

*Newsletter - Summer 2024*  
*The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas*



*The Sisters enjoy a walk outdoors during an evening recreation.*

Dear Readers and Benefactors,

The Sisters have recently concluded the celebration of the first anniversary of the consecration of our convent chapel. On May 11th, the anniversary day, we were blessed to have a solemn Pontifical Mass officiated by Bishop Selway. In his sermon, Bishop Selway reminded us of the following passage in Book of Kings: "I have sanctified this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever, and my eyes and my heart shall be there always" (3 Kings, 9:3). Throughout their daily prayers and various duties, the Sisters strive to remember these words, ensuring that the chapel remains a place of perpetual and humble adoration of Our Loving God.

As May comes to a close, our novitiate is completing their classes in preparation for the ceremonies of the reception of the habit and profession of vows in June. Meanwhile, our professed Sisters are diligently finishing the school year with exams, the end-of-year concert, and graduation festivities. We eagerly anticipate seeing many of you at these joyful events.

Following these events, our Sisters will embark on a much-needed spiritual retreat from June 14th to 22nd. This retreat serves to renew our fervor and devotion, allowing us to reset our gaze on the one important goal: striving after religious perfection. Without this precious treasure, our apostolate of educating the youth would bear little fruit. We humbly ask that you pray that the Sisters have a fruitful retreat.

On June 22, seven of our Sisters will take the next step in their religious life. Among them, Sister Mary Savio, Sister Mary Vianney, and Sister Mary Aloysius will make their perpetual profession of vows. We hope to be able to live-stream the ceremony on our YouTube channel for those who cannot join us in person.

We are also happy to share that our training program for Sisters is now fully incorporated and accredited as St. Thomas Aquinas College. This accreditation is a blessing, marking a significant step in preparing our Sisters for their teaching vocation. Our goal is to cultivate both the intellect and will of our students, guiding them to live in a state of sanctifying grace and to be fruitful in their various adult vocations. May St. Thomas Aquinas College produce teachers who embody the virtues of our patron, and may God bless this work, allowing it to resound to His glory.

Plans for the convent addition are still underway, pending funding and donations. We continue to trust in God's providence, knowing that He will provide for our needs according to His plan.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers. Your unwavering generosity and faith are vital to our mission. We humbly ask you to pray for an increase in vocations so that more hearts may be called to serve God in the mission of salvation of souls.

May the good God bless you and keep you.

The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas





*On June 22, Sister Bernadette Halm and Sister Ligia Leonardo, our postulants, will receive their religious habits and new names. Sister Mary Josephine and Sister Mary Jogues, our novices, will make their first profession of vows for three years.*



*Sister Mary Savio, Sister Mary Aloysius, and Sister Mary Vianney, who are temporarily professed, will make their perpetual vows on June 22.*



*A young lady undergoes six years of training in the religious life before taking her final vows in the Congregation. During this period, she studies the spiritual life, the catechism of the vows, the constitutions of the Congregation, and philosophy. She then progresses to general academics and receives specialized training in areas where she shows particular aptitude.*



## Queen of All Saints Academy

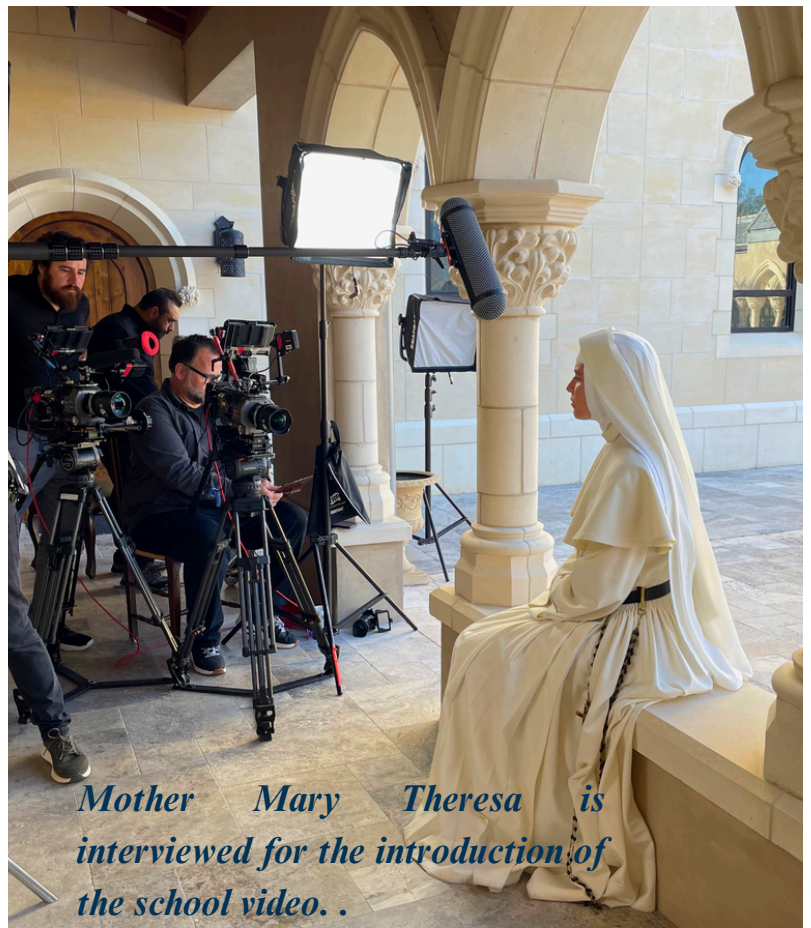
### Monthly Email Updates

The Academy sends monthly email updates to our benefactors and school families, sharing news about ongoing projects and activities. For example, this past winter, we opened courses for part-time and single-course enrollees in middle and high school, and our students recorded their first choral piece in the Sisters' chapel, now available on YouTube. If you are not receiving these updates, you can sign up by scanning this QR code.



### New School Video

In anticipation of our new school website launch, we have created an updated video introducing the Academy. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Alicia Rendon, Jacqui Sonara, our students and teachers, and Mr. Beaumont's crew for their invaluable assistance in making this video. We hope you enjoy watching it!



*Mother Mary Theresa is interviewed for the introduction of the school video. .*



## A Few of the Daily Temporal Duties of a Sister of St. Thomas Aquinas



The seamstress duties include making altar linens and the Sisters' habits, as well as laundering and sewing repairs.



The teaching Sister devotes each day to preparing her classes and helping her students advance in their formation.





**The duties of sacristan include preparing the altar and the vestments for Holy Mass.**

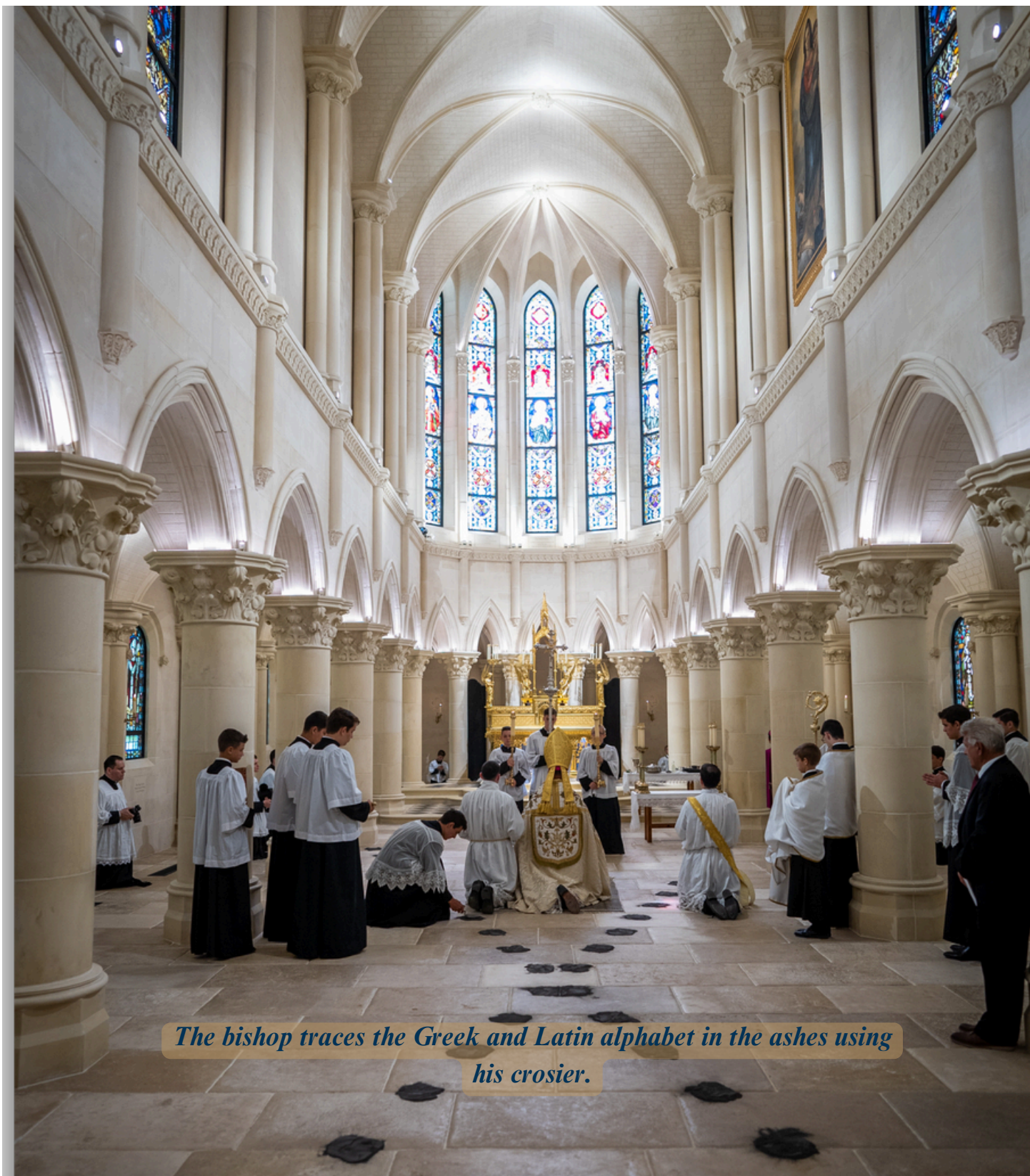


**The kitchen Sisters are very busy keeping the kitchen stocked with healthy ingredients and preparing three meals a day for the Congregation.**



## **First Anniversary of the Consecration of the Chapel of Saint Thomas Aquinas**

On May 11, the Sisters celebrated the first anniversary of the consecration of the chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas. The anniversary of a church's consecration is celebrated each year as a primary feast of the first class. The twelve candles burn before the crosses carved in stone for the whole and entire day, beginning with the First Vespers. Pictured here are a few moments from the consecration ceremony one year ago.



*The bishop traces the Greek and Latin alphabet in the ashes using his crozier.*





*The stone mason cements the reliquary into the altar stone. The reliquary contains relics of St. Agnes, St. Cecilia, and St. Thomas Aquinas.*

