



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Celebrating 108 years of educational excellence in Covington
339 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
January 27 – Feb 02, 2020



Welcome to last full week of January! 1/12th (or 0.08333...% if you prefer) of 2020 is almost history! Wow!



Another beautiful day dawns at SPS!

Today begins Catholic Schools Week, when Catholic schools throughout the United States celebrate and affirm the Catholic identity of our schools. The National Catholic Education Association has designated the theme of the week as: "Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed" and Jeff Ramon and his cadre of Lasallian Young Leaders have planned a series of events to flesh out the various aspects of this theme.

Historically, we cannot overstate the contribution of Catholic education to this country, especially here in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Today, Catholic schools continue to produce outstanding achievement, in spite of the many challenges to their existence. Here in the Archdiocese of New

Orleans, for example, the strategic plan designed to save the Catholic school system already has caused changes. Archbishop Aymond has stated that the Catholic school system in New Orleans will look very different twenty five years from now than it looks today. In the past two weeks, for example, three Catholic schools in ARNO announced they are closing and one new, special needs school will open.

We remember and celebrate, too, that Saint Paul's is not just a private school or a Christian school -- we are a Lasallian Catholic school. We remind ourselves of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, who Pope Pius XII proclaimed Patron of All Teachers by virtue of his contribution to education. To be faithful to both our Lasallian Catholic nature, we must remember that Saint La Salle insisted upon quality schools which not only "ran well" but were "places of salvation" (both spiritual and temporal) for the students by teaching them the "Truths of their Religion." In such a way, the Founder believed, the schools would "touch the hearts" of the students who attended.

St. La Salle said that "to touch the hearts of the students entrusted to your care is the greatest miracle you can perform and one which God expects of you." He also insisted that those who work in Catholic schools must look upon themselves as "ministers of God's grace" and "co-workers with God."

As I wrote to the faculty, **Saint La Salle would accept nothing less from the early brothers; we must offer nothing less today. Thank you for supporting Lasallian Catholic education at Saint Paul's School!**

Mon, Jan 27 (11th HR Breakfast schedule; A B C D)

- **This Day in History:** In 1973, the United States, South Vietnam, Viet Cong, and North Vietnam formally sign "An Agreement Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam" in Paris ending America's most unpopular war.
- **TDIH II:** In 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart** was born. Listen to some Mozart today!
- **Chocolate Cake Day:** Indulge and enjoy!
- **Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day (always last Monday of Jan):** Feeling a little stressed? Get some bubble wrap and squeeze away! Feel the stress disappear with each Pop Pop Pop!
- **UN International Commemoration of Holocaust Victims:** On each Jan 27, the UN remembers the Holocaust of WW II. The day also commemorates when Soviet troops liberated the Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland on Jan 27, 1945. From the website: *This year's observance is centered "Journeys through the Holocaust". This theme recalls journeys taken during this dark period, from deportation to incarceration to freedom, and how this experience transformed the lives of those who endured it. These are stories of pain and suffering, yet ultimately also of triumph and renewal, serving as a guiding force for future generations. Each person who becomes aware of this history will no doubt reflect upon his or her own capacity to turn compassion for others into decisive and heroic action in their time of need. We must use teachable moments this week in to remind students of this horrible stain on the history of the world – and to pray such hatred never again occurs.*
- **Bowling:** Wolves v. Albany at Tangi Lanes



Students listen attentively to LPO concert last Wednesday.

Tue, Jan 28 (President's Assembly; E F G A)

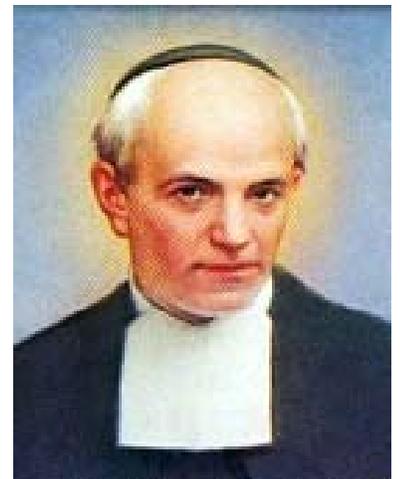
- **Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas**, a Catholic intellectual giant. My personal favorite St. Thomas story is when he said that he learned more by kneeling at the foot of the crucifix than from all his university studies.
- **TDIH:** In 1986, the space shuttle *Challenger* explodes after liftoff, killing seven astronauts aboard.
- **Fun at Work Day:** Have fun today at work! Fortunately, I have fun every day by working at SPS.
- **Blueberry Pancake Day:** Enjoy!
- **Kazoo Day:** To celebrate kazoo playing in America (the kazoo was first introduced at the George State Fair in 1852), toot away today!
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at F'bleau
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Ponchatoula

Wed, Jan 29 (12th HR Breakfast schedule; B C D E)

- **In Memoriam:** Today is the three-year anniversary of the passing of 2014 alumnus Graham Jordan, an outstanding student, athletic and person. We continue to pray for and with his family, who are SPS neighbors. I invite you to visit Graham's Memorial Tree and plaque and offer a prayer for him and his family.
- **TDIH:** In 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven," is published. Enjoy rereading the poem today. "Nevermore!"
- **Puzzle Day:** Work a puzzle today! A crossword, jigsaw, or any type will do fine. Enjoy!
- **Corn Chip Day:** Eat a corn chip today! Did you know the corn chip was first marketed in 1961?
- **Basketball:** 9th v. F'bleau (6:30)
- **Wrestling:** SPS/Rummel/De La Salle in Tri-meet at Rummel
- **Bowling:** Wolves v. Hannan
- **Screenagers:** Special showing in the BAC; 7 pm

Thu, Jan 30 (Regular; F G A B)

- **Croissant Day:** Treat yourself to this French pastry!
- **Today** Lasallians throughout the world celebrate a special Christian Brother feast: Saint Brother Mutien Marie. In Mutien Marie, we have another example of the Church raising someone to sainthood not for extraordinary deeds as the world might recognize, but for extraordinary devotion to and **zeal for Catholic education on a daily basis**. Mutien was a Belgian brother who spent **58 years** teaching and prefecting at the Brothers' boarding school at Malonne. He was an effective teacher, a vigilant prefect, a catechist in the nearby parish and a great influence on his students by his patience and piety. Among the Brothers, it was said that he had never been seen violating even the smallest points in the Rule of the Brothers -- and I can assure you that there were many rules back then and the Brothers were the first ones to point out deviations by each other! St. Brother Mutien Marie -- pray for us!
- **Career Day for Juniors**
- **Sudden Impact (Mr. Eubanks' F Period)**



Fri, Jan 31 (Regular; C D E F)

- **Feast day of St. John Bosco**, founder of the Salesian Order of Sisters, Brothers and Priests. In many ways, John Bosco was similar to St. John Baptist de La Salle – he had a loving concern for young people and was

devoted to meeting their educational needs. Today, the Salesians minister in the Archdiocese of New Orleans by conducting Archbishop Shaw High School and the Academy of Our Lady High School. We thank the Salesians for their work with the young people of the Archdiocese. Here's a sampling of John Bosco's words:

- *Do good while you still have time. God does not pay us for results, but for effort.*
 - *Nobody can be truly happy in this world unless he is at peace with God.*
 - *Put up willingly with the faults of others if you wish others to put up with yours.*
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- January 31 also marks the 104th birthday of Thomas Merton, American Catholic writer and mystic. A Trappist monk of the Abbey of Gethsemane, KY, he was a poet, social activist, and student of comparative religion. A few of his words:
 - *We are not at peace with others because we are not at peace with ourselves, and we are not at peace with ourselves because we are not at peace with God.*
 - *Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul.*
 - *And one of my favorites: My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.*
 - **Inspire Your Heart with Art Day:** Visit a museum, browse an art book, view art on the Internet, listen to music, paint a picture, read poetry, write poetry – liberate the artist inside of you. Enjoy art today!
 - **Catholic Schools Week Mass:** A student delegation will represent SPS at the official Catholic Schools Mass at St. Catherine of Siena at 10:30 am with Archbishop Gregory Aymond as celebrant.
 - **OLL Pep Rally:** Marching Wolves will once again perform at OLL's Catholic Schools Week pep rally.
 - **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Slidell
 - **Soccer:** Wolves v. F'Bleau



Pre-freshmen await start of the Honor Roll Breakfast.

Sat, Feb 1

- **TDIH:** In 1884, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the most comprehensive and accurate dictionary of the English language, is published. From History Channel Website: *The OED is the definitive authority on the meaning, pronunciation and history of over half a million words. The OED provides a chronological history, quoting a range of sources. The OED is famous for cross-references and etymologies. The verb "set" merits the OED's longest entry, at approximately 60,000 words and detailing over 430 uses. No sooner was the OED finished than editors began updating it. In 1984, Oxford Press embarked on a 5-year project to create an electronic version. The effort required 120 people just to type the pages from the print edition and 50 proofreaders to check their work. In 1992, a CD-ROM version of the dictionary was released. Today, the dictionary is available online to subscribers and updated quarterly with over 1,000 new entries and revisions. At a whopping 20 volumes weighing over 137 pounds, it would reportedly take one person 120 years to type all 59 million words in the OED.* Celebrate the OED today! Spend some time on the OED website (www.oed.com)
- **Working Naked Day:** Do what you want at home, but SPS is NOT celebrating this day.
- **Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day (always 1st Sat of Feb):** Well, it's your choice to celebrate – or not!
- **Wrestling:** St. Tammany Parish Championship Tournament at F'Bleau
- **Basketball:** SPS 9th grade tournament; 8th v. Jesuit & Shaw at Rummel
- **Math Tournament:** FMWs at Baton Rouge Magnet
- **Rugby:** SPS v. Brother Martin at City Park
- **Brother Bill Parsons Memorial Quiz Bowl Tournament:** Geaux Quiz Bowl Wolves!



Basketball Senior Night! Thanks, seniors and parents, for your dedication to SPS basketball!

Sun, Feb 2 (Feast of the Presentation)

- **Feast of the Presentation.** This feast, told in Luke's Gospel, celebrates the child Jesus being brought to the Temple "according to the law of Moses." It was also the occasion of Simeon ("a righteous and devout man") proclaiming the famous "nunc dimittis" -- "now, Lord, you may dismiss your servant...for my eyes have seen your salvation..." Since the 10th Century, this feast has also been called Candlemas because candles were blessed and carried in procession, a devotion based upon Simeon's words that Jesus is the light who reveals God to all nations. In his meditation for this feast, St La Salle tells the brothers "How good it is to give oneself to God! Even in this life, God rewards and fills with very tangible consolations the soul that consecrates itself to God. The more you give to God, the more God blesses you." Today, let's renew our own consecrations to God -- and encourage our students to do, so, too.
- **TDIH:** In 1887, Groundhog Day, with a rodent meteorologist, is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, PA. From the Official GH Day web site: *Pennsylvania's earliest settlers determined if the sun did appear on Feb. 2 so wise an animal as the groundhog would see its shadow and hurry back into its home for another 6 weeks of winter.* Let's hope Punxsutawney Phil sees no shadow!
- **TDIH:** In 2014 on this day, a memorial mass was celebrated in the G-Plex for **David Decareaux '94**, and his two sons. You may remember the tragedy: David and his sons were camping, got lost, and died of hypothermia. We continue to remember David and his family in our prayer.
- **Crepe Day:** Enjoy this French classic! In France, today is called la Chandeleur, Fête de la Lumière, or jour des crêpes. The French eat a lot of crêpes on Chandeleur, but also do a bit of fortune telling while making them. It is traditional to hold a coin in your writing hand and a crêpe pan in the other, and flip the crêpe into the air. If you manage to catch the crêpe in the pan, your family will be prosperous for the rest of the year.

Rise Up, O Men of God

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

ANNUAL APPEAL: Many thanks to those who have responded to my request. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high-pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressured.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation and the \$4.5 million new gym, the \$4 million renovation of Benilde Hall.)
- You may “pledge” your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. **WONDERFUL!**
- While we don't send requests to grandparents, every year a number of grandparents do donate to the school. **AND WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! If you would like to inform your son's grandparents of the drive, please do so – or provide me with an address and I'll personally appeal. I'll send them a nice “thank you” note, too!** Even a small donation (\$5!) is welcome.
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small.** What's important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!

- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

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 want to 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.



Sophomores and their parents await start of Honor Roll Breakfast.

APPLICATION LETTERS: More unedited comments:

- *St. Paul's doesn't except just anyone. You must be willing to try your best. [And willing to learn spelling!]*
- *When I shadowed, I felt like something clicked.*
- *I want to go to St. Paul's because it is a Blue Ribbon School that prepares you for college by teaching you independence with the guidance of God.*

- *I noticed during my campus tour that the lunches looked very appealing and delicious.*
- *I love everything about St. Paul's!*
- *My dad says there is no perfect school but St. Paul's is the closest possible.*

ARCHIVAL RECORDS: The Archdiocese of New Orleans Office of Archives and Records has a new website. The office is the official repository for records of Catholic institutions in the archdiocese. From genealogy to sacramental records to transcripts of closed schools, the office is a wealth of info. Here is the new website: <https://nolacatholic.org/archives-and-records> And the site has some nice virtual tours in interesting history, including 100 years of service of the Christian Brothers in Louisiana: <https://nolacatholic.org/100-years-of-service-christian-brothers-service-in-louisiana>

CALENDAR FOR NEXT YEAR -- 2020-21: Here is our tentative calendar for NEXT year (for those who really plan!)

THIS IS NEXT YEAR'S CALENDAR, NOT THIS YEAR'S CALENDAR!

Thurs, Aug 6	School Opens with full day of instruction (same day as public schools)
Thu, Aug 20	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Day
Fri, Aug 21	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Aug 24	Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Mon, Sep 7	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 2	In-service for faculty (no classes for students)
Fri, Oct 9	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 9	Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:30)
Mon, Oct 19	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Sat, Oct 31	Open House for Prospective Students (1 – 3 pm)
Tues, Nov 3	Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Nov 23 - 27	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 30	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon - Thu, Dec 14-17	Semester Exams
Thu, Dec 17	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams

THIS IS NEXT YEAR'S CALENDAR, NOT THIS YEAR'S CALENDAR!

Mon, Jan 4	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Jan 6-8	Senior Retreat
Mon, Jan 18	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 1	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
Fri, Feb 12	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 15-19	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 22	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 12	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri Apr 2-9	Easter Holidays

Mon, Apr 12	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 28-30	Senior Final Exams
Thu, May 13	Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)
Sat, May 15	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Tues – Fri, May 18-21	Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11
Mon, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Tues, May 25	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

Remember that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.



A little quiet conversation time between father and son before start of Honor Roll Breakfast.

CASH BACK PROGRAMS: Please keep the following in mind when you shop:

- Amazon Smile: This website, operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same benefits of shopping on Amazon.com. The difference is that when using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice – which we hope will be Saint Paul’s School! Click here to shop on AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1638895>.

- Office Depot: We receive store credit from customers who give SPS ID at the checkout. Our number is officially 70041640 but saying Saint Paul's will do. This will help a lot.
- Box Tops for Education: Each top is worth 10 cents – which adds up quickly. Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..

FATHER-SON BBQ: Reservations for F-S BBQ on Saturday, Mar 7 at 5 pm are now being taken! Reservations must be made by March 2 **Return form at end of newsletter with a check for \$20 per person to Mrs. Claire by March 2! You Can also be mailed to: St. Paul's School, Attn: Mrs. Claire, PO Box 928, Covington, LA 70434**

A reservation form is at the end of the newsletter.

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS DEPT: We mourn the closing of Christ the King School at the end of this school year, due to enrollment and financial issues. As poet John Donne wrote: *Each man's death diminishes me,/For I am involved in mankind./Therefore, send not to know/For whom the bell tolls,/It tolls for thee.*

ID CARDS: As part of our safety plan, students are required to wear their ID cards on their SPS issued lanyard on a DAILY basis. **Please check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he receives a detention. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.

LHSAA: The annual convention will be this week, W – F. Trevor and Craig will represent SPS – as the LHSAA has no use for us presidents. Many controversial proposals are on the agenda, including eliminating select and non-select schools, and we hope for a fair vote by the principals, respecting the rights of private schools. I am amazed at the amount of time that people are spending on these issues!

LAST WEEK:

- **Admissions Test:** The makeup test on Sat went very well. We have a bumper crop of applicants! God is good – and so are our families who are spreading the good word about SPS!
- **Basketball:** 9th & JV beat Hammond; thrilling OT varsity win v. M'ville
- **Bowling:** Wolves fell to P'toula. We will bounce back this week!
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Thanks for your cooperation with the special schedules. I am grateful to Shellie Campo, Danielle Lavie, and our Physical Plant crew for logistics and Hwy 190 Chick-fil-A manager Rick Gonzales for excellent food service.
- **LPO Concert:** Wow. What a great experience for the boys – and us, too! I thoroughly enjoyed it! I hope your son told you about it! Rossini, Corelli, Holst, Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev – and more!
- **March for Life:** Our Wolves represented us well in Washington, DC! We welcome them back.
- **Mass:** Our first 2020 mass was wonderful. Thanks to all.
- **Math Tournament:** The FMWs were up and at 'em early Sat AM. I don't have results yet but I'm sure they did GREAT – as usual.
- **Soccer:** 6-0 over Mandeville and I did not get final results for 8th grade tournament
- **Wrestling:** Wow. 69-9 win over Covington! And District Champs, to boot! Plus, JV & Jr Hi had busy weekends with tournaments. Jr Hi winners include: **3rd place - Giovanni Barletta, Declan Johnson-Booth & Myles McCormick; 2nd place - Conlan Enk, Nathan Ward, Zachary Bono, Aiden Thiaville, Jared Paulino ; 1st place - Ethan Flanagan, Dane Schumacher, Gunter Jenkins, Sam Gros**



Jr Hi Wrestlers at Brother Martin Tournament!

MARDI GRAS PARADE SCHEDULE: Our Marching Wolves have a full season ahead. Look for the MWs in the following parades:

- Fri, Feb 14 Cleopatra
- Sat, Feb 15 Olympia
- Sun, Feb 16 Carrollton
- Fri, Feb 21 Hermes
- Sat, Feb 22 Endymion
- Sun, Feb 23 Bacchus
- Tue, Feb 25 Rex

NOLA CATHOLIC MEN: The archdiocese has coordinated a men's' conference on March 7, 2020. It is a going to be a great event for men and young men alike (15 and up). The event is from 8 am to 2:30 pm at St. Catherine of Siena in Metairie on Saturday, 3/7. There are some great speakers lined up along with mass with Archbishop Aymond and the opportunity for confession and adoration. A light breakfast along with lunch will be included with the \$45 registration fee for the event (and a t-shirt, I believe!). There will also be booths for men to learn more about ways to be active in their faith life following the conference. Registration is open. More information and sign-ups can be had at www.NOLACatholicMen.com.

Parent – Teacher Conferences will be held next Monday, Feb 3, between 5 – 7 pm. The format is the same we used in Nov: teachers will be in the BAC and parents can visit with some or all of their son's teachers.

Phones: Please stress with your sons the need to follow school phone rules. Students must turn OFF phones in class and may only use them outside (between classes or at lunch.) A \$10 fine is assessed for violating the rule – which, unfortunately, is happening excessively.



Seniors enjoy Snack Day! Thanks, Mothers' Club!

RE-REGISTRATION OF CURRENT STUDENTS FOR 2020-21: Here's the process:

- Current 8th graders are being asked to register now. Materials were emailed last week and due date is this Tuesday, Jan 28th. We need to know if any current 8th graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9th graders we can accept.
- Current 9th – 11th grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12th graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2020-21, a \$300 registration fee will be due.
- **Also, if your son does not plan on returning, please let me know.**

ROSARY: a group of students recite one decade of the rosary each morning in the chapel, beginning at 7:40 on M, T, Th, and F and following mass on W. They would love to have your son join them.

SAFE DRIVING: Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, NO CELL PHONE USE DURING SCHOOL ZONE TIMES, buckle up, etc. Thank you!

SAINT JOSEPH ALTAR INFO: The SPS St. Joseph Altar is scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2020, which leaves only 6 weeks for preparation. The IMPORTANT DATES are below:

- COOKIE MAKING DAY IN THE CAFETERIA SATURDAY 2/15 from 9a-1p (BRING ROLLING PINS)
- ALTAR SET UP SUNDAY, MARCH 1 FROM 3-5 PM
- ALTAR DAY in BRIGGS MONDAY , MARCH 2
- ALTAR TAKE DOWN MARCH 2 FROM 3-5 PM
- We are in need of food and monetary donations. The sign up sheet is at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A9A82CA0FF2-stjoseph2>
- PLEASE MAIL ANY MONETARY DONATIONS MADE PAYABLE TO ST. PAUL SCHOOL ST JOSEPH ALTAR

C/O Ann Kay Logarbo, MD
80700 Teal Loop
BUSH, LA 70431

SCHOOL ZONE CELL PHONE BAN: It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

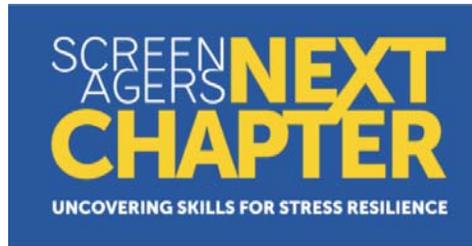
SCREENAGERS: Scientific studies have demonstrated that more than two hours a day on social media correlates with a higher chance of experiencing unhappy feelings. In fact, there has been a 59 percent increase in teens reporting symptoms of depression since 2011. St. Paul's students are certainly not immune to this trend, which is why we would like to invite you to a special screening of *Screenagers Next Chapter: Uncovering Skills for Stress Resilience on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Briggs Assembly Center.*

In *Screenagers Next Chapter*, Stanford-trained physician Dr. Delaney Ruston examines the science behind teen's emotional challenges, the interplay of social media, and most important, what can be done in schools and homes to help teens build crucial skills to navigate stress, anxiety, and depression in our digital age. The film follows Dr. Ruston as she finds herself at a loss on how to help her own teens as they struggle with their emotional wellbeing. She sets out to understand these challenges in our current screen-filled society, and how we, as parents and educators, can empower teens to overcome mental health challenges and build emotional agility, communication savvy, and stress resilience.

You can watch the movie trailer here: <https://www.screenagersmovie.com/nc-trailer>.

The film highlights surprising insights from leading brain researchers and psychologists revealing evidence-based ways to support mental wellness among our youth. Saint Paul's School is committed to helping our students learn coping skills to lead happy and successful lives. Like you, we are always looking for concrete solutions to help students deal with stress (other than turning to a screen). Students will watch the film during the school day, so this event is only for parents.

I sincerely hope you are able to join us for this special event. Tickets are free, but seating is limited so please register here: <https://www.eventcombo.com/e/screenagers-next-chapter-presented-by-st-pauls-school-37368>.



Senior Graduation Information: Senior graduation is Sat, May 16th at 4 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Doors will open at 3 and **admission is by ticket only**. Each senior will be given eight tickets. **Due to the large number of seniors, EXTRA TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.**



SLOW YOUR ROLL is Mayor Mark Johnson’s initiative to improve driving within Covington. Did you know:

- Two of the most often repeated complaints to the Mayor are speeding and the running of stop signs.
- On any given weekday, over 15,000 people drive into and out of Covington.
- Many of our streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of the automobile, thus not designed for traffic.

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. In October, we will be stating more firmly the need to slow down. In November, there will likely be consequences.*” I applaud the Mayor’s initiative and pledge to him our support. Reinforce this with students whenever possible. I will do so with parents. And please set a good example yourself, as in the words of Saint La Salle: **“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”**

SOCIAL HOSTING: Even with the holiday season behind us, the temptations for alcohol use by students remains. One issue facing parents is hosting parties where teens are exposed to or even given alcohol. This is known as “social hosting.” Here is a brochure on this activity, which may have legal consequences. Mr. Hal Fox, owner of Fox Litho of Mandeville and father of Hal, provided the brochure. Here’s the link:

<http://fb.mediarelay.com/pbda246>

SOCIAL MEDIA: Get event and classroom pictures, latest scores, calendar reminders, and spiritual uplifting by liking our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana/> or following us on Twitter @SPSWolfpack. The strength of the Wolf is in the pack!



SPS was WELL-represented at March for Life in Washington, DC!
Here are our Wolves in front of Shine of Immaculate Conception!

STUDY HALL AFTER SCHOOL: the library is open every afternoon (Monday-Thursday) until 4:30. Students are free to come and go by signing in and out. 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. We will offer this **service as long as there is a demand for it.**

TEEN LIFE COUNTS PROGRAM: All of our sophomores will participate in this important suicide prevention program which began last week and which is conducted by Jewish Family Services. Suicide remains a problem for St. Tammany Parish. For your information, our protocol for any student who voices possible harm to self is very clear and non-negotiable: we will not allow that students to attend classes until a note from a mental health professional clears the student as not being a threat to himself or others. Unfortunately, we have had to invoke this policy, which is a caring one and not a punitive one, several times already in this school year. I am grateful to Christine Woodard in the counseling department for spearheading this important program. Join me in praying that the message takes root.

THANKS: We thank Covington Mayor Mark Johnson (SPS alum, Class of 1976) and Covington Department of Public Works for the improvements made to the shoulders on 14th Avenue. The added gravel will help eliminate ponding after rains, thus insuring more parking. SPS has agreed to add some limestone over the next couple of months to make the improvement more permanent. To help thank Mayor Mark, remember to Slow Your Roll!

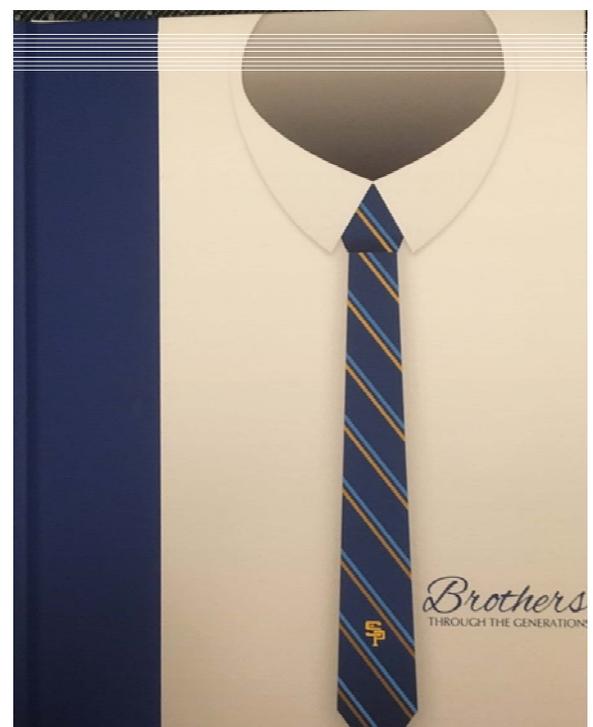
TUTORING: National Honor Society tutoring takes place in the library at lunch. Please encourage your son to take advantage of this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so. Math XL help and essay proofreading services are available.**

UNIFORM SHIRTS: We have a large number of pre-owned uniform shirts in good condition if your son has outgrown his and purchasing new ones is difficult for you. Just come to the Admin Bldg. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son. We also have a number of khaki pants available – all for the taking.

VAPING: Please speak with your son and make it clear that both you, the medical community, the school and the law completely disapprove of this insidious practice.

YEARBOOKS for 2019-20 school year are now available.

- Order online at www.yearbookforever.com. This is the only option for ordering a yearbook, cash or checks are not accepted at school for pre-orders. We do not order extra yearbooks.
- Remember to spell out the word Saint when searching for Saint Paul's School on the website.
- Price \$65 until Mar 13; \$75 Mar 14 – May 29
- Seniors **do not** order a yearbook; it is included in senior fees.



2019 Yearbook (*The Conifer*).
Order this year's before Mar 14's price increase.

Senior parents, grandparents, and family members can purchase a senior ad at www.yearbookforever.com. The deadline to purchase a senior ad is Friday, Feb 21, 2020. All senior ads are created online. Email Mrs. Mimi Monteiro at m.monteiro@stpauls.com if you have any questions about yearbooks or senior

VIRTUAL TOUR OF SPS: If you haven't seen the campus virtual tour that two of our seniors did, it's worth a look – and words of congratulations to the boys. Click [HERE](#) for the virtual campus tour produced by Blake Inzinnia '20 and Jay Reich '20 as a project in Saint Paul's STEM Engineering Design & Development Class.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Hilarious church bulletin bloopers, which I haven't used in years:

- *Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Nelson's sermons.*
- *During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.*
- *Please welcome Pastor Don, a caring individual who loves hurting people.*
- *One of our members donated the new loudspeaker system in honor of his wife.*
- *The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus!*
- *The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.*
- *22 members were present at the church meeting held at the home of Mrs. Marsha Crutchfield last evening. Mrs. Crutchfield and Mrs. Rankin sang a duet, The Lord Knows Why.*
- *Pastor is on vacation. Massages can be given to church secretary...*
- *The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.*
- *Our next song is "Angels We Have Heard Get High"*
- *The rosebud on the altar is to announce the birth of David Belzer, the son of Rev. & Mrs. Julius Belzer.*
- *This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.*
- *Next Sunday, the special collection will defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the carpet should come forward and do so.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



Pre-freshmen enjoy snack day. Thanks, Mothers' Club!

A LOOK AHEAD AND SECOND SEMESTER PERIOD ROTATION: For those who plan, here is the second semester period rotation. Use when making unavoidable doctor appointments, etc. so your son will know what classes he will miss.

January

- 27 – ABCD – 11th HR Breakfast
- 28 – EFGA – President's Assembly
- 29 – BCDE - 12th in HR Breakfast
- 30 – FGAB – Career Day for Juniors
- 31 – CDEF

February

- 3 – GABC – Late Start (9); Parent-teacher conferences in BAC from 5 - 7
- 4 – DEFG - Pack Time
- 5 – ABCD

- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – *Life Skills for Seniors*
- 10 – FGAB
- 11 – CDEF – President’s Assembly – 8th in PreACT
- 12 – GABC – 9th in PLAN
- 13 – DEFG – 10th in Pre ACT
- 14 – ABCD
- 17 – EFGA
- 18 – BCDE - Pack Time
- 19 – FGAB
- 20 – CDEF
- 21 – Faculty Retreat Day; no classes for students

March

- 2 – ABCDEFG – St. Joseph Altar
- 3 – GABC – President’s Assembly
- 4 – DEFG
- 5 – ABCD – *Juniors on retreat/Angola*
- 6 – EFGA – *Juniors on retreat/Angola*
- 9 – BCDE – Late Start (9)
- 10 – FGAB – Pack Time – Juniors in ACT
- 11 – CDEF
- 12 – GABC
- 13 – DEFG –End of Third Quarter
- 16 - ABCD
- 17 – EFGA – President’s Assembly
- 18 – BCDE
- 19 – FGAB
- 20 – CDEF
- 23 – GABC
- 24 – DEFG – Pack Time
- 25 – ABCD
- 26 – EFGA – 9th *Retreat/Field Trip*
- 27 – BCDE – 9th *Retreat/Field Trip*
- 30 – FGAB – 12th HR Breakfast in Café
- 31 – CDEF – President’s Assembly

April

- 1 – GABC - 8/9th HR Breakfast in BAC
- 2 – DEFG – 10/11th HR Breakfast in BAC



Wolves for Life in Washington, DC!

- 3 – ABCD – Jubilarian Assembly
- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – Pack Time
- 8 – FGAB – Passion Play Schedule
- 9 – CDEF – Mandatum Schedule
- 20 – GABC – Late Start
- 21 – DEFG – President’s Assembly
- 22 – ABCD – Leadership Breakfast
- 23 – EFGA – Assembly Schedule
- 24 – BCDE – Assembly Schedule
- 27 – FGAB
- 28 – CDEF – Pack Time
- 29 – GABC - Senior Exams
- 30 – DEFG - Senior Exams

May

- 1 – ABCD – Senior Exams
- 4 – EFGA
- 5 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
- 6 – FGAB
- 7 – CDEF – Athletic Awards
- 8 – GABC – Academic Awards
- 11 – DEFG – 8th Grade Exams
- 12 – ABCD – Assembly – 8th Exams
- 13 – EFGA – 8th Exams
- 14 – BCDE – 8th Exams
- 15 – FGABC
- 16 – Senior Graduation (4 pm; admission by ticket only)
- 18 – DEFG (Review for Period A Exam)
- 19 – Exam Schedule
- 20 – Exam Schedule
- 21 – Exam Schedule
- 22 – Exam Schedule



Wolves for Life in Washington, DC!

Even though it’s 2020, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can’t listen to any more since it went off the air but I still LOL thinking about it): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we move into February! Again, thanks for being part of the 2019 - 20 edition of Saint Paul’s! Happy 2020!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can’t Believe It’s the End of January and I’m Still the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School





Please join us for supper in honor of dads.

FATHER-SON SUPPER

The Dads' Club would like to invite all students
and dads to the Briggs Assembly Center on

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 5:00 PM

Tickets **MUST** be purchased in advance. Return form below with
a check for \$20 per person to Mrs. Claire by March 2nd!

Can also be mailed to:

St. Paul's School, Attn: Mrs. Claire, PO Box 928, Covington, LA 70434

Name of father: _____

Grade(s): _____

Name of son(s): _____

Total of check payable to: St. Paul School _____



Each senior receives a coveted retreat cross – which they often wear long after their graduation from SPS. Non-Christian students receive a symbol of their religion. It's a moving moment as senior move toward culmination of the SPS careers.