



Our thought, support, and prayer continue for junior Michael Doherty as he recovers from his recent football injury. At the present time, Michael remains at The Shepherd Center in Atlanta. We offer prayer and support. May all our holy Christian Brother saints, especially our newest saint, Brother Solomon, intercede with Almighty God on Michael's behalf!



## *The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*

*Dec 12, 2016 – January 03, 2017*

*Final 2016 Edition!*



**Gaudete! Rejoice! Advent is almost over! The coming of the Lord is near!**



For the past four years, I've quoted Brother Tim Coldwell, former Provincial of the former New Orleans-Santa Fe Province of Christian Brothers and now General Councilor for the North American Region of Lasallians, on the occasion of his Gaudete Sunday message to the Brothers four years ago. His words are worth reading again as we enter the final week of the first semester (reason to rejoice!):

*Holiness isn't looking like we shower daily at Lourdes. It's doing the daily with enthusiasm, fervor and zest. Bring a smile and a laugh and a peace to your reading, teaching, administering, worshipping, counseling, socializing, or adoring. Fr. James Martin [a Jesuit writer] says it better: "Joy evangelizes!"*

What a great Gaudete week thought! On this third week of Advent, therefore, when the pressures of the semester's impending end, the rush of the holidays, and the world being filled with unspeakable acts of evil bring stress to us all, I must remember to rejoice – so whatever happens this week, I intend to "bring a smile and a laugh and a peace" to it – and I invite you to do the same as we look forward to Friday at 11:45 AM! In that way, we will be holy! In that way, we will have Gaudeted (not sure that's a word but you get the idea!) In that way, we will be better prepared for December 25. In that way, we will bring light to those whose lives are filled with gloom. Somehow, as difficult as it may be sometimes, we must rejoice!

### **Mon, Dec 12 (Special schedule; G A B & A Exam Review; Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe)**

- **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Patroness of the Americas. Again, God shows his love for the poor. Mary assumes the form of an Indian lady and uses Juan Diego, a peasant, to bring the Message to all. This is a special day for Mexican people, since the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe is located in Mexico City. We pray, too, for the great Mexican Lasallian institutions.
- **This Day in History:** In 1901, Italian physicist and radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi sends the first radio transmission across the Atlantic, disproving detractors who said that the curvature of the earth would limit transmission to 200 miles or less. The message--simply the Morse-code signal for the letter "s"-- traveled more than 2,000 miles from Cornwall, England, to Newfoundland, Canada.
- **National Poinsettia Day:** Admire this iconic Christmas plant! The date marks the death of Joel Roberts Poinsett, an American botanist, physician and Minister to Mexico who in 1828 sent cuttings of the plant he'd discovered in Southern Mexico to his home in Charleston, South Carolina. Botanically, the plant is known as Euphorbia Pulcherrima. And now you know!
- **Senior Retreat Meeting in chapel during CNN)**
- **Dismissal at 2:10**



**Tue, Dec 13 (Exam Schedule; 8:15 start; Period A Exam; Prayer Service; Assembly; B & C review; 2:10 dismissal)**

- **TDIH:** In 2000, Vice President Al Gore concedes defeat to Texas Governor George Bush for the presidency, following weeks of legal battles over the recounting of votes in Florida.

**Wed, Dec 14 (7 am mass; 8:15 start; Period B & C exams; D & E review; 2:10 dismissal)**

- **TDIH:** In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen reaches the South Pole in Antarctica, marking the first time that humans reached the southern end of the Earth's axis. In 1799, George Washington, our first president, dies at his home in Mount Vernon, VA. He was 67 years old.
- **Monkey Day:** "Monkey business" is officially allowed today. Saint Paul's will NOT be celebrating this day!

**Thu, Dec 15 – (8:15 start; Period D & E exam; F & G Review; 2:10 dismissal)**

- **TDIH:** In 1791, Virginia becomes the last state to ratify the Bill of Rights, making the first ten amendments to the Constitution law and completing reforms begun by the Declaration of Independence
- **TDIH:** In 1939, *Gone with the Wind* premiers in Atlanta (where else?) and shocks audiences when Rhett Butler (Clark Gable) says to Scarlett O'Hara (Vivian Leigh): *Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn* – an unheard of use of profanity on the silver screen in those days! Oh, for those days!
- **TDIH:** In 1978, President Jimmy Carter announces that the US would recognize Communist China and sever ties with Taiwan, reversing long standing policy.



Noah, Nicholas, Cameron, Blake, Hyde and Ford (taking the picture) harvest satsumas at the Campo Complex to donate to the Covington Food Bank.

- **TDIH:** In 2005, ten million Iraqis take part in the first democratic election since defeat of Saddam Hussein.
- **National Cat Herders Day:** All of you cat lovers - herd 'em up today! But it's also a day to attempt the an impossible– like herding cats.

**Fri, Dec 16 – (8:15 start; Period F & G exam; 11:45 dismissal)**

- **National Chocolate Covered Anything Day:** Feel free to celebrate!
- **TDIH:** In 1773, the "Boston Tea Party" occurs when a group of Massachusetts colonists disguised as Mohawk Indians board three British tea ships in Boston Harbor and dump 342 chests of tea into the water according to [Boston Tea Party Ships & Museums](#). The museum also

states hundreds took part in the event, with 116 individuals taking credit for it. The Sons of Liberty carefully planned and executed the Boston Tea Party according to the museum, which could have attributed to the absence of violence and confrontation. The three-hour event occurred on Dec. 16, 1773, because "American colonists believed Britain was unfairly taxing them to pay for expenses incurred during the French and Indian War," according to Historic Tours of America

- **TDIH:** In 1944, the infamous Battle of the Bulge began and would last until Jan 25. This was a final and desperate attempt by Adolph Hitler to force a negotiated peace treaty with the Allied Forces on the Western Front. Caught unprepared, the Allied Forces suffered over 20,000 casualties before defeating the German army.
- **Soccer:** SPS Holiday Tournament begins this evening and goes through Saturday and Monday

## Sat, Dec 17

- **Today** begins the "final days of Advent", characterized by the "O Antiphons" taken from the Liturgy of the Hours. Today's antiphon: ***O Sapientia:** O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation.*
- **TDIH:** In 1903, Orville & Wilbur Wright fly the first powered, controlled, heavier-than-air airplane at Kitty Hawk, NC. The flight wasn't much - 12 seconds, 120 feet. But it was the first controlled, sustained flight in a heavier-than-air craft, one of the great moments of the century.
- **Basketball:** 9, JV & Varsity at Bro. Martin (begins at 3)
- **Wrestling:** Varsity at Bro. Martin; Jr Hi in Rummel tourn

## Sun, Dec 18 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

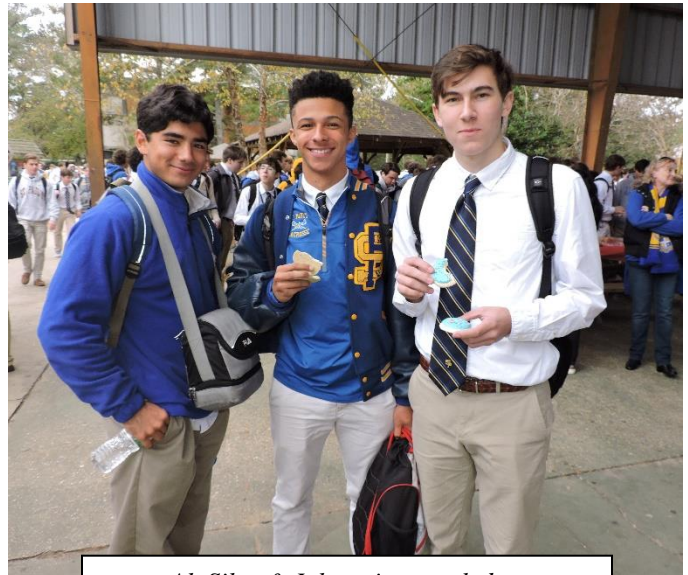
- ***O Adonai:** O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai: come; stretch your hand & set us free.*
- **TDIH:** In 1777, the new United States celebrates its first national day of thanksgiving, commemorating the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga after the surrender of General John Burgoyne.
- **Bake Cookies Day:** Indulge!

**Mon, Dec 19– Mon, Jan 2 -- Christmas (not winter) Holidays! You are on your own for athletic events, TDIH, National Whatever Days, H of the W, etc.**

**Tue, Jan 3 -- School resumes at 7:45 am; regular; ABCD**

**Christmas (not winter) Holidays:** I worry about our students over the holidays b/c of the temptations to which they may be exposed. Encourage students to make healthy choices. I offer the following from Psychedics:

*Early age marijuana use could have long-term consequences on your brain and it may even lower your IQ, according to a new study conducted at the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. Researchers found that compared to nonusers, people who smoked marijuana starting as early as age 14 have less brain volume, or gray matter, in the orbitofrontal cortex. That's the area in the front of your brain that helps you make decisions.*



Al, Silas & Jake enjoy snack day.

*Alcohol is a drug. And every day, more than 4,750 American kids aged 15 and younger take their first full drink of this drug. That's according to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Kids who start drinking before age 15 also are five times more likely to become alcoholics or abuse alcohol than are people who wait until adulthood for their first sip. Another problem for kids who experiment with this drug is that they are more likely than adults are to consume too much alcohol over a short period of time "For humans, binge drinking during adolescence may permanently change brain functioning," says Vivian Faden, a scientist at NIAAA. For full story, read: <https://student.societyscience.org/article/alcohol-can-rewire-teenage-brainstory.html>*

## Musings on Last Week:

- **Immaculate Conception Mass:** Thanks to all who made this possible and to the many parents who attended.
- **Cross Country Awards:** A good time was passed by all and the championship assembly was great. Congrats CC.
- **Basketball:** Congrats on strong showing in East Ascension Tournament
- **Soccer:** Varsity & JV win over Covington & 9<sup>th</sup> & JV wins over Brother Martin made it a great week.

- **Wrestling:** A nice win over John Curtis and a tough loss to #1 ranked Holy Cross. Lots of Jr Hi medals on Sat.
- **Marching Wolves** were a hit in the Mandeville Christmas parade. Thanks MWs and Band Boosters!
- **Mothers Club:** Wow -- a snack day, luminarias refreshments, and a great Christmas dinner for the Brothers. TY!
- **Adopt A Family:** Thanks to those who supported this program.
- **Luminarias:** Last Thu was, once again, inspirational. Thanks, Student Council! And thanks to MC for refreshments and liturgical & jazz bands for music. By the way, the student council chose the Latin word **Lux** for the stadium display. The word means "light" – an affirmation that God is indeed the light of the world. Very Lasallian (Let us remember...) And now you know. Congrats, Student Council. And three years ago, WGNO TV produced a video on our luminarias. It's worth a look, so here's the link: <http://youtu.be/pwpDjiufPU>
- **ACT:** Our crew of proctors administered the test to a large group on Sat.
- **Class Presentations:** I enjoyed watching some excellent student presentations in English 8 H on various authors. Our guys are getting better and better in making presentations – valuable skills. And Joanna Case's English III H class had an outstanding class discussion on *Catcher in the Rye*. I was VERY impressed!
- **Key Club:** Thanks to Nicholas Briggs, Ford Brasher, Hyde Healy, Blake Lewis, Noah Seiden, & Cameron Vidal for picking bushels of satsumas from The Campo property for donation to the Covington Food Bank. The FB doesn't usually get fresh fruit, so they were very appreciative.
- **Jesse's Concert:** Jesse Cheng's lunchtime concert last Thu was phenomenal. Playing to a packed La Salle Hall lobby, Jesse skillfully treated the audience to selections from Mozart and Beethoven. Geaux Jesse!
- **Sudden Impact:** Thanks for your continued support of this important program for our sophomores.
- **Alumni Breakfast:** Over 20 alums gathering on Dec 8 for breakfast and a school update. About half stayed for our Immaculate Conception mass.



Jonathan and Matthew have fun while filling a luminaria bag with sand.

***It's a Wonderful Life Rerun:*** I have printed this the last four years but it's worth another read, as *IAWF* is one of those Christmas classics that many enjoy seeing over and over. Here's what Director Frank Capra said about the film: *IAWL wasn't made for the oh-so bored critics or the oh-so jaded literati. It was for my kind of people. ... A film to tell the weary, the disheartened, and the disillusioned; the wino, the junkie, the prostitute; those behind prison walls and those behind Iron Curtains, that no man is a failure. To show those born slow of foot or slow of mind, those oldest sisters condemned to spinsterhood, and those oldest sons condemned to unschooled toil, that each man's life touches so many other lives. And that if he isn't around it would leave an awful hole. A film that said to the downtrodden, the pushed around, the pauper, "Heads up, fella. No man is poor who has one friend. Three friends and you're filthy rich." A film that expressed love for the homeless and loveless; for her whose cross is heavy and him whose touch is ashes; for the Magdalenes stoned by hypocrites and the afflicted Lazaruses with only dogs to lick their sores. To shout to the abandoned grandfathers staring vacantly in nursing homes,*

*to the always interviewed but seldom adopted half-breed orphans, to the paupers who refuse to die while medical vultures wait to snatch their*

*hearts and livers, and to those who take cobalt treatments and whistle -- I wanted to shout, "You are the salt of the earth. And It's a Wonderful Life is my memorial to you!"*

**An Attitude of Gratitude:** Last year at this time, National Public Radio's Morning Edition did a story of the role of gratitude and heart health. It's worth re-visiting. Here's the scoop: *Research shows that feeling grateful doesn't just make you feel good. It also helps – literally helps – the heart. A positive mental attitude is good for your heart. It fends off depression, stress and anxiety, which can increase the risk of heart disease, says Paul Mills a professor of family medicine and public health at the University of California San Diego. His study revealed that the more grateful people were, the healthier they were. "They had less depressed mood, slept better and had more energy," says Mills.* Read or listen to the full story at <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/11/23/456656055/gratitude-is-good-for-the-soul-and-it-helps-the-heart-too>. Spend more time being grateful! It's good for the soul and the heart!

**Christmas (not winter) Holidays:** School will be closed from Dec 16 in the afternoon through Monday, Jan 2. Teachers **will not** be available for grade discussions during this time. **The business office, counseling office, and administration offices will be closed.** Please anticipate any needs, e.g. transcripts, driver's license forms, etc. **I'll be in my office on most days during the holidays catching up, and you should feel free to call me. I'll help if I can, but I don't always know how!** Thanks for understanding the need for the staff to have an uninterrupted Christmas break.

**The Annual Fund:** Thanks to all who have responded so far. I'm humbled by the response. But I need everyone to participate. No gift is too small – and, of course, no gift is too large! Let me know if you have questions. If you would like me to meet with you, I'd be happy to do so.



**The Annual Fund and Grandparents:** 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 don't want to ask grandparents without your consent. I've already received a number of grandparent gifts. Again, no gift is too small – and, of course, no gift is too large.

**Calling All Oenophiles:** The Lasallian Education Fund of the San Francisco New Orleans district is offering a Brother Timothy Cabernet wine sale until December 14, 2016. Funds raised from the sale of this great wine

can be designated to benefit SPS and must be used for financial assistance. (Brother Timothy Diener was the longtime wine master of Christian Brothers Winery.) Hess Winery partners with the Lasallian District of San Francisco New Orleans to produce limited Brother Timothy signature wines every season. Interested? Hurry! Here's the link: <http://lcbfoundation.org/wine-for-scholarships/>

**Admissions for 2017 - 18:** At this point, any new 8<sup>th</sup> grade applications for next year will be on a "wait list" basis. We are VERY pleased with the quantity and quality of the Class of 2022.

**Sweatshirts & Cold Weather:** Only Saint Paul's outwear is permissible in cool/cold weather. **If your son needs an SPS sweatshirt and money is tight right now, just have him come see me. This will be handled confidentially and appropriately.** Remember that ONLY SPS cool weather clothing is allowed.

**A SERVE TEN Reminder:** Five service hours are due. Students must fill-out and turn in completed "Serve Ten" forms to the Counseling Department in order to get credit for their service hours. We have been advertising MANY service opportunities. Remember that service hours are mandatory, not optional.

**PLEASE:** Our Attendance Office is being taxed to the max. Under ordinary circumstances, it is difficult enough to keep track of the students. When you call Erin and request "immediate" dismissal for a student, it places an unfair burden on her. If a student must leave school early, please send a written note with your student and have him check in with the attendance office when he comes to school to get a dismissal slip for the time requested. This is the policy in our handbook – which you pledged to uphold at the beginning of the year when you signed. And we just can't stop everything to deliver an assignment, a lunch, a message – we just don't have the personnel. Thanks for understanding.

**PLEASE – SAFE DRIVING:** Parents – set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, buckle up, etc. Thank you!

**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.

**Cash Back Programs:** Please consider the following:

- AmazonSmile: 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 recently received a \$700 store credit from customers who gave 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..

**Mission Collections, Adopt a Family Projects, and Other Worthy Causes:** We encourage our students to be generous with these causes. However, I again want to reassure parents that we DO NOT want to cause an economic hardship for our families. Please speak with your son about charitable giving. Perhaps you can reread as a family the parable of the Widow's Mite. Our teachers are aware that not every student can give or give a lot. PLEASE let me know if your son is feeling uncomfortable with our appeals. And that goes for you, too.

Let's face it – tuition does NOT cover the cost of running Saint Paul's. Hence, we have fundraisers. As stated above, I've launched our Annual Fund Drive, and if you can give, that's great. If not, I understand but ask that you pray for Saint Paul's. In turn, we pray for financial health for all.



*Cross Country Wolves display their state championship trophy at last week's assembly.*

**Senior Parents:** Senior Retreat is just around the corner. You should have received an email with all the details from Renee Miller and Lee Pierre, retreat coordinators. If you didn't receive this email, please email Renee at [reneep@stpauls.com](mailto:reneep@stpauls.com) or Lee at [leep@stpauls.com](mailto:leep@stpauls.com).

**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.

**A Word about Exams:** Semester exams begin on Dec 13. The schedule is printed below and was sent by Trevor Watkins last week. Remember that exams are SEMESTER exams which will cover the entire semester. The **semester grade** (the only grade that counts in GPA and the only grade on the transcript) will be averaged in the following manner: 40% for Quarter 1; 40% for Quarter 2; 20 % for the semester exam. Encourage your son, therefore, to take his exams seriously. **It's time to start reviewing.** A good review lasts several weeks and avoids last minute cramming. Learning how to study for semester exams will aid your son considerably in college.

**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.

**The Paper Wolf:** The all new DIGITAL Paper Wolf is updated each class period, thus keeping it relevant and interesting. We encourage you to SUBSCRIBE which will email you alerts when new content is added. The students are very excited about this new venture. So support them and subscribe to The Paper Wolf (which should now probably be called The Digital Wolf!) Here's the link: [www.thepaperwolf.com](http://www.thepaperwolf.com). Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class! Here are some stories from last week worth reading:

**And Speaking of Edline:** Please check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grade and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1044 if you need assistance.*

**Tutoring:** The National Honor Society offers tutoring each Tue and Thu during ALL of Lunch in LaSalle Hall Room 205 and each Wed and Thu from 7:15AM in LaSalle Hall Room 212. It's easier to be tutored early in the than to wait until later in the quarter. Get a jump on exam study by visiting our NHS tutors! The tutors are friendly and helpful! To borrow a line from a popular commercial "put these men to work!"

**Lost and Found:** The accumulation continues. Sweatshirts, pants, belts, uniform shirts, many, many lunch boxes, books, art supplies, pencil cases, folders, flash drives, you name, it's probably in our lost and found. Parents, please put your son's name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

**Care and Vigilance:** We've got one week left to go. The best way to prevent any difficulty is through the Lasallian virtues of caring and vigilance – which will be in full force. Teachers will teach until the very end and proctor exams diligently. **Parents, please remind your students to adhere to ALL procedures & policies.** We will show care to the students, but we will be vigilant.

**PLEASE – SAFE DRIVING (Yes, I know I'm repeating this!):** Parents – set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, buckle up, etc. Thank you



**Hanukkah:** While we Christians prepare to celebrate Christmas, our Jewish brothers and sisters are preparing to celebrate Hanukkah, which begins at sundown on Dec 24 this year. We extend our very best wishes to our Jewish brothers and sisters who will soon celebrate Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights. Unlike Christmas, which is always on December 25, Hanukkah is a movable feast. Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. It also commemorates the miracle of the oil that burned for 8 days. We wish our Jewish brothers and sisters a blessed and joyful celebration of Hanukkah!

**Application Letters Excerpts:** Here are some more memorable lines:

- *When I attended shadow day, I felt like I belonged.* [You do!]
- *The one thing that stood out at Open House was that the chapel is in the center of the campus.* [We thank Brother Francis Beck who built the chapel in 1964, placing it in the center of campus!]
- *When shadowing, I saw the support and help the teachers gave the students.* [We try!]
- *Some of the teachers will know me because of my older brother and I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing!* [It's a good thing! Your brother is a blessing to us!]
- *It's simply astonishing that while maintaining a clean healthy campus, amazing academics, and an excellent sports program that the school still manages to be flexible, reliable, welcoming and opportunistic.* [I'm astonished at his wonderful sentence!]
- *Saint Paul's enriches upstanding virtues and disbands deficient values.* [An applicant who values strong, active verbs and alliteration? He's in!]

*Seniors apply physics principles to bridge building.*



### Current Student Re-Registration for 2017 -

**18:** For those of you who plan ahead, here's the process:

- Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8<sup>th</sup> graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9<sup>th</sup> graders we can accept.
- Current 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12<sup>th</sup> graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2017 - 18, a \$300 registration fee will be due.
- **Also, if your son does not plan on returning for the second semester of this year, please let me know ASAP. We are getting inquiries about January admissions.**

**H of the W:** In honor of Monkey Day on Wed, here are some monkey jokes:

- *Q: How do monkeys get down the stairs? They slide down the banana-ster!*
- *Q: What do you call a monkey that sells potato chips? A: A chipmunk.*
- *Q: What kind of a key opens a banana? A: A monkey!*
- *Q: What do you call a monkey in a minefield? A: Baboom!*
- *Q: Why did the monkey like the banana? A: Because it had appeal!*
- *Q: What do monkeys do for laughs? A: They tell jokes about people!*

- *Q: What do you call a baby monkey? A: A Chimp off the old block.*
- *Q: What do you call a monkey with a banana in each ear? A: Anything you want, it can't hear you!*
- *Q: What do you call an angry monkey? A: Furious George.*
- *Q: What do you call a monkey with a wizards hat and wand? A: Hairy potter*
- *Q: What does a logger say before he cuts down a tree? A: Let the chimps fall where they may.*
- *Q: Did you hear about the awful jungle party? A: Somebody forgot to bring the chimps and dip.*
- *Q: Where should a monkey go when he loses his tail? A: To a retailer!*
- *Q: What did the banana do when he saw a monkey? A: The banana split!*
- *Q: Why don't monkeys play cards in the jungle? A: There are too many cheetahs there!*
- *Q: Why shouldn't you get into a fight with a monkey? A: They use gorilla warfare.*
- *Q: Where do chimps get their gossip? A: On the ape vine!*
- *Q: What do you call a restaurant that throws food in your face? A: a Monkey Business.*
- *OK, I'll stop*

**Mothers' Club Book Store:** the St. Paul's Mothers' Club Bookstore will open on the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 – 1:00, commencing January 7, 2017 to accommodate those working parents that cannot get to the Book Store during the week. Thanks, Mothers' Club!

## **A Look Ahead**

### **January**

3 – ABCD – Classes resume from Christmas holidays (yes, I know this is a day earlier than the public schools);

President's Assembly

4 – EFGA - Senior retreat

5 – BCDE - Senior retreat

6 – FGAB –Senior retreat

9 – CDEF

10 – GABC - Pack Time

11 – DEFG

12 – ABCD

13 – EFGA – CPR Training

17 – BCDE - President's Assembly

18 – FGAB

19 – CDEF

20 – GABC

23 – DEFG – 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
in BAC (we are combining two  
grade levels in the BAC)

24 – ABCD – 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> HR

Breakfast in BAC (we are  
combining two grade levels in the  
BAC)

25 – EFGA – Feast of St. Paul Mass  
– dress uniform day

26 – BCDE – Career Day in AM for Juniors

27 – FGAB – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast in Cafeteria

30 – CDEF

31 – GABC – President's Assembly



*Senior Eucharistic Ministers prepare to distribute Holy Communion during last week's all school mass.*

## **February**

1 – DEFG  
2 – ABCD  
3 – EFGA  
6 – BCDE- Parent Teacher meetings 5-7  
7 – FGAB – Pack Time  
8 – CDEF  
9 – GABC  
10 – DEFG  
13 – ABCD  
14 – EFGA – Pre Freshmen take Explore Test  
15 – BCDE – 9<sup>th</sup> in PLAN Test  
16 – FGAB – 10<sup>th</sup> in Pre ACT Test  
17 – CDEF  
20 – GABC  
21 – DEFG – President's Assembly  
22 – ABCD  
23 – EFGA  
24 – Faculty Retreat Day – no classes for students

## **March**

6 – BCDE  
7 – FGAB – Pack Time  
8 – CDEF  
9 – GABC – NAPE test for certain 8<sup>th</sup> graders during G  
10 – DEFG – End of Third Quarter

## **First Semester Exam Schedule -- December 2016**

### **Monday, December 12 – GAB(C)**

Regular classes in periods GAB  
Review for Period A Exam

### **SPECIAL EXAM SCHEDULE (With SSR & CNN)**

(80 Minute Classes)

7:40 Chimes  
7:45 – 9:20 Period G  
9:27 – 11:02 Period A/SSR  
11:02 – 11:42 Lunch  
11:47 – 1:12 Period B  
1:19– 2:04 Period A Exam Review  
2:10 Dismissal

### **Tuesday, December 13**

#### **Special Exam/Prayer Service/President's Assembly/Snack Schedule**

8:15 -8:30 Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
8:30 – 10:00 Period A Exam  
10:05-10:45 Advent Prayer Service (Gym)

10:55- 11:40     Period B Review  
 11:40-12:25     Lunch  
 12:30-1:00     President's Assembly (Gym)  
 1:00-1:15        Break  
 1:15 – 2:00     Period C Review  
 2:10                Dismissal

Wednesday, December 14

8:15-8:30        Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
 8:30 -10:00     Period B Exam  
 10:00-10:10     Break  
 10:10-11:40     Period C Exam  
 11:40-12:25     Lunch  
 12:30-1:15     Period D Review  
 1:20-2:05       Period E Review  
 2:10                Dismissal

Thursday, December 15

8:15-8:30        Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
 8:30 -10:00     Period D Exam  
 10:00-10:10     Break  
 10:10-11:40     Period E Exam  
 11:40-12:25     Lunch  
 12:30-1:15     Period F Review  
 1:20-2:05       Period G Review  
 2:10                Dismissal

Friday, December 16

8:15-8:30        Prayer, Roll and Announc.  
 8:30 -10:00     Period F Exam  
 10:00-10:10     Break  
 10:10-11:40     Period G Exam  
 11:45             Dismissal – state of Christmas (not winter) holidays.



*Robo-Wolves finished in FIRST PLACE in weekend Vex Robotics competition against 22 schools at Holy Cross. Congratulations, Robo-Wolves! We are very proud of you!*

This is my last newsletter for 2016. As we prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace, I can think of no better way to end than to reprint the Lasallian Prayer for Peace which the Brothers pray at the end of their daily mass:

*We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and young people who are poor and neglected.*

*We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace! Amen.*



*Hunter Stadium from a drone's perspective on Luminaria Night.  
Thanks to freshman Michael Valliant for the picture!*

Whew! I've worn you out again this week! **But the newsletter goes on Christmas vacation so you get a break for the next two Sundays! The next newsletter will appear on Jan 1 or 2.**

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to right now and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

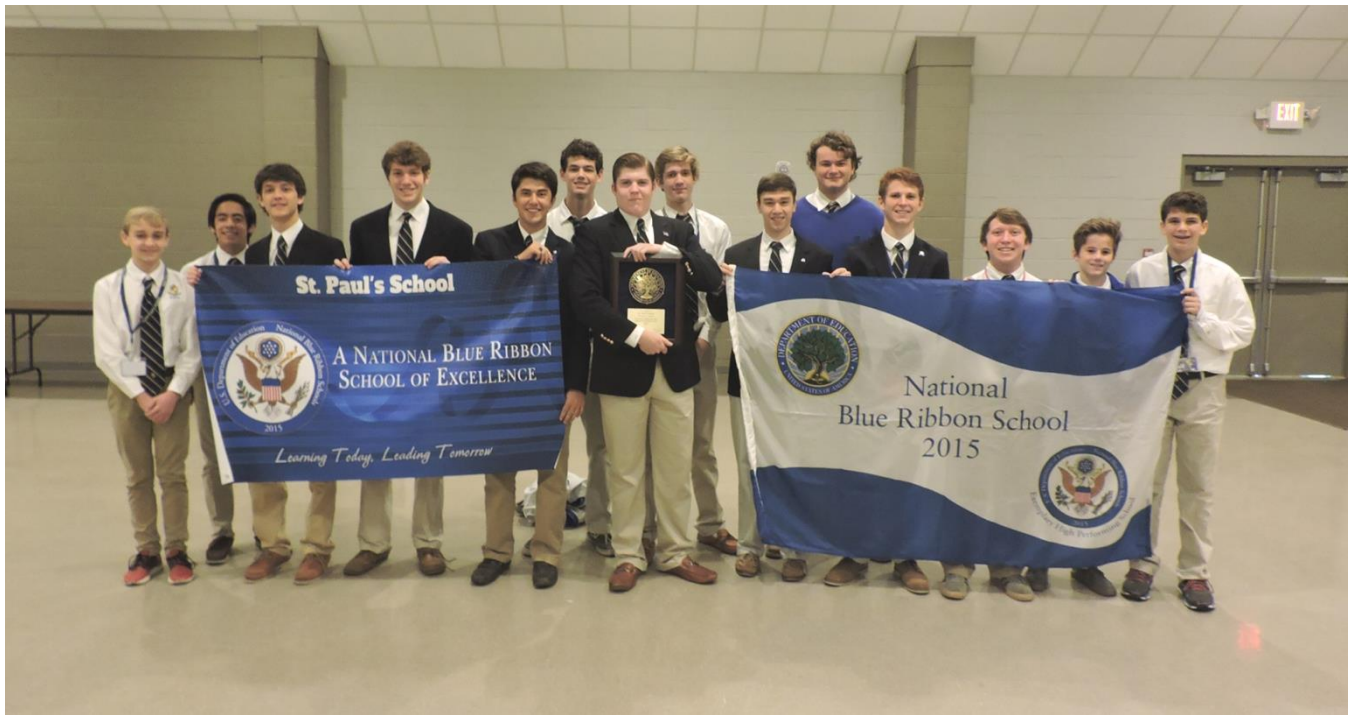
As we prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace, I can think of no better way to end than to reprint the Lasallian Prayer for Peace which we recited from Oct 21 to Nov 21 and which the Brothers pray at the end of their daily mass:

*We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and young people who are poor and neglected. We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace! Amen.*

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Ready to Rejoice for Christmas as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

**Have a blessed Christmas season! Thank you for the First Semester! Maranatha!**



***Wait for the Lord, whose day is near!  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!***



*Now let's go out there and prepare the way of the Lord by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will and remaining faithful this Advent – and always!*

