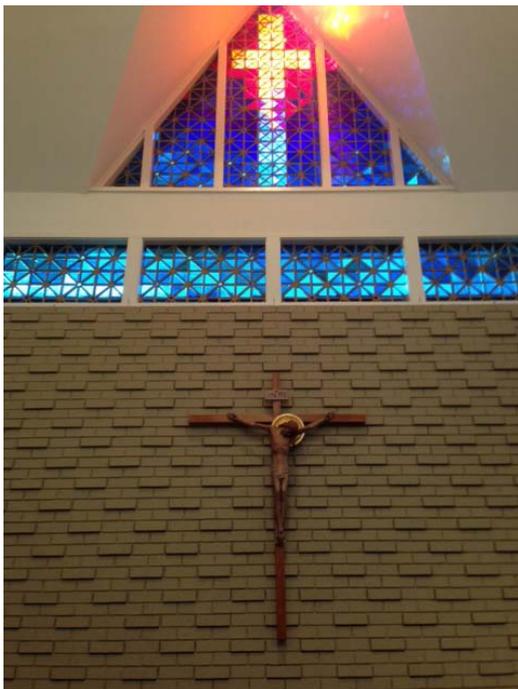




Holy Week

Remember that we are dust and to dust we will return!



I'm a word nerd. I love the power of individual words. This week, we focus on The Passion of Jesus – who loved us enough to die for us in order that we might gain eternal life. The etymology of “passion” is from the Latin *passio* meaning *to suffer* –and Christ certainly suffered. But His suffering led to our salvation – good triumphed over evil, life triumphed over death, love triumphed over hate.

We are called, as Lasallian educators, to have passion for our vocation. Saint La Salle used the word “zeal” (from the Greek *zelos* meaning *ardor*) but the two are similar. What exactly does this mean? We must love what we do even if it involves suffering – as that will lead to success, love, and happiness. Let's face it: our jobs are not for the faint of heart. The same is true of parenting: your job as parent is not often easy and not for the faint of heart. You parent because you love!

As we remember The Passion this week, let us ask for grace to be *passionate* about our work – both whether as educators or as parents. And as I wrote the faculty, if we are not, we need to go pursue something else. May the grace of Holy Week fill our lives and the lives of our students and children -- always!

Mon, Mar 30 (Regular; F G A B)

- **National Doctors Day:** We give thanks today for all physicians, especially the ones associated with SPS! The date is the anniversary of the first use of general anesthetic in surgery, on March 30, 1842, in Jefferson, Ga. Let's all stay healthy today and give the good docs the day off!
- **The Grass is Always Browner on the Other Side of the Fence Day:** this day is meant to inspire people to be happy with what they have, rather than selfish and greedy and envious of other people.
- **National Pencil Day:** Today is Pencil Day! On this day in 1858, the US Patent and Trademark Office granted the first-ever patent for a modern pencil with an eraser attached to it. Hymen Lipman created the wooden pencil and received high praise for how easy it was to use for writing and drawing. Did you know that a single wooden pencil can write 45,000 words or draw a line that is 35 miles long? A pencil can also write under water, upside down, or in zero gravity. Manufacturers painted the first pencils yellow because the color was associated with royalty and honor. People quickly began assuming that yellow pencils were the best type! To celebrate Pencil Day, set aside your laptop and use a pencil and paper to write today! And on NPD, I offer the following, sent to me by an SPS mom last year:
A PENCIL MAKER TOLD THE PENCIL 5 IMPORTANT LESSONS JUST BEFORE PUTTING IT IN THE BOX:
 - 1.) *EVERYTHING YOU DO WILL ALWAYS LEAVE A MARK.*
 - 2.) *YOU CAN ALWAYS CORRECT THE MISTAKES YOU MAKE.*
 - 3.) *WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS WHAT IS INSIDE OF YOU.*
 - 4.) *IN LIFE, YOU WILL UNDERGO PAINFUL SHARPENINGS, WHICH WILL ONLY MAKE YOU BETTER.*
 - 5.) *TO BE THE BEST PENCIL, YOU MUST ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE HELD AND GUIDED BY THE HAND THAT HOLDS YOU.*

We all need to be constantly sharpened. This parable may encourage you to know that you are a special person, with unique talents and abilities. Only you can fulfill the purpose which you were born to accomplish. Never allow yourself to get discouraged and think that your life is insignificant and cannot be changed and, like the pencil, always remember that the most important part of who you are is what's inside of you.

Now, go out there and be a pencil!

- **Field Trip:** The AP and Honors Civics Classes will be going to the Louisiana State Capitol for a talk by Sen. Ben Nevers (grandfather of senior Drake Pierce) and a tour. They will leave after announcements and should return to school by 1:30 for B block.
- **NEW Student Scheduling** (3:30—5:30 in BAC) Come meet Class of 2020 – which has set a new record in terms of numbers! (Don't ask how many!)
- **Baseball:** 8th v. Jesuit in double header (3:30 & 5:30)
- **Tennis:** Wolves v. PJP II

Tue, Mar 31 (Assembly; C D E F)

- **Bunsen Burner Day:** Today celebrates that staple of chemistry labs everywhere, invited by German chemist Robert Wilhelm Eberhard von Bunsen who was born on March 31, 1811.
- **President's Assembly – yes, yes, I know I'm behind in recognitions; I've got a ton of them already with more coming in daily!**
- **National Spanish Exam during Period D for Spanish IV & V**
- **Baseball:** 8th v. John Curtis (5) & JV & Varsity at Covington (4 & 6:30)
- **Lacrosse:** 8th v. BR Mustangs; JV & Varsity v. Mandeville (5:30 & 7:30)
- **Passion Play Open to Public** (7)



Iris are flowering all over the campus. Take time to admire their beauty. Thanks, Botanical Wolves!

Wed, Apr 01 (Passion Play Schedule; G A B C)

- **April Fool Day & National Fun Day:** Every day is a fun day at SPS but do something special today.
- **National Walking Day (always first Wed):** Take a walk today and leave the car in the driveway!
- **Track:** SPS hosts Parish Meet; good luck Al et al.

Thu, Apr 2 (Assembly; Holy Thursday Mandatum Ceremony; D E F G)

- **National PB & J Day:** Enjoy this iconic American snack – if you haven't given it up for Lent.
- **This Day in History:** In 2005, John Paul II, history's most well-traveled pope and the first non-Italian to hold the position since the 16th century, dies at his home in the Vatican. The world mourns.
- **TDIH II:** In 1513, Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for the Spanish Crown after landing at the site of present day St. Augustine, now the oldest city in the continental U.S.
- **Reconciliation Day:** Today is a special day to patch relationships and to make amends. Its intention is to re-establish relationships between family, friends and couples. Life is too short to hold a grudge between those we love.
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity v. Ponchatoula (4 & 6:30)

Fri, Apr 3 Good Friday

- **TDIH:** In 1860, the first Pony Express mail, traveling by horse and rider relay teams, simultaneously leaves St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, CA. Ten days later, on April 13, the westbound rider and mail packet completed the approximately 1,800-mile journey and arrived in Sacramento, beating the eastbound packet's arrival in St. Joseph by two days and setting a new standard for speedy mail delivery.

Sat, Apr 4 (Holy Saturday)

- **TDIH:** In 1968, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is fatally shot while standing on the balcony outside his second-story room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.
- **TDIH II: In 1949,** twelve nations signed the treaty creating NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The nations united for common military defense against the threat of expansion by Soviet Russia into Western Europe.
- **International Landmine Awareness Day:** We pray today for all those across the globe who have been injured or killed by landmines, especially innocent children. And we pray for an end to war everywhere.

Sun, Apr 5 -- Easter Sunday! Alleluia! He is risen!

Mon, Apr 6 – 12: Easter Holidays (NOT spring break!) You are on your own for TDIH, National Whatever Days, and H of the W during the holidays!



Seniors intently listen to practical financial literacy talk at Life Skills last week as they prepare for their post-SPS lives.

Welcome to the April: Some facts about April:

- **Two possible word origins:** as the second month of the Roman calendar, it was dedicated to the goddess Venus and perhaps based on Apru, an Etruscan borrowing of Aphrodite, goddess of love and fertility. Also, as the fourth month of the Gregorian calendar, its name may derive from the Latin aperire ("to open"), a possible reference to plant buds opening at this time of year in Rome. Choose the theory you like better!
- **April is National Humor Month.** Let's all laugh a little more this month (maybe even laugh at ourselves when the situation warrants.) Tell a joke! (See below!) Make someone laugh! Feel free to laugh at me (many already do!)
- **April is National Mathematics Awareness Month.** The theme for this year is **Math Drives**

Careers. I know I'm excited!

- **April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.** We are reminded of the sacredness of human life and the responsibility we have, especially as Catholic school educators, to protect those placed in our care. Review our faculty in-service from August and your Praesidium training with respect to our obligations to protect children. Review with students, where appropriate, how to protect themselves from abuse and neglect.
- **April is Internet Safety month.** In view of all we have been learning lately, let's stress this!
- **April is Jazz Appreciation Month** and the SPS Jazz Band is busy preparing for the end of year concert!
- **April is National Poetry Month!** I invite all to "read a poem a day" during April and encourage our students to do so, too. Don't have time to find a poem? Here are three good sites with Poems of the Day, which can even be emailed to you. I'm partial to The Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor. Here are the sites:
 - www.poets.org
 - www.writersalmanac.publicradio.org
 - <http://www.poetryfoundation.org>
 - To get you started, here's a fun little poem titled "Sick" by well-known poet Shel Silverstein:

"I cannot go to school today," Said little Peggy Ann McKay.

"I have the measles and the mumps, A gash, a rash and purple bumps.

My mouth is wet, my throat is dry, I'm going blind in my right eye.

*My tonsils are as big as rocks, I've counted sixteen chicken pox
 And there's one more--that's seventeen, And don't you think my face looks green?
 My leg is cut--my eyes are blue--It might be instamatic flu.
 I cough and sneeze and gasp and choke, I'm sure that my left leg is broke--
 My hip hurts when I move my chin, My belly button's caving in,
 My back is wrenched, my ankle's sprained, My 'pendix pains each time it rains.
 My nose is cold, my toes are numb. I have a sliver in my thumb.
 My neck is stiff, my voice is weak, I hardly whisper when I speak.
 My tongue is filling up my mouth, I think my hair is falling out.
 My elbow's bent, my spine ain't straight, My temperature is one-o-eight.
 My brain is shrunk, I cannot hear, There is a hole inside my ear.
 I have a hangnail, and my heart is--what? What's that? What's that you say?
 You say today is. . .Saturday? G'bye, I'm going out to play!"*

PLEASE HELP: If your son needs to check out early (and we hope for a very good reason only), please follow procedure:

- Write him a note;
- Have him bring note to Erin in the Attendance Office so he can leave on time.

We just can't take his word and trying to call parents for verification is very time consuming.

Soccer Wolves: The Wolves, back-to-back Division I state champions, are now "No. 1 in the nation." St. Paul's finished No. 1 in the season-ending CBS MaxPreps rankings, a list of the top teams that play soccer in the spring. Here's the link that ran in The Advocate last week: <http://theadvocate.com/sports/11923131-32/st-pauls-soccer-no-1> Congratulations to Coach Moser and the Soccer Wolves!

Musings on Last Week:

- **Three Days Without Trevor:** We survived! Thanks to Joe Dickens for his extra work last week!
- **Tuesday's Assembly:** I hope the students told you about the Sex, Teens and the Law assembly. It was eye opening and well worth the time. Thanks to The Children's Advocacy Center for sponsoring this program, which is being done at most of the Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese. Let's hope the message, combined with the Catholic moral teaching that we do, hit home with students..
- **Tennis:** Congrats on win over Northlake Christian School, 7-0!
- **Marian Players:** 5 final sellout performances brought *Godspell* to a rousing conclusion. Congrats! Long Live God!
- **Baseball:** District wins over Hammond and Mandeville!
- **Lacrosse:** Friday night, Varsity defeated a team from Golden Colorado, 10-3. Saturday night at Hunter Stadium our 9 seniors were honored with their parents pre-game and then topped the night off with a big win over a new squad from Holy Cross with a score of 23-2. Half of our goals were scored by the seniors! Our 8th grade wolf squad won over Bro Martin, 11-1. JV Wolves defeated Lafayette 8-1 and the freshmen team defeated Holy Cross.
- **Golf:** According to Coach Barwick, the league leading Wolves get better each week!



Marian Players receive a standing ovation as they conclude their run of "Godspell." Long live God!

- **Life Skills Day for Seniors:** Kudos to The Development Team who planned a great day for the seniors. Our guys heard presentations on: ACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES (by a lawyer and a police chief), DEBT MANAGEMENT/IDENTITY THEFT (by a Certified Financial Planner), LARGE GROUP PANEL DISCUSSION (by a group of SPS alums); CASH MANAGEMENT (by a Certified Financial Advisor); LIVING OUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH BEYOND A CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT (by an SPS alum); and TIME MANAGEMENT/STUDY SKILLS (an a college admissions counselor.) It was time well spent by our seniors as their time grows short at SPS.
- **Mu Alpha Theta:** The Fighting Math Wolves finished SECOND IN STATE! Congrats!
- **Team Up Against Violence Day:** The Lasallian presence was strongly felt at Notre Dame Seminary on Friday with students from the four area Lasallian schools along with many students from other Catholic high schools all rallying for peace – and being inspired by a large contingent of Marching Wolves. Thanks, Lasallian Youth Leaders, Mrs. Schmitt, Mrs. Wiggins and Mr. Marcese.
- **LSU Spring Testing:** A number of seniors trekked to BR to participate in spring testing. Let's hope they earned enough credit hours for SPS to earn ANOTHER Golden Achievement Award – given to top 20 schools based on credit hours earned at spring testing.
- **Track:** Another FIRST Place in for the Wolves in the Ponchatoula Meet! Congrats!
- **Rugby High Tea:** If you didn't see The Paper Wolf slide show of our Rugby Team at The English Tea Room having High Tea, you must. Here's TPW link: <http://thepaperwolf.com/2015/03/27/rugby-wolves-have-high-tea-slideshow/> And the rugby wolves finished the regular season UNDEFEATED by beating Mississippi 17-10. On to the playoffs!

More Country Music Titles: One parent felt I overlooked some funny CM titles in last week's newsletter and sent me the following classics: *I'm My Own Grandpa* by Lonzo & Oscar, *She's Acting Single (I'm Drinking Doubles)* by Gary Stewart, *Lonesome 77203* by Hawkshaw Hawkins, *The Last Word in Lonesome is Me* by Eddy Arnold and my favorite, *You Can't Have Your Kate and Edith Too* by the Statler Brothers. Hilarious!

Ben Blanchard Update: From Ben's brother, Chris '05: *Ben along with our parents will be traveling to Long Beach, California to consult Dr Nagourney at Rational Therapeutics, a company that takes live cancer biopsies and studies their individual response to certain chemotherapy drugs as well as evaluates for molecular activity that allows a targeting agent to go into the cancer cell and kill it. It's emphasis in individual specific analysis focuses on cell death. Ben will see both Dr. Nagourney the oncologist and Dr. Shuman, the thoracic surgeon who will remove the tissue from Ben's right lung for the analysis to be done....We anticipate the results in 7 days and are advised we should be able to do treatment*



Wolves prepare to deliver a truck load of Mardi Gras beads to St. Michael's School.

locally if they can match a good medication or "target agent" as a result of the testing. Ben plans to take his previously ordered chemo from MD starting next Monday. This past weekend our family enjoyed a wonderful weekend together in Grand Isle. It was so nice for us all to be able to be together in a place we all hold so dearly. Throughout his battle Ben has maintained a wonderful upbeat attitude. I know it has been an amazing source of strength to Ben and our entire family to receive so much love and support from our friends and family. We are appreciative for all that you all continue to do for Ben and our family. Please continue to keep Ben in your prayers and continue to keep in touch with him. I know it is very special to him to hear from so many. Note: Ben had the surgery and the tumor is being analyzed in CA. We continue to pray.

Alum News: Handsome Monica '14, former SPS baseball standout and current Arizona player, earned a nomination in the 33-year Name of the Year contest for best name. Winners of the contest included Shamus Beaglehole, Miracle Wanzo and Destiny Frankenstein. Handsome has already received national attention for his name from [Fox Sports](#), but this will be the first time his name will be compared to others in a national contest. The tournament will be held in a standard 64-team format, where name enthusiasts can vote for their favorite names round by round. Monica enters the "Dragonwagon" regional as a No. 9 seed and his first round matchup will be against Jeravicious Raven. Vote for Handsome! Here's the link to the story: <http://www.nameoftheyear.com/2015/03/presenting-2015-name-of-year-bracket.html>
Employment Opportunity for students:

Student Employment Opportunity: Christwood Retirement Community in Covington is now hiring servers for the dining room. Part time, evenings, & weekend schedules are available. \$9.63 an hour. Apply at Christwood which is located at 100 Christwood Boulevard in Covington.

Easter Holidays, not Spring Break: Please use the term "Easter Holidays" and avoid using the term "spring break." SPS does not give a week off for spring; we give the week off to celebrate Easter. Regardless of the term, however, NPR reported last week on a correlation between the college spring breaks and an increase in traffic fatalities. The researchers studied 14 popular "spring break" venues and found a noticeable increase in traffic accidents and fatalities. I'll let you figure out why, but if you want to view the article, here's the link: <http://www.npr.org/2015/03/18/393748230/the-dangerous-distractions-of-spring-break>. We pray for the safety of our students during the upcoming Easter holidays.

From the Mothers Club:

- The Mother-Son Dinner (a special prayer service and dinner) for all moms and their sons will take place on Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:30 in the Briggs Assembly Center. Dinner will be provided by Keith Young's Steak House. If you would like to attend, **please respond by this Thursday, April 2nd**. We look forward to seeing you there! Response form is on the website.
- Tuxedos to Geaux will be on campus this Wednesday and Thursday to offer students the opportunity to purchase tuxedos for prom or other formal events. The program offers for sale, not a rental, a tuxedo coat and pants, shirt in the style of the customer's choice, and cummerbund and tie set in many colors. They also provide free lifetime alterations on the tuxedo. **The cost for the program is \$159. Order dates are April 1st and 2nd in the Briggs Assembly Center, 3:00-4:00.** If you have any questions about the program, please contact Mel Grotzky at **504 338 2426**.
- Our 3rd Annual Sidewalk Sale will be on Friday, May 15th from 9:00-4:00. Come take advantage of huge savings and great bargains with pre-owned uniforms, clearance items, and overstock sales! If you have any St. Paul's clothing items that you would like to donate, please drop them off in the bookstore (weekdays 7:15-8:00, 11:00-12:30, and 2:15-3:15) anytime between now and May 15th! Any unclaimed items in Lost and Found will be donated to the Sidewalk sale, so please ask your son to check for any missing clothing!

Ugly Story of the Week: From NOLA.com last Wed: *At least 45 students at a St. Landry Parish high school have been suspended for their involvement in a grade-changing scheme, the Daily World in Opelousas reports. Beau Chene High School's principal told the paper a student gained access to a computer program called Powerschool using a teacher's password and was able to change grades. The student with the purloined password charged some students money to change their grades, but also sought favors from others, the story said. The paper said one student at the school said some of the favors requested were "sexual in nature." St. Landry Parish schools Superintendent Edward Brown told the paper he's confident the cheaters have all been caught, "but there's no way to know for sure." The school is located between Grand Coteau and Arnaudville, the story said. How sad.*

H of the W: Vincent Van Gogh's birthday is this Mon, Mar 30. Three years ago, to celebrate this famous Dutch artist (1853-1890), Brother Tim Coldwell, our pun-prone prior provincial, researched the following Van Gogh Family Tree. They remain hilarious and, thus, worth another read – and serves as H of the W! Prepare to groan again! Sorry, Vincent!

- *Vincent's dizzy aunt: Verti Gogh*
- *The brother who worked at a convenience store: Stopen Gogh*
- *The grandfather from Yugoslavia: U Gogh*
- *His magician cousin: Wherediddy Gogh*
- *His Mexican cousin: Ameer Gogh*
- *The Mexican cousin's American half-brother: Gring Gogh*
- *The constipated uncle: Gotta Gogh*
- *The ballroom dancing aunt: Tang Gogh*
- *The bird loving uncle: Flamin Gogh*
- *The fruit loving cousin: Man Gogh*
- *An aunt who taught positive thinking: Wayto Gogh*
- *The bouncy little nephew: Po Gogh*
- *A Cajun sister who loved disco: Geaux Gogh*
- *The niece who travels the country in an RV: Winnie Bay Gogh*
- Brother Tim closed with: *I saw you smiling: There ya Gogh!*
- Hilarious!



Van Gogh's "Starry Night"

Paper Wolf Update: Please encourage your students to read The Paper Wolf on line (www.thepaperwolf.com) and read it yourself. Compliment the staff. Subscribe. Support the future. TPW has had some fantastic stories lately!

WHY DO I CONTINUE TO INCLUDE ANNUAL FUND REMINDERS? Because every time I do, I get responses. So, please – if you have not supported SPS this year and are in a position to do so, please contribute to the Annual Fund. **ANY amount is needed** as the new gym bills are coming in. Interested in having part of the new gym named after you? Contact me and we'll talk!

2015-16 Calendar: St. Tammany Parish Public Schools has published next year's calendar. They will begin on Fri, Aug 7. Accordingly, I have completed our calendar, which follows their calendar when possible. We must schedule 178 days per archdiocesan policy. **We therefore will start on Thursday, August 6 WITH A FULL DAY OF INSTRUCTION and NO book day – which corresponds to what we did this year. Please plan vacations accordingly.**

Important Driver's License Requirement: A new requirement was added to the driver's license issuance process for all minor applicants. All minor applicants must produce proof the applicant has either received a diploma or is currently enrolled in a high school program. This is done through a school attendance form from his or her high school prior to applying for a driver's license. These forms can be obtained in the administration building or the counseling center. **Several students went for licenses over the holidays and were turned away because they didn't have the form – in some cases they waited several hours before being turned away!**

Free Money: We recently received checks from Target and Office Depot representing rebates on purchases: Target gives a 1% cash rebate and Office Depot gives a 5% store credit. PLEASE: anytime you purchase at Target or Office

Depot, make sure you indicate your rebate go to Saint Paul's School! This is FREE money! You're not being charged extra.

A Look Ahead:

April 13 – Classes resume from Easter Holidays and Leadership Week begins

April 14 – History of Covington presentation to juniors (Period G)

April 15 – Leadership Breakfast

April 16 – Leadership Week Guest Speaker

April 17 – Alumni Presentation assembly/ Year in Review Assembly

April 20 – Founder's Week begins

April 21 – President's Assembly – Teacher Appreciation Lunch/Snack Day

April 24 – Field Day (Only periods B&C meet)

April 29 – Jazz Band field trip to LPO

May 6-8 – Senior Exams

May 12 – Final President's Assembly

May 13-15 – Pre Freshmen Exams

May 15 – Founder's Day Mass

May 16 – Senior Graduation (4 pm)

May 18 – Pre Freshmen Promotion

May 19-21 – Exam Schedules



The new gym begins to take shape! The bills are arriving, though, so help is needed! Naming opportunities are still available!

Whew! Hope I wasn't too long winded this week! But you get a break next Sunday as the newsletter goes on Easter vacation! Enjoy Easter Sunday without the newsletter clogging your in- box! Next newsletter will be sent on Sunday, April 12.

And even though it's the end of March of 2015, I will 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 2015! Hard to believe three months of 2015 are almost history! Again, thanks for being part of the 2014-15 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Praying for a Blessed Holy Week as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

O that shame -- now ended in his glory! O that pain -- now lost in joy unknown!

Tell it out with praise, the whole glad story, human nature at the Father's throne.

(ask your son to sing this for you!)



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