



***The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter***  
***Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***February 1 – 7, 2021***



*Sunrise at SPS – a Lasallian Catholic School  
(Pic courtesy of Brother Javier)*

Welcome to February! Today begins Catholic Schools Week, when Catholic schools throughout the US celebrate and affirm the Catholic identity of our schools. The National Catholic Education Association has designated the theme of the week as: "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service."

Historically, we cannot overstate the contribution of Catholic education to this country, especially in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Today, Catholic schools continue to produce outstanding achievement, in spite of the many challenges to their existence. Here in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, for example, the strategic plan designed to save the Catholic school system already has caused changes. Archbishop Aymond has stated that the Catholic school system in New Orleans will look very different twenty-five years from now than it looks today.

We remember and celebrate, too, that Saint Paul's is not just a private school or a Christian school -- we are a Lasallian Catholic school.

We remind ourselves of Saint John Baptist de

La Salle, who Pope Pius XII proclaimed Patron of All Teachers by virtue of his contribution to education. To be faithful to our Lasallian Catholic nature, we must remember that Saint La Salle insisted upon quality schools which not only "ran well" but were "places of salvation" (both spiritual and temporal) for the students by teaching them the "Truths of their Religion." Thus, the Founder believed, the schools would "touch the hearts" of the students who attended.

St. La Salle said that "to touch the hearts of the students entrusted to your care is the greatest miracle you can perform and one which God expects of you." He also insisted that those who work in Catholic schools must look upon themselves as "ministers of God's grace" and "co-workers with God."

**Saint La Salle would accept nothing less from the early brothers.**

**We try to offer nothing less today. Celebrate our Lasallian Catholic heritage – always!**

## Mon, Feb 1 (G A B C; Sudden Impact for Period G Sophomores; 11<sup>th</sup> HRB)

- **This Day in History:** In 1884, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the most comprehensive and accurate dictionary of the English language, is published. From History Channel Website: *The OED is the definitive authority on the meaning, pronunciation and history of over half a million words. The OED provides a chronological history, quoting a range of sources. The OED is famous for cross-references and etymologies. The verb "set" merits the OED's longest entry, at approximately 60,000 words and detailing over 430 uses. No sooner was the OED finished than editors began updating it. In 1984, Oxford Press embarked on a 5-year project to create an electronic version. The effort required 120 people just to type the pages from the print edition and 50 proofreaders to check their work. In 1992, a CD-ROM version of the dictionary was released. Today, the dictionary is available online to subscribers and updated quarterly with over 1,000 new entries and revisions. At a whopping 20 volumes weighing over 137 pounds, it would take one person 120 years to type all 59 million words in the OED.* Celebrate the OED! Spend time on the OED website ([www.oed.com](http://www.oed.com))
- **Working Naked Day:** Do what you want at home, but SPS is NOT celebrating this day.
- **Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day (always 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of Feb):** Well, it's your choice to celebrate – or not!
- **Bowling:** SPS v. Hannan
- **Track:** Outdoor Track practice begins
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> v. St. Charles

## Tue, Feb 2 (D E F G; Pack Time; 12<sup>th</sup> grade HRB)

- **Feast of the Presentation.** This feast, told in Luke's Gospel, celebrates the child Jesus being brought to the Temple "according to the law of Moses." It was also the occasion of Simeon ("a righteous and devout man") proclaiming the famous "nunc dimittis" -- "now, Lord, you may dismiss your servant...for my eyes have seen your salvation..." Since the 10th Century, this feast has also been called Candlemas because candles were blessed and carried in procession, a devotion based upon Simeon's words that Jesus is the light who reveals God to all nations. In his meditation for this feast, St La Salle tells the brothers "How good it is to give oneself to God! Even in this life, God rewards and fills with very tangible consolations the soul that consecrates itself to God. The more you give to God, the more God blesses you." Today, renew our own consecrations to God -- and encourage students to do, so, too.
- **TDIH:** In 1887, Groundhog Day, with a rodent meteorologist, is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, PA. From the Official GH Day web site: *Pennsylvania's earliest settlers determined if the sun did appear on Feb. 2 so wise an animal as the groundhog would see its shadow and hurry back into its home for another 6 weeks of winter.* Let's hope Punxsutawney Phil sees no shadow!
- **TDIH:** In 2014, a memorial mass was celebrated in the G-Plex for **David Decareaux '94**, and his two sons. David and his sons were camping, got lost, and died of hypothermia. We continue to pray for his family.
- **Crepe Day:** Enjoy this French classic! In France, today is called la Chandeleur, Fête de la Lumière, or jour des crêpes. The French eat a lot of crêpes on Chandeleur, but also do a bit of fortune telling while making





them. It is traditional to hold a coin in your writing hand and a crêpe pan in the other, and flip the crêpe into the air. If you manage to catch the crêpe in the pan, your family will be prosperous for the rest of the year.

- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Hammond

### Wed, Feb 3 (Feast of St. Blaise; A B C D)

- Today, Catholics celebrate feast of St. Blaise. Catholic practice calls for “Blessing of Throats” in honor of Blaise, who legends says saved a young boy from choking as Blaise was being hauled off to prison for his Christianity. He was martyred in 316. **Traditional Blessing of the Throat Prayer:** *Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil.*
- **TDIH:** In 1959, a small plane crashed and killed three American rock and roll legends: Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and JP "The Big Bopper" Richardson. Singer songwriter Don McLean wrote a song about the event, "American Pie," in which he dubbed Feb 3, 1959 **the day the music died**. (*So bye, bye, Miss American Pie, drove my Chevy to the levee ....*)
- **TDIH:** Four Chaplains Memorial Day. In 1943, four US Army Chaplains gave their lives to save other soldiers when their troop ship, the USAT Dorchester, was torpedoed in WW II. The chaplains gave up their own life jackets when the supply ran out, joined hands, said prayers and sang hymns as the ship sank.
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at Bro. Martin

### Thu, Feb 4 (E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Premier Joseph Stalin meet at city in Yalta in the Crimea to discuss and plan the postwar world--namely, to address the redistribution of power and influence. Many believe this is the birth of the Cold War.
- **Thank Your Mailman (or postal carrier to be gender correct!) Day:** Some fun postal facts:
  - In 1775, the Second Continental Congress established the first organized mail service in America.
  - Benjamin Franklin was first Postmaster General.
  - Postage stamps were invented in 1847.
  - On April 3, 1860 the Pony Express officially took off.
  - In 1863, free city delivery began; in 1896, free rural delivery
  - In 1963, the ZIP Code began. What does ZIP stand for? Zone Improvement Plan, of course!
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. Pine; 9<sup>th</sup>/JV/Var at St. Michael in BR



Matthew & Cohen enjoy king cake on snack day.

### Fri, Feb 5 (B C D E)

- **TDIH:** In 1971, Apollo 14, the 3rd US manned Moon expedition, lands and Alan Shepard & Edward Mitchell walk on Moon for 4 hrs. Alan Shepard was USA's first man in space in 1961 in a sub-orbital flight in a space capsule called Friendship 7. This was part of the Mercury Program, which had Americans just orbiting the earth. Mercury gave way to the Gemini and Apollo programs.
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Covington

### Sat, Feb 6

- **TDIH:** In 1952, after a long illness, King George VI of Great Britain and Northern Ireland dies in his sleep at the royal estate at Sandringham. Princess Elizabeth, the oldest of the king's two daughters and next in line to succeed him, was in Kenya at the time of her father's death; she was crowned Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953, at age 27 – and remains queen today.
- **ACT on campus today**
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at University High
- **Wrestling: JV/Jr Hi Tournament canceled by the LHSAA**
- **Track:** Last Chance Indoor Meet at LSU
- **Baseball:** Varsity scrimmages v. Jesuit & Lakeshore at Lakeshore

### Sun, Feb 7

- **TDIH:** In 2009, the New Orleans Saints defy the odds and win the Super Bowl. Pigs reportedly fly as city celebrates with holidays and parades.
- **TDIH II:** In 1812, Charles John Huffam Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England. Read some Dickens today. Who can forget some of his immortal lines such as the opening of *A Tale of Two Cities*? *It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness; it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way.*
- **Wave All Your Fingers at Your Neighbor Day:** Greet your neighbors today with a big wave, but to show respect and appreciation, you must wave with all of your fingers, not just a particular one.



# Rise Up, O Men of God

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

**ADMISSIONS (NEW) FOR NEXT YEAR:** I am VERY pleased with the number of applicants for next year and offer my thanks to all who helped make this happen. Thanks for spreading the good news about Lasallian education at Saint Paul's School! Thank you!



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

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g., technology, special programs, etc. The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation, the \$4.5 million new gym, the \$4 million Benilde Hall renovation and now the \$2.5 million band building.)
- You may “pledge” your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. **WONDERFUL!**
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What’s important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to the Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

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

**APPLICATION LETTERS:** More unedited comments:

- *I love the atmosphere that Brother Ray has created.* [More shameless flattery will get this guy admitted!]
- *When I toured the campus, I was pleased with the upbeat environment.* [Yes, we’re upbeat all right!]
- *SPS will be my life, a place to grow spiritually, socially, and academically.* [Amen!]
- *I fell in love with St. Paul’s at baseball camp.* [OK, he’ll love the whole place before he graduates!]
- *I am an only child, and I want to know how it feels to be part of a brotherhood.* [He will!]
- *St. Paul’s is a school that makes students better than what they were.* [That’s our goal!]



*Seniors gather in gym for mass on feast of Conversion of St. Paul. It was great to have the senior class together, even if they had to socially distance themselves.*

**ASSEMBLY ANNIVERSARIES:** Last week marked the three-year anniversary of the following assemblies:

- **Matt Fradd.** Matt speaks to over 50,000 people every year on the topic of pornography. Catholic schools are being asked to address this growing problem. In particular, Matt addressed pornography in light of human trafficking and social justice. As we learned on the Archdiocese Faculty Formation Day in 2017, pornography is a major plague impacting our youth. Matt's expertise was a great small step to battling this epidemic. Parents, please speak with your sons about the dangers of porn.
- **Thomas Awiapo.** Growing up in Ghana, Thomas was a beneficiary of Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl initiative. He shared his story about growing up in poverty and *survived* only with the support of those who have the means to help. Thomas' story was a great opportunity to shed a light on life in Africa and to paint a clearer picture of those at our twin school, St. Paul's in Marsabit, Kenya.

**ATTENDANCE:** Make the following part of your New Year Resolutions: If your son is absent, phone Suzy in the Attendance Office before 9 am at 892-3200, ext. 1980, & **SEND A NOTE when he returns**



*Construction on new Band Building is underway!*

**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](mailto:development@stpauls.com) or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or [broray@stpauls.com](mailto: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](mailto:development@stpauls.com) or Br. Ray Bulliard at 985-892-3200 ext 1901 or [broray@stpauls.com](mailto: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](mailto:spsbookstore16@gmail.com)
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore.** Proceeds fund activities throughout the year. **Recently, we received \$10,000 worth of Chromebooks for student use in main school building!**

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:** Last week we received our quarterly check of \$106.10 – which was considerably lower than previous checks. Now every \$106.10 helps, but I know we can do better. Encourage your sons to bring these items to their math teachers. Each one earns SPS 10 cents – which can add up quickly. Thanks, math teachers, for coordinating this painless fundraiser.



**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.*

**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. Note: “extras” such as juice, ice cream, etc. are NOT free and students will be charged. The free lunch includes milk.
- 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!



**CAFETERIA FREE BREAKFAST/LUNCH CLARIFICATION:** ONLY the basic lunch / breakfast is free. If students purchase “extras” such as juice, water, or desserts, they will be charged for these. Make sure your son understands this policy. \

## CALENDAR **FOR NEXT YEAR** (2021-22): Some important dates:

### Saint Paul’s School **2021 – 2022 (not this year)** Calendar

Mon - Tue, Aug 2 & 3	Teacher Meetings
Wed, Aug 4	Teacher Prep Day
Thu, Aug 5	School Opens <b>with a full day of instruction</b>
Mon, Sep 06	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 8	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 8	Grandparents Day (11:30 – 1:00 -- Tentative)
Sat, Oct 30	Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
Mon, Nov 08	Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Nov 22 - 26	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 29	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon - Thu, Dec 13-16	Semester Exams
Thu, Dec 16	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Mon, Jan 03	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 17	Martin Luther King Holiday
Fri, Feb 25	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 28 - Mar 04	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Mar 11	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 13	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri Apr 15 – 22	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 25	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 27 – 29	Senior Final Exams
Sat, May 14	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Tue – Fri, May 17 - 20	Final Exams for Grades 8 - 11
Mon, May 23	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Tue, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

**CALENDAR FOR SECOND SEMESTER 2021** 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.

- 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
- Wed-Fri, Apr 28-30 Senior Final Exams

- Sat, May 15 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
- Tues – Fri, May 18-21 Final Exams for all others, 8 - 11
- Mon, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Day
- Tues, May 25 Conflict/Makeup 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.



*Dylan & Slate enjoy King Cake on Snack Day and thank the Mothers Club!*

**CAR BURGLARIES:** Mayor Mark Johnson and Covington Police Chief Culotta recently sent an email informing us that car burglaries are rising. Lock your car and do not leave valuables visible.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:** Highlights from NCEA's recently released 2019-20 report on Catholic Schools:

- Total Catholic school student enrollment for the current academic year is 1,737,297: 1,201,391 in elementary/middle schools; 535,906 in secondary schools
- 21.8% are racial minorities, 18.5% are Hispanic/Latino and 6.4% were reported as unknown.
- Non-Catholic enrollment is 331,648 which is 19.1% of the total enrollment.
- There are 6,183 Catholic schools: 4,995 elementary; 1,188 secondary.
- 10 new schools opened; 98 consolidated or closed.



- 1,866 schools have a waiting list for admission.
- Coeducational schools comprise 98.6% of elementary and 70.8% of secondary schools. At the secondary level, 12.5% of the schools are male and 16.6% are female.
- Full-time equivalent professional staff numbered 146,367:
  - Lay women: 75.1%; Lay men: 22.3%
  - Sisters: 1.6%; Brothers: 0.4%; Clergy: 0.6%
- *U. S. Catholic school enrollment reached its peak during the early 1960s when there were more than 5.2 million students in almost thirteen thousand schools across the nation. The 1970s and 1980s saw a steep decline in both the number of schools and students. By 1990, there were approximately 2.5 million students in 8,719 schools. From the mid-1990s through 2000, there was a steady enrollment increase (1.3%) despite continued closings of schools. In the 10 years since 2010, 1,191 schools were closed or consolidated (18.1%), while 244 schools opened. Due to different definitions used by dioceses for consolidations, closings and their transitions into new configurations, along with actual new schools opened, the actual decrease in number of schools since 2010 is 911 (12.8%). The number of students declined by 382,044 (18.0%). The most seriously impacted have been elementary schools. Since 2010, elementary school enrollment has declined by 24.1% in the 12 urban dioceses and 18.6% in the rest of the U.S. There has been some good news as well during the 2010-2020 period as 244 new schools opened in all parts of the country.*

**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.** ONLY SPS cool weather clothing is allowed.

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

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2021 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!
- **School Zone Cell Phone Ban:** It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

**FEBRUARY:** Can you believe we are in February? How are those New Year resolutions coming along? So far, I'm not doing well! And here's a listing of some of the celebrations for Feb: Adopt A Rescued Rabbit Month, American Heart Month, Avocado and Banana Month, Bake for Family Fun Month, Beans Month, Dog Training Month, Exotic Vegetables and Star Fruit Month, Grapefruit Month, Boost Self-Esteem Month, Expect Success Month, Library Lovers Month, Bird Feeding Month, Black History Month, Care About Your Indoor Air Month, Cherry Month, Children's Dental Health Month, Haiku Writing Month, Hot Breakfast Month, Mend A Broken Heart Month, Parent Leadership Month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, Time Management Month, Plant the Seeds of Greatness Month, Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket Month, & Youth Leadership Month – something for almost everyone!

### HELPING SAINT PAUL'S: Don't forget these painless ways to help:

- Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) & SPS receives 5% of 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!

**HONEY SALE:** We now have a Beekeeping Club! Yes, really! And they are selling honey. The club is called SASS – which stands for Saint Paul's Apian Student Society! Very clever! The honey comes from hives in Abita and has received rave reviews. Proceeds will go towards acquiring more hives and expanding the beekeeping club's operation.

- 1 pint = \$14/pint
- 2+ pints = \$12/pint
- Half pint = \$8
- Note: The price includes a \$1 deposit on the mason jar.

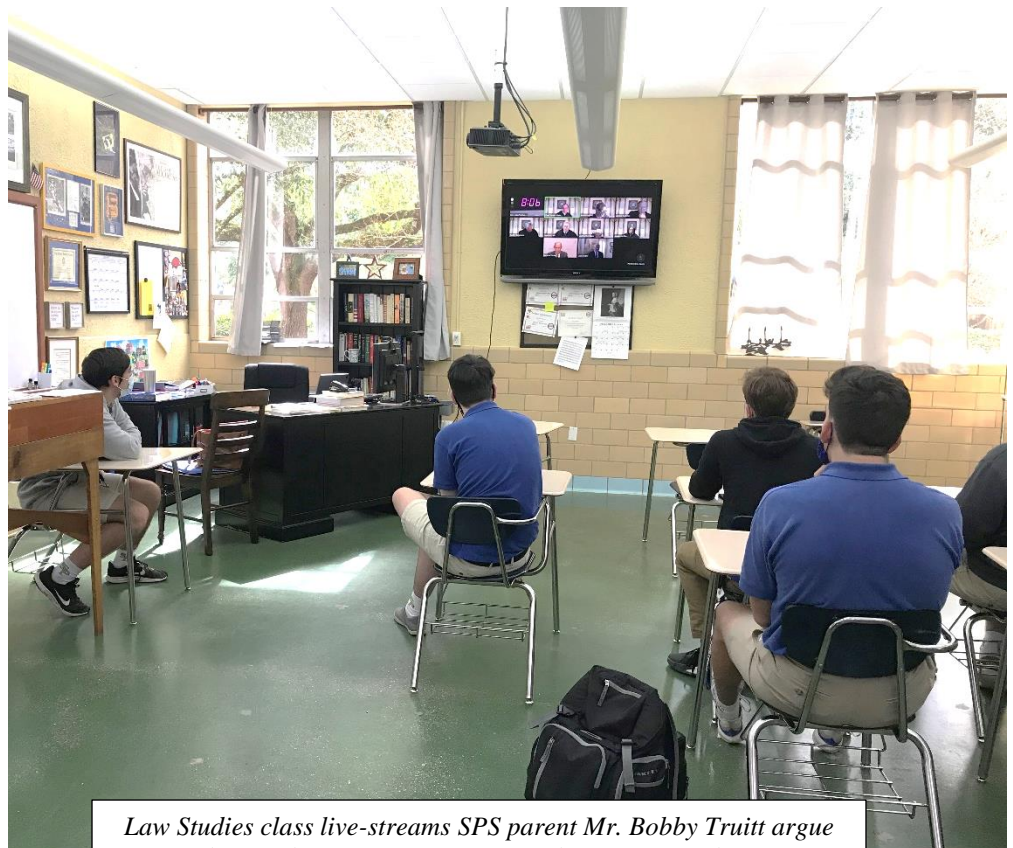
If you are interested in buying honey, please text Dr. Shawn Mullet at 617-388-6643. If you know anyone beyond the Saint Paul's community who might be interested, please spread the word. Thank you for your support. By helping SASS, you are helping SPS students connect to the natural environment and experience what it means to run a small business in the community.

### LAST WEEK:

- **Basketball:** A quarantine-caused postponement v. F'bleau; BIG district win over Slidell! Geaux Wolves!
- **Bowling:** The Wolves bowling team won both of its matches to start the season off strong. The boys defeated Albany by a team score of 22-5 and also came out victorious by a team score of 17-10.
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Three down; two to go. Thanks to all who attended.
- **Law Studies:** Local attorney Mr. Bobby Truitt (father of Junior Jackson Truitt) invited our Law Studies class to watch a case he tried before the LA Supreme Court – via

livestreaming. It was a fascinating experience and Mr. Truitt told the justices that St. Paul's students were watching and several addressed the students directly.

- **Mass:** Our virtual mass went well, thanks to organization by Jeff Ramon.



*Law Studies class live-streams SPS parent Mr. Bobby Truitt argue case before the LA Supreme Court. The Justices of the Court acknowledged the presence of SPS students and welcomed them.*



- **Snack Day:** King Cakes ruled the day on the Feast of St. Paul on Mon! Thanks, MC!
- **Soccer:** Strong wins v. Ponchy & Mandy & N'shore!
- **Track:** Evan Pardo placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 3200 at LSU's Indoor Meet on Sat
- **Wrestling:** In a bold but needed move, the LHSAA has suspended the remainder of the wrestling season due to COVID. This is to give the best chance for the state tournament to occur in late Feb. Practices can take place with COVID precautions, but no interscholastic meet can occur.

**RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2021 - 22:** Yes, it is time to plan for next year! We begin THIS WEEK registering current students for 2021-22. Here's the process:

- Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be emailed registration materials early this week. We need to know if any current 8<sup>th</sup> graders do not plan on returning in order for us to know how many new 9<sup>th</sup> graders we can add.
- Current 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be asked to register during the first weeks of February. You will receive materials via email early this week.
- Current 12<sup>th</sup> graders – well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2021 - 22, a \$300 registration fee will be due.
- **Also, if your son does not plan on returning for 2021-22, please let me know ASAP. We are getting inquiries about transfer admissions.**



**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 streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of automobiles, 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!

**SOCIAL HOSTING /UNDERAGE DRINKING:** With the Mardi Gras season looming, 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:**

- **Parents: please stress with your sons the consequences of inappropriate social media posting. Cyber-bullying is against the law and has legal implications. And the school will take strong measures against any inappropriate posting.**
- **Students: THINK before you post!**

**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.

**SUPERINTENDENT DR. RAENELL HOUSTON:** From Dr. Houston to all Catholic schools: *I respectfully request that you use prudent judgement and follow all civil parish guidelines for... events that take place outside of the regular school day and outside of typical school operations. If compliance with local civil guidance cannot be guaranteed and/or an event is likely to lead to a high risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus, the event should be rescheduled for a later date when it is safer to do so.*

**TEEN LIFE COUNTS:** A guest speaker from the Jewish Family Service’s Teen Life Counts began visiting sophomore religion classes last week and will continue this week. Teen Life Counts is an educational suicide prevention program designed to help teens learn the warning signs of suicide and how to seek help if they believe a friend is in danger. Through participation, our students learn to be more sensitive to their friends’ comments and feelings as well as to be more aware of how they can appropriately deal with personal challenges they may experience in their own lives. Because of the exploding suicide rate in St. Tammany Parish, St. Paul’s takes this issue especially seriously. We strive to do everything possible to keep our students safe. Our sophomores have participated in Teen Life Counts for many years. We believe it is a beneficial experience for both them and their families. For additional information about the program, visit <http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/> Thanks to Christine Woodard for arranging.

**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. Encourage your son to use this awesome opportunity to get help from their most capable peers. **It is not embarrassing to do so!**

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

**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.

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** I got emails from people who enjoyed the church bulletin bloopers last week! OK, I got three: a grandparent, a parent, and a student. But I'll take three! Since the bloopers were a hit, here are more:

- *Men's Prayer Breakfast. No charge, but your damnation will be gratefully accepted.*
- *Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.*
- *Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person(s) you want remembered.*
- *Come hear an excellent speaker and heave a healthy lunch.*
- *The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.*
- *If you choose to heave during the Postlude, please do so quietly.*
- *There will not be any Women Worth Watching this week.*
- *Bible Studies Club meets each Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m.*
- *On a church postcard: I have received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I would like a personal call*
- *A song listed in the Church Bulletin at the Nazarene Church in Little Rock, Arkansas; in connection sermon on God's mantle... "Let's God Mangle Fall on Me."*
- *The outreach committee has 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.*
- *The "Over 60's Choir" will be disbanded for the summer with thanks.*
- *Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers.*
- *Brother Lamar has gone on to be the Lord.*
- *The pastor will light his candle from the altar candles. The ushers will light their candle from the pastor's candle. The ushers will turn and light each worshipper in the first pew.*
- *Church sign: Jesus Saves! Safeway Grocery sign across the street: Safeway saves you more!*
- *(For the group of ladies called Moms Who Care and pray for the children in school). When their meeting was cancelled one week: "There will be no Moms Who Care this week."*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



Grant and Dad enjoy HR Breakfast!

with a

**YEARBOOKS:** How do you submit a senior ad (**Feb 21 deadline**) or purchase a yearbook?

- Go to [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com)
- Search for "Saint Paul's" exactly as displayed here.

- Select “Purchase a 2020-21 Product” in the list.
- Select “Buy Personal Ad” or "Buy a yearbook" option on the right side of the page.
- Follow the rest of the on-screen instructions and submit your results.
- **\*Seniors do not need to purchase a yearbook. The yearbook is included in tuition.**



**A LOOK AHEAD AND SECOND SEMESTER PERIOD ROTATION:** Here is the period rotation for most of second semester to use when making unavoidable doctor appointments, etc. so your son will know what classes he is missing. This is subject to change if unavoidable conflicts (weather, etc.) occur:

### **February**

- 1 – GABC -11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 2 – DEFG – Pack Time -12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- 3 – ABCD – PreACT 10<sup>th</sup> -- postponed
- 4 – EFGA – PreACT 9<sup>th</sup> -- postponed
- 5 – BCDE – PreACT 8<sup>th</sup> -- postponed
- 8 – FGAB
- 9 – CDEF – President’s Assembly
- 10 – GABC
- 11 – DEFG
- 12 – Faculty Retreat; no classes for students
- 22 – ABCD
- 23 – EFGA – Pack Time; pre-ACT for sophs
- 24 – BCDE
- 25 – FGAB
- 26 – CDEF



## March

- 1 – GABC
- 2 – DEFG – President's Assembly; ACT for Juniors
- 3 – ABCD
- 4 – EFGA
- 5 – BCDE
- 8 – FGAB
- 9 – CDEF – Pack Time
- 10 – GABC – ACT for 11th
- 11 – DEFG – Fun Lunch for Seniors during Period G
- 12 – ABCD –End of Q3
- 15 – EFGA – 9:00AM Late Start
- 16 – BCDE – President's Assembly
- 17 – FGAB
- 18 – CDEF
- 19 – GABC - Mass
- 22 – DEFG
- 23 – ABCD
- 24 – EFGA
- 25 – BCDE - Junior Retreat
- 26 – FGAB – Junior Retreat/Senior Life Skills Day
- 29 – CDEF
- 30 – GABC – Senior Retreat
- 31 – DEFG – Senior Retreat

## April

- 1 – ABCD – Senior Retreat
- 2 – Good Friday – no classes
- 12 – EFGA
- 13 – BCDE
- 14 – FGAB
- 15 – CDEF
- 16 – GABC
- 19 – DEFG
- 20 – ABCD
- 21 – EFGA
- 22 – BCDE
- 23 – FGAB
- 26 – CDEF
- 27 – GABC
- 28 – DEFG – Senior Exams
- 29 – ABCD – Senior Exams
- 30 – EFGA – Senior Exams



*Dad and son spend quality time during HR Breakfast.*



## May

3 – BCDE

4 – FGAB

5 – CDEF

6 – GABC

7 – DEFG

10 – ABCD

11 – EFGA

12 – BCDE

13 – FGAB

14 – CDEF

17 – GABC

18 – Exams – Grades 8 - 11

19 – Exams – Grades 8 - 11

20 – Exams – Grades 8 - 11

21 – Exams – Grades 8 - 11

Whew! Enough for now. Even though it's a New Year, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to anymore since it stopped broadcasting but I still remember it and LOL): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my

ramblings! Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we begin the New Year! Again, thanks for being part of the 2020-21 edition of Saint Paul's! Happy New Year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Made It to February 2021 as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

*Now let's go out there to be light, HOPE, and love to the students entrusted to our care by doing the ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will, remaining faithful, letting Our Lady of the Star guide us to God, beseeching our Holy Founding Brothers to help us continue the Lasallian Mission, living courageously and respecting all people.*



**CELEBRATE  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS  
WEEK 2021**  
January 31 - February 6



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](http://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.*









