



The President's Newsletter for Mar 09 - 15, 2015



Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return!

On Monday of this week, we observe an important anniversary. What I've printed below is a repeat, but it's one of our significant foundational stories – both in our history and God's plan -- and needs to be read yearly. Enjoy.



From the History Channel's "This Day in History" for Mar 9: **Pancho Villa Raids U.S.**

On March 9, 1916, several hundred Mexican guerrillas under the command of Francisco "Pancho" Villa cross the U.S.-Mexican border and attack the small border town of Columbus, New Mexico.... President Woodrow Wilson orders the U.S. Army into Mexico to capture the rebel leader dead or alive.

Other than historical curiosity, why should we at SPS care about this anniversary? Because in an unwitting and unintentional way, Pancho Villa helped start Saint Paul's.

According to the historical records on the web site of the Christian Brothers of the former New Orleans - Santa Fe Province (www.cbnosf.org/mexican%20revolution.htm) Mexican revolutionaries besieged the city of Zacatecas in 1914, where Christian Brothers had conducted a school for six years. Two Brothers were killed and 14 were imprisoned.

On July 6, the sister of the finance minister to the First Chief of the Revolutionaries hosted Pancho Villa for dinner. During this meal she interceded for the Brothers. Her son had attended the Brothers' school at Monterey. Villa consented and the Brothers were conveyed by rail coach under guard to El Paso. The Jesuit priests took them in, gave them necessities and advised them to travel to Santa Fe. The French consul arranged for train tickets, and the Brothers arrived at Santa Fe on July 13. Some of these Brothers later returned to France. Others were sent to different American communities, while some remained and helped establish the new District of New Orleans-Santa Fe. The unknown Brother who wrote the Historical Sketch, awed by the courage and dedication of these Brothers, remarked, ". . . for a more exemplary or edifying body of religious men, it would be very difficult to find."

Some of those same brothers, exiled from France in 1904 due to religious persecution and who went to Mexico only to be driven out in 1914, would eventually settle in Covington to assume ownership of Saint Paul's School. The rest, as they say, is history. Had Pancho Villa not released the Brothers from prison, they may never have found their way here.

Scripture tells us that God's ways are not our ways. Could there be a more relevant example of how God brings good out of evil, strength out of weakness, salvation out of despair? Could the Hand of God be any more obvious in our school's existence? Could we have any doubt that our work today is God's work -- a continuation of that miraculous journey to Covington, those incredible stories of heroic men giving their lives for the sake of the Lasallian Mission?

Today, we are the ones entrusted with that Mission. Today, we must be faithful. Today, we are the cooperators with God in His plan of salvation. Today, we must honor our ancestors and, yes, thank Pancho Villa for granting the Brothers a release from prison and a safe journey from Mexico. Who knows what good will come from our work today -- even when times are tough and the future blurry? May our Lenten journey give us eyes of faith!



All-District Wrestling Wolves and Coach of the Year – they could have handled Pancho Villa!

Mon, Mar 9 (St. Joseph Altar Schedule; FGABCDE)

- **Daylight Saving Time** began yesterday at 2 am! I hope you “sprang forward” & are well rested!
- **TDIH:** Poncho Villa raids US (see above)
- **National Get Over It Day:** We all have something to “get over.” Do it today! Can’t think of something? Just ask your friends what they’re tired of hearing you complain about!
- **National Panic Day:** Who knew? Try to stay calm today although with all this activity, it will be hard!
- **National Napping Day** (day after DST to help us adjust): SPS will not observe this day – at least not until 3 pm!
- **St. Joseph Day Altar.** All will view the altar (a traditional Sicilian and New Orleans event) during religion classes. **ALL STUDENTS will feast at lunch.** We are incredibly thankful to Dr. Ann Kay Logarbo, her family, and friends for their work in preparing the altar. Since St. John Baptist de La Salle named St. Joseph as the Patron of the Institute, and his image appears in the very first logo of the congregation, it is fitting that we remember St. Joseph in this unique way.
- **Baseball:** JV doubleheader at Covington (4:00 & 6)



Peyton, Faiz, & Jacob move a step closer to graduation when they received their announcements last week.

Tue, Mar 10 (Pack Time; F G A B)

- **TDIH:** In 1876, the first telephone call occurs when Alexander G. Bell says "Mr. Watson, come here; I want you."
- **Mario Day:** A day for all persons named Mario. Using the abbreviation for the month of March, i.e., MAR, with the day, i.e., 10, you get the name spelled out: MAR10 – who knew?
- **Baseball:** 8th at Rummel (4:30); Varsity v. Brother Martin at Kirsch Rooney (7)
- **Golf in Northshore League Play**

Wed, Mar 11 (Regular; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1818, Mary Shelley publishes *Frankenstein*, called the first science fiction novel.
- **Johnny Appleseed Day:** Johnny “Appleseed” Chapman was a real person, a settler who was captivated by the movement west across the continent. As Johnny travelled west, he planted apple

trees along the way, and sold trees to settlers. With every apple tree planted, the legend grew. Eat an apple today in honor of Johnny.

- **World Plumbing Day:** Appreciate plumbing today, something we all too often take for granted. And I guess we should give a shout out to plumbers, too! Where would we be without them?
- **TOPS Night:** College & TOPS info session in BAC at 6

Thu, Mar 12 (Regular; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** In 1622, Pope Gregory XV canonized a pretty extraordinary group of men and women, making them saints in the Roman Catholic Church: Teresa of Avila, Francis Xavier, Philip Neri, & Ignatius Loyola. May these saints pray for us in our work at SPS!
- **TDIH II:** In 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt gives his first "fireside chat" radio address. Today he would probably have sent out a tweet!
- **Genealogy Day:** Spend time today researching your ancestors or at least giving thanks for them!
- **Track:** Jr Hi in Covington Meet
- **Tennis at Fontainebleau**
- **Baseball:** SPS 8th Grade Tournament

Fri, Mar 13 (Regular; D E F G)

- **End of Third Quarter! Only one more quarter left in the 2014-15 school year! Amazing!**

- **TDIH:** In 2013, Archbishop Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina was elected pope, choosing the name Francis I.
- **TDIH:** In 1942, the US Army begins training dogs for the newly established War Dog Program, or "K-9 Corps."
- **World Sleep Day:** Sleep all you want today, but not during school or work! The theme for this year is: *When sleep is sound, health and happiness abound!*
- **Junior Class:** Field trip to WW II Museum.
- **Track:** JV in Judy Baehr Relays at SLU
- **Baseball:** Varsity in Zachary Tournament; 8th grade SPS tournament
- **Lacrosse:** JV & Varsity at Ocean Springs; 8th v. St. Martin's (6)

Sat, Mar 14

- **TDIH:** In 1879, Albert Einstein is born, the son of a Jewish electrical engineer in Ulm, Germany. Einstein's theories of special and general relativity drastically altered man's view of the universe, and his work in particle and energy theory helped make possible quantum mechanics and, ultimately, the atomic bomb.
- **Pi Day:** Pi, Greek letter (π), is the symbol for the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. Pi Day is celebrated by math enthusiasts around the world on March 14th (3/14) since $\pi = 3.1415926535\dots$ Get it?
- **Learn About Butterflies Day:** Some scientists think that the health of the butterfly population has implications for the health of the rest of the earth. Learn about the beautiful, helpful butterfly today!
- **National Potato Chip Day:** Snack away!
- **International Ask A Question Day:** Ask questions today! The SAT (see next item) certainly will!
- **SAT on campus this morning!**
- **Baseball:** 8th in SPS Tournament; 9th in Fontainebleau Tournament; Varsity in Zachary Tourney
- **Track:** Christian Brothers Relays (all fields, beginning at 4)
- **Lacrosse:** 9th, JV & Varsity at Brother Martin
- **Rugby at Shaw**
- **Ultimate:** Team in the Leif Ericson Tournament at Avoyelles Charter



Hungry Wolves devour snacks provided by Mothers Club last week. Thanks, Mothers Club!

Sun, Mar 15

- **I encourage Catholic families to attend mass and non-Catholic ones to worship at church of choice.**
- **TDIH: Beware the Ides of March!** Julius Caesar was assassinated on this day in 44 BC. According to Shakespeare, when stabbed by close friend, Marcus Brutus, Caesar uttered *Et tu, Brute!*
- **Incredible Kids Day:** Celebrate by letting your kids know how good they are, and how much you love them.
- **Corn Dog Day:** Eat a corn dog today if you can handle it!

Monday Morning Rosary with the Retired Brothers: There will be NO rosary this Monday, Mar 09, due to the blessing of the St. Joseph Altar. Parents are invited to view the altar during the day and to attend the blessing at 8:30.

SPS Mardi Gras Bead Drive: Instead of throwing old beads out, please donate beads to the SPS bead drive. All beads will be donated to help fund St. Michael's Special School. This is a school that helps kids with disabilities such as autism, cerebral palsy, and Asperger's syndrome. The beads donated will help with color and shape lessons, as well as funding for school.

Celebrity Waiters Dinner: I am most humbled by the success of CWD. Thanks to ALL who participated. A good time certainly seemed to be had by all who were there. Special kudos to the Development Team of Shellie Campo, Danielle Lavie, Al Nastasi, and all the volunteers who worked so hard to make this event a success – and all for the benefit of the students of Saint Paul’s School. And speaking of those students, the Student Hosts for the night were INCREDIBLE! Thank you, gentlemen! We couldn’t have done it without you!

TOPS Night: On Wednesday, the Counseling Department is sponsoring a special program on TOPS – the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students. Come get your questions answered. Also, reps from the Louisiana colleges will be present for a mini-college fair. By the way, 87% of last year’s SPS graduating class qualified for TOPS. And the other 13% should have! We do an outstanding job of preparing our students for TOPS.

Mar 03 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our Mar 03 assembly. Here’s some of what we did:

- Students entered the gym to the strains of Antonio Vivaldi’s “Spring” from his famous “Four Seasons Suite.” I explained that Vivaldi is a famous Baroque era Italian composer who lived from 1678 – 1741. I reminded them that Baroque music is dramatic and powerful and that Vivaldi musically interpreted the difference seasons with amazing precision. And why was I emphasizing the season of spring? In addition to signs of spring springing up all over, we are in the season of Lent – and the word “lent” comes from an Old English word meaning “spring.” It’s a time for our relationship with God to “bloom” just like the spring flowers. It’s a time for us to bask in the warmth of God’s love, just like we bask in the warmth of spring following the cold of winter. And as the days lengthen, it’s a time for us to lengthen our commitment to “put off the things of night” and walk in the daylight.

While the music played, **junior Jordan Dominguez** the prayer candle – now purple for Lent – was lit. We prayed in a special way for those who have entered into God’s Kingdom since our last assembly: **Mrs. Dora Mohon**, grandmother of **Chris Weintritt**; grandfather of senior **Alex Zenor**; and **Mr. Mike Swords**, uncle of freshman **Logan Swords**. And we also prayed for those who have joined this world -- **Benjamin Cobb**, newborn brother of freshman **Zachary Cobb**.

- Introduced two guests who were at the assembly: Brother Duane Gregory, a member of the retired Christian Brothers Community at SPS, who turned 90 years young last week. Brother Duane served in the Army Air Force in WW II prior to joining the Brothers. He remains active in his retirement, serving as a Eucharistic Minister for the hospital. We gave him a rousing round of applause. I also introduced Mrs. Aline Harbison – Associate Director of Catechetical Leadership for the Archdiocese of New Orleans who was making her first visit to Saint Paul’s.
- Congratulated the State Champion Soccer Wolves. Because we will have a special assembly, as is our custom for state championship teams, I didn’t go into a lot of detail but wanted them to know how incredibly proud of them we are. **Coach Moser has done an incredible job with our soccer wolves!**
- Congratulated the Basketball Team for their playoff win and wished them well in round two.
- Recognized and congratulated the Marching Wolves & ROTC Color Guard for the almost 70 miles of playing, marching, and dancing in the many Mardi Gras parades. They were quite the crowd pleaser and we are incredibly proud of them, too.
- Recognized and congratulated the members of the All District Wrestling Team for District 6 of Division I: First Team Members include **Cole Houser, Stevie van Zandt, Billy Harrison, Hunter Bourgeois, Seth Dragon, Sam Dufour, Chase Cochran and Kyle Schech**. Second Team Members include **Jared Thieler, Shane Ulfers,**

Blake Huff, Matt Krutzfeldt, Colin Francis, & Christian Fortner. And **Coach Craig Ketelsen** was named Coach of the Year! Well done, Wrestling Wolves!

- Recognized and congratulated **Keegan Lange, Kameron Lange, Yehia Elkersh, and Tanner Bruner** for winning BEST IN STATE in the 2014 -2015 Verizon Innovation App Challenge. **The students designed an app that would allow someone to post new theories and ideas relevant to science and be able to receive feedback from interested community members. The boys won the "Best in State" prize for their design. They entered regional competition but were beaten by a technology school in Florida** More than 1,000 app concept submissions were received, which made selecting the Best in State winning teams highly competitive. In their award letter, Verizon wrote: *Your app concept, SIRA, earned top points in your state for its creativity, innovative design, and application of STEM principles to the development process. On behalf of the Verizon Foundation, we congratulate you on your **Best in State** success.*

- Recognized and congratulated six seniors who represented SPS in the Technology Student Association (TSA) TEAMS Engineering competition at UNO on 2/27: SPS won 2nd place and were only 2 points behind the winners (Dominican), who have been in this completion since well before Katrina. It was our first foray into this competition and now we know how to better prepare. Participants were: **Matthew Dysart, Keegan Lange, Brent Neal, James Pagnutti, Andrew Richard, & Joe Tanner.** The team presented their trophy to Trevor Watkins.



Andrew, Matthew, Joseph, James, Keegan & Brent celebrate their 2nd place win in the Engineering competition at UNO on 2/27.

- Again, I ran out of time before I ran out of recognitions – which will carry over to the next assembly. We ended with the whole student body standing and singing a very moving rendition of that Lenten favorite, “O That Shame.” It was powerful. **Junior Josh Mascaro** extinguished the prayer candle while Vivaldi’s “Spring” from “The Four Seasons” played in the background. I again begged the student body to concentrate only on “the good” during this Lenten season and to make safe choices. I closed by reminding the students what the candle represents – the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I exhorted them to spread God’s love to all whom they meet.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

Last Week in Review:

- Scheduling Assemblies:** Thanks to Trevor, Joe, and Counselors. Scheduling for next year is now underway! **Students who are not registered for next year were not given scheduling packets. IF YOUR SON IS IN THAT NUMBER, PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF HE IS RETURNING NEXT YEAR!**
- Basketball:** Our very successful and respectable season ended on Tue night in Natchitoches against the defending state champion and #1 seeded team. We are proud of Coach Phil Williams, his assistant coaches and especially his players, with a special nod to our seniors, Stephen Hammond, Ryan Keller, Connor Lyons and Christophe Robertson. Thanks for a memorable season! Geaux Wolves!
- Golf:** Wolves continue to dominate the north shore league!
- Baseball:** Some close games last week! Wolves are playing hard!
- Tennis:** Off to a winning start last week against Slidell!

- **Track:** I didn't get results from Friday's meet, but I'm sure we were competitive.
- **Rugby:** SPS Rugby winning, defeating Houma Hurricanes 12-0 in Cov on Sat. Sadly, the game was called by the referee for repeated dangerous foul play by Houma 27 minutes into the 70 minute contest. Two SPS players landed in the hospital. SPS still sits alone at number one in the Deep South Rand is ranked in the top twenty nationally.
- **Env Sci Field Trip:** The Eco-Wolves learned much about the environment.
- **Paintball with the Marching Wolves:** The MWs had a great day or fun!

Lunch with Archbishop Aymond: On Friday, I lunched with Archbishop Gregory Aymond and the presidents of the other Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The Archbishop hosts a luncheon for presidents each semester to show his support of Catholic education and to invite our feedback on issues facing us. As usual, he was most gracious and inviting, listening to us and offering his prayer and support. He addressed the following issues with us:

- Thanked us for cooperating with the "no Sunday events" policy. He acknowledged that not everyone agrees with the policy and he "respects" that disagreement. He also acknowledged that the policy had created a few problems but feels the good outweighs the bad. He did stress that even though we may participate in Sunday events scheduled by other agencies (parades, tournaments, etc.) we have an obligation to provide a mass opportunity for our students.
- Urged us to consider joining the Louisiana Tuition Donation Rebate Program to allow low-income students the opportunity to attend Catholic schools. We have an obligation to do this, said the Archbishop, because we are Catholic. So far, no Catholic high school has signed on. SPS is currently looking at this program, but no decision has been made.
- Asked us to consider further opening our schools to special needs students. Some schools take none. He stated that we have an obligation as Catholics to be open to these students. SPS agrees.
- Expressed concern about what's happening in the religion classes. He says he's hearing from more and more young people that religion classes are "too cerebral" and don't help the students "live" the Catholic life. He has plans to address this – and so do we.
- Then, he addressed the following issue: pornography addiction. He is concerned about the growing addiction to pornography among young people, and asked what we, as schools, are doing about it. He's hearing this in confessions as are other priests. We'll be looking at ways to address this with our students. Technology obviously makes porn very accessible to our students. Parents, I hope you are discussing this with your sons. It was quite a luncheon!



Yehia, Kameron, Tanner, & Keegan are congratulated by Rachel and Trevor for winning "Best in State" in the Verizon Innovation App Challenge!

Lenten Services: Religion classes have begun Lenten devotions at start of each block. Ask your son about them. Feel free to participate if you are on campus. Ask your son to sing "O That Shame!"

National Catholic Sisters Week: Mar 8-14 is NCSW to shine a national spotlight on the good works and good will of the almost 50,000 Catholic sisters in the US. It recognizes past and present sisters, from the movers and shakers of Catholic education, to those who pressed the front lines of social change to those who ministered to the sick in hospitals to those faithful praying in cloistered chapels. Few students today have had contact with Catholic nuns. Sad. Some of my

most influential teachers in elementary school were nuns. Let's pray for an increase of vocations to this worthy life and thank God for the good these faith-filled women have done so much for so many, many years – and continue to do today.

WHY DO I CONTINUE TO INCLUDE ANNUAL FUND REMINDERS? Because every time I do, I get responses. So, please – if you have not supported SPS this year and are in a position to do so, please contribute to the Annual Fund. **ANY amount is needed** as the new gym bills are coming in. Interested in having part of the new gym named after you? Just contact me and we'll talk!

IMPORTANT: Many parents have not opened their Edline. We are using 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.

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.

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!**



*Northshore League-leading Wolves and their coach!
The team includes two pre-freshmen! Geaux Wolves!*

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.

From the Mothers Club: The traditional Mother-Son Brunch will now be a Mother-Son Supper on Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 in the Briggs Assembly Center. Since we can no longer hold school events on Sunday by directive of Archbishop Aymond and since the MC was not able to find a conflict-free Saturday, we will experiment this year with a weekday supper. Details will be sent by the MC later.

H of the Week: Some imponderables:

- *Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen can look for them while they deliver the mail?*
- *Is it true that you never really learn to swear until you learn to drive?*
- *If a cow laughed, would milk come out of her nose?*
- *Whatever happened to Preparations A through G?*
- *Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are weak?*
- *Why do banks charge a fee due to insufficient funds, when they already know you're broke?*
- *Why is it that when someone tells you that there are one billion stars in the universe you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint you have to touch it to check?*
- *Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?*
- *Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?*

Free Money: Last week we received checks from Target and Office Depot representing rebates on purchases: Target gives a 1% cash rebate and Office Depot gives a 5% store credit. PLEASE: anytime you purchase at Target or Office Depot, make sure you indicate your rebate go to Saint Paul's School! This is FREE money! You're not being charged extra.

A Look Ahead:

March 9 – St. Joseph Altar – all periods meet (FGABCDE)
March 10 – Pack Time
March 13 – Third Quarter Ends – Juniors on Field Trip to WWII Museum
March 17 – ACT for all juniors in BAC
March 19 – Mass – Feast of St. Joseph
March 25 – Life Skills Day for Seniors
March 27 – Band and LYL at Team up Against Violence in Afternoon
March 31 – President's Assembly
April 2 – Easter Holidays begin at 3:00 PM
April 13 – Leadership Week begins
April 14 – History of Covington presentation to juniors (Period G)
April 17 – Alumni Presentation assembly
April 20 – Founder's Week begins
April 21 – President's Assembly
April 23 – Feast of St. George Mass
April 24 – Field Day (Only periods B&C meet)
April 29 – Jazz Band field trip to LPO
May 6-8 – Senior Exams
May 12 – Principal's Assembly



Student mug for the camera between classes!

May 13-15 – Pre Freshmen Exams
May 15 – Founder’s Day Mass
May 18 – Pre Freshmen Promotion
May 19-21 – Exam Schedules
May 22 – Faculty Records Day

Whew! Hope I wasn’t too long winded this week! And even though it’s March of 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! Hard to believe two months of 2015 are now history! Again, thanks for being part of the 2014-15 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can’t Believe It’s the Final Week of the Third Quarter of 2015 and I’m Still the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School

