



The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter



May 01 - 07, 2017

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Welcome to the seventh week of the fourth quarter of the 2016 - 17 school year!
Only three weeks left to go!

Do you wish your pupils to do what is right? Do it yourself. You will persuade them much more readily through your example of wise and prudent behavior than through all the words you could speak to them.

-- St. John Baptist de La Salle

I shared the above words from our Founder with the faculty this week. I respectfully submit they apply to parenting as well. Modeling the behavior we want for our students and our sons is the best practice a teacher and a parent can do. I wish all of our families a blessed week.

Mon, May 1 (Regular; A B C D)

- **Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.** In response to the "May Day" celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph the Worker in 1955. Today honors all workers, reminding us that we all have a responsibility to build the Kingdom of God on Earth through our labor. Here at SPS, that takes on special meaning, as Saint La Salle said we are doing "God's work."
- **Mother Goose Day:** Read childhood nursery favorites and feel the warmth of Mother Goose's embrace once again!
- **This Day in History:** In 1933, the legend of the Loch Ness Monster is born when a sighting makes local news.
- **Great American Grump Out Day:** Calling all grumps! For one whole day, there is to be no grumping, no frowning, no grouching, or complaining! I'll try to do my part
- **"Melanoma Monday"** (aka National Skin Self-Examination Day.) Check for skin cancer signs! Use sun bloc! As one who had a bout with skin cancer, I encourage all to get checked regularly.
- **Golf:** State Tournament in Lafayette. Geaux Wolves!

Tue, May 2 (Pack Time—last one for seniors; E F G A)

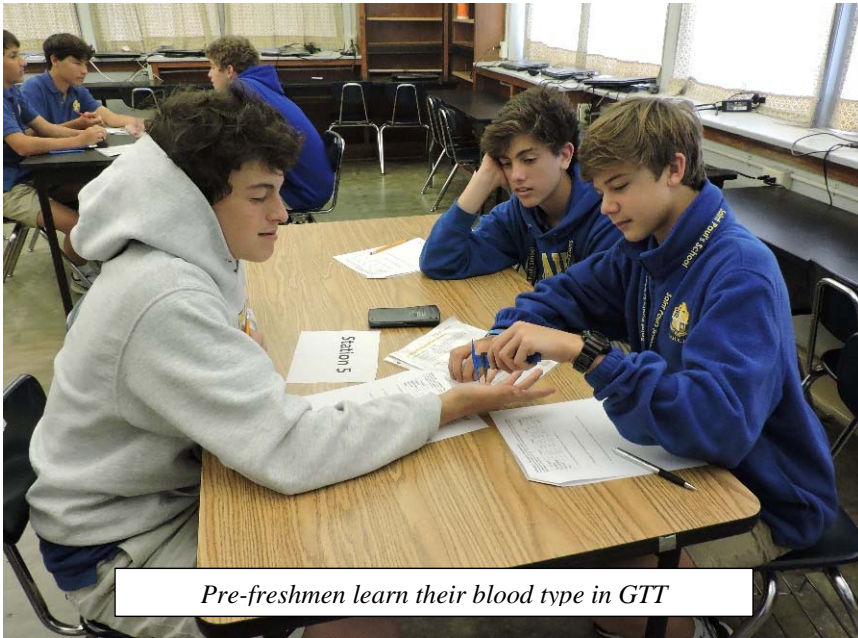
- **TDIH:** In 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea begins between Japan and the US. Lasting four days, it is considered the first modern naval engagement, resulting in 70 Japanese and 66 American warplanes destroyed. This was the first air-naval battle, as carriers did not fire at each other; planes did the battling. The US carrier *Lexington* was a casualty; "the Blue Ghost" (so-called because it was not camouflaged like other carriers) suffered extensive damage and was sunk by its crew. 216 *Lexington* crewmen died. Japan would go on to occupy all the Solomon Islands, but its victory was a Pyrrhic one: the cost in experienced pilots and aircraft carriers was so great that Japan had to cancel its expedition to other South Pacific targets.
- **Two Different Color Shoes Day** celebrates the uniqueness and diversity of humanity. Students may observe this day if they wish. I'm not going to say anything, but if they read the newsletter and want to wear two different color shoes, it's OK with me.
- **No Pants Day:** SPS will NOT observe this day.
- **Give NOLA Day:** We hope some of our generous supporters will join philanthropic people throughout the area and donate to SPS. Just go to givenola.com



Clayton lights Paschal Candle to start last week's assembly.

Wed, May 3 (Regular; Senior Final Exams begin; B C D E)

- **Mass at 7 am in campus chapel**
- **TDIH:** SF Giants outfielder Willie Mays hits his 512th career home run to break Mel Ott's HR record.
- **Hug Your Cat Day – good luck with that!**
- **Senior Final Exams/ Graduation practice with dismissal of seniors following practice**
- **ACT Test for Juniors**
- **Alumni Phone-a-Thon begins tonight.** We pray for its success. I am grateful to Al for continuing this initiative to involve more alumni in assisting our financial condition.



Pre-freshmen learn their blood type in GTT

firefighters work with – red for fire and blue for water.

- **National Hoagie and Oyster Day:** Enjoy either or both of these treats!
- **Senior Final Exams/ Graduation practice with dismissal of seniors following practice**

Fri, May 5 (Regular; Senior Final Exams; last day for seniors; C D E F)

- **TDIH:** Today, known as Cinco de Mayo, commemorates the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. The Mexican army was defeated, but the "Batalla de Puebla" came to represent a symbol of Mexican patriotism.
- **Senior Final Exams/ Graduation Practice with senior dismissal after practice**
- **Senior Final Exam / graduation practice.** Practice will last no later than 11:30. We will distribute caps & gowns and graduation tickets. **We will withhold these if a senior has ANY obligation to the school.**
- **Pie Bowl:** Spring Football concludes today with the traditional Pie Bowl game.
- **Baseball:** Wolves v. Catholic High in round two of playoffs

Sat, May 6

- **TDIH:** 1937, the German airship *Hindenburg*, the largest dirigible ever built, explodes as it arrives in NJ.
- **TDIH II:** Four years ago, representatives from Project Lead the Way came to campus to evaluate our implementation of their Biomedical and Engineering curricula. This led to Saint Paul's being the first accredited PLTW school in the state – a credential that is facilitating our students earning college credit for their work in these electives. That we are achieved this after only four years is highly unusual and speaks volumes about Trevor's vision, the instructors' dedication, and the community's support. Since then, we have been the "poster child" for PLTW! We remain grateful to Hornbeck Offshore Services for sponsoring this wonderful program.
- **National Nurses Day:** We honor all of those in the nursing profession day! Thank you!

Thu, May 4 (Regular; Senior Finals; FGAB)

- **National Day of Prayer** (First Thu of May): At SPS, every day is a day of prayer, but be extra prayerful today!
- **Star Wars Day:** This is a day for *Star Wars* fans to celebrate the franchise's films series culture. The date was chosen as "May the 4th" due to its sounding similar to the series' phrase "May the Force be with you!" Who knew?
- **World Laughter Day:** Have a good laugh today! Laugh at me if you want!
- **International Firefighters Day:** We honor the unsung heroes and thank them for protecting our lives and property. Wear a blue and red ribbon today, symbolic of elements

- **No Homework Day:** Since it's **Saturday**, feel free not to do homework tonight! Do it tomorrow!
- **Physicals:** Free physicals for athletes and Marching Wolves will be given this morning at Pinnacle Medical Center from 7 – 9 am. All athletes and Marching Wolves must have a current physical on file in order to participate. We are grateful to the medical community for providing this valuable service to our students.
- **Track:** State Meet
- **Baseball:** Wolves v. Catholic in round two of playoffs

Sun, May 7 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

- **TDIH:** 1915, a German submarine torpedoes without warning British ocean liner *Lusitania*, bringing the United States closer to entry in World War I.

Mary's Month: Catholics traditionally devote May to Mary, the Mother of God. How did this come to be? In many ancient cultures, May 1 was a day for spring festivals to celebrate the beginning of new life. For instance, the Greeks dedicated May to Artemis, goddess of fertility. The Romans dedicated May to Flora, goddess of springtime and flowers. To counter these pagan celebrations, the Church eventually came to celebrate May as the month of May. Now you know!

Apology to Junior Justin Savoie: In last week's newsletter, I inadvertently omitted Justin's name as one of our newly trained Eucharistic Ministers for next year. Sorry, Justin! I look forward to your year of ministry!

Musings on Last Week:

- **Senator John Kennedy:** The Senator's words to the students were great and his enthusiasm for Saint Paul's genuine and appreciated. I hope your son told you about the Senator's visit.
- **Dr. Simon:** I pray the boys listened to this important health information about steroid use. I hope your son told you about it.
- **Hornbeck Offshore Services Speaker Series:** About 50 seniors had the distinct privilege of visiting the corporate headquarters of HOS here in Covington and were treated to an amazing presentation by Todd Hornbeck, who told "his story" about going from poor, humble beginnings in east Texas to CEO of a company with \$5 billion of assets. He gave practical, real-world advice to the boys about what it takes to be "successful" in the business world. He stressed the importance of relationships – which aren't built, Mr. Hornbeck stressed, through texting and social media but through personal interaction. I hope the boys were listening! I continue to be most grateful to HOS for their support of SPS!



Mason, Zach, & Andy pose with their graduation pics that are paired with an early elementary pic at the M-S brunch.

- **Baseball:** The 2017 season continues with playoff victory against Scotlandville. On to Catholic High!
- **Lacrosse:** LAX Wolves in State Championship game today in Lafayette! Congrats to our LAX Wolves! Special congrats to the members of the ALL STATE team which was announced this week: First Team (**Dylan Futrell, Eli Crosby, Kevin Katich & Liam Ordoyne**); HM (**Chris Flood and Robbie Nolan**).
- **Prom:** Thanks to all who helped make the Junior-Senior Prom a successful one. Joanna and the Student Council deserve kudos. I am appreciative to all who chaperoned.
- **Wolftracks:** Congrats to Danielle Lavie for another great Wolftracks – in both quality and quantity of pages!
- **Golf:** A young team fought hard and finished second in regional play. On to state tournament this week! Congrats to **Chris Wilson, Jacques Cutrer, Chase May, Owen Hayden, Quinn Garcia, and Trey Hughes**

- **Tennis:** The team represented us at the state tournament in an exemplary manner and had a great season!
- **Exchange Club Student of the Year Breakfast** was very inspiring. The club honored nine outstanding St. Tammany Parish seniors, including our own Yehia Elkersh. Thanks to The EC for sponsoring this special event.
- **End of Season Banquet** for ROTC went well! Lots of celebration last week!
- **Stuff the Bus:** Thanks for your cooperation and support. The six Catholic schools of Western St. Tammany collected over 10,000 lbs of canned goods for the Covington Food Bank. My only concern was for the bus!
- **Wolf Jam:** I think all went well. In the past, we have used the proceeds to assist San Miguel High School in Tucson. We will do so again this year. Thanks to Nick Ashton, AJ Latapie and Lasallian Leaders for organizing this event.
- **Mother-Son Dinner** was a smashing success with a record attendance of almost 900! Will Murphy gave a humorous introduction, Jeff Ramon's prayer service was great, Andy Grashoff orchestrated the "handkerchief distribution to senior moms, and Keith Young's meal was delicious. As always, though, the highlight was the senior reflections on their moms and the pre-freshman reading of Love You Forever. Congratulate seniors **Bradley del Rio, Yehia Elkersh, Cameron Gary, Parker Hagood, Trey Hughes, Ethan Hopel, Ruston Keller, William Kropog, Alex Oliveri, Nik Scott, and pre-freshman Max Anderson, Thomas Bitterwolf, Ben Broussard, Davis Lagarde, & Garrett Lauterbach.** Special thanks to MS Chairs **Lori Kilgore, Janelle Scheurich, & Janie van Deventer.** Naturally, our Physical Plant crew get a special shout out for the set up.
- **Student Host Lunch:** Thanks to Karen Hebert for having our annual "thank you" luncheon for the student hosts. These guys do so much for SPS. I don't know what we would do without them! Thank you, Student Hosts!
- **Class Elections:** Congrats to all of the candidates. I was impressed with the quality! Wish all could have won!
 - **9th: Pres. Michael Slimming; VP Davis Lagarde**
 - **10th: Pres. Luke Vargas; VP Blake Bollinger**
 - **11th: Pres. Josh Rovira; VP Ross Hightower**
 - **12th: Pres. Cameron Vidal; VP Forge Mathes**
- **Spring Practice:** the first week went well; Pie Bowl is this Friday.
- **Track: 3rd place (out of 19 teams) at Regional Meet.** TJ Bedford was named the Meet's Outstanding Field Performer by placing 1st- Long Jump and 4th in Triple Jump. TJ goes to state. Eric Coston was 1st in 1600 m run and 1st 3200 m run-State Qualifier, qualifying him for state. Colin Sullivan was 2nd in 800m run, qualifying him for state; Jonathan Bertucci was 4th 3200 m run, Henry Elliot was 6th 800 m run, and Stephen Schlottman was 6th 1600 m run
- **Teaching:** And in the midst of all of the activity, teaching and learning were taking place last week.



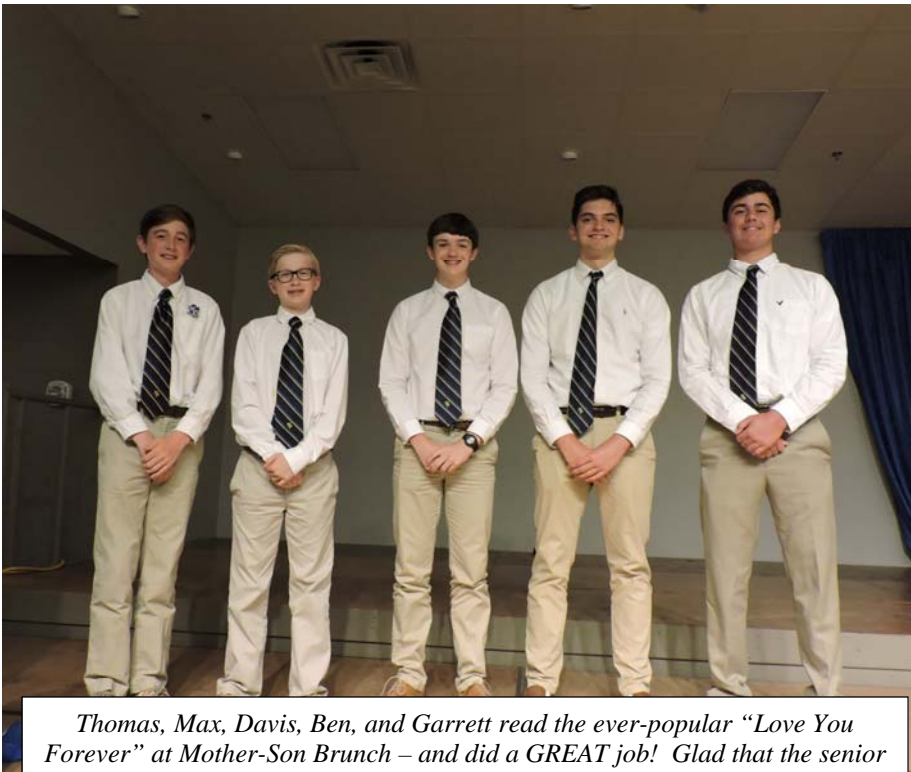
An assembly line of Wolves Stuffs the Bus with food for the Northshore Food Bank.

April 25 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our April 25 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Students entered the gym to the strains of "The Hallelujah Chorus" from George Fredrick Handel's incredible oratorio entitled "Messiah." Too often associated with Christmas, this iconic Baroque masterpiece actually musically represents the joy that Christians should feel over the Resurrection. That Handel composed this work in just 24 days in 1741 borders on the miraculous. I explained to the students that when King George III first attended a performance of "Messiah" in 1742, he was so astounded by "The Hallelujah Chorus" that he stood up in amazement. Naturally, the whole audience also stood. So, today, when you attend a performance of "Messiah", it is customary to stand for "THC." OK, enough music trivia! While the music played, junior **Clayton Lind** lit the prayer candle – in the form of The Paschal Candle – and we again prayed for those who left this earth to enter eternal life: **Mr. Tom Harris, grandfather of Thomas '17 & Jacob '21; Mrs. Mary Moore du Passage, grandmother of Jacques '19; Mr. Jake Coutrado, grandfather of Hayden '18 & Jacob '18; Mrs. Jo Ellen Rodrigue, mother of Julian '72 &**

grandmother of Julian '18; and Mr. Sean Kendrick '75, one of three Kendrick boys to graduate from SPS in the e1970's.

- Recognized and congratulated The Eco Car Wolves by displaying their work of the past year and having one of them drive one of their vehicles around and out of the gym. All of the cars were on display outside of the gym. We wished them luck in their upcoming competition next week.
- Thanked the student body for the warm welcome given the students from Colegio Cristobal Colon, a Lasallian Catholic school in Mexico City. The six boys spent two weeks with us, just like six SPS students spent two weeks at their school. We hope this is the beginning of a regular series of such exchanges.



Thomas, Max, Davis, Ben, and Garrett read the ever-popular “Love You Forever” at Mother-Son Brunch – and did a GREAT job! Glad that the senior moms had already received their souvenir handkerchiefs!

- Reminded the student body of our mission statement, which calls us to offer strong academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs in a safe and disciplined environment. As proof that we are being faithful to our mission statement, I offered the following recognitions, focusing on seniors since it was their last assembly!
- Recognized and congratulated **Jon Rushing** for his incredible second place in Junior World Powerlifting competition in Poland! I projected pics of Jon posing with his trophy and played a video of his winning life. Jon represented the USA in Poland at this event by virtue of his Louisiana state championship.
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Thomas Carriere** for being named to the LHSAA Academic All State Soccer Team.

Thomas wasn't recognized at the state championship game since he was in the locker room with the team!

- Recognized and congratulated students in Mr. Brad Guillory's Creative Writing Class for placing in the regional Scholastic Art and Writing Contest:
 - **Ryan Flood** Silver Medal for Short Story
 - **Ryley Perez** Silver Medal for Short Story
 - **Josh Rovira** Silver Medal for Short Story
 - **Trevor Achee** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Parker Hagood** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **William Kropog** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Jacob Monahan** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Alexander Prokop** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Colin Quinlan** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Garrett Spinks** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Gregory Vall** Honorable Mention: Short Story
 - **Chris Wallace** Honorable Mention: Flash Fiction
 - **Hayden Willis** Honorable Mention: Short Story

- Recognized and congratulated the four SPS students who participated all year in the Baton Rouge Teen Court program. Four of our students (**Chris Dufour, Will Murphy, Miles Roppolo, and Noah Seiden**) were commissioned by the State of Louisiana last August to participate in this program actually adjudicates minor juvenile crimes, acting as attorney and jurors. The judges always asked for our guys to be attorneys since they did so well. Thanks to faculty members Mr. Brian Logarbo and Mrs. Kim Gardner for moderating the group.
- Recognized and congratulated students in the 30+ ACT Club. Membership is earned by scoring a 30 or higher on an ACT. We treated 51 boys to a pizza lunch for their accomplishment – an amazing feat! Congrats to: **Ross Hightower, Blake Ramsey, Jack Nunez, Patrick Baldone, Matthew Borgatti, Isaac Hebert, Jud Dodick, Jordan Edney, Robby Ferrante, Luc Hebert, Forge Mathes, Colin Moser, Bradley Anzalone, Hayden Brewster, Henry Elliott, Christopher Gement, William James, Kevin Schneider, Matthew Viola, Yehia Elkersh, Alex Oliveri, Ford Brasher, Thomas Carriere, Ruston Keller, Christian Rabalais, Koby Schexnayder, Shane Strander, Max Tepper, Thomas Bowden, Lloyd Guillot, Kyle Hladky, Patrick Napier, Alex Paille, Colin Reilly, Tyler Babcock, Ryan Flood, AJ LaCroix, Michael Longo, Will Murphy, Thomas Rovira, Silas Anthony, Nick Ashton, John Birdsong, Max Egan, Andrew Grashoff, Trey Hughes, Brennan Jenkins, Bradley Mashburn, Connor McCarthy, Alex Seese, and Chris Weintritt**
- Recognized and congratulated the students who scored a PERFECT 36 in a subject matter on an ACT:
 - **Tyler Babcock -- 36 English on 9/15 & 9/16**
 - **Shane Strander -- 36 in English on 9/15**
 - **Lloyd Guillot – 36 in English on 12/15**
 - **Ryan Flood – 36 in English on 2/16**
 - **Alex Oliveri – 36 in Science on 6/16**
 - **Kyle Hladky – 36 in Reading on 9/16**
 - **AJ LaCroix – 36 in English and Reading on 9/16**
 - **Forge Mathes – 36 in English 10/16 & 36 in English on 2/17**
 - **Max Tepper – 36 in English 10/16**
 - **Cameron Byrne – 36 in English & Science on 12/16**
 - **Patrick Baldone – 36 in English & Math on 2/17**
 - **Yehia Elkersh: 36 COMPOSITE on June, 2016 test**
- Recognized and congratulated the four seniors who won national recognition by the National Merit Corporation:
 - **Alex Oliveri – National Merit Finalist**
 - **Yehia Elkersh, Lloyd Guillot, Thomas Carriere -- National Merit Commended Students**
- Recognized and congratulated the winners in the State Science Fair:
 - **Alex Nguyen – 3rd in Embedded Systems**
 - **Paul Stolin – 3rd in Biochemistry**
 - **Shane Strander & Max Tepper – 4th in Chemistry**
 - **Josh Devier – HM in Molecular & Cellular Biology**
- Recognized and congratulated our four newest Eagle Scouts: **Jeremy Boudreaux, Alex Seese, Austin Scheyd, and Evan Vamprine**. I had all our Eagle Scouts stand and be recognized – a very impressive group!
- Recognized and congratulated those students and faculty members who gave “the gift of life” during our recent blood drive: **Dominic Arcuri, Cooper Meibaum, Christian Butle, Coach Harry Nunez, Sgt. AJ East, Carter Jarrell, Austin Scheyd, Gavin Grefer, Miles Roppolo, Stephen Cangelosi, Ashton Young, Kenneth Avanzino, Nikolas Scott, Cole Couvillion, Patrick Napier, Adam Savoie, Thomas Rovira, Christian Evans, Curtis Zuckerman, Hyde Healy, Justin King, Coach Craig Ketelsen, Ruston Keller, Hayden Moran, Zach Russ, Andrew Lambert, Michael Longo, Christopher Gement Avery Frey, Thomas Harris, and Robert Buquoi**

- Recognized and congratulated senior **Patrick Napier** for winning the Covington Knights of Columbus Outstanding Catholic Youth award. Wonderful!
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Ruston Keller** for winning one of only three \$12,000 from the Northlake - Mandeville Rotary Club.
- Recognized and congratulated the Tennis Wolves for winning the Regional Championship! Fantastic!
- Recognized and congratulated the Track Wolves for winning the District Championship for the sixth consecutive year! Amazing! Here are individual results:

- **TJ Bedford- 2nd in High Jump, 4th in Long & 4th in Triple Jump**
- **Jonathan Bertucci- 3rd in the 3200 m run**
- **Eric Coston- 1st in 3200 m run &1600m run with a new school record**
- **Henry Elliot- 2nd in 800 m run**
- **Taylor Lacoste- 2nd in Javelin**
- **Matt Meyers- 4th in 100 m dash**
- **Philip Pearce- 2nd in the 400 m dash**
- **Stephen Schlottman- 3rd in the 1600 m run**
- **Noah Seiden- 2nd in the Shot Put**
- **Colin Sullivan- 1st in the 800 m run**
- **Cameron Vidal- 3rd in the 100 m dash**
- **Chris Weintritt- Tied for 4th in the Pole Vault**
- **4x 200 m relay -- Bill Leahy, Matt Meyers, Cameron Vidal and Christian Roberts finished 3rd**
- **4x400 m relay -- Bill Leahy, Colin Sullivan, Stephen Schlottman and Philip Pearce finished 2nd**



Trevor congratulates Thomas on being named to LHSAA All Academic Soccer Team!

- Recognized and congratulated seniors for being recognized by the All State Sugar Bowl Chapter of the National Football Foundation as Scholar Athletes! They were honored at a special luncheon at the MB Superdome.
- Recognized and congratulated senior Max Tepper for winning FIRST PLACE in Physics at the State Literary Rally!
- I then projected an email from Athletic Trainer Chris Stipe, who brought his Athletic Training class to the **Athletic Training Day at SLU**: *I am just returning to school after attending the student athletic training day at SLU. I brought Kenneth Avanzino, Bam Barriero, Stephen Beach, Thomas Celestine and Alex Paille with me. All are seniors planning on pursuing a career in sports medicine next year in college. I just wanted you to know that 3 different people (a professor, a GA and a SLU senior student) at 3 different times pulled me aside to tell me "your kids are killing it!" Needless to say, I couldn't help but feel very proud of them. I told them that I was so proud of them that I would brag about them to you. Therefore, I'm bragging. Thank you for your time.*
- Recognized and congratulated senior Steven Slaton for his great musical ability as part of a popular band: Remedy. Remedy has place at venues such as Family Gras, House of Blues and almost every major festival in south Louisiana. Steven is a very accomplished musician and deserves our recognition.
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Yehia Elkersh** for being named 12th Grade Student of the Year for the entire State of Louisiana! We are beyond proud!

- Recognized and congratulated members of our Key Club for their help to the community. Here's what the boys did through February, when I stopped recording their feats!
 - **AUGUST 20TH: STREET CLEAN-UP/BROTHERS RESIDENCE**
 - **AUGUST 27TH: FOOD BANK**
 - **SEPTEMBER 3RD: KEEP COVINGTON BEAUTIFUL, HABITAT RESTORE**
 - **SEPTEMBER 10TH: HOOPS FOR KIDS, BASKETS OF HOPE**
 - **SEPTEMBER 17TH: RIVER SWEEP, BEACH SWEEP**
 - **SEPTEMBER 24TH: HABITAT, STREET CLEAN-UP**
 - **OCTOBER 1ST: PARK CLEANUP**
 - **OCTOBER 8TH: HABITAT, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**
 - **OCTOBER 15TH: STREET CLEAN-UP, ST. PETERS, COMMUNITY GARDEN**
 - **OCTOBER 22ND: HOPE HOUSE**
 - **OCTOBER 29TH: COMMUNITY GARDEN**
 - **NOVEMBER 5TH: MEN WHO CAN COOK (HOPE HOUSE)**
 - **NOVEMBER 12TH: HABITAT/ STREET CLEAN-UP**
 - **NOVEMBER 21ST:: FOOD BANK (AFTER SCHOOL DELIVERY)**
 - **DECEMBER 3RD: KEEP COVINGTON BEAUTIFUL**
 - **DECEMBER 10TH:COMMUNITY GARDEN, STREET CLEAN-UP**
 - **DECEMBER 17TH: HABITAT, BLUE STAND**
 - **JANUARY 7TH: JAMES STOREHOUSE**
 - **JANUARY 14TH: HABITAT**
 - **JANUARY 28TH: STREET CLEAN-UP**
 - **FEBRUARY 4TH: COMMUNITY GARDEN, HABITAT**
 - **FEBRUARY 18TH: PARK RE-SURFACING**
- Projected a picture of our 14 “legacy” seniors who have had either a father or grandfather graduate from SPS! We hope their sons will one day grace our campus – along with the sons of all of our alumni!
- Invited Nick Ashton to speak about Wolf Jam – which he did!
- Thanked the student body for their response to Stuff the Bus – over 10,000 pounds of food were collected by the six Catholic Schools of west St. Tammany.
- And then, for the last time, I invited the seniors to lead us in the Fight Song – which they did!
- Ran out of time before I could do more recognitions, which will roll over to the next – and last -- assembly. Since it was the last assembly for our seniors, I thanked them for putting up with my bi-weekly meetings over the years. I thanked them for putting up with my classical music, especially Baroque composers. I apologized to them if I omitted one of their accomplishments worthy of assembly recognition. I wished them God's blessings and assured them of my pride in their accomplishments.
- I then encouraged the boys to attend the Wednesday morning 7 am mass as an excellent way to get the most out of the Easter season. As **Junior Hanzala Hussein** extinguished the prayer candle, 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.

New Oak Tree Lighting: Many thanks to Mr. Mark Daigle, father of junior Nikita Daigle, for installing beautiful lighting around the two oak trees between the two gyms. Hope you get to see them. I am grateful to him and his company, B & D Signs, for all the signage and now lighting that they have provided -- gratis.

Service Opportunities:

- **CEEP, Christ Episcopal Enrichment Program**, is an educational outreach program of the church for low-income children entering grades 3-6. They would love to have some wonderful SPS young men volunteer to serve as counselors with them this summer to earn service hours. This is a great program, and I hope some of our students can help. Contact Christ Episcopal Church in Covington for more info.
- **Family Promise.** *St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Mandeville will be hosting families this summer June 11-17. If any of your young men are interested in earning some service hours with us we'd love to have them! The time each evening would be about 6:00-8:30. And if they'd like to join us for supper that would be about 5:30. The times, of course, are flexible and we'd be very happy and grateful for anytime someone is able to give. Each of the young men from St. Paul's that we've had the privilege of meeting have been outstanding! Hopefully these dates fit someone's schedule. Please give my contact information to anyone who might be interested: Pat Jensen H - [985-321-7582](tel:985-321-7582) C - [281-797-8337](tel:281-797-8337); pat.jensen.ejr@gmail.com*
- One of our students, Cullen Irwin is volunteering this summer to work at Christ Episcopal's at risk children's summer camp by teaching guitar lessons three days a week. He is seeking donations of old guitars to buy guitars to give to the students at the end of the month long camp. If you have an old guitar and want to get rid of it, contact Cullen at cullen.irwin.2019@stpauls.com or bring the guitar to school and we will get it to him.
- **Warm Hearts Drive:** The Lasallian Leader's project 'Warm Hearts' project will collect new and gently used blankets, coats, hats, socks and gloves. They will collect the entire week after Easter holidays (not spring break) and stored until next winter. This is a great opportunity as you do your "spring cleaning" to get rid of unneeded warm items that can help those in need.

Alum News: College graduation announcements are beginning to arrive. Congrats to:

- Christian Bergeron: Has been accepted into the LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport
- Christopher Ikner: BS in Accounting from LSU
- Vincent Orlando: BS in Civil Engineering from LSU
- Larry Perrin: BBA in Business Administration from Texas Christian University
- Brian Schmitt: BA in International Finance from Spring Hill
- Michael Sitarz: BS in Physics AND BS in Mathematics from University of Alabam



Eco-car Wolves pose with the results of their work this past year.

Post Easter Holidays (not spring break) Grooming and Dress Issues: Our guys are starting to look shabby. It's not summer yet and we will continue to enforce our rules until the end of school. Parents: please help by trimming hair, making sure he shaves (if applicable), check his uniform before he leaves and encourage good hygiene. Help us by insisting your son conforms to policy. I'm not willing to ignore these rules during the final four weeks.

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.**
- Interested in having part of the new gym named after you? Contact me and we'll talk!
- **And we need grandparent support!** Please invite them to participate if they are able or I'll invite them with your permission. Just send me names and addresses.

2017 - 18 Calendar: We will start on Monday, August 7 WITH A FULL DAY OF INSTRUCTION and NO book day – which corresponds to what we did this year. Please plan vacations accordingly.

Senior Graduation Information:

- Monday and Tuesday, May 1 & 2: regular schedules for seniors; full days of school
- Wed, May 3: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice which will be before 3
- Thu, May 4: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice which will be before 3
- Fri, May 5: one exam in the morning followed by short graduation practice and distribution of caps, gowns, and graduation ceremony tickets. **Each senior will be issued EIGHT (8) tickets. The tickets are handed directly to the senior on this day. We are not responsible for lost tickets and they will not be replaced. Tickets and caps/gowns will NOT be issued to any student who still has an obligation to the school.**
- Mon – Thu, May 8 - 12: seniors **do not** report to school unless they are coming for an awards ceremony or AP Exam
- Thu, May 11: Athletic Awards Ceremony; only senior athletes need attend
- Fri, May 12: Academic Awards Ceremony. Only those seniors getting awards need attend in dress uniform. Final graduation practice (if needed) at 10 am.
- Sat, May 13: the 106th Commencement Exercises of The Saint Paul's School; 4 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Doors will open at 3 and **admission is by ticket only.** The beautiful ceremony, **within the context of a Catholic mass**, lasts about two hours.
- Note: Everything seniors need to know for graduation will be part of a printed set of instructions given to them on Friday, May 5th. I will also email a copy to senior parents.

Free Athletic & Band Physicals will be given at Pinnacle Orthopedics (1200 Pinnacle Parkway) at 7 am on Saturday, May 6

Summer Camps: SPS offers the following camps:

- Boys (8-14) Sports: baseball, football, wrestling, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, speed/strength
- Robotics (rising 5th – 8th graders)
- Video Production (boys and girls, 10-14)
- Creative Writing (boys and girls 10-14)
- Drama (boys and girls 9-13)
- For more information, consult our website: www.stpauls.com

From the Mothers' Club: The Mothers' club is collecting used uniforms this week. We are also collecting required novels from this year's English class. All items may be dropped off at the bookstore before school or the Admin Bldg.

H of the W: In honor of Star Wars Day on May 4:

- Q: Which program do Jedi use to open PDF files? A: Adobe Wan Kenobi
- Q: Which website did Chewbacca get arrested for creating? A: Wookieeleaks
- Q: Why did Anakin Skywalker cross the road? A: To get to the Dark Side.
- Q: Why is Yoda such a good gardener? A: Because he has a green thumb.
- Q: And why can't you count on Yoda to pick up the tab? A: Because he's always a little short.
- Q: When did Anakin's Jedi masters know he was leaning towards the dark side? A: In the Sith Grade.
- Q: Why do Doctors make the best Jedi? A: Because a Jedi must have patience.
- Q: How is Duck tape like the Force? A: It has a Dark Side, a Light side and it binds the galaxy together.
- Q: What do you call a potato that has turned to the Dark side? A: Vader Tots.
- Q: What do you call a Sith who won't fight? A: A Sithy.
- Q: Why is a Jedi knight never lonely? A: Because the force is always with him.
- Q: Where does Princess Leia go shopping for clothing and such? A: At the Darth Maul, of course.
- Q: How do Ewoks communicate over long distances? A: With Ewokie Talkies
- Q: What do you call 5 siths piled on top of a lightsaber? A: A Sith-Kabob!
- Q: What do you call a Jedi in denial? A: Obi-Wan Cannot Be Q:
- Q: What do you call a nervous Jedi? A: Panicking Skywalker.
- Luke and Obi-Wan walk into a Chinese restaurant. Ten minutes into the meal, Luke's still having trouble with the chopsticks, dropping food everywhere. Obi-Wan finally snaps, "Use the forks, Luke."
- OK, I'll stop!

A Look Ahead

May

- 1 – ABCD
- 2 – EFGA – Pack Time (last one for seniors)
- 3 – BCDE – Senior Exams
- 4 – FGAB – Senior Exams
- 5 – CDEF - Senior Exams
- 8 – GABC
- 9 – DEFG – Pres Assembly – Band Awards
- 10 – ABCD
- 11 – EFGA – Athletic Awards in AM
- 12 – BCDE – Academic Awards in AM
- 13 – Senior Graduation in BAC 4:00 PM
- 15 – FGAB – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 16 – CDEF – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 17 – GABC – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- 18 – 9-11th Final Exams begin
- 19 – 9-11th Final Exams – **Pre Freshmen Promotion & Awards in BAC at 6:30PM (yes, this is the correct date). This is a liturgy of the word and a very nice ceremony!**
- 22 – Final Exams
- 23 – Final Exams
- 24 – Records Day

Please stress with your son the need to follow all rules in this last stretch of the school year. We had a couple of students make bad decisions recently. They are suffering consequences, as we will not overlook these poor decisions. We will teach until the end. Let's start the final stretch of our school year on a positive, problem-free note.



Looking for an original gift for your St. Paul's graduate or alumnus? Want something unique to St. Paul's that he can keep for a lifetime? We have a limited number of heritage prints from local artist Bill Habeney for \$25. Each 8"x10" print is ready to frame in an 11"x14" mat. Contact the Development Office to get yours today!

And even though it's May of 2017, I will still close with a paraphrase from one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to now and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's School! I wish you a blessed week!

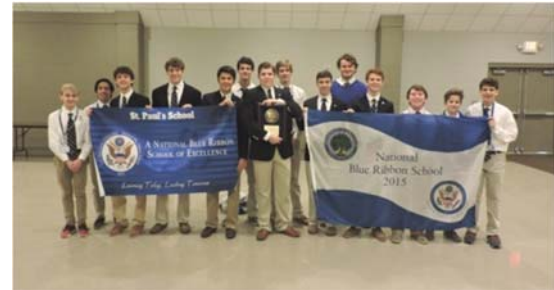
Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can't Believe It's May and I'm Still the 17th Christian Brother President/CEO 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 2017, and always!



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



7



Ten seniors smile after honoring their moms with two-minute tributes at the M-S Brunch!