



***The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter***  
***Celebrating 109 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***340 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***January 11 - 17, 2021***



Thanks to all who made the return to school and the start of the second semester such a success – in spite of the challenges of COVID and the loss of beloved teacher, Mr. Robert Simpson!



And as we begin the second week of the second semester, we keep the Family of Robert Simpson, SPS Alumnus and long-time respected faculty member, in our thoughts and prayers as we commend Robert to the love of Almighty God, whom he served so faithfully and well during his earthly life. May we take comfort in our firm Christian belief that for Robert, life is not ended; it is only changed. Eternal rest grant unto Robert, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen!

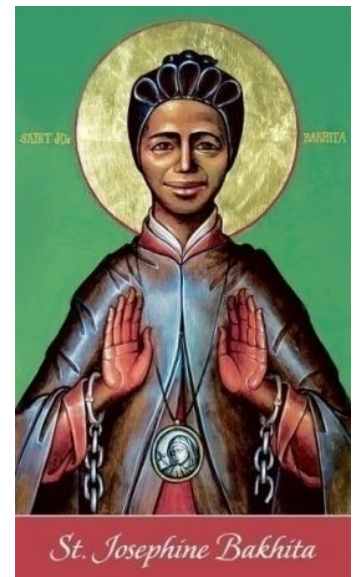
*Oh, what glory there will be for those persons who have instructed youth, when their zeal and devotion to procure the salvation of children will be made public before all people!*

*All heaven will resound with the thanksgiving which these blessed children will render to those who have taught them the road to heaven.*

■ *Saint John Baptist de La Salle*

### Mon, Jan 11 (G A B C)

- **This Day in History:** In 2012, a special blessing and opening ceremony for the newly renovated La Salle Hall was held. The building has served us well, and we continue to marvel at this incredible transformation of the old dormitory into currently usable space. As we mark the nine-year anniversary, let's not forget to remember all those who helped make it possible and treat the building with respect and appreciation. In particular, I'd like to recognize the members of the Centennial Club, who donated \$50,000 each to the project: An Anonymous Alumnus, Bobby Nolan, Greg and Lisa Pellegrini, Tom and Sue Lavin, Family, James Branton, Chris & Angie Jean, Craig Paretti Family.
- **TDIH:** In 2016, John Bel Edwards was inaugurated as Governor of Louisiana. Regardless of our party affiliation, we should offer our governor and other elected officials our prayers and best wishes as they address the problems of our beloved state. May they govern wisely and honestly!
- **Milk Day:** In 1878 milk was reportedly delivered in bottles for the very first time. Prior to this, milk was brought door to door in large metal cans and they'd ladle you out a portion.
- **Human Trafficking Day:** We don't think much about this human horror, so today attempts to raise awareness about the effects of what has been termed modern day slavery.
- **Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of those who are trafficked:**  
*St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved.*
- **Clean Off Your Desk Day (always 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon):** Actually, I did this over the holidays but it got cluttered again this past week!



### Tue, Jan 12 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** 1969, in the most celebrated performance of his prolific career, quarterback Joe Namath leads New York Jets to a stunning 16-7 victory over heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III.
- **Pharmacists Day:** We salute all pharmacists!
- **TDIH:** The Beatles release "Yellow Submarine." Listen to this iconic song today! *We all live in a yellow submarine!*
- **Services for Robert:** Visitation at St. Peter from 3:15 – 4 for SPS Family
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity v. Covington
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Hammond

### Wed, Jan 13 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards was sworn into his second term as the 56th Governor of the State of **Louisiana**. And former Covington Mayor and SPS alumnus Mike Cooper was sworn into his first term as St. Tammany Parish President. We continue to offer prayers and best wishes to both as they lead our beloved state and parish.

- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Aug
- **Wrestling:** JV & Varsity in dual meet v. Live Oak

#### Thu, Jan 14 (E F G A)

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

#### Fri, Jan 15 (B C D E)

- **TDIH:** in 1967, Super Bowl I is played. Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10, led by Bart Starr.
- **Strawberry Ice Cream Day:** Enjoy good ole' strawberry today.
- **Wrestling:** Varsity in LA Classic in Gonzales through Saturday
- **Soccer:** SPS at Covington
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Northshore



*Art students practice two-point perspective.*

#### Sat, Jan 16

- **TDIH:** In 1991, Operation Desert Storm was launched. US and coalition forces invaded Kuwait to liberate it from Iraqi takeover. The war ended Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, Adolf Hitler hides in his underground bunker, where he stays for 105 days until committing suicide.
- **TDIH:** In 1919, the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the US Constitution, prohibiting the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," is ratified.
- **TDIH:** 1838, Samuel Morse's telegraph system is demonstrated for the first time.
- **Fig Newton Day:** Enjoy this classic cookie!
- **Do Nothing Day:** Since it's a Saturday, feel free to observe away!
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at East Jefferson
- **Soccer:** SPS 9<sup>th</sup> grade tournament
- **Wrestling** in Meet at Grace King; Varsity in LA Classic



**Sun, Jan 17**

- **TDIH:** In 1953, the Chevrolet Corvette sports car makes its debut at General Motors' (GM) Motorama auto show at in New York. The Corvette, named for a fast type of naval warship, would eventually become an iconic American muscle car and remains in production today – but is certainly out of my price range and comfort zone!
- **TDIH:** The Eighteenth Amendment, the Volstead Act, took effect on this date in 1920, a year after it was ratified, making manufacture, sale, and transportation of liquor illegal. The temperance movement had fought this fight for almost 80 years. Its activists wanted to protect families and communities from the horrors of alcohol abuse. They saw the 18th Amendment as a major victory for morality—but in reality, it made criminals out of a lot of ordinary American citizens, and made liquor even more desirable than it had been before. In the end, the Depression led to the demise of Prohibition. A wealthy Republican named Pauline Sabin led the repeal movement. She said that making liquor legal again would create jobs, weaken organized crime, and generate tax revenue. It took almost 14 years before the 21st Amendment reversed Prohibition. It's the first and only time an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has been repealed.
- **Today is the birthday** of Benjamin Franklin, who was born in Boston in 1706. He was a printer, a scientist, an inventor, a writer, the founder of America's first lending library, and one of the Founding Fathers of America itself. He recalled in his *Autobiography* (1794) that writing well became "of great Use to me in the Course of my Life, and was a principal Means of my Advancement."
- **Kid Inventors Day:** We celebrate the youthful spirit of invention every year on January 17th, the birthday of Benjamin Franklin, who invented the first swim flippers at age 12.

# Rise Up, O Men of God

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

**ADMISSIONS 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 LETTER EXCERPTS:** Application letters are arriving, and they are always a treat to read. While they all extol the virtues of SPS, some contain memorable lines. This begins my series of memorable quotes from next year's Wolves, the Class of 2026:

- *Everything is beautiful at St. Paul's. I cannot wait to join the pack.* [yes, life is indeed beautiful at SPS!]
- *St. Paul's is a school where I can get a good education to succeed in life as a decent human being.*
- *I am a great student and have a lot to offer your school.* [Love the self-confidence!]
- *St. Paul's is excellent at combining religion, academics and sports into one great mission* [The Big Three!]
- *I like how everyone has a smile on their face. The smile on their face tells me that they enjoy school and the teachers are not boring.* [Boring teachers at SPS? Impossible!]

**ASSEMBLY ON JANUARY 05:** I hope the students enjoyed our first assembly of 2021! Here's some of what we did:

- Began by listening to a contemporary version of "Rise Up O Men of God" sung by Christian rock singer Phil Keaggy. I play it at the first assembly of a new year in order to set the tone for the year – that we must view 2021 as a new opportunity for the students to rise up as men of God. It's a powerful song that means so much to our school. I reminded the students that the next day was the feast of Our Lady of Prompt Succor ('swift help'), the official Patroness of New Orleans and Louisiana. I told the boys the history of OLPS, including her miraculous intervention during the great fire of NO in 1812 and the more famous "Battle of New Orleans" story with then General Andrew Jackson. While the music was playing, we lit the prayer candle virtually to remind us of God's presence among us and we prayed. And we prayed for those who have left earthly life for God's Kingdom:
  - *Mr. Ernesto Toledo, grandfather of Collin Cusimano '23*
  - *Mr. Michael Carambat, brother of Mr. John Carambat*
  - *Dr. Gerald Keller, grandfather of Jack Keller '23*
  - *Mrs. Mary Jane McCoy, grandmother of Turner Land '21*
  - *Mrs. Marjorie Warner, grandmother of Aiden Plauche '21*

- Asked the students to make the following New Year's Resolutions:
  - Don't litter the campus
  - Respect the neighborhood, especially with their driving
  - Ask for help if needed. These are stressful times and things can seem overwhelming at times. We stand ready to help.
  - Give thanks for each day of life and make the most of it.
  - Rise up as a man of God.
- Reminded the students that their semester grades have changed their overall grade point averages.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Graders now have a GPA, as several of their classes count for high school credit.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Graders have plenty of time to improve their GPAs if needed.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Graders have reached the mid-point of their GPA career and it will get harder from now on to affect it but there is still time.
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Graders have only one more semester before most will be applying to college, where GPA will become important.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Graders have only one semester left in their high school careers – so finish strong.
- Then, as if by magic, the “Ride of the Valkyries” from Richard Wagner’s opera Die Walkure started playing, which meant it was time to recognize our football program for their successful seasons. I gave special recognition to the players who made the All-District Team:

### **2020 All-District Team**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Team Defense**

Jacob Frolich- Sr.- DE

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Team Defense**

Danny Sears- Jr.-LB

Thomas Rushing- Jr.-DT

Daniel Dufour-Jr.-DB

#### **Honorable Mention Defense**

Kier Nunez-Jr.-LB

Owen Vincens-Sr.-LB

Preston Calvert- Sr.-DB

Jake Satchez-Jr.-DE

Aiden Richards-Jr.-DT

Gavin Clayton-Sr.-DT

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Team Special Teams**

#### **Honorable Mention Special Teams**

Brady Talley – Sr; PK

#### **1st Team Offense**

Dylan Porche- Sr.- OL

Brody Reina- Jr.- WR

Garrett Lauterbach-Sr.-TE

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Team Offense**

Nicholas Vining- Sr.-OL

Grant Billson- Jr.-QB

Mitchell Smith- Sr.-RB

#### **Honorable Mention Offense**

Nathan Vitale- Jr.-WR

Ben Knobloch- Jr.-RB

Dylan Buckel- So.-OL

Ben Dufour-Jr.-OL

Ryan Blanchard-Jr.

- Gave special recognition to senior **Brady Talley** for being named to the LHSAA All-Academic Football Team – quite an honor!
- While Wagner was playing, I also updated the wrestling program – which is having an outstanding year with dual meet wins over Mandeville, Covington, Jesuit, Fontainebleau, Rummel, Shaw, and Catholic High.
- Recognized and congratulated the entire student body for their support of Project Christmas. We raised enough funds to help 40 St. Tammany children have a meaningful Christmas.
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Habitat Club for their monthly work days in November and December. Led by Mr. Richard Pichon, the Habitat Wolves help build affordable housing for the residents of St. Tammany. This is very Lasallian!
- Recognized and congratulated the students and staff who donated 21 pints of blood at the December blood Drive: **Colin Garvey, Cole Cartier, Adam Cazayoux, Rhett Barker, William Blossman, Kasey Gottschalk, Zachary Nichols, Gabe Gros, Owen Crombie, Grant Harrison, Joseph Thompson, Carson Cyr, Austin Peak, Dominic Roy, Ryan Daly, Cager Bloom, Cooper Estrade, Kyle Castillo, Mrs. Andrea Francis, Mr. Craig Ketelsen, Mrs. Suzie Slade, Mrs. Kelly Hightower, Mr. David Arbo, Mr. Trevor Watkins, and Mrs. Suzie Duplantier**
- Recognized and congratulated the Student Council and all who helped put on a fabulous Luminarias Night.
- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly!
- We ended the assembly by humming Rise Up O Men of God while the Class of 2011 sang. I then extinguished the virtual candle and reminded the students what the candle represents – the presence of God among us. I exhorted them to leave the Google Meet assembly and spread God’s love to all whom they meet. Teachers logged off to the sounds of “Rise Up O Men of God!”
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!



CONGRATULATIONS!



**Brady Talley**

**LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

**ACADEMIC ALL-STATE  
2020-21 BOYS FOOTBALL  
COMPOSITE TEAM**

**SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL**





**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!**

**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. 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 SECOND SEMESTER** 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, Jan 4                      Classes resume & Second Semester begins
- Mon, Jan 18                    Martin Luther King Holiday
- Mon, Feb 1                     Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
- 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 9 - 11
- Mon, May 24                    Conflict/Makeup Day
- Tues, May 25                   Conflict/Makeup Day
- We are still determining final exam dates for 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Sorry for the delay. We will publish soon.
- 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.

**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.

**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.

**COVID IN ST. TAMMANY:** From the Jan 1, *Advocate: The parish's numbers recently have surged anew: More than 1,120 positive cases in the past seven days and a positive test rate of 13.8%, significantly higher than the state average of 10.7%, Louisiana Department of Health data shows.* We must, therefore, continue our **COVID protocols, especially mask wearing, are still in effect.** These are 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 Aug 6, along with the other five Catholic schools here in our area.

**COVID UPDATE: From the Dept of Catholic Education & Faith Formation:** *Governor Edwards announced on TUE, DEC 22, that Louisiana will continue in a modified Phase 2 for an additional three weeks. Based on the Governor's message, he continues to acknowledge that schools are 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. Schools will be allowed to operate under Phase 3 guidance at this time with the exception of sporting event limitations.*



**COVID UPDATE II:** Tangipahoa, Washington and St. Tammany Parishes have very high positivity rates of COVID. “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.

**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.



*School is back in session!*

**GOOD NEWS DEPT:** Over the holidays, we received our quarterly AmazonSmile donation: \$516.37. Thanks to all who IDed SPS to receive a percentage of their AS purchases.

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

- **Report Cards** were emailed on Jan 1, although grades were accessible on Plus Portals for a while. **Let me know if you did not receive a report card. There are no parent-teacher conferences until Feb, so email any concerns to teachers.**

- **Semester Exams** DID NOT lower most student averages. The overwhelming number of students earned the same grade on exams that they had going into exams. There were a few exceptions – on BOTH ends of the spectrum (students who did worse and students who did better.) **What the semester exams did accomplish is give your son college preparatory experience .**
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Here's the schedule for the second quarter HR breakfast schedule:
  - Jan 27 – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 28 – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Jan 29 --10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Feb 01 – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
  - Feb 02 – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast
- COVID mitigation protocols will be in place – as they were for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. **ONE GUEST ONLY.** All breakfasts last from 7:50-8:30. Note: HR is based on **second QUARTER, not semester, grades.**

**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!

**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.

#### **LAST WEEK:**

- **Basketball:** Great District start with wins over Slidell & Hammond – and a great senior night for our three seniors.
- **Commitment / Testing Day:** A large number of future Wolves arrived on Sat morning to take a placement test for next year. Due to COVID, we did not use the BAC for a large-scale testing arena, but divided applicants into static groups by school. It was more work, but worth it.

We stressed with families that this was a placement test, not an admissions test. We base admissions on the total elementary school record. I get inquiries about “chances of getting in.” The key for qualified applicants is to apply on time. We will now begin reviewing the applications with a late-February date for sending acceptance letters. I am indebted to counseling staff for organizing the morning. A number of seniors also helped administer the test. We are blessed with help.



*Parents of our three B-ball seniors (Ben, Cameron, & Evan) smile on senior night*



- **Day of Prayer:** Thanks to all who contributed to the Day of Prayer for Robert and his family. I appreciate Jeff Ramon organizing the day and religion teachers for encouraging participation by the students. I hope your son told you about it.
- **Soccer:** Wolves were busy; 8<sup>th</sup> grade wins against Hannan; Varsity wins v. Denham and Slidell (District).
- **Sudden Impact:** Another group of sophs benefitted from this powerful program.

**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. Stress with your sons to keep track of his belongings. Putting his name on items helps, too. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside Attendance Office.

**MONEY:** Please stress with your sons that they should NOT bring large sums of money to school. There is no need for students to have large cash amounts – which they invariable talk about which tempts others.

**PAPER WOLF:** Read The Paper Wolf! ([www.thepaperwolf.com](http://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!



**RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2021 - 22:** Yes, it is time to start thinking about next year! We will soon begin registering current students for 2021-22. Here's the process:

- Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be asked to register during last two weeks of January. 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.
- 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.

**TEEN LIFE COUNTS:** A guest speaker from the Jewish Family Service's Teen Life Counts will visit sophomore religion classes during the next two weeks. 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:** For a good workout in the New Year, here's a list of strenuous activities that do not require much physical effort:

- 01) *Beating around the bush...*
- 02) *Jumping to conclusions...*
- 03) *Climbing up the wall...*
- 04) *Swallowing your pride...*
- 05) *Passing the buck...*
- 06) *Throwing your weight around...*
- 07) *Dragging your heels...*
- 08) *Pushing your luck...*
- 09) *Making mountains out of molehills...*
- 10) *Hitting the nail on the head...*
- 11) *Wading through paperwork...*
- 12) *Bending over backwards...*
- 13) *Jumping on the bandwagon...*
- 14) *Balancing the books...*
- 15) *Running around in circles...*
- 16) *Eating crow...*
- 17) *Blowing your own horn...*
- 18) *Climbing the ladder of success...*
- 19) *Pulling out all the stops...*
- 20) *Adding fuel to the fire...*
- 21) *Opening a can of worms...*
- 22) *Putting your foot in your mouth...*
- 23) *Setting the ball rolling...*
- 24) *Going over the edge...*
- 25) *Picking up the pieces...*

*Whew! That is some workout! Now sit down and... Exercise caution!*



**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:

### **January**

11 – GABC  
 12 – DEFG – Pack Time  
 13 – ABCD  
 14 – EFGA  
 15 – BCDE  
 18 – MLK Day  
 19 – FGAB – President’s Assembly  
 20 – CDEF  
 21 – GABC  
 22 – DEFG – 9:00 AM Late Start  
 25 – ABCD – Mass – Feast of St. Paul  
 26 – EFGA - PSAT  
 27 – BCDE -8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
 28 – FGAB -9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
 29 – CDEF -10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast – 8<sup>th</sup> on retreat

### **February**

1 – GABC -11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
 2 – DEFG – Pack Time -12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
 3 – ABCD – PreACT 10th  
 4 – EFGA – PreACT 9th  
 5 – BCDE – PreACT 8th  
 8 – FGAB  
 9 – CDEF – President’s Assembly  
 10 – GABC  
 11 – DEFG  
 12 – Faculty Retreat  
 22 – ABCD  
 23 – EFGA – Pack Time  
 24 – BCDE  
 25 – FGAB  
 26 – CDEF

### **March**

1 – GABC  
 2 – DEFG – President’s Assembly  
 3 – ABCD  
 4 – EFGA  
 5 – BCDE  
 8 – FGAB  
 9 – CDEF – Pack Time  
 10 – GABC – ACT for 11th  
 11 – DEFG



*Quality education in action at SPS as we begin 2<sup>nd</sup> semester!*

12 – ABCD –End of Q1  
15 – EFGA – 9:00AM Late Start  
16 – BCDE  
17 – FGAB  
18 – CDEF  
19 – GABC - Mass  
22 – DEFG  
23 – ABCD  
24 – EFGA  
25 – BCDE - Junior Retreat  
26 – FGAB – Junior Retreat  
29 – CDEF  
30 – GABC – Senior Retreat  
31 – DEFG – Senior Retreat

### **April**

1 – ABCD – Senior Retreat  
2 – Good Friday  
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

### **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  
19 – Exams  
20 – Exams  
21 - Exams

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

Doing OK So Far in 2021 as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



*Now let's go out there to be light and 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, asking Blessed Brother James to help us live courageously and Blessed Brother Scubilion to help us respect all people!*



|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><i>Quality Education!</i></p> <p><b>2020-2021</b></p> <p><b>ACT 36</b></p> <p><b>SUBJECT SCORES</b></p>  <p><i>Transforming Lives Since 1680</i></p> | <p><b>CONGRATULATIONS!</b></p> <p>William Allen - 36 Reading</p> <p>Maxwell Anderson - 36 Reading</p> <p>Wesley Coles - 36 Reading</p> <p>William Ditta - 36 Reading</p> <p>Preston Orgeron - 36 English</p> <p>Alexi Sotiropoulos - 36 Reading</p> |
|--|---|

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

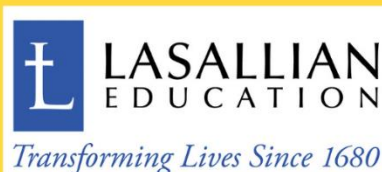




*Quality Education!*

**2020-2021**

## **ACT 36 SUBJECT SCORES**



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Luke Beckendorf - 36 English

Beau Booth - 36 Reading

Cooper Cantrelle - 36 Math

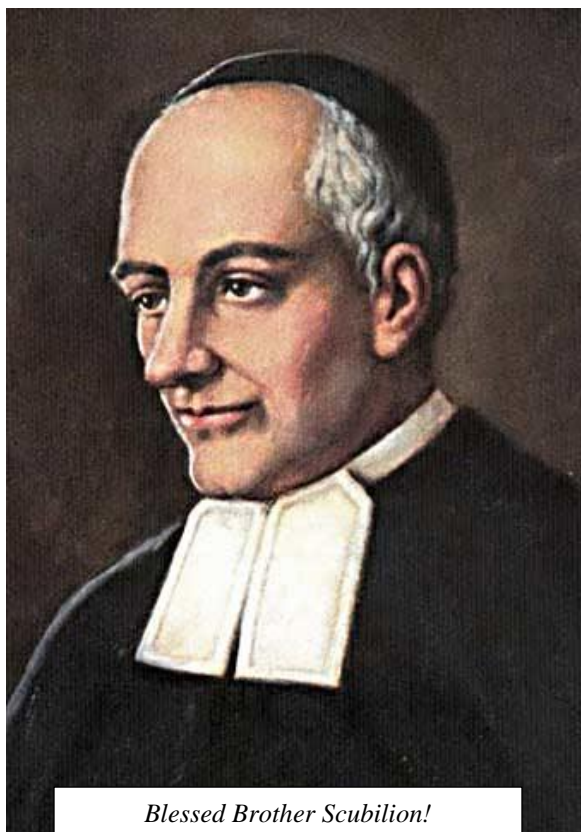
Wesley Coles - 36 Math

Vageli Liokis - 36 Reading

Aiden Plauché - 36 Science

\*October 6 Test Date

**Perfect ACT subject scores from the OCTOBER test! December test results coming soon!**



*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.*

## 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:** 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:** 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.**



