



# The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter Celebrating 100 Years of Christian Brothers at SPS



November 26 – Dec 2, 2018

Welcome to the sixth week (can you believe it?) of the second quarter!  
Time marches on; all we can do is make the most of it.

On November 17, the entire Lasallian World began a yearlong jubilee celebration observing the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of our Founder, Saint John Baptist De La Salle that occurred on April 7, 1619. From the Christian Brothers' International website:

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Lasallian  
**Jubilee**  
Year

17 | NOV | 2018 — 31 | DEC | 2019

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*The Year 2019 marks the tricentenary of the death of Saint John Baptist De La Salle. The Superior General and his Council asked for and received permission from the Pope to establish a jubilee year dedicated to Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Founder of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and patron of teachers.*

*The date that this Lasallian Jubilee Year is set to begin is **November 17, 2018**. The Lasallian Jubilee Year will end on **December 31, 2019**.*

*Still today, after three hundred years and following the footsteps of John Baptist De La Salle, the great De La Salle family is made up of about 4,000 Brothers, who, together with 92,000 teachers, educators and numerous lay collaborators, assist – in about 1,200 educational centers in 80 countries around the world – 1,380,000 pupils, children, young people and adults. To this today, after three hundred years and in the footsteps of John Baptist De La Salle, the Brothers, present in eighty countries, are committed to spreading the Gospel and culture among young people.*

SPS will observe this jubilee year as we honor the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of SJBDSL. Stay tuned!  
*Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!*

**Mon, Nov 26 (Classes resume with a regular schedule (remember those?); G A B C)**

- **This Day in History:** In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs a bill officially establishing the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.
- **Cyber Monday:** If you shop on-line today, consider using AmazonSmile & help SPS! See below for info.
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Lafayette; 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas in Hammond

**Tue, Nov 27 (Assembly; D E F G)**

- **I Give Catholic Day.** Please consider a gift to SPS at <https://igivecatholic.org/#npo/st.-pauls-school>. Many thanks to the students and teachers who recorded videos for this campaign!
- **Basketball:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV at Rummel (5:30)
- **Wrestling:** Varsity at Holy Cross
- **Soccer:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. Mandeville Jr Hi (5:30)

**Wed, Nov 28 (Assembly; 7:15 am mass; A B C D)**

- **TDIH:** In 1520, after sailing through the dangerous straits below South America that now bear his name, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan enters the Pacific Ocean with three ships, becoming the first European explorer to reach the Pacific from the Atlantic. He had left Europe over one year earlier.
- **TDIH:** In 1582, William Shakespeare marries Anne Hathaway. Trivia: how many children did they have? Answer at end.
- **French Toast Day:** Enjoy this iconic breakfast item.
- **Red Planet Day:** The date of the unofficial holiday commemorates the day in 1964 when NASA and the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) launched Mariner 4, a robotic interplanetary probe. In the 8 months it was on its mission, Mariner 4 became the first spacecraft to fly by Mars successfully. It also gave the world the first close-up images of Mars. Since then, several exploratory missions have been sent to Mars to gather data about the planet. Today, 5 spacecraft orbit Mars and 2 spacecraft - the Curiosity Rover and the Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity - are on the planet's surface. All 7 send incredible amount of data about the planet back to astronomers on Earth
- **Basketball:** Varsity in CYO Tournament through Saturday (sites TBD)



*Seniors clown during recent pep rally!*

**Thu, Nov 29 (Regular; E F G A)**

- **TDIH:** In 1963, President Lyndon Johnson issued Executive Order No. 11130, appointing the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy—commonly referred to as the Warren Commission, after its leader, Chief Justice Earl Warren – to investigate the assassination of President John Kennedy, which had occurred one week earlier. The Commission ultimately concluded that a lone gunman, Lee Harvey Oswald, killed Kennedy. Controversy over that conclusion continues to this day.
- **Band Field Trip:** Nov 29 Band field trip to LPS's open rehearsal of Pictures at an Exhibition and Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto.
- **Soccer:** Varsity in COPA Tournament; 8<sup>th</sup> v. FJH (5:30)

**Fri, Nov 30 (Regular; Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle; B C D E)**

- **Happy Feast Day to the 32 students and faculty who have Andrew as their first or middle names!**
- **TDIH:** In 1782, Great Britain and the US sign a provisional peace heralding the end of the Revolutionary War. The final treaty was signed in Paris the following Sept. It declared the US “to be free, sovereign and independent states” and that the British Crown “relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety and territorial rights of the same.”
- **TDIH:** In 1835, Samuel Clemens is born. He wrote books under the name Mark Twain including *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.
- **TDIH:** In 1874, Winston Churchill was born. In May 1940, he became Prime Minister of England, stating “I have nothing to offer but blood, tears, toil, and sweat.”
- **Wrestling:** JV in Trygg Tournament at Grace King)

**Sat, Dec 1**

- **Word to Begin December:** After you gormandized on Thanksgiving, beware of oniomania (the uncontrollable desire to buy things) in Dec! Let’s not become oniomaniacs this month! For you etymology lovers, the word comes from the Greek “onios” meaning “for sale” and the Latin “mania” meaning “excessive desire.”
- **TDIH:** In 1955, Rosa Parks is jailed in Montgomery, AL, for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white man in violation of the city’s racial segregation laws. This sparks the famous Montgomery Bus Boycott and earns her the moniker “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.”
- **Eat a Red Apple Day:** Delicious – and healthy, too! Enjoy!
- **Cross Country Christmas Fun Run**
- **Soccer: Varsity in COPA tournament; 9<sup>th</sup> & JV in Gulfport**
- **Wrestling: JV in Trygg Tournament; SPS Jr Hi Tournament**
- **Basketball in CYO Tournament**
- **Band in Madisonville Christmas Parade (2)**

**Sun, Dec 2 -- First Sunday of Advent: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel!***

- **National Fritters Day:** Indulge with a fritter, a fried cake filled with fruit or meat.
- **National Mutt Day:** For those of you with one of these, celebrate today
- **TDIH:** In 1823, during his annual address to Congress, President James Monroe proclaims a new U.S. foreign policy initiative that becomes known as the "Monroe Doctrine" which forbade European interference in the American hemisphere but also asserted U.S. neutrality in regard to European conflicts.



*Louis lights prayer candle at start of Nov 13 assembly.*



- **Hanukkah Begins At Sundown:** While we Christians prepare to celebrate Advent and Christmas, our Jewish brothers and sisters are preparing to celebrate Hanukkah, which begins today, Dec 2, at sundown this year and ends at sundown on Dec 10. We extend our very best wishes to our Jewish brothers and sisters who will begin this evening to celebrate Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights. Unlike Christmas, which is always on December 25, Hanukkah is a movable feast. Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. It also commemorates the miracle of the oil that burned for 8 days. We wish our Jewish brothers and sisters a blessed and joyful celebration of Hanukkah!

**I offer the following in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance.**

**ACT Prep:** SPS is very proud of our ACT scores – but we want to do even better. And ACT Prep is a marathon, not a sprint – it can't be done a week or two before the test. The time to start is years ahead. AP Joe Dickens promotes the following two sites that provide a free ACT question of the day. Encourage your son to use these resources. Make it a family activity! Have fun with competition! Here are the links:

- <https://academy.act.org/> (a lot like Khan Academy regarding its prep work and video tutorials)
- <https://www.varsitytutors.com/act-questions-of-the-day> -like Khan Academy regarding prep work and video

**Adopt-a-Family:** This school year, we will be partnering with St. Tammany Project Christmas. We have "adopted" 35 children from 16 families in St. Tammany Parish. Each of these children has three wish list items that have been shared with the religion classes. As in the past, we will ask for monetary donations that will be collected through your son's religion classes to fund the purchase of the wish list items. In lieu of a monetary donation, if your family would like to purchase any of the wish list items, please reach out to Mr. Ramon for those details. In lieu of the above items, the sacrifice of time by helping shop for gifts and gift delivery to Project Christmas is always needed and appreciated. Questions? Contact Mr. Ramon ([j.ramon@stpauls.com](mailto:j.ramon@stpauls.com))

Here's the schedule:

- November 26 - December 7 (monetary collections through religion classes)
- Wednesday, Dec 5 & Thursday, Dec 6 (shopping)
- Tuesday, December 11 (delivery to St. Tammany Project Christmas HQ)

**Adopt a Family Project, Mission Collections, and Other Worthy Causes:** We encourage our students to be generous with these causes. However, I again want to reassure parents that we DO NOT want to cause an economic hardship for our families. Please speak with your son about charitable giving. Perhaps you can reread as a family the parable of the Widow's Mite. Our teachers are aware that not every student can give a lot – or even give at all. Let me know if your son is feeling uncomfortable with our appeals. And that goes for you, too. Let's face it – tuition does NOT cover the cost of running Saint Paul's. Hence, we have fundraisers. As stated above, I've launched our Annual Fund Drive, and if you can give, that's great – even if it's \$5. If not, I understand but ask that you pray for Saint Paul's. In turn, we pray for financial health for all.



*Sophomore Wolves take field trip to WW II Museum before Thanksgiving holiday!*

**Admissions for 2019 - 20:** Yes, we are already looking ahead to next year. Here is how you can help: If you know any family who might be interested in SPS:

- Shadow Days are over! Thank you for spreading the good word about SPS!
- Encourage any public school family that is interested in us to apply on time – this week. We give priority to those students who apply on time.
- **If a family missed Open House but still want to see the school, have them call for an appointment and I will be happy to show them around.**
- We rely on current and former families to spread the word about SPS! I know I can count on you!

**After School Issues:** Assignment Hall and detention are in full operation. Parents, please stress with your sons the need to do homework and follow rules. And if your son does end up in AH or detention, please establish a procedure for him to follow so that you are not wandering around looking for him. We tell the AH student to call their parents. We will provide a phone if needed.

**Alum News:** Louisiana Tech published an article on 2015 alum George Cazenavette, who graduates this spring with a TRIPLE major in cyber engineering, mathematics, and computer science. My mind reels at the thought! And in the article, George gives credit to SPS – and even works in a story on Marching Wolves! It's more than worth the read. Here' the link: <https://www.latech.edu/2018/11/19/george-cazenavette/> Congrats, George!



*Aqua Wolves pass the time at state meet with a little intellectual activity!*

**Annual Fund:** Recently, we officially launched our Annual Fund Drive – just like almost every other private school. You should have received in the mail a brochure explaining the drive and a response card. I’m humbled by the number of you who have anticipated the drive and have already sent in your donations. The success of this drive is critical to Saint Paul’s. Please keep us in mind as you plan your end of year giving. Again, thanks to all who have already contributed. We need everyone, to at least some degree, to follow suit. And, yes, gifts of stock are welcome and you can make your AF gift through the I Give Catholic Campaign on Tuesday.

**Application Letters:** I annually publish memorable lines from next year's application letters. Here's the first batch:

- *Saint Paul's School will help me learn proper etiquette. Etiquette will run through my life and knowing what is proper for a special activity will help me to more easily get a better job and will make a better impression of myself.*
- *I am currently an altar server. [We will also teach him how to spell altar!]*
- *In life, there is always that one teacher in school that you love, because they are fun but serious and they don't treat you like you're stupid. When I went to shadow day, I found that every teacher I came across was just like that.*
- *Brother Ray always motivates and encourages the students to do their best. [Abject flattery will get him admitted!]*
- *On my first day of visiting your campus, I fell in love with not only the lunch but also the feeling of being at home. [Glad he liked the lunch!]*



*Aqua Wolves won 3rd place (out of 35 schools) at the Allstate Sugar Bowl New Orleans Metro Championships!*

**Assembly:** I hope the students enjoyed our Nov 13 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening to a stirring rendition of the John Philip Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*, designated by an Act of Congress as our National March. We listened to this patriotic song since it was two days after Veterans Day – a day on which we honor all those who helped protect the freedom we enjoy! I reminded the students of the story of how Sousa composed this stirring march while in Europe on Christmas Day in 1896 in honor of a deceased friend.

Amazingly, he composed it in his head and didn't commit it to paper until his return to the US several weeks later. What a genius!

- As junior **Louis Marion** lit the prayer candle, we prayed in a special way for those who have entered God's Kingdom since our last assembly: **Mr. Richard Kratzer, Grandfather of Graydon '20 & Grisham '23 Hall; Mr. George Cordes, Great-Grandfather of Tristan Cordes '23; Mr. Anthony Stanton, Grandfather of Michael '16 & Nicholas '19; Mr. William Lambert, Grandfather of Connor Camp '21**
- Recognized and welcomed a group of 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who were visiting SPS that morning. I also recognized and welcome two other guests: Ms. Merle Dooley who ministered at SPS for over 30 years and Mr. Steve Furches, who taught at SPS for over ten years.
- I then reminded the students that our mission statement calls for Saint Paul's to have strong academic, athletic and extracurricular activities in a safe and disciplined environment and then proceeded to offer examples.
- Recognized and congratulated SPS faculty member Mr. John Carambat, who is an accomplished actor in local productions. Mr. Carambat starred in Playmakers' production of "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" and he actually built the car that is one of the major props in the show!
- Recognized and congratulated juniors **Tyler Beard and Hal Fox** who qualified for the National Catholic Forensics League Grand National Tournament in Washington, DC. Almost 600 school participated. Hal and Tyler, in their first year of debating, had the best showing of any team in Louisiana.
- Recognized and congratulated the Student Hosts who helped on Open House.

- Recognized and congratulated the following juniors who joined their fellow Lasallian students from De La Salle & Rummel to participate in Falcon Spirit Day at Christian Brothers School, City Park Campus: **Grant Addison, Kristian McHugh, Andrew Moore, Ben Klein, Sean Hightower.** Mrs. Kristin Lagraize went as chaperone



*Ben, Kristian, Andrew, Grant, and Sean participate in Falcon Day at Christian Brothers School in City Park.*

- Recognized and congratulated the AP Scholars for 2018, an honor received by scoring a **3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.**  
**From the Class of 2018: Bradley Anzalone, Patrick Baldone, Max Catalanotto, Luc Hebert, Hanzala Hussain, & Kevin Schneider. From the Class of 2019: Eli Applebaum; John Paul Bourgeois; Nicholas Briggs; Brennen Calato; Cole Chitwood; Colin Cottrell; Hyde Healy; Michael Philippe; Waleed Sultan; Ian Varney; and Matthew Vicknair**
- Recognized and congratulated the AP Scholars with Distinction, granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. From the Class of 2018:



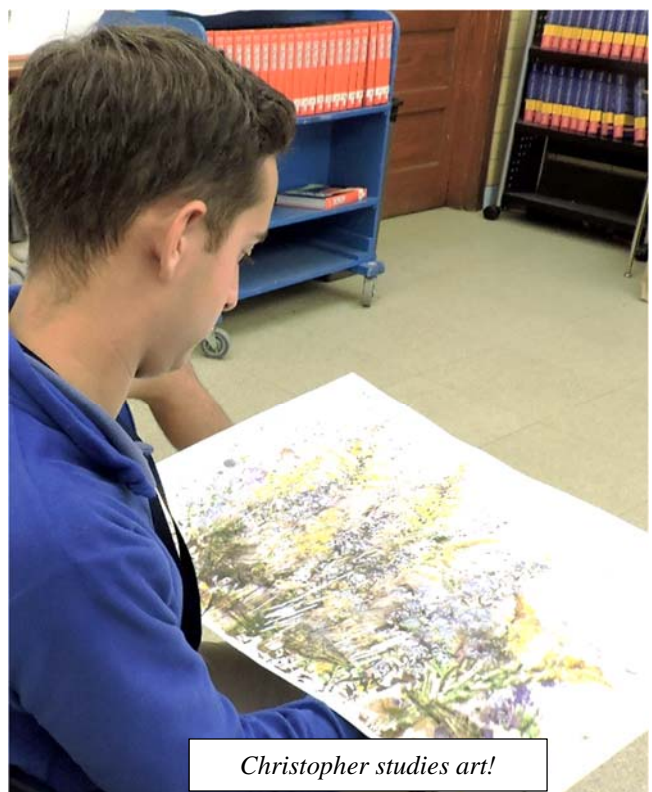
**Matthew Borgatti, Jack Nunez, & Andrew Smith. From the Class of 2019: Joshua Devier, Jackson Gold, Cullen Irwin, David Needles, and Andrew Norlin.**

- Recognized and congratulated the **AP Scholar with Honor** -- Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. From the Class of 2019: **Jonathan Bertucci, Beau Franklin, Ross Hightower, Luke Paille, Blake Ramsey, Noah Savoie, and Jack Schwartz**
- Then, as if by magic, The Water Music by George Frideric Handel started playing – signifying the Aqua Wolves are swimming. I recognized and congratulated the AOs for winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the **Allstate Sugar Bowl New Orleans Metro Championship (35 schools from St. Tammany, Orleans, Jefferson, St. Charles, and Lafourche parishes); Here are individual results:**
  - 200 Medley Relay: 3rd place - Jesse Cheng, Drew Putfark, Austin Peak, Jacob Eilers
  - 200 Free: 8th - Cameron Smith; 11th - Alex Rawls (PR); 13th - Christian Kramer (PR)
  - 200 IM: 7th - Austin Peak (PR); 12th - Drew Putfark (PR)
  - 100 Fly: 6th - Jesse Cheng (PR)
  - 500 Free: 8th - Cameron Smith (PR); 11th - Alex Rawls (new state qualifier and PR); 15th - Christian Kramer
  - 200 Free Relay: 6th - Jacob Eilers, Scott Messa, Alex Rawls, Cameron Smith
  - 100 Back: 4th - Jesse Cheng (PR); 8th - Austin Peak (PR)
  - 100 Breast: 3rd - Drew Putfark (PR); 16th - Evan Abraham (new state qualifier and PR)
  - 400 Free Relay: 4th - Austin Peak, Cameron Smith, Drew Putfark, Jesse Cheng; David Barcelona (100 Fly, PR in the 100 Breast); Brady Billiot (PR in the 100 Breast); Mason Byrne (PR in 100 Free); Bradford Day (50 Free, PR in the 200 IM); Jacob Eilers (PR in the 50 Free and 100 Free); Jack McNamara (PR in the 500 Free and 200 IM); Scott Messa (PR in the 50 Free and 100 Free); Harrison Juneau (50 Free, 100 Free); Jack Rodgers (200 Free), and Niko Williamson (100 Back)
  - **State Qualifiers for Nov 16 & 17**
  - Jacob Eilers - *swimming the 50 Free, will swim in relays*
  - Jesse Cheng - *swimming the 50 Free & 100 Free, will swim in relays*
  - Drew Putfark - *swimming in the 200IM & 100 Breast, will swim in relays*
  - Alex Rawls - *swimming the 500 Free, will swim in relays*
  - Christian Kramer - *swimming the 500 Free, may swim in relays*
  - Scott Messa - *swimming the 50 Free, will swim relays*
  - Austin Peak - *swimming the 200IM & 100 Back, will swim relays*
  - Evan Abraham - *swimming the 100 Breast, may swim relays*
  - Cameron Smith - *swimming the 200 Free & 500 Free, will swim relays*
- As time was running out, I
  - Introduced senior **Stephen Millet** who gave a brief history of Veterans Day;
  - Encouraged all to visit the special plaque in La Salle Hall dedicated to our SPS alumni veterans.
  - Recognized veterans on our faculty/staff: Mr. John Carambat, Mr. Mark Richards, Sgt Don Pressley, and retired Brother Duane Gregory. We also had a special veteran guest at assembly, Mr. Ron Hebert, who was speaking to some classes that day
  - reminded the students about Pvt. George Cox, SPS Class of 1951, who enlisted in the army following graduation to fight in the Korean Conflict – and was killed less than a year later. Upon her passing, George’s mother bequeathed a donation to SPS to memorialize her son, which he did so by remodeling all of the math classrooms

- Since we were observing Veterans Day, I told the students that we were going to sing “The National Anthem.” I gave them a brief history of the anthem: Francis Scott Key, The War of 1812, The Battle of McHenry guarding the Baltimore Harbor from the British Fleet and the ultimate adoption of the anthem by the Congress. I instructed them on anthem etiquette: singing the anthem instead of talking to friends, standing at attention, not wearing hats, placing hands over hearts ( or saluting by military or veterans) -- and then we started the music and I held my breath. The boys sang great! It was a moving moment!
- I ended the assembly by projecting the following Facebook Post on the screen, from a neighbor whose aunt (also a neighbor) was dying: *What an incredible gift for a very sick woman. Thank you to St. Paul’s Marching Wolves in Covington, LA for such an immediate thoughtful and respectful action. One of my aunt’s most favorite things about living in downtown Covington was listening to the Marching Wolves as they marched around the neighborhood. It was something she was going to be sorry to miss in the coming months as her condition deteriorated. To our great surprise, the band came around the corner just this afternoon. We threw open the doors to her house so she could hear. I flagged down the Band Director, Andrew Moran, and told him that my aunt was inside the house and how she loved hearing the band each year. I asked if they could play a song as they marched by. He and the young men did even more. They stopped and turned to face her house, bowed respectfully, and began to play a fun rendition of “I Want You Back.” My cousins, Adam Earhart and Gretchen Earhart Fischer, said that Aunt Ann perked up and smiled with she heard the band. The Marching Wolves completed their serenade with a thoughtful and touching prayer about “spreading love” and “sharing joy.” Which is exactly what those young men did today. With great love they gave a gift to my family and we are grateful. I hope those young men know how they touched our family today. Thank you to the St. Paul’s Marching Wolves. Go Wolves*
- As junior **Corbin Chitwood** extinguished the prayer candle, I ended by urging urged the students to be “the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit” to each and every person they would meet that day – and always.
- It was a great assembly -- at least I thought so!

**Athletics:** Two more Fall Sports seasons ended over the holidays. Special recognition and thanks to:

- **Aqua Wolves:** I can’t say enough great things about his incredible group of young men and their coaching staff. Day after day throughout the fall, these guys collectively swam many miles in practice and they receive very little acclaim. A small (only 9 qualified for state) but determined group of swimmers represented us in an exemplary manner and finished 4<sup>th</sup> in state! They deserve kudos for their 4<sup>th</sup> place in state. I hear Handel playing!
- **Cross Country Wolves:** Ditto the above for our CC Wolves. Week after week, very early on



Christopher studies art!

fall Sat mornings, these guys gather in Guiteau Plaza at 5:30 am to travel to their race site. And while they fell short in regaining the state title, they acquitted themselves in an exemplary manner, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in state. I hear Rossini playing!

**Attendance:** Our Attendance Office is being taxed to the max. Under ordinary circumstances, it is difficult enough to keep track of the students. When you call Suzy and request “immediate” dismissal for a student, it places an unfair burden on her. If a student must leave school early (which should be a RARE +++++ 6y

) please send a written note with your student and have him check in with the attendance office when he comes to school to get a dismissal slip for the time requested. This is the policy in our handbook – which you pledged to uphold at the beginning of the year when you signed. And we just can’t stop everything to deliver an assignment, a lunch, a message – we just don’t have the personnel. Thanks for understanding

### **Bookstore Christmas Hours from the Mothers’ Club:**

#### SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday, December 17th

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Tuesday, December 18th

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 19th

7:30 am – 12:30 pm

Normal bookstore hours are weekdays 7:30-8:15 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm. Proceeds benefit our students!

**Cash Back Programs:** Keep the following in mind when you shop:

- **AmazonSmile:** Last week, we received \$242 from Amazon Smile. This website, operated by Amazon, lets customers enjoy the same benefits of shopping on Amazon.com. The difference is that when using AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice – which we hope will be Saint Paul’s School! Click here to shop on AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-1638895>.
- **Office Depot:** Last week we received a \$325 store credit from customers who gave the SPS ID at the checkout. Our number is officially 70041640 but saying Saint Paul’s will do. With all we buy at OD (I’ll rant about this in a future newsletter!), this will help a lot.
- **Box Tops for Education:** Each top is worth 10 cents – which adds up quickly. Thanks Math Department!.

**Cold Weather Clothing:** Only Saint Paul’s outwear is permissible in cool/cold weather. **If your son needs an SPS sweatshirt and money is tight right now, just have him come see me. This will be handled confidentially and appropriately.** Remember that ONLY SPS cool weather clothing is allowed.

**Development Office:** Our Development team of Danielle, Shellie, Mimi, Karen and Al continue to work hard. I meet with them regularly. Appreciate and support their work. Recent events include:

- Launch of the Annual Fund on Nov 10. This appeal is critical to us moving forward. We published an Advancement Review. I have posted one in the Faculty Lounge. Pray for the success of the drive.

- Along with other Catholic organizations in the Archdiocese, we will participate in the I Give Catholic Campaign on Tue, Nov 27. This is an initiative by Archbishop Aymond to get the entire Community to support Catholic works. Videos were produced and emailed to constituents and posted on social media. We pray for the success of this day.
- And Mimi's social media posts deserve special mention! They are great and I hope you reference them.

**Drug Testing:** We have begun drug testing, choosing students both randomly and "for cause." Just because a student is tested does not mean he is suspected. Naturally, you may confidentially request that we add your son to the test list. We have committed more resources this year to increase the number of students tested. Know our policy by reviewing the handbook. A second positive result jeopardizes a student's place at SPS. Pray that students resist the allure of temporary pleasure over finding true meaning in life.

**Exams:** Semester exams begin on Dec 12. Remember that exams are SEMESTER exams that will cover the entire semester. The **semester grade** (the only grade that counts in GPA and the only grade on the transcript) will be averaged in the following manner: 40% for Quarter 1; 40% for Quarter 2; 20 % for the semester exam. Encourage your son, therefore, to take his exams seriously. **It's time to start reviewing.** A good review lasts several weeks and avoids last minute cramming. Learning how to study for semester exams will aid your son considerably in college. The whole exam schedule is printed at the end of this newsletter and is posted on PP.

**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. **Please check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he receives a detention. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.

**Homecoming Dance photos** were distributed before Thanksgiving holidays. If you ordered photos and did not receive them, call Expressions Photography at 985-809-6811.



**#iGiveCatholic:** Saint Paul's is once again participating in #iGiveCatholic on November 27, 2018. #iGiveCatholic is an online initiative to inspire the Catholic community to come together as faithful stewards and to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back to our community. The Archdiocese of New Orleans is also awarding prizes for the most number of gifts, so every donation counts!

We hope you have enjoyed the media students' videos on our social media sites all week and took advantage of the advanced day giving if we were able to do so. Visit

<https://neworleans.igivecatholic.org/organizations/st-paul-s-high-school> to donate to Saint Paul's School. All donations go to the Annual Fund which helps make this a good place to grow up for every student enrolled at Saint Paul's

School. Thank you for your generosity. **Contact Mimi Monteiro at [m.monteiro@stpauls.com](mailto:m.monteiro@stpauls.com) if you have any questions**

**Jubilee Year of Mercy** officially ended on Nov 20, 2016 – two years ago. But while the Jubilee Year may have ended, the importance of mercy in our lives can never end. That applies to us at SPS, too. Let’s continue to stress mercy with our students. We will continue to sing “Mercy” at assemblies and masses. May the grace of that Jubilee Year continue to inspire us to practice ever more ways to be merciful. Archbishop Gregory Aymond wrote back then: *Though the Jubilee Year is concluded, we must continue in our personal lives and as a community to be merciful. Jesus says: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy.” We live in a time of revenge, judgmentalism and name calling. We are invited to be merciful and to reflect the heart of Christ beyond this Jubilee observance. Mercy is every day and forever!*

**Last Two Weeks:**

- **Art:** SPS was represented in the Three Rivers Art Festival. I’ll recognize our winners at assembly.
- **Basketball:** Tough varsity loss to Jesuit, but 9<sup>th</sup> and JV beat the Jays!
- **C & V:** Thanks to the care and vigilance of our staff, we began the holiday with few problems. But we won’t let up! These next three weeks can be challenging! We will keep the students too busy to get in trouble!
- **Food Drive:** Congrats to LYLs for a successful food drive. We delivered over 10,000 pounds of canned goods to Northshore Food Bank.
- **Pre-freshman Retreat:** All went well – I am told!
- **Rotary Club Feed the Needy Luncheon:** Mrs. Gayle Benson was honored guest at Rotary Club’s Feed the Needy Luncheon in the BAC, the kick off to the annual event that feeds 1500 north shore residents at Christmas. Many thanks to Shellie Campo for working with Rotary Club to insure a successful event.
- **Shadow Day:** Our last Shadow Day went well. Thank you. Now, we wait. Encourage prospective families to apply on time – a major key in gaining admission for next year.
- **Soccer:** Lots of games and wins over the holidays – too numerous to list! Lots of wins!
- **Sophomore Service Day/WW II Museum Trip:** All went well and the days were well organized and meaningful.
- **Wrestling:** Wolves were active in hosting the annual Dale Ketelsen Memorial tournament last week.



*Aqua Wolves place 4<sup>th</sup> in state – a small, but talented and determined group of swimmers!*

**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. Please put your son’s name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

## News We Can Use Dept:

- **Smartphones & Surgeons:** A professor of surgery says students have spent so much time in front of screens and so little time using their hands that they have lost the dexterity for stitching or sewing up patients. Ouch! Read the article at <https://www.bbc.com/news/education-46019429>
- **Smartphones are linked to unprecedented sleep deprivation in teens.** An analysis of two large national surveys finds the number of U.S. teens who reported sleeping less than seven hours a night jumped 22 percent between 2012 and 2015, by which time 43 percent of teens reported sleeping less than seven hours most nights, though sleep experts agree adolescents need at least nine hours. Contributing factors in the smartphone effect are the portable nature of these electronics and the sleep disruption their blue light causes. See [the abstract](#) and [more on this story](#).
- **Alcohol use disorder in parents correlates with dating violence risk for teens.** New research finds that children exposed to a parent's alcohol use and its effects on the family are more likely to become involved in abusive dating relationships as adolescents. [See more on this story](#).

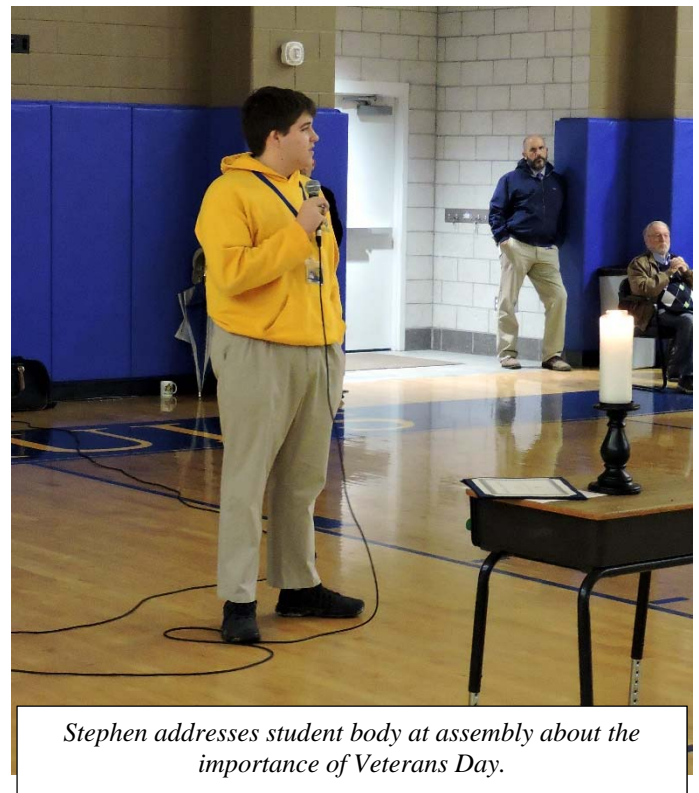
**The Paper Wolf:** We have an award winning digital newspaper, but readership is not where it needs to be. Last year's staff feels it's due in part to our no longer allowing devices during SSR. Regardless, we need to promote TPW. Please subscribe if you haven't already done so. Promote it with your classes and give an encouraging word to the staff. Thanks.

**PlusPortals:** Please check PP frequently to keep abreast of your son's grades and assignments.

**Report Cards and Semester Grades:** We emailed first quarter report cards four weeks ago. Check your spam folder if you didn't receive it. If it's not there, let me know and I'll send you another copy. Remember that the first quarter accounts for 40% of the semester grade, with the second quarter accounting for 40% and the semester exam accounting for 20%. Remember that the only grade that really counts is the SEMESTER grade – that's the one that goes on transcripts and is used to calculate grade point average.

**Re-Registration of Current Students for 2019 - 20:** For those of you who plan, here's the process:

- Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8<sup>th</sup> graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9<sup>th</sup> graders we can accept.
- Current 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12<sup>th</sup> graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2019 - 20, a \$300 registration fee will be due.



*Stephen addresses student body at assembly about the importance of Veterans Day.*

- **Also, if your son is not returning for the second semester of this year, please let me know ASAP. We are getting inquiries about January admissions.**

**Rosary:** a group of students recite one decade of the rosary each morning in the chapel, beginning at 7:40 on M, T, Th, and F and following mass on W. They would love to have your son join them.

**Safe Driving:** Parents – 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, buckle up, etc. Thank you!

**Senior Parents:**

- An important email was sent you last weekletter regarding the senior retreat. If you didn't receive it, email retreat coordinator Lee Pierre at [leep@stpauls.com](mailto:leep@stpauls.com)
- The official March through the Arch pictures are in! I don't want to just hand them to the seniors as many pictures will end up at the bottom of a book bag or the back seat of a car. If you are on campus, stop by the admin building for the picture. Or give your son a note authorizing him to get the picture for you – after you talk to him about treating the pictures with respect! These pictures are FREE, courtesy of Expressions Photography. Thanks, Expressions!

**Social Media:** Connect with the Wolves on Social Media to see the latest pictures and posts of all the wonderful events at St. Paul's School. The Facebook and Twitter feeds are on our newly re-vamped website, or you can follow us at

- Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana
- Twitter @SPSWolfpack



*Tyler & Hal in Washington, DC by qualifying for National Catholic Forensic League Tournament. They had the best score of any team from LA!*

**Spanish Cooking Club is looking for new members! Come join and enjoy some delicioso cuisine!**

**Study Hall after School:** the library is open every afternoon (Monday-Thursday) until 4:30. Students are free to come and go by signing in and out. You are encouraged to mention this service to your sons who are on campus after school with nothing to do or who may be waiting for a late ride or a practice to begin. All we ask is that they treat the facility with respect and that they are quiet. The space will be supervised by faculty. We will offer this service as long as there is a demand.

**Sunday Activities:** I remind you of the policy of Archbishop Gregory Aymond that Catholic schools are not to schedule any activity on a Sunday. Recently, Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. RaeNell Houston sent out the following clarification on participation of Catholic school students in events hosted or sponsored by an outside agency: *Schools*

may participate in activities on Sundays that are hosted or sponsored by an outside entity only if certain conditions are met. The participation of students on Sunday may only be voluntary. Never is an event to be mandatory on Sunday. The voluntary status of each event must be formally communicated to students and their families. Under no circumstance may punitive action take place, including any type of sarcasm, shame, or disgrace, as a result of the decision of the family for a student not to participate in a Sunday event. Anytime our school groups participate in a Sunday activity, it is up to the moderator of the group to see that the Sunday obligation of Mass is fulfilled. Naturally, we will comply with this policy of Archbishop Aymond and the Office of Catholic Schools.

**Thanksgiving to Christmas:** This period of the school year can be a real challenge. While it should be a time of good will and cheer, often we find ourselves handling a crisis. The best way to prevent any difficulty is through the Lasallian virtues of caring and vigilance – which will be in full force. Teachers will teach until the very end. **Parents, please remind your students to adhere to ALL procedures & policies and to think before they act.** We will show care to the students, but we will be vigilant.

**Tutoring:** National Honor Society tutor in the library according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning at 7:15
- Monday and Thursday at lunch
- 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.**

**Vaping:** I am sorry I have to mention this, but please speak to your son about the dangers involved in this latest fad. We are hearing 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. At last month's regular meeting with the Covington Police Department, we were informed that it is AGAINST THE LAW for minors to purchase vaping equipment. Please make sure your son knows this – and complies with your wishes, the rules of the school – and the law.

So concerned are we about this issue that we have called a special assembly on Wednesday of this week for medical personnel to address the students on the dangers on this last fad --- which the Center for Disease Control officially calls an "epidemic" among teenagers.



Sophomore restore housing on service day.



**Weekly Humor:** In honor of the start of soccer season, here are some soccer jokes:

- *What is a ghost's favorite soccer position? Ghou! keeper.*
- *Why can't Cinderella play soccer? Because she always runs away from the ball.*
- *Why don't grasshoppers watch soccer? They watch cricket instead.*
- *What kind of tea do soccer players drink? Penal-Tea*
- *What is it called when a dinosaur gets a goal? A dino-score!*
- *Which soccer player has the biggest cleats? The one with the biggest feet.*
- *Where do soccer players go to dance? The Futball*
- *What lights up a soccer stadium? A soccer match*
- *Why don't you play soccer in a jungle? Too many cheetahs!*
- *Why did the soccer ball quit? It was tired of being kicked around.*
- *Why do soccer players do so well in school? They know how to use their heads.*
- *How do soccer players stay cool at games? They stand near the fans.*
- *Why did the soccer player bring string to his game? So he could tie the score!*
- *What runs around a soccer field but never moves? A fence!*
- *What did the bumblebee forward say after getting a goal? Hive scored!*
- *How do birds cheer for their soccer teams? They egg them on.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



AP Scholars from the Class of 2019

**Yearbook:** The Conifer staff is hard at work on the 2018-2019 yearbook. Don't let time erase the memories your son is creating today!

- Pre-purchase 2018-2019 at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com). Yearbooks only available through online purchase.
- Remember to spell out the word Saint when searching for Saint Paul's School.
- Your son's homeroom teacher is his pack teacher. Don't remember? We'll find it for you before Aug.
- DEADLINE is March 15, 2019.

Senior parents: No need to order a yearbook, ALL seniors will receive a copy of The Conifer in August. However, you can create a personal ad for your senior NOW!

- Go to [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com).
- Search for Saint Paul's School (remember to spell out the word Saint).
- Choose to create a personal ad and get started!
- Deadline is March 15, 2019.
- It's simple but contact Mimi Monteiro at [m.monteiro@stpauls.com](mailto:m.monteiro@stpauls.com) if you have any questions.

### **A Look Ahead – Far, Far, Ahead:**

- Mon, Nov 26 Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holidays
- Tue, Nov 27 President's Assembly
- Mon, Dec 03 Late start for faculty meeting
- Tue, Dec 04 Pack Time
- Thu, Dec 06 Snack Day; Luminarias
- Tue, Dec 11 President's Assembly
- Thu, Dec 13 Exam reviews begin
- Fri, Dec 14 Semester Exams begin
  
- Wed, Dec 19 End of 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- Sat, Jan 12 Application Day for Prospective Students (8 – noon); Football Awards Ceremony
- Fri, Jan 25 All School Mass (Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul)
- Wed, Feb 20 On campus ACT for juniors
- Fri, Mar 01 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- M-F, Mar 4 -8 Mardi Gras /Beginning of Lent holidays
- Wed, Mar 13 Mother-Son Dinner
- Mon, Mar 18 St. Joseph Altar Day
- Thu, Mar 21 Celebrity Dinner Event
- Sat, Mar 23 Father-Son Dinner
- Sat, Mar 30 Junior-Senior Prom
- Sat, Apr 13 Alumni Crawfish Cook-Off
- F-F, Apr 19-26 Easter Holidays (not “spring break”)
- W-F, May 1-3 Senior exams
- M-T, May 13-16 Pre-freshman exams

- Fri, May 17 Pre-freshman promotion ceremony (6:30 pm)
- Sat, May 18 Senior graduation ceremony (4 pm)
- M – T, May 20-23 Semester exams for grades 9 – 11
- Fri., May 24 Conflict exam day
- Mon, May 27 Faculty Records Day

And it's not too early to plan for exams, so here is the first semester exam schedule:

## First Semester Exam Schedule -- December 2018

### Wednesday, December 12 – FGABC (5 period day) **SPECIAL 5 PERIOD SCHEDULE**

(68 min classes; 45 min lunch)

Chimes	8:00
Block 1	8:03-9:14
Block 2/SSR	9:21-10:44
Block 3	10:51-11:59
Lunch	11:59-12:44
Block 4	12:49-1:57
Block 5	2:04-3:15



*Seniors await start of their last 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter HR Breakfast.*

### Thursday, December 13 – **DEFG(A)**

Regular classes in periods DEFG - Review for Period A Exam

### **SPECIAL EXAM REVIEW SCHEDULE (76 min. classes With CNN&SSR)**

8:00 – 9:31	Period D/CNN
9:38 – 11:09	Period E/SSR
11:09– 11:54	Lunch
11:50 – 1:15	Period F
1:20 – 2:26	Period G (Last class period of semester)
2:31 - 3:15	Period A Exam Review

### Friday, December 14

### **SPECIAL EXAM/MASS/PRESIDENT'S ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE**

8:00 -8:15	Prayer, Roll and Announcements
8:15 – 9:45	Period A Exam
9:50-10:50	Advent Mass
10:55- 11:40	Period B Review
11:40-12:25	Lunch
12:30-1:05	President's Assembly (Gym)
1:05-1:15	Break
1:20 – 2:05	Period C Review
2:10	Dismissal

### **Monday, December 17**

8:15-8:30 Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
8:30 -10:00 Period B Exam  
10:00-10:10 Break  
10:10-11:40 Period C Exam  
11:40-12:25 Lunch  
12:30-1:15 Period D Review  
1:20-2:05 Period E Review  
2:10 Dismissal

### **Tuesday, December 18**

8:15-8:30 Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
8:30 -10:00 Period D Exam  
10:00-10:10 Break  
10:10-11:40 Period E Exam  
11:40-12:25 Lunch  
12:30-1:15 Period F Review  
1:20-2:05 Period G Review  
2:10 Dismissal

### **Wednesday, December 19**

8:15-8:30 Prayer, Roll and Announcements  
8:30 -10:00 Period F Exam  
10:00-10:10 Break  
10:10-11:40 Period G Exam  
11:45 Dismissal  
12:00 Faculty Christmas Luncheon in Cafeteria

Whew! I've taxed your patience this week, but you got a break last Sunday as the newsletter went on holiday! As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to any more since WWNO stopped broadcasting the show): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that things go well! We have already reached the sixth week of the second quarter! Time marches relentless on, and the only thing we can do about it is decide how we use each second of each minute of each day of each week of each month of each....OK, you get the idea. May the final weeks of 2018 (can you believe it?) be ones of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2018 – 19 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Renewed from Thanksgiving Holiday and Ready for the Last Three Weeks of the Semester as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

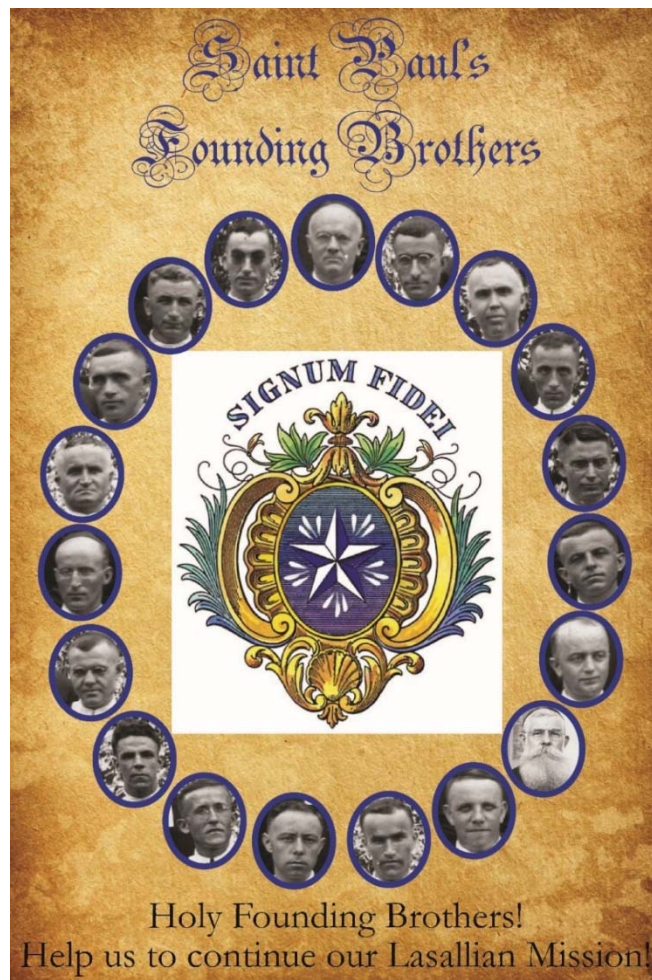
*"Young people are not bad because they have bad hearts. They are bad because of bad example. As teachers, you have no greater responsibility than to give your students good example."* Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Patron Saint of Teachers, c.1705 Meditations for Sunday



*Let's do ordinary things extraordinarily well, make courageous choices, do God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God and continuing the Lasallian Mission in these final weeks of 2018- and always!  
CQIRF - for three more weeks until Christmas break!*



Answer to Nov 28 trivia: Will and Ann had three children: Susanna, Judith, and Hamnet (yes, Hamnet, not Hamlet)







# Breakfast with Santa

**DECEMBER 1, 2018**

## **OUR LADY OF THE LAKE SCHOOL**

**MSGR. JOSEPH CHOTIN CENTER • 10:00 AM - NOON**

**TICKETS: \$55 EACH**

**RESERVE A PREFERRED TABLE FOR 6 GUESTS: \$375 PER TABLE**

**PRICE INCLUDES A PORTRAIT WITH SANTA DIGITAL PHOTO DOWNLOAD BY  
HEIDI BOWERS PHOTOGRAPHY**

Visit with Santa and receive a gift.  
Enjoy the children's activity area and story time with Mrs. Claus!

To purchase tickets,  
visit [ourladyofthelakeschool.org](http://ourladyofthelakeschool.org) or call (985) 626-5678.

**SPONSORED BY**

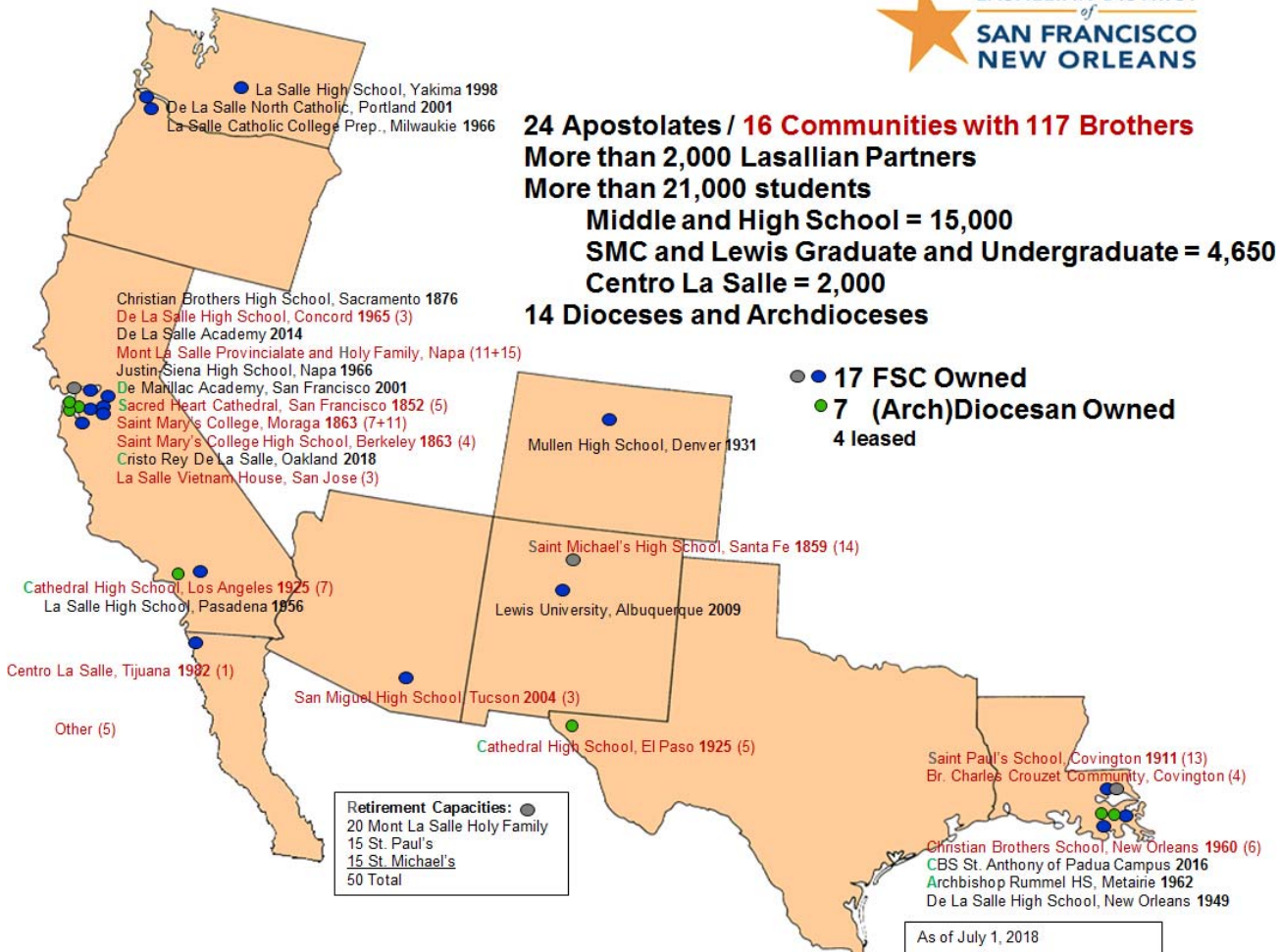
Reserve  
Now!

**LIMITED  
TICKETS**

**Pediatric**  
**DENTISTRY**  
MICHAEL J. VON GRUBEN, DDS

**Dr. Kathryn Oubre, M.D.**  
Board Certified Pediatrician

**Dr. John C. Oubre, M.D.**  
Board Certified Internal Medicine & Pediatrics







*Seniors surround statue of Saint John Baptist de La Salle to sing Fight Song following March through the Arch.*

