



## The President/Principal's Newsletter for Oct 07 - 13, 2013



“Do not be afraid of holiness, of letting yourself be loved and purified by God. Let us allow God's holiness to be transmitted to us. Every person is called to holiness [which] consists in letting God act. It is the encounter between our weakness and the strength of His grace. — Pope Francis at the conclusion of his weekly audience of over 50,000 on Oct 2, 2013.

### Mon, Oct 7 (F G A B)

- **Columbus Day Observed**
- **TDIH:** In 1913, for the first time, Henry Ford's entire Highland Park, MI automobile factory is run on a continuously moving assembly line. We've come a long way, Henry!
- **You Matter To Me Day:** Four simple words, one single phrase, that makes a profound difference to all who hear it and share it. Tell the people who matter to you that they do!

### Tue, Oct 8 (Pack Time; C D E F)

- **Alvin C. York Day:** Sgt. York is the most decorated American soldier in World War I. From the Sgt. York website: *On Oct 8, 1918, after being pinned down, York took his fateful walk into history. He and 16 other soldiers... were given the unenviable task of silencing the machine guns that halted the advance. It was a cold, wet morning. Rain mixed with sleet added to the gloom of the fog that draped the landscape. As the soldiers worked their way around the hill, the men on the left flank stood exposed in the creek bottom. German machine gunners opened fire, wounding or killing nine Americans, including York's best friend. York was on the right flank beneath the crest of the hill in a natural depression, which he used to kill nine of the men who operated the guns. In the meantime, his comrades opened fire on the Germans, and in a few minutes 25 were dead. The Germans surrendered to what they thought was a superior force, and York and the American survivors escorted 132 prisoners to American forces some 10 miles away. Sergeant York was awarded his nation's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his actions [that day.]*
- **Face Your Fears Day:** Consider what life might be like if you conquered some of your greatest fears. **Face Your Fears Day** gives you the chance to stand up to your fears, overcome them, and to seize the day.
- **National Pierogie Day:** Pierogies are Eastern Europe's equivalent of ravioli or tortellini - essentially filled dumplings. This peasant dish originated in Poland in the 13th century. Enjoy the dumpling of your choice!



### Wed, Oct 9 (Regular; G A B C)

- Today is the feast of the Christian Brother Martyrs of Turón, canonized by Pope John Paul II: **Saint Brothers Cirilo Bertrán, Marciano José, Julián Alfredo, Victoriano Pío, Benito de Jesus, Benjamin Julián, Augusto Andrés, Aniceto Adolfo and Saint Father Inocencio.** From the Brothers' website: *In 1934, Turón was the center of anticlerical hostility. The Brothers' school was an irritant to radicals in charge because of the religious influence it exerted. The Brothers defied the ban on teaching religion & openly escorted students to Mass. On the First Fri of Oct, authorities broke into the Brothers' house on the pretext that arms were hidden there. They and their chaplain were arrested and marched to the cemetery where they were shot. Brother Cirilo, the Director, was 46 and Brother Marciano was 39. Brother Julián was 32 and all the rest were in their twenties. They were arrested,*

*detained, and executed as a community. Victims of the hatred and violence against the Church, they witnessed by their death to the faith they so courageously professed and so effectively communicated to their students. May these Saintly Brothers pray for us!*

- **National Leif Erikson Day:** To honor Leif Erikson (who over sailed from Iceland and explored present-day Greenland and Canada) and to celebrate our Nordic-American heritage, the Congress, by joint resolution has authorized the President to proclaim October 9 of each year as "Leif Erikson Day."
- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV at Mandeville (5:30)

### Thu, Oct 10 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1973, US Vice President Spiro Agnew resigns in ignominious disgrace. Trivia question: Who was the president at the time and who was ultimately nominated, approved by congress and served as vice president under that president? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **National Angel Food Cake Day:** Enjoy this classic dessert!

### Fri, Oct 11 (Half Day – 11:00 dismissal; A B)

- **TDIH:** In 1962, Pope John XXIII convenes Vatican II —the first council in 92 years -- to bring spiritual rebirth to Catholicism and cultivate greater unity with other religions.
- **End of First Quarter! Wow! Seems like we just got started!**
- **Grandparent Day**
- **Football:** Varsity v. Mandeville (7)

### Sat, Oct 12

- **TDIH:** In 1492, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus sights a Bahamian island, believing he reached Asia.
- **International Moment of Frustration Day:** To celebrate, everyone is supposed to go outside at noon GMT (6 AM CST) and SCREAM away frustrations! You are not to scream AT someone

(sorry!), just scream in general! Perhaps we should all end 1st quarter with a communal scream, thus chasing away any 1<sup>st</sup> quarter frustration! Enjoy!

- **World Egg Day:** Celebrate by fixing your favorite egg dish and eating it; do not celebrate by throwing!
- **Public Square Rosary Crusade in Abita Springs (12 noon at St. Joseph Hall next to St. Jane's Church).** One of over 10,000 taking place today across America, the rosary will ask God to bless the United States.
- **Cross Country** in Catholic High Meet
- **Football:** Jr Hi v. John Curtis (11)
- **Sr Hi Homecoming Dance:** We will breathalyze all students and dates and pray for their safety. And speaking of breathalyzers, SSA breathalyzed all students last Wed, after receiving reports that some girls were drinking during their homecoming. We support our SSA in their efforts to send a message of "no drinking" to students. Had I known this was happening, I would have done the same thing for our boys – as some of them were probably with the girls.

**Sun, Oct 13 -- We encourage Catholic families to attend mass as a family and our other families to attend the place of worship of their choice.**

- **TDIH:** In 1792, the cornerstone of the White House is laid.
- **National Yorkshire Pudding Day:** Calling all Brits! Celebrate this iconic British dish that dates to the 1700s. It is made with flour, eggs, butter, milk, and pan drippings from roast beef & most often served with beef or chicken, and, of course, lots of gravy. A traditional staple of the British Sunday lunch, Yorkshire Pudding is still common today.
- **International Music Day:** Enjoy music today in all of its varied forms, and share your favorite music with others. I'll be happy to lend some classical selections! Or even better, why not make some music of your own?
- **Teresian Sisters Family Day (begins with Holy Mass at 11):** Games, food, boutique, at 18080 St. Joseph Way in Covington. The Teresian Sisters do so much for the community of Covington! We wish them a successful day.

**TS Karen:** Out of almost nowhere, Karen made an appearance and disrupted our flow of scheduled events – but not the transmission of the weekly newsletter! As Thomas a Kempis wrote in Of the Imitation of Christ: **Man proposes but God disposes.** Or as we say a little less reverently here in southeast LA: C'est la vie. Thanks to all who made last minute adjustments, especially those involved in football, homecoming activities, and, especially, Jazz 'n Roll. We have survived worse and we survived Karen – which fizzed at the last minute and made our weekend great.

**Emergency Closing:** I remind all of the official policy of the Office of Catholic Schools regarding emergency closings: *All schools are to follow their civil parishes in the closing of schools. Orleans Parish schools are asked to follow the Recovery School District. As of 2011, the Archdiocese of New Orleans does not have an official television station, but rather contacts all major media outlets.* So, if St. Tammany public schools close, we close. We do reserve the right to re-open when safe, even if public schools remain closed (as we did for Katrina.)

**Jazz n Roll:** Thanks to all who made the re-designed event a success. They even arranged for a tropical system to pay a visit! Another first! Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time to help. I hope you enjoyed the evening. I am incredibly indebted to our Advancement Team of Al Nastasi, Danielle Lavie, Shellie Campo and their legion of volunteers who made our evening a smashing success. Thank you. I'll give more recognition next week to deserving individuals!

**Grandparent Day** will be held on Fri, Oct 11, at 11:15 am. We traditionally hold this event on the last day of the first quarter. If your son has grandparents who would like to attend, please encourage them to do so. The program lasts about an hour and refreshments are served following the program. We'd love to have your son attend with his grandparents. This is not a "solicitation" of grandparents so they have nothing to worry about – although we welcome anything they want to do for us! Please RSVP with a number so we know how many to plan for. Just reply to me or email Janet at [reception@stpauls.com](mailto:reception@stpauls.com).

Students not having grandparents are dismissed at 11.

**Students attending GP Day are asked to wear their dress uniform in honor of their grandparents.**

**Students not attending may wear their regular uniform.**

**The Grandparent Day Picture Order form is on the website ([www.stpaus.com](http://www.stpaus.com)) under "news."**

**IMPORTANT! PLEASE HELP:** The future of SPS depends on a healthy enrollment. On Nov 3, we will hold our annual Open House for prospective students. Please invite any interested family to attend. This year, we want to send postcard announcements to families. If you know of a family with a son who would benefit from SPS, please email me their name and address. We will mail them a postcard invite. In the past, you, our parents, have been the best source of attracting students to SPS. Please help me now. Again, just email me names and addresses – all we'll do is send them a simple postcard. Thanks!



*Bowling Wolves having fun*

**Year of Faith:** On Oct 11 of last year, Pope Benedict XVI declared a Year of Faith that will end Nov 24. As stated above in TDIH, Oct 11 marks the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. During the Y of F, Catholics were asked to study and reflect on the Vatican II documents and the catechism to deepen their knowledge of the Faith. In the remaining six weeks, it's time to ask: has the Year of Faith meant anything to us? If not, we've still got time. Both the Vatican and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops offer resources on their websites.

**SPS Board of Trustees:** The Louisiana Lasallian Education Corporation (LLEC) has appointed Mrs. Adrienne Baumgartner to the Board of Trustees of Saint Paul's. Mrs. Baumgartner, a partner in the law firm of Porteous, Hainkel & Johnson, LLP, is no stranger to SPS, as she has had three sons who are

alumni: Sam '02; Will '07; and Luke '10. She also has a long history with the Christian Brothers, as her brothers attended St. Peter College, a school the Brothers used to run in New Iberia. I am exceedingly grateful for Mrs. Baumgartner's willingness to serve as a Trustee – and keep me in line!

#### **Last Week in Review:**

- **Homecoming:** Thanks to all, especially Mrs. Marshall & Student Council and to the Development and Alumni Teams for the alum receptions.
- **SSA Homecoming:** Thanks for your cooperation.
- **Joseph Champagne/Gene Bennett Memorial Golf Tournament:** Thanks to Development Office and alum directors, especially Mark, for a successful day.
- **Fire Drill:** We had an unannounced fire drill last week. All in all, well done, although a few classes seemed unsure where to go. We'll correct that.
- **Aqua Wolves:** The AWs swam well last week! Handel was cheering them on!
- **Wolf Tracks:** Another attractive and informative issue by Danielle Lavie!
- **Marching Wolves, Golden Blues, Cheerleaders, & Band Boosters:** Outstanding – as always.
- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Football** acquitted themselves in an exemplary manner against Algiers Charter and the Varsity win on Friday night – wow!
- **Cross Country:** How 'bout 'dem WOLVES! ANOTHER 1st Place showing in the St. Joseph's Meet! Out of 38 teams, the Wolves finished 71 points over the second place finisher Catholic High. Out of 332 runners, SPS's Zachary Albright and Eric Coston finished first and second respectively, with Spencer Albright (8<sup>th</sup>), DC Lipani (9<sup>th</sup>) and Michael Burke (15<sup>th</sup>). Wow!
- **Sudden Impact:** Great start for this powerful program for our sophomores!
- **First Friday Devotions:** Thanks, Religion & Campus Ministry Dept, for these meaningful days!
- **LYL Retreat** was so successful the boys didn't want to leave! I sent word it was time to go home as many were receiving the sacrament of penance after an evening of fun, prayer, adoration, and leadership.
- **SAT:** The test is postponed until Oct 19, thanks to TS Karen.
- **Lasallian Commitment Retreat:** Thanks to Brad Marchese who traveled to Santa Fe to represent SPS at this important regional gathering of Lasallian educators.

**Police & Principals:** At our monthly meeting last week, the Covington PD advised that the city (and the whole area) is experiencing a rash of car burglaries. In almost every case, cars were unlocked. Lock your cars. SPS was commended for Safety Week. While all schools had done lockdowns, we were the only city school to have done a complete set of drills, especially the evacuation drill. I thanked CPD for their assistance with heavy traffic events over the next two weeks: homecoming, J n R, Grandparent Day, & the Mandeville game.

**Catholic Secondary Principal's Association** of Archdiocese met last week at Archbishop Hannan High. Some issues:

- In her transparent spirit, Superintendent Jan Lancaster explained the Office of Catholic Schools operating budget. She also unveiled some financial strategies to help insure the viability of Catholic schools.

- Admissions Process (surprise!): some principals are complaining that some high schools are violating policy by using Application Day testing as part of their admission process. The policy says that the test can only be used for placement, not admission. Heated discussion ensued on both sides of the issue. No resolution was achieved (surprise!) and it will be brought up again (joy!) at our next meeting. FYI, SPS uses the test for placement only. Other admissions issues surfaced – almost all of which involve the south shore only (thank you, God, for Lake Ponchartrain!) – and in one of my rare speaking moments at these meetings, I reminded my colleagues that the same issues we were discussing that day are the same issues we were discussing 20 years ago and some of the same proposals being brought forth are the same ones we discarded 20 years ago – in other words, the problems are insolvable and only made worse by a shrinking pool of students and the rise of the charter schools on the south shore.



- LHSAA (another surprise!): Executive Director Kenny Henderson met with us to discuss the latest meeting of the School Relations Committee – which has proposed some pretty radical propositions for the January LHSAA meeting. These include the elimination of traditional school attendance zones and making each parish an attendance zone. Thus any student in the parish could enroll here in 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade and become immediately eligible. Once school of first choice is declared, however, a transfer back to their home public school would make them ineligible for one year – a very different situation from today. Also, “in system” administrative transfers

would be allowed. For example, if a student from SPS wanted to transfer to Hannan or a Jesuit student wanted to transfer to Holy Cross, as long as both principals agreed, the student would be eligible (since SPS and Hannan and Jesuit and Holy Cross are all part of the same “system.”) What would not be allowed, however, without losing an eligibility year, is cross parish transfers. Thus a Jesuit student could not transfer to Rummel without penalty as those two schools, while in the same system, are in different parishes. Confusing? You bet! Another proposal would let each classification (5A, 4A, etc) decide on the “select v. non-select” football playoff system. Mr. Henderson also said that as yet, no proposal seeking to expand the “select v. non-select” playoff system to other sports has been proposed. It was a VERY interesting part of the meeting. These all have to be voted on by LHSAA principals in January.

**Lunch with the Arch:** The Presidents (or principal where there is not a president) of the Catholic high schools lunched with Archbishop Gregory Aymond at his residence (very nice!) last Friday. The Archbishop continues to show a keen interest in and commitment to the high schools. While we have areas of disagreement (e.g. Sunday activities), our common Catholic commitment is strong. There was no official “agenda” to the meeting, but we discussed a number of topics, finances, admissions, and the future of Catholic education in the archdiocese.

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders:** if you are missing your sports coat from the homecoming dance or if you have a sports coat that does not belong to you, please see Mrs. Claire. Also, if you picked up an IZOD jacket size 18 with the name Longo on the label please return it to Mrs. Claire's office.

**Wolf Pride Raffle Change:** Due to weather concerns and changes to the Homecoming game, The Wolf Pride Raffle drawing was postponed until next Friday (10/11) during halftime of the Mandeville game. Tickets can still be purchased this week or at the game next Friday for prizes valued at over \$17,000. Tickets are \$5 each. The Wolf Pride Raffle benefits St. Paul's Football, Marching Wolves, Cheerleaders and Golden Blues. Contact Bob Ellis at [bellis@piscesenergy.com](mailto:bellis@piscesenergy.com) for more information.

**Last Tue's Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Oct 01 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Listened to OAR's rendition of "I Feel Home" in honor of Homecoming. This song was sung at an assembly in our gym ten years ago by then student council president **Kramer Johnson**, brother of SPS alums **Nick and Evan** and son of alumnus **Mark Johnson**, to express how he felt about Saint Paul's. It's become a ritual ever since at homecoming. I reminded them, too, that today was the first day of last quarter of 2013. As I told them, God's universe continues to unfold on schedule. The time that has been allotted to us passes – and we can do nothing to alter it. The only thing we can do is choose how we will use our lives, what choices we will make, because as each second passes, it is gone forever and cannot be re-lived. I exhorted them to make the most of each moment of their lives – in school, with their families and friends, and with their God.
- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Warner Moore**, for the following who have entered eternal rest since our last assembly: Mr. Clayton Ocman, grandfather of Hayden Ocman; Don Gallaty's step-grandmother; and Mr. Gerald Ancar, Sr. father of art teacher Mr. Gerald Ancar, Jr.
- Recognized and congratulated seniors **Quinn Anglada, Grant Connolly, Adam Fink, & Shane Kennedy** for representing Saint Paul's at the Louisiana Boys State program over the summer. Boys State is one of the most respected leadership programs in the country and our four guys did us proud. Well done!
- Recognized and congratulated the following young men who received their SPS letter jackets recently: **Sam Brown, Michael Curry, Marcus Garner, Riley Knepper, Max Robin, Cannon Shirah, Carlo Graffeo, Nicholas Sibley, Percy Pena, Chris Russo, Kyle Schimpf, Pete Vicari, Andrew Brouillette, Jack Statton, Payton Burkenstock, Dennis Carriere, & Jean-Paul Juge.**
- Then, miraculously, George Frideric Handel's *Water Music* started playing – which signaled that it was time to recognize The SPS Swim Team, aka Aqua Wolves. I first told the students the story of the *Water Music*, how it was written by Handel for King George I of England. It was first played in 1717 when George I threw a party on his royal barge and sailed up the River Thames (I made sure the students knew how to pronounce "Thames.") George loved the music so much that insisted that Handel play it over and over – the musicians were thus exhausted upon the completion of the trip.

The *Water Music* remains one of the most beloved and popular pieces of classical music and is used at SPS graduation, ring ceremony, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremonies as the recessional music.

As for the Aqua Wolves, here's the narrative written by Coach Bill Babcock which I read to the students about last week's meet: *While the score showed a 110 to 60 edge to a very deep Mandeville team, the Aqua Wolves got their march towards a great state championship meet off to a great start by winning five of 11 events against the team that will be heavily favored to win the Northlake District meet this year. Super Sophomores **Griffin Guzan and Harrison Prieto** led the Wolves with double wins. Guzan captured the 200 individual medley and the 500 freestyle and Prieto dominated the 50 free and 100 backstroke. The Dynamic Duo teamed up with Junior **Jacob Elliot** and Senior Co-Captain **Will Warwick** to win the 200 medley relay in an eye popping 1:46.42, a very fast early season time. Other top three finishes were: Elliott - 3rd 100 breast stroke, freshman **Kyle Hladky** 3rd 100 fly, Warwick - 2nd 100 free & 3rd 200 free. The 400 free relay of Guzan, Elliott, Prieto and Warwick touched 2nd, and the 200 free relay of Hladky, **Winston McDonald, William Munn and Jack Dubreuil** stroked in at third.*

- Recognized and congratulated junior **Ethan Rodriguez** for his recent achievements. Ethan came in 1st place in javelin at the local Junior Olympic qualifiers. He participated in the AAU Club Championships in Disney World at the beginning of July. Ethan placed 2nd in javelin with a throw of 156'11". On July 29, he participated in the Junior Olympics in Detroit, MI. He placed 1st in javelin with a throw of 161'3" and is the new 15-16 yr AAU National Champion for javelin. He also placed first at the AAU Regional Qualifiers at Tad Gormley Stadium in June.
- And then, as if by magic, Antonio Rossini's *William Tell Overture* started playing – which signaled that our Cross Country Team was still accomplishing great things. In the Gulf Coast Stampede on Sept 14, Varsity finish 1<sup>st</sup> (with Zachary Albright, Eric Coston, DC Lipani, Spencer Albright, & Michael Burke finishing in the Top 20) and JV also finished 1<sup>st</sup>. In the Christian Brothers Invitational, the Varsity finished 1<sup>st</sup> and JV finish 1<sup>st</sup> – did you expect anything else – which Eric Coston, DC Lipani, Spencer Albright, Michael Burke & Nicholas Taylor finishing in the Top 10.
- I then had the students reflect on the Number 100 – and how it holds so much importance. I then segued into Coach Ken Sears' 100 varsity victory as SPS head football coach in our recent win over Jesuit. Here are the stats I presented to the students which Ken Sears has accumulated in his 15 years as head football coach:
  - 100 Wins 56 Losses
  - .641 winning percentage
  - District Coach of the Year – 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
  - Clarion Herald Catholic Schools Coach of the Year – 2007, 2010
  - St. Tammany Parish Coach of the Year – 2005, 2007, 2009
  - Metro New Orleans Coach of the Year – 2005
  - AD Craig Ketelsen and players **Ross Hodgins, Justin Sciortino, and Matthew Clark** then presented Coach Sears with some appropriate gifts on this special occasion: a football signed by the current team, a small plaque, and a beautiful framed poster of photos of Coach and his teams, courtesy of team photographer Joey Michel.



- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly! We then robustly sang the Fight Song for all of the activities going on around school.
- As the prayer candle was extinguished by junior **Ryan Keller**, I reminded the students that they must leave the gym and be the Light of God to all whom they meet. The students exited to the strains of OAR’s “I Feel Home.” It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



*Senior cross country wolves show pride*

#### **From the Mothers Club:**

- **Bookstore:** For your convenience, the MC Bookstore will now be open before school from 7:15 - 8:00, during lunch from 11:00 - 12:30, and after school from 2:30 - 3:30. Anyone interested in working with our awesome team may contact Elizabeth Grashoff at [ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:ehgrashoff@bellsouth.net).
- **Safe Environment Training:** There will be a Safe Environment Training at St. Paul's on Tuesday, Oct. 22nd at 10:00 am, in the Briggs Assembly Center. All parents are

encouraged to attend this important seminar. Certification in Safe Environment Training is valid for three years, so make sure you are up to date!

- **Pencil Pouches** have finally arrived! Anyone who ordered one in their Supply Pack may pick it up in the bookstore. (The pouches were included in all 8th Grade packs!)

**Yearbook Ordering:** The yearbook ordering process is *all* digital this year, taking payments directly through our new website -- no need to bring in checks! Anyone wishing to purchase a 2014 yearbook should go to [stpauls.com](http://stpauls.com) and go to the "Student Life" section where you can order a book, pay for a senior ad, etc. **SENIORS DO NOT NEED TO ORDER A BOOK AS ONE WAS INCLUDED IN YOUR SENIOR FEES.**

**Service Opportunity:** The 2013 Crescent City Cyclist Ride for Kids benefiting Children's Hospital of New Orleans will be on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at St. Benedict's Church at the corner of Smith Road and Stafford Road in Covington. See campus ministry to sign up. Lots of opportunities to gain hours.

**Lunches:** PLEASE don't bring lunches to school for your sons as we definitely are not equipped to deliver lunches to students. We don't have the personnel, so please don't ask us. And PLEASE encourage your son to take care of his lunch box if he brings he school. We have MANY, MANY lunch boxes ALL over campus.

**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!

**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!

**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 your son to explore academic, artistic, musical and other contests.

**Community Coffee Seals:** We are now collecting these, too, which can be redeemed for cash to help SPS. Your son should bring them to his math teacher.

**From the Counseling Office:** the following college will visit SPS this week:

- 10/07: Ave Maria University (avemaria.edu)
- Interested students should check with the counseling office for times of visit

**Student Dress Down Days:** In preparation for the big game against Mandeville on Friday, the Student Council has organized a series of dress down days. In cases, the dress down must be appropriate.

Monday: pink day in honor of breast cancer awareness month

Tuesday: twin day- talk with a friend and decide on a matching AND APPROPRIATE outfit

Wednesday- college t shirt day-school dress code still applies other than t shirt

Thursday - thrift shop Thursday.

**Important Fact of the Week:** People who begin drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to abuse or become dependent on alcohol than those who begin drinking after age 21. A young person's brain and body are still growing. Drinking alcohol can cause learning problems or lead to adult alcoholism. (Source: [www.stopalcoholabuse.gov](http://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov))

**Humor of the Week:** The Nobel Prizes will be awarded this week for prodigious accomplishments in academic fields. The Ig-Nobel Prizes (sponsored by Harvard) were awarded last week. These prizes honor real achievements that first make people laugh and then think. The prizes, given by real Nobel

winners, celebrate the unusual. Some topics will make you laugh, so this is the H of the. Here are the 2013 Ig-nobel Prizes:

**Medicine:** *to researchers for assessing the effect of listening to opera, on heart transplant patients who are mice.*

**Psychology Prize:** *To researchers who confirmed that people who are drunk also think they are attractive.*

**Peace Prize:** *To the president of Belarus, for making it illegal to applaud in public, AND to the Belarus State Police, for arresting a one-armed man for applauding.*

**Biology & Astronomy:** *for discovering that when dung beetles get lost, they use the Milky Way to navigate home*

**Chemistry:** *for discovering that the biochemical process by which onions make people cry is even more complicated than scientists previously realized.*

**Safety Engineering:** *To a scientist for inventing an electro-mechanical system to trap airplane hijackers — the system drops a hijacker through trap doors, seals him into a package, then drops the encapsulated hijacker through the airplane's specially-installed bomb bay doors, whence he parachutes to earth, where police, having been alerted by radio, await his arrival.*

**Probability & Statistics:** *To researchers for discovering that the longer a cow has been lying down, the more likely that cow will soon stand up and that once a cow stands up, you cannot easily predict how soon that cow will lie down again.*

**Physics:** *To researchers for discovering that some people would be physically capable of running across the surface of a pond — if those people and that pond were on the moon.*

I wonder how SPS could get some of this kind of research money!

### **A Look Ahead**

October 8 – Pack Time

October 11 – Periods AB meet/ Grandparents Day in the 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 10<sup>th</sup> Graders in BAC

October 17 – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day

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

October 19 – Special election in the Covington & Mandeville areas – plan on voting!

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 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat/Service Day  
November 15 – 8<sup>th</sup> 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 World 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

Whew! I’ve really worn you out this week! As usual, I’ll close with my usual paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to now and LOLing): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Let me know if there’s an issue you would like me to address in my newsletters or a question you think applies to others.

Pray that things continue to go well! Believe it or not, only one week remains in the first quarter!

May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul’s – our 102<sup>nd</sup> year of existence!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Grateful Beyond Measure to be the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President/Principal of Saint Paul’s School

Trivia Question Answer:

Oct 10: Spiro Agnew served as Vice President to Richard Nixon, who nominated Gerald Ford to serve as VP when Agnew resigned. Ford served as VP for about a year, when he ascended to the presidency when Nixon himself resigned. Ford then nominated Nelson Rockefeller as his VP.



**...and where we do ordinary things extraordinarily well**