



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*  
*Celebrating 108 years of educational excellence in Covington*  
*339 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world*  
*January 13 - 20, 2020*



Thanks to all who made the return to school and the start of the second semester so smooth and successful!

Can you believe we are about to complete two full weeks of 2020? Strains of “Auld Lang Syne” are still ringing in my ears! And my quickly fading New Year’s resolutions remind me that January is a good time for self-review and mid-year correction.



St. John Baptist de La Salle, however, wanted the first Brothers to do regular self-examination and correction. Accordingly, he instructed the first brothers to have a “fixed day for the weekly account of conscience” in which the Brother would “take time to examine [himself]” in all areas of his conduct. I offered the following “examination” points from St. La Salle to our faculty as we begin the second semester – points which are equally applicable to us as educators today and, I humbly suggest, to parents as well. Just substitute “children” for “students” and “home” for “school.”

- *Are you ardent and zealous for the salvation of your students and in the performance of your duties?*
- *How do you do your work in school? Do you observe the [rules]?*
- *Have you wasted time?*
- *Do you follow everything carefully during the lessons? Are you assiduous in correcting?*
- *Do you leave class? [Even La Salle knew teachers should not leave classroom unattended!]*
- ***Do you talk too much? (the boldface is mine)***
- *Do you take care that students make progress?*
- *Are you equally careful that they advance in piety?*
- *How do you act toward your pupils? Too strict? Too easygoing? Too familiar?*
- *Have you been impatient? In what frame of mind have you corrected them?*

I told the faculty that these insightful questions from this educational giant are as equally relevant today as they were 330+ years ago. I invited them to take time to examine our consciences this week, both our professional conscience and our personal one and to take corrective measures where needed. I invite parents to do the same.

**Mon, Jan 13 (Regular; G A B C)**

- **Clean Off Your Desk Day (always 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon):** Actually, I did this over the holidays and it still looks good!
- **Inauguration Day:** Governor John Bel Edwards will take the oath of office for his second term as the 56th Governor of the State of **Louisiana** today. And former Covington Mayor and SPS alumnus Mike Cooper will be sworn into his first term as St. Tammany Parish President. We offer our prayers, support, and best wishes to both as they lead our beloved state and parish for the next four years. And we offer our prayers, thanks, and best wishes to outgoing Parish President Pat Brister for her tireless efforts on behalf of St. Tammany for the past eight years!

**Tue, Jan 14 (Late Start – 9 am; D E F G)**

- **This Day in History:** 1973, Miami Dolphins defeat the Washington Redskins 14-7 at the Los Angeles Coliseum in Super Bowl VII, becoming the first team in National Football League (NFL) history to finish with an undefeated season.
- **Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day:** Created as a way to preserve meat before modern refrigeration, pastrami is beef that's brined, dried, seasoned, smoked and then steamed. It was first served in New York delis in 1887
- **Dress Up Your Pet Day:** Today you have the opportunity to show off your pet's fashion sense – or not.
- **Rubber Duckie Day**
- **Basketball:** JV and Varsity to Covington
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Hammond



*Seniors at one of their favorite retreat activities: eating!*

**Wed, Jan 15 (Wolf Packs – rescheduled due to late start on Tue; A B C D)**

- **TDIH:** in 1967, the Super Bowl I is played. Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10, led by Bart Starr.
- **Strawberry Ice Cream Day:** Enjoy gold ole' strawberry today.
- **Sudden Impact for Robert Simpson's E Period**
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. Monteleone (6); 9<sup>th</sup> v. Covington (7)
- **Wrestling:** SPS v. Lakeshore in dual meet

### Thu, Jan 16 (Regular; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1991, Operation Desert Storm was launched. US and coalition forces invaded Kuwait to liberate it from Iraqi takeover. The war lasted until Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, Adolf Hitler hides in his underground bunker, for 105 days until committing suicide.
- **TDIH:** In 1919, the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution, prohibiting the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," is ratified and becomes the law of the land.
- **Fig Newton Day:** Enjoy this classic cookie!
- **Do Nothing Day:** We will NOT observe this day today!
- **TDIH:** 1838, Samuel Morse's telegraph system is demonstrated for the first time.
- **Journalism Conference at Loyola for our journalism classes**

### Fri, Jan 17 – (Regular; B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1953, the Chevrolet Corvette makes its debut at General Motors' Motorama auto show in New York. The Corvette, named for a fast type of naval warship, would eventually become an iconic American muscle car and remains in production today – but is certainly out of my price range and comfort zone!
- **Kid Inventors Day:** We celebrate the youthful spirit of invention every year on January 17, the birthday of Benjamin Franklin, who invented the first swim flippers at age 12.
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Northshore (Senior Night)
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Covington (7)
- **Wrestling:** JV & Varsity in LA Classic

### Sat, Jan 18

- **Thesaurus Day:** Other words for thesaurus: glossary, lexicon, onomasticon, reference book, sourcebook, storehouse of words, terminology, vocabulary, word list. Other words for day: astronomical day, bright, dawn-to-dark, daylight, daytime, diurnal course, early bright, sidereal day, sunlight, sunrise-to-sunset, sunshine, working day. So a happy Onomasticon Diurnal Course Day to you!



St. Brother Jaime

- **TDIH:** In 1937, Brother Jaime Hilario was martyred by Spanish revolutionaries in the Spanish Civil War. From the Christian Brothers Website: *Born in 1898 in northern Spain, Jaime was only 12 years old when, with the blessing of his parents, he entered the minor seminary. He soon developed hearing problems and was advised to return home. Convinced that God was calling him, he was overjoyed in 1917 to learn that the Institute of the Brothers would accept him. After sixteen years in various teaching assignments, his hearing problems forced him to abandon the classroom to work in the garden at one of the schools. In July of 1936 he was on his way to visit his family when the civil war broke out. Recognized as a Brother, he was arrested and jailed. In December he was transferred to Tarragona and confined in a prison ship with several other brothers. On 15 January 1937 he was given a summary trial.*

*Though he could have been freed by claiming to be only a gardener, he insisted on his identity as a religious and thereby sealed his doom. He was brought to the cemetery known as the Mount of Olives on 18 January to face execution. His last words to his assailants were "To die for Christ, my young friends, is to live." When two volleys failed to meet their mark, the soldiers dropped their rifles and fled in panic. The commander, shouting a gross insult, fired five shots at close range and the victim fell at his feet. Pope John Paul II canonized him in 1999.*

- **Pooh Day:** Winnie the Pooh Day is an opportunity to enjoy your favorite bear and his friends. This day celebrates the birth of A. A. Milne in 1882. He was an author of children's storybooks, and created Winnie the Pooh and his friends. Winnie's pals include Christopher Robin, Tigger, Eeyore, Piglet, and Roo. Read some Pooh today!
- **Wrestling:** Varsity in Louisiana Classic (Gonzales)
- **Rugby:** SPS v. Jesuit in City Park
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. Rummel & Jesuit (8 & 12); 9<sup>th</sup> in Slidell Tournament
- **Soccer:** SPS 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Tournament
- **Indoor Track Qualifying at LSU**
- **Powerlifting:** SPS in PJP Meet
- **Application Day Re-scheduled:** Applicants for next year will be on campus this morning for placement testing. Every Catholic high school in the Archdiocese will participate. 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.

### Sun, Jan 19

- **TDIH:** In 1809, Edgar Allan Poe is born in Boston. Read a Poe story or poem today in his honor! And eat some popcorn while reading in honor of National Popcorn Day!
- **Did You Know:** The Brothers in 1918 had a mule named “Boy” who would pull a wagon up Louisiana Ave (now called Jahncke Ave) to Columbia and Boston Streets where the mercantile houses were located. Boy was known to be a smart mule. He could even open a faucet with his teeth to give himself a drink.
- **National Popcorn Day:** Enjoy this favorite snack today – especially while reading Poe!

### Mon, Jan 20 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday; no classes)

- **TDIH:** In 1937, President Franklin Roosevelt is inaugurated for his second term. It was the first time presidents were inaugurated on Jan 20. Previously, Inauguration Day was on March 4. This amount of time was needed in the past for the winner to travel to Washington since modern communication and travel were not invented.
- **TDIH II:** In 1961, John F. Kennedy inaugurated as President and utters famous “Ask not...” Poet Robert Frost read a poem. Blinded by the sun reflecting off the snow, Frost abandoned the printed page containing the poem and recited it from memory.
- **Penguin Awareness Day:** Today we give serious consideration to our tuxedo-wearing waddling friends. Did you know penguins mate for life? Or that the word penguin means 'fat winged' one in Portuguese?
- **Cheese Lovers Day:** Indulge and enjoy!

# Rise Up, O Men of God

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



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

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high-pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressured.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation and the \$4.5 million new gym, the \$4 million renovation of Benilde Hall.)
- You may “pledge” your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. **WONDERFUL!**
- While we don’t send requests to grandparents, every year a number of grandparents do donate to the school. **AND WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! If you would like to inform your son’s grandparents of the drive, please do so – or provide me with an address and I’ll personally appeal. I’ll send them a nice “thank you” note, too!** Even a small donation (\$5!) is welcome.
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small.** What’s important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to 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 IS NOW ON JAN 18:** In all 22 high schools in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, applicants for next year take the placement test this coming Saturday, January 18, beginning at 8 am. I pray for a successful day. By policy of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, priority in being admitted will be given to those who attend this day. **If you know of any new student considering attending SPS for 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**APPLICATION LETTER EXCERPTS:** More unedited excerpts from the Class of 2025:

- *At the Shadow Day assembly, it was amazing that when they played a song, everyone sang along.* [Yes, we sing at SPS!]
- *I hope to make St. Paul’s better than it is today, even though it is already the best.* [Smart man!]
- *The President’s Assembly on Shadow Day especially moved me towards my decision to attend St. Paul’s.* [Shameless flattery will get this guy admitted!]
- *I would be proud to be a Wolf. My mom has already bought me hoodies and a magnet for her car.* [Well we certainly don’t want the purchases to go to waste!]
- *When I am at St. Paul’s, I feel my best.* [And we will work hard to continue that feeling!]

- *When visiting St Paul's it was very clear to me that everything at the school and everything the students do is centered around God and I look forward to growing in this environment. [And you will, future Wolf!]*

**ASSEMBLY ON JAN 07:** I hope the students enjoyed first assembly of 2020! Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening to a contemporary version of "Rise Up O Men of God" sung by Christian rock singer Phil Keaggy. I play it at the first assembly of a new year in order to set the tone for the year – that we must view 2020 as a new opportunity for the students to rise up as men of God. It's a powerful song that means so much to our school. I reminded the students that the next day was the feast of Our Lady of Prompt Succor ('swift help'), the official Patroness of New Orleans and Louisiana. I told the boys the history of OLPS, including her miraculous intervention during the great fire of NO in 1812 and the more famous "Battle of New Orleans" story with then General Andrew Jackson. While the music was playing, **junior Justin Baham** lit the prayer candle to remind us of God's presence among us and we prayed. And we prayed for those who have left earthly life for God's Kingdom:
  - *Mr. Jeff Ehlinger, grandfather of Jack '23*
  - *Mr. Ralph "Rip" Maurice Simon, Grandfather of Jack Hanks '20*
  - *Mr. Kenneth Lea, grandfather of Darrin '20 & Brian '22 Lea*
  - *Mr. Carey Thomas Cantrelle, grandfather of Cooper '21 and Camden '22 Cantrelle*
  - *Mr. Mariano Núñez Castellanos, father of Mr. William Núñez and gf of Daniel '20*
  - *Mrs. Beckey Vincent, mother-in-law of Mr. Gerald Ancar and g'mother of Elias, '24.*
  - *Mr. Gerry Reed, g'father of Coach Ryan Spencer '01 & gg'father of Owen Mendes '22*
  - *Mrs. Grace Wilson, great-grandmother of Luke '21 & Reece '24 Beckendorf*
  - *Mr. Andy Englande, father of Alex '20*
  - *Mr. Frank Lombardo, Class of 1937, our oldest living alumnus*



*SPS Habitat Wolves work on Dec 7 to build affordable housing.*

- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Habitat Club for their monthly work day in December. Led by Mr. Richard Pichon, the Habitat Wolves help build affordable housing for the residents of St. Tammany. This is very Lasallian!
- Recognized and congratulated the entire student body for their support of Project Christmas. We raised enough funds to help 40 St. Tammany children have a meaningful Christmas. Students donated, shopped, wrapped, and delivered.
- Recognized and congratulated the Student Council and all who helped put on a fabulous Luminarias Night on December 6. It was a magical night as Wolves scampered all over campus distributing luminarias, lighting them at 6, singing carols, praying in the chapel, and enjoying refreshments while listening to the SPS Jazz band. Thanks to ALL who helped!
- Recognized and congratulated freshman **Zachary Montz** for his performance at Covington Concert at the Greater Covington Center. Zach composed and played his own version of “Little Drummer Boy.” I projected a video of Zach performing. He was great!
- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly!
- We then turned to the seniors, who would leave on retreat the next day. The entire school extended a blessing on the seniors while Pre-Freshman Class President and Vice President, **Jacob Strecker and Reece Beckendorf**, sprinkled the senior class with holy water. It was a moving moment.
- The student body then ended the assembly by singing Rise Up O Men of God, followed by junior **Luke Beckendorf** extinguishing the candle and my reminding the students what the candle represents – the presence of God among us. I exhorted them to leave the gym and spread God’s love to all whom they meet. The students then exited to the sounds of “Rise Up O Men of God!”
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



*Zachary performs his original accompaniment to The Little Drummer Boy at Covington Christmas Concert.*



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

Thurs, Aug 6	School Opens <b>with full day of instruction (same day as public schools)</b>
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..



*PE classes take advantage of beautiful January weather to play outside last week.*

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

**DRIVING:** I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2018 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!
- **School Zone Cell Phone Ban:** It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

**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.



## GOOD NEWS DEPT:

- Christian Brothers Services informed us on Dec 16 that there would be NO increase in the premiums for Student-Accident Insurance. With mounting injuries, I was bracing for an increase, even though we have been receiving rather large increases over the past few years. Our premium will remain at \$70 per student.
- AmazonSmile sent our quarterly rebate check over the holidays: \$342.08. Every \$ helps! Remember to direct your rebate to SPS when using AmazonSmile!



*Art Wolves begin their two-point perspective drawings last week.*

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

- **Report Cards** were emailed on Jan 02, 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:** HR Breakfast invites were emailed on Jan 09. Remember that second quarter grades determine honor roll, not semester or exam grades. Here's the schedule:
  - Jan 21 – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 22 – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 23 --10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 27 – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 29 – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast

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

### LAST WEEK:

- **Application Day:** Postponed to this Sat due to severe weather on Sat. Stay tuned!
- **Band:** Great field trip to LPO on Thu – or so I am told!
- **Basketball:** Great start to District with wins over Slidell & Hammond. JV won, too!
- **Bowling:** Season began with a jamboree last week.
- **Football:** The annual award ceremony went well. Thanks, football staff.
- **Robotics:** Weather caused us not to travel on Sat morning.
- **Senior Retreat:** Kudos to the staff and Class of 2020 for a successful senior retreat. All returned safely.
- **Soccer:** Wolves defeat district rival Slidell, 2-0 – a little too close for comfort!
- **Wrestling:** Weather caused us not to travel on Sat morning.



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

**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.





**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."**

**THANKS:** We thank Covington Mayor Mark Johnson (SPS alum, Class of 1976) and Covington Department of Public Works for the improvements made to the shoulders on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The added gravel will help eliminate ponding after rains, thus insuring more parking. SPS has agreed to add some limestone over the next couple of months to make the improvement more permanent. To help thank Mayor Mark, remember to Slow Your Roll!

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** In honor of Popcorn Day and Penguin Day:

- *Why aren't there many jokes about popcorn?* Because they are corny.
- *What did the baby corn say to momma corn?* Where is pop corn?
- *What's the difference between popcorn and pea soup?* Anyone can pop corn, but you can't pee soup.
- *What do you call a "corny" metal band?* PopKORN!
- *Why didn't the kernel leave the popper?* He was cornfused.

- *What music gets popcorn to dance? Hip Pop*
- *What do you call a popcorn's favorite flower? Poppies.*
- *Why is popcorn way better than a movie? Because they are just so much butter.*
- *Want to hear a popcorn joke? Nah, it's too corny. Oops! That popped out of nowhere.*
- *Why shouldn't you tell a secret on a farm? Because the corn has ears!*
- *Did you hear about the popcorn that joined the army? They made him a kernel.*
- *How much do pirates charge for corn on the cob? A buck-an-ear.*
- *What is the main ingredient for cooking popcorn? Poprika.*
- *What's a popcorn's favorite pizza topping? Popperoni*
- *What's a penguins favorite relative? Aunt Arctica!*
- *What do penguins eat for lunch? Ice-burgers!*
- *What do you call a penguin in the desert? Lost!*
- *Where do penguins go swimming? At the South Pool!*
- *How do Penguins drink their cola? On the rocks.*
- *What's black and white and goes round and around? A Penguin in a revolving door.*
- *What do penguins wear on their heads? Ice caps.*
- *What do Penguins like to eat? Brrrrrrrritos.*
- *What's black, white, black, white, black, white, black, white? A penguin rolling down a hill*
- *What kind of fish do Penguins catch at night? Starfish.*
- *Where do penguins keep their money? In a snow bank!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*

**WORDS TO ENCOURAGE:** Feedback from our alumni is important to us, as it helps validate what we do. Recently, we received a teaching employment inquiry from Bryce Jenkins '16. Bryce will graduate from LSU in May with majors in English and philosophy. His cover letter is worth reading. I quote in part: *I would love to give back to St. Paul's and commit to the very mission that formed me. The five Lasallian core principles have been shaping my life in ways I would never have expected when I learned about them my eighth grade year. They are values that have guided me in all aspects of my life, and they continue to guide me today. In particular, those values provided a foundation for a very unique and fulfilling college experience. In turn, this experience has given me something to offer. Through my studies in literature and philosophy, I have found the Lasallian principles culminate in the overall study of the human experience. Not only have I found passion in my studies, but I have also found a desire to share this passion with others. Moreover, studying literature has shown me the power and redemption in a good story. Stories expand our views and allow compassion into areas that encourage concern for the poor and social justice, an inclusive community, and respect for all persons. To say the least, I am grateful for what my literary education had shown me to be true, and I want to commit myself to sharing this gift with others. All in all, I believe St. Paul's to be the perfect place to so do because of its foundation on the very values that studying literature offers us.*

I couldn't agree more, Bryce! Thanks for your wanting to be a Lasallian educator!

**YEARBOOKS** for 2019-20 school year are now available.

- Order online at [www.yearbookforever.com](http://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](http://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](mailto:m.monteiro@stpauls.com) if you have any questions about yearbooks or senior

### **A LOOK AHEAD AND SECOND SEMESTER PERIOD**

**ROTATION:** For those who plan, here is the second semester period rotation. Use when making unavoidable doctor appointments, etc. so your son will know what classes he will miss.

#### **January**

- 13 – GABC
- 14 – DEFG – 9<sup>th</sup> start due to CFP game on Monday night
- 15– ABCD – Pack Time
- 16 – EFGA
- 17 – BCDE
- 21 – FGAB – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast/LPO Concert in BAC
- 22 – CDEF – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 23 – GABC – 10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 24 – DEFG – Mass
- 27 – ABCD – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 28 – EFGA – President's Assembly
- 29 – BCDE - 12<sup>th</sup> 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*



*2019 Yearbook (The Conifer).  
Order this year's before Mar 14's price increase.*



- 10 – FGAB
- 11 – CDEF – President's Assembly – 8<sup>th</sup> in PreACT
- 12 – GABC – 9<sup>th</sup> in PLAN
- 13 – DEFG – 10<sup>th</sup> 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
- 20 – CDEF
- 23 – GABC
- 24 – DEFG – Pack Time
- 25 – ABCD
- 26 – *EFGA – 9<sup>th</sup> Retreat/Field Trip*
- 27 – *BCDE – 9<sup>th</sup> Retreat/Field Trip*
- 30 – FGAB – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast in Café
- 31 – CDEF – President's Assembly

### **April**

- 1 – GABC - 8/9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast in BAC
- 2 – DEFG – 10/11<sup>th</sup> 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 Assesmbly

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 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams  
12 – ABCD – President’s Assembly – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams  
13 – EFGA – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams  
14 – BCDE – 8<sup>th</sup> Exams  
15 – FGABC (8<sup>th</sup> Promotion 6:00 PM)  
18 – DEFG (Review for Period A Exam)  
19 – Exam Schedule  
20 – Exam Schedule  
21 – Exam Schedule  
22 – Exam Schedule



Whew! Enough for now.

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 Saint Paul's! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Doing OK So Far in 2020 as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

**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**

