





My last newsletter (I can hear you cheering!) will be brief. My final Lasallian thought is the same one I use every year at this time: a short excerpt from Saint John Baptist de La Salle's last Meditation for the Time of Retreat to the Brothers entitled: *On the reward that a Brother should expect in heaven, if he is faithful in the work*. Saint La Salle wrote this meditation because the life of the early brothers was VERY hard – and he needed to assure them that they would one day be rewarded by Almighty God. He made sure they read this meditation every year.

I shared the meditation with the faculty last week and asked them to believe that St. La Salle wrote the meditation for them, too, for their lives as teachers are difficult and challenging, and they need to believe they are valued by Almighty God and doing His work.

I share the excerpt from the meditation with you, too, because as parents, you are the primary educators of your children as you lead them on the path to salvation. Your work as parent is hard, but it is God's work. I believe, therefore, that Saint La Salle's words apply equally to you, too:

Oh, what glory there will be for those who have instructed children, when their zeal and devotion to procure the salvation of children will be made public before all people! All heaven will resound with the thanksgiving which these blessed children will render to those who have taught them the road to heaven. Act, then, in such a way by your good and wise guidance of those who are entrusted to you, that you will procure all these blessings and all this glory for yourself.

Thank you for your parental ministry. I am profoundly awestruck by the responsibility you have in raising your children. I am most grateful that you have allowed Saint Paul's to share in your parental teaching ministry this past year. I am confident that the good work we have done this past year will help insure the truth of Saint La Salle's words for all of us when our day of judgment comes and that "all heaven" is resounding with the good example and instruction you are providing to your children.

Thanks for 2013-14 and here's looking to 2014-15 – the fourth year of our second century!



Wow! Great News Department: Hornbeck Execs Step Up with \$500k Academic Sponsorship: On the heels of my request two weeks ago for academic sponsorships, I am pleased to announce that Covington-based Hornbeck Offshore (NYSE:HOS) and five of its top executives (all of whom are SPS

dads) have collectively pledged \$500,000 and other in-kind support toward a strategic academic endowment of our elective business and PLTW engineering professional curricula here at SPS. More details about this exciting development will be revealed at the beginning of next school year, but in the meantime, we would like to thank Hornbeck Offshore for matching the generous donations of Todd & Donna Hornbeck, Jim & Pam Harp, John & Nikki Cook, Tim and Lisa McCarthy and Sam & Jill Giberga. By the way, Hornbeck Offshore is <u>also</u> one of the corporate athletic sponsors of our new digital football scoreboard, which I recently announced!

I am humbled and honored by the faith that HOS is placing in SPS to enhance our already prodigious STEM initiatives, especially in engineering. Hornbeck Offshore Services, headquartered in Covington, is a leading provider of marine transportation services to exploration and production, oilfield service, offshore construction and military customers. We are committed to working with HOS to enhance our engineering and business programs, thus making their investment a solid one in the future of their industry. Again, we will be "rolling out" the details of the partnership in the fall, but for now, we wanted to announce this very significant partnership. I am beyond grateful. For information on HOS, visit: http://hornbeckoffshore.com/

Other corporate sponsorships are welcomed for other programs! Just contact me!

Final Report Cards will be emailed early this week. Details of grades are posted on Edline.

Summer Reading: ALL students have a summer reading obligation for their English class. The list and discussion questions are posted on Edline. Please encourage your son to take his summer reading obligation seriously. We deliberately limit the number of books to be read in order not to make this an onerous task, and we certainly encourage more reading that just what we are requiring. Toward that end, I offer the following:

- We often see that a student's weakest ACT score is in reading. Why? Students don't like to read! Solution? Read more! PLEASE insist your son devote part of each day (30 minutes? 15? 10?) to reading. He's used to this in school with SSR (I hope you know what SSR is!) This could be a family activity set aside time when the whole family reads. Turn off the TV, i-pad, X-Box, the computer and read.
- And speaking of ACT /SAT scores, summer provides an excellent opportunity to prepare. There are local formal courses, but both ACT and SAT offer on-line prep programs at very reasonable costs. Or just purchase one of the many test preparation books on the market and ask your son to spend 15 minutes a day preparing. Long term preparation is the only solution. You can't "cram" for an ACT or SAT the night before.

One Last Appeal! If you haven't contributed to the Annual Fund or in any financial way to SPS this year, and are in a position to do so, PLEASE send your gift. Remember, NO amount (even \$1) is too small! Remember:

- SPS cannot continue to exist on tuition alone;
- SPS tuition is lower than almost every other boys' Catholic high school in the Archdiocese;
- Faculty salaries are lower than public school salaries and we cannot lose good teachers to finances;
- And we've gotten some nice **Grandparent gifts** lately. Thank you! Grandparent gifts are welcome and needed and they are often happy to help if asked. I don't like to solicit grandparents so I rely on your to do

so. They'll get a very nice "thank you" note from me. And if you want me to directly ask a grandparent, just send me the address and name.

- Gifts of stock are welcome and no gift is too small.
- If you are contributing to Capital Campaign or supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you!
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

Senior Graduation: The 103rd

Commencement Exercises of The Saint Paul's School were exemplary. We were honored to have the Reverend Matthew Clark, OSB of St. Joseph Abbey as celebrant. The SPS Class of 2014 outdid themselves with singing, responding, and being "living stones building the edifice of the mystical God and fulfilling the Lasallian Mission of Saint Paul's School in our age." The following seniors earned special awards at graduation:

- Valedictorians: Zachary Lee Albright, Michael Joseph Burke, Grant Michael, Landwehr, & Peter James Yager

Graduates celebrate at end of ceremony!

- Salutatorian: Bryan David Livaudais
- Christian Brother Provincial's Award: Jonah Clark Knickles
- Signum Fidei (Sign of Faith)/Brother Cassian Scholarship Award: Michael Joseph Burke & Thomas Michael Ruli, Jr.

By the way, the Salutatorian and Valedictorian addresses are posted on our website. The talks are worth reading. *Ad multos annos,* Class of 2014! We shall miss you!



Jack, Jordan, Rory, & Patrick read "The Call of Samuel" at Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony. I then reminded the students that they, too, must listen for God's call.

This ceremony was equally wonderful. The Class of 2018 acquitted themselves in an exemplary manner

Pre-freshmen Promotion / Awards Ceremony:

and the weather was perfect. Thanks to the Mothers Club for providing the reception. The following earned special awards:

- Superior Academic Gold Medals: Patrick Baldone, Matthew Borgatti, John Connor Flick, Mason Jinks, Forge Mathes, Rory O'Meallie & Ashton van Deventer
- Superior Academic Silver Medal: Jordan Edney & Andrew Smith
- Superior Achievement Silver Medal & Barton Hebert Memorial Award: Forge Mathes
- Superior Achievement Gold Medal & Barton

Hebert Memorial Award: Ashton van Deventer

Major Award Winners: The following students won the top level awards at our recent ceremony:

- 9th Grade Superior Academic Gold Medal: Max Egan, Yehia Elkersh, Lloyd Guillot, Alex Oliveri and Austin Willis
- 9th Grade Superior Academic Silver Medal: Thomas Carriere
- 10th Grade Superior Academic Gold Medals: Luke Avenel, Jacob Broussard, Patrick Connolly, John Cresson, Christian Flick, and Leland Van Deventer
- 10th Grade Superior Academic Silver Medal: Jack Cheng, Ryan Meraux, Andrew Mercante, Gregory Roy, Heath Rushing and Landon Waite
- 11th Grade Superior Academic Gold Medal: Matthew Baldone, Michael Brands, Jack Dubreuil, Max Gold and John Paul Lea
- 11th Grade Superior Academic Silver Medals: Burke Irwin and Connor Lu
- 12th Grade Superior Academic Gold Medal: Zachary Albright, Michael Burke and Peter Yager
- 12 Grade Superior Academic Silver Medal: Grant Connolly
- 9th Grade Superior Achievement Gold Medal: Austin Scheyd
- 9th Grade Superior Achievement Silver Medal: Yehia Elkersh
- 10th Grade Superior Achievement Gold Medal: **Patrick Stewart**
- 10th Grade Superior Achievement Silver Medal: Cray Pennison
- 11th Grade Superior Achievement Gold Medal: Ross Allbritton
- 11th Grade Superior Achievement Silver Medal: George Cazenavette
- 12th Grade Superior Achievement Gold Medal: Michael Burke
- 12th Grade Superior Achievement Silver Medal: Michael Stewart
- 4 Year Perfect Attendance/Louis Ross Memorial Scholarships: Bryce Bourne, Christian Caragliano, Patrick Danner, Nicholas Lacoste and Michael Stewart
- 5 Year Perfect Attendance / Louis Ross Memorial Scholarship: Wyatt Popovich & Peter Yager
- Al Doskey Memorial Outstanding Science Student Award: Thomas Ruli
- Jan Neumann Outstanding Math Student Award: George Cazenavette
- Dr. Walker Percy Memorial Scholarship for Outstanding Writing: Sam Giberga
- Daughters of the American Revolution Outstanding American History Student: Kyle Cleveland
- Modern Languages Outstanding Student: Kevin Durr
- Public Relations Award: Michael Burke
- Robert H. Burns American Legion Post 16 Scholarship: Jacob Hewson
- Chosen Path Award: John Cresson
- Daren Boudreaux Memorial Scholarship: Michael
 Brands
- Eric Kolb Memorial Scholarship: Casey Fitzmaurice
- The Francis Xavier Seelos Scholarship: Kenny Ross
- The Arata Edmunson Scholarship: Carlton Knight
- Francis H. Richard Memorial Habitat for Humanity Scholarship: Max Gold
- Habitat for Humanity Awards: Peter Yager, Robert Lacroix, Trey Romage, and Matthew Johnson
- Order of St. La Salle Award for 100+ service hours:



Cole, Ashton, & Beau remind their classmates that they are "God's masterpiece, His work of art!" at Prefreshman Promotion Ceremony! I then reminded the students that they must act accordingly at all times!

- Pre-freshman: Patrick Guidry
- o Freshman: Robert Baricev, Yehia Elkersh, Alex Oliveri, and Colin Patrick
- o Sophomores: John Cresson, Seth Dragon, and Patrick Stewart
- o Juniors: Benjamin Dantin, Bernard Penn, William Saucier, Kyle Schimpf, and Alex Zenor
- Seniors: Bryce Bourne, Zachary Buster, Daniel Conlin, Patrick Danner, Don Gallaty, Preston Kennedy, Bennet Miller, and Michael Stewart
- American Legion Award: Jacob Hewson
- Dr. Walker Percy/Brother Bill Parsons Writing Award: Jonah Knickles
- District Attorney's Senior High Award: Christian Caragliano
- District Attorney's Junior High Award: Matthew Borgatti
- Gene Bennett Man of Integrity Award: Bryan Livaudais, Brennan Skinner, Michael Stewart, & Peter Yager
- Benjamin Bragg Memorial Scholarship Award: Brennan Knepper

And I annually give out awards to our faculty, celebrating years of service in multiples of five. If you see these teachers, please thank them for their service to SPS:

- Completing Five Years of Service to SPS: Mrs. Christie Simoneaux, Mr. Andrew Dart, Mr. Andrew Moran, & Mrs. Amy Marshall
- Completing Ten Years of Service to SPS: Mr. Joe Dickens, Mr. Gene Lipps, Brother Rich Kovatch, & Mrs. Jeaneen Schmitt
- Completing 15 Years of Service to SPS: Mrs. Jan Gardner, Mr. Richard Pichon, & Mrs. Lee Pierre
- Competing 20 Years of Service to SPS: Mrs. Pam Cullen
- And Completing 30 Years of Service to SPS: Mr. Phil Williams
- Finally, I presented the Brother Charles Crouzet Award (our highest faculty award) to **Mrs. Ann Forster**, who completes 24 years of outstanding service to SPS as our librarian. Ann is retiring this year, but she has been a "good and faithful" servant to our students for the past 24 years. We send her off with our gratitude, prayers and best wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement.

Whew! There were MANY more awards, but space does not allow for a comprehensive list. We are proud of our students who excelled this year. We look forward to even more achievement next year.

Faculty Perfect Attendance: Just like we give awards to students with perfect attendance, we recognize the faculty with perfect attendance. Allow me to commend the following teachers for perfect attendance this past year: Gerald Ancar, Luke Barwick, John Carambat, Andrew Dart, Joe Dickens, Brother Rich Kovatch, Thomas Lahey, Donnie Midkiff, Lee Pierre, Paul Scoriels, & Robert Simpson.

Drum Roll, Please: ANOTHER LSU Golden Achievement

Award: I'm pleased and proud to announce that Saint Paul's was **AGAIN** awarded the Golden Achievement Award by LSU. I've lost track, but this is about the 12th consecutive year that we've won the award. This award, based upon seniors' performance at LSU Spring Testing, is given to the TOP TWENTY schools in the state. Congrats, Class of 2014! **36**



SPS Seniors earned a total of 504 college credit hours in the following breakdown:

- 138 English hours
- 185 Spanish hours
- 3 Chemistry hours
- 178 Math hours

Some of our guys are beginning LSU as second semester freshmen! The dollar value of the 504 hours is \$283,248. A special shout out goes to August Dixon who amassed 34 credit hours – that a complete freshman year! Again, congrats Class of 2014!

And while I'm bragging on the Class of 2014, we also wish to congratulate the 166 young men on being accepted to over 90 colleges and universities and being awarded scholarship offers totaling over \$11 million – and still climbing as last minute scholarship offers are received. And this does NOT include TOPS! Wow!

Lost and Found Final Call: We'll be clearing out our lost and found, keeping what's usable and discarding what's not. If not claimed this week, we will get rid of them.

Taylor Scholar Awards: Thanks to The Taylor Foundation, named for Mr. Patrick Taylor for whom the TOPS program is named, we presented qualified students last week with Taylor Scholar Awards. For a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, the award grants one year free admission for student and one parent/guardian to the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, Audubon Butterfly Garden and Insectariums, Audubon Zoo, and the New Orleans Museum of Art.

We are grateful to the Taylor Foundation for honoring Mr. Taylor this way. As most know, Mr. Taylor was a successful oilman, philanthropist and educational reformist who wanted all students to have an opportunity to attend college based on their ability to learn and not on their ability to pay.

If your son received this award, plan a day or two this summer and take a group of his friends who also earned the award to visit these incredible educational and entertaining venues. Or maybe treat some students who didn't earn the award and use it as encouragement for them to earn the award next year.

SPS Summer Camps: Just a reminder that SPS offers wonderful one week summer camps in baseball, football,



Turf field warranty replacement job nears completion.

basketball, wrestling, soccer, drama, and engineering for boys age 8-14. More info can be found on our website or on their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/spswolves.

Calling All Cross Country Runners: Coach Terryl Chatham invites all runners to come out to join the Cross Country team. Summer conditioning begins June 18 at 6:00 under the Wolf Dome with a family barbecue Season Kick Off. For full information on the program, which continues through the summer, please contact Mrs. Myrle Wiggins, faculty moderator, at 985-415-0979, or at myrlew@stpauls.com. Runners of all abilities are welcome to join the District, Metro, & State Champion Running Wolves!

Looking Ahead for Those Returning:

- Tuition for 2014-15 is due on June 1st; the first payment for bank financed tuition is also due. Students cannot start school in August if tuition/bank loans are not current.
- If your son is registered for next year and you change your mind during the summer about his attending SPS, PLEASE let me know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
- BE VIGILANT during the summer there are many temptations that will face your sons this summer. Drug testing will resume in the fall!
- Wednesday, August 7, is the first day of school. It's a FULL DAY OF INSTRUCTION and attendance is expected.
- A complete 2014-15 school year calendar is posted on the website. Be informed that the state has tightened the attendance policy and Saint Paul's is complying. PLEASE DO NOT SCHEDULE VACATIONS DURING SCHOOL TIME.

School Supplies for 2014-15: The school administration and Mothers Club are working to streamline the school supply process. Info should be sent out soon.

English Books: All English paperback books will be purchased on-line this year through MSB, our virtual bookstore. This will save you money as you can purchase new, used, or e-editions of books. You only have to purchase books you don't already have (e.g. an older brother may have had the same book.) And you can sell the books back to MSB when your son is finished with them at the end of the year. Go to our website, www.stpauls.com, and click on "Order Your Books Here" on the right side.

Feedback: We spend time in the summer evaluating the past year and planning for next year. Toward that end, feel free to email me a suggestion if you think we need to "beef up" an area of life around here. While I can't promise we will implement every suggestion made, I assure you we will consider it. Be aware of our limitations in terms of personnel, finances, facilities, and interrupting class time when emailing me your suggestion.

Lasallian Youth Leaders: Last week, I published the names of the news officers, but omitted several of them. Accordingly, I'm printing again! Congrats and thanks to:

President: Burke Irwin Vice-President: William Saucier Secretary: Adam Schmitt Treasurer: Patrick Stewart Chaplain: Matthew Wallace Service coordinator: Nick Oubre Public Relations: Jack Donham Respect Life Coordinator: Ben Hollingsworth Liturgy coordinator: Chris Damare Lasallian Liaisons: Ross Allbritton & Lane Sumrall

Final Humor of the Week: Lexophile is a word used to describe those that have a love for words, such as "you can tune a piano, but you can't tuna



fish", or "to write with a broken pencil is pointless." A competition to see who can come up with the best lexophiles is held every year in an undisclosed location —understandable when you read the following! Sorry!

- When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.
- The batteries were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- A boiled egg is hard to beat.
- When you've seen one shopping Center you've seen a mall.
- Police were called to a day care Center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.
- When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.
- *He had a photographic memory which was never developed.*
- When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- Those who get too big for their pants will be exposed in the end.
- OK, I'll stop! You are on your own for summer humor!

An Important Message from Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, to the Young People of the Archdiocese: In the past, Archbishop Aymond issued the following letter at the end of the school year. While he didn't issue it again this year, it's worth reading again. I encourage our students to heed these words of the Archbishop:



I pray in a special way for each of the young people in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Know that you are important to all of our ministries, in parishes, schools and other programs.

I am aware of the educational experience you have received in regard to the use of electronic media. You know very well how to use the tools and you know intellectually the consequences when social media is not used respectfully.

I want to reach out to you at the moral level and beg you to remember that it isn't how much you know that is crucial, but rather, the respect that you show for God, yourself, and others when you communicate through cell phones, computers, and other technology.

Always treat other people in a manner that shows your awareness of their reflecting the image of God. In all ways let your friends, classmates, and acquaintances know that they are respected. Speak out if you know someone is being abused or bullied. Share the information with a parent, priest, or teacher who can step in and help. The Archdiocese of New Orleans has the staff available to help you in abusive or bullying situations.

One of your many responsibilities at this time is to make choices which will allow you the opportunity to make decisions about your future education or career choices. Choose wisely. Choose only those opportunities and interactions which will give you a greater chance to achieve all of the goals you set for yourself and those which God has in store for you.

If you need help, please let a member of the clergy, a Catholic School Administrator, a Director of Religious Education, or your Youth Minister know.

There He Goes Again Dept: I printed this in the last newsletter last year. It's worth printing again: *Marijuana is the drug most often linked to crime in the United States, the U.S. drug czar said Thursday* [May 23], *dismissing calls for legalization as a "bumper-sticker approach" that should be avoided. Gil Kerlikowske, the White House director of national drug-control policy, said a study by his office showed a strong link between drug use and crime.* Read more here: <u>http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2013/05/23/192101/marijuana-is-drug-most-often-linked.html#storylink=cpy</u>

Summer Office Hours: We will gradually start reducing our summer office hours. While you can pretty much count on the office being open every morning during the summer, we will soon start closing the office at noon, so please contact us in the mornings if you need us. I will be available throughout most of the summer if needed (unless you are looking for humor of the week!) Call or email me if I can be of assistance. I'll be working enough to "earn my keep" and justify my existence at SPS but will take an occasional day off! I will be out of the office on June June 16-20, attending a meeting with the administrators of Lasallian schools for the south, southwest, and west.

St. Tammany West Chamber Leaders of Tomorrow Program for incoming juniors and seniors during the week of July 14-18. Participants learn valuable leadership and communication skills and interact with professionals from various industries. Application deadline is May 29. (I know that's short notice but we only received this last Wed and have been announcing it in school. Call Maryellen Kanode at 778-9066 for more info.

From St. Tammany Public Library: Teens are experts at sparking a reaction from those around them. And so, this year's 2014 Teen Summer Library program slogan, "Spark a Reaction," is particularly apt. Sparks will fly in more ways than one this summer as St. Tammany Parish teens ages 12-17 engage in a variety of activities from science to exploring other ways of sparking a reaction through artistic expression, and of course, reading. Starting May 23, teens will be able to register at their favorite branch on a specially-reserved computer, or from home 24/7 by logging onto the library website <u>sttammanylibrary.org</u> and clicking on the Summer Reading icon. Teens will keep track of the minutes they have spent reading, and when a goal of 12 hours have been reached, they will receive a prize. There will also be three drawings for those teens who have reached the 12-hour goal for \$50 gift cards to a local retailer of their choice,

Athletic Prowess: Last week, the New Orleans Advocate named the Male Athletes of the Year for 13 different sports respective sports. SPS was more than well-represented:

- Zachary Albright -- Track
- Eric Coston Cross Country
- Cam Robinson Soccer
- Thomas Ruli Golf
- Brennan Skinner—Gymnastics



L-R: Zachary, Eric, Cam, Thomas, & Brennan New Orleans Advocate Metro Athletes of the Year!

Five Male Athletes of the Year out of 13 sports listed. **No school had more**. Wow! Should I say SPS has athletic prowess or athletic dominance? I vote for the latter!

The Paper Wolf Year in Review: Now that the 2013-2014 school year has come to a close, The Paper Wolf remembers some of the top stories from the past school year. Click here to see their choices for top stories: http://thepaperwolf.com/2014/05/22/2013-2014-school-year-in-review/ And if you haven't visited our Facebook page recently, it's worth a peek for the year in review as well as some great senior graduation pics. Here's the link: <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Pauls-School/1379879618906048</u>

Note: If you have not contributed to the Annual Fund and can do so, I would appreciate hearing from you as to "why" you have chosen not to. Perhaps it's something I've done or not done and I would welcome the feedback. I have deliberately avoided having people call or directly solicit you as many other schools do with their annual funds. Again, I need your help to continue to make SPS the best school we can be.

Well, I wasn't brief with this newsletter as promised! Sorry! But you get a break as the newsletter goes on summer vacation. I'll only be sending things out periodically during the summer. And for the Class of 2014, this is the final newsletter you'll receive. Thanks for putting up with them (and me, too!) Naturally, you can always access the current newsletter on the SPS website if you get nostalgic or need a newsletter "fix"!

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to right now as I write this): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Thanks for having been part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul's – the third year of our second century of existence. If the next 103 years go as well as this past year, Saint Paul's will have had an incredible second century of existence.

Enjoy the final days of May! May they be ones of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you throughout the summer, particularly for the safety and good decision-making of our students!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Having survived, by the grace of God, another year as 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



Have a great Lasallian summer but remember: the Core Principles of Quality Education, Respect for all, Concern for Poor & Social Justice, Inclusive Community & Faith in the Presence of God NEVER take a vacation!

Care and Vigilance and Faith and Zeal -- Hallmarks of the Lasallian Teacher and Parent throughout the summer!

SPS begins for all students on Aug 7 with a full day of instruction.

SPOP! PFU! SJBDLS! PFU! SB! HUDOTEW! LJIOH! F!

