



# *The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*

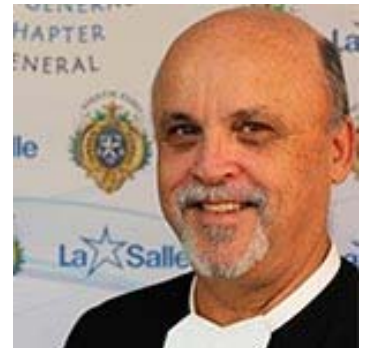


*April 29 - May 05, 2019 – Alleluia! He is Risen!*

Welcome back from Easter holidays (not spring break!) I pray that your time away brought spiritual, physical, and mental refreshment and renewal as we enter into the final stretch of the year.

May the grace of the Resurrection be with us! Accordingly, I offer the following from the Easter message of Brother Robert Schieler, Superior General of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, to all Lasallians:

- *Let us rejoice and be glad because the resurrection of Jesus Christ is at once very glorious for him and highly advantageous for all of us.*
- *It is glorious for Jesus Christ because by it he overcame death. It is advantageous for us because it is an assurance of our own resurrection.*
- *This year we celebrate the 300th anniversary of the encounter between the risen Christ and John Baptist de La Salle. The expectation of this meeting is what inspired de La Salle and motivated his work.*
- *We honor him and recall his memory because he points the way to Jesus Christ and invites us to discover the already present but not fully realized Reign of God through our educational service, especially with the poor.*
- *During this anniversary year, let us redouble our efforts to share the assurance of our own resurrection with our students and with all whom we meet. In this way, they too will have cause to rejoice and be glad!* \



*Let us rejoice and be glad because we are ambassadors of the risen Christ!*

## **Mon, Apr 29 (Regular; F G A B)**

- **This Day in History:** In 1862, Union troops take possession of New Orleans after Confederate General Mansfield Lovell surveyed his tiny force and realized that resistance was futile. If he resisted, Lovell told Mayor John Monroe, the city would be bombed, causing severe damage and casualties.
- **National Zipper Day:** Have you ever thought about what your life would be like without zippers? Backpacks, blue jeans, gym bags ... the list is endless. On April 29, 1913, Swedish-born scientist Gideon Sundback was issued a patent for his "Hookless Fastener." The rest is history. To commemorate this feat of genius, here are some fun zipper facts: The U.S. Army was one of the first users of the zipper, applying them to a variety of uniform parts and gear. Yoshida Kogyo Kabushibibaisha is the world's largest zipper manufacturer. You are likely to see "YKK" engraved on many of your own zippers. The world's longest zipper can be found at the hotel in Fort Lauderdale's Executive Airport. It measures 6,000 feet long and was commissioned as a publicity stunt for the hotel's nightclub, "Zippers."
- **National Shrimp Scampi Day:** Take a little pasta, a few plump, juicy shrimp, throw in a bit of butter, garlic and white wine, and what do you get? The elegance that is shrimp scampi, of course!

## **Tue, Apr 30 (Assembly; C D E F)**

- Today is the feast of Pope Saint Pius V. During his papacy (1566-1572), Pius V was faced with the crushing responsibility of getting a battered Church on its feet after being shaken by corruption, the Reformation, the threat of Turkish invasion and the bloody bickering of young nation-states. The Church's response was the Council of Trent, and Pius implemented the mandated reforms. No easy task.

- **TDIH:** In 1789, in New York City, George Washington, the great military leader of the American Revolution, is inaugurated as the first US president.
- **National Honesty Day:** Celebrate National Honesty Day in a completely open and honest way. There are few rules for this special day...just be honest.



Aidan & Konnor present AD Ketelsen with Rugby Championship Trophy!

- **National Bugs Bunny Day:** The first time audiences saw the wascally wabbit was on April 30, 1938, in a short cartoon called "Porky's Hare Hunt." In that first appearance, he was called "Happy Rabbit." Bugs did not utter his famous catch phrase, "What's up, Doc?" until he came face to face with Elmer Fudd in "A Wild Hare" in 1940.
- **Happy Birthday Saint La Salle!** On this day in 1651, John Baptist de La Salle was born. Let us pause a moment today to give thanks for the birth of this extraordinary saint and educator whose work we continue today!
- **Happy Birthday Louisiana!** From the official Louisiana Website: *On April 30, 1812, the United States admitted Louisiana as the 18th state into the Union. Louisiana was the first state to have a majority Catholic French- and Spanish-speaking population, reflecting its origins as a colony under France from 1699-1763 and Spain from 1763-1803. Following the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, Louisiana's road to statehood was not all smooth. Federal law required citizens of a newly admitted territory to apply to congress for statehood, and the admission of the*

*Orleans Territory as the 18th state followed years of lobbying efforts by prominent citizens—both American and Creole (French-speaking Catholics). Finally, in 1811, Democratic President James Madison signed the bill allowing the people of Louisiana to form a state constitution. Following the state constitutional convention in New Orleans, on April 14, 1812, President Madison signed the bill approving statehood. The bill designated April 30, 1812, as the day of formal admission. Join me in praying for our state on its b'day!*

- **Assembly:** Yes, we had one during the last week before Easter, but this is last week for seniors, and I traditionally do a final assembly to highlight senior recognitions that I haven't gotten to yet.
- **Blood Drive:** Re-scheduled from Holy Thursday to benefit Robert Simpson. See below for more info.

### Wed, May 1 (Regular; senior exams; G A B C)

- **Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.** In response to the "May Day" celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph the Worker in 1955. Today honors all workers, reminding us that we all have a responsibility to build the Kingdom of God on Earth through our labor. Here at SPS, that takes on special meaning, as Saint La Salle said we are doing "God's work."
- **TDIH:** In 1933, the legend of the Loch Ness Monster is born when a sighting makes local news.
- **Mother Goose Day:** Read childhood nursery favorites; feel the warmth of Mother Goose's embrace again!
- **Great American Grump Out Day:** Calling all grumps! For one whole day, there is to be no grumping, no frowning, no grouching, or complaining! I'll try to do my part.

### Thu, May 2 (Regular; senior exams; D E F G)

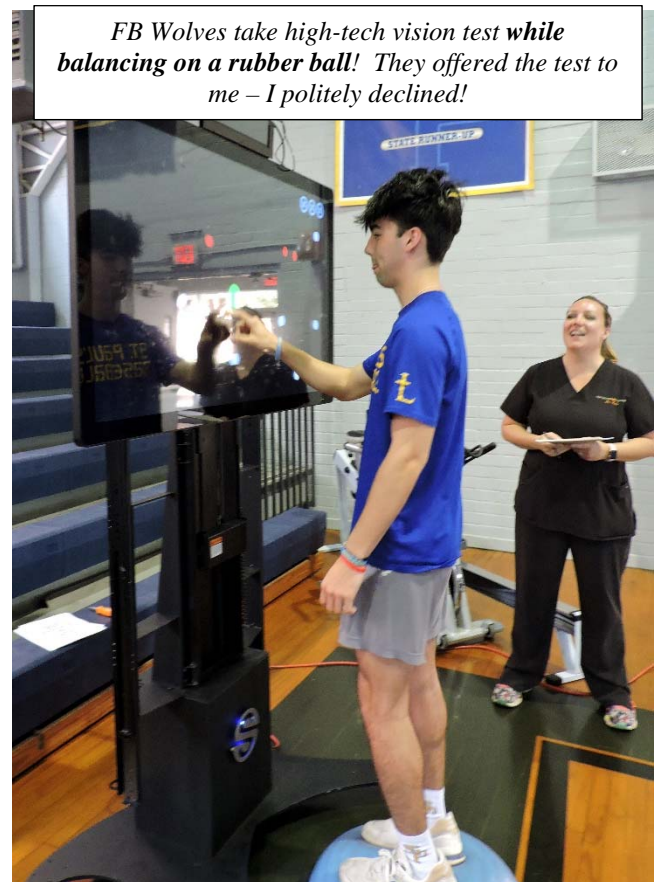
- **National Day of Prayer** (First Thu of May): At SPS, every day is a day of prayer, but be extra prayerful!
- **Holocaust Remembrance Day:** The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. It marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. In Hebrew, Holocaust Remembrance Day is called Yom Hashoah. In the United States, Days of Remembrance runs from the Sunday before Yom Hashoah through the following Sunday. Let us pray for all victims and resolve never to allow this kind of tragedy to occur again. **In honor of day, let us embrace Mrs. Levy's parting words to us: BE KIND!**
- **TDIH:** In 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea begins between Japan and the US. Lasting four days, it is considered the first modern naval engagement, resulting in 70 Japanese and 66 American warplanes destroyed. This was the first air-naval battle, as carriers did not fire at each other; planes did the battling. The US carrier *Lexington* was a casualty; "the Blue Ghost" (so-called because it was not camouflaged like other carriers) suffered extensive damage and was sunk by its crew. 216 *Lexington* crewmen died. Japan would go on to occupy all the Solomon Islands, but its victory was a Pyrrhic one: the cost in experienced pilots and aircraft carriers was so great that Japan had to cancel its expedition to other South Pacific targets.
- **TDIH:** In 1519, 500 years ago, Leonardo da Vinci died. Google Leonardo and marvel at his genius
- **Two Different Color Shoes Day** celebrates the uniqueness and diversity of humanity. Students may observe this day if they wish. I am not going to say anything, but if they read the newsletter and want to wear two different color shoes, it is OK with me.
- **No Pants Day:** SPS will NOT observe this day; well, since most of our students wear shorts, I guess we do observe it. Just know that I will not be observing it!

### Fri, May 3 (Regular; senior exams; A B C D)

- **Today is the Catholic feast of Saints Philip and James, apostles. Happy Feast Day to all SPS students and Staff named Philip or James!**
- **TDIH:** SF Giants outfielder Willie Mays hits his 512th career home run to break Mel Ott's HR record.
- **Hug Your Cat Day** – good luck with that!
- **Seniors Last Day:** We will not distribute caps/gowns/tickets to any senior who has an obligation to the school.
- **Team Simpson Tee Day:** Students may wear their TSTee today if they purchased one. This is in support of Mr. Robert Simpson's cancer treatment.

### Sat, May 4

- **TDIH:** 1965, San Francisco Giants outfielder Willie Mays hits his 512th career home run to break Mel Ott's National League record for home runs.
- **Star Wars Day:** This is a day for *Star Wars* fans to celebrate. The date was chosen as "May the 4th" due to its sounding similar to the series' phrase "May the Force be with you!" Who knew?
- **World Laughter Day:** Have a good laugh today! Laugh at me if you want!
- **Firefighters Day:** We honor the unsung heroes and thank them for protecting our lives and property. Wear a blue and red ribbon today, symbolic of elements firefighters work with – red for fire and blue for water.



- **National Hoagie and Oyster Day:** Enjoy either or both of these treats!
- **State Track Meet:** Our 4 x 800 relay team will compete today. Good luck, Wolves!
- **Band – Spring Concert at 3 pm in the BAC. Come here our terrific marching, concert, & jazz bands!**

### Sun, May 5

- **TDIH:** Today, known as Cinco de Mayo, commemorates the victory of the Mexican Army over the French at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. The Mexican army was defeated, but the "Batalla de Puebla" came to represent a symbol of Mexican patriotism.

**I draw the following to your attention in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance.**



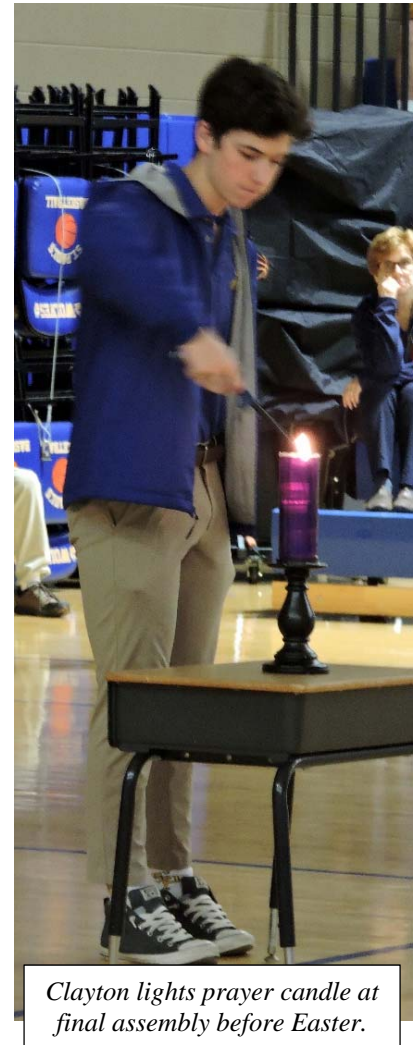
*Nicholas, Marshall, Andrew, & Gabe display some of the many ribbons Wolves won at Mu Alpha Theta math convention!*

**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 don’t 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’ll 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’s 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!

**Assembly on April 19:** I hope the students enjoyed our April 19 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Students entered the gym to the strains of "I Surrender" as performed by Class of 2010 alums Thomas Lorando and Jackson Parsons. This has become a Lenten tradition since the days when Jackson and Thomas would perform the song live in the gym for the Holy Week assembly. I reminded the students that the song encourages us to surrender to God and give up our sinful ways. Time continues to pass. But it's not too late to change. Are we cooperating with God's plan? Are we making the most of the time we are allotted? While the music played, junior **Clayton Dunavant** lit the prayer candle – still purple for Lent – and again prayed for those who left this earth to enter eternal life.
- Introduced Mrs. Karen Brantley of the Wharton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who awarded senior **John Paul's Bourgeois** with a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place award (and a \$100 prize) in the chapter's Good Citizenship Essay Contest.
- Recognized and congratulated the **SPS Student council** on an outstanding Leadership Week. While I was recognizing the Student Council, I also congratulated them for their showing at the recent state convention, where they were again awarded the Gold Council designation – the highest that the state confers. Well done, SPS Student Council!
- Recognized and congratulated junior **Luke Vargas** for winning the state student council election for Vice President!
- Introduced the students to some slides of Saint Joseph Abbey Seminary College, especially the incredible artwork. Why? Because our won religion teacher **Luke Barwick** was recently named "Son of St. Ben for 2019" – the equivalent of Alum of the year! A rousing round of applause for Luke followed!
- Recognized and congratulated the **SPS Golf Team** for winning the District Championship!
- Introduced the students to the Anti-Defamation League, whose mission is to promote harmony and peace among all religions and races. Why? Because junior **Drew Putfark** to chosen by the New Orleans chapter for an all-expense paid trip to the national youth forum of the ADL at the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. Congrats, Drew!
- Recognized and thanked the students who represented SPS at the 2019 Unity through Understanding Day at Loyola Law School on Fri, Feb 1. Students throughout the NO metro area initiated conversations focused on acceptance. SPS students were **Lorenzo Frieman, Davis Lagarde, Axel Henderson, Drew Putfark, & Rhett Barker**.



*Clayton lights prayer candle at final assembly before Easter.*

- Recognized and congratulated the 50 Fighting Math Wolves who participated in the Baton Rouge Magnet Math Tournament against 25 other schools. The results?
  - Algebra 1**      **Grisham Hall**      **2<sup>nd</sup>**      **Ben Salvant**      **3<sup>rd</sup> place**
  - Geometry**      **Carter Murphy**      **2<sup>nd</sup>**
  - Algebra 2**      **Wesley Coles**      **3<sup>rd</sup>**      **Scott Woodard**      **HM**
  - Adv Math**      **Adam Smith**      **HM**
  - Comp 1**      **4<sup>th</sup>**      **Preston Orgeron, Alex Dusang, Trent Caime, Jonathan Hammer**
  - Comp 2**      **4<sup>th</sup>**      **Adam Smith, Patrick Reilly, Alex Klocek**
  - Adv Math**      **4<sup>th</sup>**      **Brenden Dauterive, Josh Bonnett, Darrin Lea, Marshall Unkauf**
  - Algebra 2**      **2<sup>nd</sup>**      **Scott Woodard, Wesley Coles, Alexi Sotiropoulos, Adam Cazayoux**
  - And the biggie! SWEEPSTAKES**      **2<sup>nd</sup> place**
- Recognized and congratulated **Christian Ham** for winning an Honorable Mention and **Connor Simon** for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in the recent Three Rivers Art Festival!
- Recognized and congratulated our winners in the Regional Science Fair at SLU in Hammond:
  - Andrew Norlin – First Place in Biomedical and Health Science as well as Best of Show for his project, “The Effect of Visible Light on Photo Reactivation Repair in the UVB Damaged Yeast.”**
  - Nicholas Ditta – First Place in Physics for his project titled “Can Trails of Subatomic Particles Be Visually Identified in a Cloud Chamber?”**
  - Carter Murphy and Zachary Nichols – First Place in Chemistry with, “Chemical Effects on Aluminum”**
  - Josh Devier – Second Place in Microbiology for his work entitled “Analysis of the Antimicrobial Efficacy of the Lichen Extracts Usnic Acid, Year Two.”**
  - Danny Zuckerman & Ian McCarthy – Second Place in Biomedical and Health Science, with “Tugging Heartstrings”**
  - Andrew Ziblich & Kason Shaw – Third Place in Physics for a project entitled, “Radiation of I phone Communication Apps.”**



*Regional Science Fair Winners! Well done, Andrew, Ian, Danny, Nick, Andrew, Zach, Kason, Josh, and Carter!*

- Recognized and congratulated our winners in the State Science Fair:
  - **1st Place in Microbiology - Josh Devier**
  - **3rd Place in Physics and Astronomy - Nick Ditta**
  - **Josh Devier - Representative at Intel International Science and Engineering Fair**
- Recognized and congratulated the HOSA Wolves (future medical professionals!) for their showing at the state convention:
  - **Outstanding HOSA Chapter Award**
  - **3rd Place Louisiana HOSA State Cup**
  - **1st Place HOSA Chapter Service Project**
  - **1st Place Biomedical Debate - Josh Devier Jacques du Passage, Michael Oubre, Abhijay Purohit**
  - **2nd Place Biomedical Debate - Miles Gensler, Jesse Cheng, Paul Stolin, Ben Klein**
  - **1st Place Medical Reading - Ross Hightower**
  - **1st Place Healthcare Issues Exam - Ross Hightower**
  - **Barbara James Service Award Gold Level Recognition for 250+ Healthcare Service Hours - Ross Hightower**
  - **Outstanding State Leader (Louisiana HOSA Prince) - Andrew Norlin**
  - **5th Place Public Health - Jack Blossman, Brennen Calato, Andrew Norlin**
  - **7th Place Sports Medicine - Patrick Hoag**



*HOSA Wolves brought home a slew of awards at State Convention (see above), including the Outstanding HOSA Chapter Award! Well done, HOSA Wolves -- future medical professionals!*

- Recognized and congratulated **the Rugby Wolves** for winning the Sub-Varsity Championship! The team captains **Konnor Blanchard and Aidan Lagasse** presented Athletic Director Craig Ketelsen with the championship trophy.
- We ended with the whole student body standing and singing “I Surrender” – it was emotionally and spiritually moving and powerful. **Junior Mason Samples** extinguished the prayer candle while “I Surrender” played in the background. I again begged the student body to concentrate only on “the good” during this Lenten season and to make safe choices. I closed by reminding the students what the candle represents – the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I exhorted them to spread God’s love to all whom they meet.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



*Christian with his Honorable Mention turtle painting!*



*Connor with his FIRST place sunset painting (or is it a sunrise? Nah, he's a teenager!)*

**Blood Drive:** Due to weather, the Holy Thursday blood drive was cancelled. **We have re-scheduled for this Tuesday, April 30.** Again, this drive is for **Robert Simpson**. **One pint of blood saves three lives.** You must be **16 years old and weight 110 pounds.** **Students in active sports may not donate.**

**Calendar for 2019 - 20:** Here is our tentative calendar for next year (for those who really plan!)

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| • M-W, Aug 05 – 07 | Faculty meetings/prep days  |
| • Thu, Aug 08      | Full day of class instruction for SPS (public schools open on Aug 09) |
| • Thu, Aug 22      | March through the Arch; Senior Unity Day; Senior Ring Ceremony        |
| • Fri, Aug 30      | Lasallian Formation Day (no classes)                                  |
| • Mon, Sep 02      | Labor Day Holiday   |



- Fri, Oct 11 1<sup>st</sup> Q ends; Grandparent Day
- Mon, Nov 04 Archdiocesan Formation Day
- Mon-Fri, Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Holidays
- Mon-Thurs, Dec 16-19 Semester Exams
- Mon, Jan 06: Classes resume & Second Semester begins
- Mon, Jan 20 Martin Luther King Holiday
- Fri, Feb 21 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- Mon-Fri, Feb 24-28 Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
- Fri, Mar 13 End of Third Quarter
- Fri – Fri Apr 10 - Apr 17 Easter Holidays
- Wed-Fri, Apr 29 – May 1 Senior Final Exams
- Fri, May 15 Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6 pm)
- Sat, May 16 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
- Tues – Fri, May 19 - 22 Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11

### **Camp Abbey Summer Camp**

- Camp Abbey Summer Camp is a one-week sleepover camp run by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Campers at Camp Abbey make lifelong friends, great memories and grow in their relationship with Jesus! Activities include Arts & Crafts, Archery, Swimming, Hiking, Boating, Sports, Camping, Prayer, Mass, Reconciliation and Adoration. Campers must be completing 2nd-8th grades. Boys' Camp weeks are June 2-8, June 9-15, June 16-22 and June 23-29. Girls' Camp weeks are June 30-July 6, July 7-13, July 14-20 and July 21-27. \$409 per week – all-inclusive.

**Care & Vigilance:** We must stay focused in these finals weeks of school, especially seniors. We will do our jobs competently, and we expect the students to do theirs. Please stress this with your sons – especially seniors.

**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..

**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.



*Drew, Axel, Lorenzo, Davis, & Rhett represent SPS at Loyola Law School's Unity Day. BTW, the bust is of St. Thomas More, Patron Saint of Lawyers.*

### Last Two Weeks:

- **Baseball:** Special congrats to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade team, which finished the season UNDEFEATED! Fantastic! And varsity ended regular seasons with two wins over F' Bleau, which helped earn us a bye into the quarterfinal playoff round, which begins on May 3. Geaux Wolves!
- **Crescent City Classic:** A number of Wolves were among the 15,000+ participants in the Holy Saturday CCC – and did quite well. Among the names that jumped out at me among the first 250 finishers: Evan Pardo (31), alum Nick Taylor (55), Frankie Durio (57), Patrick Elliott (76), alum Henry Elliott (94), Evan Hendry (96), alum Doug Fields (158), and incoming pre-freshman Henry Englehardt (229).
- **Easter E-Mail:** Thanks, Development Team, for a beautiful Easter card emailed to our families and alums.

- **Exchange Club Student of the Year Breakfast** was very inspiring. Nine outstanding St. Tammany Parish seniors were honored, including our own Andrew Norlin. Thanks to The Exchange Club!



*Fighting Math Wolves at state convention displaying the awards they won!  
Congrats to Math Department and the FMWs!*

- **Golf:** A young team fought hard – and won the District AND Regional Championships! Congrats Coach Luke Barwick and the golf wolves!
- **Holy Thursday:** Well, we certainly did not anticipate the weather would cancel classes on Holy Thursday. While things did not get real bad here, other parishes were not so fortunate. Again, our policy (as mandated by Office of Catholic Schools) is to close if the public school system in our parish closes – which they did.
- **Lacrosse:** A 24-2 playoff win propels Wolves to quarterfinals v. Lower Alabama next weekend. Geaux LAX Wolves!
- **New Student Scheduling:** Things went very smoothly (thanks to the hard work of the counseling department). We have a very excited group of new wolves joining us in August.
- **Passion Play:** Thanks to Denny Charbonnet and The Marian Players for another spiritually moving play.
- **Stuff the Bus:** From the Food Bank: *The group of the 6 area catholic schools collected a total of 8,350 lbs of requested items to support NFB's Summer Stock program. This is a significant donation as it will help offset costs associated with operating this important program. Summer Stock provides kid-friendly food items to school-aged children in St Tammany and Washington Parishes to supplement the loss of school*

meals in the summer. This summer we anticipate handing out more than 2,500 boxes to area children. Your food drive collection today makes this program possible! This is a perfect example of community collaboration at its finest! Thanks to all! Joe Dickens estimates that SPS accounts for half of the collected items!

- **Tennis:** The team fought hard and won District Championship! And they made a valiant showing at state!
- **Track:** Another District Championship (the third in one week for SPS!) And in regional competition, the 4 x 800 relay team qualified for state this Saturday. Geaux Track Wolves!
- **Teaching and Learning:** And in the midst of all of the activity, teaching and learning are still taking place. (Yes, I know this is out of alphabetical order!)



John Paul receives award from the DAR for his Good Citizen Essay!

**Louisiana Youth Seminar:** Just a reminder that Louisiana Youth Seminar Registration is currently open and accepting students! We have welcomed students from your school over the past years and look forward to them attending LYS 2019 - July 14-19. If 2019 is like the last 5 years, we expect LYS to “sell out” in the next 3-4 weeks, and we want our loyal schools to be aware of this. We look hope you can assist your students in registering early. [Registration details can be found here](#)

**May:** The month May was named for the Greek Goddess Maia, who was identified with the Roman era goddess of fertility, Bona Dea, whose festival was held in May. Conversely, the Roman poet Ovid provides a second etymology, in which he says that the month of May is named for the *maiores*, Latin for "elders," and that the following month (June) is named for the *iuniores*, or "young people" (*Fasti VI.88*). **May** is the fifth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian Calendars and the third of seven months to have a length of 31 days. The month of May observes the following: Foster Care Month, Lupus Awareness Month, National Barbecue

Month, National Bike Month, National Blood Pressure Month, National Hamburger Month, National Photograph Month, National Salad Month, Older Americans Month

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

**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.

**Mothers' Club:** The MC's annual bookstore sale takes place this Fri and Sat, May 3 (from 8 – 3) and May 4 (9 – noon.) 10% off EVERYTHING! Come support the MC Bookstore! All profits benefit the students of SPS! Thanks, MC, for all you do for SPS! And NO charging after May 1!

# ST. PAUL'S MOTHERS' CLUB BOOKSTORE



*10% Off Everything*

Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**News worth Noting: Volunteerism boosts self-esteem.** The Journal of Adolescence reported that volunteering to assist strangers yielded more long-term benefits in teens than helping family or friends. In addition to having positive psychological impacts on teens, volunteering can increase physical exercise and prevent loneliness. Helping others does not have to be done on a grand scale, a small act of kindness is a great place to start. [Read more on this story.](#)

**News worth Noting II: Wanted: Employees Who Can Shake Hands, Make Small Talk:** New jobs require substantially more social skills than the manufacturing and factory jobs that once powered the economy. Robots still can't be friendly, make small talk and calm disgruntled customers, which offers opportunity for people. Turns out a lot of them aren't very good at it, either. That's why we need to continue to teach presentation skills, including how to shake hands, make eye contact, keep the conversation going, etc. And I'm editorializing here, but having their eyes glued to phone screens doesn't help. To read the article, click here: <https://patch.com/rhode-island/middletown/wanted-employees-who-can-shake-hands-make-small-talk>

**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](http://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.

#### **Pre-freshman Promotion Ceremony:**

- Our Promotion Ceremony is Friday, May 17, at 6:30 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students report to the Wolf Dome at 6:00 pm. The ceremony lasts about 75 minutes. Note that traffic on a Friday afternoon can be problematic. Please plan accordingly.
- Dress code for the ceremony is SPS dress uniform: white shirt, long khaki pants, school tie, dress socks, no athletic shoes. Students do not wear a jacket.
- Pre-freshman awards will also be given at the ceremony.
- Yes, grandparents are welcome to attend. While we do not limit the number of guests who may attend, we hope to average 5-6 guests only per family.
- A reception by the Mother's Club is after the ceremony. Attendance at this is optional.
- In the past, this ceremony has been a very positive and impressive one, and we'll do our best to make it so again on May 17. It takes place within a Catholic Liturgy of the Word, with the boys singing a number of songs.

**Physicals:** Pinnacle Orthopedics (1200 Pinnacle Parkway) will again offer FREE physicals for athletes and band members beginning at 7 am on Saturday, May 11. We are again indebted to the physicians and staff of Pinnacle for providing this service for our students. **Remember: no student may participate in athletics or band at SPS without a current physical on file.**

## Senior Graduation Information:

- Mon and Tue, Apr 29 & 30: regular schedules for seniors; full days of school; elective exams given
- Wed, May 01: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice
- Thu, May 02: two exams in the morning; graduation practice in the afternoon; dismissal following practice
- Fri, May 03: one exam in morning followed by short graduation practice and distribution of caps, gowns, and graduation ceremony tickets. **Each senior will be issued EIGHT (8) tickets. The tickets are handed directly to the senior on this day. We are not responsible for lost tickets and they will not be replaced.**
- **Tickets and caps/gowns will NOT be issued to any student who still has an obligation to the school.**
- Mon – Fri, May 06 - 10: seniors **do not** report to school except for the following:
- Wed, May 08: Senior Grad Night (5-9)
- Thu, May 09: Academic Awards Ceremony (8 am); only seniors receiving awards need attend
- Fri, May 10: Athletic Awards Ceremony (8 am). Only those seniors getting awards need attend in dress uniform. Final graduation practice (if needed) at 10 am.
- Sat, May 18: the 108th Commencement Exercises of The Saint Paul’s School; 4 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. Doors open at 3 and **admission is by ticket only**. The beautiful ceremony, within the context of a Catholic mass, lasts about two hours.
- Note: Everything seniors need to know for graduation will be part of a printed set of instructions given to them on Friday, May 03. I will also email a copy to senior parents.



*SPS Student Council at State Convention.  
They returned home with the Gold Council Award – the highest – again!*

**Scheduling for Next Year:** Students have selected selecting their courses for next year. **Only registered students were allowed to schedule classes.** If you did not register your son, please let me know your intentions as we are getting inquiries from new applicants.

**Security:** “Lock Your Car” Signs are appearing around Covington – including around SPS – courtesy of the Covington PD. Car burglaries are occurring, and almost always in unlocked cars. Parents – please stress with your sons the need to lock his car. And lock yours when you come to campus for an event, especially at night.

### **Service Projects:**

- **St. Peter’s Fair** is seeking booth volunteers for the following time slots :  
Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>--- 10:00 am – Noon; Noon - 2:00 pm, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, 8:00 - 10:00 pm, 10:00 - 11:00 pm (only 1hr shift - fair closes at 11:00 pm)  
Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>--- 10:00 am – Noon, Noon - 2:00 pm, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, 4:00 - 5:30 pm (1.5hr shift - fair closes at 5:00 pm then help w/ cleanup) For more information, please contact Ms. Mariana Martinez: email [mzanotti@uno.edu](mailto:mzanotti@uno.edu) or call/text (305)753-6171.
- **Ochsner Health Center for Children Live Oak:** Our clinic is looking for volunteers to be a part of a program that would help teenage boys with developmental delays by being peer models. For more info, contact Ms. Samantha Anderson at (985)875-2800.
- **Camp Tiger Paw** is a one week camp for young adults with disabilities located at St Timothy's Church the week of July 8-12 from 9-3. Each camper is paired with a counselor. They are in need of more male counselors. This camp is lots of fun but also lots of responsibility. This experience is often life changing for counselors. For more information, Please contact Ms. Peggy Wales 985-778-1523
- **AgriSafe** is a local nonprofit in Covington and we have service opportunities available for 11th and 12th graders. Students would assist with tasks for upcoming safety and health exhibits and presentations by conducting research, putting together safety kits, brochures, personal protective equipment (PPE) and helping manage our listserv of member contacts. For more information, contact Ms. Knesha Rose-Davison at 985.327.1627 or by e-mail [krrose@agrisafe.org](mailto:krrose@agrisafe.org)
- Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans is offering a summer service program, **Students Engaging in Reflective Volunteer Experiences, SERVE**. This an opportunity for high school students to give back to the community and achieve the service hours required by many parochial high schools. Sessions run for four weeks with options to earn 12-32 hours. **SERVE** sites include a homeless shelter, two adult day healthcare centers, and a food bank. Students must be incoming freshman through seniors. Registration is non-refundable –**\$15 for Mini-SERVE or \$30 for SERVE**. Registration is open now until full. All participants will receive a t-shirt. For more information contact Shannon Murphy, Director of Volunteers at (504) 310-6962. Register online at <http://www.ccano.org/serve-app/> You may download a flyer here.

**Student Council:** Any 8th-11th grader who wishes to run for the class offices of President and Vice-President may pick up forms in room L211. Completed forms are due Thursday, May 2 by 3:30 to room L211 and speeches and election will be hold the following week. And Student Council thanks Mr. Rick Gonzalez of Hwy 190 Chick-fil-A for donating the food for the Leadership Breakfast. Thanks, Mr. Gonzalez!



**Summer Camps:** SPS offers the following camps:

- Boys (8-14) Sports: baseball, football, wrestling, basketball, lacrosse, soccer, speed/strength
- Robotics (rising 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders)
- Drama (boys and girls 9-13)
- For more information, consult our website: [www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)

**Vaping—the latest from the FDA:** The FDA has become aware that some people who use [e-cigarettes](#) have experienced seizures, with most reports involving youth or young adult users. Seizures or convulsions are known potential side effects of nicotine toxicity and have been reported in the scientific literature in relation to intentional or accidental swallowing of e-liquid. However, a recent uptick in voluntary reports of adverse experiences with tobacco products that mentioned seizures occurring with e-cigarette use (e.g., vaping) signal a potential emerging safety issue. The FDA continues to monitor all adverse experiences reported to the agency about the use of e-cigarettes and encourages the public to report cases of individuals who use e-cigarettes and have had a seizure via the online [Safety Reporting Portal](#), as further described below.

<https://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/NewsEvents/ucm635133.htm>

**Weekly Humor:** In honor of Oyster Day on May 4:

- *Why do oysters go to the gym? It is good for the mussels!*
- *What kind of picture does an oyster take? A Shell-fie.*
- *What do you get when you cross an owl and an oyster? Pearls of Wisdom.*
- *Why are oysters always working out? Because they like to flex their mussels.*
- *What does an oyster do on its birthday? It shellebrates!*
- *Did you hear about the lazy oyster? It wouldn't move a mussel.*
- *How do oysters communicate? With shell-phones.*
- *Did you hear about the oyster that was in a gang? It was the hired mussel.*
- *What do you call an oyster that won't share? Shellfish.*
- *What happens when you bring an oyster to a party? It becomes a shellebration.*
- *What kind of jokes do oysters tell? Shell-arious ones!*
- *What happens when your wife wants a pearl necklace? You shell out a lot of money.*
- *What do you call an oyster that flies? A shell-icopter!*



William, Nick, Josh., & Patrick help Stuff the Bus to benefit Northshore Food Bank!

- *Oyster jokes are so funny I almost pulled a mussel.*
- *If an oyster loses its shell is it naked or homeless?*
- *"So, have you heard about the oyster who went to a disco and pulled a mussel?"*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**A Look Ahead** *(note changes in italics)*

- *April 29 – No Mass (as previously published; mass moved to May 15)*
- April 30 – President's Assembly
- May 1-3 – Senior Exams
- May 9 – Academic Awards
- May 10 – Athletic Awards
- May 14-16 – Pre-Freshmen Exams
- May 15 – All-school mass
- May 17 – Pre-freshman promotion ceremony (6:30 pm)
- May 18 – Senior graduation
- May 21-24 – Final Exams 9th-11th

**Second Semester Period Rotation:** For those who really plan, here is the period rotation for the second semester. Please use this when making unavoidable doctor appointments, etc. so your son will know what classes he is missing. Naturally, there is subject to change if unavoidable conflicts (weather, etc.) occur.

**April**

- 29 – FGAB
- 30 – CDEF – President's Assembly

**May**

- 1 – GABC - Senior Exams
- 2 – DEFG - Senior Exams
- 3 – ABCD – Senior Exams
- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – Pack Time
- 8 – FGAB – Level Awards
- 9 – CDEF – Athletic Awards
- 10 – GABC – Academic Awards
- 13 – DEFG
- 14 – ABCD – President's Assembly – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams
- 15 – EFGA – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams
- 16 – BCDE – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams
- 17 – FGABC (8<sup>th</sup> Promotion 6:00 PM)
- 18 – Senior Graduation (4 pm–ticket only)
- 20 – DEFG (Review for Period A Exam)
- 21 – Exam Schedule
- 22 – Exam Schedule

- 23 – Exam Schedule
- 24 – Exam Schedule

Whew! Enough for now. Even though it's the final days of April of 2019, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which is no longer on the air but I still LOL thinking about it): 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 the fourth quarter! Again, thanks for being part of the 2018 - 19 edition of Saint Paul's!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can't Believe It's the Class of 2019's Last Week and I'm Still The 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



**...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will, remaining faithful, letting Our Lady of the Star guide us to God and asking our holy founding Brothers to help us continue our Lasallian Mission!**



*May the grace of Holy Week and Easter fill the hearts of our students (and you, too!) and protect them during their Easter holidays!*