DEC 17TH</b> <b>BABY ITEMS</b> (DIAPERS, WIPES, ETC)</p> <p><b>DAY 12 - DEC 18TH</b> <b>HOME MADE SANDWICHES &amp; BAKED GOODS</b></p>	<p>THANK YOU FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL DONATIONS OF NEW ITEMS!</p> <p>WITH EACH DONATION YOU ARE BRINGING GOD'S LOVE TO THOSE IN NEED!</p>

**12 Days of Aquinas Christmas Giving**  
Campus Ministry's **12 Days of Christmas Giving** is back again this year! We are collecting donations of NEW items to support our neighbors in need through various organizations this advent season. Bring in new hygiene items, toques, gloves, scarves, coffee, tea, Christmas goodies, granola bars, and cereal this week! Drop your items off at the campus ministry office anytime. Thank you for your support!

**STUDENT & PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

## Christmas Concert & Art Exhibition -

**Tuesday Dec 9**

Students and parents can earn volunteer hours by providing homemade baked goods to be shared at the event. There is no limit to the number of hours students can earn.

- One dozen baked goods = 1 volunteer hour
- Drop-off: At the office during the school day, or in the cafeteria between 5:00pm and 7:00pm



Click [here](#) to sign-up and review the current opportunities in the portal. Your support is truly appreciated.