

“I didn’t much care that I couldn’t finish football season,” **Thom** recounts. He says he wasn’t very good at that sport anyway. “But when I realized my injury was going to keep me out of *basketball* season, I was really disappointed! Of course, that’s what any 15-year-old young man would feel. His finger didn’t seem broken or sprained, but when he couldn’t bend it three weeks after the injury occurred, he finally saw an orthopedist. Turns out, Thom needed surgery to reattach a tendon. Thankfully, his surgeon was skilled at his craft because nowadays patients trust Thom for *their* care. Inspired by the skill and kindness of his doctor, Thom decided to pursue medicine. He likes Anesthesiology because he enjoys the variety of patients and challenges that he encounters. “I can work with a child with a broken arm and a 90-year old having stomach surgery in the same day,” he explains. When he’s not in the Operating Room, he likes to be home with his family. What does his seven-year-old think he’s up to when he goes to the “Cold Room?” (That’s what she calls the OR). “She knows that I am helping people,” Thom laughs. That works for all of us!

Thom is an Anesthesiologist at St. Mark’s.