



The SPS President's Hebdomadal Newsletter
Celebrating 110 years of Educational Excellence in Covington
341 years of Lasallian Tradition Throughout the World
August 23 – 29, 2021



Seniors prepare to March through the Arch!

In 1995, then Development / PR Director Mrs. Judy Lacour (who served at SPS since 1970) proposed having the Senior Class march through the newly renovated archway (courtesy of the Jeff Jacobs'95 Family), thus re-enacting the founding of the school by the Benedictines in 1918 and the Christian Brothers in 1918. Honestly, I didn't think much of the idea. Boy, was I wrong!

Since then, the MTTA ceremony has become beloved and anticipated. Last week's March was very moving. Perhaps it's my old age and increasing realization of my mortality. Or perhaps it was thanksgiving that the morning monsoon had passed! But as the Class of 2022 marched through the arch, I was filled with awe and gratitude: awe that our human institution has lasted 110 years and gratitude that God has guided us through good times and bad, challenge and opportunity, war and peace – and has

given us this outstanding senior class. And why? Because I believe we are doing God's work: *Domine, Opus Tuum*.

In my remarks that morning, I made the following points:

- We were gathering to recognize, honor and affirm the SPS Class of 2022, a group of 165 young men who, in nine short months, will become the 111th graduating class of Saint Paul's School.
- That the day was a day of remembrance:
 - Of the Benedictine fathers of Saint Joseph Abbey who walked up this road in September of 1911 and opened Saint Paul's School, establishing it as a place of learning, growth, and the Spirit of God.
 - Of the courageous Christian Brothers who assumed ownership in 1918, having been exiled from France and Mexico, and who brought the Lasallian dream to Covington.
 - Of the faithful Brothers and partners who worked to make the Lasallian dream alive here at SPS.
 - Of the alumni and former students, especially those who no longer walk this earth.
- And I closed by quoting Nobel Laureate William Faulkner as we look to an unknown future: *During the past 110 years, our fragile, human condition, when threatened with acts of nature or acts of men, has taken comfort from our families and friends, our Lasallian heritage, and Saint Paul's School. As we face the future, we remember and paraphrase the affirming words of Faulkner, that we will "not merely endure, we will prevail" because we have "souls capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance." Our seniors, and, indeed, all of our students will prevail as long as they remember, in the words of Faulkner, the "courage and honor and hope and pride and compassion and pity and sacrifice which have been the glory of the past" and which we are now called upon to replicate in our cities and our homes and our schools.*
- I then presented the SPS senior class of 2022: a chosen people, a royal priesthood, living stones building the edifice of the Mystical God in our age and fulfilling the Lasallian Mission of Saint Paul's School.

Thank you, Mrs. Lacour – and all who have made MTTA so memorable for so many for so long!

Mon, Aug 23 (G A B C – Wolf Packs Meet Today!)

- **This Day in History:** Legendary Pete Rose is banned from baseball for betting on the game.
- **TDIH:** In 1814, first lady Dolley (yes, that's the correct spelling) Madison saves a portrait of George Washington from being looted by British troops during 1812 War.
- **Get Involved Day** – rescheduled from last week

Tue, Aug 24 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 79, Mount Vesuvius erupts in Italy, devastating the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.
- **TDIH:** In 1814, during War of 1812 between US and England, British troops enter Washington, D.C. and burn the White House in retaliation for an American attack on city of York in Ontario, Canada, in June 1812.
- **Strange Music Day:** SMD was started by Patrick Grant, a Julliard graduate and musician. The purpose of SMD is to listen to music you have never heard before, just for the heck of it. Have fun today and listen to something different! I think I'll ask some students for suggestions!
- **Waffle Day:** Today marks the anniversary of the first waffle iron patent in 1869. Eat a waffle today! Or just keep changing your mind about things -- get it? Waffling?
- **Football: 8th Grade Jamboree v. Ponchatoula JH**

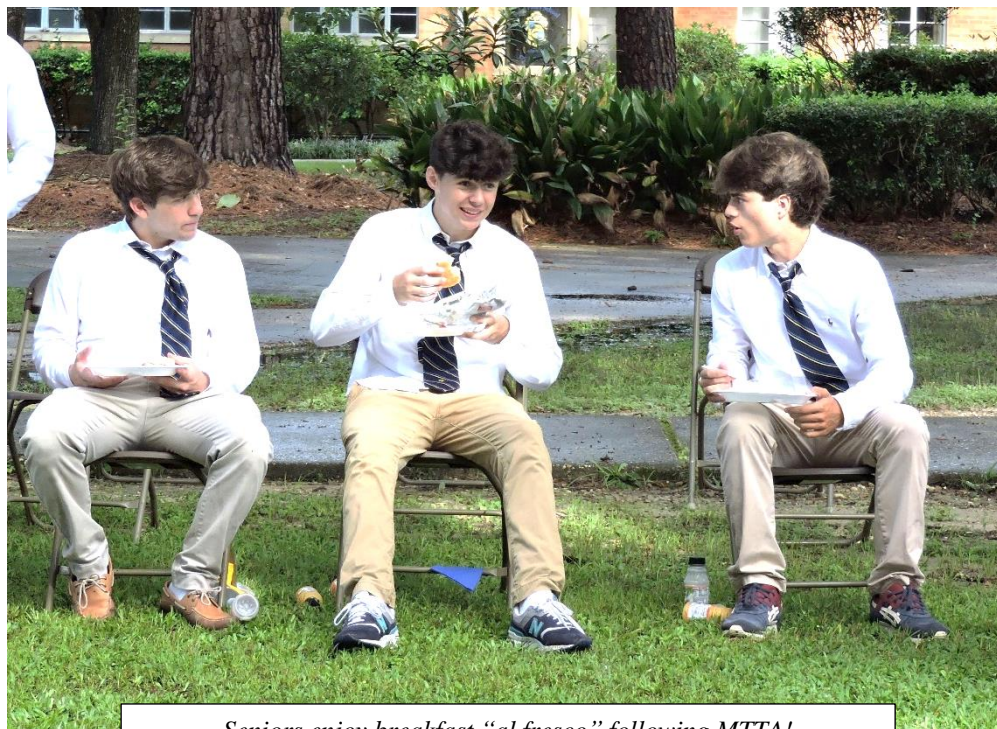


Trent & William enjoy games at Senior BBQ!

Wed, Aug 25 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** In 1944, General Jacques LeClerc enters Paris, freeing it from German control during WW II.
- **TDIH: In 1718, French immigrants founded New Orleans.** Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville named the settlement for Philippe II, the Duke of Orléans and regent, ruling in place of Louis XV, who was only a boy. The French claimed the LA Territory in 1682, and New Orleans, at the mouth of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, was prime real estate to control America's interior waterway. Though the city never lost French character, it blended with elements of Native American, African, & Spanish cultures.
- France sent a starter population of prisoners, slaves, and bonded servants. They arrived to find a mosquito-ridden swamp surrounded by hostile Native Americans and prone to hurricanes. The settlers almost revolted, so 90 female convicts were sent from Paris jails, chaperoned by a group of Ursuline nuns.
- Two engineers laid out plans for a walled village, known as the French Quarter or *Vieux Carré* — the Old City. The architecture is mostly Spanish, since fire destroyed most of the original buildings in the 18th century. By then, the city was under Spanish control, who rebuilt the quarter. US bought LA in 1803.
- Tom Robbins wrote, in *Jitterbug Perfume* (1984): *Louisiana in September was like an obscene phone call from nature. The air — moist, sultry, secretive, and far from fresh — felt as if it were being exhaled into one's face. Sometimes it even sounded like heavy breathing. Honeysuckle, swamp flowers, magnolia, and the mystery smell of the river scented the atmosphere, amplifying the intrusion of organic sleaze. It was aphrodisiac and repressive, soft and violent at the same time. In New Orleans, in the French Quarter, miles from the barking lungs of alligators, the air maintained this quality of breath, although here it acquired a tinge of metallic halitosis, due to fumes expelled by tourist buses, trucks delivering Dixie beer, and, on Decatur Street, a mass-transit motor coach named Desire.*

- **Kiss & Make Up Day** – a great day to end a spat, fight, argument, or feud. And it can be fun! The “kiss” is optional, but everyone is encouraged today to “bury the hatchet” over an argument or disagreement.
- **Banana Split Day** celebrates the invention of this treat in 1904. Splurge ‘n eat a Banana Split today!



Seniors enjoy breakfast “al fresco” following MTTA!

Thu, Aug 26 (E F G A)

- **TDIH:** In 1974, Charles Lindbergh, the first to fly solo nonstop across Atlantic, dies at age of 72.
- **TDIH:** In 1939, the first televised baseball game airs on W2XBS. Red Barber called the game between Cincinnati Reds and Brooklyn Dodgers.
- **Dog Day:** Give Fideaux an extra treat today!
- **Toilet Paper Day:** DYK the US spends almost \$10 billion a year on TP? And Charmin holds a TP wedding dress contest each year with 10,000 participants!
- **Cross Country Time Trials**

Fri, Aug 27 (B C D E) -- Memorial of **St. Monica** – a special feast for moms, as Monica prayed for years for the conversion of her son, Augustine, who strayed far from the path of righteousness. Her persistent prayer paid off and Augustine became one of the greatest saints in the church. Thanks, St. Monica!

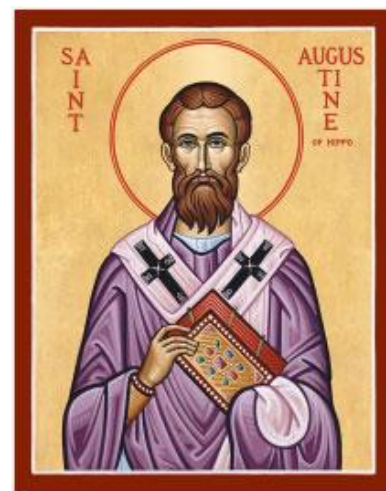
- **TDIH:** Brother Ralph Baltz would have turned 101 today! We pause today to remember him and his dedication to the Lasallian Mission. **In Brother’s memory, we will distribute ice pops to all at lunch – which is what Brother Ralph would have wanted**
- **TDIH:** In 1910, Mother Teresa is born. In honor of her birth, coincidentally on the same day as Brother Ralph’s birth, I reprint a famous prayer which is purported to be hers. It’s always worth re-reading:

*People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
 If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.
 If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.
 What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.
 If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
 The good you do today will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.
 Give the best you have and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.
 In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.*

- **Football:** Varsity v. Rummel (6 pm Jamboree)

Sat, Aug 28 -- Today is the feast of St. Augustine -- a most influential scholar saint. His story offers us much inspiration as he converted from a life of loose living to one of the greatest of saints. Here is a beautiful prayer that he wrote.

Late have I loved You, O Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved You! For behold, you were within me and I outside, and I sought you outside. In my unloveliness, I fell upon these lovely things that you had made. Thou were with me and I was not with You. I was kept from You by those things, yet had they not been from You, they would not have been at all. You did call and cry to me to break open my deafness. I tasted You, and now hunger and thirst for You; You touched me, and I burn for Your peace.



- **TDIH:** In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his “I Have a Dream” speech – one of the best known in US History, second only to Lincoln’s 1863 “Gettysburg Address” – on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to about 250,000 people attending the March on Washington. He ended his stirring 16-minute speech with his vision of the fruit of racial harmony: *“When we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”* The speech is worth a Youtube view.

Sun, Aug 29

- **TDIH:** In 2012, Tropical Storm Isaac bashes south LA; SPS closes for four days!
- **More Herbs, Less Salt Day:** Pretty self-explanatory! Stay healthy!
- **TDIH:** In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastates south Louisiana and floods New Orleans. Though some would prefer to erase memory of this dark time in our history, I think it important that we remember how far we have come in the past 16 years – and celebrate the tenacity and drive of those who helped make recovery possible. We remain grateful to the incredible support from so many people who helped in the aftermath of the storm to welcome displaced students, care for our own students, and keep hope alive on our campus - - all while dealing with their own issues and challenges. Their work at that difficult time was in the finest tradition of heroic Lasallian education. Post-storm, Computer Applications II Class, under the direction of long time SPS computer whiz Weese Petersen, published a book about what the boys learned from the storm – some funny, some insightful, some poignant. Here are some excerpts: *I learned:*
 - *that my brother gets aggravated after 10 hours of riding in a car.*
 - *that relatives can get annoying and they bring friends when they stay with you.*
 - *that relatives eat a lot when depressed.*
 - *that family is more important than you.*
 - *that having my family and friends is the only real thing that matters in my life.*



- *that I should be thankful*
- *that I take many things for granite [sic] like yesterday I was mad because I didn't get my way then I thought that many lost everything.*
- *that everything can be survived.*
- *that if you think you have it bad, someone has it worse.*
- *that chainsaws are dangerous.*
- *that rakes are not my friend.*
- *that having 25 rambling Irish people in my house is not cool.*
- *that Gatlinburg doesn't have many girls.*
- *that pine trees fall easily.*
- *that my parents are incredible motivators.*
- *that my father likes martial law.*
- *that my uncle is mechanically incompetent.*
- *that living with grandparents is not always enjoyable*
- *not to drive to Slidell at 10 pm when there is a 7 pm curfew.*
- *that 35 people in one house can get on your nerves.*
- *that there are a lot of good-looking girls at Texas A & M.*
- *you don't realize the value of what you have until you lose it.*
- *poor people are less fortunate than us in a situation like this.*
- *to watch your head when climbing through fallen trees.*
- *that my grandparents are not as bad as I thought they were.*
- *that my family turned out to be pretty cool.*



*Our Lady of Prompt Succor!
Hasten to help us!*

**May our remembrance of Katrina today elicit prayers for all those affected by storms.
And may Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to keep us safe from the ravages of storms.**

Rise Up, O Men of God

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

ACADEMIC SUCCESS: Help your son develop proper attitudes and habits for success. Show confidence in his ability; work with him to set realistic academic goals. Help him develop an orderly study environment. Teens enjoy chaos, so the trick is to help your son create enough order in his chaos for proper study to occur. Designate a place and time to study. **Require 1-2 hours of study per night. Do not accept the "I have no homework" excuse.** He always has homework -- review, study, and advanced preparation. At the end of his study session, have him organize books, assignments, PE clothes, etc. for the next day. **Students who do not have their homework in class are sent to assignment hall.**

AFTER SCHOOL: The Library will remain open to students until 4 pm. If your son is looking for a comfortable place to wait for his ride and get a jump on his homework, this is a good option for him.

AFTER SCHOOL ISSUES: Assignment Hall (see below) and detention are in operation. Parents, stress with your sons the need to do homework and follow rules. If your son does end up in AH or detention, establish a procedure for him to follow so you are not wandering around looking for him. We tell the AH students to call their parents. We'll provide a phone if needed.

ASSIGNMENT HALL: AH will be in full swing this week. Students will be sent to AH if they report to class without their homework. They will stay in AH after school until they finish the homework. AH is not a punishment but a helping structure. Please stress with your son the need to complete his homework on time and to bring it to class.

ATHLETICS: Any St. Paul's student wishing to participate in a sport must have a completed physical on file. Forms can be found under the athletic tab on our website. **FREE PHYSICALS WILL BE OFFERED ON SAT, AUG 28. DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**

ATTENDANCE: Please follow all SPS attendance regulations in the Student-Parent Handbook and make Mrs. Suzy's job as easy as possible. Thank you for your cooperation. The State of Louisiana limits the number of days a student may miss and still receive credit. Saint Paul's adheres to these regulations. **Please do not allow your sons to miss school for less than very serious reasons.**

AMAZON SMILE: Last week we received a check for \$496.08 from AS. The AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Select SPS! Thanks!



New band hall is making progress!

BAND HALL HISTORY: The new band building continues to take shape, although weather has delayed things a bit. Some 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 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 early fall of 2021. Interested in supporting the renovation, whose overall cost will approach \$2.3 million? **PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT TO THE NEW BAND HALL IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO. NO GIFT IS TOO SMALL!** No gift is too small! (Not shouting; just emphasizing!)

BOOK STORE: The Mothers' Club Bookstore will be open:

- Mon, Aug 2 9:00am to 3:00pm
- Tue, Aug 3 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Wed, Aug 4 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Thu, Aug 5 Bookstore Regular Hours (7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm)
- **PLEASE patronize the MC's Bookstore when possible.** Proceeds not only help fund wonderful activities throughout the year, but the proceeds also help with campus needs.

CALENDAR FOR 2021 - 22: The calendar assumes full operation. Any disruption to the school operation due to COVID 19 or other natural disasters may result in alteration of the calendar.

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|-------------------------|---|
| • Mon - Tues, Aug 2 & 3 | Teacher Meetings |
| • Wed, Aug 4 | Teacher Prep Day |
| • Thurs, Aug 5 | School Opens with a full day of instruction |
| • Mon, Aug 16 | |
| • Thu, Aug 19 | Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, & Evening Ring Ceremony |
| • Fri, Aug 20 | Senior Ring Holiday |
| • Mon, Aug 23 | Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30) |
| • Mon, Sep 06 | Labor Day Holiday |
| • Friday, Oct 01 | Fall Break—no classes for students |
| • Fri, Oct 8 | End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal |
| • Fri., Oct 8 | Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:00) |
| • Mon, Oct 18 | Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 |
| • 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
- Mon, Feb 07 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
- Fri, Feb 25 Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
- Mon-Fri, Feb 28 -Mar. 04 Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
- Mon, Mar 7 Classes resume
- Fri, Mar 11 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
- Thu, May 12 Pre-freshman Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)
- Sat, May 14 Senior Graduation (4 pm)
- Tues – Fri, May 17 - 20 Final Exams for Grades 8 - 11
- Mon, May 23 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
- Tues, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day
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In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. Please do not schedule vacations during school time. Note that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177. In case of closings, we will make up days from holidays. Also, check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.



Seniors march up De La Salle Drive after passing through the arch!

CAR LINES: There is no absolute designated drop off spot. Be patient the first few days of school as traffic patterns form. Safety is paramount, so if you use Founder's Circle as a departure point, **cars must drop off students in Founders Circle in the LEFT lane only** – you may not block traffic in the right lane to discharge the occupants. Dropping off at La Salle Hall or by the BAC is OK. Traffic will be heavy heading into Covington this week as schools open. Please plan accordingly.

CELL PHONES:

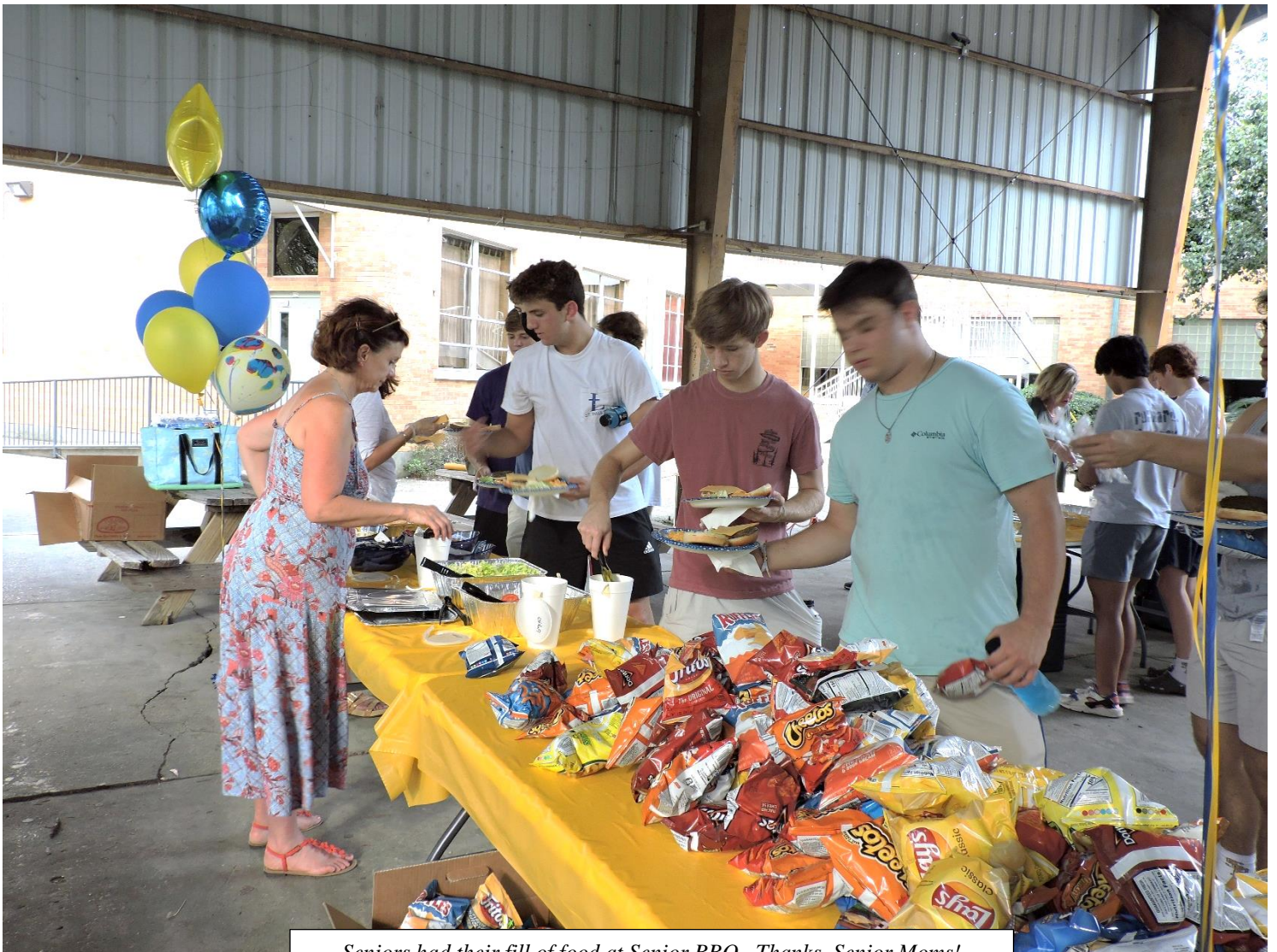
- **State Law:** Motorists are prohibited from using any type of hand-held wireless communications device while traveling through school zones during posted hours. The law includes use of a cellular/wireless device for engaging in a voice call, accessing, reading, or posting to a social networking site, and/or writing, sending, or reading a text-based communication. The school zone cell phone ban does not apply if the device is being used to report an emergency, is being used in a hands-free manner, or while the vehicle is lawfully parked. Upon first violation of the school zone ban the fine is \$175, subsequent violations can be up to \$500, and if a crash occurs during the time of the violation, fines can be increased.
- **School Cell Phone Policy:** students may use their phones during lunch but only outside. If you need to call or text your son, do so during the lunch hour. Disciplinary action and fines will continue for violation of this policy. With our campus wide wi-fi, he can use his phone to surf the internet if needed. And, yes, our security firewalls are in effect

COVID PROTECTION LAYER: We have added an additional layer of protection by installing Caspr in-duct air filtration units for each HVAC System in the school – over 100 units. These units will “scrub” the air and eliminate 99.96% of any virus, unhealthy air, germs, bacteria, mold, and mildew along with odors. It will treat all the offices, ductwork, bathrooms, fixtures, hallways, door handles, handrails, seating, desks, offices, workstations & showroom areas, too. In short, it will “clean” all currently HVAC conditioned space. Such equipment does not come cheap. Fortunately, we, along with all other private schools, qualified for federal funds from the CARES and EANS Acts, which helped immensely.

DRESS CODE: Students must be in compliance with the dress code – and this includes wearing masks. **We are not granting exceptions to the mask requirement so please don't ask.** Refer to previous newsletters or the student handbook on our website for particulars if you are still unsure about dress code. **Note: We have a number of clean, pre-owned SPS uniform shirts and khaki shorts in good condition. Feel free to ask for some of these clothes. Nothing is done to embarrass a student and no one will know. Thanks to those families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms. Just call Andrea in the Admin Bldg.**

DRIVER'S LICENSE PROOF OF ATTENDANCE: Your son needs proof of attendance in order to get a learner's permit **and another one** when he gets his permanent license. The forms are in the counseling department or the administration building. This is a legislative act; don't blame me!

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS: With the recent spate of named storms in the Gulf of Mexico, I remind all of our emergency or weather-related closing policy – which is to follow the civil parish. Thus, if needed (and we hope it's not), Saint Paul's School will follow the same decision of closure as the public school system of St. Tammany Parish. The announcement concerning emergency closures will be broadcast on local television stations when possible. School messaging will also be activated with updated information and situations unique to SPS. **For multi-day closings, Saint Paul's reserves the right to re-open when our situation warrants, even if the public school remain closed, as was the case in Hurricane Katrina. In the meantime, we pray.**



Seniors had their fill of food at Senior BBQ. Thanks, Senior Moms!

ENROLLMENT: We open this year with a very healthy enrollment – in spite of COVID-19 and after having graduated a very large class. I am humbled and proud that so many parents are willing to entrust their sons to us and make the sacrifices necessary to do so. **Please stress with your son that he is being given a gift – a gift that others want. He must use this gift wisely and make good choices.**

GET INVOLVED DAY: This Monday, we will hold our annual Get Involved Day (postponed from last week), when our numerous clubs, sports, and activities recruit new members. Our plethora of activities hold something for all. Encourage your son to explore new horizons and take a chance on a new activity.

HELPING SPS: Don't forget:

- If you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- We also collect Box Tops for Education (have your son bring them to his math teacher)
- We also receive a portion of sales from Amazon Prime.
- These are painless ways to help SPS.



Marco receives his senior ring from yours truly at Senior Ring Ceremony.

ID CARDS: Students must wear their ID cards on a lanyard every day. No one has to pay for an ID card unless you want an extra one. We gave one to your son on picture day. You will have to pay for a replacement if he loses the one we give him or if for some reason you want an extra one.

LAST WEEK IN REVIEW:

- **Assignment Hall:** I had more customers last week! They were very cooperative, but do your homework!
- **Football:** According to one coach, Wolves looked “good” v. Curtis on Wed. A special Meet the Team was held Fri night with band and cheerleaders and lots of parents in attendance. Thanks, Coaches!
- **Lunch:** Yes, we survived a week w/o the cafeteria. No student fainted from hunger. Thanks to Student Council for stepping up to help with pizza and Chick-fil-A. We hope to be back to normal this week with FREE breakfasts and lunches.
- **Make-Ups:** If a student misses a test, he may make it up after school in library after confirming with his teacher. Encourage your son to stay on top of his assessment.
- **Senior Week:** All seemed to go well and the boys enjoyed the week’s limelight. Special thanks to senior moms, Paul Scoriels, Jeff Ramon, and Renee Miller for their assistance with the various events.
- **SSR:** Make sure your son has good reading material for this important activity.
- **Don Pressley and the Physical Plant** continue to deserve a special shout out. They are working EXTREMELY hard to keep us safe, responding to requests all day long.
- **Yearbook:** The factory continues to experience labor shortage. Mimi Montiero met every deadline but the factory is holding things up. We hope the books will arrive soon.

LOST & FOUND: We are already finding shirts, books, lunch boxes, etc. left around campus. PLEASE stress responsibility with your son. And please CLEARLY mark his clothing with his name to facilitate return of lost items. BTW, the lost and found locker is located outside the School Attendance Office.

MASKS: From Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. RaeNell Houston: *As part of the emergency order issued by Governor John Bel Edwards, all schools including Catholic schools must implement mandates issued by local and state governmental authorities as they address the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to protect the health and well-being of all members of our school communities and to preserve our ability to provide in-person learning for our children, we will implement various mitigation efforts, including masking. If we do not, we risk not only the health and safety of our school communities but also our operations as we could be forced to shut down by governing bodies for failing to comply. We would also lose all protections from liability should someone choose to file any lawsuit against a school after contracting COVID-19 on a school campus.*

MINI-SCHEDULE NIGHT ON AUG 24 – POSTPONED DUE TO COVID: Sorry!

NEED MORE INFO? For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Trevor Watkins, Assistant Principal Joe Dickens, or Curriculum Coordinator Lee Pierre. For discipline, attendance, or dress code, call Mr. Ken Sears, Dean of Students. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Mr. Craig Ketelsen, Athletic Director. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1001 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is broray@stpauls.com or hit “reply” to this email!**



Coach and Mrs. Ken Sears bless the seniors while their parents recite a blessing on their sons.

Saint Paul's School Portrait Day



Individual links will be sent out by Barberito Photographers shortly after pictures are taken. If you do not receive a link within 2 weeks, please reach out to Barberito Photographers.



• Contact@barberitophotographers.com

• (504) 455- 6818

• www.barberitophotographers.com

PICTURES: I APOLOGIZE for erroneous info about picture ordering. Ordering pics will be different this year. You will soon receive a link to order online – if you wish.

PHYSICALS: No student may participate in our athletic program or our band program without the necessary paperwork having been completed, including an LHSAA official physical form.

Annual Free Athletic Physicals and Paperwork Collection

A physical exam and completed paperwork are required annually for all athletes participating in sports at St. Paul's .



Who:

All St. Paul's Athletes

When:

Saturday, August 28, 2021

Time:

7:00 am

Where:

Covington Orthopedic
19343 Sunshine Avenue, Covington, LA

Social distancing will be enforced and masks are required.



What to bring to free physicals

1. Athletic Physical Packet (see link below)

Please fill out completely before arriving to expedite process!!

2. Birth Certificate (for new athletes only)

3. Copy of Insurance Card

[Click here for Athletic Packet](#)

PLUS PORTALS: Please activate your account and check PP regularly for important info about your son's grades and SPS life. *Call Mike Holmes, Plus Portals administrator, at 892-3200, ext. 1944 if you need assistance.* And please adjust your setting to allow you to receive emails from school. It's very annoying when we get a Plus Portals email with a question but your setting won't accept our response.

SCHOOL SAFETY: School safety remains paramount for all. Promote safety with your son. In our meetings, faculty reviewed all safety procedures that we have – and they are many. Safety is EVERYONE'S JOB. Report ANY rumor or safety threat. Encourage your sons to report, too. **All visitors to campus must sign in and receive a Visitor's Pass – and wear a mask. You may not just wander the campus. Thanks for understanding this procedure.** Our prayers rise to heaven for a safe school year and the elimination of violence of all kinds in our schools – and in all of society.

STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESSES: We issued each student a unique Saint Paul's email address through which we will communicate with him. If a student asks about how to get to his new email, there's a link on Edline in the bottom right, it says **St. Paul's Gmail access.**

SILENT SUSTAINED READING: On Thursday, we began daily SSR (Sustained Silent Reading) during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. During this time, everyone in the school (students, teachers, administrators, and staff) will read silently for 15 minutes. This is not a time for homework, tutoring, studying textbooks or doing assigned reading, but is designed to make reading a school-wide priority by reading for pleasure. We hope to develop a population of self-motivated readers. The program was created over 30 years ago at the University of Vermont and over the years has resulted in increased vocabulary development, reading fluency and comprehension, writing quality, improved standardized test scores, increased background knowledge on a wide range of topics, and increased reading time out of school. Students were instructed to bring their own reading material but we will have classrooms stocked with magazines, novels, short stories, etc. **Help your son prepare for this initiative and have him come prepared every day for SSR.** He should bring a PRINTED READING MATERIAL – not electronic material **You might want to consider initiating a family SSR time, too!** I'll keep you posted as to how things go.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Connect with SPS on social media to see the latest pics and posts of all the great events at St. Paul's School. The Facebook and Twitter feeds are on our newly re-vamped website, or you can follow us at

- Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana
- Twitter @SPSWolfpack

Social Media II: Parents, please speak with your sons about responsible social media use. We have already dealt with an inappropriate post. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.

STUDENT COUNCIL:

- Congratulations to the newly elected Pre-Freshmen class officers: President Noah Comeaux and Vice-President Connor Russo. Thanks to ALL the candidates who ran! We are very proud of you!
- Anyone who would like to join Student Council should visit the Student Council table at Get Involved Day.
- Any senior or junior who wishes to nominate a student in his grade at SSA to be on SPS Homecoming Court should see Mrs. Case in room 107 or email her at j.case@stpauls.com. Paperwork is due Aug 23.

TRAFFIC FLOW ON CAMPUS: If you drop off or pick up your son, you will meet road congestion around our campus. We ask your help in improving the traffic flow and safety:

- Consider an alternate pick-up location for your son other than Founder's Circle. These include the drop off area by the Gene Bennett Sports Complex, the parking lot on the corner of 13th and Jefferson St. or the parking lot at LaSalle Hall on 11th Avenue. You can drive through these parking lots or wait in a parking space there without holding up traffic elsewhere.
- DO NOT pick up your son using the shoulder of 11th Avenue. This is a dangerous area with poor visibility and further backs up traffic when you stop to load or unload.
- If you use the LaSalle Drive (main entrance) car line, please wait to the left so that thru traffic can still move through our campus using the right lane.
- Coordinate with your son about where and when you will meet him in the afternoon. If he is not present when you drive through, please proceed to a parking lot and wait for him there. If you stop in the car line to wait, you are holding up all cars behind you.
- Remind your son to be on the lookout for your car as you drive up.
- Our primary concern is safety, so please adhere to all speed limit and traffic rules in the school area. We are working closely with the Covington Police Department to find solutions to traffic around school. Working together, we can improve both safety and circulation around our campus.

TUTORING: Our National Honor Society has begun FREE tutoring during lunch periods, Monday through Thursday in the library. Subjects offered are Science, Math, and English. Encourage your son to take advantage of this free service and to stay on top of his academic progress.

UNIFORMS: Reminders:

- Uniform shirts, ties, and socks are sold by Bayou Uniform (13488 Seymour Myers Blvd) in Covington. Only white SPS socks are allowed.
- Sweatshirts, fleeces, PE uniforms, etc. are sold by the Mothers Club bookstore.
- Khaki pants/shorts may come from any vendor as long as they are NOT cargo pants and are standard tan khaki color, not green or brown.
- There is no uniform shoe but no sandals, etc. are allowed. The more conservative the better.
- We now have a "dress uniform" which will be worn on special occasions: LONG khaki pants, dress white shirt (any brand is OK even if it has a small logo), dress socks, belt, SCHOOL TIE, and any shoe that is not a tennis/athletic shoe.
- ID cards must be worn DAILY. This is a safety measure.
- **MASKS must be worn daily. This, too, is a safety measure,**

VISITOR'S PASS: You may not just wander the campus. You must sign in at the Administration Building, the Attendance Office, or the Counseling Office to obtain a pass to be on campus during school hours.

Thanks for understanding this procedure. Our prayers rise to heaven for a safe school year and the elimination of violence of all kinds in our schools – and in all of society.

WEEKLY HUMOR:

- *What would you call two banana skins? A pair of slippers!*
- *What do you do if you see a blue banana? Try to cheer it up.*
- *What's worse than a monkey eating bananas? A monkey going bananas.*
- *What's yellow and always points to the north? A magnetic banana.*
- *What is yellow and goes bzzzzzz? An electric banana.*
- *How do monkeys get down the stairs? A: They slide down the banana-ster!*
- *What did the banana say to the monkey? Nothing, bananas can't talk!*
- *What kind of a key opens a banana? A monkey!*
- *Why did the monkey like the banana? Because it had appeal!*
- *Bananas are never lonely b/c they hang around in bunches.*
- *Why did the kid keep falling off his bike? It had a banana seat.*
- *What do you say if someone steps on a banana peel? Well, I guess he didn't find that appealing!*
- *Why did the banana go to the hospital? Because it wasn't peeling very well*
- *Why did the banana fail his driving test? He kept peeling out.*
- *Why did the man lose his job in a fruit packing firm? He kept throwing the bent bananas away.*
- *How did the Mother Banana spoil the Baby Banana? She left him out in the sun too long.*
- *Why don't bananas snore? Because they don't want to wake up the rest of the bunch.*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



Athletic Director Sam Francis speaks to Business I Class about the business side of high school athletics.

WOLF PACKS: We begin WPs on Monday (postponed from last week) -- a time to practice a quality of Lasallian education: building relationships. Each student is assignment to a multi-level Wolf Pack, led by a staff member. Most students stay with that staff member throughout their SPS career. We address various issues during the twenty-minute meeting. On Mon, we will discuss the value of involvement in preparation for Get Involved Day during lunch.

A LOOK AHEAD: Here are the period rotations for the first semester (assuming no interruptions) to help you plan. If your son needs a driver's license or doctor appointment, try to schedule it during a "no school" day. I am always disappointed when we return from a week holiday and a student misses the first day of class to go get his license. **PLEASE respect the academic time we have with your son.**

August

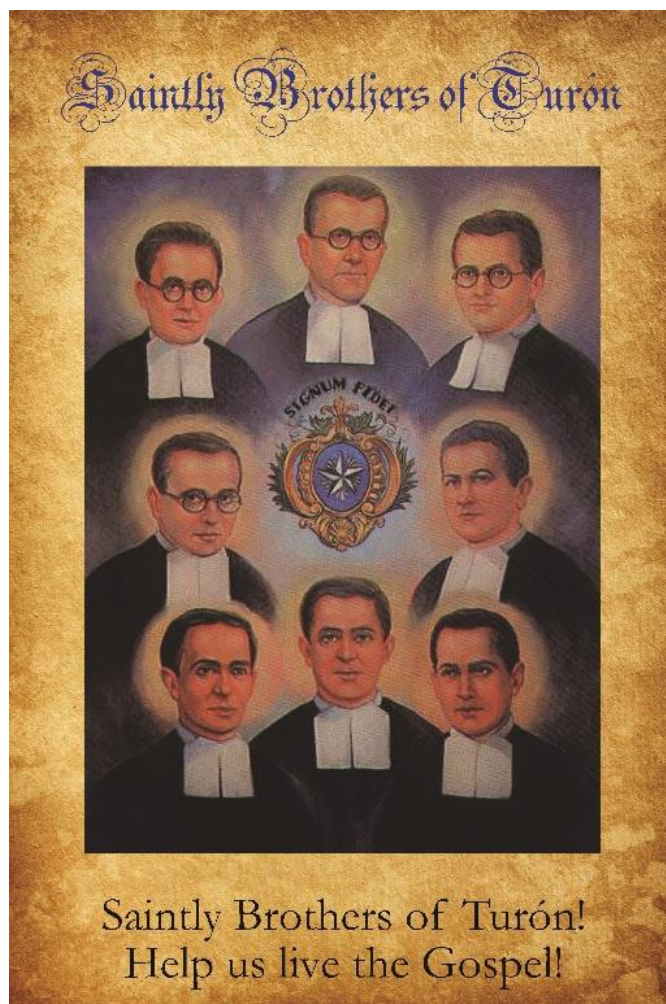
23 – GABC – Mini-Schedule Night Postponed
24 – DEFG – President's Assembly / Shadow Day
25 – ABCD
26 – EFGA
27 – BCDE
30 – FGAB
31- CDEF

September

1 – GABC
2 – DEFG
3 – ABCD
6 – Labor Day Holiday
7 – EFGA – Pack Time
8 – BCDE
9 – FGAB
10 – CDEF
13 – GABC – Late (9 am) Start
14 – DEFG – Assembly
15 – ABCD
16 – EFGA
17 – BCDE– Fun Lunch for 8th Graders during E
20 – FGAB – Fun Lunch for 9th Graders during B
21 – CDEF – Fun Lunch for 10th During F
22 – GABC – Fun Lunch for 11th during C
23 – DEFG – Fun Lunch for 12th during G
24 – ABC – Special Schedule
27 - DEFG
28 - ABCD – President's Assembly
29 – EFGA
30 – BCDE

October

1 – Fall Break
4 - FGAB
5 – CDEF - Pack Time
6 - GABC
7 – DEFG - Mass
8 – AB - End of Quarter 1 11:00 Dismissal for Grandparents Day
11 - CDEF
12 – GABC - President's Assembly
13 – DEFG - PSAT test
14 – ABCD
15 - EFGA



18 – BCDE - Late Start
 19 – FGAB - Pack Time
 20 – CDEF
 21 – GABC
 22 – DEFG
 25 - ABCD
 26 – EFGA - President’s Assembly
 27 – BCDE
 28 - FGAB
 29 – CDEF

November

1 – GABC- Mass
 2 – DEFG - Pack Time
 3 - ABCD
 4 – EFGA - 8th Grade HR Breakfast
 5 – BCDE - 9th Grade HR Breakfast
 8 - Archdiocese Formation Day
 9 – FGAB - President’s Assembly
 10 – CDEF - 10th HR Breakfast
 11 – GABC -11th HR Breakfast
 12 – DEFG - 12th HR Breakfast
 15 - ABCD
 16 – EFGA - Pack Time
 17 – BCDE
 18 – FGAB
 19 – CDEF
 29 - GABC
 30 – DEFG - Pack Time – Luminarias



Campus flora are in full bloom to greet our students!

December

1 – ABCD
 2 – EFGA
 3 - BCDE
 6 – FGAB - Late Start
 7 – CDEF- President’s Assembly
 8 – GABC
 9 – DEFG
 10 - ABCD
 13 - Mass
 13-16 – First Semester Exams

Whew! That’s enough for now! I’m sure I’ve forgotten something so email me if you still have a question about the opening of school.

As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I miss listening to while writing the newsletter since it no longer broadcasts but I still LOL thinking about it!): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Pray that we continue to have a good beginning! Thanks for being part of Saint Paul's! May our year be one of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and call on me if I can help!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Survived The First Two Weeks as the 17th Christian Brother President /CEO of Saint Paul's School

“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)



Have a great Lasallian Opening of School!

*...by doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, doing God's will,
remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing the Mission, living
courageously, respecting all people, and living the Gospel.*



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