



The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter *January 11 – 18, 2016 in the Year of Mercy*



Can you believe we arrive at the mid-point of January this week? Strains of “Auld Lang Syne” are still ringing in my ears! And my quickly fading New Year’s resolutions remind me that January is a good time for self-review and mid-year correction.



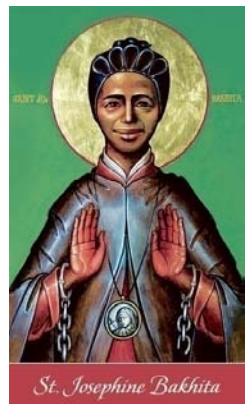
St. John Baptist de La Salle, however, wanted the first Brothers to do regular self-examination and correction. Accordingly, he instructed the first brothers to have a “fixed day for the weekly account of conscience” in which the Brother would “take time to examine [himself]” in all areas of his conduct. I offered the following “examination” points from St. La Salle to our faculty as we begin the second semester – points which are equally applicable to us as educators today and, I humbly suggest, to parents as well. Just substitute “children” for “students” and “home” for “school.”

- *Are you ardent and zealous for the salvation of your students and in the performance of your duties?*
- *How do you do your work in school? Do you observe the [rules]?*
- *Have you wasted time?*
- *Do you follow everything carefully during the lessons? Are you assiduous in correcting?*
- *Do you leave class? [Even La Salle knew teachers should not leave classroom unattended!]*
- ***Do you talk too much? (the boldface is mine)***
- *Do you take care that students make progress?*
- *Are you equally careful that they advance in piety?*
- *How do you act toward your pupils? Too strict? Too easygoing? Too familiar?*
- *Have you been impatient? In what frame of mind have you corrected them?*

I told the faculty that these insightful questions from this educational giant are as equally relevant today as they were 330+ years ago. I invited them to take time to examine our consciences this week, both our professional conscience and our personal one and to take corrective measures where needed. I invite parents to do the same.

Mon, Jan 11 (Regular; G A B C)

- **National Milk Day:** In 1878 milk was reportedly delivered in bottles for the very first time. Prior to this, milk was brought door to door in large metal cans and they'd ladle you out a portion.
- **TDIH:** In 2012, exactly four years ago, a special blessing and opening ceremony for the newly renovated La Salle Hall was held. In the past four years, the building has served us well, and we continue to marvel at this incredible transformation of the old dormitory into currently usable space. As we mark the four year anniversary, let's not forget to remember all those who helped make it possible and treat the building with respect and appreciation.
- **Human Trafficking Day:** We don't think much about this human horror, so today attempts to raise awareness about the effects of what has been termed modern day slavery.
- **Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of those who are trafficked:** *St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of*



captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.

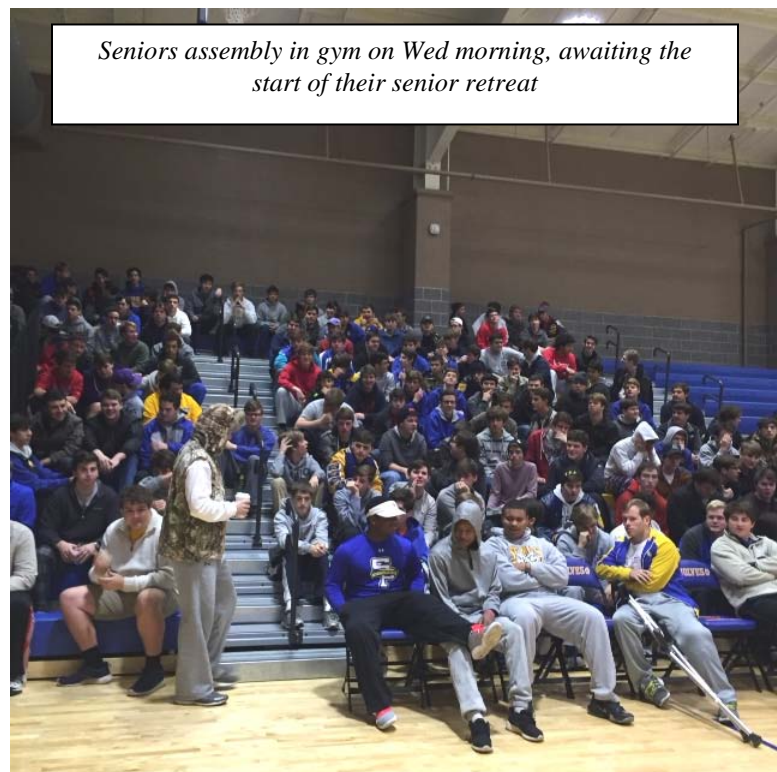
- **Fruitcake Toss Day:** No guilt today if you toss that unwanted fruitcake. You can't toss it at another person, though!
- **National Clean Off Your Desk Day (always 2nd Mon):** This will take me more than a day!
- **Louisiana Inauguration Day:** We should all offer our new governor and other elected officials, especially in St. Tammany, our prayers and best wishes as they address the problems of our beloved state and parish. May they govern wisely and honestly and may we be respectful citizens!
- **Soccer:** 9th v. Newman (6)

Tue, Jan 12 (Wolf Packs; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** 1969, in the most celebrated performance of his prolific career, quarterback Joe Namath leads New York Jets to a stunning 16-7 victory over the heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III, held in Miami.
- **National Pharmacists Day:** We salute all pharmacists!
- **Poetry at Work Day (always 2nd Tue):** In a recent survey of 1500 CEOs, IBM reported that **creativity** was the top leadership quality needed to take businesses into the future. While you might find this result surprising, it won't surprise you that poets are creative! Perhaps that is why Harvard Business Review recently discussed the value of poetry for professionals. And why a business leader like Sidney Harman (scientist-businessman who co-founded Harman/Kardon in 1953 and made high-quality audio equipment for homes and businesses, and later navigational and other devices for cars and was worth over \$500 million at his death in 2011) asked his staff to hire poets as managers. Read poetry today – especially at work!
- **Basketball:** 9th, JV & Varsity v. Covington
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Hammond (7)

Wed, Jan 13 (Regular; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** The Beatles release “Yellow Submarine.” Listen to this iconic song today! *We all live in a yellow submarine!*
- **National Rubber Duckie Day:** OK with me if you want to splash around the tub with this iconic childhood toy!
- **Basketball:** 8th v. Boyet (6)
- **Soccer:** Varsity flies to Orlando this evening for an “invitation only” 5th Annual Montverde Academy tournament for only the best teams (2 from CA, 3 from FL, 1 from AZ, 1 from TX and us! Sponsored by Gatorade & Adidas, ALL expenses (flights, hotels, meals, etc) are covered! All 8 teams are ranked in the top 25 in the nation according to ESPN Fab 50. All games are shown live on Montverde.tv. Final 2 games are broadcast nationally on TopDrawerSoccer.com. SPS plays Thu at 3 pm. The team returns Sun morning. This is quite a tribute to our soccer team! Geaux Wolves!



Seniors assembly in gym on Wed morning, awaiting the start of their senior retreat

Thu, Jan 14 (Regular; E F G A)

- **National Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day:** Created as a way to preserve meat before modern refrigeration, pastrami is beef that's brined, dried, seasoned, smoked and then steamed. It was first served in New York delis in 1887
- **National Dress Up Your Pet Day:** Today you have the opportunity to show off your pet's fashion sense – or not.
- **National TDIH:** 1973, Miami Dolphins defeat the Washington Redskins 14-7 at the Los Angeles Coliseum in Super Bowl VII, becoming the first team in National Football League (NFL) history to finish with an undefeated season.
- **Field Trip:** Juniors to WW II Museum

Fri, Jan 15 (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** in 1967, the Super Bowl I is played. Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10, led by Bart Starr.
- **National Strawberry Ice Cream Day:** Enjoy gold ole' strawberry today.
- **Wrestling:** Varsity in BR Community College LA Classic through Saturday
- **Basketball:** 9th, JV & Varsity at Ponchatoula

Sat, Jan 16

- **TDIH:** In 1919, the 18th Amendment to the US Constitution, prohibiting the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," is ratified and becomes the law of the land.
- **National Fig Newton Day:** Enjoy this classic cookie!
- **National Do Nothing Day:** Since today is Saturday, feel free to observe this day!
- **Soccer:** 8th, 9th & JV at Jesuit
- **Basketball:** 8th at Brother Marti: Jesuit (10) and John Curtis (12)
- **Math Tournament:** Fighting Math Wolves at Brother Martin Tournament
- **Rugby:** Mississippi Scrimmage
- **WWL A+ Athlete:** Senior Harrison Prieto was named by WWL TV as an A+ Athlete, recognizing both his academic and athletic ability. Throughout today, WWL TV will air an interview with Harrison. Hope you get to see it! We are very proud of him!

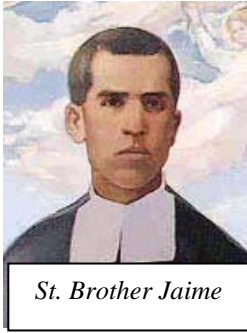
Sun, Jan 17: I encourage Catholic families to attend Mass and non-Catholic ones to worship at church of choice.

- **TDIH:** In 1953, the Chevrolet Corvette sports car makes its debut at General Motors' (GM) Motorama auto show at in New York. The Corvette, named for a fast type of naval warship, would eventually become an iconic American muscle car and remains in production today – but is certainly out of my price range and comfort zone!
- **Kid Inventors Day:** We celebrate the youthful spirit of invention every year on January 17th, the birthday of Benjamin Franklin, who invented the first swim flippers at age 12.

Mon, Jan 18 -- Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; no classes

- **Thesaurus Day:** Other words for thesaurus: glossary, lexicon, onomasticon, reference book, sourcebook, storehouse of words, terminology, vocabulary, word list. Other words for day: astronomical day, bright, dawn-to-dark, daylight, daytime, diurnal course, early bright, sidereal day, sunlight, sunrise-to-sunset, sunshine, working day. So a happy Onomasticon Diurnal Course to you!
- **Pooh Day:** Winnie the Pooh Day is an opportunity to enjoy your favorite bear and his friends. This day was created to celebrate the birth of A.A. Milne in 1882. He was an author of children's story books, and created

Winnie the Pooh and his friends. Winnie's pals include Christopher Robin, Tigger, Eeyore, Piglet, and Roo. Read some Pooh today!



St. Brother Jaime

• **This Day in History:** In 1937, Brother Jaime Hilario was martyred by Spanish revolutionaries in the Spanish Civil War. From the Christian Brothers Website: *Born in 1898 in northern Spain, Jaime was only 12 years old when, with the blessing of his parents, he entered the minor seminary. He soon developed hearing problems and was advised to return home. Convinced that God was calling him, he was overjoyed in 1917 to learn that the Institute of the Brothers would accept him. After sixteen years in various teaching assignments, his hearing problems forced him to abandon the classroom to work in the garden at one of the schools. In July of 1936 he was on his way to visit his family when the civil war broke out. Recognized as a Brother, he was arrested and jailed. In December he was transferred to Tarragona and confined in a prison ship with several other brothers. On 15 January 1937 he was given a summary trial. Though he could have been freed by claiming to be only a gardener, he insisted on his identity as a religious and thereby sealed his doom. He was brought to the cemetery known as the Mount of Olives on 18 January to face execution. His last words to his assailants were "To die for Christ, my young friends, is to live." When two volleys failed to meet their mark, the soldiers dropped their rifles and fled in panic. The commander, shouting a gross insult, fired five shots at close range and the victim fell at his feet. He was canonized in 1999 by Pope John Paul II.*

Carline Patience: Please be patient in morning carline. I know everyone's in a hurry, but a few cars have come too close for my comfort to students who are getting out of their vehicles. Thank you! Let's pray for patience!

Report Cards & Honor Roll Breakfasts:

- **Report Cards** were emailed last week, although grades have been accessible on Edline for a while. Let me know if you did not receive a report card. Parent-teacher conferences are Feb 1, so email any concerns to teachers.
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Here's the schedule for the second quarter HR breakfast schedule:
 - **Tue, Jan 26** – Grade 12
 - **Wed, Jan 27** – Grade 11
 - **Thu, Jan 28** – Grade 10
 - **Fri, Jan 29** – Grade 09
 - **Wed, Feb 03** – Grade 08

Mass with Archbishop Aymond: The Archbishop has graciously accepted our invitation to celebrate an all-school mass **at 9:15 on Mon, Jan 25** – Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. **This will be a DRESS UNIFORM day. We have room for parents, so feel free to come if you wish.** We intend to make this very special and memorable!

Musings on Last Week:

- **Thanks to all!** Our first 2016 week was a successful one.



Art woves begin their drawing project amid the serenity and beauty of the SPS campus.

- **Senior Retreat:** Thanks to all who helped make the senior retreat successful. The retreat team was outstanding. The support given them by those “left behind” in terms of substitutions, etc. was equally outstanding. Seniors returned with many, many positive comments about this significant event in their SPS career.
- **Ben Blanchard’s Funeral:** We were humbled and honored to have Ben’s funeral services in the Briggs Assembly Center. An amazing number of people showed. What a testament to the Blanchard Family’s impact on so many people! And Ben’s classmates were indeed out in force, supporting their fallen brother and his family. The family is very grateful to SPS for allowing the use of the BAC for the services. The place was packed for both the wake and the funeral. We are also humbled that SPS was designated as a recipient for memorial donations. I will soon meet with the family to discuss disposition of those funds. In the meantime, we pray for them. Thanks to all who either attended services or helped with the arrangements. I was especially pleased with the student body response: I received compliments on how respectful they were as they walked pass the BAC on their way to class.
- **Soccer:** Quite a week! Varsity had great wins over #4 ranked Denham Springs (4-0), district rival Northshore (5-0) and Ocean Springs (3-0)! JV beat Northshore, too! 9th beat Catholic High on Sat and 8th WON FIRST PLACE in the SPS tournament! Congrats, all! Geaux Soccer Wolves!
- **Basketball:** The Varsity fought hard last week, beating Northshore at home and Hammond away. 2-0 in District! And 9th grade won all three games in the Fontainebleau Tournament! Fantastic!
- **Fighting Math Wolves** were up early Sat AM for the Catholic High Tournament and returned home with trophies!
- **Comic Book Club:** The Comic Wolves attended Comic Con in NO. A good time was passed by all.
- **Football Awards Ceremony:** Congrats to all for making the ceremony on Saturday so successful.
- **Music Field Trip** went well. Thanks, Andrew, for exposing them to the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra performing Stravinski! The boys I spoke with were very excited about and pleased with the trip.
- **Application Day Testing** went well. Thanks to the students who helped and acted as student proctors: **Blake Badeaux, Joey Lacoste, Hanzala Hussein, Hayden Lala, Stephen Slaton, Jacob Tullos, Nik Scott, Andrew Moore, Trey Braud, & Christian Evans.** They were great role models! And thanks to Danielle and Karen, who provided a hospitality station in the cafeteria for parents.
- **Snack Day:** King Cake ruled the day last Tue; many thanks, Mothers Club!
- **Wrestling: Wrestling:** St. Paul’s won its 8th district title and 18th Parish Title in Wrestling Saturday. The team’s last Parish loss was 2009. St. Paul’s is the only team to hold the district title since wrestling was allowed to compete for District honors 8 years ago. Congrats to our District Champions! What a tribute to the program Craig has built! We are VERY proud!

Letters of Application: More unedited excerpts:

- *When my dad picked me up after my shadow day, I told him I don’t need to shadow anywhere else. This is where I want to go to school.*



Freshmen survey the many king cake options last Tue and make their selections. Thanks, Mothers Club!

- *I want to spend my high school years at a school that has such a positive vibe as yours. I picture myself sitting in the gym, singing the St. Paul's fight song, conversing with my fellow classmates. I want to be a part of the camaraderie and brotherhood I witnessed while shadowing your school.*
- *I have always loved to learn, but I have not always loved to go to school. I picture myself loving both at St. Paul's.*
- *My older brother made the decision to attend St. Paul's and the man he has become in just less than two years has been phenomenal. I truly wish to see this in myself for the years to come.*
- *My brother attends St. Paul's, and I have been truly amazed how much he has changed (for the better) after just a few months at St. Paul's.*

Greater Lasallian World Dept:

- Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento is seeking a new principal, as their current principal, Mary Hesser, is resigning due to health reasons.
- Mrs. Leslie Shultz-Crist has resigned as president of San Miguel HS in Tucson. Leslie was part of the CLASP visitation team that evaluated Saint Paul's two years ago – and gave us very high marks. She will be missed. San Miguel is a Cristo Rey school, where students work at an internship one day a week which pays their tuition. It's a fascinating educational concept.
- Mr. Mike Giambelluca has been named the new president of De La Salle High School in New Orleans. Yes, Mike was principal of Jesuit in NO for many years! We've converted him and welcome him to the Lasallian Family!
- 72 Lasallian colleges surround the globe. Bethlehem U is one of them. When the school was founded in 1974, the Vatican asked the Brothers to run it. Today, the school educates 3000 mostly Muslim students who would otherwise have no access to higher education. An excellent, brief article on Bethlehem U was published recently. It's worth the read. Here's the link: <http://www.lasalle.org/en/2015/11/in-palestine-bethlehem-catholic-university-stands-as-a-beacon-of-hope/>

January 5 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our first assembly of 2016! Here's some of what we did:

- Listened to a contemporary version of "Rise Up O Men of God" sung by Christian rock singer Phil Keaggy. I play it at the first assembly of a new year in order to set the tone for the year – that we must view 2016 as a new opportunity for the students to rise up as men of God. It's a powerful song that means so much to our school. While the music was playing, **junior Tyler Babcock** lit the prayer candle to remind us of God's presence among us and we prayed for Mrs. Elaine de la Houssaye Aceves-Fernandez, grandmother of freshman Andrew Aceves, and Mr. Ben Blanchard, Class of 2000, both of whom went home to the Father since our last assembly.
- Reminded the pre-freshman that they now have an official high school grade point average, since several of their



Will executes a pretty amazing Quiddich move – all while staying on his broomstick!

classes (World Geography, Spanish, Health & PE, and Algebra I) carry high school credit. Reminded the other levels that their GPAs have changed, since GPA is calculated on semester grades and to make the most of the remaining academic opportunities to raise their GPSs if needed.

- Recognized and congratulated **the student body** on their response to the Warm Hearts Drive before Christmas. Over 1500 items of warm clothing for the needy were collected and then distributed by the Lasallian Youth Leaders.
- Recognized and congratulated the **student body** on their excellent response to our Adopt-a Family program. Ten St. Tammany needy families were adopted and had a generous Christmas.
- Recognized and congratulated the **Wrestling Program** for adopting a very need family with nine children and serious health issues.
- Recognized and congratulated **all the SPS students and families** who helped the Covington Rotary Club Feed the Needy Program. Over 1500 Christmas dinners were delivered on Christmas morning to needy families.
- Recognized and congratulated freshman **Conner Walmsley** who had a birthday over the holidays. Instead of asking for a party and gifts, he and his fellow 9th grade soccer players gave a party and gifts for an orphanage in Foley, AL, distributing over \$1000 worth of gift cards to the residents.
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Reagan Hill**, who spend Christmas Eve distributed gift cards to teenagers who were spending Christmas in Children's Hospital due to illness or injury. Reagan, who spent months in Children's Hospital last year after a serious accident, wanted to do something for his age group, as most of the gift donations the hospital gets are toys for children. Reagan was accompanied by Mr. Chris McDonald, SPS Class of '98 and owner of Mug Shots, and his daughters. Chris became good friends with Reagan when he was in the hospital and they have partnered on several charitable ventures.
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Ruston Keller**, who was honored at the last Saints home game for being Oschner Hospital Hero of the Year for his stalwart and positive attitude during last summer's very difficult series of operations.
- Recognized and congratulated the Aqua Wolves for placing five swimmers and their coach on New Orleans Advocate's 2015 All Metro Swim Team. **Griffin Guzan** was selected based on his state championship performance in the 100 butterfly, setting the school record in 50.41. Guzan joined relay mates, **Harrison Prieto, Kyle Hladky** and **Jack Cheng** to lead the area in the 200 medley relay in another school record of 1:37.23. **Myers Morgan**, Prieto, Guzan and Cheng were the All Metro 400 freestyle relay team, again setting the school record of 3:16.00. **St. Paul's Coach Kris Babylon** was selected All Metro Coach of the Year by the New Orleans Advocate.
- Recognized and congratulated **senior Spencer Albright** and **junior Eric Coston** for being named to the New Orleans Advocate's 2015 All Metro Cross Country Team.
- Recognized and congratulated the **Varsity Basketball Team** for winning the very first Gene Bennett Memorial Basketball Tournament over the holidays. The team captains presented the trophy to AD Craig

Ketelsen. And since I had the pleasure of watching our **pre-freshmen Wolves** beat Bogalusa the evening before in an exciting game, I recognized and congratulated them, too!



A bumper crop of new applicants takes placement test on Saturday. Look like we'll be open next year! God is good!

- Recognized and congratulated the **Varsity Soccer Team** for winning the 33rd Saint Paul's Holiday Tournament – again! The team captains presented the trophy to Coach Ketelsen.

- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly! We then robustly sang the song “Mercy” in honor of the Jubilee Year of Mercy and then the Fight Song for the first time in 2016, especially for all the activities going on that week: the opening of District play for basketball and soccer, the District meet for Wrestling, the Math Tournament, the Robotics competition, etc.

- We then turned to the seniors, who would leave on retreat the next day. The entire school extended a blessing on the seniors while Pre-freshman Class President and Vice President, **Paxton Ballard & Luke Vargas**, sprinkled the senior class with holy water. It was a moving moment.
- We then ended with junior **Avery Frey** 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 sounds of “Rise Up O Men of God!”
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

New Year's Resolutions: Please make the following part of your New Year Resolutions!

- If your son is absent, phone Erin before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1280, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns.**
- Have your son check Lost & Found which contains: coats, sweaters, shirts, lunch boxes, belts, etc.

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.

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 done confidentially. ONLY SPS cold weather wear is accepted.

2016 - 17 Registration: Please note the following:

- **Current 8th graders:** registration information will be emailed during the week of January 25. **Current 8th graders planning to return for 2016 - 17 will have until Feb 05 (two weeks) 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.
- **Current 9th – 11th grades:** registration will take place in February, as soon as we return from Mardi Gras/Lenten Holidays. You don't need to do anything now
- **Current 12th grade:** You don't need to register for SPS for 2016 - 17! Rejoice!
- **Registration will involve 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 – but I need your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- 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 and the \$4.5 million new gym.)
- 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 don't send requests to grandparents, every year a number of grandparents do donate to the school. **AND WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! 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!

Sweatshirts & Cold Weather: ONLY SPS cold weather wear is accepted. If you cannot afford one, contact me and I will take care of it confidentially.

2016 -17 (NEXT YEAR) CALENDAR: St. Tammany Parish Public School System has set its calendar for next year; we have modeled ours closely on theirs. Here are some important dates:

- Wed, Aug 03: Faculty meetings begin for both public schools and SPS
- **Mon, Aug 08: Full day of class instruction for both public schools and SPS**
- Sat, Oct 8: Jazz n Roll
- Fri, Oct 14: 1st Quarter ends for both public schools and SPS
- Mon, Oct 17: By request of the Faculty Advisory Board, a fall break day has been added. No classes.
- **Fri, Dec 16: Christmas holidays begin for SPS at 11:45; St. Tammany continues until Tue, Dec 20.**
- **Tue, Jan 03: SPS begins second semester; St. Tammany begins on Wed, Jan 4**
- Fri, Feb 24: Faculty Retreat (no classes) followed by week off for Mardi Gras/Beginning of Lent Holidays
- Fri, Apr 14: Good Friday holiday followed by week off for Easter Holidays

- Sat, May 13: Graduation for the Class of 2017
- Mon, May 15: Promotion Ceremony for the Class of 2021
- Thu, May 18 – Wed, May 24: Final exams for grades 9 - 11
- **Wed, May 24: SPS ends; St. Tammany ends on Tue, May 23**
- **Why the slight discrepancy in dates? St. Tammany only has to schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools must schedule 177. So in the second semester, we will have two extra days.**

The Paper Wolf: The all new DIGITAL Paper Wolf is updated each class period, thus keeping it relevant and interesting. We encourage you to SUBSCRIBE which will email you alerts when new content is added. The students are very excited about this new venture. So support them and subscribe to The Paper Wolf (which should now probably be called The Digital Wolf!) Here's the link: www.thepaperwolf.com. Well done, Mrs. Simoneaux & Journalism class! Here are some stories from last week worth reading:

PLEASE – SAFE DRIVING: Parents –let's start 2016 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!

School Zone Cell Phone Ban: It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

Cash Back Programs: Please keep the following in mind when you shop:

- Amazon Smile: This website, operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same benefits of shopping on Amazon.com. The difference is that when using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice – which we hope will be Saint Paul's School! Click here to shop on AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1638895>.
- Office Depot: Last week we received a \$500 store credit from customers who gave SPS ID at the checkout. Our number is officially 70041640 but saying Saint Paul's will do. This will help a lot.
- Box Tops for Education: Each top is worth 10 cents – which adds up quickly. Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..

And Speaking of Edline: Please check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grade and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1044 if you need assistance.*

Tutoring: The National Honor Society offers tutoring each Tue and Thu during ALL of Lunch in LaSalle Hall Room 205 and each Wed and Thu from 7:15AM in LaSalle Hall Room 212. It's easier to be tutored early in the than to wait until later in the quarter. Get a jump on exam study by visiting our NHS tutors! The tutors and friendly and helpful! To borrow a line from a popular commercial "put these men to work!"

Lost and Found: The accumulation continues. Sweatshirts, pants, belts, uniform shirts, many, many lunch boxes, books, art supplies, pencil cases, folders, flash drives, you name, it's probably in our lost and found. Parents, please put your son's name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

Kehoe-France Northshore Tennis Tournament: Registration is underway for this annual event, which benefits the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America as well as KFN school. The tournament is Feb 19 - 21. Deadline to register is Feb 13; sign up by Jan 22 for chance for your team to win two pair of tennis shoes, compliments of The Tennis Shop in Mandeville. Entry Fee of \$80 per player/ \$160 per team includes T-shirt, food, drinks and great tennis. For more info, contact Mr. Brad Humphreys at KFN at bhumphreys@kehoe-francens.com. Registration forms are available at KFN, The Tennis Shop (4626 Hwy 22), or at SPS administration building.

Archdiocese of New Orleans Family Life Apostolate's FATHER-SON HUMAN SEXUALITY PROGRAM: This program is Sun, Feb 28, from 5-8 pm at St. Peter Church in Covington. Fathers and their 12 – 14 year old sons are invited to 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, presented in an atmosphere of love and learning, explores the important topic of growing into manhood 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 Religious Education, 985.893.2446 or email ore@stpeterparish.com. To register, complete a registration form found in the back of Church. The cost of the program is \$25. Create a memory with your son...a memory that will last a lifetime!

H of the W: More unusual names for businesses:

- *Florist Gump (flower shop)*
- *Papa Razzi (Italian restaurant)*
- *Tequila Mockingbird (bar)*
- *Custard's Last Stand (yogurt shop)*
- *Men at Wok (Chinese restaurant)*
- *Amazing Grates (fireplace shop)*
- *Spruce Springclean (cleaning service)*
- *Pane in the Glass (glass repair company)*
- *Surelock Homes (locksmith company)*
- *Jurassic Pork (BBQ restaurant)*
- *Indiana Bones & Temple of Groom (dog-grooming)*
- *Yahpoo Plumbing*
- *Deja Brew (coffee shop)*

- *Cycloanalysts (bicycle shop)*
- *Nin Com Soup (restaurant)*
- *Curl Up & Dye (hair salon)*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



Blake, & Evan enjoy King Cake on Twelfth Night Day.

A Look Ahead:

- January 12 – Pack Time
- January 14 – Juniors to WWII Museum
- January 19 – President's Assembly
- January 20 – 9th Grade PLAN Test

January 22 – President’s Assembly (music practice)
January 25 – 9:15 Mass (Conversion of St. Paul)
January 26 – 12th Grade HR Breakfast
January 27 – 11th Grade HR Breakfast
January 28 – Career Day – Juniors / 10th Grade HR Breakfast
January 29 – 9th Grade HR Breakfast
February 1 – Late Start- Parent Teacher meetings 5:00-7:00
February 2 – President’s Assembly
February 3 – Pre Freshmen HR Breakfast
February 5 – Faculty Retreat
February 6 – ACT on Campus
February 16 – Pack Time
February 23 – President’s Assembly – Teacher Appreciation Lunch
February 25-26- Juniors on Retreat/Angola Field Trip
March 1 – Pack Time – Snack Day- Freshmen Service/Retreat
March 2 – Freshmen Service/Retreat
March 5 – SAT on Campus
March 7 – St. Joseph Altar (All periods meet)
March 8 – President’s Assembly
March 11 – End of Third Quarter
March 15 – ACT for juniors
March 21 – Late start for faculty meeting
March 22 – President’s Assembly
March 23 – Passion Play (two lunch schedule)
March 24 – Mandatum
March 25 – Good Friday holiday
April 5 – Pack Time
April 7 – Mass (SJB DLS)
April 9 – ACT on campus
April 11-15 – Leadership week
April 12 – President’s Assembly –Teacher Appreciation Lunch
April 18 – Late start
April 19 – Pack Time – Snack Day
April 20 – Life Skills day for seniors –Pre Freshmen HR Breakfast
April 21 – 9th Grade HR Breakfast
April 22 – Blue Ribbon Holiday
April 25 – 10th Grade HR Breakfast
April 26 – President’s Assembly
April 27 – 11th Grade HR Breakfast
April 28 – 12th Grade HR Breakfast
April 28-29 – Sophomore Service Days/Retreat
May 3 – Pack Time
May 4-6 – Senior Exams in BAC
May 10 – President’s Assembly – Band Awards in Evening
May 11 – 13 – Pre Freshmen Exams
May 11 – Grad Night
May 12 – Athletic Awards in am
May 13 – Academic Awards in am
May 14 – Senior Graduation 4:00 pm in BAC

May 16 – Pre Freshmen Promotion
May 17-19- Exam Schedule
May 20 – Teacher records day

Even though it's 2016, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows: 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 begin the New Year! Again, thanks for being part of the 2015 - 16 edition of Saint Paul's! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Amazed That It's 2016 and I'm Still 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 2016, and always!

As Christmas 2015 fades into history, let us not forget the inspiration provided by the Student Council on luminaria night: *Ad Sum – God is here!*

Some of Ben Blanchard's Final Words to his Family: *At the end of the day, all you have is your family, your friends and your reputation, which is easy to lose and hard to build.*

