

Last Week's Newsletter -- Errata and Apology: Between the CLASP visitation last week and preparing for my trip to Napa, to say nothing of my already limited time management skills, I committed a few errors in last week's newsletter by failing to do the one thing I tell my English students to do before submitting work: proofread, proofread, and then proofread again. Accordingly, I printed an incorrect schedule for last Wed (causing a little confusion) but, worse, I made a terrible typo in reporting on the Sept 10 assembly – describing Beethoven's Ode to Joy, no less! The duplication of the final letter in the simple word "as" was caught by a number of you. (I'm flattered that you read so closely!) While I doubt anyone was completely shocked by the word, (and one person thought I was starting Humor of the Week!), I am a little embarrassed. Please forgive if I offended. I assure you – it was a typo! Really! Sorry Beethoven! And now on with this week's newsletter – which I've proofread several times (no guarantees, though!)



The President/Principal's Newsletter for Sep 23 - 29, 2013



The 7th Annual International Lasallian Days for Peace began Sep 21 and run until Oct 21. Here are some points made by Superior General Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria in announcing this year's event:

- *Peace is possible if each of us gets involved in seeking it. It is possible when we place persons above things. It is possible if we make our own God's plan for humankind.*
- *As Lasallians, we think about children and the world they will inherit. Gandhi said: "If we want to achieve true peace and if we want to wage a true war against war, we must start with the children."*
- *Since the beginning of the war in Syria, more than 6,500 children have died, according to UN. It is sad to know that today there are about 300,000 child soldiers according to Amnesty International. These children are used as loaders, spies, messengers, bodyguards, sex slaves, & human mine detectors. It is important to pray for these children.*
- *Peace is possible [if we] trust in [our] ability...to build a more just world that is inspired in Gospel values in dialogue with all religions and men and women of good will.*
- *Hopefully, peace will be a reality and we will make possible this beautiful view of our future: "May the day come when some words will be difficult for children to understand. The children of India will ask: What is hunger? The children of Alabama will ask: What is racial segregation? The children of Hiroshima will ask: What is an atomic bomb? And all kids in all the schools will ask: What is war? And you will have to say to them: They are the names of things that have fallen into disuse such as stagecoaches, galleys or slavery. These words no longer mean anything and for that reason we have removed them from the dictionary." (Jean Debruyne)*



I invite you to join the Retired Christian Brothers who daily pray the following, official Lasallian Prayer for Peace:

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!

Mon, Sep 23 (Regular schedule; A B C D)

- **Checkers Day:** This day, begun on the anniversary of former Vice President Richard Nixon's "Checkers Speech" (look it up, history buffs!), has morphed into a celebration of the game of checkers. When was the last time you played checkers? Enjoy a game or two today! I'm sure "there's an app for that" on your phone or tablet if you don't have a checkers set! (I can hear the students asking: "a what?")
- **Innergize Day:** Today is the day to set time aside for yourself to do anything you want to do. OK to observe, but don't let it interfere with any of your obligations, especially students to their classes!

Tue, Sep 24 (Extended Pack Time; no SSR; E F G A)

- **National Punctuation Day:** Let's all punctuate our writing correctly – today and every day! I plan on celebrating! Here's a great website to help: <http://www.nationalpunctuationday.com>.
- **National Family Day: A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children** was begun by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia Univ. *Family Day* informs parents that the engagement fostered during frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America's kids substance abuse free. *Dinner Makes A Difference!*



- **Happy Birthday Brother Alfred Baltz**, who turns 91 today. A member of our retired Brothers Community, Brother Alfred still works as hard as most people nowhere near his age. We offer him prayer and best wishes on this day. We thank him for his life as a Christian Brother in the cause of Lasallian education, especially at Saint Paul's, where he has labored for so many years of his religious life. *Ad multos annos*, Brother Alfred! Thanks for all that you continue to do!
- **Football:** Jr Hi v. Franklinton (5:30)

Wed, Sep 25 (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice in history when she is sworn in by Chief Justice Warren Burger. Trivia Question #1: How many other women have been named to the Court? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **Swimming:** Aqua Wolves v. Fontainebleau and Lakeshore at TCC
- **Football:** 9th & JV v. Slidell (5:30)
- **SPS Board of Trustees Meeting** (6)

- **SPS Dads Club Meeting (6:30 at Abita Brew House)**

Thu, Sep 26 (Regular; F G A B)

- **This Day in History:** In 1580, English explorer Francis Drake returns to England becoming the first British navigator to sail around the earth. His voyage started on December 13, 1577. Trivia Question #2: What was the name of Drake's famous ship?
- **Shamu the Whale Day:** Today is Shamu's birthday (who knew?) He was born in 1985!
- **Football Fund Raiser:** Texas Roadhouse will offer a portion of proceeds this evening to the football team. If you're looking for a place to have dinner tonight, check out the TRH!

Fri, Sep 27 (Mass schedule; DRESS UNIFORM DAY; C D E F)



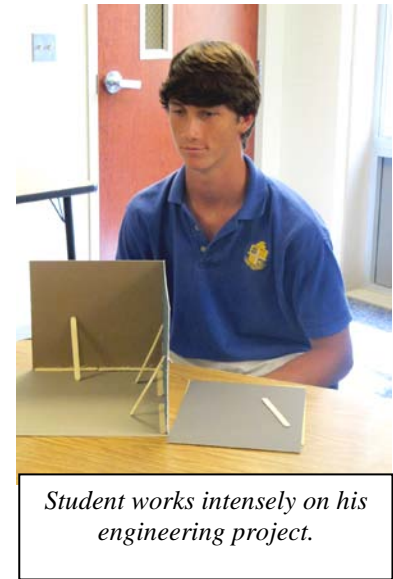
- **Feast of Blessed Christian Brother Scubilion:** Jean Bernard Rousseau joined the Christian Brothers in 1822. After ten years in elementary schools, Scubilion left France to dedicate the remaining 34 years of his life to the enslaved natives on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Remembered as the "catechist of slaves," he started well attended evening classes, even after a long day of hard labor. He devised programs and techniques in order to teach essentials of Christian doctrine and prepare them to receive sacraments. He won them over by his kind manner and respect. After the emancipation of the slaves in 1848, he continued to care for them and to help them adapt to their new life of freedom. In the last years, despite failing health, he assisted pastors in visiting the sick, winning over sinners, encouraging vocations, and effecting what seemed to be miraculous cures. At his death he was venerated on the island as a saint. As the Brothers put it – "Brother Scubilion – one in a million!"
- **This Day in History:** In 1540, The Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) is chartered by Pope Paul III. The Jesuit movement was founded by Ignatius de Loyola, a Spanish soldier turned priest.
- **Ancestor Appreciation Day:** All of us have ancestors. And with genealogy so popular today, take some family time to discuss your family's ancestors. Our students should have a deep appreciation for those who made their existence today possible. And ALL of us have "characters" in our family background. Enjoy the stories!
- **Football:** Varsity at Slidell (7); Geaux Wolves as you begin your defense of the District Title.

Sat, Sep 28

- **TDIH:** In 1066, William the Conqueror invades England, defeating Harold the Great in one of the great battles of history – changing course of British (and thus US) history. Trivia question #3: what was the name of this famous battle (hint – it's named for its location.)
- **National Good Neighbor Day:** Let's be good neighbors today and every day.
- **SPS Math Tournament:** Geaux Matheletes!
- **Jr Hi Homecoming Dance (7:30-10:30 in the BAC)** See below for more info.

Sun, Sep 29 – I strongly encourage Catholic families to attend mass as a family and our other families to attend church of choice.

- **TDIH:** In 1954, Willie Mays, centerfielder for the New York Giants, makes an amazing over-the-shoulder catch of a fly ball hit by Cleveland Indians first baseman Vic Wertz to rob Wertz of extra bases in Game 1 of the 1954 World Series. The catch has gone down as one of the greatest in the history of baseball. You can watch the catch on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUK9IG-7HTc>
- **National Women’s Health & Fitness Day:** Take care of yourselves, ladies! We need you!
- **Coffee Day:** Whether you favor espresso, Americano, lattes or cappuccinos; iced, decaf, instant or filter – **Coffee Day** is the day to savor and appreciate your beverage. Have some coffee while reading the newsletter today!



Dress Uniform Day on FRIDAY of this week as we will have an all school mass. All students must be in their dress uniform. Yes, parents, there is space for many of you (thanks to the Briggs Assembly Center renovation!) if you wish to attend and be part of this incredible spiritual experience. The priest has yet to confirm the time of the mass, but it will probably be first thing – 8 am. I’ll let people know as soon as time is confirmed.

Last Spring’s Vandalism of Saint Paul’s finally resolved last week with a “guilty” plea by two young men in Courtroom D of the 22nd Judicial District of Louisiana. The young men were originally charged with a felony by the State, but pled guilty to a misdemeanor charge. I had met with District Attorney Walter Reed over the summer to request the reduction of the charge, and I appeared in Judge Peter Garcia’s court last week, as the court wanted to make sure that the school still concurred with this lesser plea. As I explained to Mr. Reed and to our Board of Trustees, I did not want two young men, ages 17 & 18, to have a felony charge following them around for the rest of their lives. The judge imposed the following sentence on the two:

- 1) Two years probation
- 2) Five consecutive weekends in jail (Friday 6 pm – Sunday 6 pm)
- 3) 50 hours of community service
- 4) \$600 restitution to Crimestoppers for the reward
- 5) A ten page essay on religious intolerance to be graded by the judge himself

If the young men complete their sentence, they can apply to have their conviction expunged following probation. All in all, a very tough sentence from which I hope the two (and many others!) will learn a valuable lesson. I’m glad this chapter is over.

Parents, please speak with your sons about the criminal penalties they can incur by committing acts of vandalism. The courts are becoming less and less tolerant – rightfully so. Judge Garcia was quite emphatic in expressing his displeasure and that of the St. Tammany Community to the defendants in very strong language.

I again thank ALL who helped on the fateful Saturday last April. The support of so many volunteers who mobilized so quickly to help Saint Paul's was incredible. I am forever grateful.

Napa: Trevor and I bring greetings from the Presidents & Principals of the 12 Lasallian schools in the San Francisco Christian Brother District and 7 schools of the New Orleans-Santa Fe District! Our brief stay at Mont La Salle in Napa (with heavenly weather and grape-laden vineyards) was filled with professional development, Lasallian enrichment, and California hospitality (particularly the Hess chardonnay – the Hess winery is located right next door to the Brothers' Conference Center! How convenient!) -- a winning combo! Here's some of what we did:

- St. Mary's College: we had a long conversation with Dr. James Donahue, new president of St. Mary's College in Moraga, the Lasallian college of the San Francisco Province. He is interested in strengthening ties between the six US Lasallian colleges and 52 US Lasallian high schools. The new president is the first non-Brother president of St. Mary's – another indication of the ever-shrinking pool of Brothers to assume school administration. Dr. Donahue seems quite capable of leading St. Mary's into the future.
- Provincial's Report: The two provincials, Brothers Donald Johanssen (SF) & Timothy Coldwell (NOSF) gave presentations on the issues facing the creation of the new San Francisco – New Orleans Province which will begin on July 1, 2014.
- Canon Law: We had a delightful and informative session with a noted canon lawyer about all sorts of issues pertaining to schools, ranging from what the Bishop can and can tell us to do to benefits to same sex partners (a CA law issue, not ours!) Very informative!
- President and Principal Sessions: There were two sessions where presidents only met as did principals. Presidential items entailed finances, financial aid, enrollment, benefits, infrastructure, facilities, Mission, etc. Principals dealt with curriculum and student life issues. Both groups dealt with technology and, again, we are all over the spectrum, from full 1 to 1 tablet programs to bring-your-own-device programs, to no universal device programs. The only point of agreement is that technology is costly!
- Speaker: We had an incredible speaker on Tuesday: well-known author and business consultant Patrick Lencioni, author of books as “The Five Dysfunctions of a Team” and “Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business.” Mr. Lencioni, who consults internationally and whose clients include Southwest Airlines, is a huge advocate of Lasallian education as his two sons are enrolled in one. Thus, he tailored his presentation to us as school leaders – and waived his hefty speaking fee! I'll share more in future newsletters about the insights I gained.
- New Orleans-Santa Fe Province Issues: We spent time anticipating the upcoming Huether Conference, the national gathering of Lasallians, which will take place in Nov in New Orleans and a host of other matters pertaining to our schools.
- Lasallian Faculty Formation: This remains a priority; we discussed ways to get faculties to commit to these programs.

As wonderful as Napa was, I thanked God when Southwest Airlines Flight 535 landed at Armstrong International at 9:02 pm last Wed and again one hour later when Trevor drove me safely back to the holy ground of Saint Paul's School.

Musings on Last Week:

- **School:** Thanks for keeping school running smoothly without Trevor & me last week. Some claim it ran smoother!
- **Monday's Faculty Meeting** was quite productive for our teachers. I hope the late start did not cause inconvenience for anyone.
- **Cross Country:** The Christian Brothers Invitational Meet on Sat was cancelled due to inclement weather. A tough call by Coach Terry, but a correct one. Congrats to him!
- **Football:** 8th grade won over Westside on Tue; JV & 9th beat Franklinton on Thu and Varsity lost a heart-breaker on the last play of the game against a very strong Mc 35 team. On to District this Fri! Thanks to The Touchdown Club for their hard pre-game work.
- **Marching Wolves, Golden Blues, Cheerleaders, & Boosters:** All were wonderful on Fri night!
- **Mothers Club:** Congrats to them for a great meeting with lots of great information.
- **Engineering Field Trip:** our Civil Engineering class visited the Skanska Group, designers of the new LSU Medical Center. They met architects and designers and witnessed 3D Computer modeling. Very impressive, according to the chaperones and students.
- **Swim Team:** Congrats to the Aqua Wolves for winning 5 of 11 events last week against district favorite Mandeville! I can hear Handel's "Water Music" starting to play!
- **Counseling:** The ASVAB test administration went off well on Tue – or so I'm told!
- **ACT:** The staff masterfully handled the test administration despite the inclement weather on Saturday. Special thanks to test coordinator Sgt. Don Pressley.



Student poses with his edible cell in biology.

Father – Son Bible Study Group: Some SPS dads are starting a morning monthly bible study group. The group will have its first meeting on Wed, Oct 2nd at 6:50 am and will end at 7:30 am. The focus will be biblical concepts of manhood and father-son relationships. While all are welcome, the study will be from a Catholic perspective. Questions? Call Gregg Tepper at 985-789-8717.

From The Touchdown Club: *Why cook when you come enjoy a nice meal cooked for you at Texas Roadhouse? On Thursday, September 26th come out to support St Paul's by eating at Texas Roadhouse. A percentage of your meal will be donated to the St Paul's. Once you arrive, please advise your wait staff that you would like to support Wolves. Thanks for your support of the Wolves!*

Dads' Club meeting: Wednesday, 9/25 6:30 pm at the Abita Brewery. Come join this expanding group of SPS dads who have already made a difference on our campus.

New LA Driver's License Requirement for Minors: Effective September 16, 2013, a new requirement was added to the driver's license issuance process for minor applicants. R.S. 32:431.1 calls for all minor

applicants to produce proof the applicant has either received a diploma or is currently enrolled in a high school program. There is a special form for this which the student can obtain from the counseling office.

From the Botanical Wolves: 1st Annual Moms for Mums Day: Bring a yellow mum to place under the live oak tree at Founders' Circle during the week of Sept. 23rd. Our big planting day will be Sat, Sep. 28th, brightening the campus for fall festivities: Homecoming Dance, Jazz 'N Roll, & Grandparent Day!

Homecoming Dances: The dances are rapidly approaching. Here's some information for you:

- 8th and 9th grade: The dance will be held Sep 28th from 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students must wear a tie and may choose to dress according to the theme "Roaring Twenties." HC registration forms are available in the library and were due Fri Sep 20th. They should be returned to Mrs. Forester accompanied by the \$25.00 dance fee. A \$5.00 late fee will be added if turned in late.
- 10th-12th grade: HC registration forms are due on Fri Oct 4th. Their dance will be held Oct 12 from 7:00 pm until 10:30 pm.

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. Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class!

Attendance: Please comply with our attendance regulations as printed in the handbook which is posted on Edline. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.

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 much easier to be tutored early in the quarter than to wait until later in the quarter. The tutors are very friendly and helpful!

Jazz 'N Roll: Please JOIN US for Jazz 'N Roll "Rebirth" being held on Sat, Oct 5th. Jazz 'N Roll is in its 24th year and is filled with great food and beverages, a silent and verbal auction, the "Boogie Falaya" band, and an opportunity to visit with good friends. Tickets are available now in the Development Office or online at www.stpauls.com (scroll to the bottom of the home page for the Jazz 'N Roll link).

From the Counseling Office:

09/26/13—Furman University—Greenville, SC—Will be visiting St. Paul's on Thursday, September 26th at 9:00AM. We are excited to have Furman visit St. Paul's so interested juniors and seniors should see Mrs. Miller for a pass to be excused from class. www.furman.edu

09/26/13—Oglethorpe University—Atlanta, GA—Will be visiting Saint Paul's on Thursday, September 26th at 10:30AM. Interested juniors and seniors need to see Mrs. Miller for a pass to be excused from class. www.oglethorpe.edu

09/26/13—Northshore College & Career Fair (formally St. Tammany Parish College Fair) will be held from 6:00—8:00 at Southeastern Louisiana University's Pennington Center, located at 1350 N. General Pershing Street Hammond, LA.

09/26/13—Emory University, the University of Notre Dame, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of Virginia Evening Program—Will host a recruiting event on Thursday, September 26th at 7:00PM, at the New Orleans Marriott—located at 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 Register here

09/27/13—Rhodes College—Memphis, TN—Will be visiting St. Paul's on Friday, September 27th at 9:00AM. Juniors and seniors should see Mrs. Miller for a pass to be excused from class. www.rhodes.edu

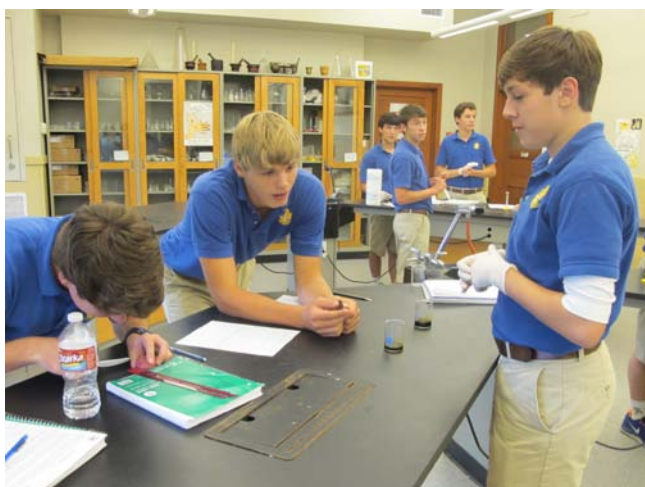
09/28/13—Tulane University—New Orleans, LA—Will be hosting Louisiana Student Preview Day. This one-day program for high school juniors and sophomores (parents welcome) will allow students to spend a day on campus, learn about academic, cultural, and social opportunities at Tulane! Included: admission information session, campus tour, lunch in student dining hall, and financial aid session. Call to reserve your space today—504-314-2151 or register online at <http://admission.tulane.edu/visit/specialprograms.php>

Contests: We've added a webpage listing various contests for students to enter

(<http://www.stpauls.com/academics/academic-contests/>). Why enter contests? Many reasons:

- Students can win prizes (a number of our guys won cash prizes last year)
- It looks great on college resumes
- It prepares students for the competitive life of the real world.

Yes, it's a little extra work, but the rewards are worth it – even if students don't win. Encourage you son to explore academic, artistic, musical and other contests.



Biology students work intensely in the lab.

Unauthorized ACT, SAT & PSAT Help Material Solicitation: Saint Paul's DOES NOT release student contact information to companies selling these services. If you receive a phone call from a company claiming the school gave them your info, do not believe it. While many of these companies offer legitimate services, it's up to you to initiate the contact. Know that we don't release your info.

Useless Fact of the Week (UF of the W): In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor.

Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'

Humor of the Week: More church bulletin typos & misplaced modifiers:

- *Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be re-cycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.*
- *Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person(s) you want to be remembered.*
- *Eating Healthy Lecture: Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and heave a healthy lunch.*
- *The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.*
- *Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please use the back door.*
- *The eighth graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend the tragedy.*
- *Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at First Methodist Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.*
- *The Minister unveiled the church's tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours"*
- *The choir sang "Angels We Have Heard Get High."*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

A Look Ahead

September 28 – Jr. High Homecoming Dance

October 1 – President/Principal's Assembly – First sophomore Sudden Impact field trip

October 4 – Homecoming – Pep Rally Schedule

October 5 – Jazz & Roll in BAC

October 8 – Pack Time

October 11 – Periods AB meet/ Grandparents Day in BAC/ End of First Quarter

October 14 – Late start for Teacher in service

October 15 – President/Principal's Assembly – FAB meets

October 16 – PSAT test to 10th Graders in BAC

October 17 – 9th Grade Retreat/Service Day

October 18 – 9th Grade Retreat/Service Day – Redi-Step test to 8th Graders

October 21 – Teen-Life-Counts (TLC) program begins for sophomores during religion classes

October 22 – Pack Time – TLC for sophomores

October 23 – TLC for sophomores

October 24 – TLC for sophomores

October 25 – TLC for sophomores

October 29 – Principal's Assembly

November 1 – Mass

November 4 – Late Start

November 5 – Pack Time

November 12 – President/Principal's Assembly

November 14 – 8th Grade Retreat/Service Day
November 15 – 8th Grade Retreat/Service Day
November 19 – Pack Time
November 22 – No classes meet – Faculty to Huether Conference
December 2 – Parent/Teacher Meetings in BAC - 6:00 – 8:00 – PLAN test to Sophomores
December 2-6 – PLAN Test to Sophomores during Wld History classes
December 3 – President/Principal’s Assembly – Snack Day
December 9 – Mass
December 10 – Pack Time
December 11-13 – Sacrament of Reconciliation in Chapel
December 17-20 Semester Exams; Christmas holidays begin at 11:15 on Dec 20

As usual, I’ll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to right now as I finish writing – and proofreading!-- the newsletter and LOLing as I do so): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that we continue our good beginning as we settle into the rhythm of late September! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family and call on me if I can help! Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Enjoying the Season of Fall as the 17th Christian Brother President/Principal of Saint Paul’s School

Trivia Question Answers:

Sept 25: In its 222-year history, only four women justices have served on the Supreme Court: Sandra Day O’Connor (1981-2005); Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1993-present); Sonia Sotomayor (2009-present) and former U.S. Solicitor General Elena Kagan (2010-present).

Sep 26: Drake’s ship was named *The Golden Hind*.

Sep 28: William the Conqueror defeated Harold the Great in 1066 at the Battle of Hastings.



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