



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington
340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
November 30 - December 06, 2020



Welcome to the seventh week (can you believe it?) of the second quarter! Time marches on!

MARANATHA!



Happy New Year! Welcome to Advent, the beginning of a new Church year and a time of waiting – not a favorite pastime of today's instant gratification generation. We thus have many teachable moments during Advent, and I encourage us to teach the value of patience. And we can do that, in part, by personal example. Let's slow our pace (except for class time, in athletic contests and in hoping that COVID goes away!) and demonstrate that good can come from waiting. Over the next few weeks, be strong and take heart! The Lord is near!

I again thank the late Brother Alfred, whose well-built chapel Advent wreath from a few years ago is back in service. And thanks to Jeff Ramon for the Founders Oak Advent candles! Ask your son about them.

I like Advent. I know I'm in the minority here, but I find it a very human season. I know, too, that our students don't like Advent because they don't like the concept of waiting. They routinely grumble about waiting in the cafeteria line, about how far away a particular event is that they are looking forward to, etc. Somehow, in our instant gratification society that emphasizes getting what you want as quickly as possible, patience is no longer promoted as a virtue. In a world where we upgrade to faster computers, buy faster Internet access, text and tweet instead of talk, deliver overnight, buy faster cars, patronize establishments that offer "lunch in ten minutes or it's free" and emphasize that time is money, our students no longer know how to wait. And yet think about how much time we do spend waiting: in store lines, in traffic jams, for the check that's in the mail, for a happy time to occur or a difficult time to end – such as we are doing right now with COVID.

Think about your son and how much time you have spent and continue to spend waiting for him: to be born, to learn to talk, to take his first step, to develop his talents, in the car pool line, to come home from a date, to see the importance of grades, to learn to appreciate family and life, to mature.

Advent teaches us to turn times of waiting into times of grace. At my next assembly, I will remind the students of one of the oldest prayers in the Church. It consists of just one word: *Maranatha*, which is Aramaic for "Come, Lord." If we can fill our time of waiting with God's presence, then the whole concept of patience will take on a new and more fulfilling meaning. What a wonderful way to fill periods of waiting! Use it as a greeting, too. Your spirits will be renewed and your time of waiting will be filled with blessing.

Maranatha! Come, Lord!

Mon, Nov 30 (D E F G – Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle)

- **This Day in History:** In 1835, Samuel Clemens, later known as Mark Twain, is born in Florida, Missouri. Read some Twain today!
- **TDIH:** In 2004, after winning 74 straight games and more than \$2.5 million – a record for U.S. game shows – a *Jeopardy!* contestant loses. Who is this contestant? Answer at end of newsletter!
- **Absurdity Day:** I think this day could apply to any day in 2020!
- **Beauty Day:** Take time to observe the beauty that surrounds us daily, especially in St. Tammany and on our campus. As Confucius said: "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it."
- **8th Grade Basketball Tryouts (through tomorrow)**
- **Bowling:** Team tryouts begin today
- **Drama:** The Marian Players present “Clue” (7)

Tue, Dec 01 (President’s Virtual Assembly; A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1956, in Montgomery, AL, Rosa Parks is jailed for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man, a violation of the city’s racial segregation laws. The successful Montgomery Bus Boycott, organized by a young Baptist minister named Martin Luther King, Jr., followed Park’s historic act of civil disobedience. Rose Parks is known as “the mother of the civil rights movement.
- **TDIH:** In 1913, On December 1, 1913, Henry Ford installs the first moving assembly line for the mass production of an entire automobile.
- **#iGiveCatholic Day:** Thanks to all who made videos and promoted this day. We pray for its success.
- **Sudden Impact for a group of sophomores**
- **Drama:** “Clue” (7)
- **Soccer:** Varsity & JV at Lakeshore

Wed, Dec 2 (Wolf Packs Meet to Prepare Luminarias; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1823, in his annual address to Congress, President James Monroe proclaims a new U.S. foreign policy that becomes known as the “Monroe Doctrine.” Primarily the work of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, the Monroe Doctrine forbade European interference in American hemisphere but also asserted U.S. neutrality in regard to future European conflicts.



LA State Police present Sudden Impact to sophomores. We pray they listen and heed the advice.

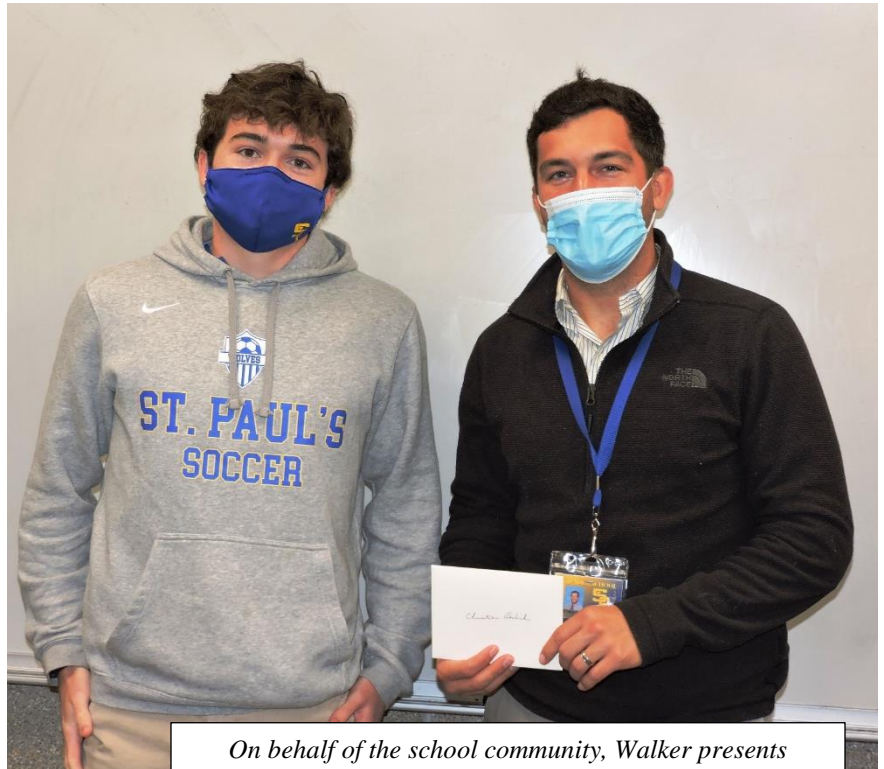
- **TDIH:** In 1804, in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Pope Pius VI handed Napoleon Bonaparte a crown that the 35-year old placed on his own head. He became first French emperor in a 1000 years.
- **Basketball:** 9th v. Lakeshore; JV & Varsity at Holy Cross
- **Wrestling:** SPS at Holy Cross for a dual meet

Thu, Dec 3 – (B C D E – Honor Roll Breakfast Make Up for those who were absent in grades 8 – 11)

- **TDIH:** In 1947, Marlon Brando's famous "STELLA!" first booms on a Broadway stage, electrifying the audience during the debut of Tennessee Williams' play *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Since Vic's AP English class is studying this iconic play, they recently did their "Stella Yelling Contest" a la the yearly one in the French Quarter. Congrats to senior Ian McCarthy for winning the ever-popular event!
- **TDIH:** In 1967, a 53-year-old named Lewis Washansky received the first human heart transplant.
- **TDIH: Neon lighting was first demonstrated** today 1910. It was invented by a Frenchman named Georges Claude, and he debuted it at a Paris auto show — which also happened to be the world's first auto show. Neon is an inert gas and when contained it in a glass tube and stimulated it with electricity, it glows red. The neon tubes became popular as novelties, and within three years, there was a big glowing sign advertising Cinzano vermouth lighting up the sky over Paris. Neon signage was adopted with increasing frequency from 1920 onward, and by 1940 nearly every city in the United States sported a dazzling array.
- **Day of People with Disability** promotes support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. As Lasallians, we build an inclusive community which respects all. We celebrate this day.
- **Luminaries – 6 pm.** Come join this annual Christmas display on our campus! Due to COVID, the event will be scaled back this year. We had to eliminate the crowded chapel service and cafeteria reception. But the event will still be illuminating and inspiring, so come stroll through campus and admire the "festival of lights" on our campus. The Christian Brothers were among the first to bring this holiday treat to the Covington area since they were knowledgeable about it from their schools in New Mexico.
- **Basketball:** JV/Varsity v. St. Thomas Aquinas
- **Soccer:** 9th & JV v. Mandeville (TBA)

Fri, Dec 4 (F G A B – HR Breakfast Make Up for those who were absent in grade 12)

- **TDIH:** In 1991, after 64 years of operation, the American airline Pan Am ceases service.
- **Cookie Day:** Enjoy! DYK the English word "cookie" comes from Dutch "koekje," which means little cake? Dutch bakers tested oven temps on small amounts of batter so they would not waste the entire cake mix if the temp wasn't right & discovered that these tiny pieces of cooked batter were actually quite tasty!



On behalf of the school community, Walker presents Christian Bobak with gift for his new daughter.

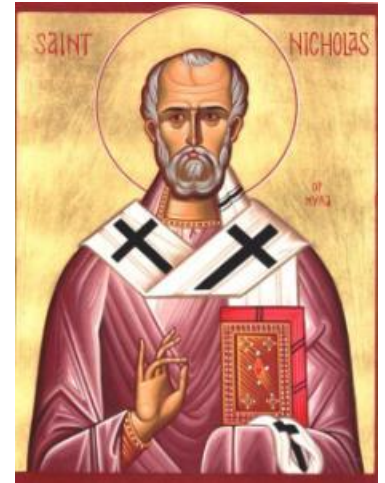
- **Mickey Champagne / Gene Bennett Memorial Golf Tournament.** Good luck Al and alumni as you remember Mr. Champagne and Coach Bennett for their service to SPS – and raise funds for SPS in the process! This is the re-scheduled day since the original event was cancelled due to hurricane weather.
- **Wrestling:** SPS v. Jesuit in a dual meet
- **Soccer:** Varsity in COPA tournament in Lafayette through Saturday
- **Drama:** "Clue" (7)

Sat, Dec 5

- **TDIH:** In 1901, **Walter Elias Disney** is born. Watch a Disney classic today!
- **Bathtub Party Day:** Relax with a good soak!
- **Drama:** “Clue” closes its run with two performances: a 2pm matinee and 7 pm production
- **Wrestling:** JH scrimmage;
- **Soccer: JV at Baton Rouge High**
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. West Jeff (1 pm)

Sun, Dec 6 – Second Sunday of Advent

- **Traditional Feast of St. Nicholas:** From American Catholic.org: *Eastern and Western Churches honor Nicholas; it is claimed that, after the Blessed Virgin, he is the saint most pictured by Christian artists. We only know that Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor. Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor man who was unable to provide dowries for his three daughters of marriageable age. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man’s window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married. Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint’s feast. In English-speaking countries, St. Nicholas became, by a twist of tongue, Santa Claus—expanding the example of generosity showed by this holy man.*
- **TDIH:** In 1884, in Washington, D.C., workers place a nine-inch aluminum pyramid atop a tower of white marble, completing the construction of the Washington Monument
- **Microwave Oven Day:** Celebrate this marvel of technology and microwave something today



Rise Up, O Men of God

I call the following to your attention in alphabetical order, not necessarily order of importance:

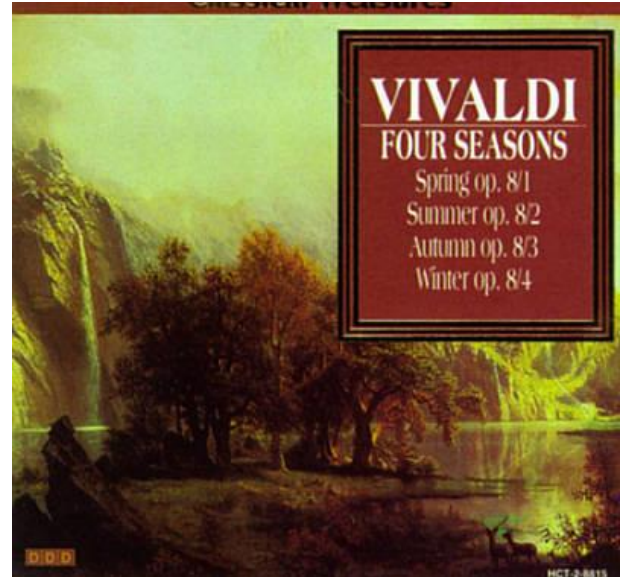
ADMISSIONS FOR 2021-22: WE NEED YOUR HELP! COVID-19 restrictions are forcing changes to our usual recruiting strategies. The Office of Catholic Schools will not allow Shadow Days and have limited on-campus tours to prospective families. Naturally, we can do some tours and had a limited Open House on 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!**

ANNUAL FUND: I hope you received your annual fund brochure recently. Thanks to those who have already responded. We launched our 2021 Annual Fund on Sep 14th, -- the school’s birthday and with Hurricane 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 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.

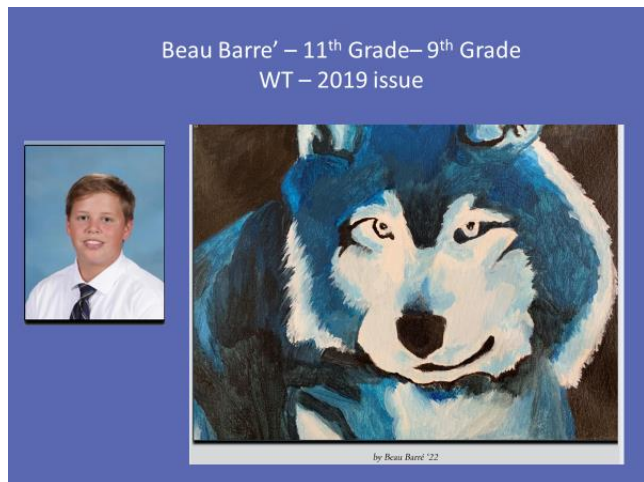
ASSEMBLY ON NOV 17: I hope the students enjoyed my Nov 17th Assembly. Here is some of what we did:

- Began by listening to the first movement of “Autumn”, part of “The Four Seasons Suite” by Baroque composer Antonio Vivaldi. This perennial favorite musically mimics the harvesters going into the field to reap the crops that have been cared for during the summer. And as it’s autumn here in south Louisiana, it’s only appropriate that we listen to Vivaldi! While the music was playing, I projected an email I had received the week before from a 2020 graduate, now attending college in Colorado: *I feel compelled to tell you this and I hope it brightens your day. While getting ready for my classes this morning I took a moment to take in the colors of the leaves, of fall. The colors sparked a connection to Antonio Vivaldi’s magnum opus the “Four Seasons”. Playing this music instantly took me back to assembly. It made me smile this morning. I hope you’re doing well and St. Paul’s is reaching their academic excellence despite the times!* Ha! At least someone likes / remembers my classical music!



- Prayed for all of our intentions as junior **Joseph Cresson** lit the prayer candle.
- I again told the boys that I try to highlight the positive things going on at SPS but that sometimes I need to bring problems to their attention. This time, I again talked about the growing amount of trash on campus, as students are littering. While better than last week, we still have much room for improvement and projected a few slides of campus litter. I implored them to dispose of trash responsibly. Please reinforce this at home!
- Recognized and congratulated SPS teacher Christian Bobak on the birth of his first child, a daughter, Joan Raphael Marie Bobak, born Oct 27.
- Recognized and congratulated Wolves who participated in a recent Lasallian Student Leaders conference. Usually, the boys travel to the campus of St. Mary’s University in Moraga, CA but this year COVID made that not possible, so the conference was virtual. Many thanks to **Benjamin Barousse, Walker Dubreuil, Christopher Franke, Andrew Hightower, Davis Lagarde, Zachary Nichols, & Marco Vargas**
- Recognized and congratulated The Habitat Wolves for their work day on Oct 17. Once again, H4H limited us in the number of students who could participate due to COVID. Thanks to: **Joel Rodriguez, William Ditta, Brady Talley, Alexi Sotiropoulos, Jack Dubreuil, Thomas Bitterwolf, Jacob Pichon, Mr. Richard Pichon, Walker Dubreuil, Wesley Coles, and Alexander Tepper!** And alum Jack Dubreuil '15, brother of Walker, also lent a helping hand.

- Recognized and congratulated the entire school for their GREAT response to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. **10,720 pounds of food were transported to the Northshore Food Bank**



- Recognized and congratulated another Wolf whose art work made the cover of a recent WolfTracks: junior **Beau Barre**. Well done, Beau!

- Recognized and congratulated (finally!) Head Soccer Coach Sean Moser on being selected the 2020 Coach of the Year by Top Drawer Soccer. Here's what TDS had to say about Coach Moser: *Moser is the architect of one of the nation's most dominating high school programs. In 12 years at St. Paul's, his teams have reached the state final 10 times and won seven championships. Last season, St. Paul's went 29-0 and*

finished No. 1 in the SIMA Winter FAB 50 for the first time. Despite dominating Louisiana since Day 1, Moser knew his teams needed better experiences to turn a good run into a true dynasty. He started by taking teams to the Montverde Academy Soccer Tournament in Florida nearly a decade ago, later the Lotto Showcase in California and then the North Texas Elite Showcase. With each outing, St. Paul's delivered better results. This past season, it all came together as St. Paul's won the Tampa Bay Showcase, beating eventual Florida 5A champ Tampa Jesuit 5-1 in the final. In addition, St. Paul's pinned two losses on Mississippi 6A champ [Ocean Springs] and the Wolves also defeated Florida 7A state semifinalist Lakewood Ranch. Moser has a 12-year record of 294-23-17 at St. Paul's, and in 25 years as a high school coach he has compiled 587 wins and 11 state titles in 18 state final appearances.



- Recognized and congratulated Head Baseball Coach Mick Nunez (finally!) for being named the 2019 State Division I Coach of the Year (there was no 2020 winner since the season was cancelled. Why did I wait so long? The award literally arrived just a few days before assembly!
- Reviewed Perfect ACT Subject Matter Scores for the past few years in preparation for starting to recognize the 2020-21 perfect scores. From the September 20 test:
 - 2022 (juniors)
 - William Allen—36 Reading
 - William Ditta—36 Reading
 - Preston Orgeron—36 English
 - 2021 (seniors)
 - Maxwell Anderson—36 Reading
 - Wesley Coles—36 Reading
 - Alexi Sotiropoulos—36 Reading

And stay calm, October perfect scorers! We are still gathering your information and will recognize you soon!

- Reviewed Perfect ACT Composite scores of the last few years and then congratulated Walker Dubrueil and Jake Holincheck for earning perfect 36 composite scores this year on ACT!
- As I was running out of time, I saved other recognitions for a future assembly but mentioned the following:
 - Good luck to Cross Country and Aqua Wolves who had state meets that week;
 - Informed students that The Marian Players would revive performances of “Clue” after Thanksgiving holidays – so get their tickets.
 - Begged students to be safe over Thanksgiving holidays.
 - Reminded the boys to cooperate with Covington Mayor Mark Johnson’s Slow Your Roll drive – aimed at safer driving in our city.
 - Ended by playing the Class of 2011 singing Joyful, Joyful We Adore You – which we would have sung together if I were allowed to have the whole student body in the gym. I miss those day!
- As junior **Brian Lean** extinguish the prayer candle, I reminded the boys that they must be the love of God, the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to each and every person that they meet.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so. Not as great as it would have been with the whole student body in the gym, but good nonetheless!



BAND HALL HISTORY: In the summer of 1966, the school constructed a “recreation center” for the recreational needs of the students living in La Salle Hall dorm. At a cost of \$15,000, a building was constructed to provide ping pong, pool, games and TV for boarders. Eventually, arcade-type games and a snack bar were added. In addition, a nine-hole miniature golf (putt-putt) course was built in front of the building, complete with lighting for nighttime use.

The facility, known simply as “the rec hall”, served the recreational needs of the boarding students until the summer of 1995, when, once again, the needs of the school dictated change. The overall population of the school was growing, but the population of the boarding program was shrinking. Accordingly, the decision was made to move the “rec hall” into La Salle Hall itself and to move the band hall (which was located on the third floor of Benilde Hall) into the rec hall building, thus allowing us to construct five more classrooms in Benilde Hall. The miniature golf course had also deteriorated and was removed.

The building has served the Marching Wolves well since that time, but, again, needs dictate change. In addition to overall building deterioration, our band programs have been expanding of late and now include concert, jazz, and drum corps components in addition to the renowned Marching Wolves, now almost one hundred members strong! They are deserving of a better facility. This new facility will provide expanded space, restrooms, acoustics, and aesthetics to our music program. Construction has begun and this \$2.3 million project will be completed in the summer of 2021. Interested in supporting the renovation, whose overall cost will approach \$2.3 million? We have [Naming Opportunities!](#) For more information, call Danielle Lavie at 985-892-3200 ext 1970 or development@stpauls.com or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or broray@stpauls.com.



Support the Marching Wolves by helping fund the new band hall, already under construction!

We have [Naming Opportunities!](#) For more information, call Danielle Lavie at 985-892-3200 ext 1970 or development@stpauls.com or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or broray@stpauls.com.

BOOK STORE: All school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Hours?

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am and 11:15 – 12:45
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds fund activities throughout the year. **Just last week, we received \$10,000 worth of Chromebooks for student use in main school building! Thank you, MC!**
- **Bookstore Christmas Hours from the Mothers' Club:** The Bookstore has announced their Christmas shopping hours. See below. Come do your Christmas Shopping and take advantage of some great bargains! Normal bookstore hours are weekdays 7:30-8:15 am and 11:15 am - 12:30 pm. All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

● ST. PAUL'S MOTHERS' CLUB

● BOOKSTORE

● SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

● Saturday, December 12th

● 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



BLOOD DRIVE: Our annual blood Drive will be Monday, December 8th. Permission slips will be needed for 16 and 17-year-old students. Students must weigh at least 110 pounds, and not be in an active sports season. Each pint saves lives. And parents who wish to give are invited to stop by and donate. The set up will be in the gym lobby. **Parents are also invited to come donate! Give the gift of life this season!**



No, Really...

Take the Meals!

Take advantage of the **Free Meals** provided to our students!

Reasons why you should take advantage of free school meals:

- They are FREE and may help you stretch your household budget.
- They save you time shopping and prepping meals.
- They are available in school.
- They are delicious, nutritious, fun and convenient.
- Healthy food fuels students for learning.

Each meal served provides funding to your school's Nutrition Services department from the USDA.

- You are helping keep our staff employed.
- You are not taking food away from someone who needs it more. We have plenty to go around!
- We love to provide meals to our students. It's what we do best!

The USDA is covering the cost of these meals during COVID-19.

Free Meals will be provided throughout the entire 2020-2021 school year.



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS
School Food and Nutrition Services of New Orleans, Inc.

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

- ALL students may receive a FREE BREAKFAST and LUNCH **throughout the rest of the school year!** Students MUST still obtain the meals with their ID card (no ID, no food) but it is FREE.
- Students MUST still order lunch during first block, but it will be FREE.
- This is a great opportunity for our students – and savings for you! And it helps keep the cafeteria staff employed! Encourage your son to take advantage of this!

CALENDAR FOR 2020-21: The calendar assumes that we are in full operation. Naturally, any disruption to the school operation due to COVID 19 or acts of nature may result in alteration.

- 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 (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 Holiday
- Wed-Fri, Apr 28-30 Senior Final Exams
- Thu, May 13 8th 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 Day/Faculty 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.

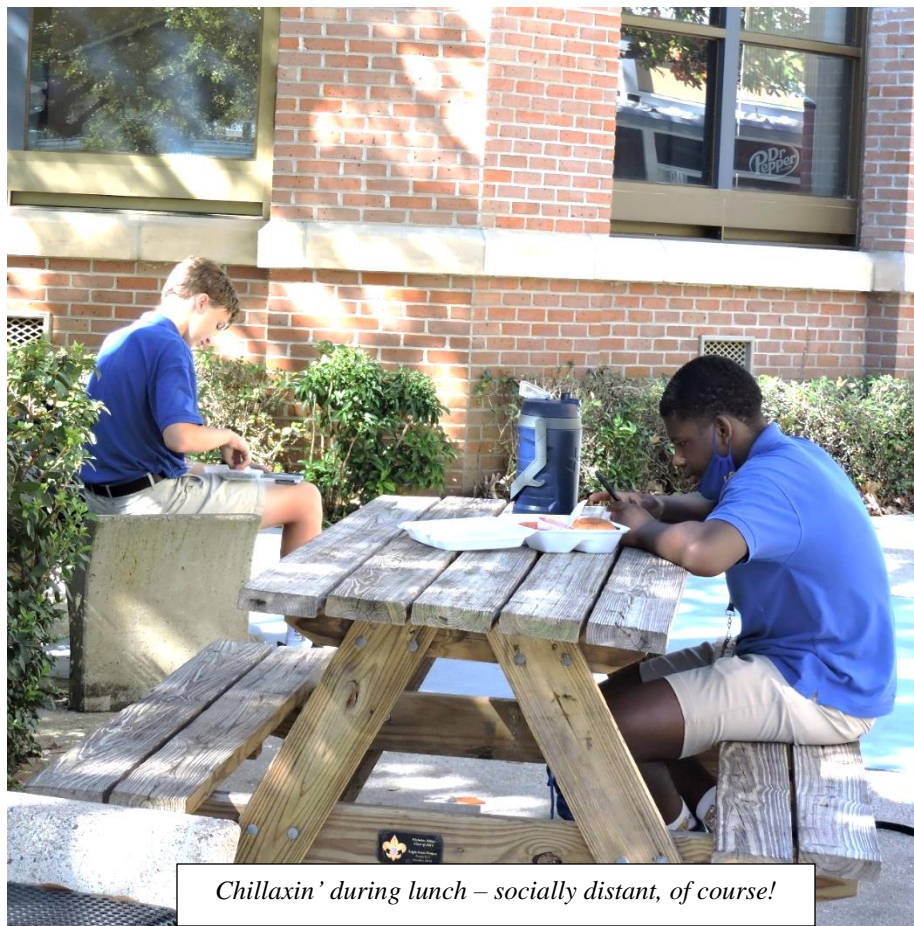


Campus is ripe with the beauty of fall!

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

COLD WEATHER CLOTHING: Only Saint Paul's outwear is permissible in cool/cold weather. **If your son needs an SPS sweatshirt and money is tight right now, just have him come see me. This will be handled confidentially and appropriately.** Remember that ONLY SPS cool weather clothing is allowed.

COVID INFO LETTER: Before Thanksgiving, you received a letter from Trevor Watkins concerning enforcement of our COVID protocols, especially mask wearing. Know that the letter was sent with my FULL approval and support as President and CEO of Saint Paul's. Unfortunately, we will have to start preventing some chronic offenders from attending in-person classes if they continue to ignore that protocols that have been mandated to us by the LA Dept of Education, the LA Dept of Public Health, and the Archdiocese of New Orleans – which we agreed to as a condition to open school to in-person learning on August 6, along with the other five Catholic schools here in Western St. Tammany.



COVID UPDATE: From the Dept of Catholic Education & Faith Formation last week: *Governor Edwards announced that on Wed, Nov 25, Louisiana will move into a modified Phase 2 for four weeks. Based on the Governor's message, he acknowledged that schools were doing a good job. Governor Edwards communicated that there are no immediate plans to change the manner in which we are currently operating our schools. Conversely, he did indicate a new, decreased mandate of 25% capacity for sporting events. On Thanksgiving Day, we received the following from DCEFF: Schools will be allowed to operate under Phase 3 guidance at this time with the exception of sporting event limitations.*

COVID UPDATE II: "What we're seeing now is as concerning as it has ever been. There is no question about that," said Assistant State Health Officer, Dr. Joseph Kanter. In region nine, which includes the five Northshore Parishes, all of them are dealing with increases. Northshore hospitals systems in Tangipahoa, St. Tammany and Washington Parishes are banding together, asking folks to pay attention and putting out a radio public service announcement urging folks to mask up. "Wear your mask. It's important. It just might save the life of your grandmother, your son, your neighbor, or You. Together, we can do this," said the PSA.

DECEMBER: Welcome to the twelfth (even though deca means ten – I hope you know why this discrepancy exists) and last month of the calendar year – which I think we are all ready to see end! December is Aids Awareness Month, Bingo's Birthday Month, Buckwheat Month, National Drunk & Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month, National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, National Tie Month, National Write A Business Plan Month, Safe Toys and Gifts Month, Spiritual Literacy Month, Make a New Year's Resolution to Stop Smoking Month, Universal Human Rights Month, Worldwide Food Service Safety Month, and Youngsters on The Air Month. Something for everyone!

EXAMS: Semester exams begin soon. Exams are SEMESTER exams which cover the entire semester. The **semester grade** (the only grade that counts in GPA and goes on a transcript) will be averaged as follows: 40% for Quarter 1; 40% for Quarter 2; 20 % for the exam. Encourage your son to take his exams seriously. **It's time to start reviewing.** A good review lasts several weeks and avoids last minute cramming. Learning how to study for semester exams will aid your son considerably in college. The exam schedule is printed at end.

GOOD NEWS DEPT: Dr. Paul van Deventer -- father of two SPS alums, a team doctor, and good SPS friend – has donated weight equipment from one of his businesses, Pinnacle Fitness. The equipment is in excellent condition and better than some of the equipment we currently have in our already impressive weight room. All we needed to do was pay for the transportation and installation of the new equipment – which has been covered by a donation. Thank you, again, Dr. van Deventer! Our physical training guru, Kristian Gibbe, is elated!



*Just some of the Pinnacle weight equipment being donated to SPS by
Dr. Paul van Deventer*

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

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

HONOR ROLL BREAKFASTS – ROUND TWO: We had a number of students who missed their honor roll breakfast due to COVID quarantine. Accordingly, we will have a “Make-up HR Breakfast” for those who missed. Students in grades 8 – 11 who missed are invited to attend an HRB on Thursday, December 3. Seniors who missed their HRB are invited to attend an HRB on Friday, December 4.

Due to COVID restrictions, the following will apply to HR Breakfasts:

- **Students may have only ONE FAMILY guest, who must sit next to the student at socially distant tables; all must wear masks, except when eating. please respect these protocols.**
- Breakfasts will be in the BAC.
- No coffee service will be available; only bottled water and juice;

- Bagged Chick-fil-A breakfasts will be served;
- We begin at 7:50 and it's over by 8:20. Students will be recognized individually, and yours truly will make some congratulatory remarks.

For the senior HR Make up breakfast, ALL SENIOR HR STUDENTS ARE INVITED. If they attended the first breakfast, only the students are invited. We are not able to accommodate guests for anyone but for the ones who missed the first breakfast.

ID CARDS, TEMP BRACELETS, AND MASKS: Students must wear all three of these DAILY. **Please check your son before he leaves the house to make sure he is wearing all three.** If he forgets, he must purchase replacements from Sgt. Pressley.



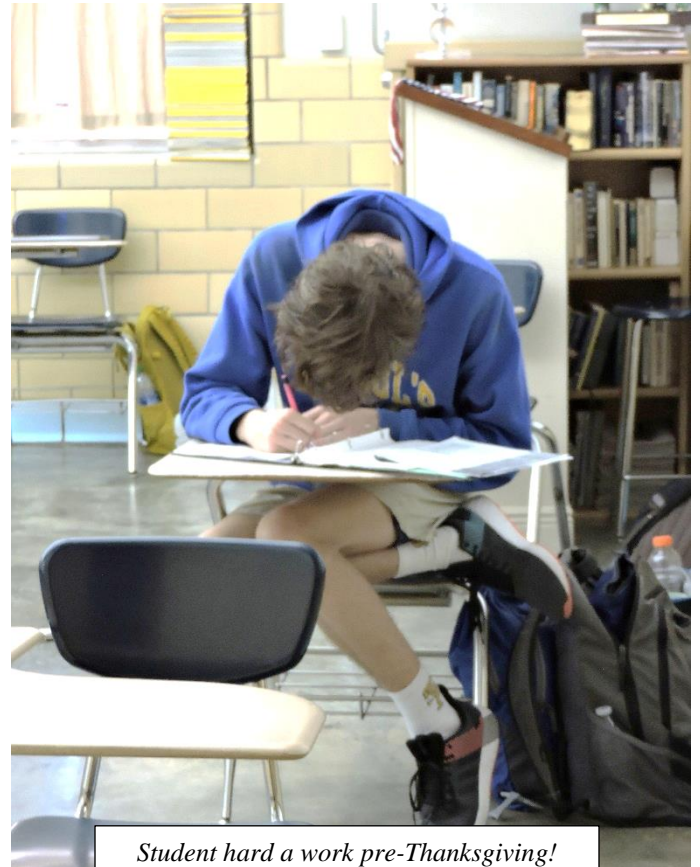
Saint Paul's School will once again be participating in #iGiveCatholic this #GivingTuesday on Dec 1. Our generous partners have raised \$80,000 over the past 4 years in this campaign, enabling us to connect the philanthropic passions of our faithful community with our Lasallian mission of educating the young men entrusted to our care. Advanced giving opens on Monday, Nov 16. Please partner with us. <https://neworleans.igivecatholic.org/organizations/st-paul-s-school>

This is a great way to make your annual fund donation.

LASALLIAN THEME FOR 2020-2021 LITURGICAL YEAR *You Are Part of the Miracle: Our Vision. Our Passion. Our Future.*” is the Lasallian theme for the 2020-2021 liturgical year, which started November 29. It is the seventh theme in a series of annual themes that the Brother Superior and General Council developed following the 45th General Chapter. Each one supports the overall theme of “Living Together Our Joyful Mission.” They offer perspectives to help Lasallians gain insights and develop integrated responses to extend and deepen the relevance of the Lasallian mission.

LAST TWO WEEKS:

- **Basketball:** Lots of activity – too much to list, but we did well!
- **Cross Country:** The 2020 season ended on Nov 17 at the state meet. As a team, the Wolves finished 10th in state – a VERY respectable showing. Individually, senior Evan Pardo is the State Runner Up in Division I – quite an accomplishment. Congrats to Coaches Al Nastasi, Kevin Moore, Emilie Travers and the CC Wolves!
- **Football:** The regular 2020 season ended with a forfeit to F'bleau due to Varsity being quarantined. Playoff games were unexpectedly moved up by the LHSAA, and we will play Jesuit on Sunday, Nov 29. Why Sunday? Because the team doesn't end quarantine until Sat, Nov 28. I am most appreciative to Archbishop Gregory Aymond and Superintendent Dr. RaeNell Houston for granting us permission to play on Sunday due to the team not coming off quarantine until Nov 28. I am also appreciative to Jesuit for agreeing to this change, which had to be approved by the LHSAA. Strange year!
- **Library:** Three years ago this week, we began dismantling our library. I hope the thousands of books we removed are getting better use than they did gathering dust in our library. And while I am most pleased with the transformation of the Benilde Hall, the dinosaur in me has nostalgia for meandering through the "stacks", discovering heretofore undiscovered treasures of interest. An era has ended. I must adjust.
- **Soccer:** Much activity; too many wins to list! All teams look good!
- **Sudden Impact:** Another successful day for some sophs; more will be exposed this coming week.
- **Swimming:** The Aqua Wolves placed 3rd at the state meet for the second straight year! **Senior Captain Austin Peak is the state runner-up in both the 200 Individual Medley and 100 Backstroke. The 200 Freestyle Relay team of Austin Peak, Cameron Smith, Scott Messa, and Bradford Day placed 3rd. The 400 Freestyle Relay Team of Cameron Smith, Jack Rodgers, Jack McNamara, and Austin Peak also placed 3rd in a very close race. Junior Cameron Smith placed 4th in both the 100 and 200 Freestyle. Junior Evan Abraham placed 6th in the 100 Breaststroke. Also scoring points for the team were Evan Abraham (200IM), Scott Messa (50 Free), Jack McNamara (500 Free), Connor Dobie (100 Breast). State qualifiers Bradford Day, Roman Fouchi, Jack Rodgers all swam best times. Geaux Aqua Wolves! I hear Handel's Water Music playing!**
- **Wrestling:** A convincing Varsity win over Fontainebleau, 69 – 12.



Student hard a work pre-Thanksgiving!

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

MAYOR MARK'S NEWSLETTER: Covington Mayor Mark Johnson (SPS alum of the Class of 1975) periodically sends his constituents an update on our fair city. Here is his latest concerning COVID in St. Tammany: *In western St. Tammany Parish we have been fortunate to avoid an overwhelming Coronavirus outbreak. However, we are now seeing an uptick. This week at St. Tammany Health System (STHS), 17 patients are in Covid care, an increase from 9 a week ago. This remains below the mid-20s census typical to June, but still reason for concern. Total hospital census is about 50% capacity. All residents are reminded that as we head into winter with people spending more time indoors, the risk of exposure to colds, flu and viruses, including Covid increases. STHS recommends everyone wear a mask, follow proper handwashing and cough etiquette and maintain your distance from others, particularly when you don't feel well.*

PAPER WOLF: 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!



PROJECT CHRISTMAS FROM CAMPUS MINISTRY: We recognize that the holiday season comes with much joy for a majority of children and families in St. Tammany Parish, but we would be remiss to recognize that there is also a great number of children and families in St. Tammany Parish who experience much sadness during the holiday season. We also recognize the added financial hardships brought on by COVID-19 this holiday season. In our partnership with St. Tammany Project Christmas, we have once again “adopted” 40 children spread across 17 families. Project Christmas has provided us with a series of wish list items specifically requested by the families. Students and families alike can support our partnership with Project Christmas in two ways: purchasing gifts and/or sending in a monetary donation:

1) Sign up to purchase wish list item(s) using this Sign Up Genius link.

(<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BAFA82DA6F94-sttammany>) On that link, you can find a list of many wish list gifts items sent to us by Project Christmas via our adopted families. Beneath each wish list item you can also see the age and gender of the adopted angel for which that gift is designated. Once purchased, gifts can be brought to Andrea Francis in the Administration Building or the Claire Coutrado in the Main School Building by Thursday, December 3rd. All gifts should be unwrapped, and please indicate the student name with the purchased gift either on a piece of masking tape or on exterior of bag.

- Sign Up Genius Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BAFA82DA6F94-sttammany>

2) Parents and students can support us by sending in monetary donations from Sunday, November 15th - Thursday, December 3rd. Approximately 30% of wish list gifts are not listed in the above Sign Up Genius. A monetary donation will allow us to purchase items either not listed or purchased via the Sign Up Genius. Monetary donation also allows us to contribute to a holiday meal for our adopted families. Monetary donations can be sent in two ways

- Use our online giving platform (<https://www.stpauls.com/support/donate-now/>) and designate your gift as Project Christmas/Missions.
- Send a monetary donation via cash or check (made out to SPS) with your son to be collected by his religion teacher.

PROJECT CHRISTMAS, MISSION COLLECTIONS AND OTHER WORTHY CAUSES: We encourage our students to be generous with these causes. However, I again want to reassure parents that we DO NOT want to cause an economic hardship for our families. Please speak with your son about charitable giving. Perhaps you can reread as a family the parable of the Widow's Mite. Our teachers are aware that not every student can give a lot – or even give at all. Let me know if your son is feeling uncomfortable with our appeals. And that goes for you, too. Let's face it – tuition does NOT cover the cost of running Saint Paul's. Hence, we have fundraisers. As stated above, I've launched our Annual Fund Drive, and if you can give, that's great. If not, I understand but ask that you pray for Saint Paul's. In turn, we pray for financial health for all.

REPORT CARDS AND SEMESTER GRADES: We emailed a first quarter report card on Tuesday, Oct 20. Let me know if you didn't receive it, but check your spam folder first as they often land there. **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. And, yes, we will have Honor Roll breakfasts! Details above! Check out the exam schedule below.**

RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2021 - 22: Yes, it is time to start thinking about next year! Shortly after Christmas, we will begin registering current students for 21-11. 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 for the second semester of this year, please let me know ASAP. We are getting inquiries about January admissions.**



SOCIAL HOSTING /UNDERAGE DRINKING: With the holiday season upon us, the temptations for alcohol use by students increases. One issue facing parents is hosting parties where teens are exposed to or even given alcohol. This is known as “social hosting.” I have sent a brochure on this activity, which may have legal consequences, to our parents. The brochure was provided to me by Mr. Hal Fox, owner of Fox Litho of Mandeville, and father of Hal. 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 website, or you can follow us at Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana Twitter @SPSWolfpackStudy

STUDY HALL AFTER SCHOOL: Ben’s Den (aka the library) opens every afternoon (Monday-Friday) until 4:00. You are encouraged to mention this service to your sons who are on campus after school with nothing to do or who may be waiting for a late ride or a practice to begin. All we ask is that they treat the facility with respect and that they are quiet. The space will be supervised by faculty.

THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS: This period of the school year can be a real challenge. While it should be a time of good will and cheer, often we find ourselves handling a crisis. The best way to prevent any difficulty is through the Lasallian virtues of caring and vigilance – which will be in full force. Teachers will teach until the very end. **Parents, please remind your students to adhere to ALL procedures & policies and to think before they act.** We will show care to the students, but we will be vigilant.

TUTORING: Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in the library for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services also provided. Please encourage your son to take advantage of this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so!**

VAPING: The message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, all too often ignore the warnings of science.) Please stress this with your sons. We have made our position very clear – it is prohibited and strong consequences are imposed if it is discovered. But we can’t police outside of school – parents, PLEASE insist with your sons that the dangers of his trend are not worth the risk. Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.

WAITING’S VALUE: During this period of Advent, a time of waiting, I remind all that the ability to “wait” is a chief characteristic for success in health, work, and life as shown by over 40 years of research at Stanford University. Beginning with the famous “marshmallow experiment” published in 1972 (children could choose to have one marshmallow now or two if they waited 15 minutes), researchers conducted follow up studies and tracked each child’s progress in a number of areas. **They found that the children who were willing to delay gratification and waited to receive the second marshmallow ended up having higher SAT scores, lower levels of substance abuse, lower likelihood of obesity, better responses to stress, better social skills as reported by their parents, and generally better scores in a range of other life measures.** The researchers followed each child for more than 40 years and repeatedly, the group who waited patiently for the second marshmallow succeeded in whatever capacity they were measuring. **In other words, this series of experiments proved that the ability to delay gratification was critical for success in life.** Now if we could only get our students to buy into this! Here’s the full article: <http://jamesclear.com/delayed-gratification>

WEEKLY HUMOR: In honor of Cookie Day on Thu, here are some cookie jokes:

- *What cookie makes you rich? A: A fortune cookie!*
- *Why do girl scouts sell cookies? A: To make a sweet first impression.*
- *Why did the cookie cry? A: Because his mother was a wafer so long!*
- *Why do we cook bacon and bake cookies?*
- *When should a cookie go to the doctor? A: When it feels crummy.*
- *What do a cookie and a computer have in common? A: Chips.*
- *How can you tell that an SPS administrator has been baking chocolate chip cookies? A: There's M&M shells all over the floor*
- *What is green and brown and crawls through the grass? A: A Girl Scout who has lost her cookie.*
- *Why did the Oreo go to the dentist? A: Because it lost its filling*
- *What does the ginger bread man put on his bed? A: A cookie sheet.*
- *What kind of keys do kids like to carry? A: Cookies!*
- *What is a monkey's favorite cookie? A: Chocolate chimp!*
- *What word backwards can predict the future? A: Cookies (Seikooc as in psychic if you say it)*
- *Why do basketball players love cookies? A: They can dunk them!*
- *What is a monster's favorite food? A: Ghoul scout cookies.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



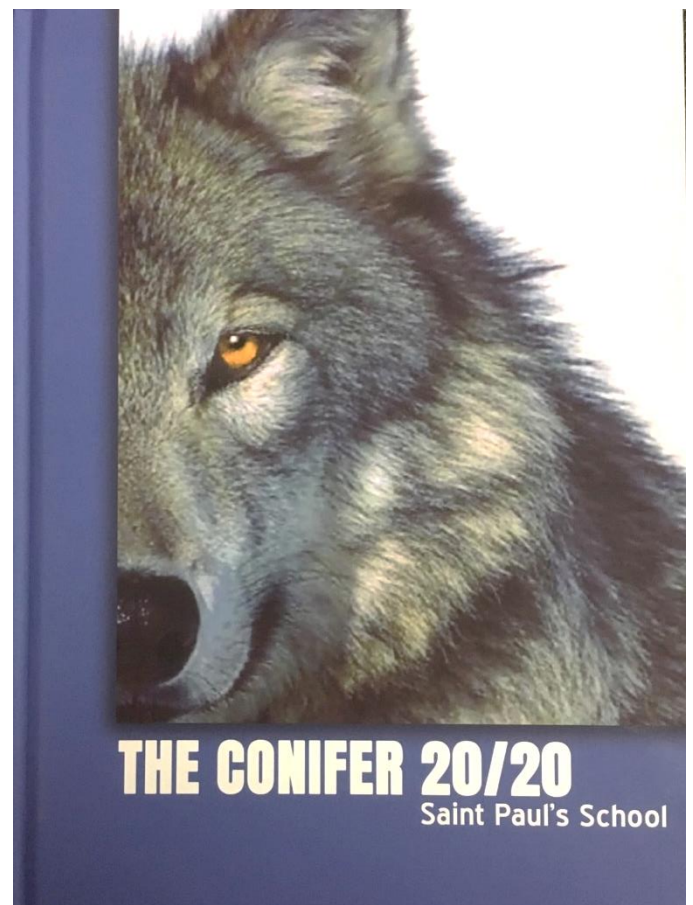
YEARBOOK: The 2020-2021 Conifer staff is hard at work on the yearbook. What do you need to know?

- Yearbooks can only be purchased online at www.yearbookforever.com. Spell out the word *Saint* when searching for *Saint Paul's School*.
- Purchase price is \$65 through March 12, 2021.
- **Seniors do not need to purchase a yearbook; it's included in the senior fee.**
- **New- share your best school photos with us!**

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. Password is **wolves**.

Please contact yearbook adviser Mimi Monteiro at m.monteiro@stpauls.com if you have any questions.



A LOOK AHEAD:

November

- 30 – DEFG

December

- 1 – ABCD – President’s Virtual Assembly
- 2 – EFGA – Pack Time
- 3 – BCDE – Luminaria evening; Make Up HR Breakfast for grades 8 – 11 (7:45 am in the BAC)
- 4 – FGAB – Make Up HR Breakfast for Seniors (7:45 am in the BAC)
- 7 – CDEF
- 8 – GABC – Prayer Service
- 9 – DEFG – President’s V. Assembly
- 10 – ABCD
- 11 – EFG + Make up period
- 14-17 Exam Schedules (see below)



Students who delivered over 10,000 lbs of food to the Northshore Food Bank pose for a quick pic following delivery. Thanks to ALL who helped!

FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE 2020

- () Indicates Exam Review Period

Friday, December 11 – EFG

- **TWO LUNCH 2:50 DISMISSAL (80 Minute Periods)**
- 1st Block 8:00AM—9:35AM (Announcements/CNN + 80 minutes)
- 2nd Block 9:45AM—11:05AM

- 3rdBlock 11:15AM—1:05PM
- 1st Lunch 11:05AM—11:35AM
- 2nd Lunch 12:35PM—1:05PM
- Dismissal 1:05
- 4th Block – 1:05 -2:00 - MAKE UP AND REMEDIATION PERIOD

Monday, December 14 – A(BC)

- 8:00-8:10 Prayer and Announcements
- 8:10-9:40 Period A Exam Review
- 9:40-9:50 Break
- 9:50-10:20 Period A Exam
- 10:30 -11:00 Christmas Prayer Service
- 11:00-11:30 – Period B Review - First Lunch (Benilde/LaSalle)
- 11:40-12:10 – Period B Review – Second Lunch (School Building/Gyms/Theater)
- 12:20 – 12:50 – Period C Review
- 12:55 Dismissal -Dismissal

Tuesday, December 15 – BC(DE)

- 8:00-8:15 Prayer and Announcements
- 8:15-9:45 Period B Exam
- 10:00-11:30 Period C Exam
- 11:30- 12:00 – First Lunch (Benilde/LaSalle)
- 11:30-12:00 – Period D Exam Review
- 12:00-12:30 – Second Lunch (School Building/Gyms/Theater)
- 12:00-12:30 – Period D Exam Review
- 12:35 – 1:05 – Period E Exam Review
- 1:10 – Dismissal

Wednesday, December 16 – DE(FG)

- 8:00-8:15 Prayer and Announcements
- 8:15-9:45 Period D Exam
- 10:00-11:30 Period E Exam
- 11:30- 12:00 – First Lunch (Benilde/LaSalle)
- 11:30-12:00 – Period F Exam Review
- 12:00-12:30 – Second Lunch (School Building/Gyms/Theater)
- 12:00-12:30 – Period F Exam Review
- 12:35 – 1:05 – Period G Exam Review
- 1:10 – Dismissal

Thursday, December 17 – FG

- 8:00-8:15 Prayer and Announcements
- 8:15-9:45 Period F Exam
- 10:00-11:30 Period G Exam
- Christmas (not winter) holidays begin at 11:30

Perfect ACT subject scores from the SEPTEMBER test! October test results coming soon!

Let's close with a prayer for our country:

God our Father, giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for your glory and dwell among your people. Send your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing your will. Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death." Lead us into a new millennium of life.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Whew! Enough for now! Hope I haven't taxed your patience too much this week! But you had a break from the newsletter last Sunday! Can't believe we are starting the sixteenth week of the school year

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to any more and LOL since WWNO stopped broadcasting the show): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Pray that things go well! We're already reached the seventh week of the second quarter! Time marches relentlessly on, and the only thing we can do about it is decide how we use each second of each minute of each day of each week of each month of each...OK, you get the idea.

May the final weeks of 2020 (good riddance 2020!) be ones of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2020 - 21 edition of Saint Paul's – our 110th year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Praying for the Grace of Patience in Advent as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

"Young people are not bad because they have bad hearts. They are bad because of bad example. As teachers, you have no greater responsibility than to give your students good example."

--Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Patron Saint of Teachers, c.1705 Meditations for Sundays

...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! Let's give it our best this week and begin the holidays with no problems – as befits a Blue-Ribbon Lasallian Catholic School of Excellence!

“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”
~ St. John Baptist de La Salle (Meditation 99.2)

Answer to Nov 30 trivia question: Who is Ken Jennings? RIP Alex Trebek!



*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 nearby. 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 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



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 NMCSs: **Vageli Liokis, Cole Piazza, Aiden Plauche, and Scott Woodard.**

