



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Celebrating 108 years of educational excellence in Covington
339 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
November 18 – December 01, 2019

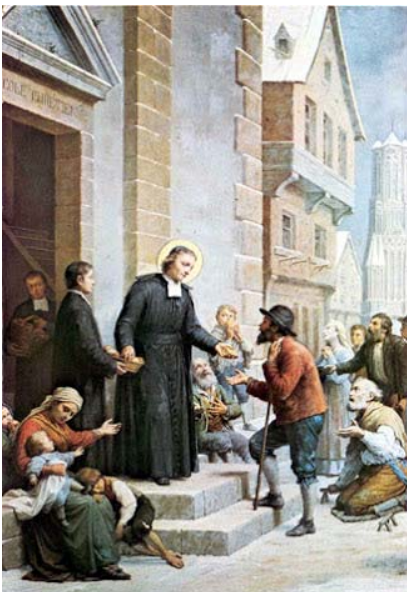


Welcome to the sixth week of the second quarter! Time marches on; all we can do is make the most of it.

Archbishop Aymond's charge to Catholic schools in his archdiocese is for all to be authentically Catholic – and that EVERY class is a religion class as we uphold Catholic values across the curriculum. I couldn't agree more.

One of those authentically Lasallian Catholic values – as espoused by Pope Francis and enshrined as one of the seven social justice issues by the US Catholic Conference of Bishops – is concern for the poor -- not coincidentally one of our five Lasallian core principles.

In school & country, we are blessed with abundance. And so my final pre-Thanksgiving message, in keeping with the Archbishop's mandate, the USCCB, and our Lasallian heritage, concerns the same one I give each year at this time: the Lasallian commitment to the poor.



St. La Salle distributes bread to the poor.

This commitment to the poor began with John Baptist de La Salle. The first schools were endowed parish charity schools, operating on shoestring budgets and often located in less desirable parts of town. Both rich and poor were welcome, provided all agreed to be treated as equals – revolutionary in those days! All were important.

Equally revolutionary was de La Salle's insistence on partiality. We often speak of the need for impartiality in dealings with students. Actually, St. de La Salle was very partial. Partiality was shown to those with less attractive qualities; they were to receive the most attention. Those with the least talents were to be supported and encouraged. Those who had extra food were to share it with those who had little. De La Salle was convinced that the poor needed the schools the most. The curriculum, therefore, combined practical & religious training, designed to help the poor succeed. Thus, service to the poor, both directly and indirectly, must be present at SPS if we are to be faithful Lasallians.

But it's not just Saint La Salle's thinking that compels us to care for the poor. Indeed, the **Concern for the Poor and Social Justice** is at the heart of Catholic social teaching. The United States bishops write: *In a world characterized by growing prosperity for some and pervasive poverty for others, Catholic teaching proclaims that a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.*

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, let us be mindful of those who are not blessed with material comfort. Let us strive to reach out to them. Let us find ways to welcome them to SPS.

Mon, Nov 18 (Regular; A B C D)

- **This Day in History:** The Walt Disney Company gives today as Mickey's exact birth date -- the release date of *Steamboat Willie*, his debut film. Happy Birthday Mickey! Celebrate by watching a MM cartoon.
- **Cross Country State Meet through Tuesday in Natchitoches**
- **Senior Day with Archbishop Aymond:** The seniors of the four Catholic high schools in St. Tammany (can you name them?) will spend a faith formation day at OLL, celebrating their common Catholic school experience and celebrating mass with Archbishop Aymond. I am grateful to Archbishop Aymond for making this a yearly priority in his ministry to the Young Church. I am also grateful to Father Mark, Principal Smith and all at OLL for accommodating over 500 seniors! OLL cancels school on this day to accommodate this event.



Elias, Brady, Jake, Trey, & Dylan sing The National Anthem at last week's assembly.

Tue, Nov 19 (Wolf Packs; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** in 1863, Abraham Lincoln delivers The Gettysburg Address, which consists of only 272 words yet is considered one of the most famous speeches in history. (Can you quote the first two lines?) Actually, the whole address is worth reading – better yet, hearing. Below is a link to an audio and text version of the address (you have your choice of speakers ranging from Johnny Cash to Colin Powell to Sam Waterston. I listened to both Colin and Sam.) After reading along while listening, you will be moved. At a time when our country seems more divided than ever, I STRONGLY encourage you to listen to President Lincoln and pray for our country. After listening, you can then click on the link at the bottom and see a copy of Lincoln's original copy. **I encourage ALL today to study this important speech and**

make modern day connections. Here's the link:

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/gettysburgaddress.htm>

- **TDIH II:** Not nearly as important as The Gettysburg Address, but on this day in 1959, Rocky & Bullwinkle -- the most famous squirrel/moose combo in history – debuted. Who can forget Boris Badenov and Natasha Fatale, Dudley Do-Right, Peabody and Sherman, and Aesop and Son? Watch an episode or two on YouTube and howl!
- **“Have a Bad Day” Day:** Believe it or not, “*Have a Bad Day*” Day was created to have people stop saying "have a good day", and replace it with "have a bad day". DO NOT celebrate this day!
- **World Toilet Day:** The World Toilet Organization (who knew?) created WTD to raise global awareness of the struggle 2.6 billion face every day without access to proper, clean sanitation. WTD also brings to the forefront the health, emotional and psychological consequences the poor endure as a result of inadequate sanitation. Wow. It's amazing the things we take for granted. Remember this as we use this incredible device today.

- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Edna Carr
- **Soccer:** JV & Varsity v. Dutchtown (6 & 7:30)
- **Alumni Meeting at University of Southern Mississippi:** Al et al travel to Hattiesburg to meet with a large group of alums who are attending So Miss. I appreciate his continued outreach to our young alums.

Wed, Nov 20

- **TDIH:** In 1982, the Cal football team wins an improbable last-second victory over Stanford when they complete five lateral passes around members of the Cardinals' marching band, who had wandered onto the field a bit early to celebrate the upset they were sure their team had won, and score a touchdown. After catching the last pass of the series, Cal's Kevin Moen careened through the confused horn section and made it safely to the end zone. Then he slammed into trombone player Gary Tyrell. (A photograph from the *Oakland Tribune* of the jubilant Moen and the terrified Tyrell in the moment just before the collision is still displayed triumphantly all over Berkeley.) "The Play," as it became known remains one of the most famous in college football history. Wanna see it? Here's a link:
<http://www.topendsports.com/videos/829/sports/american-football/play-1982-california-stanford-football-game/>
- **Wrestling:** JV & Varsity in dual meet at F'Bleau

Thu, Nov 21

- **TDIH:** In 1691, things were not going well in the newly found Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. I quote from Brother Donald Mouton, a Lasallian scholar: *The group of teachers founded by John Baptist de La Salle was in a precarious situation. Personal antagonisms, opposition to the Founder's work, internal problems, and fragile health that almost led to his death toward the end of 1690 posed critical questions for De La Salle as to the very future of his enterprise. In this crisis, De La Salle decided to bind himself by vow with two other Brothers, Nicolas Vuyart and Gabriel Drolin, to establish the Society of the Christian Schools at whatever the cost might be, even if all others should abandon it. This "vow of association and union" pronounced on November 21, 1691, often referred to as the "heroic vow" was an act of hope at a time when the work of the early Brothers was in serious jeopardy. Today, when times seem tough, the Brothers often refer to this milestone in our history. We give thanks for the "heroic vow"! Because of it, we're still around!*
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Independence
- **Soccer:** 9th v. Mandeville at CYSA

Fri, Nov 22

- **TDIH:** In 1963, at 12:30 p.m. on Elm Street in downtown Dallas, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the youngest man ever elected president, is assassinated in Dallas by Lee Harvey Oswald. The



President was struck in the back, then in the head. He was rushed to Parkland Memorial Hospital where fifteen doctors tried to save him. At 1 p.m., the President the 35th President of the United States was pronounced dead. On board Air Force One, at 2:38 p.m., Lyndon Baines Johnson was sworn in as the 36th President. Camelot ends and America changes forever (Yes, I know that's editorializing!) Like most Baby Boomers, I can vividly recall exactly where I was when we got the news!

- **State Swim Meet in Sulphur through Sat**
- **Covington Rotary Feed the Needy Kick Off Luncheon in the BAC**
- **Thanksgiving Holidays begin at 3:15**

Sat, Nov 23 – Sun, Dec 01 – Thanksgiving Holidays! Enjoy! Note: Now that we are on Thanksgiving holiday, the newsletter won't list all the many, many events (mostly sports – related) for this week. The newsletter needs a break (and so do you) and, hence, won't publish next Sunday. Next edition is Sun, Dec 01. Check the web site for all the schedules.

Rise Up, O Men of God

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 which provide a free ACT question of the day. Encourage your son to use these resources. Make it a family activity! Have fun with the 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> (a lot like Khan Academy regarding its prep work and video tutorials)

ADMISSIONS FOR 2020-21: We, along with all private high schools, have started recruiting for next year. **As usual, I count on you for your help in spreading the good news about SPS and inviting your friends and neighbors to come take a look at Lasallian education on the Northshore.** The two best avenues are:

- **Shadow Days:** None left! Only private tours from now on (with yours truly!)
- **Open House:** If a family missed OH, I am happy to give them a private tour. Just call.
- **I especially need our families who came from public school to spread the word among other public school families to come take a look at SPS!**
- **We don't produce yard signs in order not to "clutter" people's lawns and neighborhoods – that is why we need YOU to spread the word!**
- **See below for more admissions info.**



ADMISSIONS II: This is a big week in the Archdiocese. Tuesday, the 12th and our last Shadow Day, was the last day the Office of Catholic Schools allows high schools to “recruit” from Catholic elementary schools. Last Wednesday, the Office of Catholic Schools released the “white card” – the official application to any Catholic high school in the Archdiocese. Students in Catholic elementary schools had to return the white cards to their principals on Fri the 15th, and the elementary schools will let us know by this Tuesday who has applied to us. We have given the preferred application deadline of Nov 19 to non-Catholic elementary school applicants, too. Our private school competition is working hard, public schools are touting the latest release of state test scores, the south shore schools are spending lavishly on TV ads – well, you get the picture. Our competition is tough.

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’ll provide a phone if needed.

AMAZON SMILE: Last week, we received a check for \$342.08 from AS, representing our quarterly rebate from those who use this service and choose SPS as the rebate recipient. **As we move into the holiday shopping season and if you use Amazon Smile, please select SPS as the rebate recipient.**

Assembly on Nov 12: I hope the students enjoyed our Nov 12 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 the day 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!

- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Jake Holincheck**, for all the intentions which we brought into the gym that morning.

- Welcomed a group of almost 60 potential students plus a large number of their parents who were on campus to consider SPS for their educational future.

- Introduced the Lasallian Young Leaders who represented Saint Paul's at the Young Lasallian Assembly on the campus of St. Mary's University in Moraga, CA. Over 20 Lasallian schools from seven states participated. At the assembly, each school presented a video that the group had made which highlighted their school. I attempted to show the video in the gym but was met with technical problems! Darn technology! Should you wish to view the video, here's the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLYuDpSGu28&feature=youtu.be>

I am very proud of our reps to the Assembly: **Brady Billiot, Will Blossman, Ben Broussard, Jesse Cheng, Callan Danenhowe, Miles Gensler, Andrew Hollingsworth, Andrew Lacoste, Jackson Luscy, Ian McCarthy, Adam Philippe, Joel Rodriguez.** They were accompanied by faculty members **Mr. Paul Scoriels and Mr. Jeff Ramon.**

- Then, as if by magic, George Friderich Handel's Water Music started playing! And if The Water Music is playing, then the Aqua Wolves must be swimming! And swimming they are! At the All State New Orleans Metro Swim Championship, the AWs took 2nd Place – quite a feat. Coach Emmet Smith had this to say about the team:



*SPS Lasallian Young Leaders at St. Mary's College
in Moraga, CA*

Congrats to the Wolves on a spectacular performance at the Sugar Bowl Greater NOLA swim championships! Every single one of the boys notched a personal best time and we had many new state qualifiers and unexpected scorers in this meet.

The second place overall team finish was our third time in four years the Aqua Wolves have held on to that spot. Two of our top relays finished in second place. We also had our three captains, Drew Putfark, Jesse Cheng, and Austin Peak, all finish in second place individually for their signature event.

An additional top 8 scorer in the meet was Evan Abraham, while top 16 finishers include Brady Billiot, Scott Messa, David Barcelona, Christian Kramer and Jack McNamara. Relay scorers include Bradford Day and Mason Byrne.

The Wolves now have 11 individual state qualifiers, which is the most in recent history.

- Recognized and congratulated the Aqua Wolves for their stellar second place showing at the All State Sugar Bowl New Orleans Metro Meet and for winning FIRST PLACE (out of 16 teams) at the Northshore Regional Meet – for the 4th consecutive year. Individual District/Regional Champions are:
 - **Jesse Cheng** in the 200 Freestyle and 100 Freestyle
 - **Austin Peak** in the 100 Backstroke
 - **Drew Putfark** in the 100 Breaststroke
 - District/Regional title in the 200 Medley Relay, the 200 Free Relay, and the 400 Free Relay: **Jesse Cheng, Bradford Day, Scott Messa, Austin Peak, Drew Putfark, and Cameron Smith**
- Swim Team Captains **Drew Putfark, Jesse Cheng, and Austin Peak** then presented the championship banner to Athletic Director Craig Ketelsen.
- Recognized and congratulated the History Club, moderated by Mrs. Kim Gardner, for the outstanding Veterans Day Assembly. I informed the boys about the history of The National Anthem, which was written by Francis Scott Key during the British bombardment of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812. I was so impressed with the five students who sang, a cappella, The National Anthem, that I called them down and asked for a repeat. They were wonderful. Congrats and thanks to **Trey Harkins, Jake Holincheck, Dylan Martin, Brady Meibaum, and Elias Simpson.**
- I then told the students the story of **Pvt. George Cox**, a 1951 SPS alum, who was drafted for the Korean War shortly after his graduation – and was killed in combat less than a year later. A memorial plaque hangs in the La Salle Hall, as Pvt. Cox's mother wanted us to remember her son – who loved SPS and his country.



- I then reminded the boys to cooperate with Covington Mayor Mark Johnson’s Slow Your Roll drive – aimed at safer driving in our city.
- We closed with the boys singing Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You. They were GREAT.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

ATTENDANCE: Please comply with our attendance regulations as printed in the handbook, which is posted on PlusPortals. This is especially true when a student is absent or needs to check out during the day.

BOOKSTORE:

Here are the regular hours:

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am
- M – F: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- Also by appointment. Email spsbookstore@gmail.com.
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds not help fund wonderful activities throughout the year and campus needs. For example, the MC funded over \$40,000 worth of school projects this past year.

BUSINESS OFFICE

- We are still searching for an assistant to CFO Jo Sutherlin. This is a full time position in our Business Office. Business or accounting degree preferred. Please let anyone you know who may be looking for full time employment with us.
- Business office will close during the Thanksgiving holidays. Anticipate needs before Friday. I will be around, if needed, most of the holiday week, but I don't always know how to help you.

CARE & VIGILANCE: As we approach holidays, remember de La Salle's concerns: care & vigilance – our mantras this week. **We will be caring, but we will be vigilant. Please insist with your sons that they adhere to all school regulations this week, so that we can begin a problem-free Thanksgiving holiday break.**



Patrick & Garrett gather food for Food Bank.

DRUG TESTING: We have begun drug testing, choosing students both randomly and “for cause.” Over 1/3 of the student body will be tested this year. Know our policy. Reinforce with your sons. 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.

EDUCATION IN AMERICA: On October 30, the results from the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) were released. Average reading scores dropped since 2017 for both fourth and eighth graders. Eighth grade math scores were also lower than 2017, by one point. However, fourth grade math scores have increased by a point. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos offered a grim assessment of the results, saying: "Every American family needs to open

The Nation's Report Card this year and think about what it means for their child and for our country's future. The results are, frankly, devastating. This country is in a student achievement crisis, and over the past decade it has continued to worsen, especially for our most vulnerable students." She continued, "Two out of three of our nation's children aren't proficient readers. In fact, fourth grade reading declined in 17 states and eighth grade reading declined in 31. The gap between the highest and lowest performing students is widening, despite \$1 trillion in Federal spending over 40 years designated specifically to help close it." To view the data, sortable in a host of ways, including by student groups, states, and districts, visit: <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/>. This is very sad – and a bit scary.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS: As we pass the height of the tropical season (Sep 10) and with safety foremost in our minds, I remind all of the directives from the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of NO:

- **Catholic schools will follow the closure and reopening schedules of their civil parish.** Therefore, monitor the St. Tammany Public School system announcements. Naturally, we reserve the right to close earlier if we feel it necessary and to reopen earlier if we are able and civil parish authorities give permission. For example, we opened weeks before the public school system following Hurricane Katrina.
- **Listen & Watch** for a robo-text message or phone call or email before calling school since it is difficult to handle a large volume of calls. Also, our phone system goes dark in a power failure.
- **Consult** PlusPortals and our web site.
- **Pray** to Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Patroness of Louisiana.

HELPING SAINT PAUL'S: Don't forget – here are painless ways to help:

- If you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- SBox Tops for Education – these are redeemable for cash. Have your son bring them to his math teacher.
- And, of course, there's AmazonSmile!

HOLIDAYS: **The school offices will close** during Thanksgiving holidays. Anticipate needs before Fri – especially the driver's licence form, transcripts, etc. I will be around, if needed, most of the holiday week so feel free to call on me but I don't always know how to help.

ID CARDS: Students must wear their ID cards on their lanyard DAILY. **Please check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing the ID.** If he forgets, he must purchase a temporary ID from Sgt. Pressley. If he loses his ID, he must purchase a replacement for \$10.



Saint Paul's School will once again be participating in #iGiveCatholic this #GivingTuesday on Dec 3. Our generous partners have raised \$73,000 over the past 4 years in this campaign, enabling us to connect the philanthropic passions of our faithful community with our Lasallian mission of educating the young men entrusted to our care. Advanced giving opens on Monday, Nov 18. Please partner with us. <https://neworleans.igivecatholic.org/organizations/st-paul-s-school>

INFORMATION: Need More Info? For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, or Assistant Principal Joe Dickens. For discipline, attendance, or dress code questions, call Mr. Ken Sears, Dean of Students. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. Craig Ketelsen, AD. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1901 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is brorav@stpauls.com!**



Seniors and their parents await start of HR Breakfast on a very cold Wed morning!

LAST WEEK:

- **Basketball:** Hall of Fame Games and “Battle for the Bank” on Sat went well. Thanks, BB Wolves!
- **Catholic Secondary Principals Association:** Trevor entertained the secondary principals of ARNO in royal style on Tuesday. I think they were impressed with Lasallian Catholic education on the Northshore!
- **Food Drive:** Over 9000 lbs of food donated to Northshore shore Food Bank. Thanks to all who helped, especially Student Council!
- **Football:** Wow, what a win! 9-7 with three safeties! Geaux FB Wolves against Catholic!
- **HR Breakfast for seniors** went well. This was my last address to the senior class, as we do something different with them in the second and third quarters. I gave them a review of all the vocabulary words I’ve used since their 8th grade year – and threw in some Latin and Shakespeare for good measure.
- **LPO:** We accommodated the orchestra’s performance for local elementary schools. The LPO will return in Jan to perform for SPS! We look forward to welcoming them back.
- **Meet the Teams** for soccer & basketball went well. Special thanks to physical plant crew for all the setups!
- **Shadow Day:** They are over. Thanks to Karen Hebert et al for organizing and to all of you for promoting them. We now wait and see the results (see above.) If you know of a family still wanting to consider SPS, I am happy to meet with them (provided they have not already applied to another Catholic high school.)
- **Sophomore Service Day / Field Trip:** Positive reports from all stations! Well done! Thanks to all who helped.
- **Sudden Impact:** Another group of sophs benefitted from this powerful program.
- **Veterans Day Assembly:** Kudos to Kim Gardner and History Club for a meaningful assembly on 11/11.
- **Wrestling:** A stellar varsity win v. Jesuit on Wed, 55-13! On Sat, The Varsity B team finished 4th out of 21 varsity teams at the Lakeshore Open, defeating a number of Varsity A teams in the process. The junior varsity and junior high teams also found success at the Jesuit tournament. Several wrestlers competed for the first time, and many picked up the first wins of their careers! Congrats to all. Geaux Wrestling Wolves!

LOST & FOUND: Lunch boxes, uniform shirts, books, shoes – all sorts of things are being left behind on campus – almost all with no names on them. Please stress with your sons to need to keep track of his belongings. Putting his name on items helps, too. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside Attendance Office.

LSU: We received word last week that LSU will now SUPER-SCORE ACT scores. This is wonderful news! Now students can submit multiple ACT reports to create their best "super score" composite. LSU will consider the ACT super score for admissions and scholarship consideration. **Seniors**—Please make sure LSU has all ACT reports officially from your ACT account (**LSU code: 1590**) **Juniors**—as you begin to take the ACT, if you are considering LSU, PLEASE use one of the four-for-free spots to list colleges/universities. (**LSU code: 1590**) If you have any additional questions, please feel free to see (or email) Mrs. Miller or Mrs. Woodard.

MARCH THROUGH THE ARCH PICTURES ARE IN: Senior parents, the MTTA pics are here! You may pick up your son’s pic in the admin building or you may send a note with him requesting that we give the pic directly to him. We are reluctant just to hand the pics to the seniors, as we know that a number of them will end up in the back seat of a car or bottom of his book bag – and you will never see it! Many thanks to Expressions Photography for providing these pics free of charge.



PAPER WOLF: Please read The Paper Wolf! (www.thepaperwolf.com) I do! We've got an outstanding, AWARD WINNING

digital newspaper! Compliment the outstanding staff. Subscribe! Support the future of journalism! Geaux Paper Wolves!



Sophs work on the nature trail at City Park in NO on Service Day.

PLUS PORTALS: Please activate your account and check Edline regularly for important info about your son's grades and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Edline administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1944 if you need assistance.* And please adjust your setting to allow you to receive emails from school. It's very annoying when we get an Edline email with a question but your setting won't accept our response.

PROJECT CHRISTMAS (FORMERLY ADOPT-A-FAMILY): This school year, we will partner with St. Tammany Project Christmas. We have "adopted" 40 children from 16 families in St. Tammany Parish. Each of these children has three wish list items that we will fill for Project Christmas. We will also use donations to supply a Christmas meal to these 16 families. As in the past, we ask for monetary donations that will be collected through your son's religion classes to fund the purchase of the wish list items and Christmas meals. 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. For any questions, please contact Mr. Ramon (j.ramon@stpauls.com)

Here's the tentative schedule for donations, shopping, and delivery:

- November 18 - December 6 (monetary collections through religion classes)
- [Wednesday, De 4](#) (shopping)
- Monday, December 9 (delivery to Project Christmas HQ)

REPORT CARDS AND SEMESTER GRADES: 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.

ROSARY: A group of students recites one decade of the rosary each morning, beginning at 7:50 on M, T, Th, and F and following mass on W. They would love to have you join them. And since Oct is the month of the rosary – what a great witness! **And on Thursday, we will have ten minutes of Eucharistic Adoration before the rosary. This begins at 7:40**



SLOW YOUR ROLL is Mayor Mark Johnson’s initiative to improve driving within Covington. Did you know:

- Two of the most often repeated complaints to the Mayor are speeding and the running of stop signs.
- On any given weekday, over 15,000 people drive into and out of Covington.
- Many of our streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of the automobile, thus not designed for traffic.

Mayor Mark’s goal is “to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets” The Mayor is asking everyone to “*relax, take a deep breath and slow down. In October, we will be stating more firmly the need to slow down. In November, there will likely be consequences.*” I applaud the Mayor’s initiative and pledge to him our support. Reinforce this with students whenever possible. I will do so with parents. And please set a good example yourself, as in the words of Saint La Salle: **“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”**

SSA: Congratulations to SSA on the opening and dedication of Angelus Hall – a \$3.2 million structure dedication to religion and STEM classes, which will allow our older sister school to provide even more educational opportunities to the young women entrusted to their care. I had the privilege of representing SPS at the dedication ceremony last Monday. I am always saddened when I hear someone question SSA’s STEM education commitment for their students. Those people need to see the great opportunities that SSA offers the girls. Promote SSA!

STUDY HALL AFTER SCHOOL: Ben’s Den (aka the library) opens 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.

TUTORING: Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in the library for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. 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: Doctors David Oubre and Rob Peltier addressed our parents recently. The message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, are ignoring the warnings of science.) Please stress this with your sons. We are ramping up enforcement on our ban of this latest insidious treat to health. We have made our position very clear – it is prohibited and strong consequences are imposed if it is discovered. But we can't police outside of school – parents, PLEASE insist with your sons that the dangers of his trend are not worth the risk. Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.



Aqua Wolves win Northlake Regional championship for fourth consecutive year! Geaux Aqua Wolves!

WEEKLY HUMOR: in honor of Thanksgiving, here are my annual Thanksgiving jokes:

- *What kind of music did the Pilgrims like? Plymouth Rock*
- *If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims*
- *Why can't you take a turkey to church? They use FOWL language.*
- *Why was the Thanksgiving soup so expensive? It had 24 carrots.*
- *What happened when the turkey got into a fight? He got the stuffing knocked out of him!*
- *What do you get when you cross a turkey with a banjo? A turkey that can pluck itself!*
- *Who doesn't eat on Thanksgiving? A turkey, because it is always stuffed.*
- *Why did the Pilgrims sail to America in the spring? Because April showers bring Mayflowers!*
- *What did baby corn say to mama corn? Where's popcorn?*
- *If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for? Their AGE!*
- *Why do pilgrims pants keep falling down? Because their belt buckles are on their hats!*
- *Why did they let the turkey join the band? Because he had the drumsticks*
- *Mother turkey to her disobedient child? "If your father could see you now, he'd turn over in his gravy!"*
- *Why did the police arrest the turkey? They suspected it of fowl play*
- *What's the key to a great Thanksgiving dinner? The turKEY*
- *What did the turkey say before it was roasted? Boy! I'm stuffed!*
- *What happened to the Pilgrim who was shot at by an Indian? He had an arrow escape*
- *Why do turkeys always go, "gobble, gobble"? Because they never learned good table manners!*

- *What sound does a space turkey make? A: Hubble, Hubble, Hubble!*
- *Why did the turkey cross the road? It was the chicken a day off!*
- *What's the best dance to do on Thanksgiving? The turkey trot!*
- *Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building? Yes - a building can't jump at all!*
- *What do you get when you cross a turkey with an octopus? Enough drumsticks for Thanksgiving!*
- *How can you make a turkey float? You need 2 scoops of ice cream, some root beer, and a turkey!*
- *Why did the turkey join the band? Because he had drumsticks!*
- *Where did the first corn come from? The stalk brought it!*
- *How did the Mayflower show that it liked America? It hugged the shore!*
- *OK, I'll stop! Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy your time off!*



2019 Yearbook (The Conifer). Order this year's before Oct 12's price increase.

YEARBOOKS for 2019-2020 school year are now available.

- Order online at www.yearbookforever.com. This is the only option for ordering a yearbook, cash or checks are not accepted at school for pre-orders. We do not order extra yearbooks.
- Remember to spell out the word Saint when searching for Saint Paul's School on the website.
- Price
 - \$65 Oct 13 - Mar 13
 - \$75 Mar 14 – May 29
- Seniors **do not** order a yearbook; it is included in senior fees.

Senior parents, grandparents, and family members can purchase a senior ad at www.yearbookforever.com. The deadline to purchase a senior ad is Friday, Feb 21, 2020. All senior ads are created online. Email Mrs. Mimi Monteiro at m.monteiro@stpauls.com if you have any questions about yearbooks or senior

Wrestling Wolves are off to a tremendous start!



A LOOK AHEAD

November

- 18 – ABCD – Senior Day with Archbishop
- 19 – EFGA – Pack Time
- 20 – BCDE
- 21 – FGAB
- 22 – CDEF

December

- 2 – GABC – Late Start (9)
- 3 – DEFG – Pack Time
- 4 – ABCD
- 5 – EFGA – Snack Day
- 6 – BCDE
- 9 – FGABC
- 10 – DEFG – Assembly
- 11 – ABCDE
- 12 – FGABC
- 13 – DEFG + Per A Exam Review
- 16 - 19 Exam Schedules



Sophs at the Food Bank on Service Day

First Semester Exam Schedule

December 2019

Friday, 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

Monday, December 16

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

Tuesday, 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

Wednesday, December 18

8:15-8:30 Prayer, Roll and Announc.

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

Thursday, 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 Party

ROBERT SIMPSON BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT AND SOCIAL: I think most of you know that long time SPS faculty member Robert Simpson has pancreatic cancer. A group of his family and friends has organized this event to help defray the costs of his medical care. The event will be on Dec 11 at TCC. Here's the info:

- Golf tournament, auction, and event link: www.birdeasepro.com/simpson
- To donate to silent auction, contact Jackie Crochet at jackiecrochet@yourmd.com or 985/590-2560
- To become a sponsor, contact Tommy Ruli at truli@wcddefense.com
- To join the team and help, contact Mary Landry at mland511@aol.com or call 985/630-6240
- And, naturally, we ask you to join us in prayer for Robert.

Cross Country Christmas Run With the Wolves Race: Come have some fun and Run with the Wolves on Saturday, December 7. This is the only fundraiser for our District Champion Cross Country Wolves. Geaux CC Wolves!

Whew! Enough for now! But you get a break next week as the newsletter goes on Thanksgiving holiday! Enjoy your Sunday without the newsletter cluttering up your email! Next edition of the newsletter is slated for Sunday, Dec 1 – when we start Advent.

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to any more and LOL since WWNO stopped broadcasting the show): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family and call on me if I can help! Again, thanks for being part of the 2019 - 20 edition of Saint Paul's School.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Giving Thanks Daily for the Privilege of Being the 17th Christian Brother President/CEO of Saint Paul's School



.... by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God’s will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing our Lasallian Mission, and living courageously! Let’s give it our best this week and begin the holidays with no problems – as befits a Blue Ribbon Lasallian Catholic School of Excellence!



“Preach by example; practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.” (SJB DLS)



Jazz Band jazzes it up at end of All Saints Day mass with a rousing rendition of When the Saints to Marching In!

