



The President's Newsletter for January 19 - 25, 2015



I hope your three day weekend is a pleasant one. Here's my annual Martin Luther King message:



In thinking about Dr. Martin Luther King, I annually remember one of his statements that has become a favorite of mine: *If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed or Shakespeare wrote. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.*

Saint John Baptist de La Salle wrote a similar thought to the first Brothers -- and thus to us today. In his last *Meditation for the Time of Retreat*, Saint La Salle tells the brothers: *Oh! What glory there will be for those persons who have instructed youth, when their zeal and devotion to procure the salvation of children will be made public before all people! All heaven will resound with thanksgiving! 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!*



**I believe both quotations are equally applicable to parents and to students. Just think if each of us did our job so well that *all the hosts of heaven and earth* paused to recognize our efforts!
This must be our daily goal! I wish you a great week!**

Mon, Jan 19 – Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; no classes

- **National Popcorn Day:** Enjoy this favorite snack today!
- **This Day in History:** In 1809, Edgar Allan Poe is born in Boston. Read a Poe story or poem today in his honor! And eat some popcorn while reading in honor of National Popcorn Day!

Tue, Jan 20 (Assembly; F G A B)

- **This Day in History:** In 1937, President Franklin Roosevelt is inaugurated for his second term. It was the first time presidents were inaugurated on Jan 20. Previously, Inauguration Day was on March 4. This amount of time was needed in the past for the winner to travel to Washington since modern communication and travel were not invented.
- **TDIH II:** In 1961, John F. Kennedy inaugurated as President and utters famous “Ask not...” Poet Robert Frost read.
- **Penguin Awareness Day:** Today we give serious consideration to our tuxedo-wearing waddling friends. Did you know penguins mate for life? Or that the word penguin means 'fat winged' one in Portuguese?
- **National Cheese Lovers Day:** Indulge and enjoy!
- **President's Assembly**
- **Basketball:** 9th, JV & Varsity at Covington
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Covington

Wed, Jan 21 (Regular; C D E F)

- **This Day in History:** 1793, King Louis XVI is executed. The people eat cake.
- **National Hugging Day:** No whining today! Hug someone you love!

- **Squirrel Appreciation Day:** We have lots of squirrels on our campus, so enjoy them today. Of course, the day could also apply to the human variety of squirrel!
- **Poetry Out Loud Tournament:** 3 Wolves (Garrett Boyce, Josh Nunez, & Cray Pennison) will represent us at St. Tammany competition today at Covington High. We wish them the best and thank them for undertaking this challenge.
- **Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society Induction Ceremony (7)** We look forward to inducing the latest crop of high achieving math students into the society.
- **Dads' Club Meeting at Abita Brew Pub (6:30):** All dads are invited. Thanks for all you do!

Thu, Jan 22 (Assembly; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** in 1973, the Supreme Court of the US legalizes abortion in the infamous Roe v. Wade decision.
- **TDIH II: On this day in 2013,** Justin Dakota Addison, a wonderful Saint Paul's Junior, died from injuries sustained in a biking accident on Tammany Trace. Today we remember Justin and all the good he represented. We continue to miss him. We pray for his still grieving family and friends.
- **Day of Penance & Prayer:** The Bishops of the US have declared today, the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, as a Day of Penance and Prayer: penance for the violations to the dignity of the human person through acts of abortion and prayer for the restoration of the legal guarantee of this right to life. We join our penance and prayer today to those of all who are concerned with the dignity of life.
- **Special Assembly Program Today:** An Assistant US Attorney who specializes in cybercrime issues will speak to the student body today on cyberbullying – which continues to plague schools everywhere.
- **Soccer:** 9th v. Catholic (5:30)



Fri, Jan 23 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1957, Wham-O Toy Company rolls out the first batch of their aerodynamic plastic discs-- known as the Frisbee. Toss a Frisbee today in honor of its birth!
- **National Pie Day:** Indulge!
- **Wrestling:** Varsity in NO Classic at Holy Cross through Sat
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Ponchatoula
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Ponchatoula
- **Lacrosse:** 8th v. Northshore Spartans

Sat, Jan 24

- **TDIH:** In 1965, Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, the British leader who guided Great Britain and the Allies through the crisis of World War II, dies in London at the age of 90. Churchill was a brilliant orator and writer and the source of some wonderful Churchillian quotations such as: *We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.* Google Winston Churchill quotations for a real treat today!
- **National Belly Laugh Day:** Celebrate the gift of laughter today!
- **National Compliment Day:** Let's all give each other compliments today – deserved or not!
- **National Peanut Butter Day:** Indulge!
- **Indoor Track** in meet at LSU
- **Basketball:** 8th in Catholic League play in NO; 9th in Independence Tourney

- **Soccer:** 9th at Vandebilt
- **Wrestling:** JV & Varsity in New Orleans City Classic



Senior Wolves with employ physics principles in eagerly anticipated "egg drop" experiment.

link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zfqw8nhUwA>.

Sun, Jan 25

- **We encourage our Catholic Families to attend mass today and our non-Catholic Family to attend a place of worship of their choice.**

- **TDIH:** 1924, the 1st Winter Olympics are held at Chamonix, Alps.

- **Macintosh Computer Day:** On Jan. 22, 1984 in a Super Bowl ad which aired only once in the 3rd quarter, the Macintosh got introduced. Steve Jobs then presented it to the world on Jan. 24, 1984 and it went on sale

to the public the next day on Jan. 25, 1984. Wanna' view this classic ad? Here's the

Prayers: We offer our prayers and condolences to alumnus Jamie Province '92 on the death last week of his one year old daughter, Dixie Jazz Province.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person: As we approach anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, it's most appropriate to remember the Church social teaching on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person. From the US Catholic Bishops Web Site: *In a world warped by materialism and declining respect for human life, the Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Our belief in the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and assisted suicide. The value of human life is being threatened by increasing use of the death penalty. The dignity of life is undermined when the creation of human life is reduced to the manufacture of a product, as in human cloning or proposals for genetic engineering to create "perfect" human beings. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.*

Right to Life March: Thirteen Wolves will travel to Washington, DC this week with other students from the Archdiocese of NO to participate in this annual event. Their absences are excused. We are proud of their "right to life" stance and will assist them in making up any missed work.

Report Cards and Honor Roll Breakfasts: Report cards and invites to HR breakfast (where warranted) have been emailed. Let me know if you have not received your report card or if your son made the honor roll and you didn't receive the invitation. HR Breakfasts begin next week and schedule is below.

Letters of Application: More unedited excerpts:

- *My father and grandfather attended St. Paul's so I would like to carry on the family tradition. On the other hand, my other grandpa went to Jesuit. I've decided I'd rather go to a pack of wolves than blue jays.*
- *As an only child, I look forward to becoming part of the brotherhood that exists at St. Paul's.*
- *I don't just want to go to St. Paul's; I want to be a part of St. Paul's.*
- *After listening to the speakers at the open house, I realized that those people embodied everything I want to be as I grow older. When walking around campus, every single person I talked to was very nice and asked if I needed something. I realized that it wasn't just those several speakers that were role models, but every single person on campus was a role model.*

Musings on Last Week:

- **Wolf Packs:** I hope your sons told you about the powerful video they saw about the friendship of two football players: one who became a quadriplegic after injuries sustained in a tackle and the one who made the tackle. My pack had an excellent discussion on the power of friendship and forgiveness following the video.
- **Soccer:** Congrats to Varsity for district wins over Mandeville & Northshore. The Wolves remain undefeated. And 9th grade tournaments went well – SP placed FIRST by beating Jesuit in the finals, 2-0. Geaux Soccer Wolves!
- **Wrestling:** Wolves represented us well in the LA Classic while junior high competed in Pearl River.
- **Basketball:** Our hoopsters played with determination last week and won district thrillers against Mandeville & Northshore. 9th & JV also beat Mandy & NS. And not to be outdone, 8th & 9th beat John Curtis & 8th beat Brother Martin. Geaux Basketball Wolves!
- **Student Council:** Thanks to Joanna Case and 12 SC Wolves for representing us well at the LA Student Council convention this weekend. The group traveled to Shreveport.
- **Lacrosse** played at Dutchtown on Fri but I don't have results.
- **Fighting Math Wolves** were up and at 'em early Sat morn, heading to Bro Martin & returning with gold. It's always inspiring to see students give up Sat to work math problems! Geaux FMWs!
- **Pre-Frosh Robo Wolves** headed to LSU on Sat and placed SECOND – competing against high school teams. Fantastic! Geaux Robo-Wolves! Thanks, Mrs. Beck, and parent chaperones for being there!
- **Powerlifting:** The Iron Wolves were lifting at PJP on Sat. I'm sure they showed their strength.



Davis demonstrates offensive prowess.

Humor of the Week: More answers from student exams:

- *Nero was a cruel tyranny who would torture his subjects by playing the fiddle to them.*
- *Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak and was cannonized by Bernard Shaw. [literary allusion note: Shaw wrote a famous play called "Saint Joan"!]*
- *The Magna Carta provided that no man should be hanged twice for the same offense.*
- *In midevil times most people were alliterate. {hmmm.... And maybe today, too?}*

- *The greatest writer of the futile ages was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature. [I think we're living in a futile age today!]*
- *Another story was William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his son's head.*
- *Queen Elizabeth was a successful queen. When she exposed herself before her troops they all shouted "hurrah."*
- *It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood.*
- *Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes and started smoking.*
- *Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 100 foot clipper.*
- *The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespeare, born in the year 1564, supposedly on his birthday.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

2015-16 Calendar: St. Tammany Parish Public Schools has published next year's calendar so early. They will begin on Fri, Aug 7. Accordingly, I have completed a draft of our calendar, which follows their calendar when possible. I will present it to Admin & Faculty Board for reaction. Remember that we must schedule 178 days per archdiocesan policy. **We therefore will start on Thursday, August 6 with a full day of instruction and NO book day.**

Paper Wolf Update: Please encourage your students to read The Paper Wolf on line (www.thepaperwolf.com) and read it yourself. Compliment the staff. Subscribe. Support the future.

2015-16 Registration: Please note the following:

- **Current 8th graders:** registration information will be emailed during the week of January 19. **Current 8th graders planning to return for 2015-16 will have until Jan 31 to re-register.** 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. Call me if you have questions.
- **Current 9th – 11th grades:** registration will take place in early - Feb. You don't need to do anything now
- **Current 12th grade:** You don't need to register for SPS for 2015-16! Rejoice!
- **Registration will involved the payment of the \$300 registration fee.**

Annual Fund: Many 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!** Other schools directly solicit grandparents. I don't unless you give me permission. **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!

A SERVE TEN Reminder: Five service hours are due. Students must fill-out and turn in completed "Serve Ten" forms to the Counseling Department in order to get credit for their service hours. We have been advertising MANY service opportunities. Remember that service hours are mandatory, not optional.

Service Hour Opportunity: St. Peter School will be hosting the 5th and 6th grade NIAL basketball championship tournament to be held Monday, February 2nd - Friday, February 6th. The tournament will be held at Northshore Sportsplex. Ms. Amy Faherty, the Athletic Director at St. Peter is looking for some help with the tournament, and will provide service hours for volunteers. Teams include Mary Queen of Peace, Our Lady of the Lake, St. Peter, Lake Castle, Christ Episcopal among others. There will be 4 games a day (4:00, 5:00, 6:00 and 7:00) and during these times will need several volunteers to help run the concession stand, work the admissions table and work at the score table. Anyone interested can contact Ms. Amy K. Faherty via email at afaherty@stpetercov.org

Important Driver's License Requirement: A new requirement was added to the driver's license issuance process for all minor applicants. All minor applicants must produce proof the applicant has either received a diploma or is currently enrolled in a high school program. This is done through a school attendance form from his or her high school prior to applying for a driver's license. These forms can be obtained in the administration building or the counseling center. **Several students went for licenses over the holidays and were turned away because they didn't have the form – in some cases they waited several hours before being turned away!**

Sweatshirts & Cold Weather: **If your son needs one and you can't afford it right now, just have him come see me. This will be confidentially.** ONLY SPS cold weather wear is accepted.

A Look Ahead

January 19 – MLK Holiday – no classes meet
 January 20 – President's Assembly
 January 22 – *Guest Speaker – details to follow*
 January 26 – Senior H. Roll breakfast
 January 27 – Pack Time – 10th Grade H. Roll Breakfast
 January 28 – 11th Grade HR Breakfast
 January 29 – Career Day – 9th Grade HR Breakfast
 January 30 – 8th Grade HR Breakfast
 February 2 – 9:00 AM late start for Faculty In-Service/ Parent-Teacher meetings 5-7 PM
 February 3 – President's Assembly
 February 10 – Mass Schedule – Feast of St. Scholastica
 February 13 – Faculty Retreat Day
 February 26-27 Junior Retreat/Angola Trip
 March 3 – Teacher Appreciation Day/Snack Day
 March 5 – Celebrity Waiter Dinner



A student chills before school.

March 6 – 9:00 AM late start for teachers and students
March 9 – St. Joseph Altar – all periods meet (FGABCDE)
March 10 – President’s Assembly
March 13 – Third Quarter Ends
March 17 – ACT for all juniors in BAC
March 19 – Mass – Feast of St. Joseph
March 25 – Life Skills Day for Seniors

Thursday’s Assembly: This Thursday, Jan 22, we will have a special assembly in the Briggs Assembly Center at 10:30. Mr. Brian Klabba, Assistant U.S. Attorney will speak to our students on cyber crime, cyber bullying, sexting and various other dangers of our electronically connected world. We have room for about 100 parents who may wish to attend. The Mothers Club is currently arranging for a series of evening programs on similar topics. Stay tuned for more info.

Closing Quotations: It’s appropriate to close with a few additional MLK quotes:

- *A man who won't die for something is not fit to live.*
- *Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.*
- *In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.*
- *He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.*
- *We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.*
- *Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.*
- *The time is always right to do what is right.*
- *Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*

Now let’s go out there this week to be light and love to the children entrusted to our care, either as parents or teachers.

And even though it’s 2015, 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!

Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we march forward through 2014! Again, thanks for being part of the 2014-15 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Thanking God Daily for the Privilege of Being the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School



Quality education, inclusive community, respect for all, concern for poor & social justice, faith in God’s presence – our mantras this week, throughout 2015, and always!