



The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter
February 19 - 25, 2018



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

In his Meditation 17 from *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions*, written in 1624, the great seventeenth century English metaphysical poet John Donne wrote some of his most famous lines: *No man is an island, entire of itself. Each is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.... Each man's death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind. Therefore, send not to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee.*

Last week's tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas School in Parkland, FL, dramatically underscores Donne's words: We are all diminished by the tragedy; the funeral bells of victims toll for all of us. So what is our response?



On the secular level, we will review our crisis and safety plans and practice our drills. We will seek additional guidance from authorities as to best practices for violence prevention. We will continue our vigilance in identifying students who might be experiencing distress or displaying at-risk behaviors. We will continue to provide suicide prevention education (identified by experts as crucial to helping potential students with a propensity toward violence). We will continue to stress peaceful conflict resolution. And perhaps most importantly, we will proactively encourage our students and parents to report any credible, potential act of violence or instance of student instability (whether spoken, written, or, especially, posted on social media) and ask parents to reinforce that message with their children. We will report any credible threat to authorities. We will ask parents to speak with their sons about guns and violence – and to insure that they do not have unauthorized or unsafe access to weapons.

On the spiritual level, we will commend the victims to our merciful God. We will beg God to send his peace, which surpasses human understanding, upon the victims' families and friends. We will ask for God's help in protecting the young and helping them to make choices that affirm life and promote health.

And on the Lasallian level, as followers of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, the founder of the Christian Brothers and protector of the young, we will remember that despite how horrible an event is, Lasallians spread peace. Despite the destruction caused, Lasallians pray. Despite how weakened we become, Lasallians find strength. Despite how discouraging we may feel, Lasallians find hope. Despite how darkening our times, Lasallians shed light.

At this time of loss, let us renew our commitment to care for each other. Let us be vigilant in our mission of protection. Let us renew our commitment to make safe choices for ourselves and for others. Let us accept challenges that seem beyond us, reject limitation, be kind to one another, smile, take care of each other & love each other -- in short, to be people of God.

Mon, Feb 19 (PRESIDENT'S ASSEMBLY; G A B C)

- **This Day in History:** In 2013, we formally dedicated the **Briggs Assembly Center** – a blessing to SPS. We remain extremely grateful to the David Briggs Family for making this wonderful facility possible.
- **TDIH:** In 1878, the technology that made the modern music business possible came into existence in the NJ laboratory where Thomas Alva Edison created the first device to both record sound and play it back. He was awarded U.S. Patent No. 200,521 for his invention--the phonograph. We've come a LONG way!
- **TDIH:** In 1968, *Mr. Roger's Neighborhood* debuted on PBS. *It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood....*
- **Did You Know (SPS Centennial Trivia):** In 1918, nineteen Christian Brothers assumed control of Saint Paul's. They had left France in 1904 due to religious persecution. They settled in Mexico and started schools there but had to leave in 1914 when Mexican bandits overran the territory. They barely escaped with their lives. After spending time in New York, they came to Covington to run Saint Paul's School in the summer of 1918. We are indebted to this group of courageous men who brought the Lasallian Mission to Covington.
- **Presidents' Day:** From The History Channel: *Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present. And now you know!*
- **Chocolate Mint Day:** Enjoy!
- **Bowling:** SPS v. Hammond at Tangi Lanes
- **Baseball:** Varsity at Newman (6:30)



Tue, Feb 20 (Regular; D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 1962, John Hershel Glenn Jr. is successfully launched into space aboard the *Friendship 7* spacecraft on the first orbital flight by an American astronaut.
- **DYK:** In the 1970s, Saint Scholastica agreed to allow its girls to form a dance team to perform with the Marching Wolves. This was the beginning of The Golden Blues who continue to perform so well today
- **Presidents Day:** We honor the 44 men who have had the incredible privilege of serving as President of the US. Question: if President Trump is the 45th president, why are there only 44 names? Grover Cleveland served two non-consecutive terms, becoming both the 22nd and the 24th president. But you knew that!
- **Cherry Pie Day:** Did you know cherry pie is the second most popular pie in US, second only to apple?
- **Pre-Freshman Explore Test during periods D & E**
- **Baseball:** 8th v. Rummel (4 & 6)

Wed, Feb 21 (7 am mass in chapel; Regular; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1972, President Richard Nixon becomes first sitting US President to visit The People's Republic of China. Arriving in Beijing, the president announced his breakthrough visit to China is "The week that changed the world."
- **Did You Know (SPS Trivia):** Despite the financial hardships of the time brought on by The Great Depression, the Classes of 1929 & 1930 gave Saint Paul's an arched gateway for the campus entrance on Jahncke Avenue, which was taken down in the late 1950s because modern day delivery trucks could no longer fit under the arch. The entrance remained "archless" until the Class of 1995 made a gift of the new archway to the school. The project was spearheaded by the Jacobs Family (Jeff, '95) and Mrs. Judy LaCour, the school's development director at the time. A little known fact is that there is a plaque on the arch dedicating it to Coach Gene Bennett. Next time you pass the arch, stop for a moment and read the plaque and its inscription. And thank the Jacobs Family for their generosity!
- **Freshman PLAN testing during periods A & B**
- **Basketball:** Playoff exhibition v. St. Michael's
- **Bowling:** SPS v. St. Thomas at Tangi Lanes



Briggs, Carter, and Gill present a spiritual bouquet to Mr. Baumgartner, put together by his students.

Thu, Feb 22 (Regular; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** George Washington was born in Virginia on Feb 11, 1731, according to the then-used Julian calendar. In 1752, however, Britain and its colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar that moved Washington's birthday a year and 11 days to Feb 22, 1732.
- **TDIH:** In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge delivered first presidential radio broadcast from White House.
- **TDIH:** In 1980, the underdog U.S. hockey team, defeats the four-time defending gold-medal winning Soviet team at the XIII Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York.
- **DYK:** In 1955, a new gym was constructed. The project was largely accomplished through donated materials and the Brothers and students actually did much of the work themselves including Brother Alfred. The next time you see Brother Alfred on campus, ask him about installing the floor in the present day gym. Prior to building the gym, Saint Paul's had to play its games at the old Covington High School gym (which was located where William Pitcher is now located) because the Saint Paul's gym was not regulation size. And of course, you know that our theater was that gym! Today we are blessed with our new gym – and our old gym, too!
- **Single Tasking Day:** Concentrate on one task at a time today without feeling guilty about wasting time!
- **Be Humble Day:** Today is the day to practice humility! And we've all got things to be humble about.
- **Baseball:** Varsity in WGNO Classic v. Ouachita (4:30) & Ruston (7)
- **St. Peter Adult Formation Committee** presents a Growth in Faith tonight at 6 pm. Fr. Mark Raphael, Ph.D., will present "Exploring the Life and Ministry of St. Peter the Apostle" in St. Mary's Hall. A light dinner begins at 6:00 with the presentation to follow at 6:30. For info, call the parish office at 892.2422.

Fri, Feb 23 (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1896 - The Tootsie Roll was introduced.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, U.S. flag was raised on Iwo Jima. Joe Rosenthal's photo, showing 5 Marines & 1 Navy man struggling to hoist the flag pole, became the most reproduced photograph in history and won a Pulitzer Prize.
- **National Inconvenience Yourself Day:** Often, we think that our lives and schedules are more important than some else's. We inconvenience other people to make our own lives easier and forget the impact of our actions on others. Concentrate today on trying to make someone else's life easier and happier rather than focusing on ourselves – I know what you are saying: if I wanted to make our lives more convenient, I would not write newsletters!
- **Baseball:** Varsity at Chalmette
- **Wrestling:** Jr Hi/JV in USA State Meet at Bro Martin through Saturday
- **Track Meet the Team (5 in cafeteria)**



Marching Wolves head into Wal-Mart for special needs parade – always a special event.

Sat, Feb 24

- **TDIH:** In 1803, the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice John Marshall, decides *Marbury vs. Madison* and confirms the legal principle of judicial review--the ability of the Supreme Court to limit Congressional power by declaring legislation unconstitutional--in the new nation.
- **TDIH:** In 1868, the House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson, who was later acquitted by the Senate. Trivia question: who was the only other US President to be impeached? Answer at end of newsletter.
- **DYK:** The 1926 graduating class presented a bronze statue of the Sacred Heart, erected near the center of campus. Later that year, the Brothers added a grotto of Our Lady. The Sacred Heart statue remained until it was destroyed in the Dixon Hall Fire of 1981. The current Sacred Heart statue in Founders Circle is a replacement. The grotto, which was located by the old bar b que pits on Jefferson Street, remained until 1985 when it was removed because it had fallen into disrepair. Two grottos of Our Blessed Mother have taken its place: one in front of the theater and one in front of the chapel.
- **National Tortilla Chip Day:** Enjoy your favorite chip today
- **Lacrosse:** JVA & Var at Pascagoula; JVB/Wolf teams in Crawfish Shootout at Youngsville sports complex
- **Powerlifting South Regional Championship at PJP in Slidell**
- **Baseball:** Varsity at Franklinton (11:30); 9th double header v. N'shore (10)
- **District Literary Rally:** Wolves travel to SLU for academic competition!

Sun, Feb 25

- **TDIH:** On this day in 1827, a group of masked and costumed students danced through the streets of New Orleans marking the beginning of Mardi Gras.
- **TDIH II:** In 1862, The U.S. Congress passes the Legal Tender Act, authorizing the use of paper notes to pay the government's bills. This ended the long-standing policy of using only gold or silver in transactions, and it allowed the government to finance the enormously costly Civil War long after its metal reserves were depleted.
- **TDIH III:** In 1807, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is born. Although not read much today, Longfellow was an American literary giant of the 19th Century. Who can forget his immortal poem “Evangeline” or the opening lines of “Paul Revere’s Ride”: *Listen my children and you shall hear / Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere....*
- **Lasallian Secondary Schools Chief Administrators Conference:** Trevor and I leave today to join our colleagues from throughout the RELAN (Region of Lasallians in North America) at our annual conference. We meet this year in Orlando and, God willing and Southwest Airlines cooperating, we return Wednesday night. Joe Dickens and Ken Sears will keep things going in our absence.



I draw the following to your attention in alphabetical order, nor necessarily order of importance:

Admissions: This Thu, Feb 22, we will mail acceptance letters to next year's new students – as will all Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese. Both quality and quantity for SPS are good! People will have two weeks to accept our offer with a registration fee. I am grateful to counseling department and administrative team for acting as an Admission Committee. The group vetted every single applicant.

Alumni News:

- Burke Irwin '14: The Los Alamos National Laboratory, part of the Department of Energy, awarded Burke a place in their Computational Physics summer workshop – a very prestigious position. Here's some info on the program. <http://www.lanl.gov/org/padwp/adx/computational-physics/summer-workshop/index.php>
- Trey Braud '16 wrote a wonderful reflection piece in The Clarion Herald about a recent mission trip to Mexico. It's worth the read: <http://clarionherald.org/2018/02/04/a-summit-experience-in-every-physical-spiritual-sense/>
- Christian Rabalais '17 spoke to students on 2/08 about his “gap year” doing missionary work in the inner city of Washington, DC – which is having quite a positive experience on him.

Anniversary Events: During 2018, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Christian Brothers assuming ownership of Saint Paul's School in 1918, thus returning to the Archdiocese of New Orleans after an absence of many years. Here are some of the events already underway or in the near future:

- The first – and biggest – event is the renovation of Benilde Hall. A contract has been signed and much work has begun. It will be “a mess” for the next six months, but worth the inconvenience.
- Did You Know tidbits of SPS history in the newsletters.
- On Jan 29th, we invited guests and prospective donors to a Benilde Hall Renovation Reception from 6:30 – 7:30 in the BAC to officially kick off the campaign for the building project. Thanks to all who made this event!
- On Jan 29th and 30th, we had a Walk through History. Those who were here in 2011 during the centennial celebration of the school’s opening will remember this display of SPS history. All religion classes visited and the public was invited during specific times between 11 and 1 on Mon and Tue.
- I am most grateful to the development team for coordinating all of these events! And more is in the works.



Ben & Gabe prepare for Mardi Gras parade!

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 do not 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 will 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 is important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!
- 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 so I can show an increase in AF participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

Attendance: Please make the following part of your New Year Resolutions: If your son is absent, phone Suzy in the Attendance Office before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1280, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns.**

Benilde Hall: An extensive renovation of Benilde Hall has begun. It will be a challenging semester for us until the project is completed in early August – but the benefits will outweigh the inconvenience. More classrooms, better restrooms, an elevator, improved lighting and HVAC, additional ingress and egress, student services, and more. In case you don’t know its history, Benilde Hall was built in 1959 under the principalship/presidency of the late Brother Cassian Lange. The second and third floors were open dormitories for 6th and 7th grades. The

bottom floor contained study halls and recreation rooms. When SPS dropped 6th grade, the first two floors were converted into classrooms. Interesting trivia: Trevor had one of those non-air conditioned classrooms and bought a window unit – making it one of the few air-conditioned classrooms on campus. It was cool but that unit was loud! The third floor remained a dormitory for 7th grade. When we dropped 7th grade, the third floor became the band room! (Imagine lugging all those instruments up three flights of stairs!) The current band room was a rec hall for the boarders. When the number of boarders started dropping, we moved the rec hall into La Salle Hall and converted the third floor to classrooms. And now we begin the latest (and last – at least for me!) incarnation of that storied (pun) building! Saint Benilde! Help us turn that ordinary building into an extraordinary one!

Calendar for 2018-19: We have finalized the 2018-19 calendar. Here are some important dates:

- Aug 6 & 7 Teacher meetings
- Thu, Aug 9 Classes begin; Full Day of Instruction (same day as public schools)
- Thu, Aug 23 Senior March through the Arch
- Mon, Sep 03 Labor Day Holiday
- Fri, Oct 05 Fall Break Holiday (Parish Fair Holiday)
- Fri, Oct 12 End of 1st quarter; 11 dismissal followed by Grandparent Day
- M – F, Nov 19 – 23 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Wed, Dec 19 End of 1st Semester; Christmas holidays begin at 11:45 following last exam
- Mon, Jan 07 Classes resume; second semester begins
- W – F, Jan 9-11 Senior Retreat
- Fri, Mar 1 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- M-F, Mar 4 -8 Mardi Gras holidays
- F-F, Apr 19-26 Easter Holidays
- W-F, May 1-3 Senior exams
- Sat, May 11 Senior graduation (4 pm)
- Fri, May 17 Pre-freshman promotion ceremony
- T-F, May 21-24 Final exams (9-11)
- Tue, May 28 Conflict Exam Day; Records Day

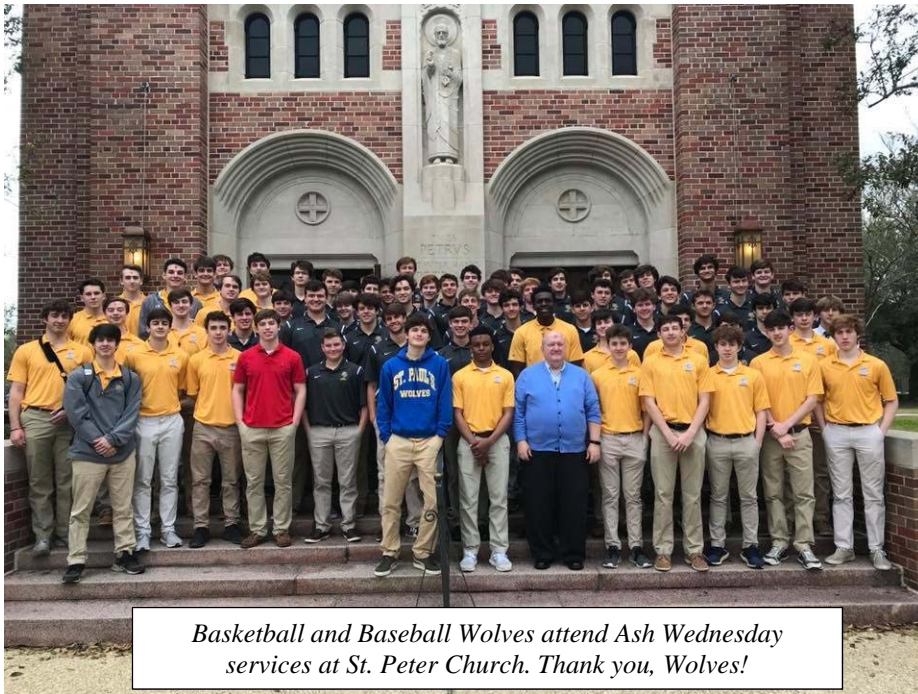


*Parker drives toward goal.
(Photo by Travis Connelly of NOLA.com/The Times- Picayune)*

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:** We receive store credit from customers who give 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:** Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..
- **Jefferson Auto Service North at 1429 Collins Blvd in Covington offers specials and discounts to Saint Paul's families and donates a percentage of sales to SPS.** In addition, they offer free shuttle to and from JAS from SPS. Call them at 985-809-1890 to schedule oil change, repairs, etc. Only genuine NAPA auto parts are used.



Centennial Year: During 2018, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Christian Brothers assuming ownership of Saint Paul's in 1918, returning to the Archdiocese of NO after an absence of many years. In 2018, we have activities planned to celebrate this milestone in SPS's history – the bringing of the Lasallian dream to Covington. The first – and biggest – event is the renovation of Benilde Hall (see above). More on these events later, but in addition to Benilde Hall, I re-instated the Did You Know feature that I used for our Centennial Celebration of the school's founding during calendar year 2011.

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

Driving: I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2018 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.

ID Cards: As part of our safety plan, students are required to wear their ID cards on their SPS issued lanyard on a DAILY basis. **Check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he receives detention. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.

Lasallian World: February 13 was the thirty-sixth anniversary of the death of Brother James Miller. As a young Brother, he expressed a deep desire to work in Central America. He loved working with the poor, especially the indigenous of Guatemala. As the army began campaigns of repression and genocide against them, Hermano Santiago remained firm in his commitment to serving them. Asked by his relatives if he was afraid, he quipped in a letter: *"Are you kidding? I never thought I could pray with such fervor when I go to bed."* A month before his death, he wrote home: *"... the Church is being persecuted because of its option for the poor. Aware of numerous dangers and difficulties, we continue working with faith and hope and trusting in God's Providence."* While patching a wall outside of the boarding school for indigenous boys (which protected them from being kidnapped into the army), Brother James was shot down by three assassins. The Catholic Church has named him a Servant of God, the first step toward sainthood.

Last Two Weeks:

- **ACT:** Another well-administered test!
- **ASVAB Testing:** We hope it helps our seniors with their career choices
- **Baseball:** BB Wolves practiced, scrimmaged, and hosted Meet the Team.
- **Basketball:** Thrilling wins over M'Ville, F'Bleau & Sou Lab set stage for playoffs. Stay tuned!
- **Bowling:** Bowling Wolves practiced and attended SSA playoff game for support.
- **Counseling:** Congrats to counselors for successful ASVAB Testing for seniors. ASVAB is a vocational aptitude test that can be helpful for our seniors in determining career paths.
- **Lacrosse:** LAX Wolves played two games on 2/17 against a strong team from Alabama. Both JV and Varsity won! Congrats, LAX Wolves!
- **Marching Wolves:** the MWs (including the AFJROTC Color Guard and Golden Blues) acquitted themselves in exemplary fashion during Mardi Gras. They deserve our thanks and praise. And the Band Boosters deserve special kudos for their incredible support system. And if you haven't seen the YouTube video of the Walmart parade, it's worth a three minute look. Here's the link:
<https://youtu.be/HtOIGzO7RZU>
- **Mexico Exchange Program:** Six SPS students (Blake Bollinger, Ben Broussard, Chris Gement, Ryan Lavin, Trey Paine, and Brock Zornes), accompanied by Trevor Watkins and Liz Brett began their two week exchange program at Colegio Christobal Colon, a Lasallian school in Mexico City. In addition to the cultural, linguistic, and educational experiences, they experienced a 7.2 earthquake! All are well! They return this weekend.
- **Parent Conferences:** Thanks to those who attended. As turnout was light, I assume things are going well!
- **Retreat:** Our faculty had a wonderful retreat day on Feb 09. Thanks for starting your holidays early to allow for this important activity for our staff.
- **Soccer:** Thrilling wins v. Brother Martin, Northshore, and Lafayette propel Wolves into the state finals this coming Saturday for the eighth consecutive year! Geaux Soccer Wolves!
- **Track:** Indoor state meet was Sat. Wolves finished 11th overall, but 4 x 800 Relay Team of Stephen Schlottman, Frankie Durio, Evan Hendry and Luke Paille finished FIRST! Congrats!
- **Wrestling:** District & Parish Champion Wolves finished 4th in State! Congrats! And Grant Hughes finished second in state in his weight class! Congrats, Wrestling Wolves!

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, put your son's name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

Money: Parents, please stress with you son that they should NOT bring large sums of money to school. There is no need for students to have large cash amounts – which they invariable talk about which tempts others.

The Paper Wolf: The Journalism Class updates the DIGITAL Paper Wolf each class period, thus keeping it relevant and interesting. The Scholastic Press Association recently named TPW BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER in the STATE of LOUISIANA. Wow! We encourage you to SUBSCRIBE which will email you alerts when new content is added. Support the staff 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!

Phones: Please stress with your sons the need to follow school phone rules. Students must turn OFF phones in class and may only use them outside (between classes or at lunch.) A \$10 fine is assessed for violating the rule – which, unfortunately, is happening way too frequently.

Pornography Assembly: I hope you have addressed this topic with your son. Yes, it can be a bit uncomfortable but it is a growing problem in society – and your son has such easy access to it with his phone. Archbishop Gregory Aymond is asking all parishes and schools to address the issue and to offer assistance if needed. An excellent way is via the website www.covenanteyes.com . Here is the Archbishop's letter that was read in all Catholic parishes on 2/18:



On Ash Wednesday, we will begin our 40-day Lenten journey. During this time, God will call us to look carefully at ourselves and identify our weakness and sin. In so doing, we can undergo a change of heart and draw closer to the Lord Jesus.

The church suggests that this is accomplished through prayer, fasting and sacrifices. I pray that your Lenten journey will be a time of blessing and new life.

As we begin Lent, we look at our society and identify ways in which we are tempted to stray from the way of the Lord.

I wish to identify one: pornography.

It has become common in our society and darkens the lives of many. Children can become challenged and addicted. This Lent in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, we are inviting parents, parishes, schools and all organizations to learn more about this common struggle and to protect ourselves and others, especially our children.

We are calling next weekend "Safe Haven Sunday." Your parish has resources that will be given out to you on Safe Haven Sunday and throughout Lent to address this issue.

One of those resources is the book "Equipped," a parenting guide written by the archdiocese in collaboration with Covenant Eyes, a Michigan-based company that for nearly two decades has been at the forefront of internet accountability by equipping people to protect themselves and their families from online dangers.

Covenant Eyes has dealt with many questions that people face. How can I teach my children to use the internet with integrity? How do I guard my own heart and remain pure online? How do I serve as an example to my family and church?

The book “Equipped” is a parenting guide that discusses the sexualized culture we live in today. Pornography is one of the temptations people experience in our culture, and we pray not to be led into temptation.

Some may wonder why we are making such an emphasis on pornography. I don’t think it is overstating things to say that “porn has become the norm.” Some school children are addicted by the time they are in the seventh or eighth grade. The church must address this issue in order to fulfill its ministry. Many parents are not aware their children view pornography. We can help them.

This educational awareness and prayerful focus on pornography will be ongoing. Plans already are being made for the resources and guides for next year.

May Lent be a time of conversion and new life as we seek God’s mercy. May your 40-day Lenten journey be blessed.

Please pray for the success of our important pastoral initiative.

We will, Archbishop Aymond. We will.

Registration of Current Students for 2018 - 19: Here is the process:

- Current 8th graders were emailed registration materials in Jan. The deadline was Feb 2 as we needed to know if any current 8th graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9th graders we can accept.
- Current 9th – 11th grade students were emailed registration materials this week, with a return deadline of Feb 9th.
- Current 12th graders – well, they don’t have to worry about registering for SPS next year! Rejoice!
- In all re-registration for 2018 - 19, a \$300 registration fee was due.
- **If your son is not returning to SPS next year, please let me know so I can accommodate those students who are applying for next year.**

Saint Joseph Altar: Dr. Ann Kay Logarbo will again spearhead the Saint Joseph Altar – always a special event for SPS. This will be Dr. Logarbo’s 20th altar and the 14th at SPS. The **Altar** will be on St Joseph’s Feast Day this year, **March 19**. Please offer to send food items needed at the signup genius link below. Just copy and paste in your browser to access. www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0C45A9A82CA0FF2-stjoseph1

ROSARIES made from last year’s blessed roses are PRE-ORDER/PRE-PAYMENT only. Please send checks made to cash to P.O.OX 983, Covington, 70434. ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE MARCH 10, 2018

- **COOKIE MAKING DAY** will be on **Saturday, March 10** in the cafeteria. We start at 9 sharp and usually finish well before 1 pm. Service hours are offered for SPS, SSA and any other schools your children may attend. Bring a rolling pin and clothes that can get flour on them. Please email Ann Kay if you can attend at alogarbo@charter.net. PLEASE SEND SERVICE HOUR FORMS WITH YOUR STUDENT.
- **ALTAR SET UP** will be on Sunday, **March 18** from 3-5 pm. Please bring your sons (more service hours) and come help us set up the Altar.
- **MONDAY, MARCH 19th** is Altar Day:

- PLEASE BRING FOOD COOKED AND COVERED IN DISPOSABLE PANS. WRITE THE NAME OF THE ITEM ON THE COVER AS WE WILL HAVE SEPARATE WARMERS.
- IF YOU ARE BRINGING FRUIT, IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE BRIGGS CENTER ON THE 18th.
- WE WILL NEED AT LEAST 60 MOMS THERE FOR LUNCH. PLEASE SIGN UP ON SIGNUP GENIUS. MOMS WILL WEAR A SPS SHIRT.
- TAKE DOWN IS FROM 230-430...MORE SERVICE HOURS OFFERED.
- There is NO MEAT on the ALTAR...seafood OK.
- Dr. Logarbo's EMAIL IS alogarbo@charter.net; Send her any questions.
- Thank you, Doctor, for your incredible devotion to Saint Joseph – and Saint Paul's School!

Last year's St. Joseph Altar...



Service Hours: As a Lasallian Catholic institution, we are called to demonstrate "Concern for the Poor and Social Justice." Our school wide response to this calling is our Serve Ten program. Every St. Paul's student is required to complete a minimum of ten (10) service hours during the school year. Service hours must be completed and submitted by May 1st, 2018 Acceptable service is that in which you volunteer with a charitable organization (like the Covington Food Bank and local churches), assist the elderly, help someone less fortunate in the community, or assist at fundraisers for charitable organizations. . Assisting family is admirable, but does not count towards the service hour goal. You can find service hour forms on the SPS Edline homepage under "Links". Completed forms should be signed and turned in to the drop-off box in the library. You can also send electronic submission of the forms as well as any questions relating to service hours to Mr. Ramon (j.ramon@stpauls.com)

Social Media: Want up-to-date news on all of the good things happening at Saint Paul's School? Get event and classroom pictures, latest scores, calendar reminders, and spiritual uplifting by liking our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana/> or following us on Twitter @SPSWolfpack. The strength of the Wolf is in the pack! Many thanks to Mimi Montiero for maintaining our social media information.

St. Peter Adult Formation Committee presents a Growth in Faith on Thu, Feb 22. Fr. Mark Raphael, Ph.D., will present "Exploring the Life and Ministry of St. Peter the Apostle" in St. Mary's Hall. A light dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. with the presentation to follow at 6:30. For info, please call the parish office at 985.892.2422

Tutoring: National Honor Society tutoring has resumed, according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning at 7:15 in La Salle 207
- Monday and Thursday at lunch in LaSalle 207.
- Essay proofreading services also provided.
- Please encourage your son to take advantage of this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so.**
- **The third quarter ends in three weeks (can you believe it) so if your son needs help, tell him (don't just ask!) to attend tutoring.**

Uniform Shirts, pants, etc: We have pre-owned uniform shirts and khaki pants and sweatshirts in good condition if your son has outgrown his and purchasing new ones is difficult for you. Just have your son come to the Admin Bldg. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son.

Vaping: I'm sorry I have to mention this, but please speak to your son about the dangers involved in this latest fad. We continue to hear anecdotal reports of vaping by our students and have even taken disciplinary action against several of them who vaped at school events. We will continue to be vigilant and take strong measures against violators. Covington PD informs us that it is **AGAINST THE LAW** for minors to purchase vaping equipment. Make sure your son knows this – and complies with your wishes, school rules – and the law



Spanish I class writes letters in Spanish to pen-pals.

Weekly Humor: In honor of tortilla chip day on Sat:

- *What do you call cheese that isn't yours? Nacho cheese!*
- *Why did the burrito blush? It saw the salad dressing!*
- *What Tex-Mex food is good at math? Inch – a- ladas!*
- *What do you call a tortilla chip that works out? A macho nacho!*
- *What does a depressed tortilla say? I don't want to taco bout it.*
- *What do you get if you eat onions on your beans? Tear gas*
- *Why can't you trust a burrito? In case it spills the beans.*
- *How do tacos say grace? Lettuce pray.....*
- *What do you call a dangerous burrito? Gangster wrap!*
- *Did you see the weather forecast? Yes; cold today; hot tamale!*
- *Have you heard the joke about the tortilla? It was corny!*
- *Waiter, this taco tastes funny? Then why aren't you laughing?*
- *How do taco chefs live their lives? By seasoning the moment!*
- *Why did the baker open a tortilla factory? For the extra dough!*
- *They put a taco restaurant on the moon: great food but terrible atmosphere!*
- *Did you eat my Dalmatian taco? Yeah, it really hit the spot!*
- *Why are you on the roof of the taqueria? The waiter said the chips and salsa were on the house!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

West 30's Clean Up Day: The 2018 version of the Covington Cares About the West 30's clean-up day is coming up on Saturday, March 3rd – less than two weeks. We are hoping for a strong SPS presence to help this section of Covington. Here is the info:

- ***Second Annual*** - The first event held in May 2017 drew over 200 volunteers. Let's make this year's event bigger & better!
- ***Challenge*** - Many in the West 30's neighborhood feel that their struggles have been largely overlooked by Covington while families living there have faced poverty, unemployment, pervasive drug use, crime and sub-standard housing conditions.
- ***Objective*** - Community relations building. This is an opportunity for people representing a broad spectrum of Covington to show some love to the residents of the West 30's.
- ***Who Will Participate?*** Teams of persons from area employers, schools, churches, government agencies, police officers, fire fighters, and community leaders will join residents of the West 30's for two hours of cleaning up trash and litter in the West 30's neighborhood.
- ***What Will They Do?*** Teams will go to specific areas in the neighborhood to clean up trash and litter and to greet residents with a smile and a warm hello!
- ***Why Pick Up Trash?*** This simple, humble act communicates respect for the West 30's and love for the people who live there. We all find it easier to have pride in areas that are cleaner and look nicer. Anything that makes the West 30's better makes us all better.
- ***Where Do We Start?*** There will be a brief introductory program starting at 8:30 AM at Rev. Peter Atkins Park at 701 North Tyler Street @ West 28th Avenue in the covered pavilion, before we start our clean-up work at 9:00 AM.

- ***What Difference Does it Make?*** An old proverb says, “A chain is only as strong as its weakest link”. If the West 30’s is the weakest link in Covington, we will make all of Covington stronger and better by making the West 30’s stronger and better.
- ***Service Hours for Students!*** Students who participate may register to get credit for service hours from this community project.
- ***Grilled Burgers, Hot Dogs & Jambalaya!*** After we finish the clean-up work, we will enjoy free hot dogs and hamburgers on the grounds of Faith Bible Church at 1148 N. Columbia Street. Also, free jambalaya compliments of K-Gee’s.

Yearbook: The 2017-2018 Conifer is now available for purchase at www.yearbookforever.com for \$65. The **deadline to order is May 25, 2018**, and only a very limited number of extra books will be ordered. ALL seniors will automatically receive a yearbook and do not need to pre-order one, but **Senior Ads must be placed by May 14, 2018**. This a great way for families to leave a lasting message for their sons. Go to www.yearbookforever.com to place your Senior Ad. Remember, you must spell out the word "Saint" in Saint Paul's School when ordering a book or placing an ad.

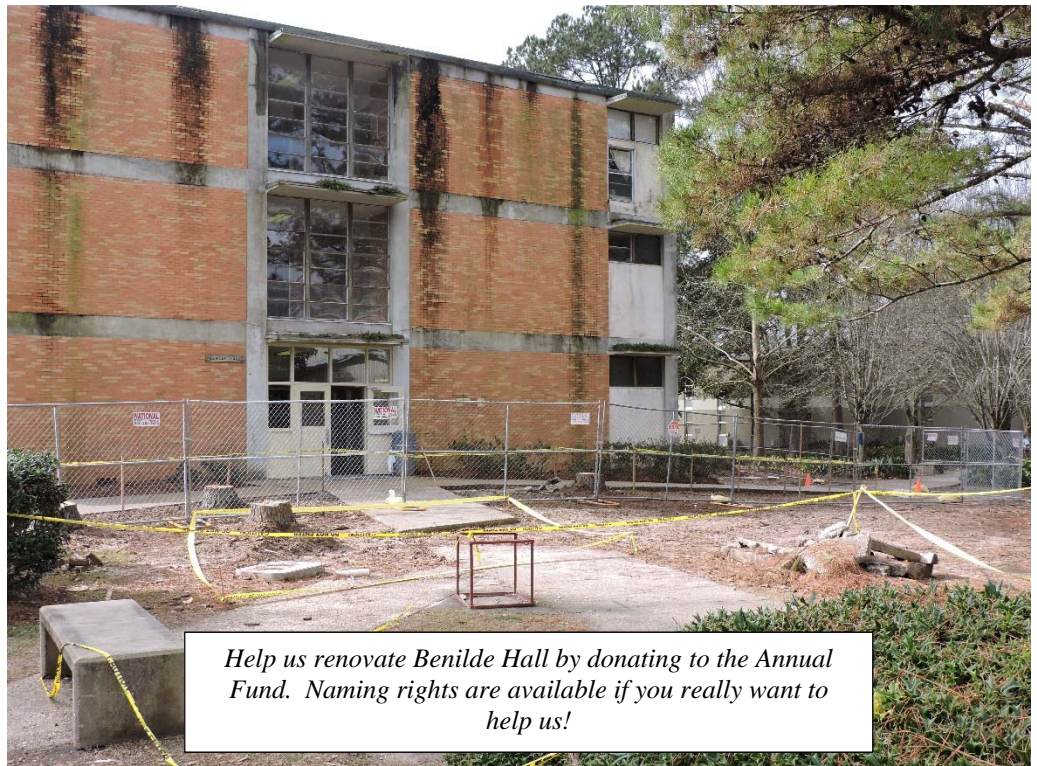
A Look Ahead:

February

- 19 – GABC – President’s Assembly (yes, this is a change from the usual Tuesday because of testing)
- 20 – DEFG – Pre-Freshmen take Explore test (BAC) during periods D and E
- 21 – ABCD – Freshmen take PLAN test during periods A and B in the (BAC)
- 22 – EFGA – Sophomores take Pre-ACT (BAC) –
- 23 – BCDE
- 26 – FGAB – Senior Day with Archbishop Aymond at OLL. All seniors must attend.
- 27 – CDEF – Juniors take ACT
- 28 – GABC – Pack Time

March

- 1 – DEFG
- 2 – ABCD
- 5 – EFGA
- 6 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
- 7 – FGAB
- 8 – CDEF
- 9 – GABC – End of 3rd Quarter
- 12 – DEFG - 9:00 Late Start
- 13 – ABCD – Pack Time
- 14 – EFGA
- 15 – BCDE - Junior Retreat/Angola



Help us renovate Benilde Hall by donating to the Annual Fund. Naming rights are available if you really want to help us!

- 16 – FGAB – Junior Retreat/Angola
- 19 – ABCDEFG- St. Joseph Altar
- 20 – CDEF – Pack Time
- 21 – GABC
- 22 – DEFG – Celebrity Waiters Dinner
- 23 – ABCD
- 26 – EFGA
- 27 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
- 28 – FGAB
- 29 – CDEF

April

- 9 – GABC
- 10 – DEFG – Pack Time – 8/9 *HR Breakfast in BAC*
- 11 – ABCD – 10/11 *HR Breakfast in BAC*
- 12 – EFGA – 12th *HR Breakfast in Cafeteria*
- 13 – BCDE
- 16 – FGAB – 9:00 Late Start for Faculty In-Service
- 17 – CDEF – President’s Assembly – *Teacher Appreciation Lunch – Snack Day*
- 18 – GABC – Mother-Son Dinner in BAC
- 19 – DEFG
- 20 – ABCD
- 23 – EFGA – President’s Assembly
- 24 – BCDE – Pack Time (last with seniors)
- 25 – FGAB – Senior Exams
- 26 – CDEF – Senior Exams
- 27 – GABC -- Senior Exams – Final Day for Seniors
- 30 – DEFG

May

- 1 – ABCD
- 2 – EFGA
- 3 – BCDE
- 4 – FGAB
- 7 – CDEF
- 8 – GABC - Pack Time
- 9 – DEFG – Level Awards Assemblies
- 10 – ABCD – Athletic Awards Assembly BAC
- 11 – EFGA – Major Academic Awards Assembly BAC
- 12 – Senior Graduation (4 pm in the BAC; admission by ticket only)
- 14 – BCDE
- 15 – FGAB - Pre freshmen Exams



- 16 – CDEF - Pre freshmen Exams
- 17 – Pre freshmen Exams /9-11 Exams
- 18 – 9-11 Exams /Pre freshmen Promotion in Evening
- 21 – Exams
- 22 – Exams
- 23 – Exam make up day



Congrats to Kevin Moore, Susie Duplantier, John Glorioso, Paul Scoriels, Gerald Ancar, Lee Pierre and Ann Pressley for begin chosen as special teachers by the senior basketball player Luke, Colin, Devonte, Parker, Chandler, Gavin and Blake. The team honored them at the Ponchatoula game.

Whew! Enough for now.

Even though it's already February of 2018, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I'm listening to now as I complete the newsletter and LOLing): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we move into February! Again, thanks for being part of the 2017 - 18 edition of Saint Paul's! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Praying for the Safety of All as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



.....by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will, remaining faithful, and being guided to God by Our Lady of the Star!