



Today begins Catholic Schools Week, when Catholic schools throughout the United States celebrate and affirm the Catholic identity of our schools. Historically, we cannot overstate the contribution of Catholic education to this country. Today, Catholic schools continue to produce outstanding achievement, in spite of the many challenges to their existence. Here in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, for example, the strategic plan designed to save the Catholic school system is causing controversy. Archbishop Aymond has stated that the Catholic school system in NO will look very different twenty five years from now than it looks today.

We remember and celebrate, too, that Saint Paul's is not just a private school or a Christian school -- we are a Catholic school. We remind ourselves of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, who Pope Pius XII proclaimed Patron of All Teachers by virtue of his contribution to education. To be faithful to both our Catholic and Lasallian nature, (the first two letters of the acronym CLASP which we completed last year) we must remember that Saint La Salle insisted upon quality schools which not only "ran well" but were "places of salvation" (both spiritual and temporal) for the students by teaching them the "Truths of their Religion." In such a way, the Founder believed, the schools would "touch the hearts" of the students who attended. St. La Salle said that "to touch the hearts of the students entrusted to your care is the greatest miracle you can perform and one which God expects of you." He also insisted that those who work in Catholic schools must look upon themselves as "ministers of God's grace" and "co-workers with God." **Saint La Salle would accept nothing less from the early brothers; we must offer nothing less today.**

Mon, Jan 26 (HR Breakfast for seniors; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1725, Pope Benedict XIII recognized the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools as an official Religious Congregation of the Church. De La Salle had died five years earlier and the Brothers' future was unsure. Church approval, therefore, provided them with legitimacy, purpose, & promise. We continue that work here at SPS.
- **Manresa:** A group of juniors and seniors leaves this afternoon for 24 hour SILENT retreat. We pray for them!
- **Soccer:** 8th & 9th at Jesuit (5 & 6:30)

Tue, Jan 27 (HR Breakfast for sophs; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1973, the United States, South Vietnam, Viet Cong, and North Vietnam formally sign "An Agreement Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam" in Paris bringing America's most unpopular war to an end.
- **TDIH II:** In 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart** was born. Listen to some Mozart today!
- **Chocolate Cake Day:** Indulge and enjoy!
- **UN International Commemoration of Holocaust Victims:** On each Jan 27, the UN remembers the Holocaust of WW II. The day also commemorates when Soviet troops liberated the Nazi death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland on Jan 27, 1945. From the



Mu Alpha Theta officers smile after last week's successful induction ceremony.

website: *This year's observance is centered "Journeys through the Holocaust". This theme recalls journeys taken during this dark period, from deportation to incarceration to freedom, and how this experience transformed the lives of those who endured it. These are stories of pain and suffering, yet ultimately also of triumph and renewal, serving as a guiding force for future generations. Each person who becomes aware of this history will no doubt reflect upon his or her own capacity to turn compassion for others into decisive and heroic action in their time of need. We must use teachable moments this week in to remind students of this horrible stain on the history of the world – and to pray such hatred never again occurs.*

- **Basketball:** 9th, JV & Varsity at Fontainebleau
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Fontainebleau (7)

Jan 28 (Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas; HR Breakfast (juniors) schedule; B C D E)

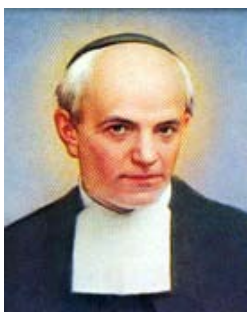
- **St. Thomas Aquinas** was a Catholic intellectual giant. My personal favorite St. Thomas story is when he said that he learned more by kneeling at the foot of the crucifix than from all his university studies.
- **TDIH:** In 1986, the space shuttle *Challenger* explodes after liftoff, killing seven astronauts aboard.
- **National Blueberry Pancake Day:** Enjoy!
- **National Kazoo Day:** To celebrate 162 years of kazoo playing in America (the kazoo was first introduced at the George State Fair in 1852), toot away today!
- **Lasallians on Campus:** Three members of the San Francisco New Orleans Leadership Team will be on campus this morning, 9 – noon. We welcome Charlie Legendre, Greg Kopra, and Gery Short to SPS.
- **Wrestling:** Jr Hi, JV & Varsity at Brother Martin

Thu, Jan 29 (HRB for freshman; F G A B)

- **TDIH:** In 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven," is published. Enjoy rereading the poem today. "Nevermore!"
- **National Puzzle Day:** Work a puzzle today! A crossword, jigsaw, or any type will do fine. Enjoy!
- **Career Day for Grades 11 (morning only)**
- **Criminology & Law Studies Field Trip:** These classes travel today to the LA Supreme Court. They will tour the historic building, the Supreme Court museum and library. They will then watch a interesting case being argued before the justices. This case involves a Shreveport judge who has been suspended from the bench. The trip was arranged by SPS parent & Supreme Court Justice Greg Guidry, father of freshman Patrick. Thanks, Justice Guidry!
- **Basketball:** 8th & 9th at John Curtis



SPS Student Council sports green at the state convention even though they returned with the gold.



Fri, Jan 30 (Feast of St. Brother Mutien Marie; HRB for pre-freshmen; C D E F)

- **Today** Lasallians throughout the world celebrate a special Christian Brother feast: Saint Brother Mutien Marie. In Mutien Marie, we have another example of the Church raising someone to sainthood not for extraordinary deeds as the world might recognize, but for extraordinary devotion to and **zeal for Catholic education on a daily basis.** Mutien was a Belgian brother who spent **58 years** teaching and prefecting at the Brothers' boarding school at Malonne. He was an effective teacher, a vigilant prefect, a catechist in the nearby parish and a great influence on his students by his patience and piety. Among the Brothers, it was said he had never been seen violating even the smallest points in the Rule of the

Brothers -- and I can assure you there were many rules back then and the Brothers were the first ones to point out deviations by each other! St. Brother Mutien Marie -- pray for us!

- **Catholic Schools Week Mass:** A delegation of Wolves will represent us at the Archdiocesan Mass for Catholic Schools Week at St. Dominic Church in NO.
- **Marching Wolves** in OLL's Catholic Schools Pep Rally this afternoon.
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Slidell
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Slidell
- **Wrestling in Ken Cole Tourney in Lafayette through Sat**
- **Lacrosse:** Varsity at St. Thomas in Lafayette

Sat, Jan 31

- **National Inspire Your Heart with Art Day:** Visit a museum, browse an art book, view art on the Internet, listen to music, paint a picture, read poetry, write poetry – liberate the artist inside of you. Enjoy art today!
- **Basketball:** 8th at Brother Martin for Catholic League pla
- **Fighting Math Wolves** travel to Baton Rouge High for competition.
- **Lacrosse:** 8th & Varsity at St. Martin's; JV at Rummel
- **Wrestling:** 8th in Rummel tournament



Harrison pressures Covington last week. (Photo by Jim Derry, NOLA.com | The TP)

Sun, Feb 1 (Welcome to February) -- Let's get the new month off to a great start by attending church today!

- **Feb:** Can you believe we enter February at the end of the week? 1/12th of 2015 is over today. How are our New Year resolutions coming along? So far, I'm not doing well! And here's a listing of some of the celebrations for Feb: Adopt A Rescued Rabbit Month, American Heart Month, Avocado and Banana Month, Bake for Family Fun Month, Beans Month, Dog Training Month, Exotic Vegetables and Star Fruit Month, Grapefruit Month, Boost Self-Esteem Month, Expect Success Month, Library Lovers Month, Bird Feeding Month, Black History Month, Care About Your Indoor Air Month, Cherry Month, Children's Dental Health Month, Haiku Writing Month, Hot Breakfast Month, Mend A Broken Heart Month, Parent Leadership Month, Teen Dating

Violence Awareness Month, Time Management Month, Plant the Seeds of Greatness Month, Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month, & Youth Leadership Month – something for almost everyone!

- **Super Bowl Sunday: Go Patrihawks!** In other words, I don't care – deflated footballs or not.
- **TDIH:** In 1884, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the most comprehensive and accurate dictionary of the English language, is published. From The History Channel Website: *The OED is the definitive authority on the meaning, pronunciation and history of over half a million words, past and present. The OED provides a chronological history, quoting from a range of sources. The OED is famous for lengthy cross-references and etymologies. The verb "set" merits the OED's longest entry, at approximately 60,000 words and detailing over 430 uses. No sooner was the OED finished than editors began updating it. In 1984, Oxford Press embarked on a 5-year project to create an electronic version. The effort required 120 people just to type the pages from the print edition and 50 proofreaders to check their work. In 1992, a CD-ROM version of the dictionary was released. Today, the dictionary is available online to subscribers and updated quarterly with*

over 1,000 new entries and revisions. At a whopping 20 volumes weighing over 137 pounds, it would reportedly take one person 120 years to type all 59 million words in the OED. Celebrate the OED today! Spend some time on the OED website (www.oed.com)

- **National Working Naked Day:** Do what you want at home, but SPS is NOT celebrating this day.

RIP: Prayers are requested for the following, who died last week, and for their families:

- Ms. Cindy Patterson. Cindy was a cook in the cafeteria for many years before the Archdiocese took over the operation. She was also a cook for the Brothers Community and was always willing to help whenever asked. Her two sons, Johnny and Jess, are alumni. Cause of death is a suspected heart attack.
- Mr. August Doskey: Gus was a '71 alum and son of long time SPS Science Chair Al Doskey, who died on graduation day in 1978. We annually give the Al Doskey Memorial Science Award. Gus was the victim of depression. The family has asked for a memorial mass here. Of course I said "yes." Tentative date is Feb 6.

Report Cards and Honor Roll Breakfasts: Report cards and invites to HR breakfast (where warranted) have been emailed. The HR breakfasts begin this week (see schedule below.) 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.

IMPORTANT: Many parents have not opened their Edline account. We use Edline for attendance contacting and for our SCHOOL EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM! PLEASE, PLEASE make sure you have activated your Edline account so you can receive important SPS notifications. Call Mike Holmes at 892-3200, ext 1044 if you need assistance. Parents need to create their own account and not rely on their son's account.

LHSAA: The Louisiana High School Athletic Association holds its annual convention beginning on Wed, and for the first time in 27 years, I am not allowed to attend -- since it's only for principals, not presidents! So Trevor gets the fun of listening to anguished harangues by public school principals decrying the "unlevel playing fields." An important vote will occur on Friday: to split all sports into "select" and "non-select" playoffs -- which could have serious repercussions for the very existence of the LHSAA in its current form.

The Ugly Dept: Dean of Students Ken Sears read a letter Friday afternoon to the students from a local alum/business owner. The letter complained about students, including SPS students, attempting to purchase tobacco and e-cig products, often using fake IDs. This is not the first business of late that has complained about this to us. Chief Tim Lenz of the Covington PD also confirmed the presence of many fake IDs in our area. We are becoming pro-active on this matter and will take disciplinary action against any student so involved. Parents -- speak to your sons! Inform them that using a fake ID is illegal as is purchasing tobacco products under age. Keep your eyes and ears open (and noses, too) as your son might be experimenting in this arena. If you see him sucking on his pen, check it out! We must remain vigilant.

Memorable Assembly Anniversary: Last week was the four year anniversary of then-District Attorney Walter Reed's address to the student body in which he bluntly told the students what the laws are and what they must avoid in terms of sexual relations and age. Based upon some of what I'm hearing, I think the lessons taught by DA Reed four years ago are beginning to fade in the minds of some of our students. Parents, please make sure your sons are aware of their responsibilities, both to God and to the law, in terms of their relationships with young ladies, especially if they are 17 or older -- when they become adults in the eyes of the law and their actions will follow them the rest of their lives. Towards that end, we are working on another student assembly in the spring when we will give a legal "refresher" course to the students. We continue to strongly educate our young men in terms of Catholic morality on these issues, but they need to know the law as well.

Musings on Last Week:

- **Social Media Assembly:** Assistant US Attorney Klebba's presentation on Internet Safety last week was excellent. Let's hope our guys listened and take heed! Mr. Klebba talked about sexting, cyber-bullying, stalking, internet grooming, and exual abuse, among other topics. He pulled no punches. PLEASE speak with your sons about these topics! Yes, it's awkward – but necessary! VERY necessary!
- **Mu Alpha Theta Induction:** Congrats to Math Dept for inducting 23 new MAO members!
- **Sudden Impact:** Another group of sophomores dramatically experienced the possibilities of making poor choice.
- **Soccer:** Soccer Wolves won over Covington & Ponchatoula. And 8th grade team beat Northlake Christian's JV Team (yes, that's right – their JV!) 4-2 in a driving rainstorm on Thu AND won the SPS tournament, beating Jesuit 1-0 in the finals.
- **Basketball:** Congrats to the Varsity Wolves for hard fought games last week against Covington & Ponchatoula. The Wolves won great victories over both.
- **Wrestlers:** Our grapplers braved the frigid weather Sat morn and were off to Holy Cross.
- **Lacrosse & Rugby** were also scheduled to play in NO on Sat, but I don't have results.
- **March for Life:** Our delegation of 13 Wolves returned safe and sound after publically promoting life in our Nation's Capital. Thanks for your support of them and thanks to Mr. Tommy Lahey for chaperoning.
- **ACT Recognition:** Pizza lunches were a small reward for the students who do well on the ACT. Over 30 students were part of the 30+ club and over 90 showed an improvement of 2 points. But we want more!
- **Credit Recovery** for students who failed a first semester course began last week.
- **Pre-Freshmen Robo Wolves** were on the prowl at ULL in Lafayette on Sat. They represented us in an exemplary manner – again – finishing 3rd in the high school division! Geaux Robo-Wolves!
- **Lacrosse:** The tournament got canceled due to poor field conditions, but the resourceful LAX Wolves scheduled games against Jesuit for Sat: Varsity lost by one goal in double overtime, but JV did the job with a 5-3 win over the Blue Jays. Geaux LAX Wolves!



Alum News: Andrew Mullet, '12 was awarded the Dr. Sandra Yancy McGuire Outstanding Supplemental Instruction Leader Award of the LSU Center for Academic Success. Supplemental Instruction is an academic support program utilizing peer-assisted study sessions. Andrew is continuing his Lasallian service commitment at LSU! Here's the link to the full story: <http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/lovepurple/2015/01/21/lsu-senior-andrew-mullet-recognized-for-leadership-and-service-as-a-supplemental-instruction-leader/>

Letters of Application: More unedited excerpts:

- *The closeness my brother shares with his friends at school is something I cannot wait to experience.*
- *My dad went to St. Paul's. I personally think that my dad is a really great man. If St. Paul's can teach me to become half the man that they taught my dad to be, where else would I want to go?*
- *Please except me into St. Paul's. [OK, but we will teach him how to spell!]*

- *I was filled with joy when I saw students coding Python at your Open House. I've only dreamed of what it would like to actually code. [hmmmm... I had no idea we "coded in Python" – whatever that is!]*
- *I have enjoyed being in public school but it is not where I want to grow up. When my mom took me to the St. Paul's open house then right there I realized how amazing the school was.*

Jan 20 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our Jan 20 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening 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 better school today at 104 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 Mark Spicer** 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:
 - **Mrs. Jean Mary Loyocano Poche, grandmother of sophomore Cade Icamina**
 - **Mrs. Ruth Chauffe, grandmother of freshman Justin King**
 - **The maternal grandmother of senior Faiz Salam.** She died in Pakistan.
 - **Mr. Dan Egan, grandfather of junior Chase Thibodeaux and Mr. Giles Thibodeaux, uncle of Chase.**
 - We also prayed for **Mrs. Nell Knight, grandmother of SPS teacher Julie Beck**, who is very ill and for all student relatives and friends who are experiencing illness.
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Student Council. Over the MLK Weekend, the SC traveled to Shreveport for the annual LA Association of Student Councils Convention. As president Sam Giberga said, they "conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and ONCE AGAIN was named a Gold Honor Council – the highest award given. In addition, sophomore **Will Murphy** was elected to represent SPS as District 2 Secretary and **junior Austin Grashoff** was elected State Parliamentarian – quite an honor for both. They have worked so hard to achieve this goal of State office. My thanks to **Mrs. Audrey Pool and Mrs. Joanna Case who chaperoned the following SC Members at the convention: Sam Giberga, Austin Grashoff, Adam Schmitt, Sam Brown, John Cresson, Andy Grashoff, Will Murphy, Colin Skinner, Philip James, Connor Reese, Chris Wilson and Josh Devier.** The student body applauded vigorously as President Giberga presented the Gold Council Award to Assistant Principal Joe Dickens.
- Recognized and congratulated the Fighting Math Wolves for their showing at the Ben Franklin tournament on 11/15. 32 FMWs participated, competing against over 200 students from 15 schools. And here are the results (drum roll, please):
 - **Algebra I: Cole Chitwood (2nd) and Michael Phillippe (1st)**
 - **Advanced Math: Ryan Meraux (2nd)**
 - **Calculus BC: Walden Perry (2nd)**

- **Algebra I Team:** 4th (**Joseph Brown, Michael Phillippe, Daniel Wieseneck, Josh Devier**)
- **Algebra 2 Team:** 2nd (Yehia Elkersh, William Murphy, Reagan Hill, Chris Weintritt)
- **Advanced Math Team:** 1st (**Ryan Meraux, Ethan Desforges, Jack Statton, Ruston Keller**)
- **Calculus Team:** 4th (**George Cazenavette, Ryan Keller, Jack Dubreuil, Aaron Nguyen**)
- **Interschool** (all students from St. Paul's collaborate on 1 test) - 3rd place
- **Sweepstakes** (overall winner) - 2nd
- **Great job, Math Department and Fighting Math Wolves!**



Student Council President Sam presents Gold Council Award to AP Joe Dickens.

- Introduced Head Wrestling Coach Craig Ketelson who recognized the amazing accomplishments of our wrestlers of late, most notably winning the Parish Championship and the District Championship. As Craig noted, SPS is the only District Champion the District has known since its inception about seven years ago. The Senior Wrestlers then presented trophies to the school while the student body applauded wildly.
- Recognized and congratulated the Soccer Wolves for their accomplishments. All four of the teams are winding down extremely successful seasons. The Junior Varsity is 15-2-1 and will end its season this Saturday (1/24). The freshmen wolves had 2 trophies to present. They won the Rummel Tournament and the SPS Tournament. They have not lost or tied a game this year and have beaten their opponents by a 70-2 goal margin. The Varsity Wolves are also undefeated at 21-0-3 and have won all four tournaments they have played in this year. They have been the #1 ranked team in LA all season and are currently ranked #1 in the nation by MaxPreps and #3 by the National Soccer Coaches of American polls. 9th grade captains **Cole Knobloch, Mason Robichaux, Kyle Schmitt, and Varsity Captains Eric Guin, Colin Hanley, Bryon Morgan and Davis Neitzschman** then presented trophies while the student body applauded wildly.
- Recognized and congratulated the newest members of the ACT 30+ Club: **Juniors Kevin Baker, Evan Bauer, Jacob Broussard, Logan Buras, Jack Chen, Ryan Meraux, Andrew Mercante, Harrison Prieto, Leland van Deventer and Seniors Ross Allbritton, Matthew Baldone, Michael Brands, Drew Bratschi, Beau Briggs, Peyton Burkenstock, George Cazenavette, Kyle Cleveland, Ben Dantin, Jack Dubreuil, Casey Fitzmaurice, Sam Giberga, Alex Gravelle, Burke Irwin, Philip James, Jean-Paul Juge, Ryan Keller, Keegan Lange, John Paul Lea, Warner Moore, Aaraon Nguyen, Walden Perry, Connor Rees, Barrick Roberts, Parker Rice, Hunter Simonson, Ben Toups, and Evan Young.** I informed them that they would be treated to a pizza lunch courtesy of the SPS Renaissance Board for their accomplishments.
- Recognized and congratulated the **90+ members of the ACT +2 Club** – those students who scored an composite increase of 2 points on the most recent ACT. I informed them that they, too, would be treated to a pizza lunch courtesy of the SPS Renaissance Board for their accomplishments.
- Recognized and congratulated the Lacrosse Wolves for their wins against Dutchdown last weekend: JV Wolves defeat Dutchtown 9-1 and Varsity got win in home opener against Dutchtown 16-3. Wolf Pride!

Unofficial varsity stats: **Connor Lu 5 goals 1 assist; Dennis Carriere 3 goals 2 assists; JP Juge 3 goals; Ryan Flood 2 goals 1 assist; Kenneth Avanzino 2 goals; Lane Sumrall 2 assists; Cannon Shirah 1 goal**

- With time running out, I again reminded the students of our Centennial four 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 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 **Winston McDonald** 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 – at least I thought so!

Saint Peter Parish Father-Son Human Sexuality Program for fathers and their 11-14 year old sons will be held Sunday, February 8, 2015, from 5-8 PM in St. Mary’s Hall, St. Peter Church, Covington.

This is an excellent, annual program where fathers and sons 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 St. Peter Office of Marriage and Family Life, 985.892.9353 or email mfl@stpeterparish.com. The cost of the program is \$25. A light dinner will be served and reservations are required. I can email you a registration form if you would like. Just let me know.

Third Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences will take place in Briggs Assembly Center on Monday, February 2, from 5-7 pm. We will limit conferences to 3-4 minutes in order to respect all. If a longer conference is needed, set that up with the teacher. Thanks for respecting the time of those waiting in line behind you. Naturally, if no one is waiting, feel free to speak with the teacher longer.

2015-16 Calendar: St. Tammany Parish Public Schools has published next year’s calendar. They will begin on Fri, Aug 7. Accordingly, I have completed our calendar, which follows their calendar when possible. 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 – which corresponds to what we did this year. Please plan vacations accordingly.**

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 was emailed last week. **Current 8th graders planning to return for 2015-16 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!



Students take refuge from weather inside school building for lunch. We just ask that they don't litter!

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.

2015 Summer at Camp Abbey Seeking Staff: Camp Abbey, a ministry of the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, has begun preparations for its 2015 summer program and is seeking high school student applicants for junior counselor positions and graduating seniors, college students, and older for senior counselor and administrative positions. Although all positions are paid, staff may decline stipends in favor of service hours if applicable. Camp includes opportunities for prayer, Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration, as well as activities such as volleyball, basketball, softball, flag football, arts & crafts, archery, swimming, boating, performing arts, camping, and hiking.

If you enjoy the outdoors, want to share your Catholic faith, and desire to serve as a mentor and role model, consider applying for summer staff at Camp Abbey. Boys' camp staff serves during June 2015, and girls' camp staff serves during July 2015. For more information or applications, visit www.campabbey.org or contact campabbey@arch-no.org or 985-327-7240.

H of the Week: More student answers to exam questions, this time from the Religion Department:

- *In Guinness, the first book of the Bible, God got tired of creating and took the Sabbath off.* [hope He enjoyed the ale!]
- *Noah's wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built the ark and the animals came on in pairs.*
- *Sampson was a strong man who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.*
- *Samson slayed the Philippians with the axe of the apostles.*
- *Unleavened bread is bread without ingredients.*
- *The Egyptians were all drowned in the Red Dessert.* [at least they drowned happy!]
- *Moses went up Mt. Cyanide to get the commandments.* [some avoid the commandments as if they were cyanide!]
- *The first commandment is when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.*
- *The seventh commandment is thou shall not admit adultery.*
- *Joshua led the Hebrews in the Battle of Geritol.*
- *The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed.*
- *David was a Hebrew King who was skilled at playing the liar.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

Look Ahead

- February 2 – 9:00 AM late start for Faculty In-Service/ Parent-Teacher meetings 5-7 PM
- February 3 – President's Assembly
- February 4 – ASVAB testing for all seniors during periods A&B
- February 5 – Guest Speaker

- February 10 – Mass Schedule – Dress Uniform Day -- Feast of St. Scholastica
- February 13 – Faculty Retreat Day – no classes
- February 13-22 – Mardi Gras/Beginning of Lent Holidays
- February 23 – Classes resume at 7:45
- February 26-27 Junior Retreat/Angola Trip
- March 3 – Teacher Appreciation Day/Snack Day
- March 5 – Celebrity Waiter Dinner
- 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

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!

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 2015! Again, thanks for being part of the 2014-15 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can’t Believe It’s the Last Week of Ja 2015 and I’m Still the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s!



*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!*