



The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter



March 14 - 20, 2016 in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

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



Repent and Believe the Good News -
as we begin the 4th quarter!



Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who were negatively impacted by the historic flooding in our area over the weekend. Saint Paul's is, fortunately, on high ground, so we were not directly affected -- although the water came precariously close to the retired Brothers Residence and to the Crouzet Community residence. I am grateful to all who contacted us to inquire about Saint Paul's and the Brothers and to offer help if needed.

Our prayer and support are extended to Coach Matt Pinero, whose house did flood, and to the Benedictine Community at St. Joseph Abbey, which also experienced flooding. I am sure, too, that some of our families were affected by the rising waters; please let us know if we can do something for you or your son.

In respect for and deference to those who are dealing with cleanup and recovery, my newsletter this week will be brief and devoid of my TDIHs and "national whatever days."

I have been asked about school on Monday. As of now, we plan to open on Monday with periods ABCD. Obviously, we will monitor the situation and consult with St. Tammany Parish Public School System. Should our decision to open change, we will send a robo-call, text message, and email. But for now, prepare for school on Monday.

In the meantime, may you stay safe and dry.

Mon, Mar 14 (Regular; A B C D)

- **Lacrosse:** Varsity v. Holy Cross in re-scheduled game from last week

Tue, Mar 15 (Regular; last day of third quarter; E F G A)

- **ACT** administered to juniors on campus today. This is a REAL ACT which students can use for college admission. We think the combination of a non-Saturday test in a familiar environment and among peers will lead to better scores. Junior teachers have been working hard preparing students for this important test.
- **Baseball:** 9th at Brother Martin; JV & Varsity v. Northshore
- **Golf** in Northshore League play at Pinewood and **Tennis** at Lakeshore
- **Track:** Jr Hi at Christ Episcopal meet; JV at Northshore meet
- **Drama:** *Joseph... (re-scheduled from last Friday's cancellation)*

Wed, Mar 16 (Fourth quarter begins; assembly; B C D E)

- **Mass at 7 am in school chapel; come join us! It's over by 7:30. Come join us!**
- **Pre-freshman Retreat on campus today; special assembly for others**
- **Senior Graduation Supplies** delivered by Balfour today in the theater during lunch
- **Basketball Awards Ceremony:** 6 at Benedict's. Phil, the assistant coaches, the teams and their parents deserve a wonderful event to celebrate excellent seasons. Thanks, basketball wolves!

- **Drama:** *Joseph...*
- **The Sacrament of Penance (aka Confession) is available in all Catholic parishes today from 5 – 6:30 pm.**

Thu, Mar 17 (Regular; F G A B)

- **TOPS/College Fair Night** (5:30 in the BAC)
- **Baseball:** 8th in Northshore tournament; 9th at Hammond; Varsity v. Rummel in CHS/MHS tournament
- **Lacrosse:** Varsity v. Brother Martin
- **Drama:** *Joseph.... (7 pm)*

Fri, Mar 18 (Regular; C D E F)

- **Track:** Varsity in Fontainebleau Meet
- **Baseball:** 8th in N' shore Tournament; varsity v. Varnado and Hannan
- **Drama:** *Joseph.... (7)*

Sat, Mar 19 – Feast of Saint Joseph

- **Today's feast** was special to Saint John Baptist de La Salle. The morning and night prayers of the first Brothers included a special prayer to Joseph and in the Brothers' Rule of 1705, the Brothers were instructed to gather at 1 pm (before afternoon classes) to recite the litany of Saint Joseph, the "patron and protector of the Institute." And a holiday was given in those early days on the feast of Saint Joseph! (Oh, for the good old days!) In his meditation for the feast of Saint Joseph, Saint La Salle says: *You have been charged, like Saint Joseph, with a holy work very similar to his and requiring that your piety and your virtue be more than ordinary. You have been made responsible for your students just as Saint Joseph was made responsible for the Savior of the world. Take Saint Joseph as your model to make yourself worthy of your ministry.*
- **Powerlifting in State Meet (ULM)**
- **Baseball:** 8th in N' shore tournament;
- **Rugby v. Jesuit**
- **Lacrosse:** Varsity at Pascagoula; JVB & Wolf Squad v. Carrollton
- **Drama:** *Joseph... (7)*
- **TDIH:** In 1719, John Baptist de La Salle was gravely ill. Brother Luke Salm writes in his book "This Work Is Yours": *As the Feast of St. Joseph drew near, de La Salle expressed a great desire to celebrate Mass in honor of this patron and protector of the Brothers. So weak was his condition and so intense the pain, that any such idea seemed out of the question. However, on the eve of the feast, he felt that pain was subsiding and his strength had returned. In the morning he was well enough to celebrate mass for the Brothers. They were overjoyed. But immediately thereafter, he relapsed. The end was near and that it was in honor of St. Joseph that he had celebrated Mass for the last time. De La Salle died less than a month later, on Apr 7th.*

Sun, Mar 20 -- Palm Sunday; I hope and pray our Catholic families will attend mass today as we begin Holy Week. I encourage non-Catholic families to attend the church, synagogue or mosque of choice.

- The **Vernal Equinox** (the arrival of spring), arrived last night at 11:30 pm (CDT) when the Sun crossed directly over the Earth's equator. Easter is fixed as the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Day and night grow equal; more wonderfully, day grows longer than night. Winter is over. Ancient Jewish & Christian poets saw the equinox as the anniversary of creation, with spring equinox as lovelier and richer of the two because it's followed by light winning over dark, an image of paschal mystery. Our redemption is nigh!
- **Drama:** *Joseph ...* completes its run at our 3 pm matinee

Report Cards and The Fourth Quarter. The 3rd Q was scheduled to end last Friday. Due to cancellation of school on that day, however, we are extending the third quarter through Tuesday, March 15, since a number of teachers had tests scheduled for last Friday and some students need these grades to improve their third quarter averages. Hence, the fourth

quarter will begin on Wed, March 16 and **Report Cards are scheduled to** be emailed on Friday. Obviously, with the changes made, report cards could be delayed until early next week.

A Look Ahead

- March 21 – Late start for faculty meeting
- March 22 – President’s Assembly
- March 23 – Passion Play (two lunch schedule)
- March 24 – Mandatum Ceremony
- March 25 – Good Friday holiday
- April 5 – Pack Time
- April 7 – Mass (SJBDSL) – dress uniform day
- April 9 – ACT on campus
- April 11-15 – Leadership week
- April 11 – Challenge Night 6-8 pm
- April 12 – President’s Assembly –Teacher Appreciation Lunch
- April 13 – *Leadership Breakfast in Cafeteria*
- April 14 – *Guest Speaker Assembly*
- April 15 – *Year-In-Review Assembly*
- April 18 – Late start 9:30 am
- April 19 – Pack Time – Snack Day
- April 20 – Life Skills day for seniors –*Freshmen HR Breakfast*
- April 21 – *Pre freshmen 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 - Sophomore Service Day/Retreat
- April 29 – Sophomore Service Day/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

- *Changes or additions in *italics*.

Again, we continue to pray for all affected by the weather. I pray that we can re-open on Monday.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Grateful to God for Being the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School