



# The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter



March 07 - 13, 2016 in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

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

Welcome to the last week of the third quarter! Incredible! Time is flying by and all we can do is make the most of it!

On Wednesday 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 (left) helped found Saint Paul's School.

According to the historical records on the web site of the former New Orleans - Santa Fe Province ([www.cbnosf.org/mexican%20revolution.htm](http://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 Poncho 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. 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 Lasallian Mission?



SPS Jazz Band members wow the crowd at Celebrity Waiters Dinner on Thursday night!

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 and merciful hearts!

**Mon, Mar 7 (St. Joseph Altar Schedule; all periods (A-G) meet)**

- **TDIH:** In 1923, *The New Republic* publishes Robert Frost's poem "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening." The poem, beginning with the famous line "Whose woods these are, I think I know. His house is in the village though," has introduced millions of American students to poetry. Re-read this classic today!
- **World Math Day!** Celebrate & work math problems!
- **St. Joseph Day Altar.** All will view the altar (a traditional Sicilian and New Orleans event) during religion classes. All 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.
- **Lacrosse:** Varsity v. St. George (7)
- **Bowling:** Wolves v. Holden at Tangi Lanes



Student Hosts Alex and John assist Celebrity Waiter Trevor at Celebrity Waiters Dinner

**Tue, Mar 8 – (Assembly; F G A B)**

- **Baseball:** 8<sup>th</sup> at Franklinton (4:15 & 6:15); Varsity at Brother Martin (6)
- **Golf in Northshore league (Tchefuncta)**
- **Spanish Honor Society Induction (period A)**

**Wed, Mar 9 (Regular; C D E F)**

- **7 am mass; encourage your son to attend. This is a great Lenten practice.**
- **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!
- **Baseball:** 9<sup>th</sup> v. Pearl River (5:30)
- **Tennis** v. Northshore at PAC

**Thus, Mar 10 (Regular; G A B C)**

- **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?
- **Track:** Jr Hi in Covington Meet
- **Baseball:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament begins with 9<sup>th</sup> grade playing Hammond
- **Lacrosse:** Varsity v. Holy Cross (venue TBA)
- **Drama:** Opening night of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (7) Best wishes, Marian Players! Read about the production in The Paper Wolf: <http://thepaperwolf.com/2016/03/05/joseph-to-make-a-return-colors-and-all/>

**Fri, Mar 11 (Regular; D E F G) – End of Third Quarter!**

- **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?
- **Track:** VJ in Judy Baehr Relays at SLU
- **Baseball:** Varsity in Zachary Tour playing Covenant Christian @ 4 & PV Baptist @ 6:30 pm & SPS 8<sup>th</sup> tournament
- **Basketball Awards Ceremony (6:30)**
- **Drama:** *Joseph.... (7)*

### Sat, Mar 12

- **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!
- **Baseball:** SPS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament
- **Abbey Youth Fest**

### Sun, Mar 13 Fifth Sunday of Lent; I encourage all to worship at church today!

- **Daylight Saving (not Savings) Time begins at 2:00 am. Spring forward!**
- **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, since it's Sunday – but make time for church! The theme for this year is: *Good sleep is a reachable dream!*



**End of Third Quarter:** We do not give exams at the end of the first and third quarters. Report cards will be prepared based upon your son's grades as of this Friday. Please make sure he is up to date in all of his classes. Report cards will be emailed mid-week next week.

**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 I need to finish paying for the new gym. Interested in having part of the new gym named after you? Just contact me and we'll talk!

**Monday Morning Rosary with the Retired Brothers:** There will be NO rosary this Monday, Mar 07, 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. Parents are also invited to pray the rosary with the retired brothers on Monday mornings at 8 am.



**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 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! And kudos to the SPS Jazz Bands who entertained the crowd in an exemplary manner

**Last Week in Review:**

- **Freshman Retreat:** All went well and I am appreciative to Campus Minister Jeff Ramon, the freshman teachers and a large group of parents for their cooperation in the service and retreat portions of the experience. I received compliments from the elementary school administrators where our students went for service. Here’s an email from Mr. Brad Humphreys, principal of Kehoe-France Northshore: *Thanks to Mr. Ramon for including us in your freshmen retreat. All of our students and teachers enjoyed hosting some of your freshmen. All of them were very enthusiastic and polite, affirming everything we at Kehoe-France believe to be true about your fine school. Please keep us in mind for next year's retreat. We will as we love getting students from KFN!*
- **Scheduling Assemblies:** We held 2016-17 course selection assemblies last week. Returning students who are registered for next year are making their course selections. Parents, please insist that your sons take this seriously. We cannot make wholesale changes during the summer just because students change their minds. Thanks to Principal Trevor Watkins, Assistant Principal Joe Dickens and counseling staff for their hard work in preparing our Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Curriculum for next year. **If your son is not returning to SPS, please give me the courtesy of letting me know. Thanks.**



*Env Sci Wolves construct butterfly garden*

- **Basketball:** Our very successful and more than respectable season ended on Tue night in a nail biter of a game against a tenacious and unrelenting East Ascension team. While the tears flowed post-game, we must focus on the big picture: a district championship, a record setting win streak, and a positive, upbeat program that is well prepared for future seasons. Thanks Coach Phil Williams, assistant coaches, and team for many memorable moments. We are very proud of you and you have every reason to be proud of yourselves! Go Wolves!

- **Snack Day:** Thanks, Mothers Club, for another wonderful treat for our students! Once again, the moms outdid themselves in providing snacks for the students.

- **Golf:** I know the Wolves competed but I didn’t get results.
- **Baseball:** A good week! JV beat Covington; varsity beat John Curtis, Destrehan and possibly others! We had a problem, however, on Friday night when two banks for lights went out and game had to be suspended. We are working on a solution – pray that it’s a simple and cheap one! And on Saturday afternoon, 8<sup>th</sup> grade beat John Curtis in a fantastic win! Congrats!
- **Track:** Great Jr Hi meet last Wed brought lots of athletes from many schools to campus. Congrats, Head Coach Al Nastasi, coaches and trackmen for a great meet. Varsity competed on Fri, but I don’t have results.

- **Bowling:** Wolves beat Holden!
- **Rugby:** Wolves beat Shaw, 52 – 0! Wow!
- **Wolf Tracks:** Congrats, Danielle Lavie, on another great issue! I hope you had a chance to read it. If not, it's on our website.
- **Service Bulletin Board:** Mr. Richard Pichon and Mr. John Glorioso have constructed and installed a bulletin board dedicated to promoting service projects. Remember – your son is mandated to complete a minimum of ten hours a year. Have your son check the bulletin board, which is located on the first floor of Benilde Hall, for service opportunities.
- **LHSAA Compliance Check:** Once again, the LHSAA showed up last week for a compliance check of our paperwork on our student athletes – and the paperwork is extensive. Once again, we passed with flying colors, another compliment to the team of Craig Ketelsen, Claire Coutrado and Carol Barcelona, aka C<sup>3</sup>
- **Jazz Band:** We were treated to a fantastic lunch time concert last Wednesday by our Jazz Band Wolves.
- **Lacrosse:** Huge wins against Mandeville for both JV and Varsity! Wow!
- **First Friday Devotions:** Thanks to Religion Department for meaningful adoration worship. Two retired brothers (Brothers Louis and Jerry) gave reflections centered on vocation – a direct outgrowth of our Culture of Vocations day at Christian Brothers School on Feb 5.
- **Literary Rally:** Wolves competed at Southeastern on Sat, bringing home lots of medals: 17 state qualifiers (14 first places!) and 29 district qualifiers! Name recognition in future newsletter! On to state!



*Harrison, Skyler, Charlie and Lucas enjoy snack day on Tuesday. Thanks, Mothers Club!*

**National Catholic Sisters Week:** Mar 7 - 13 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.

**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.

**2016 - 17Calendar:** St. Tammany Parish Public Schools has published next year's calendar. They will begin on Mon, Aug 8. So will SPS. Aug 8 will be a full day of instruction. Please **plan vacations accordingly.**

**Paper Wolf Update:** Please encourage your students to read The Paper Wolf on line ([www.thepaperwolf.com](http://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.

**2016 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 2016, and girls' camp staff serves during July 2016. For more information or applications, visit [www.campabbey.org](http://www.campabbey.org) or contact [campabbey@arch-no.org](mailto:campabbey@arch-no.org) or 985-327-7240



*Shelley, Danielle & Mimi, dressed as waitresses from the sitcom "Flo", worked hard at CWD! Congrats to them!*

**H of the W:** These insults are from an era before the English language boiled down to 4-letter words & emojis!

- *"I am returning this otherwise good typing paper to you because someone has printed gibberish all over it and put your name at the top." From an- English Professor, Ohio University on returning a student's essay*
- *"He had delusions of adequacy." - Walter Kerr (20<sup>th</sup> C. American theater critic)*
- *"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."- Winston Churchill*
- *"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with pleasure." - Clarence Darrow (famous lawyer)*
- *"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary." – Nobel Prize Winner William Faulkner about equally famous writer Ernest Hemingway*
- *"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it." - Moses Hadas (American writer)*
- *"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - Mark Twain*
- *"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." - Oscar Wilde*
- *"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend... If you have one."- Famous playwright George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill*
- *"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... If there is one." - Winston Churchill, in response.*
- *OK, I'll stop but I wish I had the wit of these famous people!*

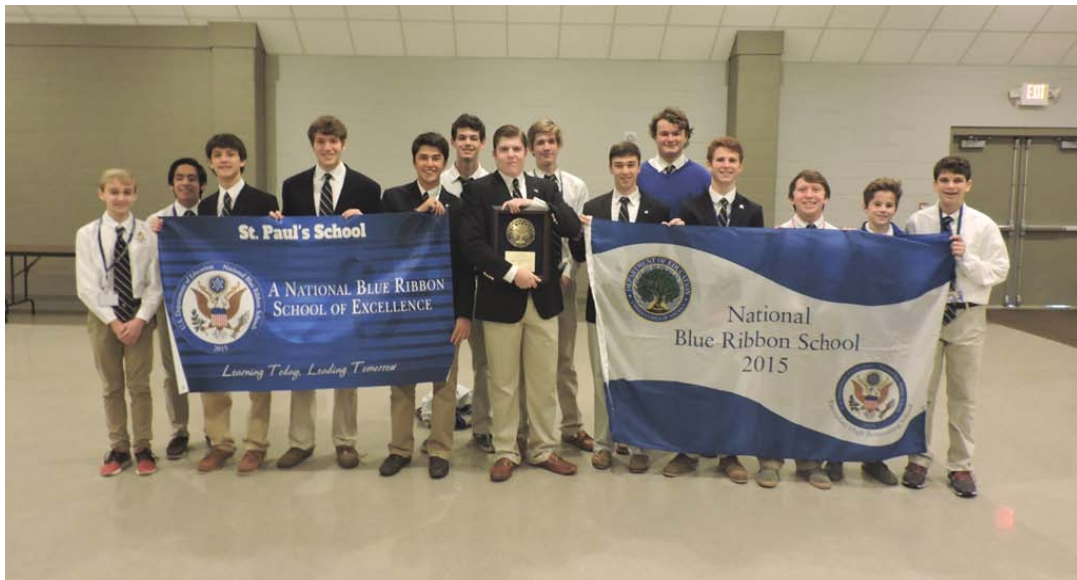
Whew! Hope I wasn't too long winded this week! And even though it's March of 2016, I will still close with a paraphrase from one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to now as I write and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!



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 2016! Hard to believe two months of 2016 are now history! Again, thanks for being part of the 2015 - 16 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can't Believe It's the Final Week of the Third Quarter of 2016 and I'm Still the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



**...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, and doing God's will!**