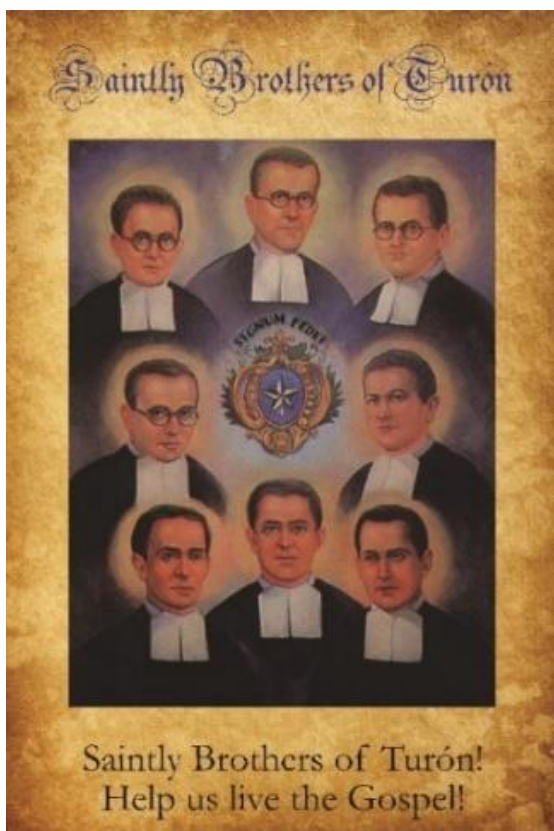




**The President's Hebdomadal *Blue-Ribbon (again!)* Newsletter**  
***Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***October 04 – 10, 2021 – the final week of the first quarter!***



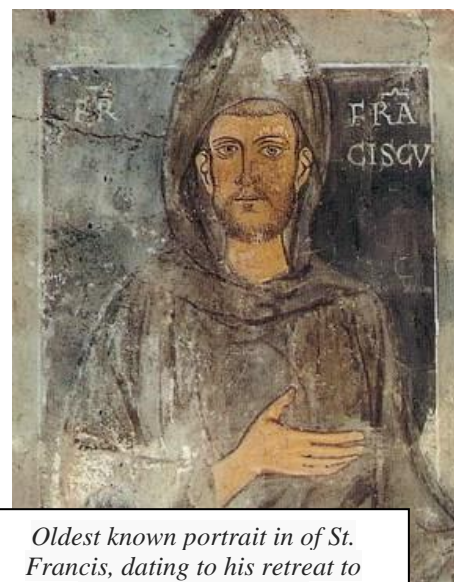
This Saturday, October 9, is the feast of the Christian Brother Martyrs of Turón, canonized by Saint Pope John Paul II: **Saint Brothers Cirilo Bertrán, Marciano José, Julián Alfredo, Victoriano Pío, Benito de Jesus, Benjamin Julián, Augusto Andrés, Aniceto Adolfo and Saint Father Inocencio.** From the Christian Brothers' website:

*In 1934, Turón was the center of anticlerical hostility. The Brothers' school was an irritant to radicals in charge because of the religious influence it exerted. The Brothers defied the ban on teaching religion & openly escorted students to Mass. On the First Fri of Oct, authorities broke into the Brothers' house on the pretext that arms were hidden there. They and their chaplain were arrested and marched to the cemetery where they were shot. Brother Cirilo, the Director, was 46 and Brother Marciano was 39. Brother Julián was 32 and all the rest were in their twenties. They were arrested, detained, and executed as a community. Victims of the hatred and violence against the Church, they witnessed by their death to the faith they so courageously professed and so effectively communicated to their students.*

**I pray that I have such faith and courage! Saintly Brother Martyrs of Turón! Help us live the Gospel!**

**Mon, Oct 4 (C D E F – Wolf Packs meet this morning)**

- Today we celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, one of the most venerated religious figures in history and founder of the Franciscan Order. It's most appropriate that we remember this iconic saint by reciting the prayer attributed to him (but probably not composed by him): *Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek To be consoled as to console, To be understood as to understand, To be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.*
- **This Day in History:** In 1957, the Soviet Union launches the first artificial satellite, Sputnik. The US is shocked.
- **Ten-Four Day:** The 4th day of the 10th month is a day of recognition for radio operators, whose code words, "Ten-Four," signal an affirmative reply.
- **Cinnamon Roll Day:** Indulge and enjoy – if your health permits!

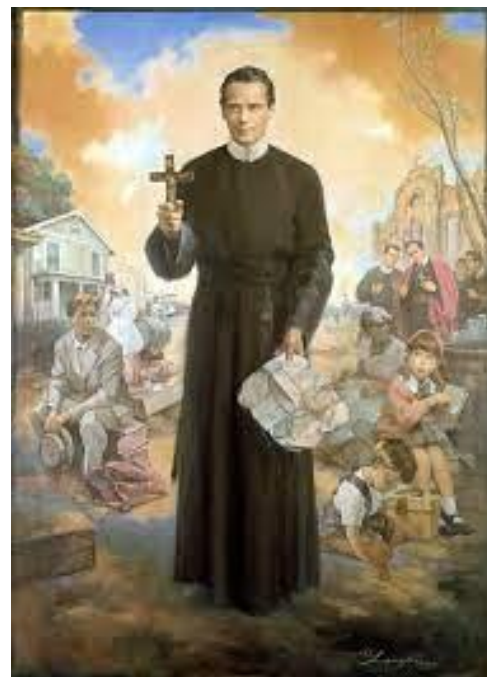


*Oldest known portrait in of St. Francis, dating to his retreat to Subiaco (1223–1224)*

- **Taco Day:** Enjoy! From the NTD web site: *The history of the taco is unknown. According to some taco experts [a job I wouldn't mind having!], the word originates from the 18<sup>th</sup> C. silver mines in Mexico, when taco referred to little explosives that workers used to extract ore. These were pieces of paper wrapped around gunpowder and placed in holes carved in rock. "A chicken taquito with a good hot sauce is really a lot like a stick of dynamite," says taco expert Jeffrey Pilcher [and I thought I had the best job!] "The first references [to the taco] come from the end of the 19th C. One of the first tacos described is called tacos de minero—miner's tacos. Others claim tacos predate the arrival of the Spanish in Mexico in the 16th century. Anthropologists say there is evidence suggesting inhabitants of the lake region of the Valley of Mexico ate tacos filled with small fish. The fish were replaced by small live insects and ants in the states of Morelos and Guerrero, while locusts and snails were favorite fillings in Puebla and Oaxaca. Taco Bell is believed to have pushed widespread popularity of Mexican food in the U.S.... The hard-shell taco was invented long before Taco Bell. The U-shaped version is first noted in 1949 in a cookbook. And now you know....*

## Tue, Oct 5 (G A B C – Seniors take ACT today)

- **Memorial of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos:** Father Seelos is a favorite in the New Orleans area. He was assigned in 1866 to the Redemptorist community in New Orleans. Here also, as pastor of the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption, he was known as a pastor who was joyously available to his faithful and singularly concerned for the poorest and the most abandoned. In God's plan, however, his ministry in New Orleans was destined to be brief. In the month of September, exhausted from visiting and caring for the victims of yellow fever, he contracted the dreaded disease. After several weeks of patiently enduring his illness, he passed on to eternal life on October 4, 1867, at the age of 48 years and 9 months. He was beatified by St Pope John Paul II in 2000. Father Seelos, pray for us!
- **TDIH:** In 1892, The Dalton gang attempts to rob two banks simultaneously in Coffeyville, Kansas, but meets resistance from townspeople, who wind up killing four of the five bandits. Emmett Dalton, the sole survivor, returned to the site of the crime nearly 40 years later and offered a caution to would-be thieves: "The biggest fool on earth is the one who thinks he can beat the law, that crime can be made to pay. It never paid and it never will and that was the one big lesson of the Coffeyville raid."
- **TDIH:** In 1947, President Harry Truman (1884-1972) makes the first-ever televised presidential address from the White House, asking Americans to cut back on their use of grain in order to help starving Europeans. At the time of Truman's food-conservation speech, Europe was still recovering from WW II.
- **Do Something Nice Day:** Go ahead, do something nice – anything. It won't hurt; I promise!



## Wed, Oct 6 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** in 2015, SPS students entered the new gym for the first time, to the resounding strains of George Fredrick Handel's Halleluiah Chorus! Magnificent! We thank all who made this campus jewel possible!
- **TDIH:** In 1927, the first "talkie" opened in New York. *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.
- **TDIH:** In 1979, President Jimmy Carter receives Pope John Paul II, the first Pope to visit the White House.
- **Mad Hatter Day:** Today refers to the character from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, where the Mad Hatter is always seen wearing a hat bearing a slip of paper with the notation "In this style 10/6" – an invitation



to behave in the style of the Mad Hatter on 10/6. Mad Hatter Day began in Boulder, CO, in 1986, among computer folk who had nothing better to do. In 1988, it was recognized as an official holiday by an area business, and also received its first national press coverage by news services. What do people do on Mad Hatter Day? In general, people celebrate silliness – but not during school!

- **Football:** 9<sup>th</sup>/ JV at Covington (5)



*Marching Wolves doin' what they do best!*

**Thu, Oct 7 (A B C D – OUTDOOR SCHOOL MASS IN STADIUM; REGULAR UNIFORMS)**

- **Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. Pray the rosary today – and often!**
- **TDIH:** In 1913, for the first time, Henry Ford's entire Highland Park, MI automobile factory is run on a continuously moving assembly line. We've come a long way, Henry!
- **You Matter to Me Day:** Four simple words, one single phrase, that makes a profound difference to all who hear it. Tell people who matter that they do.
- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> v. John Curtis

**Fri, Oct 8 – (Half Day due to End of Quarter; E F)**

- **Alvin C. York Day:** Sgt. York is the most decorated American soldier in World War I. From the Sgt. York website: *On Oct 8, 1918, after being pinned down, York took his fateful walk into history. He and 16 other soldiers... were given the unenviable task of silencing the machine guns that halted the advance. It was a cold, wet morning. Rain mixed with sleet added to the gloom of the fog that draped the landscape. As the soldiers worked their way around the hill, the men on the left flank stood exposed in the creek bottom. German machine gunners opened fire, wounding or killing nine Americans, including York's best friend. York was on the right flank beneath the crest of the hill in a natural depression, which he used to kill nine of the men who operated the guns. In the meantime, his comrades opened fire on the Germans, and in a few minutes 25 were dead. The*

*Germans surrendered to what they thought was a superior force, and York and the American survivors escorted 132 prisoners to American forces some 10 miles away. Sergeant York was awarded his nation's highest decoration, the Medal of Honor, for his actions [that day.]*

- **Face Your Fears Day:** Consider what life might be like if you conquered some of your greatest fears. Today gives you the chance to stand up to your fears, overcome them, and to seize the day.
- **National Pierogie Day:** Pierogies are Eastern Europe's equivalent of ravioli or tortellini - essentially filled dumplings. This peasant dish originated in Poland in the 13th century. Enjoy the dumpling of your choice!
- **Walk to School Day:** Give it a try if you're in walking distance!
- **National Poetry Day:** OK, I'm fudging a bit here as this NPD is in Great Britain – but we can still celebrate! The theme this year is “messages” so read a poem that has a message
- **Mickey Champagne / Gene Bennett Memorial Golf Tournament:** We wish Al et al a successful day!
- **Football:** Varsity v. Covington (7)

#### **Sat, Oct 09**

- **Leif Erikson Day:** To honor Leif Erikson (who over sailed from Iceland and explored present-day Greenland and Canada) and to celebrate our Nordic-American heritage, the Congress, by joint resolution has authorized the President to proclaim October 9 of each year as "Leif Erikson Day."
- **Cross Country:** Wolves run in Catholic High Invitational
- **Homecoming Dance for Grades 8 & 9**

#### **Sun, Oct 10**

- **TDIH:** In 1973, US Vice President Spiro Agnew resigns in ignominious disgrace.
- **World Egg Day:** Celebrate by fixing your favorite egg dish and eating it; do not celebrate by throwing!
- **Angel Food Cake Day:** Enjoy this classic dessert after you eat an egg!



**Rise Up, O Men of God**

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

**ACT ACADEMY:** Preparation for success on the ACT is a marathon, not a sprint. DAILY practice is ideal, starting in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. MANY materials (often free!) are available. Here is a good one: the ACT Academy. ACT Academy has a wealth of free prep. It grows each year and has turned into the *Khan Academy* for ACT. Encourage your sons to prep for ACT regularly. Here is the link: <https://academy.act.org/>



### ADMISSIONS FOR 2022 – 23:

Under different circumstance, we, along with all Catholic high schools, would be beginning our admissions season in accordance with the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation guidelines. Obviously, COVID and IDA have complicated things. Thus:

- Shadow Days: Due to COVID and Ida, we have scrapped our traditional SDs – as we did last year. And as we did last year, we will replace them with a series of small group tours for parents and sons. Those tours have begun, so spread the word. Just call SPS to arrange a tour.

- **Open House: Our Open House is Sat,**

**Oct 30, from 1 – 3 pm. Encourage prospective families to come.**

**Please ask them to register for a time slot on our website, but walk-ins are welcome!**

- PLEASE spread the word, especially to public school families who don't realize we start the admission process early. I count on you to spread the good news about SPS and inviting your friends and neighbors to come take a look at Lasallian education on the Northshore.

**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.

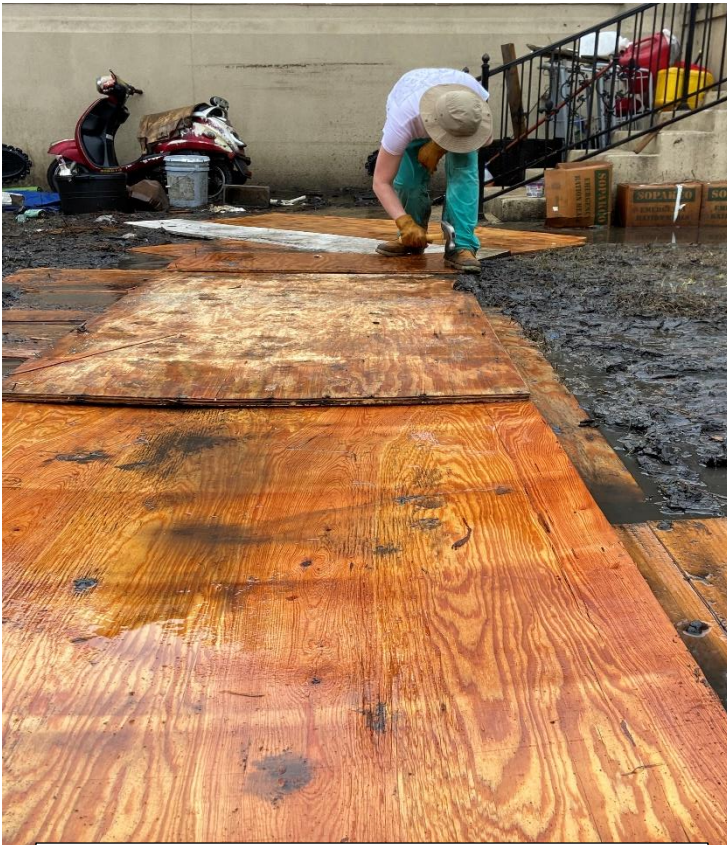
**ASSEMBLY ON SEP 28:** I hope the students enjoyed my assembly on Sep 28. Here is some of what we did:

- In honor of Homecoming Week, the students entered the gym listening to a song called “I Feel Home” by O.A.R. This song was sung at an assembly in our gym eighteen years ago by then student council president **Kramer Johnson**, brother of SPS alums **Nick and Evan** and son of alumnus and Covington Mayor **Mark Johnson**, to express how he felt about Saint Paul's. It's become a ritual ever since at homecoming as alums return to the “SPS Home” to reconnect with the brotherhood of SPS. Six years ago, magically, Kramer appeared in the gym complete with his guitar. Unbeknownst to me, he had arranged to come in from Georgia to sing the song again for the then current student body – which he did to the obvious delight of everyone present. At the conclusion of the song, the student body burst into a rousing, spontaneous, standing ovation! It was a magical moment! BTW, Kramer graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in marketing and works for the marketing department of Chick-fil-A. He is married with two children. He's a fantastic young man!

A poster for Saint Paul's School Open House. The background is a photograph of the school building and trees. The text is overlaid in white and black. At the top, it says "Saint Paul's School" in a large, serif font, followed by "Grades 8 – 12" in a smaller font. Below that, "Open House" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and "Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>" is written in a large, bold, serif font. The time "1:00-3:00 pm" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The location "Briggs Assembly Center" and "917 S. Jahncke Ave." are written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below that, it says "Register online for Open House at www.stpauls.com" in a smaller font. At the bottom, it says "Call 985.892.3200 ext.1903 (Admissions) for more information." in a bold, sans-serif font. Below that, it says "Successfully educating young men in the Christian Brothers' Lasallian tradition for over 100 years" in a smaller font. At the very bottom, it says "Saint Paul's does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of admissions policies." in a small font.



- Welcomed everyone to the 8<sup>th</sup> week of the first quarter and reminded them that the first quarter (25% of the school year) is almost over and asked them to reflect how their year has been so far. Have they “polished that Baroque pearl” that each of them were metaphorically given on the first day of school? Are they closer to God? To their families? To their friends? To humanity in general?
- Prayed in a special way, as junior **Nathan Vincens** lit the prayer candle for all of our intentions, especially for those who have entered God’s Kingdom since our last assembly: **Mr. Kelvin Adams, grandfather of Ralph Wynne ’24; Mrs. Dolores Wilson grandmother of Ethan Wilson ’23; Mrs. Terri Marengo, grandmother of Conner Dazet ’23 & Evan Showalter ’25**
- Reminded the students that our Mission Statement calls us to offer strong academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs in a safe and disciplined environment and to live the Gospel values of Jesus
- Recognized and congratulated the Student Council for their work during Homecoming Week. While OAR played robustly in the background, I showed a slide show montage of all the various events that took place during Homecoming Week and gave a special shout out to our stalwart Student Council: **president Walker Dubreuil, vice-president Marco Vargas, Secretary Ben Barousse, treasurer Ethan Wilson, and Parliamentarian Isaiah Ayo, along with the various class presidents and vice-presidents.** And, of course, moderators **Joanna Case and Shannon d’Hemecourt** were recognized, too!
- Recognized and congratulated the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, JV, and Varsity Football Teams for great district wins over Slidell. Congratulated the 8<sup>th</sup> grade football team for its win over Franklinton.



*Senior Cooper worked at Ida-damaged St. Anthony’s Church in Lafitte.*



*Junior Cameron rescued stranded cat during Ida.*

- Played “Venus – Bringing of Peace” from Gustave Holst’s “The Planets” as I recognized more students who went above and beyond in helping others with Hurricane Ida recovery: **Cooper Estrade**, who traveled to Lafitte to help work on St. Anthony’s Catholic Church and junior **Cameron Mary** who waded into chest high flood water in order to rescue his neighbor’s cat!
- As I was running out of time, I told the boys that I had much more but they would roll over to the next assembly but wanted to do a special recognition to end the assembly. I began by showing students slides of Lasallian schools throughout the world and gradually ended up with our Province Headquarters, Mont La Salle in Napa, CA. In July, our own Brother Javier was in Napa to take his final vows as a Christian Brothers – vows which are for life. I then showed the students a video of Brother reading his vows before the Brothers gathered in Napa. We then gave him a standing ovation while Student Council President Dubreuil presented Brother with a small token of our esteem for him. It was a moving moment.
- We ended the assembly by standing and singing Joyful, Joyful We Adore You – set to the music of the final movement of Beethoven’s 9<sup>th</sup>, commonly known as Ode to Joy. It was GREAT.
- As junior **Christian Schaumberg** extinguished the prayer candle, I reminded the students that they must be the Light of God to all whom they meet. We ended the assembly to the strains of O.A.R.’s “I Feel Home”
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

**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.

**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:** As you replace storm-damaged items via Amazon Smile, remember that AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Select SPS!





*Band Hall is nearing completion! Watch for grand opening! Want it named after you? Just contact us!*

**BAND HALL HISTORY: The work nears completion!** Some band hall history: In the summer of 1966, the school constructed a “recreation center” for the 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.

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.

**BROTHERS COMMUNITIES UPDATE:** As many of you know, the Christian Brothers of Saint Paul's have lived in three separate venues: the main residence on campus, a house on Jahncke Avenue not far from the school entrance, and a fourplex on S. Adams Street by the back of the baseball field. This last venue housed a separate community, the Brother Charles Crouzet Community. Unfortunately, Ida caused significant damage to this residence. A structural engineer hired by our insurance company concluded that "a complete demolition down to the slab would be more economically feasible" than rebuilding – a recommendation which has been accepted by our Board of Trustees. In addition, Brother Donald, our Provincial, has officially closed the Crouzet Community and re-assigned the three Brothers involved: Brother Terrence and Brother Ken have been re-assigned to the main St. Paul's Community. Terrence has moved into the main residence and Ken will move into Jahncke Street when repairs are complete on that house. We certainly are sensitive to the disruption to the lives of these Brothers that these changes have caused. The Brothers of the Crouzet Community have been extremely important to SPS over the years, and we offer support as they adjust to the realities caused by Ida.

**CALENDAR EDITS:** We are adjusting our calendar to eliminate the Fall Break Day on Oct 2, the Archdiocesan Formation Day on Nov 8, and the start of Christmas holidays on Dec 17. These are now school days, which Christmas holidays beginning after exams on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

- Fri, Oct 8                      End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
- Fri., Oct 8                    Grandparent Day postponed to the spring
- Mon, Oct 18                  Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
- Sat, Oct 30                   Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
- Mon-Fri, Nov 22 - 26        Thanksgiving Holidays
- Mon, Nov 29                  Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
- Mon - Fri, Dec 13-17        Semester Exams
- Fri, Dec 17                   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

In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays – as we did with Ida. Please do not schedule vacations during school time.

Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.



*Pre-freshman practices what he learned about using knives and forks to eat his salad!*

**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.

**COVID PROTOCOLS UPDATE:** We are awaiting directives from Superintendent of Catholic Schools RaeNell Houston concerning State Superintendent of Education Cade Brumley's recent pronouncement on quarantine protocols. Until Dr. Houston issues her directive, we have been told to continue with our current policy. And the indoor mask mandate has been extended by Governor John Bel Edwards until October 27. Please make sure your son comes to school with this mask, prepared to wear it inside any building. We have no choice in these matters if we wish to continue in-person learning.



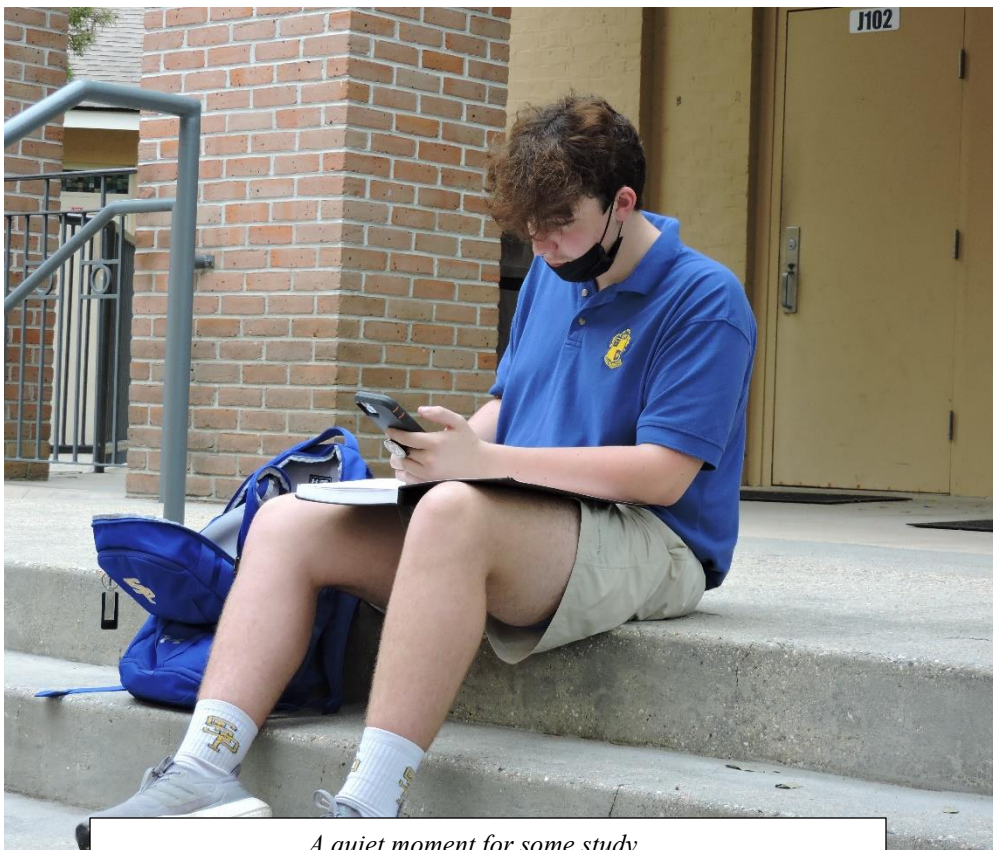
**DRESS CODE:** Students must be in compliance with the dress code – and this includes wearing masks. **We are not granting exceptions to the mask requirement so please don't ask.** Refer to previous newsletters or the student handbook on our website for particulars if you are still unsure about dress 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:** As with Ida, I remind all of our emergency or weather-related closing policy – which is to follow both the civil parish and / or the directives of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. 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. 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.**

**ENROLLMENT:** We opened 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:** We held our annual Get Involved Day on Aug 23, when our numerous clubs, sports, and activities recruited 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.



*A quiet moment for some study....*

**GYM:** Oct 6 marks the six-year anniversary of occupancy of our new gym – which means no current student remembers assemblies, basketball, or PE in the old gym! If you were here, I hope you remember the excitement as the boys entered for the first time. We even got TV coverage! Here's the link to relive WGNO's take on the ceremony.

<http://wgno.com/2015/10/06/so-what-does-the-new-gym-at-st-pauls-school-smell-like/>

And while I am grateful to all who made the gym possible, I am especially grateful for the major sponsorships:

- The anonymous alumnus who donated \$150,000 to the gym
- Bleachers: The Dr. Joseph Lacoste Family
- Courtyard Plaza: The Dr. John Thompson Family
- Classroom: Saint Paul's Mothers' Club
- Coaches Office: The Mickey Champagne/Gene Bennett Memorial Golf Tournament
- Lobby: Saint Paul's Class of 1982
- North Scoreboard: E. Tourelle's Northpark Nissan-Hyundai in honor of SPS alums Tyler '11 and Josh '17
- South Scoreboard: B & K Construction Company and The Wayne Mediamolle Family
- Concession Room: The Judge Adrian Duplantier Family
- Locker Room 1: The Dr. Anthony Albright Family
- Locker Room 2: The Dr. Kevin Darr Family

Three naming opportunities remain:

- Sound System
- Building: Would you like to have the gym named after you or your family?



*Pre-freshmen pay attention to etiquette training before attacking their salads.*



### HELPING SPS: Don't forget:

- If you shop at Office Depot, 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.

### HOMEcoming: From the SPS Student Council:

- *Congratulations to the 2021 St. Paul's Homecoming Court: Junior Maids Caroline del Rio, Annabella Jones, Abbey Nastasi, Allie Robison, and Bailey VanAs; Seniors maids Chloe Chehardy, Presley Lang, and Austill May. Queen Brooke Brandau will be crowned during a half-time presentation at the Game on Friday, Sep 24.*
- Student Council is pleased to announce that the 2021 Homecoming Dances will be held for Prefreshmen and Freshmen on Saturday, October 9 from 7:00 until 9:00 PM. Online tickets are now on sale for \$30 a couple. *Tickets will not be sold at the door and must be purchased by the Friday prior to the dance.* Please see attached link for dress code and dance details.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_RnshjKMWpzc8u6NZSubKgi0SsHbEppZ8rcGVzMhiM0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_RnshjKMWpzc8u6NZSubKgi0SsHbEppZ8rcGVzMhiM0/edit?usp=sharing)

- Tickets can be purchase at <https://ticketpeak.co/wolfnation> -- note that charges will show on credit card as "Ticketpeak.")
- Professional Photo order forms may be found on the PlusPortals main page--please print and bring with payment to the dance.

**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 or lose the one we gave students on picture day.**

### LAST WEEK:

- **Cross Country:** Jr Hi won the MHS-TA Cross Country Invitational and Varsity and JV teams competed well at Highland Park on Saturday
- **Football:** 8<sup>th</sup> fought hard but fell to Rummel; 9<sup>th</sup>, JV & Varsity all won big against Hammond!
- **Homecoming Dance:** Our outdoor dance for grades 10 – 11 went well. Thanks, SC, for your creativity!
- **Marching Wolves** were great on Friday night!
- **Wolf Tracks:** Congrats, Danielle, on another great issue
- **Etiquette:** Final seating was last week. All went well. Thanks, Danielle et al!
- **NHS & MAT:** Thanks to Audrey and Susan for organizing an efficient induction ceremony for over 100 students – the result of two years, since we did not induct last year. And we apologize to **Kaiden Klebba and Kennedy Jackson** whose names were omitted from the program! Sorry, guys! Y'all are well-deserving!





**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:** Governor John Bel Edwards has extended the mask mandate until October 27. He specifically identified schools as falling under the mandate. The order was reinforced by 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.*** Saint Paul's will comply, continuing to enforce masking while indoors.

**OCTOBER:** Welcome to October – the tenth month of the year, even though “octo” means eight. I hope you know why this discrepancy exists! In any event, I draw the following to your attention as we begin October:

- **October** is also *Country Music Month, Family History Month, Computer Learning Month, Hispanic Heritage Month. National Book Fair Month, National Car Care Month, Gourmet Adventures Month, National Cosmetology Month, Polish American Heritage Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Stamp Collecting Month, National AIDS Awareness Month, National Cyber Security Awareness Month, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Month and National Depression Education and Awareness Month.*



- **The Rosary:** The Catholic Church dedicates Oct in a special way to Mary, our Blessed Mother. The rosary is a great devotion to Mary, and I encourage you to recite it regularly. Pre-COVID, a group of moms and the retired brothers recited the rosary each Mon at 8 in the Residence chapel for the intentions of the school. I hope they are still saying the rosary for us and look forward to when we can re-start this practice.
- **Respect Life Month:** October is designated by the Catholic Church as Respect Life Month. In addition to the unborn, the Church also reminds us of our obligations toward other life issues: Marriage/Family Life, Children, Women, The Aging, and Death/Dying. We offer prayers this week that life will be respected, from conception to natural death. We pray that our students learn by our word as well as example.

### Prayer for Life

*Let us pray, Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*



*Biomed students hard at work.*

**MISSION COLLECTION:** We began our weekly mission collections last Wednesday. While our mission collections typically benefit Saint Paul's School in Marsabit, Kenya, the first mission collections of this academic year support Hurricane Ida relief. Donations will benefit those impacted in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.

**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. Sam Francis, Athletic Director. Naturally, call me if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1901 & my cell phone is 985/966-1138, my email is broray@stpauls.com or hit “reply” to this email!**

**OCTOBERFEST:** Saint Paul’s first Oktoberfest has been **re-scheduled** for Saturday, December 4 on Saint Paul’s campus. Dust off your dirndl dress, launder your lederhosen and join us for an EPIC day of stein slurping with your best mates! The German-inspired, family-friendly celebration will make its oom-pah, inaugural arrival with contest traditions for stein-carrying, pretzel-whistling, and strudel-eating, along with a dancing, live entertainment and an array of authentic, Bavarian food. General admission is \$5 per person. Children 6 and under are free. Check out our sponsorship opportunities today at [www.stpauls.com](http://www.stpauls.com)

## **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES ON OCT 18, 5 – 7 PM. MORE INFO TO COME.**

**PLUS-PORTALS:** Please activate your account (if you have not yet done so) 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. 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.

**SILENT SUSTAINED READING:** SSR occurs during the first 15 minutes of Block 2, when everyone reads 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, speak with your sons about social media use. We have already dealt with issues. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. In addition, SPS reserves the right to impose consequences on our students who misuse social media.**

**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**.



*Three students anxiously await the result of blood typing experiment.*

**TIC TOC SCHOOL VANDALISM:** This is tragic and embarrassing: TIC TOC (don't ask me to explain it; ask your son) is encouraging school bathroom vandalism – and it is spreading throughout the nation. And their latest is even worse: encouraging students to slap teachers! Just google it. Unfortunately, and this is the embarrassing part, it hit SPS recently, with soap dispensers being ripped off of walls – in our newly constructed buildings, no less! **PLEASE** speak with your son about this and have him report any vandalism about which he knows. **SERIOUS** disciplinary measures will be imposed when we find the perpetrators – and we will. They will be looking for other schools.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson St. or the parking lot at LaSalle Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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!

**WOLF PACKS:** We began WPs before Ida -- 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.

**WEEKLY HUMOR:** Some "egg jokes" in honor of World Egg Day on Sunday:

- *What day do eggs hate most? Fry-day!*
- *What did Snow White call her chicken? Egg white. [LOL!]*
- *How do eggs leave a highway? By going through the eggs-it.*
- *How do comedians like their eggs? Funny side up!*
- *How do monsters like their eggs? Terri-fried!*
- *What do chickens call a school test? Eggs-amination!*
- *What do eggs do when the light turns green? Egg-celerate!*
- *Did you hear about McDonalds? They eggspanded the breakfast menu.*
- *Why do people gain weight? Because they do not eggsercise!*
- *How did the egg get up the mountain? It scrambled up!*
- *What's an egg called asleep on the job? Egg-zosted!*
- *Who wrote Great Eggspectations? Charles Chickens!*
- *Why can't you tease egg whites? They can't take a yolk!*
- *Why did the egg go to school? To get "egg-u-cated"!*
- *Why did a chicken lay an egg on an axe? To hatchet!*
- *What did one egg say to another? Your yolks crack me up.*
- *Why do chickens lay eggs? if they dropped them, they would break!*
- *What do Chickens grow on? Eggplants!*
- *OK, I'll stop!*



*Elton the campus egret admires his reflection in the pond.*

**A LOOK AHEAD:** Here are the period rotations for the first semester (assuming no more 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.**

### **First Semester Period Rotation – REVISED, POST-IDA**

#### **October**

- 4 – CDEF – Wolf Pack Time
- 5 – GABC – Senior in ACT
- 6 – DEFG
- 7 – ABCD - Mass
- 8 - EF- End of Quarter 1 11:00 dismissal; GP Day postponed
- 11 – GABC – Start of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- 12 – DEFG- President's Assembly
- 13 – ABCD- PSAT test
- 14 - EFGA
- 15 – BCDE
- 18 – FGAB - Late Start; parent-teacher conferences 5 – 7 pm in the BAC
- 19 – CDEF- Pack Time
- 20 – GABC
- 21 – DEFG
- 22 - ABCD
- 25 – EFGA
- 26 – BCDE- President's Assembly
- 27 - FGAB
- 28 – CDEF
- 29 - GABC- Seniors at Archbishop's Day

#### **November**

- 1 – DEFG- Mass
- 2 – ABCD - Pack Time
- 3 - EFGA
- 4 – BCDE- 8th Grade HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
- 5 – FGAB - 9th Grade HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
- **8 – CDEF Archdiocese Formation Day CANCELLED; Full day of class**
- 9 – GABC - President's Assembly
- 10 – DEFG - 10th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
- 11 – ABCD -11th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
- 12 – EFGA - 12th HR Breakfast / Level Meetings
- 15 - BCDE
- 16 – FGAB - Pack Time



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



- 17 – CDEF – Fall food drive begins
- 18 – GABC
- 19 – DEFG
- 29 - ABCD
- 30 – EFGA - Pack Time – Luminarias

## December

- 1 – BCDE
- 2 – FGAB
- 3 - CDEF
- 6 – GABC - Late Start
- 7 – EEFG- President’s Assembly
- 8 – ABCD – Mass – Immaculate Conception
- 9 – EFGA
- 10 – BCDE
- 13 – FGAB
- 14-17 – First Semester Exams. Christmas holidays begin after exams on the 17<sup>th</sup> – approximately 11:45ish.

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

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Made it to Another October as the 17<sup>th</sup> 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)

**Let’s end with Prayer with our Lasallian Prayer for Peace:**

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*We pray to You, Lord, God of life and God of those who hope! Listen to our prayer for the whole world, for peace among all peoples, for prosperity in all lands. We pray to You that evil may be overcome and that all wars may end. We pray to you especially for the members of our Lasallian Family, who suffer from war, injustice and intolerance and for the children and young people who are poor and neglected. We pray too, God, for peace in our lives; in our towns, in our schools, in our families and in our own hearts. We pray for a peace that the world cannot give us. We pray for a peace that will make us whole and transform us into ambassadors of justice for your sake. Lord, give us Your peace!*



*Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well, making courageous choices, doing God's will, remaining faithful, being guided to God, continuing our Lasallian Mission, living courageously, respecting all people, and living the Gospel!*





# Saint Paul's School

## 2021 National Merit SemiFinalists



RISE UP, O MEN OF GOD!







