



The President's Hebdomadal *Blue Ribbon* Newsletter
Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington
340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
October 12 – 18, 2020 – the first week of the second quarter!



Welcome to the 10th week of the 2020 - 21 school year and the start of the second quarter!

*There are few things pure in this world anymore; And home is one of the few.
Well, I've been away but now I'm back today, And there ain't a place I'd rather go.
I feel home, When I see the faces that remember my own.
I feel home, When I'm chillin' outside with the people I know.
I feel home, And that's just what I feel. Home to me is reality, And all I need is something real.*
-- Lyrics from "I Feel Home" by OAR.



*Benilde Hall at twilight.
Thanks to Bro. Javier for the pic!*

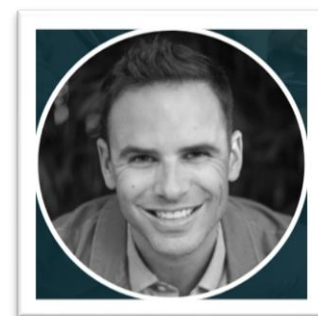
This is Homecoming Week, 2020! And while COVID-19 has forced cancellation or re-direction of many of our traditional homecoming activities, I don't want us to forget the importance of this event – or a seventeen-year tradition that I have kept going, which many of you remember well and one which even the students enjoy.

In Homecoming Week of 2003, then Student Council President Kramer Johnson '04 asked if he could address the student body at my assembly that week. Of course, I said "sure." When it came time for Kramer to speak, he strode confidently to the mic, but instead of speaking, he grabbed his guitar and started singing – "I Feel Home" by OAR. After he sang (he was a pretty decent musician!), he explained how Saint Paul's had become a second home to him – and he wanted all of the students to feel the same way.

Since that magical musical moment in 2003, I have annually played "I Feel Home" at my Homecoming Week assemblies – and recounted the story of Kramer. Seniors regularly tell me that the song is indeed meaningful for them and many have it in their playlists.

And so at my next assembly, I will continue the tradition that dates back to 2003. I'll play the song for the current students and tell them the story of Kramer. And I'll get a little emotional as I listen to the song and remember Kramer – and many thousands of others who have called Saint Paul's a second home. And I'll give thanks to God for them – and for this wonderful Lasallian institution that has been transforming lives (including my own) since 1911. Happy Homecoming!

And Kramer? After graduating in business from University of Georgia, he currently serves as Senior Principal of Learning Transformation for Chick-fil-A and lives with his wife and children in Atlanta. He does keep in touch with SPS on a regular basis and returns to Covington to visit his family, especially his dad (also an SPS alum!), the Honorable Mark Johnson, the Mayor of Covington!



Mon, Oct 12 (G A B C)

- **Columbus Day or Indigenous People Day (in some states) Observed today**
- **This Day in History:** In 1492, after a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World in the Bahamas. He named the first land sighted San Salvador, claiming it in the name of the Spanish Crown. Columbus was seeking a western sea route from Europe to Asia and believed he had found an island of the Indies. He thus called the first island natives he met “Indians.”
- **Moment of Frustration Day:** To celebrate, everyone is supposed to go outside at noon GMT (6 AM CST) and SCREAM away frustrations! You are not to scream AT someone (sorry!), just scream in general! Perhaps we should all end the first quarter with a communal scream, thus chasing away any 1st quarter frustration! Enjoy!
- **Gumbo Day:** After you’ve screamed away your frustration, enjoy this iconic south Louisiana treat! BTW, did you know that “gumbo” is the African word for okra? Well, now you do.
- **Basketball:** Tryouts begin for grades 9 – 12 through Wed

Tue, Oct 13 (D E F G – Pack Time during first block)

- **TDIH:** In 1792, the cornerstone of the White House is laid and in 1775, the Continental Congress authorizes construction of the first American naval force—the precursor to the US Navy.
- **Yorkshire Pudding Day:** Calling all Brits! Celebrate this iconic British dish that dates to the 1700s. It is made with flour, eggs, butter, milk, and pan drippings from roast beef & most often served with beef or chicken, and lots of gravy. A traditional staple of the British Sunday lunch, Yorkshire Pudding is still common today.
- **Music Day:** Enjoy music today in all of its varied forms, and share your favorite music with others. I’ll be happy to lend some classical selections! Or even better, why not make some music of your own?
- **Football:** 8th at John Curtis (Delta Playground; 5)
- **Cross Country:** re-scheduled Catholic High meet this afternoon. Good luck, Wolves!



Seniors labor at the ACT last Tuesday while observing social distancing.

Wed, Oct 14 (A B C D)

- **This Day in History:** In 1912, former President Theodore Roosevelt was shot by a fanatic while campaigning in Milwaukee. Roosevelt was saved by his thick overcoat, a glasses case and a folded speech in his breast pocket, all of which slowed the bullet. Although wounded, he insisted on making the speech with the bullet lodged in his chest and did not go to the hospital until the speech was over. A rugged outdoorsman, he fully recovered in two weeks

- **TDIH:** In 1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis begins, bringing the US & Russia to the brink of nuclear war. I remember “Atomic bomb drills” in grammar school! We really thought we’d survive by hiding under desks!
- **Dessert Day!** Who knew? Treat yourself to some special dessert tonight!
- **PSAT administered**
- **Football:** JV at Hammond

Thu, Oct 15 (E F G A): Saint Teresa of Ávila. Today we celebrate the feast of Saint Teresa of Avila, a prominent 16th century Spanish mystic, Roman Catholic saint, Carmelite nun, writer, and theologian. She was a reformer of the Carmelite Order and is considered to be, along with John of the Cross, a founder of the Discalced Carmelites. Happy Feast Day to the Carmelite Sisters on River Road in Covington!

- **Pro-Life Day of Silent Solidarity:** we pray in a special way today for an end to abortion.
- **Hand Washing Day:** Today stresses good hygiene. Wash hands often – one of the best disease defenses.
- **Grouch Day:** You have permission to be a grouch today but you must go back to being nice tomorrow!

Fri, Oct 16 (B C D E – Etiquette Training Begins for pre-freshmen and new freshmen)

- **Dictionary Day:** In 1758, Noah Webster, considered the Father of the American Dictionary, was born. In his honor, read a dictionary today; learn a new word!
- **Football:** Wolves v. Hammond (7)
- **TDIH:** In 2016, Pope Francis canonized Brother Solomon Leclercq, FSC, making him an official saint of the Church. I hope all remember the story of St Solomon, but here is a summary from “Seven De La Salle Brothers”: *Once the monarchy was overthrown early in the French Revolution, the next target was the Church. In 1790 the Civil Constitution of the Clergy gave the state complete control over the Church in France. In order to continue to function, priests and religious were forced to take an oath to support the constitution. Most of the Brothers refused and so were forced gradually to abandon their schools and communities. Eventually the Christian Brothers were deprived altogether of legal status in France. On 15 August 1792, Brother Solomon sat alone in his Paris school. He had been asked to mind the house while other Brothers left the turbulent city for the safety of the suburb. A loud knock on the door was the first sound of warning. Soldiers demanded to search the house. It was a thorough search for incriminating documents, and, though they found nothing, Brother Solomon was ordered to collect his belongings and follow them. Under escort, he walked a short distance to where a sort of tribunal had been set up, and where his arrival seemed to be expected. The interrogation was formal, ending with the question: ‘have you taken the oath?’ The answer was: ‘No’. That was all.... It was all pre-arranged. A massacre gang was assembled at the Champ de Mars ‘to give effect to the will of the people’. They had been commissioned to do the deed in return for money and the clothes of the victims.*



Brother Solomon was martyred on September 2, 1792, the first Brother of the Christian Schools to be martyred, and the first to be beatified. Brother Solomon chose his religious vocation and Catholic faith over obedience to the anti-clerical French government. Let us pray: *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we thank you for the gift of St. Brother Solomon to our Institute. We pray that his example of humble service and fidelity inspire us to live our own commitments in the same manner. Show us the ones who are in need of our talents and presence. Grant us the generosity, wisdom, and courage to respond accordingly. This we ask, through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Sat, Oct 17 (Feast of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)

- **Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque** was a 17th Century French Roman Catholic nun and mystic, who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart. We wish St. Margaret Mary Parish in Slidell a happy feast day!
- **Wear Something Gaudy Day:** "gaudy" refers to something bright, cheap, showy, outlandish, or otherwise not in good taste. It's a Saturday, so be as gaudy as you want!
- **Pasta Day:** Enjoy one of more than 600 varieties of pasta today! Ciao!
- **Cross Country:** Wolves run in St. Thomas Aquinas Invitational

Sun, Oct 18

- **TDIH:** In 1790, John Baptist de La Salle entered the Seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris, beginning his journey toward priesthood. By answering God's call, he opened himself up to future calls which allowed him to found the Brothers of the Christian Schools. May we, too, be open to the call of God in our lives!
- **Evaluate Your Life Day:** We reflect today upon our life -- where it's been, and where it's going. What do I need, or want, to change? I'll be evaluating!
- **Chocolate Cupcake Day:** Splurge! Enjoy.

Rise Up, O Men of God

I draw the following to your attention (in alphabetical order, not order of importance):

ADMISSIONS FOR 2021-22: WE NEED YOUR HELP! COVID-19 restrictions are forcing changes to our usual recruiting strategies. The Office of Catholic Schools will not allow Shadow Days and have limited on-campus tours to prospective families. Naturally, we can do some tours, have a limited Open House on Oct 31. And, of course, we have great printed materials and are upgrading our website. But now, **more than ever, I count on you to spread the good news about Saint Paul's to prospective families. I need each of you to be an "admissions director" and speak to a prospective family about sending their son to SPS. I am counting on you! Thanks!** Open House on Oct 31 to fit new parameters, too. Please be understanding and supportive – as all of our jobs depend upon a full house next year!

AFTER SCHOOL: The library is open until 4 pm, Monday - Friday, to accommodate students waiting for rides. It's environmentally friendly and welcoming for students to wait and start on their homework.

ANNUAL FUND KICKOFF: We launched our 2021 Annual Fund on Sep 14th, -- the school's birthday and with Sally knocking on our door. This year, the AF might be the most important one ever. Since our ability to fundraise is severely handicapped by COVID, and with traditional income sources such as football gate, etc. anticipated to be severely reduced, we will need the support of generous benefactors more than ever. Thanks to the Development Team for celebrating celebrate our birthday on Sept 14th with a giving day to **#BackThePack**. Your gifts to the Annual Fund ensure that not only will we endure for years to come, but we will thrive and continue to build upon our 109-year legacy of quality education. *The strength of the Wolf is the pack* and we ask for your support so that we may celebrate many more birthdays together. All sizes of gifts are appreciated and we thank you in advance for your generosity. Let's **#BackThePack!** Visit <https://saint-pauls-school-af2020.square.site/> to gift Saint Paul's for our birthday! I know I can count on you.

ASSEMBLY ON OCT 7: I hope students enjoyed our assembly last week. Here's what we did:

- Students and teachers logged into to Google Meet to the strains of “Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above”, from a CD made several years ago by the Mary Queen of Peace Music Ministry. I explained that the Catholic Church dedicates October to Mary and that this song is one of the oldest and most beloved of Marian hymns. I further explained that October is the month of the Rosary and that once again, a dedicated SPS mom who had five sons graduate from SPS donated hundreds of rosaries for the students – as she does each year. I encouraged the students to get one of these rosaries from their religion teachers, keep it in their pockets, and pray the rosary whenever they have the time. They don't need to say the whole thing if they don't have time, but just a decade or even one Hail Mary as they wait at a traffic signal or walk from building to building.
- Prayed in a special way, as junior **Brian Lea** lit the prayer candle, for all the intentions that we brought into school that morning. In a special way, we remembered those who have entered God's Kingdom since the last assembly: *Mrs. Mary Aline Stamatelaky, great grandmother in law of Mrs. Marie Childs, Mr. Jay Pellegrini, Sr. grandfather of Jack '19 & Max '23 Pellegrini and father of Jay '79 and Greg '86 Pellegrini, Mr. Paul Frederick, grandfather of Michael '23 & John '24 McWilliams and father of Paul, Jr, Rene, Matthew and Andrew Frederick, and alumnus Mr. Michael Golden, SPS Class of 2010.*
- Prayed, too, to the Christian Brother Saintly Martyrs of Turin – whose feast day we would celebrate in two days. I explained to the students the story of how his brave group of Brothers were summarily executed by the anti-clerical forces of the Spanish government during the Spanish Civil War in 1934.



9th grade football returned to campus last week! Geaux Wolves!

- Reminded all that our **Mission Statement** calls us to offer strong academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs in a safe and disciplined environment and to live the Gospel values of Jesus
- Then, as if by magic, Rossini's *William Tell Overture* started playing, which signifies that our Cross-Country Wolves are running, so I congratulated them on their showing at last week's Saint Joseph Invitational in Baton Rouge. Special recognition went to **Evan Pardo** for finishing FIRST in the race – quite an accomplishment.
- Recognized and congratulated the football Wolves for their come from behind win against Destrehan and wishes the JV/9th and 8th grade teams “good luck” in their games that night.
- Recognized and congratulated **Coach Matt Pinero** for being named 2020 Wrestling Coach of the Year! Following the excellent of Coach Craig Ketelsen, Coach Pinero led the Wolves to their best ever showing as a Division One school last year – 2nd in State! We are blessed to have him.



Brian & Zachery assist with President's Virtual Assembly!

- Recognized and congratulated our NINE (count 'em NINE!) National Merit Semi-finalists from this year: **Ben Broussard, Lucca Ferrante, Gabe Gros, Axel Henderson, Jake Holincheck, Hunter Kergosian, Davis Lagarde, Trey Paine, and Brady Talley.** I also reminded the students of the eight Semis in in the class of 2019 (**Jackson Gold, Hyde Healy, Ross Hightower, Cullen Irwin, Stephen Millet, David Needles, Andrew Norlin, and Christopher Wilson**) and our ones from the Class of 2020 (**Brenden Dauterive, Cameron Dougherty, Reece Grimley, Ben Klein, and Ian Kramer.**)
- Recognized and congratulated the four newly named National Merit Commended Students, who barely missed (by as little as one point!) being named Semi-Finalists: **Vageli Liokis, Aiden Plauche, Scott Woodard and Cole Piazza.**
- Recognized and congratulated The Habitat for Humanity Club Members for their recent work days in blazing heat. The Habitat Director informed moderator Mr. Pichon that we were the first group to return since the start of the pandemic. Well done, Habitat Wolves: **Luke Beckendorf, Wesley Coles, Max Salvant, Jacob Pichon, Ian Bertrand, Alexi Sotiropoulos, Walker Dubreuil, Thomas Bitterwolf, Joel Rodriguez, & Mr. Richard Pichon.** Note: we usually have many more students participate but Habitat limited us to only ten volunteers.
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Key Club for two recent projects: **David Barcelona, Joel Rodriguez, Preston Orgeron, Walker Dubreuil, Chris Franke** worked with Keep Covington Beautiful (KCB) board member Mark Richards to clean the ditches which drain into Simpson Creek a small tributary of the Little Tchefuncte. And the Key Club assisted in another waterway project for KCB's annual River Sweep. They

teamed with Canoe and Trail Adventures where they took on the Bogue Falaya River. I projected a picture of the bags of trash pulled from our beautiful river – and them chided the boys for littering our own beautiful campus and begged them to be more litter conscious.

- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Student Council for doing Herculean work in keeping projects going in very difficult times: **President Davis Lagarde, Vice President Alvin Marks, Secretary Walker Dubeuil, Treasurer Marc Vargo and Parliamentarian Michael Slimming.** I also recognized and congratulated the elected class officers: **12th President: Ryan Daly & VP: Chris Franke; 11th President: Andrew Hightower & 11th VP: Zachary Nichols; 10th President: Ben Barousse & 10th VP: Sam Gold; 9th President: Jacob Strecker & 9th VP: Peyton Kilgore; 8th President: Eddie d’Hemecourt & 8th VP: Noah Montz**
- Congratulated the students for cooperating with SPS Alum and Covington Mayor Mark Johnson’s Slow Your Roll campaign. While driving has been getting better, there is still room for improvement.
- Had we been in the gym, I would have closed with having the boys sing Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above – which in the past has been most moving. So I played the recording for them and asked them to hum along in their classrooms and pray to Mary. It was still wonderful.
- As junior **Zachery Gros** extinguished the prayer candle, I reminded the students that they must leave the gym and be the Light of God to all whom they meet. The students exited Google Meet Classroom to the strains of “Hail Holy Queen” by Mary Queen of Peace Music Ministry.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



EM Daniel brings Holy Communion to teachers in Benilde Hall during last week's all school mass.

ATHLETICS: The LHSAA released rules last week for attending athletic events. Here are the main ones:

- *Indoor and outdoor sport events shall be limited to 25% of the established seating capacity.*
- *Face coverings are required for all attendees and spectators.*
- *Social Distancing and Safety Rules:*
 - *Spectator seating shall be provided and shall be arranged so that a minimum of 6 feet of distance between individuals and small household groups is maintained.*
 - *Seating should not be allowed within 6 feet of aisles or above pedestrian entrance and exits*
 - *Group seating shall not exceed 10 people and should be limited to persons who are members of the same household.*
 - *Do not allow physical contact between coaches and players, or between staff and spectators.*
 - *Eliminate gatherings in the areas while entering, exiting, or moving about*

These rules will seriously alter our traditional game day experience (no tailgating, reduced attendance, etc.), but we have no choice if we want high school athletics. AD Craig Ketelsen has taken the lead in tailoring these rules to SPS. Stay tuned. We know we will not please everyone but the rules are clear.

In accordance with the LHSAA and the Governor's mandates, attendance at Saint Paul's sporting events is currently limited to 25% of capacity. We are unable to offer tickets to the general public until these restrictions are lifted. A limited number of tickets will be made available for purchase to the family of each player (9th/JV/V), Marching Wolf, Golden Blue, and cheerleader from Mon-Thurs NOON during the week of each home game. Each team's coaches will send details for purchasing tickets to their players and parents. As all district schools are under the same restrictions, fans must have a pre-purchased ticket before attending away games, as well. Saint Paul's home games are available via live stream at www.wpbn.live, SPS Radio Network – Cat Country 98.9 FM and the SPS Radio Network app. Go Wolves!

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



BAND BUILDING: Last week I signed a contract with DonahueFavret Contractors for our new band building. The total cost of construction, architectural services, and furnishings will approach \$2.3 million. Work will begin this week, and the contract calls for the building to be finished by the opening of school next August. We pray for the success of our fundraising efforts – and the faith that is being placed in us. It's been a long time coming!



BOOK STORE: All required school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Our regular bookstore hours of operation have started:

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am
- M – F: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds help fund activities throughout the year.
- **RESTOCKED:** A new shipment of SPS masks (blue with SPS logo) has arrived! \$5! We are told by Children's Hospital that the mask mandate is NOT going away soon, so invest in these comfortable, stylish, and re-usable masks, as ALL students and adults must wear them on campus.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH: I have been remiss in mentioning this and it's certainly more important than National Dessert Day or Frustration Day. As an all-boys school, we must not overlook the teachable moments concerning issues pertaining primarily to women, and our boys need to know about this insidious disease, which can strike their grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and future wives and daughters. And we have current parents and friends battling this medical scourge. I encourage enlightened, appropriate discussion of this important health issue with our students when possible. We reach out in prayerful support to any family struggling with this issue. I invite you to pray the following:

We pray for those who are now ill. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

For those who are affected by illness, anguish and pain. O God, Source of Life, heal them!

Grant courage to those whose bodies, holy proof of Your creative goodness, are violated by illness.

O God, Source of Life, encourage them!

Grant strength and compassion to those who give loving care, support and help to overcome despair.

O God, Source of Life, strengthen them!

Grant wisdom to those who labor in the search for treatment and cures.

O God, Source of Life, inspire them!

Grant clarity of vision and strength of purpose to the leaders of our institutions and our government.

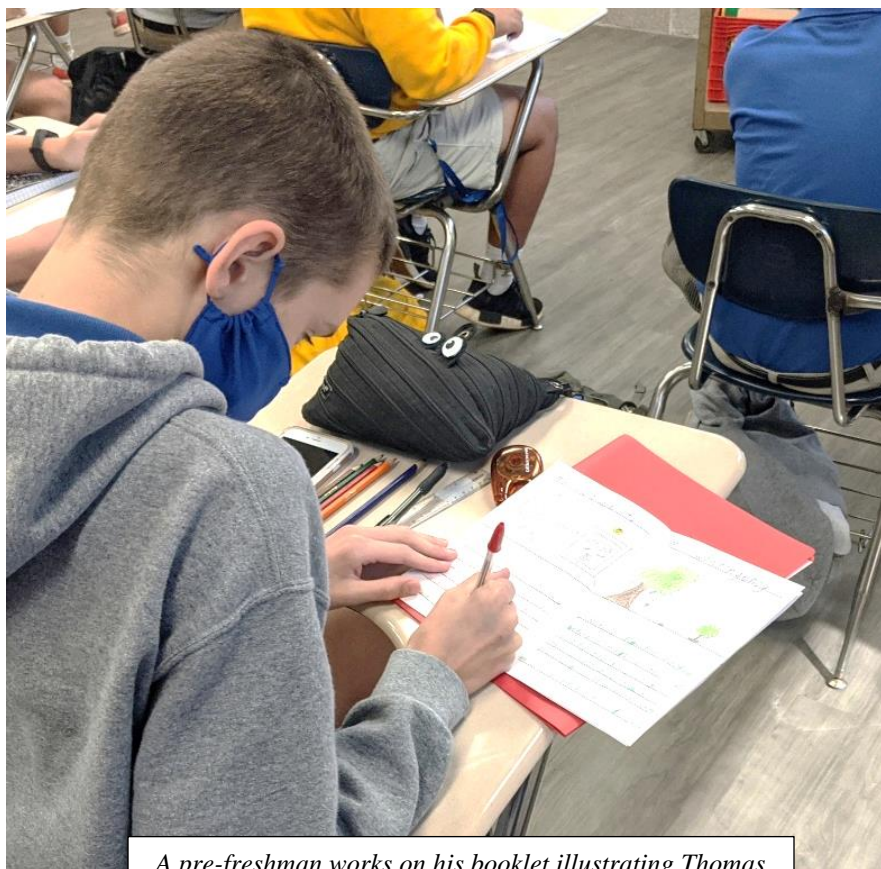
May they be moved to act with justice and compassion and find the courage to overcome fear and hatred!

O God, Source of Life, guide them and bless us all!

**CAFETERIA: A MAJOR
ANNOUNCEMENT from the Federal
School Lunch Program:**

- ALL students may receive a FREE lunch beginning until funds expire or Dec 31. Students MUST still obtain the lunch with their ID card (no ID, no lunch) but it is FREE.
- Students MUST still order lunch during first block, indicating their choice of hot lunch or sandwich lunch, but it will be FREE.

CALENDAR FOR 2020-21: Here is our calendar for this year. The calendar assumes that we are in full operation. Naturally, any disruption to the school operation due to COVID 19 will result in alteration.



A pre-freshman works on his booklet illustrating Thomas Aquinas' Five Proofs for the Existence of God.

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|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| • 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 9 - 11
- Mon, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Day
- Tues, May 25 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day
- Note that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.

In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. Also, please check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school.

ETIQUETTE TRAINING FOR PRE-FRESHMEN AND NEW FRESHMEN: This annual event, sponsored by SPS Renaissance Program, begins Friday of this week and extends through next week. Parents will receive info on what day their son will experience a very nice formal lunch combined with etiquette training. This event is a little more complicated this year due to COVID. Few students can be accommodated each day and they will be seated socially distant. But it's always a treat to see our youngest Wolves learning how to eat soup, what fork to use for salads, and how to break bread. Let's hope the lessons learned last beyond this week!

FOOTBALL BOOSTER CLUB – High school football is back! If your business would like to be a football sponsor this season, we have several opportunities. Your business graphic could be displayed during a home game streaming of football games on our NEW Wolf Pack Broadcast Network. Contact Mike Arnold at wolfpackbroadcastnetwork@gmail.com for more information. We also have in stadium opportunities such as business banners, scoreboard commercials and game day sponsorship packages. Contact Tommy Buckel at 985-688-2356 for more information.

GOOD NEWS: We received our quarterly AmazonSmile donation notification: \$312. While not a large amount, every \$ helps! To date, AmazonSmile has donated over \$3000 to SPS through their cash back program. Remember to designate SPS as your charity when you shop on AmazonSmile at smile.amazon.com.

ID CARDS, TEMP BRACELETS AND MASKS: Students must have all three of these with them

LAST WEEK:

- **ACT:** Congrats to counselors for a flawless ACT.
- **Football:** BIG Varsity win! Wow! And JV won, too! 9th & 8th fought hard but fell short!
- **LHSAA Audit:** ANOTHER “random” audit of paperwork by the LHSAA turned up NO violations – again! Many, many thanks to the C Brigade (Claire, Carol, and Craig) for keeping up with the voluminous amount of paperwork!
- **Cross Country, Mothers’ Club Social & Alumni Golf Tournament:** postponed by Hurricane Delta

- **Yearbook:** Special congrats to Mimi Montiero and *The Conifer* staff for an outstanding yearbook, which was distributed last week. I don't think most people realize the herculean efforts involved in yearbook production. She and the staff deserve our gratitude for producing an outstanding book which faithfully memorializes the 2019-20 school year. Kudos, Mimi and staff! Thank you!
- **Mass:** We had our first all-school mass last Thursday. While Father Matthew Clark, our chaplain, celebrated mass in the chapel, it was live streamed to all classrooms. The students were asked to participate with the normal responses, and the newly commissioned senior Eucharistic ministers distributed Holy Communion to all of the classrooms. Thanks to Campus Minister Jeff Ramon for organizing this liturgical challenge and to Media Teacher Josh Pereira for arranging the live streaming. May the grace of the Eucharist sustain us in these trying times!
- **Swim Team:** AquaWolves were victorious in a dual meet Sat against F'bleau and Hannan! Congrats! I hear Handel's Water Music playing!

THE CLASS OF 2021

National Merit Semi-Finalists



Jake Holincheck



Davis Lagarde



Lucca Ferrante



Ben Broussard



Trey Paine



Gabe Gros



Hunter Kergosien



Brady Talley



Axel Henderson

NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS: Last week, NINE SPS seniors were named National Merit Semi-Finalists – more than double any school in St. Tammany Parish. Wow. This is QUITE an accomplishment! I take great pride in recognizing the following NM Semis: **Ben Broussard, Lucca Ferrante, Gabe Gros, Axel Henderson, Jake Holincheck, Hunter Kergosian, Davis Lagarde, Trey Paine, and Brady Talley.**

..... THE CLASS OF 2021

National Merit Commended Scholars



Vageli Liokis



Aiden Plauché



Scott Woodard



Cole Piazza

NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENTS: Last week, FOUR SPS seniors were named National Merit COMMENDED STUDEENTS. Wow. This is QUITE an accomplishment! I take great pride in recognizing the following NMCSSs: **Vageli Liokis, Cole Piazza, Aiden Plauche, and Scott Woodard.**

OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1-3 PM: Please spread the word about our Open House but please know that attendance at OH is NOT a requirement for admission. Archdiocesan regulations now require REGISTRATION and restrict tour group size. Further, participation is limited to prospective students and parents. Here is the link to register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48adab29a5f9c52-saint> *The event will consist of small group tours for registered participants, and administrators will be available to answer questions. Guests are expected to comply with COVID-19 protocols: mask wearing, temperature screening, and social distancing. Interested parties may contact Karen or Jeaneen 985-892-3200 ext 1903 or email admissions@stpauls.com.*

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!



POLITICAL ACTIVITY: Elections are only a few weeks away and the political season is heating up faster than cyclone activity in the tropics. I remind all of the policy on the Archdiocese: we may NOT publicly endorse or favor any candidate. We also are prohibited from allowing campaigning on our campus. We regularly have to deny several candidates their wish to distribute campaign material on our campus. If you have interest in the full Archdiocesan policy, here is the link:

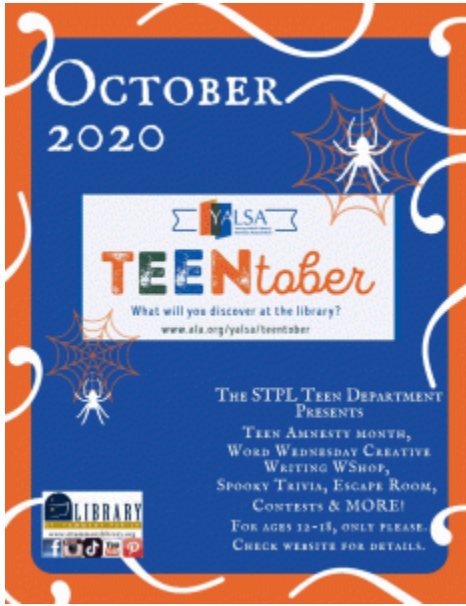
<https://d2wldr9tsuuj1b.cloudfront.net/16596/documents/2019/9/Political%20Activities%20Policy%20Copy%20for%20the%20e-Bulletin.pdf>

REPORT CARDS AND SEMESTER GRADES: We will email a first quarter report card NEXT week as several teachers asked for a bit more time for makeup work. I will have an exact sending date in next week's newsletter. **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.**

SLOW YOUR ROLL. This week is the one-year anniversary of Mayor Mark Johnson's initiative to improve driving habits within Covington – one of his main campaign pledges. Did you know:

- Two of the most often repeated complaints to the candidates in last year's election were speeding and the running of stop signs? And SPS students/parents came in for their fair share of blame!
- 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 cars?

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. I applaud the Mayor's initiative and pledged to him our support. Please reinforce this with students whenever possible. 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."**



ST. TAMMANY PARISH LIBRARY: The St. Tammany Parish Library will celebrate the second annual nationwide celebration, TEENtober, with special events and programs spotlighting all the great resources and activities available at the library as well as to encourage teens from around the area to read for their enjoyment.

TEENtober, which began in 2019, aims to celebrate teens, promote year-round teen services and the innovative ways teen services helps teens learn new skills, and fuel their passions in and outside the library. Moreover, according to Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Rifino, “It is a time to celebrate reading for fun while encouraging teens to take advantage of reading in all forms —books, magazines, e-books, audiobooks and more!”

This year the STPL Teen Department’s TEENtober will highlight teens and YA horror/mystery/thriller books with socially connected, physically distant events, including our **Book Tasting Chapter of the Month Club** featuring the eerie *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs, the **AniManga Club**, a creative writing “**Preptober**” Word Wednesday workshop with Mrs. Joy (with a follow-up NaNoWriMo Workshop in November), a thrilling **Escape Room**, **Teen Hour: Spooky Trivia**, plus weekly **Crafternoons** filled with fun Halloween and fall crafts.

The library wants to make sure that teens have access to all books and services. To ensure this, the library celebrates TEENtober with “**Teen Amnesty Month**”, where any teen ages 12-18 who has lost his/her library card may have it replaced for free, and/or return overdue books checked out on his/her card and have the overdue fines waived.



EM Caleb gives Holy Communion in a classroom during last week’s all school mass.

TUTORING: The National Honor Society will offer tutoring on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays during both lunches in the library. Encourage your son to take advantage of this FREE service (which includes proofreading papers!) if he needs a little help.

VISITOR'S PASS: You may not just wander the campus. You must sign in at the Administration Building, the Attendance Office, or the Counseling Office to obtain a pass to be on campus during school hours. Thanks for understanding this procedure. Our prayers rise to heaven for a safe school year and the elimination of violence of all kinds in our schools – and in all of society.



Zachary live streams mass from chapel to all classroom while Eucharistic Ministers social distance themselves and Brother Ken provides music.

WEEKLY HUMOR: Some dessert jokes in honor of Dessert Day on Wednesday:

- *What's the best thing to put into a pie? Your teeth!*
- *Why did the ice cream truck break down? Because of the Rocky Road.*
- *Why did the pie go to a dentist? Because he needed a filling!*
- *What did the newspaper say to the ice cream? What's the scoop?*
- *Why did the cookie cry? Because his mother was a wafer so long! *
- *When is a birthday cake like a golf ball? When it's been sliced.*

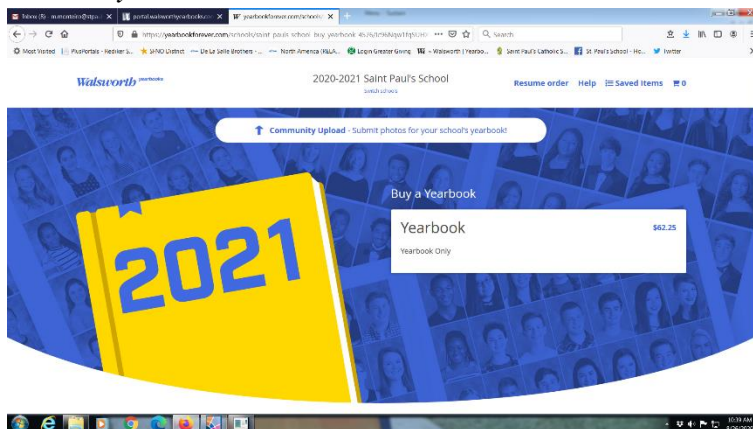
- *How do you learn how to make ice cream? In Sundae School.*
- *When should you take a cookie to the doctor? When it feels crummy.*
- *Why did the students eat their homework? Because the teacher said that it was a piece of cake.*
- *How did Reese eat her ice cream? Witherspoon.*
- *What is a monkey's favorite cookie? Chocolate chimp!*
- *Why couldn't the teddy bear finish his dessert? Because he was stuffed.*
- *How do astronauts eat their ice creams? In floats!*
- *Why do basketball players love cookies? Because they can dunk them!*
- *Why do we cook bacon and bake cookies?*
- *Bert and Ernie are sitting outside one day on Sesame Street. Bert turns to Ernie and asks, "Hey Ernie, wanna go get some ice cream?" Ernie replies, "Sure Bert."*
- *OK, I'll stop*

YEARBOOK: The Conifer 2019-2020 was distributed last week to those students who ordered one. It's excellent. The 2020-2021 Conifer staff is already hard at work on the new yearbook. What you need to know for 2020-2021?

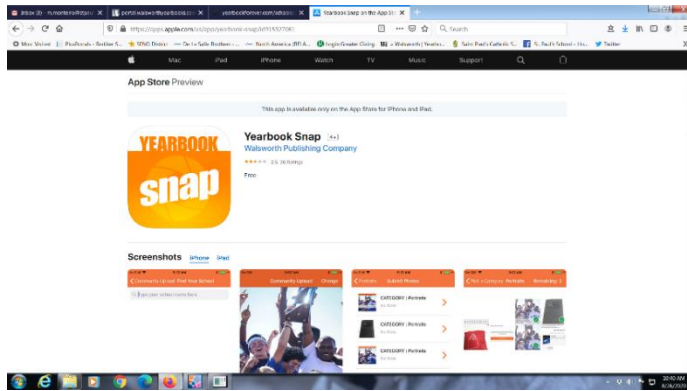
- Yearbooks can only be purchased online at www.yearbookforever.com. Make sure to spell out the word *Saint* when searching for *Saint Paul's School*.
- The Conifer will be available for the regular price of \$65 beginning Oct 10.

New this year: share your best Saint Paul's photos with the yearbook staff! You can upload photos from your computer or your smart phone.

- **On your computer**, go to Walsworth website at www.yearbookforever.com. Search for Saint Paul's School, remember to spell out the word *Saint*. Click on the *Community Upload - Submit photos for your school's yearbook* button and follow directions.



- **On your smart phone**, download the *Yearbook Snap* app. Select Saint Paul's School and upload photos directly from your phone.



Please contact yearbook adviser Mimi Monteiro at m.monteiro@stpauls.com if you have any questions. **Again, congratulations to Mimi and the staff for an outstanding 2019-20 yearbook!**

SENIORS DO NOT ORDER YEARBOOKS!
One is automatically included in the senior fee.

October

- 12 – GABC
- 13 – DEFG
- 14 – ABCD - PSAT Test
- 15 – EFGA
- 16 – BCDE
- 19 – FGAB
- 20 – CDEF
- 21 – GABC
- 22 – DEFG
- 23 – ABCD
- 26 – EFGA
- 27 – BCDE
- 28 – FGAB
- 29 – CDEF
- 30 – GABC



Whew! That's enough for now! I'm sure I've forgotten something so email me if you still have a question. As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I miss listening to while writing the newsletter since it no longer broadcasts but I still LOL thinking about it!): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Pray that we continue to have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you!

Let's end with Prayer for Hurricane Protection, especially as disturbances move into the Gulf of Mexico:

Our Father in Heaven, through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us during this hurricane season from all harm. Protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Can't Believe It's the Middle of October 2020 and I'm Still 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's



Have a great Lasallian Week! ...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing the Mission, living courageously, AND RESPECTING ALL PEOPLE!

“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”

~ St. John Baptist de La Salle (Meditation 99.2)



*Blessed Brother Scubilion!
Help us respect all people!*

Blessed Brother Scubilion Rousseau, FSC was a French Brother who spent 34 years of his religious life ministering to the enslaved people on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Pope Saint John Paul II beatified him in 1989. From the Christian Brothers Website (www.lasalle.org): *As a devout young man in his native village in Burgundy, Jean Bernard Rousseau was serving as a catechist when he was introduced to the Brothers, who had just opened a school in a nearby town. He entered the Paris novitiate in 1822.*

After ten years in elementary schools throughout France, Brother Scubilion left France in 1833 to dedicate the remaining thirty-four years of his life to the enslaved natives on the island of Reunion in the Indian Ocean. Remembered as the “catechist of the slaves,” he inaugurated evening classes for them, which were well attended, even after a long day of exhausting labor. He devised special programs and techniques, suited to their needs and abilities, in order to teach the essentials of Christian doctrine and morality, and prepare them to receive the sacraments. He won them over by his kindly manner and his respect for them.

After the emancipation of the slaves in 1848, he continued to care for them and to help them adapt to their new life of freedom and responsibility. In the last years of his life, despite failing health, he assisted the local pastor in visiting the sick, winning over sinners, encouraging vocations, and even effecting what seemed to be miraculous cures. At his death he was venerated everywhere on the island as a saint.

Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!



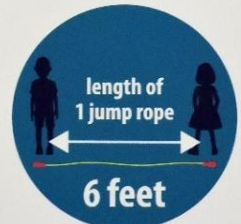
Wash your
hands often



Wear a cloth
face cover



Cover your coughs
and sneezes



Keep **6 feet** of space
between you and
your friends



