



The President/Principal's Newsletter for February 10- 16, 2014

2014 -- A Year of Family and Faith in the Archdiocese of New Orleans



In the Catholic Church, the path to formal sainthood is long and complicated. The first step begins when the Church formally declares a person a “Servant of God.” This Thursday, Feb 13, the Lasallian World will remember the 32nd anniversary of the death of a Christian Brother by the name of Brother James Miller, who was recently named a “Servant of God” by the Catholic Church. Here’s some info on Brother James as we prepare to remember this ordinary man who did extraordinary things. I quote from the Catholic newspaper of the Archdiocese of Minneapolis-St. Paul:



Brother James Miller was a Christian Brother who could have stayed comfortable teaching at a private Catholic school in St. Paul. Instead, his story reflects a timeless Christian obligation: to reach out to those who cannot reach, to provide services to those who cannot afford it, and to change unjust systems through giving the poor access to a human and Christian education.

At his request, Brother James began serving in Huehuetenango, Guatemala, in 1981. There he gave young men practical training and an academic curriculum, and maintained buildings and grounds. As Guatemala was in a civil war, many young men were “drafted”, i.e., literally taken off the streets to be soldiers. (If they refused, their families would be tortured and killed.) Upon hearing of these “drafts,” the brothers would go and retrieve their students from the military station.

Extreme tensions arose between the military and the brothers. Death threats toward the brothers, as well as all vowed religious in Guatemala, were common. Yet, such threats did not deter religious from walking with the people who lived in fear and oppression. On a Saturday afternoon, Feb. 13, 1982, while Brother James was repairing the wall of the school, men in plain clothes approached and unloaded their guns into him, killing him.

Brother James’ mission did not die with him. We are called to reach out to the dear neighbor, to make education accessible to all, and to call into question the systems that continue to oppress and deny the dignity of every person.

Brother James Miller! Pray for us!

DRESS UNIFORM DAY ON MON, FEB 9 for Mass!



Canadian geese made SPS their home last week!

Mon, Feb 10 (Feast of Saint Scholastica; mass schedule; DRESS UNIFORM DAY; F G A B)

- **St. Scholastica** (480-547) was the twin sister of St. Benedict, founder of the Benedictines. We rejoice with SSA on this feast and offer them prayer. The Benedictine nuns no longer serve there, but we remember gratefully their work from St. Scholastica Priory (on Stafford Road) for north shore Catholic education at SSA, St. Peter, & OLL. In remembering the sisters, we recall St. La Salle's words "*What glory there will be for those who have instructed youth, when their zeal and devotion to procure the salvation of children will be made public*"

Remember and celebrate these wonderful women and ask St. Scholastica to bless their legacy -- and our school and work as well.

- **All School Mass** today at 10:45. Yes, parents are welcome to attend.

Tue, Feb 11 (Wolf Packs Meet Today; C D E F)

- **Today** we commemorate Our Lady's appearance in 1858 to Bernadette Soubirous, a 14 year old farmer's daughter. Today, 2-3 million pilgrims annually visit Lourdes. While this apparition occurred after the time of Saint La Salle, we know the Founder's great devotion to Mary: "*Beg the Most Blessed Virgin to obtain grace for you.*" I encourage you to do so this week – and always.
- **Be Electrific Day:** Today honors the birth of Thomas Alva Edison and recognizes his electrical inventions, including the light bulb. Where would we be today without TAE!
- **Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day:** Today recognizes that everyone spills a little milk now and then. It's a day to be optimistic, think positive, look on the bright side, and to find something good in everything that happens. As the song says: *Don't Worry, be Happy!* Try to smile all day today!
- **Basketball:** 9th, JV, & Varsity v. Northshore

Wed, Feb 12 (Regular; G A B C)

- **Oglethorpe Day:** General James Edward Oglethorpe, along with some 100 other Englishmen, landed at what is now Savannah, GA, on this day in 1733 and named the new colony Georgia for England's King George II.
- **Wrestling:** Dual meet at Jesuit

Thu, Feb 13 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1945, a series of Allied firebombing raids begins against the German city of Dresden, reducing the "Florence of the Elbe" to rubble and flames, and killing as many as 135,000 people. It was the single most destructive bombing of the war—including Hiroshima and Nagasaki—and all the more horrendous because little, if anything, was accomplished strategically, since the Germans were already on the verge of surrender. It inspires novelist Kurt Vonnegut to write his classic novel, *Slaughterhouse Five*.
- **Lasallian Anniversary:** 32 years ago today, Brother James Miller, FSC, a Christian Brother from Chicago, was murdered in Guatemala. Brother James worked on behalf of the poor for many years in Guatemala – a

risky thing to do, for advocates of the poor were viewed as adversaries to the military government. James was killed while repairing a wall of the La Salle Indian Center in Huehuetenango. He was a man who laid down his life, literally, for the sake of those he felt called to serve.

- **Get a Different Name Day:** Today you are supposed to change your name to confuse everyone. SPS will not celebrate this day!
- **Lacrosse:** Wolves at Jesuit
- **Rugby:** SPS v. West Jefferson
- **Junior Unity Day / Angola Trip:** ½ of junior class will travel to Angola as part of their social justice unit in religion class. The other half will participate in retreat at Abbey.



8th Grade Soccer Captains present AD Ketelsen with First Place Trophy from the SPS 8th Grade Tourney

Fri, Feb 14 (Regular; A B C D)

- **Happy Valentine's Day!** Today we honor the life of St. Valentine – a saint shrouded in mystery. The Church recognizes at least three saints named Valentine, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest in third century Rome. When Emperor Claudius decided single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape Roman prisons. According to legend, Valentine sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl -- who may have been his jailor's daughter -- who visited him. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression still used today. Although the truth is murky, the stories emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and, most importantly, romantic figure. In any event, celebrate those who you love today!

- **National Donor Day:** Today raises awareness of the need for organ and blood donations. For more info, go to organdonor.gov or resolve to donate blood at the local blood bank.
- **Junior Unity Day / Angola Trip:** The class will “swap” activities today. Those who went to Angola yesterday will go to the Abbey today and vice versa.
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Covington

Sat, Feb 15

- **TDIH:** In 1898, the American battleship *Maine* was blown up while at anchor in Havana Harbor, at 9:40 PM. The ship sank quickly, and 260 members of its crew were lost. Inflamed public opinion in the US ignored the lack of evidence to establish responsibility for the explosion. “Remember the *Maine*” became the war cry, and a formal declaration of war against Spain followed on April 25.
- **World Whale Day:** Celebrate the whale today!
- **Memorial Service:** There will be a memorial service this morning for Coach Mike Balen, who was head football and track coach at Saint Paul’s from 1956-62. A number of alums from that era have organized this event, beginning at 9:30 with family visitation, 10:30 mass, and a reception following. They will use the chapel and the cafeteria. We offer our condolences to the Balen Family.
- **Wrestling** in St. Tammany Open



What self-respecting goose wouldn't want to be at SPS?

- **Lacrosse** v. Brother Martin
- **Indoor Track Meet in Baton Rouge**
- **Basketball:** 8th in Catholic League Games at Rummel

Sun, Feb 16

- **We encourage all to attend Church, especially our Catholics. Remember – example speaks louder than words.**
- **TDIH:** In 1923, in Thebes, Egypt, English archaeologist Howard Carter enters the sealed burial chamber of the ancient Egyptian ruler, King Tutankhamen. Anybody remember when the Tut Exhibit came to New Orleans?
- **Innovation Day:** Spot a problem, think of

a solution, and before you know it you're

innovating! **Innovation Day** is all about imagining new, better ways of doing things. And you're never too young to innovate: lollipops, earmuffs, trampolines, Braille and countless smart phone apps have all been invented by children.

- **National Almond Day:** Celebrate the almond today! They are packed with vitamin E, magnesium and fiber and are considered a heart-healthy food.

DRESS UNIFORM DAY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 for All School Mass!

Prayers Requested For:

- **The Ken Sears Family:** Mary Beth Sears's mom died on Friday evening. We extend our condolences to her, Ken, Kenny & Danny.
- **The Kristian Gibbe Family:** Baby Gibbe continues to improve in hospital after prematurely entering the world; we continue to pray for him, Coach Gibbe and his wife, Amy.
- **The Alex Lacour Family:** Math teacher Mr. Lacour's wife, Megan, will give birth on Monday to their first child and Alex will become a dad. Congratulations!

Newsletter Correction: Last week I printed that Buddy Holly et al died in a plane crash on Feb 3, 1965. An alert parent (someone actually reads my newsletter!) corrected me that the Big Bopper and Ritchie Valens' plane crashed in 1959, not 1965. And further, the parent wrote, Elvis was in the Army when these 3 were killed, adding additional weight to the term "The Day the Music Died" but in 1959, not 1965! I happily stand corrected!

Saint Joseph Altar: The Altar is just a month away! This incredible event will honor St. Joseph and feed ALL SPS students and faculty that day. If you have never seen altar, try to come by on March 10. In the meantime, IF YOU CAN HELP, here's what's needed: set up is March 9 from 3-6 pm, cookie making day is Feb. 22 in the cafeteria from 9-12 (service hours available) and any and all help is appreciated ... moms, dads, grandparents, etc. Anyone desiring to help can reach Dr. Ann Kay Logarbo, organizer of the event, at alogarbo@charter.net.

Mr. Brad Marchese: Spanish teacher Mr. Marchese left for Rome, Italy yesterday and will be gone through Feb 18. No, this is not a vacation. Brad was chosen to be the delegate for the New Orleans-Santa District of Christian Brothers at the International Symposium for Young Lasallians. Brad is one of 11 North American delegates. He will interact with Young Lasallians from around the world as they collectively discern their vocations as Lasallian educators, sharing the same vision of St. John Baptist de La Salle. I am grateful to Brad for accepting the invitation to be part of this group. We should all be proud that he was chosen to represent our District. In his short time here, he has made an impact as a Lasallian educator. The North American delegates, including Brad, will be blogging during their stay. If interested in reading the blog, here's the link to the website, which includes a picture of Brad and the other delegates: <http://isylrean.wordpress.com>. Trevor Watkins and the other Spanish teachers will be keeping Brad's classes moving forward during this time.

Musings on Last Week:

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Thanks to all who showed last Monday. I hope the time was productive for all.
- **Science Fair:** Thanks for the science dept for inspiring our guys in scientific inquiry!
- **Snack Day:** I think we had enough King Cake for all of Covington! Thanks, Mothers Club!
- **HR Breakfasts:** Thanks to all who made it to the Honor Roll Breakfasts last week! Don't know if you heard, but Mark and Liam Dixon of The Broken Egg Café in Mandeville catered the breakfasts. Gourmet fare! I'll have to "up the quality" of my vocabulary words at these events! Mark is 1981 SPS alum and his son Francis graduated in 2007 and his other son, August, will graduate in May. Many thanks, Mark and Liam!
- **Soccer:** Great win Monday over F'bleau to secure the District Championship – the team's 7th consecutive title (does that constitute a dynasty?) The team then took a long bus ride to Baton Rouge on Tuesday to play U High, only to encounter a storm so they turned around and drive back! That was an expensive non-game with the price of diesel fuel! But the playoff win was sweet with a 10-0 rout of Central of Baton Rouge! Go Wolves!
- **Lacrosse:** The LAX Wolves are in Alabama this weekend! On Saturday, JV won 11-3 and varsity defeated the Hoover team with a close exciting game and final score 6-4. Hoover was the ALA lacrosse state champs last year so this was an exciting win for us!
- **Basketball:** Two tough losses last week for the Wolves, who fought hard throughout both games. We'll bounce back this week! But 9th Grade won the Independence Tournament for the 4th consecutive year! Wow! Freshman Wolves are now 20 – 3 on the season! Go Wolves!
- **Rugby** had its very first home field game on Sat against Mississippi!
- **Wrestling:** A number of Wolves did well in the SPS Invitational. I'll publish their names next week!
- **Athletic Signings:** Thanks to Karen Hebert for organizing the Signing Day Ceremony for EIGHT of our student athletes. I'll be recognizing them (along with the previous four) at a future assembly.
- **AP History Field Trip:** AP History Wolves enriched themselves culturally at NOMA on Thu. It was both educational and fun. And because of the very cold day, their plans to picnic in the park were curtailed.

Fortunately, Christian Brothers School in City Park (located right next to NOMA) welcomed the Wolves into their safe, warm, Lasallian environment for lunch. Thanks, Falcons of CBS!

- **Indoor Track:** A day in BR for the indoor track on Saturday!
- **PLAN Testing:** Counselors administered the PLAN to all sophomores during World History classes. This test will give sophs their expected ACT scores in order to start planning.
- **ACT:** Our staff administered another problem free ACT on Sat – except for the test itself!
- **First Friday Devotions:** Thanks to the Religion Department for this important devotion.

Feb 04 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our Feb 04 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Listened to a recording of the 2011 SPS student body singing "O God Beyond All Praising." It's a powerful song that the students love to sing. This recording was made at the mass in January of 2011 which started our Centennial Celebration that year. I reminded the students that the celebrant, Archbishop Gregory Aymond, said he had never seen such level of participation and singing at a high school mass. I asked the students if the same would be true today? I asked them if we are we a



Juniors clown before their HR Breakfast.

better school today at 103 years old than we were at age 100? Academically? Spiritually? More Lasallian? Kinder? More Peaceful? If not, then we are going backwards – and that's not good. But I expressed to them my belief that we are better today than in 2011 – and we will be even better each succeeding year if we are faithful to our Mission, pray as if everything depended upon God and worked as if everything depended on us. While the music was playing, **junior Hunter Simonson** lit the candle to remind us of God's presence among us. We also prayed for the following who have left this earth recently to begin life in God's Kingdom:

- The **Great Grandmother of sophomore Logan and freshman Grayson Buras;**
- **The brother of junior Bernard Penn, Keith Young, an SPS grad from 2001;**
- **Junior William Strain's uncle, Mr. Al Strain;**
- **Freshman Garrett Boyce, step-grandfather, Mr. Salvadore "Sam" Modica;**
- **Senior Thomas Huval's grandmother, Mr. Ruth McNeiland;**
- **Freshman Tanner Landry's grandmother;**
- **Junior Lucas Waldron's uncle;**
- **Sophomore Dante Ferrante's brother in law;**
- **Mr. Al Diamond, valedictorian of Class of 1943;**
- **Mr. Larry Menge '46 – who died wearing his SPS class ring;**
- Pre-freshman Kelsey Whittemore's grandmother, Mrs. Barbara Salley;
- And in a special way, we prayer for freshman Yehia Elkersh, whose father, Mr. Gamal Elkersh, died last week in Alexandria, Egypt. Yehia has returned to Egypt for his father's funeral.

- Congratulated **Coach Kristian Gibbe** on the birth of his first child, Ryker Reese Gibbe. Baby Ryker was born several weeks prematurely and is still in the hospital but getting stronger each day. I stopped the assembly and we all prayed for Baby Ruker.
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS delegation who went to Washington, DC for the March for Life: **Bradley del Rio, George Lee, Zachary Charles, Patrick Stewart, Casey Fitzmaurice, Bradley Hollingsworth, Patrick Rudiger, Garrett Alline, Michael Brown, Christian Caragliano, Conor Ford, Thomas Huval, Ben Kenney, Bryan Livaudais, Jacob McWilliams, Jay Simoneaux, Michael Stewart and chaperones Mr. Jason Schroeder & Mrs. Barrett Baumgartner.**
- Recognized and congratulated ALL the Wolves who participated in the Ben Franklin Math Tournament by having them stand for applause: **Patrick Baldone, Ealon Boudreaux, Alex Krake, Robby Nolan, Rory O'Meallie, Beren Perry, Ashton van Deventer, William Heurtin, Alex Nguyen, Alex Oliveri, Luke Avenel, Patrick Connolly, Ethan Desforges, Rutger Fury, Oliver Guice, Matt Melancon, Ryan Meraux, Connor Trahan, Bradley Yaeger, Matthew Baldone, Michael Brands, Benjamin Dantin, Winston Duffour, Max Gold, Burke Irwin, Jonah Knickles, Connor Lu, Warner Moore, Aaron Nguyen, Walden Perry, Ben Touns, Michael Brown, Michael Burke, George Cazenavette, Grant Connolly, August Dixon, Jack Dubruiel, Brennan Skinner, Colin Skinner, Michael Stewart and Max Morvant.** I then recognized those who placed: **Rory O'Meallie (1st in Alg I), Patrick Baldone (2nd in Alg I), Ryan Meraux (1st in Alg II), George Cazenavette (3rd in Calculus), Patrick Baldone, Rory O'Meallie, Beren Perry, and Ashton van Deventer (3rd in Team Alg I), William Heurtin, Alex Nguyen, and Alex Oliveri (4th in Team Geometry), Luke Avenel, Patrick Connolly, Ryan Meraux, and Connor Trahan (1st in Team Alg II), Michael Burke, George Cazenavette, August Dixon, and Max Morvant (3rd in Team Calculus).**
- Then, as if by magic, Charles Marie Widor's famous Toccata from Symphony for Organ #5 started playing. That strongest of all instruments meant that it was time to recognize the **Power Lifting Team.** The Iron Wolves did quite well at a recent meet in Slidell:
 - **1st--Nick Gordon 114lbs.**
 - **1st--Tucker Faust 275lbs.**
 - **2nd--Daniel DiPol 132lbs., DJ DiPol 148lbs., & Warner Moore 165lbs.**
 - **3rd--Yehia Elkersh 123lbs.**
 - **The efforts of Jon Rushing, Brandon Eberts, Dante Payne, and Ryan Sullivan all also worthy of mention. The future of this young powerlifting team does look bright.**
- Recognized and congratulated the Pre-Freshman Soccer Team which won 1st Place in the recent St. Paul's Tournament. **The championship game against Vandebilt Catholic went to a shootout. It was exciting and movie-worthy finish to the tournament. The team captains presented the winning trophy to athletic director Craig Ketelsen**
- Then, as if by magic, a musical salute with ruffles and flourishes started playing – signifying a very special recognition was about to take place: Senior Zachary Albright was recognized for having been **selected the 2013-14 Gatorade Louisiana Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. This award recognizes not only**

outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character. We presented Zachary with a beautiful trophy and banner.



George earns a PERFECT 36 on the ACT! Wow!

- Then, as if by magic, another a musical salute with ruffles and flourishes started playing – signifying another very special recognition was about to take place: I called junior **George Cazanavette** down to the floor and read the student body a letter from the ACT Corporation congratulating George on being one of the very few (less than 1/10th of 1 percent) of students to earn a PERFECT ACT COMPOSITE score of 36 – meaning he didn’t miss a question on the recent test. Incredible!
- With time running out, we robustly sang the fight song to encourage all of our Wolves in their endeavors.
- Before leaving, I again reminded the students of our Centennial three years ago and our need to continuously improve. And as a sign of their commitment to continuous improvement, I invited them to quietly

stand and robustly sing along with the 2011 student body “O God Beyond All Praising.” And sing they did – I was deeply moved.

- We then ended with junior **John Paul Lea** extinguishing the candle and my reminding the students what the candle represents – the presence of God among us. I exhorted them to leave the gym and spread God’s love to all whom they meet. The students then exited to the 2011 student body recording of “Joyful, Joyful We Adore You” -- another song from our centennial mass.
- It was a great assembly!

Alumni News:

- **William Neal '10**, currently a junior at Notre Dame, won, along with his two partners, the 2014 Audience Choice Award in the “wildly popular Notre Dame Student Film Festival” which screens films made by ND undergraduates during the past year as class projects. These students study the art of filmmaking in advanced, intermediate, and introductory film and video production courses taught in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre. All films are shot on location and often feature the acting talents of Notre Dame students and faculty. Wanna’ view Will’s winning 16 minute film? It’s a pretty powerful documentary on a rare nerve disorder, nicknamed “The Suicide Disease.” Here’s the link: <http://ftt.nd.edu/ftt-events/student-film-festival>. In any event, we are very proud of Will – the next George Lucas!

- **Dr. Corey Rougelot '05** is in his first year of residency at Ochsner and will then embark on a three year residency in Dermatology at Tulane. Corey is the third of four Rougelot boys to graduate from SPS and was an outstanding in-line hockey player during his time here.

Great Catholic Education World Dept: Sister Mary de Lourdes Charbonnet SLW died on Feb 1. Who -- you are asking? Sister Mary de Lourdes was the founding principal at St. Edward the Confessor School in Metairie, building the school into one of the most respected in the Archdiocese. When she finally retired in 2011, she was named “Principal Emeritus” – pretty special for an elementary school! (hmmm..... maybe that’s my next step!) We give thanks to God for her dedication to Catholic education! As Saint La Salle put it *All heaven will resound with thanksgiving* for such people!

Catholic Charities and SPS: All of the schools in the Archdiocese were asked to participate in Show Your Heart Day on this Friday, Feb 14, Valentine’s Day. Students are being asked to contribute \$1 and be allowed to wear “their favorite red t-shirt.” While I fully support Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese, I declined for SPS to participate, mostly because we need normalcy right now and I didn’t think wearing a red t-shirt would appeal very much to our boys. BUT, I will be making a donation to CC from our Mission Collection Fund, so SPS WILL be doing its share and don’t let anyone say differently. Some important info about CC in the Archdiocese:

- Last year, Catholic Charities served 105,594 people in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, including expectant mothers, the homeless, children, and adults with severe developmental delays, the mentally ill, the poverty-stricken, the unemployed, and those with many other needs.
- Catholic Charities embraces the poor and vulnerable – no matter who they are! Catholic Charities serves people regardless of religion, age, race, ethnicity, or economics.



Art Wolves work the clay in art class as they participate in the ceramic unit.

H of the W: Signage problems:

- *TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW*
- *In a Laundromat: AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT*
- *In a department store: BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS*
- *In an office: WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN*
- *In an office: AFTER TEA BREAK, STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD*

- *Outside a secondhand shop: WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING MACHINES, ETC. BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN!*

Mary Queen of Peace Youth Rally: As part of the 25th Anniversary celebrations at MQP, a special Youth Rally, featuring noted youth minister Mike Patin, will be held on Sun, Feb 9 from 2:30 – 7 (mass included.) The event is open to all youth on the North Shore and MQP would love to see some St. Paul's students at this event. I encourage our students to attend this afternoon of faith, food, and fun – a winning combination. For more info, contact Stephen Johnson at sjohnson@maryqueenofpeace.org or call (985) 626-6977.

2014 Children's Hospital "Prom of Champions" is a magical night of music, dancing, food, games, and friends for local teens with cancer and blood disorders. The hospital is seeking gently used/new gowns and cocktail dresses to provide free of charge to the young lady patients who will be attending. For more information, please visit their website, www.PromOfChampions.org or email: PromOfChampions@chnola.org

2014-15 Registration: Please note the following:

- **Current 8th graders:** registration information was emailed on Jan 23. **Current 8th graders planning to return for 2014-15 will have until Feb 05 to re-register. (I extended the date due to last week's crazy schedule.)** Unregistered spots will be offered to new 9th grade applicants during February. I need to know your intentions about next year so I know how many new 9th graders we can accept. Contact me if you have any questions or problems.
- **Current 9th – 11th grades:** registration materials will be EMAILED mid-week. Be on the lookout. You will have until Feb 21 to register.
- **Current 1^{2th} grade:** You don't need to register for SPS for 2014-15! Rejoice!
- **Registration will involved the payment of the \$300 registration fee.**

Annual Fund: Thanks to those who have responded to my request. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation.)
- You may "pledge" your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. **WONDERFUL!**
- While we are not sending requests to grandparents, every year a number of grandparents do donate to the school. **AND WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! If you would like to inform your son's grandparents of the drive, please do so – or provide me with an address and I'll personally appeal. I'll send them a nice "thank you" note, too!** Even a small donation (\$5!) is welcome.
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What's important is that everyone participates.
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to the Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

DRESS UNIFORM DAY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

for All School Mass!

Sweatshirts & Cold Weather: With the exceptionally cold weather last week, we relaxed our rule and allowed heavy coats and other warm weather gear. Now that things are more seasonal, we return to policy: **ONLY SPS cold weather wear is accepted. If this presents a problem, please contact me.** We have some pre-owned sweatshirts in good condition which I'll be happy to distribute. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son.

Saint Peter Parish Father-Son Human Sexuality Program for fathers and their 11-14 year old sons will be held Sunday, February 16, 2014, from 5-8 PM in St. Mary's Hall, St. Peter Church, Covington. Fathers and sons are invited to grow together in God's special gift of human fertility and the wonder of growing up and becoming a man. Topics include: the changes in a young man's body as it prepares for fatherhood; the functions of the male and female reproductive systems; the sacredness of human life; appreciation and reverence for our sexuality and the virtue of chastity; and a confidential question and answer segment. The program is based on the teachings of Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body". The program provides an atmosphere of love and learning to discuss the important topic of growing up and establishes a foundation for continued communication between parent and child. Presenters include peers, health care professionals and fathers. For more information, please contact Melody Baroussa, St. Peter Office of Marriage and Family Life, 985.892.9353 or email mfl@stpeterparish.com. The cost of the program is \$25. We also have registration forms in our campus ministry office.

Future Lawyers Opportunity: The Louisiana Bar Association High School Summer Legal Internship Program is now accepting applications for this great June 09-27 program. This program is available to incoming high school juniors, seniors and recent graduates who are interested in the legal profession. Students will participate in a one week legal institute, during which they will attend an abridged law school session and a two week internship consisting of shadowing at area law offices and courts. The students will also participate in field trips. Students who complete the program will receive a \$250 stipend. Interested students should see Mr. Logarbo for information or check out the LBA website at www.lsba.org/goto/suitup.

Paper Wolf Update: Please encourage your son to read The Paper Wolf on line (www.thepaperwolf.com) and read it yourself. Compliment the staff. I know I don't read it often enough. Subscribe. Support the future.

A Look Ahead

February 17 – ROTC Inspection

February 18 – President/Principal's Assembly

February 27 – End of Third Quarter

February 28 – Faculty Retreat

March 10 – St. Joseph Altar (all periods meet)

March 11 – President/Principal's Assembly – Guest Speaker for all juniors during Period F

March 13 – Juniors to WWII Museum - Celebrity Waiters Dinner in evening

March 14 – 9:30 Late Start (Periods DEF meet)

March 17 – Pack Time
March 18 – ACT testing on campus for all juniors/ Explore of all 9th Graders
March 19 – Mass – Feast of St. Joseph
March 25 – President/Principal’s Assembly
March 31-April 4 –Founder’s Week
March 31 – Sophomore Service Day
April 7-11 – Leadership Week
April 7 – Mass in honor of Saint John Baptist De La Salle’ Feast Day
April 8 – President/Principal’s Assembly

DRESS UNIFORM DAY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 for All School Mass!

Whew! I really tested your endurance and patience this week! Sorry I got so long-winded!

And even though it’s 2014, I will still close with a paraphrase from one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to now as I write and LOLing): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Again, please 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.

Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we march forward through 2014! Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Who Enjoyed Celebrating the 202nd Birthday of Charles Dickens last Friday as the 17th Christian Brother
President/Principal of Saint Paul’s School



Have a very Lasallian week as we attempt to provide quality education, build an inclusive community, show respect for all, have concern for the poor & social justice, and demonstrate faith in God’s presence – and try to do so extraordinarily well!

DRESS UNIFORM DAY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 for All School Mass!

Saint Paul's School **2014-15** School Year Calendar for Saint Paul's School

**This NEXT Year's Calendar, not this year's!
It's for those of you who plan early – unlike me!**

Mon, Aug 04	New Teacher Meeting
Tue - Wed, Aug 05 & 06	All Faculty Meetings
Thu, Aug 07	School Opens with full day of instruction
Mon, Aug 18	New Parent Reception and Information Meeting (6:30)
Thu, Aug 21	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Ceremony
Fri, Aug 22	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Sep 01	Labor Day Holiday
Mon, Sept 08	Parent - Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Fri, Oct 10	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 10	Grandparents' Day begins at 11:30
Mon-Fri, Nov 24-28	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Dec 01	Classes resume from Holiday
Mon, Dec 01	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Tue - Fri, Dec 16-19	Semester Exams
Fri, Dec 19	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:00 following exams
Mon, Jan 05	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Wed-Fri, Jan 07-09	Senior Retreat
Mon, Jan 19	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 02	Parent-Teacher Conferences 6-8 pm
Fri, Feb 13	Teacher Retreat Day (no classes)
Mon-Fri, Feb 16-20	Mardi Gras/ Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 23	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 13	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri, Apr 03-10	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 13	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Sat, May 02	Junior - Senior Prom
Wed-Fri, May 06-08	Senior Final Exams
Mon, May 18	8 th grade promotion ceremony
Tue - Fri, May 19-22	9, 10 & 11th Final Exams
Mon, May 26	Memorial Day
Tue, May 27	Faculty Records Day

In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays.

In reviewing the proposed SPS calendar, please keep the following in mind:

- While state law only requires 175 instructional day, archdiocesan policy requires 177 days.
- A minimum of 3 faculty days must be scheduled.
- The Year must be evenly divided into two semesters.
- St. Tammany public schools open on Aug 8 – a day after I'm proposing
- St. Tammany returns from Christmas on Jan 5 (the day I'm proposing) which is a Monday.
- St. Tammany ends the year on May 22, the same day I'm proposing
- As we did this year, we eliminate Book Day and begin on Aug 7 with a full day of instruction.