



## The President's Newsletter for May 5 - 11, 2014

2014 – A Year of Family and Faith in the Archdiocese of New Orleans



*Happiness is something we all want, but one of the great tragedies in this world is that so many people never find it, because they look for it in all the wrong places. The key to it is very simple – true happiness is to be found in God. We need to have the courage to place our deepest hopes in God alone, not in money, in a career, in worldly success, or in our relationships with others, but, in God. Only he can satisfy the deepest needs of our hearts.*



Pope Benedict XVI

“Address to Pupils” in Twickenham, England,  
September 7, 2010

### Mon, May 5 (Assembly; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** Today, known as Cinco de Mayo, commemorates the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. The Mexican army was defeated, but the "Batalla de Puebla" came to represent a symbol of Mexican patriotism.
- **“Melanoma Monday”** (aka National Skin Self-Examination Day.) Check for skin cancer signs! Use sun bloc! As one who had a bout with skin cancer, I encourage all to get checked regularly. Thanks, again, to Dr. Baldone for doing screenings for us in the fall along with our wellness program.
- **Class of 2014 Alumni Induction Ceremony:** Members of the Class of 1964 will induct the Class of 2014 into the SPS Alumni Association at this morning’s assembly.
- **Golf:** State tournament thru Tue. Geaux Wolves!
- **Student Host Recognition Luncheon:** Today at a pizza lunch in the BAC, we honor our Student Hosts -- an incredible group of young men who do so much for us. There's no way we can repay them. If you see a Student Host today, thank him for the year. And thanks to the Hosts' great moderator, Karen Hebert, too!
- **National Honor Society Induction Ceremony (6:30 in the BAC)** A host of wolves will be inducted tonight for having demonstrated scholarship, character, leadership and service. Well done, NHS Wolves!

### Tue, May 6 (Wolf Pack; F G A B)

- **TDIH:** 1937, the German airship *Hindenburg*, the largest dirigible ever built, explodes as it arrives in NJ.
- **TDIH II:** Last year, representatives from Project Lead the Way came to campus to evaluate our implementation of their Biomedical and Engineering curricula. This led to Saint Paul’s being the first accredited PLTW school in the state – a credential that is facilitating our students earning college credit for their work in these electives. That we are achieved this after only three years is highly unusual and speaks volumes about Trevor Watkins’ vision, the instructors’ dedication, and the community’s support. Since then, we have been on the “poster children” for PLTW!
- **National Nurses Day:** We honor all of those in the nursing profession day! Thank you!
- **No Homework Day:** SPS will NOT celebrate No Homework Day – do homework tonight!
- **Final Wolf Packs of the Year!**

### Wed, May 7 (Regular; Senior Final Exams begin; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** 1915, a German submarine torpedoes without warning British ocean liner *Lusitania*, bringing the United States closer to entry in World War I.
- **Senior Final Exams (Math & Civics / Graduation practice with dismissal of seniors following practice)**

### Thu, May 8 (Regular; Senior Final Exams; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** In 1945, Great Britain and the US celebrate Victory in Europe Day. Cities in both nations, as well as formerly occupied cities in Western Europe, put out flags and banners, rejoicing in the defeat of Nazi Germany.
- **National No Socks Day:** OK with me if you celebrate today! Yes, I'm serious! Students are excused from wearing socks today – but I'm not announcing it. If they read their weekly newsletter, they'll know about it.
- **Senior Final Exams (English & Religion) / Graduation Practice with senior dismissal after practice**
- **First Friday Devotions:** Fifteen minutes of prayer and adoration will take place in the chapel beginning with Period A and go through tomorrow. Yes, I know this is not the First Friday, but with so much activity last week, the Religion Department wisely moved these devotions to this week. Stop by and worship with the kids if you can.



*Danielle Lavie & Al Nastasi  
welcome all to the new  
Development Office.*

### Fri, May 9 (Regular; Last Day for seniors; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** The House of Representatives Judiciary Committee opens impeachment hearings against President Richard Nixon. They will ultimately vote to impeach him on July 30.
- **National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day:** Today is designed to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth.
  - **Senior Final Exam (Physics) / graduation practice.** Practice will last no later than 11. We will distribute caps & gowns and grad tickets. **We will withhold these if a senior has ANY obligation to the school.**

### Sat, May 10

- **TDIH:** In 1869, the first transcontinental railroad is completed.
- **Lupus Awareness Day:** Lupus is a debilitating, potentially fatal autoimmune disease capable of damaging virtually any part of the body, including the skin, heart, lungs, kidneys, and brain.
- **Fintastic Friday: Giving Sharks A Voice Day:** Who knew that sharks need help? Apparently as many as 100 million sharks are killed each year for their fins. Shark populations have plummeted 75% to 90% in many ecosystems. Worldwide, sharks have little or no protection. Don't kill any sharks today!
- **State Track Meet** – good luck, Wolves!
- **Free Athletic Physicals** on campus this morning for our student athletes.
- **Botanical Wolves Plant Sale (9-2 in Founders Circle):** Come support the BW's! Great Mom's Day gifts! More info below.
- **Band Concert:** Good luck to Andrew Moran, Jimmy Brinkman, and all of our musicians who will be performing tonight.

**Sun, May 11 -- Happy Mothers Day to All Saint Paul's Moms! Honor mom by inviting her to church today!**

- **Military Spouse Appreciation Day:** We remember those who serve in our armed forces and the sacrifices their families make during deployment. Say a prayer for all military spouses today.
- **Eat What You Want Day:** Health permitting, go ahead and indulge today!
- **TDIH:** 1997, chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov resigns after 19 moves in a game against Deep Blue, a chess-playing computer developed by scientists at IBM.

**Mary's Month:** May is traditionally devoted by Catholics to Mary, the Mother of God. How did this come to be? In many ancient cultures, May 1 was a day for spring festivals to celebrate the beginning of new life. For instance, the Greeks dedicated May to Artemis, goddess of fertility. The Romans dedicated May to Flora, goddess of springtime and flowers. To counter these pagan celebrations, the Church eventually came to celebrate May as the month of May. And know you know!

**Musings on Last Week:**

- **Prom:** Thanks to all who helped make the Junior-Senior Prom a successful one. Breathalyzer results: 400+ negative results; 0 positive. Yeah! I am appreciative to all who chaperoned.
- **Wolftracks:** Congrats to Danielle Lavie for another great Wolftracks – in both quality and quantity of pages! Hope you received your copy via email.
- **Sophomore Service Day:** Congrats to all! Our sophs made a difference in St. Tammany on Friday! Listening to their end of day reflections was moving, especially those who worked with the elderly at nursing homes. It was an eye opening experience for many of our guys.
- **English I H Field Trip:** Thanks to Karen Hebert for using my English class for the Brown Foundation Reading Buddies Grant. My guys enjoyed making books for 1<sup>st</sup> grade students and gained much from their interaction with these children.
- **Law Class Field Trip:** Thanks to Sonny Garcia for taking the Law Studies Class to the Baton Rouge Law Day. It was an exciting experience for the Law Wolves. We submitted 2 videos, 1 essay and a poster for the various Law Day contests. The theme centered on why every vote counts. Our two group videos won 1st Place (William Harrison, James Kissgen, Heath Rushing, Jared Saltaformaggio, Russell Doussan, John Larson, Connor McCarthy & Nicholas Taylor) AND 2nd place (Winston McDonald, Brett Manifold, Zachary Nunez, Peyton Cuccia, Max Robin, Marshall Roy, Garret Spinks, & Sean Whitehead) with prizes of \$125 & \$100. Kole Gorney did the filming. An essay by Silas Anthony (a 9<sup>th</sup> grader!) received an honorable mention and a \$25 prize. A poster by Nick & Peyton Lacoste was displayed in the Baton Rouge River Center during Law Day. There were 25 schools involved with approximately 1000 students so this was an excellent showing by our Wolves.
- **Golf:** A 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in regional propels us into state this week!
- **Exchange Club Student of the Year Breakfast** was very inspiring. Nine outstanding St. Tammany Parish seniors were honored, including our own Zachary Albright.
- **Lacrosse Wolves:** The LAX Awards Banquet will be held after I've sent this newsletter, but I'm sure it will be a success. With over 100 participants, lacrosse is now officially the second most popular sport at SPS.
- **AFJROTC, Soccer, & Rugby:** All of these had outstanding awards ceremonies last week. Thanks to all!
- **The Maelstrom:** Congrats to Brad and the creative writing/artistic Wolves for another fine edition. Hope your son brought home a copy.
- **Música española tartar:** Congrats to William Nunez, who, as part of the Spanish V final exam, had some students travel around campus performing a Spanish music treat. If you were lucky enough to listen to Bryan

Livaudais, Michael Stewart and Peter Yager perform, you were quite moved by the experience. Muchas gracias, Guillermo, for the assignment and to Bryan, Miguel, & Pedro for the musica!

- **Service Summit:** Ten LYL Wolves traveled to Rummel on Sat to participate in a Service Summit with the three south shore Lasallian schools. In addition to sharing what our service projects were this year, SPS joined their brothers and sisters in interaction with some special needs clients from Magnolia Community Services. That our students did this on the morning of their prom speak volumes about their commitment to service.
- **Soccer:** The state championship team was honored by the St. Tammany Parish Council at its meeting last week!
- **Teaching:** And in the midst of all of the activity, teaching and learning were taking place last week.



*State Champion Soccer Wolves are honored by Parish President Brewster and Parish Council at last week's meeting.*

**The Good Dept:** Last week we received a \$30,000 grant from Touro Hospital in partnership with the Harry T. Howard Foundation to support our Biomedical Science Program. We would be hard pressed to have this program without this assistance. This is the third of a four year commitment on the part of the Foundation. We are most grateful. Hope we can find a sponsor when this grant expires!

**Private School Enrollment Drop in LA:** Public radio station WWNO did a feature last week on the 17% drop in private school enrollment in Louisiana, the increase in requests for vouchers, and the 25% drop in Catholic school enrollment in the Archdiocese of New Orleans since 2003. Some pretty scary stats for private schools. It's worth the 4 minute listen – and a lot more time making sure we are not in that number. Here's the link: <http://wwno.org/post/private-schools-losing-students-across-louisiana>



*State Champions for third consecutive year!*

**Another State Championship:** On Friday, our state championship gymnastics team competed in the LHSAA Division I Men's Gymnastics State Meet. When the flipping and flopping had subsided, the Wolves AGAIN captured the coveted State Championship Trophy – a THREEPEAT! Wow. Great job, Gymnastic Wolves: **Brennan Skinner, Ethan Lowry, Colin Skiner, Drew Bratschi, Alex Shelby, Seth Dragon, Brooks McMahon, Stevie Van Zandt, Billy Harrison, Blaze Burkenstock, and Amy Marshall.** If you didn't read the NOLA.com article, it's worth it as there lots of pictures and praises the Skinner Brothers, the Mannings of high school gymnastics:

<http://highschoolsports.nola.com/news/article/3266259126236127543/skinner-brothers-propel-st-pauls-to-its-third-straight-boys-gymnastics-state-championship/>

**Pastoral Changes:** Archbishop Aymond announced last week 19 changes in pastors in the archdiocese. That's quite a number! Locally, we congratulate Father Ronnie Calkins, good friend of SPS and long time past of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, for being named new pastor of St. Catherine of Siena in Metairie. The new pastor of MQP will be the Reverend John-Nhan Tran. We also congratulate Father Daniel Brouillette, SPS alumnus and parochial vicar at St. Peter, for being named the new pastor of Annunciation Parish in Bogalusa. The new parochial vicar for St. Peter will be Reverend Peter Finney III. Sacred Heart Church in Lacombe will also receive a new pastor. We look forward to welcoming and working with our new clergy.

#### **Alum News:**

- **Timothy “Kramer” Schmitt '05** will graduate May 9 with an MBA (emphasis on healthcare management) from the prestigious Owen School of Business at Vanderbilt University. After completing his BA, Kramer spent three years on Capitol Hill in DC as a congressional aide. Kramer is the brother of William '08, Thomas '16 & Sam '19.
- **John “Jack” Collens '04** will receive his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Georgia in May and will begin his career as an Assistant Professor at Siena College in Loudonville, NY in the fall. Jack also sent me a copy of his dissertation entitled “Breaking Free: The Rise of Candidate-Centered Politics.” In the “Acknowledgement” section, Jack wrote the following: *I would be remiss if I failed to express my thanks to the educators without whose guidance I would not be here. The late Brother Bill Parsons, FSC was my 10th and 11th grade English teacher. He taught me that effective writing requires mastery of both content and form. The young men of St. Paul's School suffered a great loss with his passing.*
- **Shawn-Wesley Skinner '12** was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society at Ole Miss. It is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines. No surprise!
- **JD Gardner '11** is one of nine students nationwide, from a pool of over 1000 talented applicants, to be hired this summer at Pixar Animation Studios in CA. JD, brother of Sean '14, attends the New York Institute of Art.
- **Frank Relle '94** leaves for Moscow next week to curate an exhibit called "New Orleans in Photographs," which opens May 16 and runs for a month at the Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow. The show is sponsored by the U.S. Embassy. Frank is a noted for his New Orleans nighttime architectural studies in photography. Read the story at:  
[http://www.nola.com/jazzfest/index.ssf/2014/05/photographer\\_frank\\_relle\\_heads.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.nola.com/jazzfest/index.ssf/2014/05/photographer_frank_relle_heads.html#incart_river_default)

**Heroin in St. Tammany:** Who would have thought this would be a problem? The 35 heroin arrests during Holy Week and the 7 heroin-related deaths in St. Tammany since January are sobering statistics, mirroring a nationwide spike in this particular drug use. DEA Special Agent in Charge Keith Brown said the key is to address prescription pill abuse (since heroin and pain pills like Oxycodone are remarkably close chemically) that begins with young people who need better monitoring from parents. *It's so easy to see a high school athlete have an injury, get prescribed pain pills, and then use an entire bottle of 60 hydrocodones when he might have only needed two*, Brown said recently. Parents – please guard any prescription pain killers and monitor your son's use if he needs this medicine.

**The Mothers' Club Bookstore Sidewalk Sale** will be held on Thursday, May 15th from 9:00am - 4:00pm. If you have any gently used uniforms, shorts, pants, or other SPS apparel that you would like to donate, please drop them in the lobby of La Salle Hall any time during the school day on May 12th - 14th. Come out on Thursday to get some great bargains! We will also be collecting pre-owned backpacks (that are still in good condition) to donate to a program providing underprivileged students in Tangipahoa Parish much need school supplies. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Grashoff at [ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net), or 504-450-992.

**Stuff the Bus Food Drive:** The six area Catholic schools (Saint Paul's, SSA, Hannan, Our Lady of the Lake, St. Peter, and Mary Queen of Peace) are attempting to "stuff a school bus" with non-perishable food items to benefit the Covington Food Bank. This is our last food drive of the year and we won't have the opportunity to help the CFB during the summer. This is also the first time the six Catholic schools have worked together on a service project. SPS is supplying the bus and the driver (thank you, Coach Dickens!) which will visit each school on Thursday, May 8, and collect whatever items have been collected. We certainly want to do our share.

**Botanical Wolves Plant Sale** will be Saturday, May 10th, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Since May 11th is Mother's Day, we will offer many beautiful, blooming plants and specialty items, such as topiaries, that will make great gifts for Mom! We may even have some special Louisiana iris hybrids for sale! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you are able to help us with the sale, please contact me. We will need lots of participation to be successful! All funds will help campus beautification projects.

The Botanical Wolves who have been dedicated to helping keep our flower beds watered since our beginning in May of 2013, Connie Nichols Phillips, Wensel Conroy, and Yvette O'Krepki, have been invaluable to our success in achieving the beautiful beds you see on campus. We are very thankful and appreciative of all their efforts, including those of Jo Sutherlin who has recently joined our watering team. We NEED the HELP of a larger group of watering volunteers while we work toward making these improvements. Please consider helping us with even one small area, one day a week. Ask your sons if they would help us do this for service hours. They are also welcome to help out at the plant sale. Many thanks to Connor Demerest and Peyton Jacob who have enthusiastically helped the Botanical Wolves plant fruit trees. It is always great to see the boys take an interest in their campus and demonstrate their school pride! Special thanks to Linda Trahan for her leadership of The Botanical Wolves.

**Apr 29 Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Apr 29 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Students entered the gym to the strains of "The Hallelujah Chorus" from George Fredrick Handel's incredible oratorio entitled "Messiah." Too often associated with Christmas, this iconic Baroque masterpiece actually musically represents the joy that Christians should feel over the Resurrection. That Handel composed this work in just 24 days in 1741 borders on the miraculous. I explained to the students that when King George III first attended a performance of "Messiah" in 1742, he was so astounded by "The Hallelujah Chorus" that he stood up in amazement. Naturally, the whole audience also stood. So, today, when you attend a performance



*Lasallian Youth Leaders sell donuts last week to help with their trip to CA this summer.*

of “Messiah”, it is customary to stand for “THC.” OK, enough music trivia! While the music played, junior **Casey Fitzmaurice** lit the prayer candle – now the large Paschal candle, symbolically representing Christ’s resurrection. We prayed in a special way for those who have entered into God’s Kingdom since our last assembly: **Mrs. Elaine M. Williams**, grandmother of **Eric Coston ‘17** and **Mrs. Mary Agnes Borck "Mab" Patin Valois**, grandmother of **Turner Valois '14**.

- Introduced Mr. Jeff St. Romain, director of West St. Tammany Habitat for Humanity. SPS Renaissance made a donation to Habitat, which was presented to Mr. St. Romain by a group of **Habitat Wolves** and their moderator, Mr. Richard Pichon.
- Recognized and congratulated the **Gymnastic Wolves** for the following accomplishments:
  - Their big first place win on April 5<sup>th</sup> in the Baton Rouge Gymnastics Meet. Team members were **Brennan Skinner, Colin Skinner, Ethan Lowry, Stevie Van Zandt, Seth Dragon, Alex Shelby, Drew Bratschi, and Blaze Burkenstock**.
  - **Ethan Lowry and Brennan Skinner** were named to the 2014 Academic Composite Boys' Gymnastics Team.
  - **Brennan and Colin Skinner** earned U.S. Men's Gymnastics Academic All-American honors for two consecutive years and on Saturday, April 12, Colin qualified for the 2014 U.S. Men's Junior Olympic National Championships.
  - **Brennan** did not participate in the Region 3 Qualifying Championships because he opted to try out for the LSU Cheerleading Team. After three days of try-outs and interviews, he was selected to the team today. Geaux Tigers!
- Recognized and congratulated the **Track Wolves** for a dominant season thus far. The Wolves are undefeated in the State of Louisiana to date with victories at the Christian Brothers Relays, the Saint Tammany Parish Championships, the Rummel Raider Ronnie Doyle Classic, and the District 6-5A Championships. The only hardware left unclaimed came at the All State Sugar Bowl meet at Tad Gormley Stadium. This meet is dubbed the largest high school track meet in the country with over 2100 athletes competing. We finished as the top team in the state with the 3rd highest point total, outperforming teams such as John Curtis and Edna Karr and falling only 2 points out of first place while losing to teams from TX and AL. We now have a threepeat in District Championships (only the 3rd parish Crown for Saint Paul's in the last 40 years and now two in a row) with this senior group claiming 25% of all the District titles in our school's history. At the District meet, two 40 year old relay school records were broken by this team as the 4 x 200 m relay team of Antwann Anderson, Max Robin, Marcus Gaines and Leyton Lavigne claimed first place while the 4x400 m relay, Leyton Lavigne, Eric Coston, Zach Albright and Mitch Brumfield bested the school record by two seconds in a second place effort. District Champions were as follows: 4x200 m relay- just referenced, 110 M hurdles (Deonte Soraporu), 300 M hurdles (Deonte Soraporu), 1600 m run (Eric Coston), 800 m run (Zachary Albright), 3200 m run (DC Lipani), Pole Vault (Max Illing), and the Triple Jump (Jalen Mcklesky).
- Recognized and congratulated the **Lacrosse Wolves** for placing second in state for the second consecutive year – a fantastic accomplishment by a fantastic group of Wolves!
- Recognized and congratulated seniors **Ross Hodgins, Parker Jaquillard & Luke Posner** for being named 2014 Scholar Athletes by the Allstate Sugar Bowl Chapter of the National Football Foundation. They were recognized at a

recent luncheon at Riverside Hilton in NO. Only 24 schools had a recipient of the award, and SPS was one of only two schools with three scholar athletes.

- I then informed the student body that AP Exams would begin next week and finally got around to recognizing those Wolves who scored 3 or better (the minimum score for gaining college credit with a maximum of 5) on last year's AP exams (yes, I'm that far behind in my recognitions!):
  - Zach Albright: 5 in Eng Comp; 5 in statistics
  - Michael Brown: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Michael Burke: 4 in Eng Comp; 4 in statistics
  - Quinn Anglada: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Eric Boudet: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Adam Cannon: 4 in Eng Comp
  - George Cazenavette: 5 in Statistics
  - Grant Connolly: 3 in Eng Comp; 3 in statistics
  - David Conroy: 3 in Eng Comp; 5 in statistics
  - August Dixon: 3 in Eng Comp; 5 in statistics
  - John Frey: 3 in Eng comp
  - Sean Gardner: 3 in Eng Com
  - Jacob Hewson: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Thomas Huval: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Burke Irwin: 3 in Art history
  - Philip James: 3 in US Government
  - Shane Kennedy: 4 in Eng Comp
  - Riley Knepper: 4 in Eng Comp
  - Jonah Knickles: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Nick Lacoste: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Grant Landwehr: 5 in Calculus; 4 in Eng comp
  - John Larson: 4 in statistics
  - Evan Lewis: 3 in Eng Comp; 3 in Statistics
  - Bryan Livaudais: 4 in Eng Comp; 5 in statistics
  - Andre Marshall: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Jacob McWilliams: 3 in Eng Comp; 3 in statistics
  - Chris Meraux: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Benny Miller: 3 in Eng Comp; 4 in statistics
  - Max Morvant: 5 in English Comp; 5 in Calculus; 4 in Statistics
  - William O'Rourke: 3 in Eng comp
  - Kenny Ross: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Jack Ruli: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Thomas Ruli: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Matthew Spedale: 3 in Eng comp
  - Willis Spurlock: 3 in Eng comp
  - Mitch St. Pierre: 4 in Eng Comp; 4 in Statistics
  - Michael Stewart: 3 in Eng Comp
  - Peter Yager: 3 in Eng Comp; 4 in statistics



*Robotics Wolves pose with their creation!  
"It's alllllliiiiivvvveeee!"*

- And we had five AP Scholars (score of 3 in three or more exams: Bobby Bayer, Robert Klazinski, & Alex Zinsel of the class of 2013 and Grant Landwehr & Max Morvant of the Class of 2014.
- Recognized and congratulated our National Merit Finalists: **Zachary Albright, Michael Burke, and Max Morvant.**

- Congratulated and recognized the **Robotics Wolves** for their showing (8<sup>th</sup> out of 52) in recent regional competition. The robot that the boys built was on display, and the students put it into action to the delight of the student body.

- Recognized and congratulated **Wolves on Wheels** who traveled to Houston over the Easter Holidays (not spring break) for national competition: Quinn Anglada, Jordan Wyble, Jacob Tullos, Jake Coutrado, Adam



*Wolves on Wheels proudly display one of the six cars they built for competition in the Shell Eco Marathon in Houston.*

Fink, Chris Gement, Andrew Jung, Marcus Garner, Cray Pennison, Lucas Waldron, Shane Strander, Max Tepper, Grant Greffer, Cain Plaisance, and moderators Mr. Mark Richards & Mr. John Carambat. The cars that the boys built were on display in the gym and one of them did a celebratory lap around the gym to the cheers of the students.

- Distributed District Literary Rally Medals to those students who placed: **Max Gold** (1<sup>st</sup> in Adv Math), **Matthew Baldone** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Adv Math), **Burke Irwin** (3<sup>rd</sup> in Pre-Calc), **Aaron Nguyen** (1<sup>st</sup> in Pre-Calc), **Rory O'Meallie** (3<sup>rd</sup> in Alg I), **Ryan Meraux** (1<sup>st</sup> in Alg II), **Luke Avenel** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Alg II), **Dominick Alongi** (1<sup>st</sup> Art), **Sam Pearce** (1<sup>st</sup> in Art), **Leland van Deventer** (1<sup>st</sup> in Biology), **George Cazenavette** (1<sup>st</sup> in Calculus), **Ryan Keller** (6<sup>th</sup> in Chemistry), **Burak Kandil** (3<sup>rd</sup> in Eng II), **Jeffrey Champ** (1<sup>st</sup> in Eng II), **Sam Giberga** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Eng III), **Ben Toups** (4<sup>th</sup> in Eng III), **Philip James** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Env Sci), **Jacob Broussard** (1<sup>st</sup> in Journalism), **Max Tepper** (1<sup>st</sup> in Phys Sci), **Max Morvant** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Physics), **Thomas Ruli** (4<sup>th</sup> in Physics), **Patrick Connolly** (1<sup>st</sup> in Spanish III), **Jack Dubreuil** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Spelling), **Jack Nunez** (1<sup>st</sup> in World Geography), **Jordan Edney** (2<sup>nd</sup> in World Geography), & **Heath Rushing** (2<sup>nd</sup> in World History.)

VERY IMPRESSIVE RESULTS!

- Again, I ran out of time before I ran out of recognitions – which will carry over to the next assembly. We ended with the whole student body standing and singing that The Fight Song to encourage all the activities going on. It was powerful. **Junior Reid Perrin** extinguished the prayer candle while “The Hallelujah Chorus” played robustly. I closed by reminding the students what the candle represents – the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I exhorted them to spread God’s love to all whom they meet.

- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so! It was also the final assembly for the Class of 2014.

**H of the W:** from the *Washington Post's Style Invitational* that asked readers to take a word from the dictionary, alter it by changing a letter or two, and supply a new definition:

- *Giraffiti (n): Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.*
- *Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating the bozone layer. Shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.*
- *Sarchasm (n): The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.*
- *Inoculatte (v): Taking coffee intravenously when you are late.*
- *Hipatitis (n): Terminal coolness.*
- *Osteopornosis (n): A degenerate disease.*
- *Karmageddon (n): it's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.*
- *Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.*
- *Dopeler effect (n): The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.*
- *Arachnoleptic fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.*
- *Caterpallor (n.): The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you're eating.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**Spring Stomp 5K Run:** The Junior League of Greater Covington is hosting its 7th Annual SPRING STOMP 5K Run and 1 mile Fun Run for families on Sat, May 17. The race begins at 8:00 at Hubie Gallagher Park (1000 West 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Covington.) The Spring Stomp helps raise awareness of childhood obesity in our community and funds for local projects supported by the JLGC. A spirit award is given for the school with most participation and a bike giveaway for participants under 16 years of age. Registration is \$8/person (16 and under) and includes a t-shirt and refreshments from our community sponsors. The JLGC is a non-profit organization of over 300 women who are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of people in our community

**SPS Yearbook:** 2013-14 yearbooks are still on sale, and anyone wishing to purchase them may do so online through this link: <https://yearbookforever.com/ssDeepLink.aspx?sid=1-5H-1621&dest=BAYB>

**SENIORS DO NOT ORDER AS THE YEARBOOK WAS INCLUDED IN THE SENIOR FEE.**

**The Subjunctive Mood and the Annual Fund:** A parent sent me a NY Times article on the disappearance of the subjunctive mood in English (the “what” you are asking?) The subjunctive mood (the bane of English students everywhere!) is used express a wishful notion or a proposition contrary to fact: *If the man were rich, he could retire* (not *was rich*, because he’s not, and he needs the salary). The parent then wrote that I should use the subjunctive in my Annual Fund pleas:

*If someone were to donate a million dollars to Saint Paul’s, Brother Ray could stop begging for donations to the Annual Fund!*

And I’ll add this one: *If everyone were to donate even a small amount, Brother Ray could stop begging for donations to the Annual Fund!*

**No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What's important is that everyone participates. If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thanks. Can you send \$10 to Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation? **And WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT!** Thanks to those of you who are involving grandparents, whom I hate to ask personally unless you give me permission to do so.

**Post Easter Holidays (NOT spring break!) Grooming and Dress Code:** We will continue to enforce our rules until the end of school. Help us by insisting your son conforms to policy.

And, no, I don't think hair regulation is more important than drug (we're still testing!) and alcohol regulation (we tested at prom!) but I'm not willing to ignore the less important rules that we have.

**Class of 2014 Graduation Ceremony Info:** I maintain that our graduation ceremony is one of the most beautiful of any school anywhere. I offer the following info for clarification:

- Graduation for the Class of 2014 is Sunday, May 18, at 10 am in the Briggs Assembly Center.
- Admission is by **TICKET ONLY**. Each senior will be given eight (8) tickets on Friday, May 9 – if all the student's obligations to the school are fulfilled, including grooming. **Lost tickets will not be replaced so have your son guard his tickets carefully.** Two tickets will be reserved and six will be general seating. If you need more tickets, have your son speak to his classmates who will not need all of their tickets. An extra ticket is available on a limited basis and will be distributed via lottery to anyone who requests being part of the lottery by May 9.
- The ceremony takes place within a Catholic mass. Hence, shouting, whistling or other noise is completely unacceptable.
- **The ceremony lasts two hours.**
- A small, post-ceremony reception (punch and cake) is sponsored by the Mothers Club. Attendance is completely optional.

**More Class of 2014 Info:**

- **Senior Exams** begin on Wed, May 7. Students may be prevented from exams if financial accounts or some other obligation to the school are not current.
- **Graduation Practice** will take place on Wed (May 7) & Thu (May 8) following exams. Seniors will be dismissed when practice is over, which if they cooperate will be around 2 pm.
- **Caps and Gowns** will be distributed following graduation practice on Fri, May 9. Again, **caps and gowns will not be distributed to students who have an obligation to the school** or who are not in compliance with graduation ceremony grooming regulations. Seniors will be dismissed around 11 am.

**Class of 2015 Graduation Date** will be on **SATURDAY, May 16, 2015 at 4 pm** in the BAC.

**Study finds brain changes in young marijuana users:** Young adults who occasionally smoke marijuana show abnormalities in two key areas of their brain related to emotion, motivation, and decision making, raising concerns that they could be damaging their developing minds at a critical time, according to a new study by Boston researchers which was published during Holy Week in the Journal of Neuroscience, the official publication of the Society for Neuroscience. Here's a link to the full story:

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/health-wellness/2014/04/15/casual-marijuana-use-creates-brain-changes-new-report-shows/X1cN8A7h5pOVJkeYkXTXIJ/story.html>

**Pie Bowl T-Shirts:** The Touchdown Club will sell Pie Bowl T-shirts in Founders Circle during lunch on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Thanks to the Touchdown Club for all they do.

**A Look Ahead:**

May 5 – Class of '14 Alumni induction ceremony (8)  
May 6 – Pack Time / AP Exams begin  
May 7-9 – Senior Exams  
May 9 – Pie Bowl  
May 10 – Habitat for Humanity Club Work Day  
May 10 – Band Concert  
May 13 – President's Assembly – Band Awards in PM  
May 14 – Athletic Awards in AM  
May 14-16 – Pre Freshmen Exams begin  
May 14 – Senior Grad Night  
May 15 – Level Awards Assembly in AM assembly  
May 15 – Original One Act Plays by Theater Classes (always an experience)  
May 16 – Major Awards Assembly in AM assembly (**dress uniform day**)  
May 18 – Senior Graduation (10 am in the BAC)  
May 19 – Exam Schedules Begin for grades 9-11  
May 19 – Pre Freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6 pm)  
May 22 – Exams End for Grades 9-11  
May 23 – Make up /conflict exam day  
Aug 07 – School begins for 2014-15 with A B C D!

Whew! I really wore you out again this week but you only have to endure a few more issues before the newsletter packs it in for the 2013-14 school year.

And even though it's May (already!) of 2014, I still close with a paraphrase from one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to now as I write and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Again, please let me know if there's an issue you would like me to address in my newsletters or a question you think applies to others. Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we march forward through 2014! Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Made It to Another May as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

***SPOP! PFU!***  
***SJBDLS! PFU!***  
***SB! HUDOTEW!***  
***LJIOH! F!***

