



The President's Newsletter for Apr 07 - 13, 2014
2014 -- A Year of Family and Faith in the Archdiocese of New Orleans



The Fifth Week of Lent



In our Lady of Peace Chapel on our campus, a wicker basket sits in front of a special cross erected for Lent. During Lent, students have been invited to write prayer intentions on cards to place in the basket. The student body as a whole prays for these intentions during chapel. Without revealing any identifying information, here's a sampling of the intentions. I am touched. I think you will be, too:

For more faith; my grandparents (multiple entries!); my sister; my friend's dad; for help with my school life and study habits; my dog; the souls in purgatory; all our troops (multiple entries!); to overcome my depression and my vices; my family (multiple entries!); my parents (multiple entries!); for more patience; my mom; for more confidence; for an end to abortion; my pals; for my relationships to be stronger; the student who killed himself at Hannan; for unkind people; for those who are addicted; the lady I ran into; for my friend to stop using e-cigs; for the Ketelsen Family; for the discernment of my vocation; for those who have no one to pray for them; my math grade; for a better relationship with my dad; for people with cancer; to help me be more charitable.

Again, these are just some of the cards. In these final two weeks of Lent, I ask the whole school community to pray for the intentions in the wicker basket in front of the altar in Our Lady of Peace Chapel at Saint Paul's School – and for the young men who wrote them. May Our Lady of Peace intercede with her divine Son for all of them!

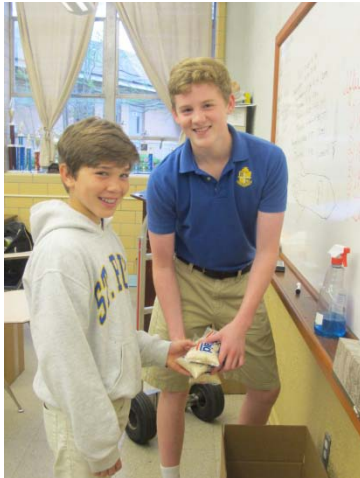
Mon, Apr 07 (All School Mass; DRESS UNIFORM DAY; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** Today, in 1719, John Baptist de La Salle died, undoubtedly wondering if his work would last. The Institute was fragile and misunderstood. He had given away his fortune to establish his dream to educate ALL children. As we honor our Founder today (and every day) the best tribute we can pay to him, in addition to prayer and thanksgiving, would be to renew our commitment to our students, especially the ones that who aggravate us the most, who seem farthest from our influence, who try our patience and seem resistant to our message. This was La Salle's desire.
- **Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide:** 20 years ago today, the horrible genocide in Rwanda began. Several years ago, noted Catholic speaker Immaculee Ilibagiza, herself a survivor of the genocide, spoke movingly to the SPS student body. If you are not familiar with Immaculee's story, visit her website at <http://immaculee.com>. Her incredible faith in God should inspire us all. We pray for an end to all genocidal acts.
- **National No Housework Day:** Kick back and relax today but on your time, not SPS time!

- **International Beaver Day:** Celebrate the beaver today! Even though humans and beavers often clash, these are important critters in the overall scheme of the ecosystem (or so I'm told!)
- **Lasallians on Campus:** About 20 Lasallians from the New Orleans-Santa Fe and San Francisco Districts will be with us in the morning. Greet them as I show them around campus and they join us for mass.

Tue, Apr 8 (Assembly; F G A B)

- **TDIH:** In 1974, Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves hits his 715th career home run and breaks Babe Ruth's record.
- **President/Principal's Assembly:** I know I'm behind in recognitions but I'll do better today!
- **Hanamatsuri**, literally "the flower festival", is celebrated today in Japan & commemorates the birth of Siddhartha Gautama who became enlightened as the Buddha, marking the release from suffering and sorrow. In view of the suffering and sorrow in Japan these days, we offer them our prayer.
- **Draw a Bird Day:** From the DABD website: *In 1943, Dorie Cooper was a 7 year old English girl. Her mom took her to a hospital in to visit her uncle who was seriously wounded in the war. She asked him "Draw a bird for me." Her looked out his window and drew a picture of a robin. After seeing the picture, Dorie laughed and proclaimed that he was not a very good artist, but she would hang the picture in her room. Her uncle's spirits were lifted by his niece's honesty and acceptance. Several other wounded soldiers also had their day*



LYLs sort beans & rice drive donations.

brightened by the event and every time Dorie came to visit, they held drawing contests to see who could produce the best bird pictures. In several months, the entire ward's walls were decorated by bird drawings. 3 years later, Dorie was killed by a car. Her coffin was filled with bird images that had been made by soldiers, nurses and doctors from where her uncle had been. Ever since, those men and women remembered the little girl that brought hope by drawing birds on her birthday, April 8th. Draw a Bird Day grew through those soldiers and medical personnel. It is celebrated world wide as a way to express joy in the very simplest of things in life and as a way to help soldiers forget war and suffering even if only for a short time.

- **Baseball:** 8th at Hannan; JV & Varsity at Slidell
- **Tennis** at Northshore;
- **Golf** in league play

Wed, Apr 9 (Leadership Breakfast Assembly; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1865, at Appomattox, VA, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders 28,000 troops to Union General Ulysses S. Grant, effectively ending the Civil War.
- **National Cherish an Antique Day:** Visit an antique store or spend time with the antiques that you own. Educate students about the value of "old things." Do not let your children call you "antique"— although I definitely qualify.
- **Winston Churchill Day:** *On April 9th, 1963, Winston Churchill became the second person to become an Honorary Citizen of the United States, although this was the first time Congress had resolved that it was to be bestowed by the President of the United States, on a foreign national. This honour was bestowed upon him by President John F Kennedy. Although Churchill was not present at the ceremony, it had been hoped he would not only witness the event on television – which he did with his wife – but would be able to respond. Problems with a relay station in Cornwall prevented this from happening. Learn something about ole Winston today. Listen to a speech of his!*

- **Sacrament of Reconciliation: from 9AM-10:45AM** in OLoP Chapel
- **Leadership Breakfast**

Thu, Apr 10 (Assembly; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** 1866, the ASPCA is founded in New York.
- **National Sibling Day:** Be nice to your brothers and sisters today!
- **Safety Pin Day:** From the SPD website: *Legend has it that, in 1849, Walter Hunt, inventor of the safety pin, owed a friend \$15 and decided to invent something to earn the money to repay him. His invention was the safety pin. Strong and sharp, yet safe enough to be used on clothing, safety pins are a simple yet ingenious invention. Take inspiration from Walter Hunt this and come up with a clever invention. It's a great challenge for children who love to come up with new ideas.*
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation: from 9AM-2PM** in chapel.
- **Track:** Varsity in Ronnie Doyle Raider Classic at Tad Gormley
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity v. Hammond



Handsome rounds bases in big week for BB Wolves

Fri, Apr 11 (Assembly; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1861, the bloodiest four years in US history begin when Confederate batteries under General P.G.T. Beauregard open fire on Union Ft Sumter in Charleston Bay, SC, beginning Civil War.
- **Education & Sharing Day:** *On E & S Day, we reflect on the teachings of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, who embodied that humanitarian spirit. As a tireless advocate for youth around the world, he inspired millions to lift the cause of education, to practice kindness and generosity, and to aspire toward their highest ideals. His enduring legacy lives on in those he touched, and today, we resolve to carry forward his dedication to service and scholarship.*
- **International “Louie Louie” Day:** From the LLD website: *Today provides an annual opportunity to celebrate the song that has been called best party song of all time, has been recorded more times than any other rock song in history, and was very nearly declared the official state song of Washington State. Why April 11? It's the birthday of Richard Berry, the man who composed Louie Louie. Now, if we could just understand the lyrics!*
- **National Pet Day:** I have no pets (other than peeves); be extra kind to yours today!
- **World Parkinson’s Disease Day:** In Parkinson's, nerve cells that deliver the neurotransmitter dopamine to other cells are reduced in numbers. As cell death spreads to ever larger parts of the brain, more centers are affected. This results in an aggravation of motor and non motor disorders. We pray for a medical cure for this dreaded scourge.
- **Student Council Election Results / Year in Review**
- **Alumni Cocktail Party in the BAC (6-8 pm)**

DRESS UNIFORM DAY on MON, APR 7!

Sat, Apr 12

- **DEAR Day:** “Drop Everything and Read,” designed to remind all to make reading a priority activity in their lives. Let’s all observe this day! Students: do SSR today!
- **National Be Kind to Lawyers Day.** We wish our SPS community lawyers a very pleasant day. No lawyer jokes!
- **National Licorice Day:** Enjoy if you wish; I’m not a fan!
- **ACT** administered on campus this morning
- **Crawfish Cook Off:** Best wishes to Lee, Shellie, Danielle and Al for a successful CCO on Sat. Some alums are upset as I will not allow use of the BAC, but I wasn’t about to have crawfish all over our assembly building a month before graduation!
- **Baseball:** 9th in Fontainebleau Tournament



Seniors listen intently at Life Skills Day.

Sun, Apr 13 – Palm Sunday; Holy Week begins. We encourage all families to attend church today.

- **TDIH:** In 1742, George Friedrich Handel’s *Messiah* debuts in Dublin. What a masterpiece!
- **TDIH II:** 1743, Thomas Jefferson, our third president, the main author of the Declaration of Independence, and the accomplisher The Louisiana Purchase, was born in Shadwell, VA.
- **Global Day to End Child Sexual Abuse:** Over 30 countries have agreed to promote this day. *It is estimated that more than 300,000 children around the world are sexually abused a year, many by close relatives or people they know and trust. Experts state that one in four girls and one in six boys will experience sexual abuse by their eighteenth birthday. A majority of victims are under the age of ten.* We pray for an end to this tragedy!
- **National Scrabble Day:** Get out the old Scrabble Game and enjoy while listening to Handel! A double treat!
- **Father-Son Supper (5):** Maybe they’ll play scrabble & listen to Handel!

DRESS UNIFORM DAY on MON, APR 7!

The Ugly Dept: Last week we were presented with visual evidence (via pictures on the Internet) of SPS students imbibing alcohol at a local piece of property. Apparently this had become a regular affair. Some of the pics and the captions associated with them were vulgar and inappropriate. We immediately called the parents of the students whose pictures appeared. We identified who had posted the pictures and gave him 24 hours to have everything removed or face suspension or possible dismissal from school. And we notified local law enforcement – as what the boys were doing is against the law – and the police promised to patrol the area more vigilantly. Why notify the police, you may ask? Suppose something happened to one of the students (alcohol poisoning, DWI, etc.) and it was proven that SPS had knowledge of what was going on and didn’t report it. How would people respond to our lack of action? Even if it wasn’t proven, how would we live with ourselves if something seriously happened to a student? We have an obligation to protect. And while we can’t be everywhere (and don’t want to be) and do everything (and don’t want to), we must act when presented with a clear cut violation of the law, a clear and present danger to students, and a violation of our own code of conduct. Fortunately, the students’

parents were grateful of our actions and cooperative and the property's owner promised he would not allow such activity to continue.

In the process of being presented with the visual evidence referenced above, we came across some other social media posts. And while not violations of the law, much of what we read was obscene or borderline obscene. The students involved aren't bad; they are just not thinking. I will repeat the acronym I used last year when a similar episode occurred, when it comes to using social media or electronic communication: THINK: T (is it true?); H (is it helpful?); I (is it inspiring?); N (is it needed?); K (is it kind?) This one word, THINK, should help all to make good, healthy decisions. I want to commend Ken Sears on his professional handling of the situation. As soon as the information came to him, he acted.

And while I'm on a rant, some parents told us that they their son was going to some party but didn't know what was going on. HEEELLLLLLOOOO? If he's going to a vacant piece of property, it's not to play scrabble. Parents, PLEASE be aware of what your son is doing. Please insist that he not participate in illegal activity. Please monitor his social media sites – and know that in some cases he's got more than one – the one he lets you see and the one he doesn't. And PRAY!



Freshman Field Day Volleyball team!

Father-Son Supper: Join us for a relaxing dinner in honor of dads, catered by Sweet Daddy's Bar-B-Q, On Sunday, April 13th at 5 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Cost is \$15 per person and dress is Deadline for reservations is **Monday, April 7th**. You were emailed a reservation form but one is available on our website, www.stpauls.com.

Spring at SPS: The Paper Wolf has a GREAT slide show highlighting the beauty of spring at SPS. Here's the link: <http://thepaperwolf.com/2014/04/03/spring-has-finally-arrived-on-campus/>

DRESS UNIFORM DAY on MON, APR 7!

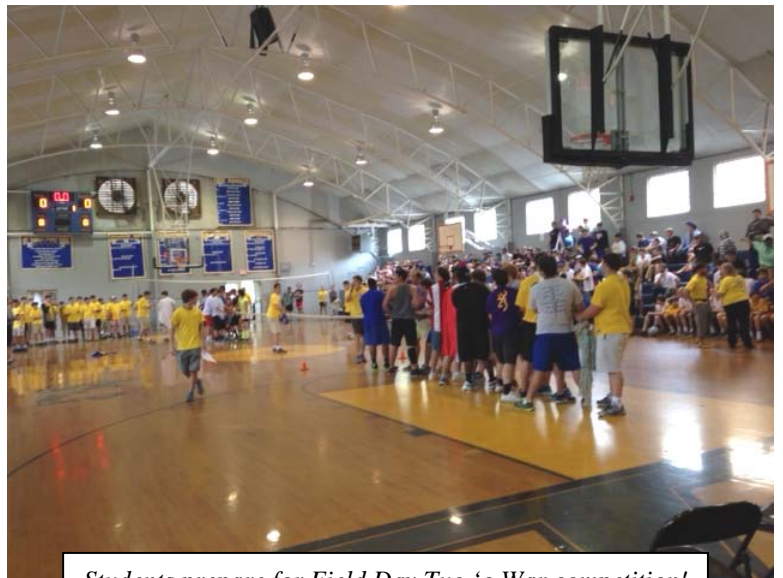
Musings on Recent Events

- **Founder's Week:** We all owe a deep sense of gratitude to Myrle and the Lasallian Youth Leaders for their prodigious efforts last week.
- **Life Skills:** I've heard only positive things and my brief visit saw good things happening. Thanks, Renaissance Board and Development Office for this great program.
- **Baseball:** Big District wins v. N'shore, Cov, & Ponchy & tough extra innings loss to F'Bleau.
- **Lacrosse:** Last weekend both JV & Varsity went to TN and played the Houston Mustangs and Collierville Dragons....both our JV and Varsity Wolves defeated both teams. JV had an exciting win decided with a goal by Brooks McMahon who scored in the last 5 seconds. Yesterday, JV & 9th beat Jesuit, but Varsity, unfortunately, didn't. On to the playoffs next week! Go LAX Wolves!
- **Eucharistic Ministers:** New Ems were trained last week. Thanks to: **Ross Allbritton, Jacob Authement, Austin Barrios, Nicholas Chiasson, Trey Couvillion, Jack Donham, Eric Fecke, Joseph Gaiennie, Harrison Gitz, Zach Hagan, Stephen Hammond, Ben Hollingsworth, John-Paul Juge, Ryan Keller, Connor Lyons, Josh Nunez, Andrew Richard, Will Saucier, Kyle Schimpf, Connor Scott & Lucas Waldron.**

- **Snack Day:** Thanks, MC, for treating our students so well!
- **Golf:** League domination. 'Nuff said.
- **Foreign Language Festival:** A good showing by the Fighting Lobos! Details to follow in next newsletter!
- **Mu Alpha Theta:** Fighting Math Wolves won many events at the convention to take **FIRST PLACE** in STATE. Unfortunately, an incident by five of our students is overshadowing the joy. I'm not prepared to discuss it with you now, but I will once I have all the facts. In the meantime, know that I'm **VERY** disappointed in some of our best guys but so proud of their math prowess!
- **Marian Players:** Sellout crowds and SROs! Kudos to Denny Charbonnet, Barrett Baumgartner, and the Marian Players for an **OUTSTANDING** production of *Anything Goes!* *You're delightful, you're delicious, you're delovely!*
- **Robotics:** I am grateful to **Lester Guttuso, Grant Fowler, Morgan Kinch, James Pagnutti, George Cazanavette, Walden Perry, Ben Hollingsworth, Chris Woodman, Drew Bratschi, Brad Anzalone, Jonah Knickles, & Austin Westbrook** for representing us well at **FIRST Robotics**.
- **Track:** Wow! A Parish title for the 3rd time in 30 years and the 2nd time in two years! Well done, Track Wolves!

Alum News: The Class of 2007 is doing great things:

- **Sam Mathias '07** is making a documentary movie about the soccer culture in South America and the USA. I hope he remembers us in his Academy Award acceptance speech. Check out his website at www.americanfutbolmovie.com
- **Jared Stritzenger '07** is working on his doctorate in chemistry at Florida State and was on a research team that has made some breakthrough discoveries about the rare element californium. Here's a press release: <http://time.com/35167/rare-element-californium-recycle-radioactive-fuel/>
- **Carl Culicchia'07** was just accepted to the Harvard Graduate School of Business. Go Carl!



Students prepare for Field Day Tug 'o War competition!

DRESS UNIFORM DAY on MON, APR 7!

H of the W: Some "kids and religion" H of the W as we delve deeper and deeper into Lent:

- *A Kindergartener's Our Father: 'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name.'*
- *Another one's: "Lead us not into temptation," he prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail."*
- *And still another: And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets.*
- *A Sunday school teacher asked, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child said, "Mary." The teacher then asked, "What was Jesus' father's name?" A boy said, "Verge." Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?" The kid said, "Well, you know they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."*

- A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what the last commandment was. Bobby raised his hand and said, "Thou shall not take the covers off the neighbor's wife."
- Six-year-old Johnny and four-year-old Joel sat together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked. Finally, Johnny had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Johnny pointed to the back of church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."
- A little boy was overheard praying: 'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'
- OK, I'll stop!

I'm Still Begging: Thanks to those who each week to my request. But PLEASE – I need everyone's help, including alumni and grandparents. For clarity, I offer:

- 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!**
- 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! Thanks. Can you send \$10 to Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!



Pre-freshmen enjoy Field Day!

WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! Several grandparents approached me on GP Day about donating and asked why they aren't solicited like other schools do. I replied that we need and welcome their support and they all replied that they would contribute. **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.

DRESS UNIFORM DAY on MON, APR 7!

Hair Rule: With nature sprouting all over, our students' hair seems to be growing a fast rate, too. We are about to embark on "haircut" rule enforcement, so help us by insisting your son conforms to policy.

And, no, I don't think hair regulation is more important than drug (we're still testing!) and alcohol regulation (see above) but I'm not willing to ignore the less important rules that we have.

Field Day on Friday: Yes, the weather forced a change of plans, but the day WAS NOT CANCELLED and we had a GREAT afternoon. Shame on those students who called home saying the afternoon was cancelled. I'm very disappointed in them – and parents who believed them!

A Look Ahead

April 7-11 – Leadership Week

April 7 – All School Mass SJBDLS **(DRESS UNIFORM DAY!)**

April 8 – President's Assembly

April 9 – Leadership Breakfast

April 10 – Guest Speaker

April 11 – Assembly – SC Elections

April 14 – Late Start for Faculty Meeting/Challenge Night

April 15 – Pack Time

April 17 – Easter Holidays **(NOT SPRING BREAK)** begin at 3:00

April 29 – President's Assembly

May 2 – Sophomore Service Day

May 6 – Pack Time

May 7-9 – Senior Exams

May 12 - Athletic Awards

May 13 – President's Assembly

May 13 -- Band Awards in PM

May 14-16 – Pre Freshmen Exams

May 14 – Grad Night

May 15 – Level Awards assembly

May 16 – Major Awards in AM assembly (dress uniform day)

May 18 – Senior Graduation

May 19 – Pre Freshmen Promotion/ Exam Schedule Begins

May 23 – Exam conflict and make up day



Michael and Mom at recent HR Breakfast!

Whew! I wore you out again this week! And even though we're approaching the middle of April (already!) of 2014, I 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

Enjoying Every Day (well, almost every day!) at SPS as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

**RABTGN! OTSNEIHG! DTOTEW!
CQIRF! SJBDLS! PFU! LJIOH! F!**