



The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter
Celebrating 108 years of educational excellence in Covington
339 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
January 06 - 12, 2020



Welcome back and Happy 2020! I hope your holidays were physically renewing and spiritually fulfilling and that you have entered 2020 with hope, optimism, faith, and zeal. As in the past, I begin the New Year by offering you words from our Founder:

Saint John Baptist de La Salle closes his meditation to the Brothers for Jan 1 by bluntly asking:

- *Is it only in vain that you live the name of Christian and minister of Jesus in the work that you do?*
- *Do you live in a manner that befits these glorious names? Do you instruct those for whom you are responsible with the attention and the zeal God asks of you in so holy a work?*

He then reminds the first Brothers (and us today) to make the following New Year's resolutions:

- *Act in a way that your life may begin today to be holy and edifying and continue to be so in the future.*
- *By your good conduct, make yourself worthy of your distinguished role.*

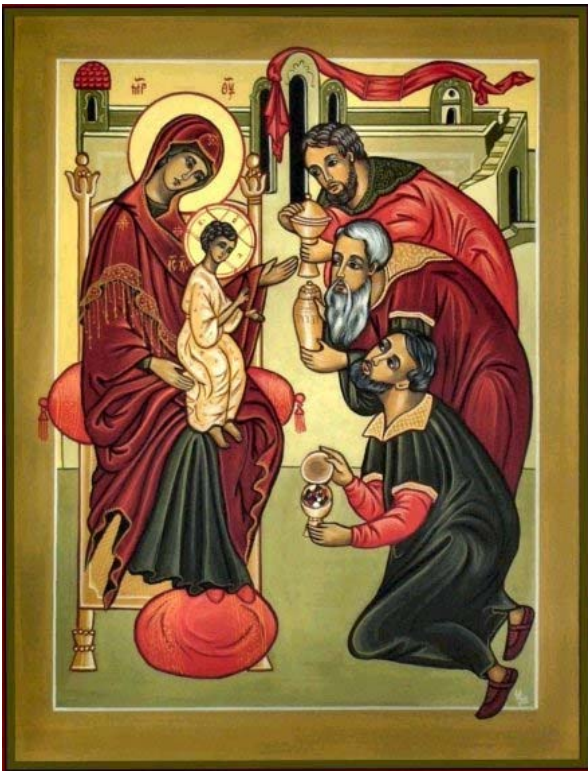
These sound like good resolutions to me! And while they were written for the first Brothers over 339 years ago, they apply equally to Lasallian teachers today and even to parents, who are the primary educators of their children. Let us pray for the grace to put these resolutions into practice!



At our faculty opening of school prayer service last August, Student Council President Paxton Ballard challenged the faculty to make the most of the 2019 - 20 year. He exhorted us to do our best to touch the hearts of the students entrusted to our care. He encouraged us to encourage the students to make the most of their year by getting involved and giving their best to all their endeavors. I asked the teachers in their newsletter this week if they have been faithful in doing so and, if not, to renew their resolve to adopt the tried and true methods of the Lasallian educator.

I think parents, too, need to encourage their sons to make the most of the opportunities being given them. I encourage you, therefore, to look for ways to have your sons make the most of each and every day of 2020.

I wish you a blessed and happy 2020 and a successful second semester – the final one for the Class of 2020!



Mon, Jan 6 (Regular; A B C D)

• **Twelfth Night!** The Twelve Days of Christmas are over! No more turtledoves, French hens, milking maids, leaping lords or swimming swans. You can keep the golden rings, however. Enjoy the quiet from that angry partridge in the pear tree and those darn drummers drumming! Trivia Question of the Week: do you know the traditional names of the three kings? Answer at end of newsletter.

• **This Day in History:** In 1838, Samuel Morse tests the first electric telegraph.

• **National Bean Day:** Celebrate the lowly legume! Enjoy a tasty bean dish! The USDA suggests adults should eat more than 3 cups of beans weekly for health benefits, including reduced risk of heart disease and certain cancers -- but avoid crowded spaces.

Tue, Jan 7 (President's Assembly; E F G A)

• **TDIH:** In 1789, America holds first presidential election (Spoiler Alert: G. Washington won!)

- **TDIH:** In 1953, President Harry Truman announces the development of a hydrogen bomb one thousand times more powerful than the atomic bomb dropped on Japan.
- **I'm Not Gonna Take It Anymore Day:** Well, I'll let you decide what you're not going to take anymore. Just hope it's not SPS, although some of you will probably vote for this newsletter – or the SPS President!
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Slidell in the opening of District Play. Geaux Wolves!
- **Rugby:** Parent meeting at 6:30 in old gym lobby

Wed, Jan 8 (Regular; no mass this morning; mass resumes on 1/15; B C D E)

• **Feast of the Patroness of Southeast Louisiana, Our Lady of Prompt Succor.**

This devotion originated with a French Ursuline nun, who brought to New Orleans a statue she had commissioned under the title of Our Lady of Prompt Succor. (Succor means “help.”) This statue now stands above the main altar in the Ursuline Chapel on State Street. OLPS played a prominent role in Battle of New Orleans and the great New Orleans fire. Today, we pray to her for help in the New Battle of New Orleans against violence, murder and racism. Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!

- **TDIH:** In 1815, two weeks after War of 1812 officially ended, U.S. General Andrew Jackson achieves greatest American victory of the war at the Battle of New Orleans. Today we remember the 205th anniversary of this historic event.
- **TDIH:** In 1935, Elvis Presley is born in Tupelo, MS. Listen to Elvis today!
- **Take the Stairs Day (2nd Wed):** Using stairs promotes good health!
- **National JoyGerm Day:** Spread joy via acts of kindness such as a hug, kiss, love letter, compliment, or any unexpected act of compassion today.
- **Argyle Day:** Wear your argyle (diamond shaped blocks against a colored background) today!

Original OLPS brought from France in 1727 by Ursuline nuns.



- **Senior Retreat** begins today. Prayers and best wishes go with the seniors & Retreat Team. We owe the team a great deal of thanks for undertaking this important ministry. Special thanks, too, to those who will help with substitutions during retreat. Take this seriously and be available to assist subs who may need help. The group returns Fri afternoon. We are indebted to retreat coordinators Lee Pierre & Renee' Miller.
- **Basketball:** 9th TBD

Thu, Jan 9 (Regular; F G A B)

- **TDIH:** In 1793, Jean Pierre Blanchard made the first balloon aerial voyage in the New World at the Walnut Street Prison in Philadelphia at dawn. He sold tickets and the excitement was so great that almost the entire population of Philly turned out, in addition to a large number of visitors from the surrounding countryside.
- **TDIH II:** 1493, Christopher Columbus, sailing near Dominican Republic, sees three "mermaids"--in reality manatees--and describes them as "not half as beautiful as they are painted" – a great example of understatement.
- **Static Electricity Day:** Find a Van de Graaff generator to touch and celebrate the wonders of the old balloon-sticking-to-the-wall trick, the hair-raising that takes place after we take off winter hats, and the shock of electricity that we get from petting a cat after scooting across a carpeted floor in socks.
- **Basketball:** 8th v. Shaw at Bro. Martin
- **Soccer:** 9th at Catholic High



New Year's morning at SPS! It's gonna' be a great year!

Fri, Jan 10 (Regular; C D E F)

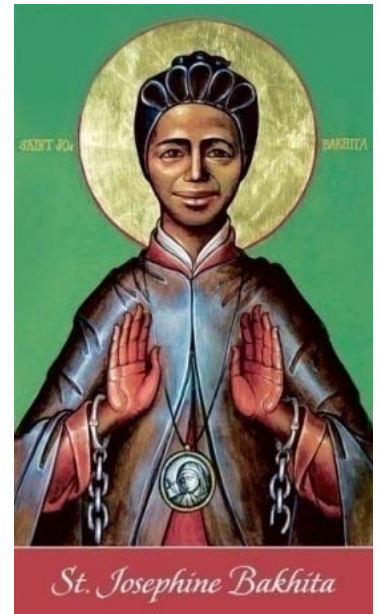
- **TDIH:** 1982, SF 49ers wide receiver Dwight Clark makes leaping catch in end zone on a pass from QB Joe Montana with 51 seconds left in the NFC, sending the '9ers to Super Bowl & beginning a dynasty of the 1980s. To see "the catch", click here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dCEaA1PytY>
- **Houseplant Appreciation Day:** With Christmas decorations gone, attend to your houseplants.
- **Cut Your Energy Costs Day:** Do all you can to conserve energy today – and every day.
- **Wrestling:** Jr Hi scrimmage v. Jesuit (tentative)
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Hammond
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Slidell

Sat, Jan 11

- **National Milk Day:** In 1878, milk was reportedly delivered in bottles for the very first time. Prior to this, milk was brought door to door in large metal cans and they would ladle you out a portion.
- **TDIH:** In 2012, a special blessing and opening ceremony for the newly renovated La Salle Hall was held. The building has served us well, and we continue to marvel at this incredible transformation of the old dormitory into currently usable space. As we mark the five-year anniversary, let's not forget to remember

all those who helped make it possible and treat the building with respect and appreciation. In particular, I'd like to recognize the members of the Centennial Club, who donated \$50,000 to the project: An Anonymous Alumnus, Bobby Nolan, Greg and Lisa Pellegrini, Tom and Sue Lavin, Chris and Angie Jean, James T. Branton, and the Craig Paretti, Jr. Family.

- **TDIH:** In 2016, John Bel Edwards was inaugurated as Governor of Louisiana. Regardless of our party affiliation, we should offer our governor and other elected officials our prayers and best wishes as they address the problems of our beloved state. May they govern wisely and honestly!
- **Human Trafficking Day:** We do not think much about this human horror, so today attempts to raise awareness about the effects of what has been termed modern day slavery.
- **Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of those who are trafficked:**
St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved.
- **Application Day:** Applicants for next year will be on campus this morning for placement testing. Every Catholic high school in the Archdiocese does this today. Wherever a student tests, that school becomes the school of first choice and other schools may not recruit them until admission decisions are issued in late February. Pray for a good showing for us this morning.
- **Football Awards Ceremony (1 pm in the BAC)**
- **Basketball:** 9th & JV v. Salmen (10 & 11); 8th v. Holy Cross & Bro. Martin at Jesuit (3 & 4)
- **Wrestling:** JV in Catholic High tournament
- **Lacrosse Alumni Game**
- **Soccer:** 9th & JV at Bro. Martin (1:30); SPS 8th grade tournament



Sun, Jan 12

- **TDIH:** 1969, in the most celebrated performance of his career, quarterback Joe Namath leads New York Jets to a stunning 16-7 victory over the heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III, held in Miami.
- **National Pharmacists Day:** We salute all pharmacists!
- **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord:** Today ends the Catholic Church's Christmas season. In the early centuries, the birth of Christ did not have its own feast. It was originally part of a great feast on January 6 called "Epiphany" (celebrated this year on Jan 6) that celebrated several "manifestations" of Christ – his birth, his recognition by the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan and his miracle at Cana. In about the fourth century, Christians in the western world pulled Christmas out of Epiphany celebration and gave it a feast of its own on December 25. The time between this new feast on December 25 and the feast of the Epiphany on January 6 became the Christmas season – the 12 days of Christmas. But eventually an "octave" was added to feast of the Epiphany – which extended the celebration. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord was eventually placed at the end of the octave and now it is the feast that brings the Christmas season to a close.
- **TDIH:** The Beatles release "Yellow Submarine." Listen to this song! *We all live in a yellow submarine!*

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 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> (a lot like Khan Academy regarding its prep work and video tutorials)



Michael & Matthew read intercessions at mass during exam week.

ADMISSIONS FOR 2020-21: I was VERY pleased with the number of applicants for next year and offer my thanks to you for your work on Shadow Days and Open House – all of which played to great reviews. I am especially grateful to Karen Hebert for organizing the Shadow Days and organizing the applications for review. **The next step in the process is Application Day testing on THIS SATURDAY, Jan 11.** Please stress with people that this is a placement test, not an admissions test. We base admissions on the total elementary school record. I get inquiries about “chances of getting in.” The key is to apply **ON TIME** – and that means attending the testing this Saturday. If you know of

someone considering SPS but who has not applied, encourage them to apply – there is no commitment at this point, but it keeps the door open. **We are committed to helping any family who wants to belong to the SPS family to do so. If a family missed Open House but still wants to see the school, have them call for an appointment and I'll 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!**

ALUMNI NEWS: I noticed the following alums graduated from LSU in Dec:

- Agriculture: Zachary Davis and Sam Moore
- Business: David Davenport, Sam Pearce, Shelby Stumpff, & Tate Wade
- Engineering: Christian Bartlett, Ernie Jilek, Connor Lyons, Jackson Murrell, & Brent Stokes
- Human Sciences & Education: Chase Cochran & Byron Morgan
- Humanities & Social Sciences: Michael Curry & Trey Klechak
- Science: Jacob Authement, Bram Love, and Cullen Lagasse

ALUMNI NEWS II: I noticed the following alums graduated from SLU in Dec: William Munn (History), Parker Richerson (Industrial Technology), Kannon Otilio (Business), William Saucier (Marketing)

ALUMNI NEWS III: And I was informed that Gary Cavalier, '15 graduated from ULL in Industrial Tech!

APPLICATION LETTERS: More unedited excerpts from next year's Wolves:

- *You should accept me because I am athletic, smart, and outgoing. [And humble!]*
- *My father played varsity football for St. Paul's and when he talks about the team he still gets goosebumps.*
- *St. Paul's has everything I ever wanted in a school, like better lunches and a workout room. [Priorities!]*
- *St. Paul's is always adding something new like PJ's coffee. Even though I don't like coffee, it will come in handy in the future. [PJ's serves tea, too!]*
- *I know St. Paul's will be an environment that I would like to get up every morning and go to. [Me, too!]*

ANNUAL APPEAL: Many thanks to those who have responded to my request. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual fund appeals**; many are high-pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressured.
- The Annual Appeal funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million Benilde Hall renovation, \$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!**
- 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!



Sebastian and Clayton concentrate on their exam.

- 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 to the Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

ANNUAL APPEAL AND GRANDPARENTS: We are blessed with many supportive grandparents. Many schools solicit donations from grandparents directly. Again, I do it differently than other schools that directly solicit grandparents. I ask that you inform your son's grandparents or, if you want, I'll be happy to send them the information directly if you wish. Just provide me with the information. **I do not want to ask grandparents without your consent but we need their support.** I have already received a number of grandparent gifts. Again, no gift is too small – and, of course, no gift is too large.

APPLICATION DAY ON JAN 11: In all 22 high schools in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, applicants for next year take the placement test this coming Saturday, January 11, beginning at 8 am. I pray for a successful day. By policy of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, priority in being admitted is given to those who attend this day. **If you know of any new student considering attending SPS for 8th or 9th grade next year, strongly encourage them to attend testing. This is not a commitment on anyone’s part, but merely keeps the option open. Thanks for spreading the good word about SPS.**

ASSEMBLY ON DEC 10: I hope the students enjoyed our Dec 10 assembly. Here’s some of what we did:

- Entered the at the beginning of Advent by listening to an incredible version of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” – a traditional Advent song which dates back to the 12th century – which was sung by local St. Tammany musician and former SPS Physics teacher Gene Lipps. I explained that the words are based on Isaiah’s biblical prophecy and that the word “Advent” comes from the Latin “Ad”, meaning “toward” or to” and “venire” which means “to come.” Hence, Advent is a prayer of wanting our Savior “to come to or toward” us. I encourage the students to make the most of these special days. Finally, I had the boys stand and sing along with the recording. It was powerful. I reminded them that we were less than three weeks away from exams and to start preparing and encouraged them to make the most of this last month of 2019.



Science teacher and musician Gene Lipps sings “O come O Come Emmanuel” at assembly during exam week.

- Prayed in a special way in honor of the Beatification of **Christian Brother James Miller**, who was martyred for the faith while working with the poor in Guatemala in the 1980's.
- Recognized and congratulated the almost 90 current students who have an ACT composite score of 30 or better and informed them of a special lunch in their honor that day:
 - Class of 2022: **Aiden Barrios & Andrew Hightower**
 - Class of 2021: **Christian Allison, Wesley Coles, Matthew Collings, Nicholas Cusimano, Ryan Daly, Charles Ducombs, Lucca Ferrante, Axel Henderson, Jake Holincheck, Hunter Kergosien, David Lagarde, Garrett Lauterbach, Caleb Nicotri, Trey Paine, Jacob Pichon, Nicholas Reardon, Stergios Sotiropoulos, Brady Talley, & Scott Woodard**
 - Class of 2020: **Sam Avenel, Paxton Ballard, Jack Bedell, John Bergeron, Brady Billiot, Blake Bollinger, Joshua Bonnett, James Bradford, Michael Capritto, Evan Carse, Jesse Cheng, Corbin Chitwood, Callan Danenhower, Brenden Dauterive, Ben Davidson, Blake DiSalvo, Nicholas Ditta, Cameron Dougherty, Clayton Dunavant, Carter Elie, Harrison Elliott, Hal Fox, Caleb Frost, Frank Galeziewski, Miles Gensler, Joseph Giberga, Reece Grimley, Sean Hightower, Charles Hoy, Tucker Hysom, Adam Janney, Patrick Kilgore, Ben Klein, Alex Klocek, Ian Kramer, Andrew Lacoste, Darrin Lea, James Lee, Micah Logan, Scott Manifold,, Ian McCarthy, Joshua McLain, Jarrett Meibaum, Thomas Miller, Scott Montreuil, Collin Murray, Al Nastasi, Daniel Nunez, Michael Oubre, Landon Rees, Matthew Roussel, Ben Schwing, Elias Simpson, Adam Smith, Scott Sonnier, Paul Stolin, Patrick Thompson, Beau Trahan, Marshall Unkauf, Luke Vargas, Mason Vencil, Santiago Villegas, Danny Zuckerman**
- Then, as if by magic, The Water Music by George Frideric Handel started playing, which signified that the Aqua Wolves were swimming. I recognized and congratulated the AWs for a strong 3rd place finish in the state swimming meet and projected the following results:
 - **200 Medley Relay - 3rd Place: Austin Peak, Drew Putfark, Cameron Smith, Jesse Cheng**
 - **200 Individual Medley - 3rd Place, Austin Peak**
 - **50 Free - 3rd Place, Jesse Cheng**
 - **100 Free - 2nd Place, Jesse Cheng**
 - **200 Free Relay - 2nd Place: Jesse Cheng, Austin Peak, Cameron Smith, Scott Messa**
 - **100 Breaststroke - 2nd Place, Drew Putfark**
 - **Other Top 8 finishes**
 - **100 Back - 4th Place, Austin Peak**
 - **400 Free Relay - 8th Place: Bradford Day, Scott Messa, Christian Kramer, Drew Putfark**
 - **Others scoring points:**
 - **200 Free, 100 Butterfly - Cameron Smith**
 - **200IM - Drew Putfark**
 - **50 Free, 100 Free - Scott Messa**
 - **100 Breast - Evan Abraham**
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Jesse Cheng** for being named to the All-State Academic Composite Swim Team – quite an honor!
- Recognized and congratulated the **cast and crew of A Few Good Men**, who had just finished their outstanding production.
- Recognized and congratulated **The Spanish Society** for a meaningful Dia de los Muertos.

- Recognized and congratulated senior **Brenon LeGuin** for a selfless act of helping a motorist who had rammed the back of his car. Instead of tending to his own needs, Brenon raced to the offending motorist and helped her out of her car, making sure she was OK. Brenon’s actions earned him some well-deserved praise on social media.
- Then, as if by magic, The William Tell Overture by Gioachino Antonio Rossini started playing, which signified that the **Cross Country Wolves** were running. And running they were, finishing 3rd in State.
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Patrick Elliott** for being named to the All State Academic Composite Cross Country Team – quite an honor!
- Recognized and congratulated those students who served as tour guides at our recent Open House for prospective students: **Sam Avenel, Jack Bedell, John Bergeron, Brady Billiot, Blake Bollinger, Jesse Cheng, Michael Crockett, Callan Danenhower, Brenden Dauterive, Blake DiSalvo, Nicholas Ditta, Cameron Dougherty, Clayton Dunavant, Caleb Frost, Wayne Galloway, Miles Gensler, Joseph Giberga, Reece Grimley, Davis Heebe, Zack Ingram, Andrew Lacoste** , **Darrin Lea, Bronson May, Ian McCarthy, Jarrett Meibaum, Evan Meral, Deuce Monteiro, Al Nastasi, Daniel Nunez, Landon Rees, Matthew Roussel, Trey Smith, Marshall Unkauf, Luke Vargas, Dan Zuckerman, Andrew Addison, Rhett Barker, Luke Beckendorf, Thomas Bitterwolf, Preston Calvert, Adam Cazayoux, Wesley Coles, Matthew Collings, Christopher Franke, Lorenzo Frieman, Evan Greene, Gabe Gros, Jake Holincheck** , **Christian Kramer, Davis Lagarde, Garrett Lauterbach, Vageli Liokis, Trey Paine, Austin Peak, Jacob Pichon, Nicholas Reardon, Matthew Russo, Scott Woodard, Isaiah Ayo** , **Beau Barre’, Kasey Gottschalk, Zachery Gros, Andrew Hightower, Kyle Kersker, Grant Nastasi, and Christian Cowley**. This group was wonderful and the results were more than gratifying!
- Then, as if by magic, the “Ride of the Valkyries” from Richard Wagner’s opera Die Walkure started playing, which meant it was time to recognize our football program. The Wolves advanced to the quarter final round of the state playoffs – quite an achievement! Individual honors went to:
 - **All-District Team 1st Team Offense Danny Zuckerman**
 - **2nd Team Offense Nick Vining William Grand Mitchell Smith**
 - **Honorable Mention Carter Elie Jarrett Meibaum Danny Sears**
 - **1st Team Defense Michael Crockett- DE Miles Biggs- LB**
 - **2nd Team Defense Jacob Frolic- Owen Vincens-LB Ian McCarthy-DB Wayne Galloway**
 - **Honorable Mention Daniel Dufour Thomas Rushing Brady Loisel**
 - **1st Team Specialists Justin Baham- Punter**
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Carter Elie** for being named a Friday Night Football Scholar Athlete!
- Recognized and congratulated senior **Jarrett Meibaum** for being named to the All State Academic Composite Football Team – quite an honor!
- As we were running out of time, the rest of my recognitions will roll over to a future assembly. We closed by my reminding the boys to **Slow Your Roll** – Covington Mayor Mark Johnson’s campaign to make Covington streets safer places.

- To close the assembly, the boys sang O Come O Come Emmanuel. It was more than moving and you can view it on our Facebook page.
- As the prayer candle was extinguished, I reminded the students that they must leave the gym and be the Light of God to all they meet. They promised to do so. It was a great assembly -- at least I thought so!



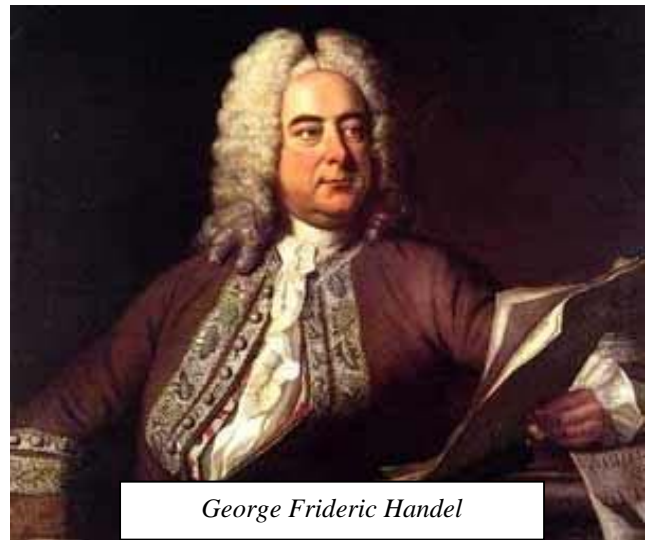
Josh lights prayer candle at assembly.

ASSEMBLY ON DEC 16: I hope the students enjoyed our Dec 16 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening to the overture to *Messiah* (never "*The*" *Messiah*), by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) -- one of the most beloved Oratorios (a musical selection for orchestras, choirs & solos often based on religious themes so they could be performed in churches.) It's one of the most famous musical compositions in the world, based on the Judeo- Christian concept of Messiah (anointed one). Handel composed it in just 24 days in summer of 1741 (incredible!) and it was first performed in April of 1742. It's one of my most favorite pieces of music. While the music was playing, **junior Josh Sabadie** lit two Advent candles. I encouraged the students to make the most of the remaining days of Advent. And since Hanukkah was to be celebrated in only a few days later, I had freshman **Sam Gold** tell the Hanukkah story, recite the

Hanukkah blessing, and explain the menorah candles. I was very pleased with the students' attention and hope they now know the Hanukkah story.

- We then prayed
- Recognized and congratulated the **Marching Wolves** for the GREAT football season they had, keeping the crowds entertained with their distinctive style and class.
- Recognized and congratulated sophomores **Andrew Hightower, Ethan Viator, and William Ditta** for winning 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the senior high division of the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission's annual essay contest. SPS swept the category! The awards ceremony was held in the Louisiana Governor's Mansion in Baton Rouge.
- Recognized and congratulated those students who helped make Jazz n Roll so successful: **Brady Meibaum, Trey Harkins, Jake Holincheck, and Elias Simpson, who did a beautiful job singing the National Anthem; Owen Crombie, who did an excellent job as the mascot with Grant Harrison acting**



George Frideric Handel

as his “handler”, and our incredible Student Hosts: Harrison Elliot, Drew Putfark, Matthew Collings, Gabe Gros, Grant Harrison, Christian Kramer, Jacob Pichon, Isaiah Ayo, Daniel Bitterwolf, Kason Gorney, Kyle Kersker, Nicholas Achee, and Benjamin Chiasson.

Louisiana Environmental Education Commission 2019 Essay Contest

1st Place in Senior Hi Division – Andrew Hightower

2nd Place – Ethan Viator (out of town for ceremony)

3rd Place – William Ditta



- Recognized and congratulated the band students who volunteered to work the Kickin’ Parkinson’s Fundraiser. I projected the following email that I received from the event’s volunteer coordinators, Mrs. Penny Dastugue and Ms. Suzanne Cambre: *Brother Ray, we are on a committee that organizes fundraising for Parkinson’s research. Our largest event is an annual party at Stone Creek Club in Covington, which is attended by over 500 guests. This year, we were able to secure the volunteer help of the St. Paul’s jazz band and scores of other of your students to work at the function. The jazz band was great and enjoyed by all. However, it was the tremendous attitude, manners and enthusiasm of all of the student volunteers that truly impressed our committee. The young men were not only willing to do the work, they were eager to*

participate and did so without complaint. They were unfailingly polite, enthusiastic and respectful but most of all, there wasn't a task that they weren't willing to assist with and they stayed to the end to help. We heard from every Committee member how they were their favorite volunteers ever and everyone raved about them. It is a testament to you, your Band Director and the wonderful families that choose SPS. You must be very proud of them! Truly, they added to the entire experience for both the organizers and the guests. We wanted you to know what a fine group of men represented the school and our community. Thank you and St. Paul's for your part in developing these students into exemplary people

- As time was running short at this point, I reminded the students of my custom of giving them a musical treat by playing one of my favorite pieces of classical Christmas music: *For Unto Us a Child is Born* from George Fredrick Handel's *Messiah* (not "The" Messiah!) and for three minutes and 45 seconds, the gym was transformed into an 18th century English concert hall with Handel, one of the greatest of the Baroque composers, conducting his musical masterpiece. It was beyond wonderful.
- Then, I reminded the students to pray "Maranatha" – one of the oldest prayers in the Church, which means "Come, Lord" in Aramaic – the language Jesus probably spoke. Finally, Mr. Gene Lipps treated us to a live performance of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" and had the students sing along with him on the third verse. They were fantastic! **You can hear them on our Facebook page!** Junior **Caleb Nicotri** extinguished the Advent candles, and I reminded the students what the candles represent – the coming of the Lord into our hearts and our world.
- It was a magical assembly! At least I thought so!

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

BEN BLANCHARD & JOEY CHERRY MEMORIAL ANNIVERSARIES: Last week we observed the four-year anniversary of the passing of SPS alum Ben Blanchard '00. We remember Ben's **Final Words to his Family:** *At the end of the day, all you have is your family, your friends and your reputation, which is easy to lose and hard to build* and we honor his memory in the new Benilde Hall library/media center. And on Dec 26, we observed the one year anniversary of passing of Joey Cherry '15, brother of Charles '20 and David '22. We honor Joey's memory with an award at end of you and we support both families with prayer!

CALENDAR FOR 2020-21: Here is our tentative calendar for next year (for those who really plan!)

Thurs, Aug 6	School Opens with full day of instruction (same day as public schools)
Thu, Aug 20	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Day
Fri, Aug 21	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Aug 24	Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Mon, Sep 7	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 2	In-service for faculty (no classes for students)
Fri, Oct 9	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 9	Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:30)
Mon, Oct 19	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Sat, Oct 31	Open House for Prospective Students (1 – 3 pm)

Tues, Nov 3	Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Nov 23 - 27	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 30	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon - Thu, Dec 14-17	Semester Exams
Thu, Dec 17	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Mon, Jan 4	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Jan 6-8	Senior Retreat
Mon, Jan 18	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 1	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
Fri, Feb 12	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 15-19	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 22	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 12	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri Apr 2-9	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 12	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 28-30	Senior Final Exams
Thu, May 13	Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)
Sat, May 15	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Tues – Fri, May 18-21	Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11
Mon, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Tues, May 25	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

Remember that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.

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: Each top is worth 10 cents – which adds up quickly. Thanks to the Math Department for promoting this painless way to help SPS financially..



Sean smiles confidently as he reviews for his exam.

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

DRIVING: I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2020 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.

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.



Students are “all ears” during exam review.

FINANCE OFFICE HIRE: We welcome Ms. Laura Harper to a full-time position in our Finance Office. Laura is the mother of SPS alumnus Thomas Harper, Class of 2012. She comes with excellent credentials and references. Welcome her as she “learns the ropes of SPS’s finances.” I am most grateful to Jo Sutherlin and Cindy Leaber who have kept the Finance Office running efficiently these last six weeks.

FORTNITE ADDICTION: Several reputable journals ran stories last week on a growing phenomenon: addiction to Fortnite. Here’s an article from The Denver Post:

<https://www.denverpost.com/2018/12/02/fornite-addiction-video-game-rehab/> Some parents have even sent their kids to Fortnite rehab! I definitely am concerned for some of our students!

GRADES, EXAMS, REPORT CARDS, HONOR ROLL BREAKFASTS, ETC.

- **Report Cards** were emailed last week, although grades had been accessible on PlusPortals for a while. **Let me know if you did not receive a report card. There are no parent-teacher conferences until Feb, so email any concerns to teachers.**
- **Semester Exams** DID NOT lower most student averages. The overwhelming number of students earned the same grade on exams that they had going into exams. There were a few exceptions – on BOTH ends of the spectrum (students who did worse and students who did better.) **What the semester exams did accomplish is give your son college preparatory experience – which will pay dividends in the future.**
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Here’s the schedule for the second quarter HR breakfast schedule:
 - *Jan 21 – 8th HR Breakfast*
 - *Jan 22 – 9th HR Breakfast*
 - *Jan 23 --10th HR Breakfast*
 - *Jan 27 – 11th HR Breakfast*
 - *Jan 29 – 12th HR Breakfast*

All breakfasts last from 7:50-8:30. Note: HR is determined by **second QUARTER, not semester grades.**

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.

JANUARY: According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the Latin month name *Januarius*, from which we get the word *January*, was associated by the ancient Romans with their god *Janus*. *Janus* was a god of doorways and gates (in Latin, *janua*), and of beginnings, so the name seems appropriate for the first month of the year. Curiously, however, the early Roman calendar began with March, not January, so the origin of the Latin name is somewhat mysterious. Here are some of the causes celebrated in January: Apple and Apricots Month, Artichoke and Asparagus Month, Bath Safety Month, Be Kind to Food Servers Month, Birth Defects Month, California Dried Plum Digestive Month, Celebration of Life Month, Financial Wellness Month, Get A Balanced Life Month, Get Organized Month, International Creativity Month, National Clean Up Your Computer Month, National Glaucoma Awareness Month, National Hot Tea Month, National Mentoring Month, National Polka Music Month, National Poverty in America Awareness Month, National Soup Month, National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, Oatmeal Month, Rising Star Month, Shape Up US Month, Teen Driving Awareness Month, Tubers and Dried Fruit Month, Thyroid Awareness Month, & Worldwide Rising Star Month. Something for everyone!

LAST TWO WEEKS:

- **Advent Mass:** Thanks to Jeff Ramon for organizing the mass and to the religion department for preparing our students for active participation.
- **Advent Wreath:** Campus Ministry's unorthodox but powerful Advent wreath certainly drew attention to this meaningful season – and drew positive comments!
- **Alumni:** Al and the alums were busy in December: the Alumni Basketball Game was a big hit, Trivia Night was well attended, Feeding the Needy was heartwarming, Christmas on Columbia gathering with SSA was successful, and the Lacrosse Alumni Game had some young alums showing their age!
- **Athletics:** Thanks to all the coaches who kept our student athletes focused on their seasons by having practices during the holidays. This provided a positive, safe, healthy activity for our students.
- **Athletic Signing:** Congrats to Wayne Galloway who committed to U of Richmond's football program during exam week. Thanks, as usual, to Karen for organizing the signing ceremony.
- **Basketball: Gene Bennett Memorial Basketball Tournament** was a grand success. Thanks, Coach Dale, for honoring Gene – with three wins, no less! And the Wolves won three in the Pensacola Catholic T'ment!
- **Bookstore:** The MC did brisk business with their extended hours before Christmas. Thanks, MC! Your hard work directly benefits our students and staff.
- **Christmas Eve Mass:** Thanks to Brother Ken for organizing the 10 pm Christmas Eve liturgy, celebrated by Father Matthew, in the school chapel. A large crowd, composed mostly of alums and current families, attended.
- **Christmas Lunch:** Thanks to Mothers Club, Karen & Don who organized this event on 12/19.
- **Exam week** went well. We had a few “issues” but most understood semester grading policy.
- **Project Christmas:** Thanks to all who helped. We made a significant impact. We also donated \$500 to Sister Theresa Berlin and her “Blue Shack” work in Covington's West 30's area and \$500 to the Rotary Club Feed the Needy Program, which used our facility to prepare and distribute meals to the needy.
- **Quiddich Tournament:** Our Annual Quiddich Tournament was a grand success, with students scampering about on broomsticks and snitches being thrown. Who says we don't have something for everyone!
- **Rotary Club Feed the Needy.** Thanks to all who helped. Over 1000 Christmas meals were prepared in our cafeteria and delivered on Christmas morn. Many SPS families and alums helped.
- **Rugby** “dominated” (Coach's word) Jesuit and Bro Martin over the holidays.
- **Soccer:** Weather forced the cancellation of the annual SPS Holiday Tournament! Bu the Wolves won the COPA tournament by defeating Jesuit 2-1!
- **Wolf Tracks:** The holidays didn't stop Danielle Lavie from publishing a December issue! Excellent issue!
- **Wrestling Wolves:** WWs were busy over the holidays with practices and matches.

LOST AND FOUND: The accumulation continues. Sweatshirts, pants, belts, uniform shirts, many, many lunch boxes, books, art supplies, pencil cases, folders, flash drives, you name, it's probably in our lost and found. Parents, please put your son's name on things and stress with your son the need to be responsible with his belongings.

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



THE PAPER WOLF: We have an award winning digital newspaper that was named Best in State last year by the LA Scholastic Press Association. Please subscribe and have your sons to do, too. And send the staff feedback. They love hearing from you. Congrats to TPW for the flurry of articles being written and published. The quality of writing is excellent. Here's the link: <http://thepaperwolf.com>

RE-REGISTRATION OF CURRENT STUDENTS FOR 2020-21: Here's the process:

- Current 8th graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8th graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9th graders we can accept.
- Current 9th – 11th grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12th graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2020-21, a \$300 registration fee will be due.
- **Also, if your son does not plan on returning, please let me know.**



Joel reads at Advent mass during exam week.

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: Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, **NO CELL PHONE USE DURING SCHOOL ZONE TIMES**, 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.

SENIOR PARENTS: Senior Retreat is just around the corner. You should have received an email with all the details from Renee Miller and Lee Pierre, retreat coordinators. If you didn't receive this email, please email Renee at reneep@stpauls.com or Lee at leep@stpauls.com. **Also, we still have a number of March Through the Arch photos. If you don't want it, that's fine – just let me know.**

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."**

SOCIAL HOSTING: Even with the holiday season behind us, the temptations for alcohol use by students remains. One issue facing parents is hosting parties where teens are exposed to or even given alcohol. This is known as "social hosting." Here is a brochure on this activity, which may have legal consequences. Mr. Hal Fox, owner of Fox Litho of Mandeville and father of Hal, provided the brochure. Here's the link:
<http://fb.mediarelay.com/pbda246>

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

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. Faculty will supervise the space. We will offer this service as long as there is a demand for it.

TUTORING: National Honor Society tutoring will resume every day during lunch. Encourage your son to take advantage of this service, which includes essay-proofreading services. **It is not embarrassing to do so.**

UNIFORM SHIRTS: We have a large number of pre-owned uniform shirts in good condition if your son has outgrown his and purchasing new ones is difficult for you. Just come to the Admin Bldg. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son. We also have a number of khaki pants available – all for the taking.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Some milk jokes, in recognition of Milk Day:

- *What did one dairy cow say to another? Got milk?*
- *What's a cow that doesn't give milk? A milk dud.*
- *Why don't cows have any money? Because they always get milked dry.*
- *What does an invisible man drink? Evaporated milk.*
- *Where do Russians get milk? From Mos-cows*
- *Where do milkshakes come from? Nervous cows.*
- *What mama cow says to baby? It's pasture bedtime.*
- *Do you know why the cow jumped over the moon? The farmer had cold hands.*
- *Why did cow cross the road? To get to the udder side.*
- *Why did a farmer raise brown cows? Chocolate milk!*
- *How do you make a milkshake? A cow & a pogo stick.*

- *What do you get when you cross a cow and a duck? Milk and Quackers!*
- *What kind of milk comes from a forgetful cow? Milk of Amnesia*
- *Why can't dairy cows dance? They have 2 left feet.*
- *Why did the kitten drink all the milk? Because kittens love milk!*
- *How did the cow soccer team win the game? By milking the clock.*
- *Why did the pirate want milk poured on him? He was Captain Crunch!*
- *What was the cow's favorite candy bar? Milky Way*
- *What kind of milk do you find in the dessert? Powdered milk*
- *What do you call a gallon of milk that comes to life? Frankenmilk.*
- *What is as big as a glass of milk but weighs nothing? It's shadow.*
- *What do you get from an Eskimo cow? Ice Cream*
- *How did Reese eat her milk and cereal? Witherspoon.*
- *Where did cave dwellers get milk? From Wooly Cows.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

YEARBOOKS:

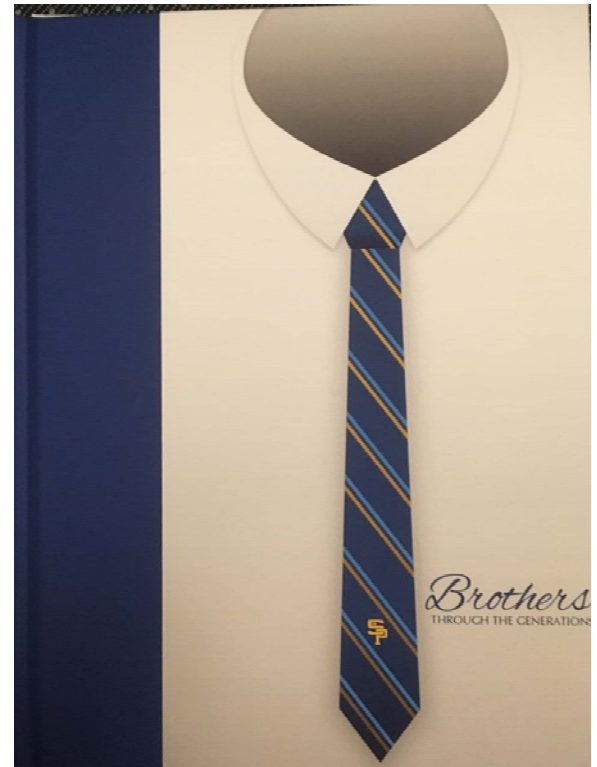
- You may order a 2019-20 book online at www.yearbookforever.com. This is the only option for ordering a yearbook. We do not order extra yearbooks for you.
- Remember to spell out the word Saint when searching for Saint Paul's School on the website.
- Price \$65 until Mar 13; \$75 after Mar 13
- Seniors **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

A LOOK AHEAD AND 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 is unavoidable conflicts (weather, etc.) occur:

January

- 6 – ABCD
- 7 – EFGA – President's Assembly
- 8 – BCDE – Senior Retreat
- 9 – FGAB – Senior Retreat
- 10 – CDEF – Senior Retreat
- 13 – GABC
- 14 – DEFG – Pack Time



2019 Yearbook (The Conifer). Order this year's before Mar 13's price increase.

- 15– ABCD
- 16 – EFGA
- 17 – BCDE
- 21 – FGAB – 8th HR Breakfast/LPO Concert in BAC
- 22 – CDEF – 9th HR Breakfast
- 23 – GABC – 10th HR Breakfast
- 24 – DEFG – Mass – dress uniform day
- 27 – ABCD – 11th HR Breakfast
- 28 – EFGA – President’s Assembly
- 29 – BCDE - 12th in HR Breakfast
- 30 – FGAB
- 31 - CDEF

February

- 3 – GABC – Late Start
- 4 – DEFG - Pack Time
- 5 – ABCD
- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – *Life Skills for Seniors*
- 10 – FGAB
- 11 – CDEF – President’s Assembly – 8th in Pre-ACT
- 12 – GABC – 9th in PLAN
- 13 – DEFG – 10th in Pre ACT
- 14 – ABCD
- 17 – EFGA
- 18 – BCDE - Pack Time
- 19 – FGAB
- 20 – CDEF
- 21 – Faculty Retreat Day

March

- 2 – ABCDEFG – St. Joseph Altar
- 3 – GABC – President’s Assembly
- 4 – DEFG
- 5 – ABCD – *Juniors on retreat/Angola*
- 6 – EFGA – *Juniors on retreat/Angola*
- 9 – BCDE – Late Start
- 10 – FGAB – Pack Time – Juniors in ACT
- 11 – CDEF
- 12 – GABC
- 13 – DEFG –End of Third Quarter
- 16 - ABCD
- 17 – EFGA – President’s Assembly
- 18 – BCDE
- 19 – FGAB



Johnny & Jack display their awards from the Newman Debate Tournament in December.

- 20 – CDEF
- 23 – GABC
- 24 – DEFG – Pack Time
- 25 – ABCD
- 26 – EFGA – 9th Retreat/Field Trip
- 27 – BCDE – 9th Retreat/Field Trip
- 30 – FGAB – 12th HR Breakfast in Café
- 31 – CDEF – President’s Assembly

April

- 1 – GABC - 8/9th HR Breakfast in BAC
- 2 – DEFG – 10/11th HR Breakfast in BAC
- 3 – ABCD – Jubilarian Assembly
- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – Pack Time
- 8 – FGAB – Passion Play Schedule
- 9 – CDEF – Mandatum Schedule
- 20 – GABC – Late Start
- 21 – DEFG – President’s Assembly
- 22 – ABCD – Leadership Breakfast
- 23 – EFGA – Assembly Schedule
- 24 – BCDE – Assembly Schedule
- 27 – FGAB
- 28 – CDEF – Pack Time
- 29 – GABC - Senior Exams
- 30 – DEFG - Senior Exams

May

- 1 – ABCD – Senior Exams
- 4 – EFGA
- 5 – BCDE – President’s Assembly
- 6 – FGAB
- 7 – CDEF – Athletic Awards
- 8 – GABC – Academic Awards
- 11 – DEFG – 8th Grade Exams
- 12 – ABCD – President’s Assembly – 8th Exams
- 13 – EFGA – 8th Exams
- 14 – BCDE – 8th Exams
- 15 – FGABC (8th Promotion 6:00 PM)
- 18 – DEFG (Review for Period A Exam)
- 19 – Exam Schedule
- 20 – Exam Schedule
- 21 – Exam Schedule
- 22 – Exam Schedule



Brady leads the responsorial psalm response during Advent mass during exam week.

Whew! I've worn you out in this first week of 2020, but you had the last two weeks off! Even though it's a New Year, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to anymore since it stopped broadcasting but I still remember it and LOL): 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 begin the New Year! Again, thanks for being part of the 2019 - 20 edition of SPS! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Blessed Beyond Measure to See 2020 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

Mark Twain's Classic Seasonal Quotation: *New Year's Day: Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual.*

And as Christmas 2019 fades into history, let us not forget the inspiration by the Student Council on luminaria night: *PAX! Peace!*

Answer to Jan 06 Trivia Q: The three kings are traditionally named Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. But you knew that.

Lasallian education: transforming lives since 1680...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing the Lasallian Mission and living courageously.



*A drone's eye view of the campus on luminaria night!
Photo courtesy of seniors Michael Valliant and Parker Pierson*