



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*  
*Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington*  
*341 years of Lasallian excellence throughout the world*  
**April 26 – May 02, 2021**



**Alleluia! He is risen!**

Welcome to Week Six of Spring, Week Six of the fourth quarter, and Week Four of the Easter Season – and the final week for the Class of 2021, who end their SPS careers on Friday!

I offer the following quote to help us (especially me!) through the stress of the final weeks of the school year:



*Campus flora helps us keep inner peace!*

**"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset."**

**— St. Francis de Sales**

**Mon, Apr 26 (Student Council Year in Review Video; A B C D)**

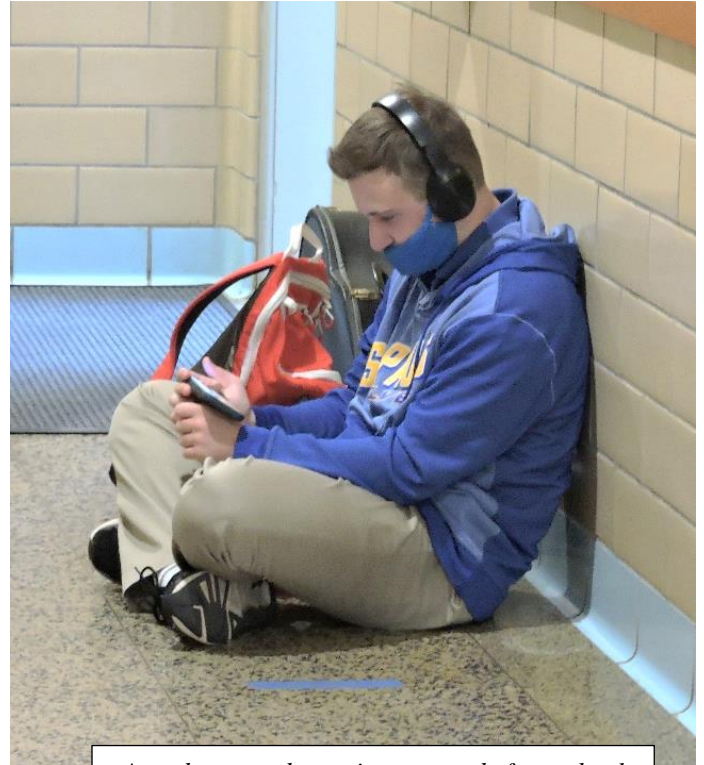
- **This Day in History:** In 1986, the world's worst nuclear power plant accident occurs at Chernobyl nuclear power station in Russia.
- **Richter Scale Day.** Today celebrates the birth of American seismologist Charles F. Richter (1900–1985) who invented the scale in 1935. Let's hope we don't have any earthquakes in his honor!
- **Audubon Day:** John James Audubon was born on this day in 1785. He was America's foremost ornithological illustrator. In 1886 the Audubon Society for the study and protection of birds was formed. Today there are many branches of the Audubon Society, and it remains dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and natural resources. Let's care for the flora and fauna on our campus in Audubon's honor today!
- **Pretzel Day:** Eat pretzels today! Pretzels are believed to be the world's oldest snack. Pretzels date back to 610AD in Southern France. Monks baked thin strips of dough into the shape of a child's arms folded in prayer. Add a little salt, and Voila! ...the pretzel industry was born.
- **Senior Exam Week Begins**
- **Football:** Spring football begins this afternoon and concludes with the Pie Bowl on Fri, May 14.
- **Tennis State Tournament in Monroe through Tuesday**

## **Tue, Apr 27 (President's Assembly; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Lunch; E F G A)**

- **TDIH:** In 1941, the German army enters the Greek capital, signaling the end of Greek resistance.
- **Teach Children to Save Day:** Teach Children to Save is a national campaign that raises awareness about the important role that banks and bankers play in helping young people develop lifelong savings habits.
- **Sense of Smell Day:** Spend some time today appreciating the sense that most people feel they could most live without. Smell the flowers, the coffee, the Cajun spices, the cooking – all those freebies that add to life
- **Stuff the Bus:** This annual event has the six Catholic schools of Western St. Tammany (can you name them?) “stuffing” one of our school busses with items for the summer stock of the Northshore Food Bank. Joe Dickens graciously volunteers to drive to the other five schools and then deliver to the NFB. We are requested to contribute green peas and canned ravioli.

## **Wed, Apr 28 (9<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Lunch; B C D E)**

- **TDIH:** 1916, Ferruccio Lamborghini, the founder of the company that bears his name and is known for stylish, high-performance cars, is born in Italy.
- **Great Poetry Day:** Don't just read any poem; read a classic.
- **It's the birthday** of Harper Lee, born Nelle Harper Lee, in Monroeville, Alabama (1926). She's the author of *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960). She wrote, "Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird."
- **Golf: Regional Tournament at Beau Chene.**
- **Juniors receive class ring ordering packets.**



*A student spends a quiet moment before school finding inner peace.*

## **Thu, Apr 29 (10<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Lunch; F G A B)**

- **TDIH:** In 1862, Union troops take possession of New Orleans after Confederate General Mansfield Lovell surveyed his tiny force and realized that resistance was futile. If he resisted, Lovell told Mayor John Monroe, the city would be bombed, causing damage and casualties.
- **Zipper Day:** What would life would be without zippers? Backpacks, blue jeans, gym bags ... the list is endless. On April 29, 1913, Swedish-born scientist Gideon Sundback won a patent for his "Hookless Fastener." The rest is history. To commemorate this genius, here are some fun zipper facts: The U.S. Army was one of the first users of zippers, applying them to uniform parts and gear. Yoshida Kogyo Kabushibibaisha is the world's largest zipper manufacturer. You are likely to see "YKK" engraved on many of your zippers. The world's longest zipper can be found at the hotel in Fort Lauderdale's Executive Airport. It measures 6,000 feet long and was commissioned as a publicity stunt for the hotel's nightclub, "Zippers."
- **Shrimp Scampi Day:** Take a little pasta, a few plump, juicy shrimp, throw in a bit of butter, garlic and white wine, and what do you get? The elegance that is shrimp scampi, of course!
- **Track:** Wolves in Regional Meet at Zachary High

## Fri, Apr 30 (11<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Lunch; C D E F)

- Today is the feast of Pope Saint Pius V. During his papacy (1566-1572), Pius V was faced with the crushing responsibility of getting a battered Church on its feet after being shaken by corruption, the Reformation, the threat of Turkish invasion and the bloody bickering of young nation-states. The Church's response was the Council of Trent, and Pius implemented the mandated reforms. No easy task.
- **TDIH:** In 1789, in New York City, George Washington, the great military leader of the American Revolution, is inaugurated as the first US president.
- **Honesty Day:** Celebrate Honesty Day in a completely open and honest way. There are few rules for this special day...just be honest, which we should do every day.
- **Bugs Bunny Day:** The first-time audiences saw the wascally wabbit was on April 30, 1938, in a cartoon called "Porky's Hare Hunt." In that debut, he was called "Happy Rabbit." Bugs did not utter his famous catch phrase, "What's up, Doc?" until he came face to face with Elmer Fudd in "A Wild Hare" in 1940.
- **Happy Birthday Saint La Salle!** In 1651, John Baptist de La Salle was born. Pause a moment today to give thanks for the birth of this extraordinary saint and educator whose work we continue today and who pioneered countless innovations in pedagogy that the world takes for granted. He developed key practices such as teacher training, teaching the students in their own language, the simultaneous teaching method, specialised schools like technical and trade schools. He also started several Religious Orders for men and women to serve the poorest of the poor and inspired others to do the same. His legacy is responsible for millions of hearts touched and transformed over the centuries! Say a prayer of thanksgiving to our Founder!



Covington Mayor and SPS Alum Mark Johnson '76 poses with Student Council officers after the Leadership Breakfast last week.

- **Happy Birthday Louisiana!** From the official Louisiana Website: *On April 30, 1812, the United States admitted Louisiana as the 18th state into the Union. Louisiana was the first state to have a majority Catholic French- and Spanish-speaking population, reflecting its origins as a colony under France from 1699-1763 and Spain from 1763-1803. Following the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, Louisiana's road to statehood was not all smooth. Federal law required citizens of a newly admitted territory to apply to congress for statehood, and the admission of the Orleans Territory as the 18th state followed years of lobbying efforts by prominent citizens—both American and Creole (French-speaking Catholics).*

*Finally in 1811, Democratic President James Madison signed the bill allowing the people of Louisiana to form a state constitution. Following the state constitutional convention in New Orleans, on April 14, 1812, President Madison signed the bill approving statehood. The bill designated April 30, 1812, as the day of formal admission. Join me in praying for our state on its birthday!*

- **TDIH:** Diary of Ann Frank is published.
- **TDIH:** First installment of Tale of Two Cities is published. Can you quote the famous opening line?
- **Track: End of Year Awards Ceremony (5:30)**
- **Seniors Receive Caps and Gowns After Last Exam**



## Sat, May 1

- **Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.** In response to the “May Day” celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph the Worker in 1955. Today honors all workers, reminding us that we all have a responsibility to build the Kingdom of God on Earth through our labor. Here at SPS, that takes on special meaning, as Saint La Salle said we are doing “God’s work.”
- **TDIH:** In 1933, the legend of the Loch Ness Monster is born when a sighting makes local news.
- **Mother Goose Day:** Read childhood nursery favorites and feel Mother Goose's warm embrace once again!
- **Great American Grump Out Day:** Calling all grumps! For one whole day, there is to be no grumping, no frowning, no grouching, or complaining! I'll try to do my part
- **USA Freestyle Wrestling Tournament**
- **Rugby**

## Sun, May 2

- **TDIH:** In 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea begins between Japan and the US. Lasting four days, it is considered the first modern naval engagement, resulting in 70 Japanese and 66 Americans warplanes destroyed. This was the first air-naval battle, as carriers did not fire at each other; planes did the battling. The US carrier *Lexington* was a casualty; "the Blue Ghost" (so-called because it was not camouflaged like other carriers) suffered extensive damage and was sunk by its crew. 216 *Lexington* crewmen died. Japan would go on to occupy all the Solomon Islands, but its victory was a Pyrrhic one: the cost in experienced pilots and aircraft carriers was so great that Japan had to cancel its expedition to other South Pacific targets.
- **Two Different Color Shoes Day** celebrates the uniqueness and diversity of humanity. If this were a school day and we were in session, I would have allowed students to observe this day if they wish.
- **No Pants Day:** Well, it's a Sunday and you are at home so do what you want! Just be assured that I won't be observing it (which is very fortunate for the retired Brothers with whom I live!)
- **Rugby:** State Final Championship Game; 2 pm v. Brother Martin at the Gold Mine on Airline (Zephyr Stadium)



# Rise Up, O Men of God

**I offer the following in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance:**

**ADMISSIONS FOR 21-22:** Thank you for spreading the good news about Lasallian education at SPS! People are responding and next year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade class is almost full. All other grades are full. If you know of someone thinking about SPS 8<sup>th</sup> grade, have them initiate contact soon. Thanks!



**ANNOUNCEMENT:** I am pleased to appoint Coach Sam Francis to the position of Athletic Director of Saint Paul's School, effective July 1. Sam assumes the reins of one of the most successful athletic programs in the state following the retirement from SPS of Craig Ketelsen – under whose leadership our sports programs has experienced unparalleled success and to whom we will forever be grateful. Sam has “big shoes to fill” and his appointment did not come without much thought, discernment, consultation, and prayer. The committee I appointed to recommend a new AD had the privilege of interviewing a total of six quality candidates – all outstandingly capable individuals willing and able to keep our Wolves on the winning paths. I am grateful to all of them for volunteering to serve in the AD

position. I know we can count on them to aid Sam as he adjusts to his new position. Congratulate Sam and assure him of your support. Congratulations to the other candidates and thank you for their willingness to serve. *Ad multos annos, Sam and Craig!*

**ANNUAL APPEAL:** Many thanks to those who have responded. If you can help at any amount, great. If not, I hope you will at least pray for us.

**ANNUAL APPEAL AND GRANDPARENTS:** We are blessed with many supportive grandparents. Many schools solicit donations from grandparents directly. Again, I do it differently than other schools that directly solicit grandparents. I ask that you inform your son's grandparents or, if you want, I'll be happy to send them the information directly if you wish. Just provide me with the information. **I do not ask grandparents without your consent but we need their support.** I have already received a number of grandparent gifts. Again, no gift is too small – and, of course, no gift is too large.

**ATTENDANCE:** If your son is absent, phone Suzy in the Attendance Office before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1980, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns**



*New band/music building is taking shape but weather is not helping!*

**BAND HALL HISTORY:** In the summer of 1966, the school constructed a “recreation center” for the recreational needs of the students living in La Salle Hall dorm. At a cost of \$15,000, a building was constructed to provide ping pong, pool, games and TV for boarders. Eventually, arcade-type games and a snack bar were added. In addition, a nine-hole miniature golf (putt-putt) course was built in front of the building, complete with lighting for nighttime use.

The facility, known simply as “the rec hall”, served the recreational needs of the boarding students until the summer of 1995, when, once again, the needs of the school dictated change. The overall population of the school was growing, but the population of the boarding program was shrinking. Accordingly, the decision was made to move the “rec hall” into La Salle Hall itself and to move the band hall (which was located on the third floor of Benilde Hall) into the rec hall building, thus allowing us to construct five more classrooms in Benilde Hall. The miniature golf course had also deteriorated and was removed.

The building has served the Marching Wolves well since that time, but, again, needs dictate change. In addition to overall building deterioration, our band programs have been expanding of late and now include concert, jazz, and drum corps components in addition to the renowned Marching Wolves, now almost one hundred members strong! They are deserving of a better facility. This new facility will provide expanded space, restrooms, acoustics, and aesthetics to our music program. Construction has begun and this \$2.3 million project will be completed in the summer of 2021. Interested in supporting the renovation, whose overall cost will approach \$2.3 million? We have [Naming Opportunities!](#) For more information, call Danielle Lavie at 985-892-3200 ext 1970 or [development@stpauls.com](mailto:development@stpauls.com) or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or [broray@stpauls.com](mailto:broray@stpauls.com).

**BOOK STORE:** All school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Hours?

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am and 11:15 – 12:45. By appointment: Email [spsbookstore16@gmail.com](mailto:spsbookstore16@gmail.com)
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds fund activities throughout the year. **Recently, we received \$10,000 worth of Chromebooks for student use in main school building!**

# ST. PAUL'S MOTHERS' CLUB BOOKSTORE

Saturday, May 8th  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

*10% Off Everything*

**CAFETERIA:** ALL students may receive a FREE BREAKFAST and LUNCH **throughout the rest of the school year!** Students MUST still obtain the meals with their ID card (no ID, no food) but it is FREE.

**CAFETERIA FREE BREAKFAST/LUNCH CLARIFICATION:** ONLY the basic lunch / breakfast is free. If students purchase “extras”, they will be charged for these. Make sure your son understands this policy.

**CAFETERIA REFUNDS:** Parents of Students not returning to school in August must contact the Cafeteria Manager at 985-809-7112 by May 5<sup>th</sup> to request a refund of any unused monies.’ A request for Refund’ form will be sent home upon request, for a signature for all refund checks greater than 20.00.

**CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR (2021-22):** Some important dates:

Mon - Tue, Aug 2 & 3	Teacher Meetings
Wed, Aug 4	Teacher Prep Day
Thu, Aug 5	School Opens <b>with a full day of instruction</b>
Mon, Sep 06	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 8	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 8	Grandparents Day (11:30 – 1:00 -- Tentative)
Sat, Oct 30	Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
Mon, Nov 08	Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Nov 22 - 26	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 29	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon - Thu, Dec 13-16	Semester Exams
Thu, Dec 16	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Mon, Jan 03	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 17	Martin Luther King Holiday
Fri, Feb 25	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 28 - Mar 04	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Mar 07	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 11	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri Apr 15 – 22	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 25	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 27 – 29	Senior Final Exams
Sat, May 14	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Tue – Fri, May 17 - 20	Final Exams for Grades 8 - 11
Mon, May 23	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Tue, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

**CAR BURGLARIES:** The following was sent last week by Covington Mayor Mark Johnson, SPS '76: *As Covington PD Police Chief Culotta says, “rifling through cars is just too easy.” Nice subdivisions are target-rich environments. Most illegal guns are stolen from unlocked cars. In the last week we have had three guns stolen from unlocked vehicles. Some of the thieves are local, but sometimes they are from out of state traveling along I-12 getting off at populated exits. Therefore:*



- *Lock your car and do not leave valuables visible on the seat.*
- *Cameras, cameras, cameras. The cost of wireless cameras has decreased substantially. With more residents adding cameras, the likelihood of catching the perps is much better.*
- *Download Tip 411 Covington PD app. Your text messages, pictures or video will be sent DIRECTLY to the shift operator. You can include contact information or remain anonymous.*

**CARE AND VIGILANCE:** We must stay focused in these final days. Make sure your sons know that we will enforce rules and policies and teach until the very last day of the semester. And I pray that he makes good, safe choices as we move into the final weeks of the school year. Please speak to him about this.



*Congrats to Harrison & Caleb for signing with Spring Hill and UAB last week!  
Those schools are fortunate to get such talented and capable student athletes!*



**COVID VACCINE:** Our faculty / staff received their second dose of the vaccine on March 26. Everyone at least 16 years old can receive the vaccine. **I encourage all to seriously consider following the example of yours truly, our faculty/staff, Pope Francis, Archbishop Aymond, Governor Edwards, Covington Mayor Johnson, President Biden, VP Harris, former President Trump and former VP Pence – and get vaccinated.**

**EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY ON THURSDAY, MAY 13 AT 6:30:** Each pre-freshman may invite up to FOUR guests – who must all sit in a pod of four chairs. Ceremony will last a little over an hour. Awards will be given at the same time. **Unless changed by Governor Edwards by May 13, masks must be worn during the ceremony.**

**GIVING DAY: GIVENOLADAY IS May 4,** Saint John Baptist de La Salle wrote, "Young people need the light of watchful guides to lead them on the path of salvation." (Med 197.3) Saint Paul's is fortunate to have

many knowledgeable, caring, watchful guides to light the way for its students. These campus heroes are dressed as educators and their superpowers are generosity, wisdom, patience, zeal, piety and vigilance. **All proceeds from GiveNOLA 2021 will benefit Saint Paul's educators for their willingness to do the ordinary things extraordinarily well. Remember: our teachers willingly returned to school last Aug 6 in order to begin in-person instruction – which is what everyone asked. NO TEACHER refused to return due to COVID. Let's show our faculty that we appreciate their efforts!**

[Early giving is now open.](#)

[Giving Day is May 4, 2021](#)



[\*\*Click Here to DONATE TODAY\*\*](#)

**GROOMING:** Our students are looking a bit sloppy of late: haircuts are needed, shaving is not being done (hidden by masks!), shirt tails are untucked, non-SPS cold weather wear is being worn. We will become much more vigilant in enforcing our dress code through the end of the year. Parents – please support us in this and check your son’s appearance before he leaves for school.

**HELPING SAINT PAUL’S:** Don’t forget these painless ways to help:

- Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) & SPS receives 5% of purchase!
- Box Tops for Education – these are redeemable for cash. ring them to his math teacher.
- And, of course, there’s AmazonSmile!

### LAST WEEK:

- **Baseball:** Tough loss to Mandy on Sun, followed by strong wins v. F’leau & Ponchy. On to playoffs!
- **Basketball:** Congrats to Coach Stephen Dale for being chosen as St. Tammany Coach of the Year and to junior Zack Fenn for being named to the All-St. Tammany Team!
- **Bass Fishing:** Our first foray into the LHSAA Bass Fishing Tournament was a grand success. Two of our teams qualified for the finals in Shreveport: Soph Noah Strickland & Frosh Parker Emery finished 8<sup>th</sup> out of 61 teams and Freshmen T.J Marchand & Johnny Finan finished 30<sup>th</sup>. Geaux Wolves Bass Fishing Teams!
- **Blood Drive:** Another successful giving of The Gift of Life by SPS.
- **Bowling:** Tough loss in first playoff round – but an excellent season overall with a young team!
- **COVID Vaccine:** Many students received their vaccine on Wednesday! Great! Geaux Away COVID!
- **Engineering Design and Development** class had the outcomes of their five projects presented in class from on Friday. The projects included a handheld device to assist the blind navigate a cityscape, a 10-foot-tall emergency dwelling, an aerodynamic design for a racecar, a rapidly deployable barrier to protect houses from flooding and an electric car with recharge capability. Very cool and very professional! Our Engineering Program continues to set the bar!
- **Golf:** District Champions – again! Geaux Golf Wolves!
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** The final two HRBs were last week, completing our HRB cycle for this year. As is my custom for the third quarter, seniors give the vocabulary lesson. This year, seniors (Thomas Bitterwolf, Ben Broussard, Lucca Ferrante, and Jake Holincheck) were TERRIFIC – and made FIVE presentations! Here are their words: Thomas chose Thomas *Obstinateness* (a steadfast adherence to an



*Parker & Noah pose with catch at the LHSAA Bass State Championships!*



opinion, purpose, or course of action in spite of reason, arguments, or persuasion); Ben chose **Consistency** (steadfast adherence to the same principles, course, form, etc. Lucca chose **Joie de vivre** (exuberant enjoyment of life.) and Jake expounded on **Énouement** (The bittersweetness of having arrived here in the future, where you can finally get the answers to how things turn out in the real world.) All four tied their words into real-world lessons for the students. Congratulate these four guys. My work with them is done!

- **Lacrosse:** Weather played havoc with Friday's game.
- **Marian Players:** A successful second week of "The Glass Menagerie."
- **Mothers' Club:** Snack Day and TA lunch. Magnifique!



*Jake, Ben, Lucca & Thomas delivered inspiring words at the Honor Roll Breakfasts! One 9<sup>th</sup> grade mom wrote me:*

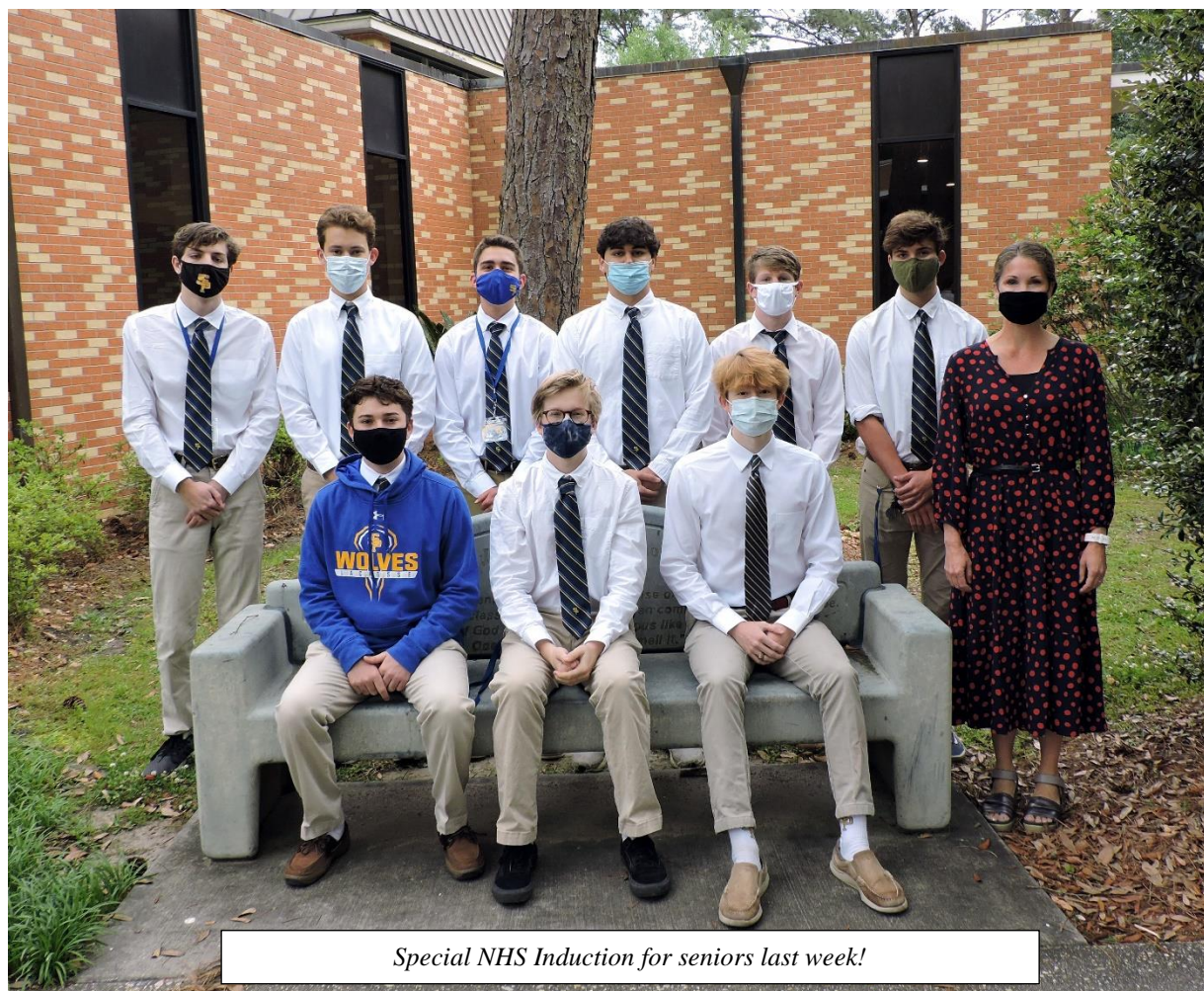
It's been 2 days since the 9th grade HR breakfast and I'm still moved by the four seniors who spoke that day. These boys have really mastered the skill of communication and public speaking - I'm just so impressed! It was obvious that their years at St. Paul's has brought them confidence, maturity, education, and grace. And I think, even more obvious, was that they were no longer HS kids. They are ready for the next chapter in their lives. You must be incredibly proud of them!

*I am incredibly proud of them – and all of the Class of 2021!*

- **National Honor Society Induction:** Ten seniors were inducted on Friday since we were not able to hold our traditional ceremony last fall due to COVID. Congrats to Max Anderson, David Barcelona, Beau Booth, Sean Cripple, Ryan Daly, Max del Rio, Trent Ducombs, Eric Gray, & Owen Vincens. Thanks to NHS Officers Luke Beckendorf, , Trey Paine, Joel Rodriguez, & moderator Audrey Pool



- **New Student Scheduling:** Lots of excitement among our newest Wolves as they came to campus last Tue to finalized their course selections and return paperwork. We are blessed to have them!
- **Retreats:** Congrats to junior staff for squeezing in most of the retreat before the rains came and cancelled some of the afternoon. Rain forced postponement of junior retreat until this Monday.
- **Rugby:** BIG win in the semi-final match over Jesuit, 38-12. GEAUX Rugby Wolves!
- **Student Council:** Last week's elections had no Russian interference and we had GREAT candidates. Incumbent President Davis Lagarde vows smooth transition! Congrats to newly elected President **Walker Dubreuil**, Vice-President **Marco Vargas**, Secretary **Ben Barousse**, Treasurer **Ethan Wilson** & **Parliamentarian Isaiah Ayo**. Congrats to ALL candidates! And the Leadership Breakfast went very well, with Covington Mayor and SPS Alum Mark Johnson '76 giving inspiring words to our student leaders.
- **Tennis:** Regional Champions! Again! Geaux Tennis Wolves!
- **Track:** District Runner-Up! Geaux Track Wolves!
- **Ultimate Frisbee:** Unfortunately, weather forced cancellation of Sat's tournament,, which would have brought Catholic High, Brother Martin, Rummel to challenge the Wolves.





**RIP:** Please pray for the response of the soul of Brother Donald Mouton, FSC, who died last week at our retirement home in Santa Fe, New Mexico at the age of 85. Brother Donald was a “giant” among the Christian Brothers. He had an international reputation as a theologian and Lasallian scholar. He literally made presentations all over the world. He also served as my Brother Provincial from 1990-96, which brought him to Saint Paul’s on numerous occasions. He often remarked that he felt “the presence of God” on our campus. But SPS was also Brother Donald’s first teaching assignment, which lasted for three years (1957 – 60), following the completion of his undergraduate degree. Since he was a musician, too, Brother Donald was appointed band director of a VERY fledgling band program. He told me

that he often gave students instruments even if they could not play them in order to show a decent size corps of musicians. **But his real claim to SPS fame is that he authored our present-day Fight Song – of which he remained quite proud.** Thank you, Brother Donald! In the words of Saint La Salle, all heaven is rejoicing at your entrance into the Kingdom. Rest in peace! And Saint Paul’s forevermore!



**SLOW YOUR ROLL.** This week is the one-year anniversary of Mayor Mark Johnson’s initiative to improve driving habits within Covington – one of his main campaign pledges. Mayor Mark’s goal is “to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets.” The Mayor is asking everyone to “relax, take a deep breath and slow down. I applaud the Mayor’s initiative and pledged to him our support. Reinforce this with your sons whenever possible. And set a good example yourself!

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

- **Parents:** stress with your sons the consequences of inappropriate social media posting. Cyber-bullying is against the law and has legal implications. And the school will take strong measures.
- **Students:** THINK before you post!

**SPORTSMANSHIP TALKS:** Trevor, Joe Dickens, Lee Pierre, and I spoke to all sophomore, junior, and senior classes concerning the increasing incidents of poor and inappropriate “sportsmanship” by students at our athletic events. We had even banned students from attending events for two weeks. Things are better but they must continue. Please reinforce this message with your sons. And parents – this sometimes applies to a few of you, too. We will not tolerate abusive behavior by anyone at our events.



# ST. SEBASTIAN WEIGHT ROOM

DEDICATED BY JOSEPH & LANIE BARRECA

*Thank you, Barreca Family!*

**STUDY HALL AFTER SCHOOL:** Ben's Den (aka the library) opens every afternoon (Monday-Friday) until 4:00. You are encouraged to mention this service to your sons who are on campus after school with nothing to do or who may be waiting for a late ride or a practice to begin. All we ask is that they treat the facility with respect and that they are quiet. The space will be supervised by faculty.

**SUPERINTENDENT DR. RAENELL HOUSTON:** From Dr. Houston to all Catholic schools: *I respectfully request that you use prudent judgement and follow all civil parish guidelines for... events that take place outside of the regular school day and outside of typical school operations. If compliance with local civil guidance cannot be guaranteed and/or an event is likely to lead to a high risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus, the event should be rescheduled for a later date when it is safer to do so.*

**TEEN LIFE COUNTS – 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE EDITION:** Because of the exploding suicide rate in St. Tammany Parish, St. Paul's takes this issue especially seriously. We strive to do everything possible to keep our students safe. Our sophomores have already participated in Teen Life Counts. We believe it is a beneficial experience for both them and their families. In view of recent events, however, the counseling department arranged for portions of the program to be delivered to our current eighth graders last month. 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students were notified via an email from Gina Hall. This is being proactive, and I commend the counselors for taking this step. Know that we take ANY hint of self-harm by a student very seriously, with protocols in place for handling the matter. For additional information about Teen Life Counts, visit <http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/>

**TUITION INVOICES for 2021 – 22 have been sent, if your son is returning and registered for next year. Tuition is due by June 1 and pre-payment is always welcomed. SPS can't exist without tuition. Thank you for your understanding.**

**TUTORING:** Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in the library for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services also provided. Encourage your son to use this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so!**



**VALS & SALS:** We are pleased and proud to announce that Valedictorian Honors for the Class of 2021 will be shared by **Luke Beckendorf, Ben Broussard, Adam Cazayoux, Evan Greene, Trey Paine, Aiden Plache, and Max Salvant. Our sole Salutatorian is Thomas Bitterwolf.** Congrats to them and the teachers who worked so diligently with them.

**VAPING: ALERT! VAPING IS ON THE RISE AND WE CAN'T CONTROL IT WITHOUT PARENTAL HELP!** After having made headway against this insidious habit, we are discovering increased levels of usage by some students. The message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, all too often ignore the warnings of science.) Please stress this with your sons. We have made our position very clear – it is prohibited and strong consequences are imposed if it is discovered. But we can't police outside of school – parents, PLEASE insist with your sons that the dangers of his trend are not worth the risk. Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** More puns!

- *My coworkers voted me "most secretive guy in the office." I can't tell you how much this means to me.*
- *My kids gave me a globe for my birthday. It means the world to me.*
- *What starts with E, ends with E, and has only one letter in it? Envelope!*
- *Did you see that milk go flying past? No? Oh, it must have gotten pasteurized!*
- *What did the buffalo say to his son when he dropped him off at school? Bison!*
- *What does an island have in common with the letter T? They are both in the middle of water!*
- *My family just celebrated 200 years of owning a buffalo farm. It's our bison-tenial.*
- *How do birds communicate? They tweet.*
- *"My son told me he didn't understand cloning. I told him, 'That makes two of us.'"*
- *"I just saw my wife trip while carrying a basket full of ironed clothes. I watched it all unfold."*
- *"I have a Russian friend who's a sound engineer. And a Czech one too, and a Czech one too."*
- *"My wife screamed in pain during labor so I asked, 'What's wrong?' She screamed, 'These contractions are so painful!' 'I am sorry, honey,' I replied. 'What is wrong?'"*
- *When the pandas escaped from the zoo, there was complete pandemonium!*
- *I had to quit my job at the muffler center because the work was too exhausting!*
- *What word in the dictionary is spelled wrong? Wrong.*
- *My friend made a bad joke about gravity, but I still fell for it.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**YEARBOOKS:** Price went up to \$75 on April 1.

- Go to [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com)
- Search for "Saint Paul's" exactly as displayed here.
- Select "Purchase a 2020-21 Product" in the list.
- Select "Buy a yearbook" option on the right side of the page.
- Follow the rest of the on-screen instructions and submit your results.
- **\*Seniors do not purchase a yearbook. The yearbook is included in the senior fee.**
- Please contact Mimi Monteiro at [m.monteiro@stpauls.com](mailto:m.monteiro@stpauls.com) if you have any questions.

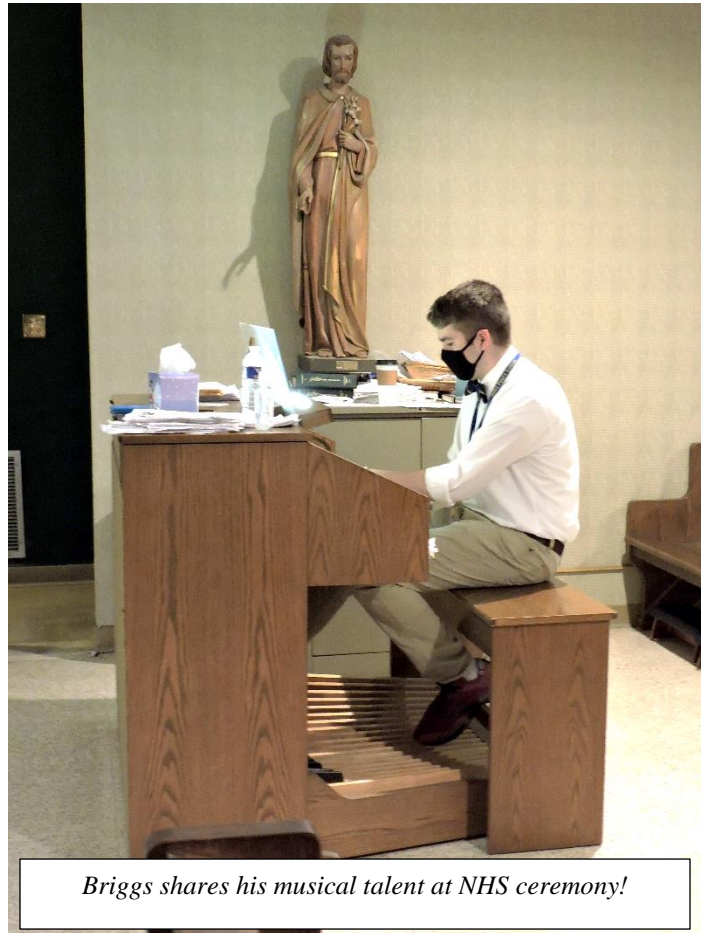
**A LOOK AHEAD AND SECOND SEMESTER PERIOD ROTATION:** Here is the period rotation for rest of year. This is subject to change if unavoidable conflicts (weather, etc.) occur:

**APRIL**

23 – DEFG  
26 – ABCD  
27 – EFGA – Stuff the Bus  
28 – BCDE – Senior Exams  
29 – FGAB – Senior Exams  
30 – CDEF – Senior Exams

**MAY**

3 – GABC  
4 – DEFG – Pack Time  
5 – ABCD  
6 – EFGA  
7 – BCDE  
10 – FGAB  
11 – CDEF – President's Assembly  
12 – GABC  
13 – DEFG – Academic Awards TBD  
14 – ABCD – Athletic Awards TBD  
17 – EFG  
18 – Exams 9-11th  
19 – Exams 9-11th  
20 – Exams 9-11<sup>th</sup>  
21 – Exams 9-11<sup>th</sup>



*Briggs shares his musical talent at NHS ceremony!*

Whew! Enough for now. Even though it's the last days of April of 2021 (can you believe it?), I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to anymore since it stopped broadcasting but I still remember it and LOL): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Know of my prayer for you and your family in these challenging times! Again, thanks for being part of the 2020-21 edition of SPS.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Fully COVID-Vaccinated and Ready for the Final Days of the School Year as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President / CEO of Saint Paul's School



*by doing the ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, letting Our Lady of the Star guide us to God, beseeching our Holy Founding Brothers to help us continue the Lasallian Mission, living courageously, and respecting all people!*

***Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!***





*Listen to the sermon of the flora and fauna on our campus as they follow God's plan for them!  
May they help us keep our inner peace!*



***Congratulations to the Division 1  
State Champion Wrestling Wolves!***



***Congratulations to the Division 1  
State Champion Powerlifting Wolves!***





..... THE CLASS OF 2021 .....

*National Merit Finalists*

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Jake Holincheck



Davis Lagarde



Lucca Ferrante



Ben Broussard



Trey Paine



Gabe Gros



Hunter Kergosien



Brady Talley



Axel Henderson





