

The SPS President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon (again!) Newsletter Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington 341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world November 29 - December 05, 2021



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

### **MARANATHA!**



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

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

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

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

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

### Maranatha! Come, Lord!

### Mon, Nov 29 (A B C D)

- **This Day in History:** In 1947, the United Nations, despite strong Arab opposition, votes for the partition of Palestine, thus creating the independent nation of Israel.
- **TDIH:** In 2001, Beatle lead guitarist George Harrison dies at age 58. And *our guitars gently weep*.
- Chia Pet Day: In case you actually have one of these, be nice to it today!
- Square Dance Day: Here's a chance to get out and "Dosey Do" with your partner. I am sure our students would love to square dance with their moms or sisters!
- Soccer: 9<sup>th</sup> & JV v. Mandeville (5:30 & 7)
- **Basketball:** 9<sup>th</sup> & JV at Lakeshore (5:30 & 7)

### Tue, Nov 30 (Luminaria-Making Wolf Packs; Senior HR Breakfast; E F G A – Feast of St. Andrew)

- **TDIH:** In 1835, Samuel Clemens, later known as Mark Twin, is born in Florida, Missouri. Read some Twain today!
- **TDIH:** In 2004, after winning 74 straight games and more than \$2.5 million a record for U.S. game shows a *Jeopardy!* contestant loses. Who is this contestant? Answer at end of newsletter!
- Absurdity Day: I think this day could apply to any day in 2020 or 2021!
- **Beauty Day:** Take time to observe the beauty that surrounds us daily, especially in St. Tammany and on our campus. As Confucius said: "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it."
- #iGiveCatholic Day: Thanks to all who made videos and promoted this day. We pray for its success.
- Sophomore Service Day: Good luck, Jeff et al!
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> at Boyet (6)
- Soccer: 9<sup>th</sup> \*& JV v. Catholic (6); Var at Jesuit (6)

### Wed, Dec 01 (Blue Ribbon Assembly; see info below; B C D assembly) DRESS UNIFORM FOR STUDENTS!

- **TDIH:** In 1956, in Montgomery, AL, Rosa Parks is jailed for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man, a violation of the city's segregation laws. A successful bus boycott, organized by a young Baptist minister named Martin Luther King, Jr., followed Park's historic act of civil disobedience. Rose Parks is known as "the mother of the civil rights movement.
- **TDIH:** In 1913, On December 1, 1913, Henry Ford installs the first moving assembly line for the mass production of an entire automobile.
- Wrestling: SPS at Holy Cross
- Soccer: 8<sup>th</sup> at FJH at Lakeshore Field



Cast & crew of Peter & the Starcatcher at finale! # Inclusive Community

Thu, Dec 2 (E F G A B)

- Yes, this is a 5 period day.
- **TDIH:** In 1823, in his annual address to Congress, President James Monroe proclaims a new U.S. foreign policy that becomes known as the "Monroe Doctrine." Primarily the work of Secretary of State John Quincey Adams, the Monroe Doctrine forbade European interference in American hemisphere but also asserted U.S. neutrality in regard to future conflicts.
- TDIH: In 1804, in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Pope Pius VI handed Napoleon Bonaparte a crown that the 35-



year old placed on his own head. He became first French emperor in 1000 years.

• Luminaries – 6 pm. Come join this annual Christmas dis campus and admire the "festival of lights" on our campus. refreshments. The Christian Brothers were among the first to 3<sup>rd</sup> in State! Geaux Aqua Wolves! # Inclusive Community

by

refreshments. The Christian Brothers were among the first to bring this holiday treat to the Covington area since they were knowledgeable about it from their schools in New Mexico.

• **Basketball:** 8th & 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Charles Catholic

Dress uniform for students on Wed, Dec 1, for our official Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony, which will be livestreamed starting at 1:30. I will send the link in a separate email on Tue or Wed morning.



Wolves deliver food to Northshore Food Bank. #Concern for the poor and social justice

### Fri, Dec 3 – (C D E F)

- **TDIH:** In 1947, Marlon Brando's famous "STELLA!" first booms on a Broadway stage, electrifying the audience during the debut of Tennessee Williams' play *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Since Vic's AP English class is studying this iconic play, they recently did their "Stella Yelling Contest" a la the yearly one in the French Quarter.
- TDIH: In 1967, a 53-year-old named Lewis Washansky received the first human heart transplant.
- **TDIH:** Neon lighting was first demonstrated today 1910. It was invented by a Frenchman named Georges Claude, and he debuted it at a Paris auto show which also happened to be the world's first auto show. Neon is an inert gas and when contained it in a glass tube and stimulated it with electricity, it glows red. The neon tubes became popular as novelties, and within three years, there was a big glowing sign advertising Cinzano vermouth lighting up the sky over Paris. Neon signage was adopted with increasing frequency from 1920 onward, and by 1940 nearly every city in the United States sported a dazzling array.
- **People with Disability Day** promotes support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. As Lasallians, we build an inclusive community which respects all. We celebrate this day.
- **Basketball:** Varsity in Jesuit Invitational through Saturday
- Wrestling: SPS in Border Wars in South Walton Beach; JV in Trygg Tourney at Grace King thru Sat
- Soccer: Varsity in COPA Tournament in Lafayette through Saturday

#### Sat, Dec 4

- **TDIH:** In 1991, after 64 years of operation, the U.S. airline Pan Am ceases service.
- **Cookie Day:** Enjoy! DYK the English word "cookie" comes from Dutch "koekje," which means little cake? Dutch bakers tested oven temps on small amounts of batter so they would not waste the entire cake mix if the temp wasn't right & discovered that these tiny pieces of cooked batter were actually quite tasty!
- **Basketball:** 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> v. Shaw
- Wrestling: Jr Hi in Rummel Tournament
- Soccer: 8th v. Boyet (11); 9<sup>th</sup> & JV in Ponchatoula Tournament
- Ultimate Frisbee: SPS v. Catholic High (9:30 & 11) at Adams Street Field
- Oktoberfest (5 pm)

#### Sun, Dec 5 – Second Sunday of Advent

- TDIH: In 1901, Walter Elias Disney is born. Watch a Disney classic today!
- Bathtub Party Day: Relax with a good soak!
- Marching Wolves in the Madisonville Christmas Parade, scheduled for 1:00.



#### I call the following to your attention in alphabetical order, not necessarily 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: <u>https://academy.act.org/</u>

**ADMISSIONS FOR 2022-23: WE NEED YOUR HELP!** COVID-19 restrictions forced us to change our usual recruiting strategies. But now, more than ever, I count on you to spread the good news about Saint Paul's to prospective families. I need each of you to be an "admissions director" and speak to a prospective family about sending their son to SPS. I am counting on you! Just have interested families contact our admissions office. Thanks!

**ADVENT:** *Wait for the Lord, whose day is near! Wait for the Lord, be strong; take heart!* Our students will hear these words this week in chapel and in religion classes. It's a powerful moment in the faith life of our students. Ask your son about the Advent prayer services during religion classes.

**AFTER SCHOOL:** The Library remains 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.

**ANNUAL FUND: I hope you received your annual fund brochure recently.** Thanks to those who have already responded. We launched our Annual Fund two weeks ago and we will need the support of generous benefactors more than ever. Your gifts to the Annual Fund ensure that not only will we endure for years to come, but we will thrive and continue to build upon our 110-year legacy of quality education. *The strength of the Wolf is the pack* and we ask for your support so that we may celebrate many more birthdays together. All sizes of gifts are appreciated and we thank you in advance for your generosity.

ASSEMBLY ON NOV 09: I hope the students enjoyed our Nov 09 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Entered the gym listening to a stirring rendition of the John Philip Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*, designated by an Act of Congress as our National March. We listened to this patriotic song since it was two days before Veterans Day a day on which we honor all those who helped protect the freedom we enjoy! I reminded the students of the story of how Sousa composed this memorable march while in Europe on Christmas Day in 1896 in honor of a deceased friend. Amazingly, the composed it in his head and didn't commit it to paper until his return to the US several weeks later. What a genius!
- Prayed in a special way, as the prayer candle was lit by junior **Will Cambre**, for all the intentions which we brought into the gym that morning and especially for those who entered God's Kingdom since our last assembly: *Mr. Gary Achee, grandfather of Trevor '19 and Nicholas '23 Achee* and *Mr. Jim Richardson, grandfather of Remy LeBeau '26*
- Congratulated and recognized the whole school for the awarding to SPS of a 2021 National Blue Ribbon by the US Department of Education. I reminded the students of the five criteria SPS had to meet in order to gain the award: Very high learning standards; Top 15% in the nation on standardized tests; Exemplary teaching practices & professional development; Strong school culture & leadership practices; and Parent & community involvement
- Recognized and congratulated the newly inducted members of the National Honor Society and the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society. The number was unusually high as it represents two years, as we did not have an induction last year due to COVID:

Nicholas	Achee	Connor	Cambre	Henry	Englehart
Noah	Adams	Cole	Catanzaro	Jeremiah	Ferrante
Connor	Allen	Brian	Cazalot	Trevor	Flood
Austin	Asher	Thomas	Cazenavette	Roman	Fouchi
Jude	Barcelona	Benjamin	Chiasson	Alexander	Fowler
John	Baricev	Cohen	Cluney	Colin	Garvey
Benjamin	Barousse	William	Coles	Gunnar	Gavel
Brady	Barre	Shawn	Cooney	Samuel	Gold

Bennett	Barreca	Christian	Cowley	Jacob	Gracianette
Joseph	Bearden	Blake	Davis	Gage	Graham
Reece	Beckendorf	Baylor	Delaune	Jackson	Hadskey
Samuel	Bedell	Daren	Delaune	Grisham	Hall
Cooper	Bethea	Derek	Diamond	William	Hall
Phoenix	Bigler	Jacob	Dickens	Eric	Hanrahan
Andrew	Blossman	Joseph	DiGiovanni	Claburn	Harrell
George	Bode	Connor	Dodson	Robert	Hastings
Zachary	Bono	Slate	Dominique	Aidan	Hayes
Talon	Boudreaux	Jake	Doyle	Kilian	Henderson
Jacob	Bounds	Brock	Duncan	Robert	Hewitt
Alexander	Bradford	Emerson	duPassage	Riley	Hidalgo
Dylan	Buckel	Zachary	Dupre	Robert	Higgins
Keegan	Burrell	Alex	Dusang	Jacob	Hollis
Richard	Burvant	Parker	Emery	Kennedy	Jackson
Jacob	Johnson	Devan	Menon	Vincent	Ruiz
Jonathan	Kelchner	Domenic	Meyer	Christian	Russell
John	Keller	Steven	Meyers	Benjamin	Salvant
Jacob	Khashou	Peyton	Michel	Brody	Sawyer
	Kilgore	Thomas	Miles	James	Scheuermann
Peyton	RIIgole				

William	Kitchen	Joseph
Kaiden	Klebba	Justin
Benjamin	Knobloch	Dominic
Aidan	Lagasse	Harrison
Evan	Leaber	John
Brennan	LeBlanc	Kye
Dominic	Livaccari	Max

Menon	Vincent
Meyer	Christian
Meyers	Benjamin
Michel	Brody
Miles	James
Mire	Kieffer
Mott	Daniel
Muguira	Brennan
Murr	Caleb
Palmer	Ian
Parkman	Austin
Pellegrini	Benjamin

Kussell
Salvant
Sawyer
Scheuerman
Schwartz
Sears
Shaffett
Shaffett
Shaffett
South

Strecker

Walker	Lobdell	Davis	Peltier	Noah	Strickland
Beau	Loisel	James	Peters	Preston	Tate
Matthew	Longo	Joshua	Pichon	Jack	Theriot
Nicholas	Lowe	Vincent	Picou	Jake	Theriot
Braden	Magliolo	Nikola	Plazinic	Joseph	Thompson
Richard	Mannino	Brady	Rabalais	Jackson	Truitt
Ashton	Martin	William	Ragan	Peter	Verges
Myles	McCormick	Philip	Rapp	Ethan	Viator
Hayden	McWilliams	Jonah	Revere	Christian	Waguespack
Michael	McWilliams	Sean	Roberts	Thomas	Wall
Riley	Meehan	Dominic	Roy	Luke	Ward

Elijah	Weixel
Ethan	Wilson
Cooper	Winchester
Joshua	Yancey
Andrew	Zibilich



SPS Habitat Wolves on job site! # Concern for the Poor and Social Justice

- Recognized and congratulated faculty member **Mrs. Kim Gardner** for being selected by National History Day (NHD) to participate in the fall professional development program, "Inspiring Student Research with the Library of Congress." The online course focuses on using Library of Congress primary and secondary sources to develop and support student research skills. NHD is a non-profit organization which seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. Kudos to Kim Gardner!
- Recognized and congratulated the **Student Council** for their creative approach to Homecoming Dances! Lots of work but worth it!
- Recognized and congratulated the following members of Key Club for campus clean up prior to the dances: Peter Verges, William Ditta, Jake Satches, Jake Gracionette, and Matthew Roberts.
- Recognized and congratulated The Saint Paul's Habitat Club for their monthly work for Habitat for Humanity: Kieffer Schwartz, Nicholas Achee, Camden Cantrelle, Preston Orgeron, Walker Dubreuil, Blake Weimer, William Ditta, Will Zeller, Colin Garvey, Mr. Richard Pichon
- Recognized and congratulated the **Saint Paul's Mothers' Club** for being well-represented in the Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build Day!
- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Agricultural Science class, which has begun harvesting and donating our fall crops, mainly leafy greens, to the Northshore Food Bank. The class is focused on sustainable agriculture so everything we donate is grown without any chemicals or synthetic fertilizer. Class members are Grayson Bulloch, Cohen Cluney, Cooper Coutrado, Nicholas Duplessis, John Frederick Escher, Seth Gardiner, Marc Jones, Henry Nunmaker, Jordan Peco, Kyle Sevin, Andrew Talamo, and Ethan Travers. The class is taught by Dr. Shawn Mullet
- Recognized and congratulated three SPS Wolves who caused the following email to be sent to me: *I wanted* to share something with you that some good Samaritan St Paul's students did tonight. After watching the team win tonight, my husband and I left the football game from St Paul's and traveled south on Highway 21 heading home. Our car stalled at a red light at the intersection of Highway 21 and Brewster Rd. We tried to wave the car behind us to go around; however, it was a car full of St Paul's football players that wanted to help! **Ben Buisson, Dominik Mangin and Matt Gower** proceeded to park safely in a nearby parking lot and offered to help my husband push our car safely to the parking lot away from the road. I've never met these boys before even though they play alongside my son on the field. I just wanted to let you know how touched I was that they helped us without us even asking. It was amazing and I was so proud when I realized they were actually St Paul's students. Please give them the recognition they deserve! I did!
- Recognized and congratulated four Wolves who helped in the recent Keep Covington Beautiful work day: Jude Barcelona, David Peltier, Jack Keller, Jake Satches.
- Then, as if by magic, George Fridrich Handel's Water Music started playing! And if The Water Music is playing, then the Aqua Wolves must be swimming! And swimming they are! At the All State New Orleans Metro Swim Championship, the AWs took 2<sup>nd</sup> Place quite a feat.



- As we were running out of time, I reminded the boys of their duty to observe Veterans' Day. I gave a little history (the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, etc.) and talked about the respect we should have for the national anthem. I informed the boys about the history of The National Anthem, which was written by Francis Scott Key during the British bombardment of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812. I then told the students the story of Pvt. George Cox, a 1951 SPS alum, who was drafted for the Korean War shortly after his graduation and was killed in combat less than a year later. A memorial plaque hangs in the La Salle Hall, as Pvt. Cox's mother wanted us to remember her son who loved SPS and his country. \
- I then reminded the boys to cooperate with Covington Mayor Mark Johnson's Slow Your Roll drive aimed at safer driving in our city, to support the Thanksgiving Food Drive and all the activities going on.
- We closed with the boys singing The National Anthem. They were GREAT.
- As **John Frederick Escher** extinguished the prayer candle, I reminded the boys that the light of candle may be extinguished, but what it represents can never be extinguished and that they must leave the gym and spread that love of God to all whom they meet.
- I then informed the boys the Blue Bell ice cream company had delivered 1000 cups of ice cream to SPS in recognition of our Blue Ribbon and that we would be handing them out at lunch!
- Nothing like free ice cream to end the assembly on a positive note! It was a great assembly at least I thought so and the boys enjoyed the ice cream!

**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.** 

### Dress uniform for students on Wed, Dec 1 For our official Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony, which will be live-

streamed starting at 1:30 if you wish to view. I will send the link in a separate email on Tue or Wed morning.



**BLUE RIBBON ASSEMBLY:** On Wednesday, we will hold our official Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony beginning at 1:30 in the new gym. **STUDENTS MUST WEAR DRESS UNIFORMS ON WED!** (I'm, not shouting, just emphasizing.) We have an array of honored guests and a few surprises. The Mothers' Club is preparing a special treat following the ceremony. To ensure that all goes well, I will conduct a special practice that morning. And we will live stream the event in case you would like to watch. I will send out the link in a separate email before Wednesday. It will be a great event as it is important to recognize, honor, and affirm this milestone in our school's history.

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

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

## ST. PAUL'S MOTHERS' CLUB BOOKSTORE SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

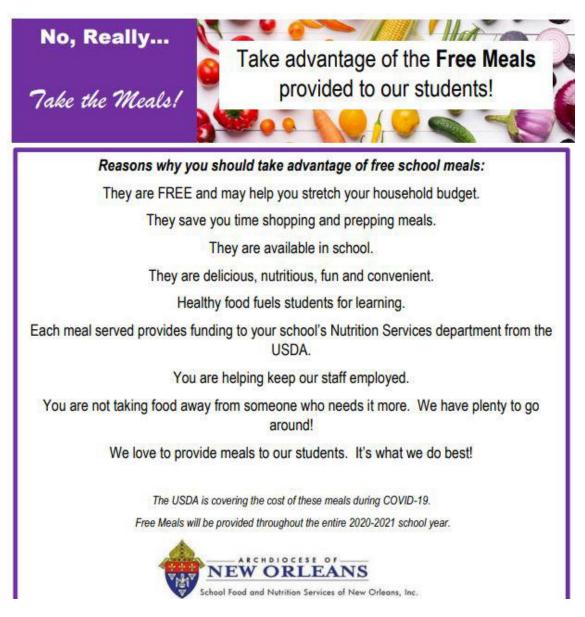
## 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



**BLOOD DRIVE:** Our Christmas Blood Drive will be held on Friday, Dec. 3rd in the **New Gym Lobby.** Students who wish to participate must weigh at least 110 pounds and <u>cannot</u> be in an active sports season. Sign up with Ms. Suzy and pick up a permission slip. A parent signature is required on permission slips for 16 and 17-year-old blood donors. All donors will need to show an I.D. in order to donate. Each pint saves lives. Give the gift of life this season!

### CAFETERIA: NEW from Ellen Gauthreaux, executive director of School Food & Nutrition Services.

School Food and Nutrition Services (SFNS) is facing some significant challenges. In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic and the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, a labor shortage has affected the food distribution and production industries. Unfilled cafeteria positions are forcing some cafeterias to stop preparing homemade items, offer less food choices and work harder than ever. Many food shortages have been encountered, including ground beef, chicken nuggets, margarine, bread and juice. To ensure that our cafeterias receive the necessary components to serve healthy meal options, we are in constant communication with our vendors. I apologize for the inconvenience your students are encountering. Menu changes and food options are changing constantly. However, SFNS is committed to serving your students. Every child will continue to have access to safe and nutritious school meals in spite of the challenges we face....it is our profession....it is our passion....it



### 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.

•	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.

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

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

**GOOD NEWS DEPT:** We received a check for \$7,524 from the Lasallian Christian Brothers Foundation from the July & August 2021 Brother Timothy Cabernet & Chardonnay online wine sale, which is designated exclusively for financial aid for students who have demonstrated great financial need – and Saint Paul's has a number of these. The wines from which these funds derive are created by the Hess Collection and donated to the Foundation in memory of the legendary Napa Valley winemaker, Brother Timothy Diener, FSC (1910-2004). We are grateful to Hess Winery, the Foundation, and our benefactors who purchased the wine. Salud!.



Wolves proudly deliver donations to the Northshore Food Bank! # Concern for the poor and Social Justice

**HANUKKAH:** Our Jewish brothers and sisters began their Hanukkah (or Chanukah) celebrations on the evening of Nov 28. They will celebrate until the evening of Dec 6. The eight-day Jewish celebration commemorates the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, where according to legend Jews had risen up against their Greek-Syrian oppressors in the Maccabean Revolt. Hanukkah, means "dedication" in Hebrew. Often called the Festival of Lights, the holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the menorah, traditional foods, games and gifts. We wish our Jewish brothers and sisters and blessed and joyous celebration of Hanukkah!

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

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



**# I GIVE CATHOLIC:** Celebrated annually on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday, #iGiveCatholic is a bishop-led initiative in partnership with lay leaders in Catholic philanthropy that kicks off the charitable season and brings the Catholic community together to give thanks and give back. As the first-ever giving day created to celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, #iGiveCatholic inspires faithful stewards to "Give Catholic" on #GivingTuesday, the U.S. Catholic Church's Giving Day.

Declared "the most successful Catholic crowdfunding event to date" by the National Catholic Register, the goal of the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day is to rally our Catholic community in support of the organizations that shape our souls, including Saint Paul's School. Donations to Saint Paul's School can be made during our Advanced Giving Day Phase beginning at 12:00 AM

on November 15, continuing right into #GivingTuesday, November 30, and ending at 11:59 PM.

In 2020, our #iGiveCatholic donors raised \$15,000 bringing the six-year total to more than \$105,000 for Saint Paul's School. Please partner with us again this year. Secure, tax-deductible donations to Saint

Paul's School can be made at <u>https://bit.ly/3x2VPsj</u> <u>This is a great way to make your annual fund</u> <u>donation.</u>

### LAST TWO WEEKS:

- **Basketball: Too** much to list, but we did well! I will mention our win over Jesuit, however!
- **Cooper's Services:** Thanks to those who were able to attend Cooper's services at OLL on 11/20. The grief, shock, and sense of loss were palpable. The family was amazingly brave. Many faculty, staff and current / former students attended. Brother Ken, as is his forte, played beautifully appropriate music for the two-hour visitation, followed by a Catholic service. Please continue to pray for his family and minister to his SPS brothers. *Eternal rest grant unto Cooper, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*
- **Cross Country:** The 2021 season ended on Nov 16 at the state meet. As a team, the Wolves



Student hard at work pre-Thanksgiving! # Quality Education

finished 10<sup>th</sup> in state – a respectable showing. Congrats to Coaches Al Nastasi, Kevin Moore and Emilie Travers and the CC Wolves!

• **Drama:** *Peter and the Starcatcher* closed on 11/20. I had the privilege of attending. Wow. Directors Gordon Carmadelle and Barrett Baumgartner did AMAZING work with the cast and crew. It was beyond delightful. Geaux Marian Players!

- **Food Drive:** Once again, concern for the poor rose to the occasion and our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive was a grand success. Thanks to campus ministry and all who helped.
- **Football:** The 2021 season ended with a win over F'bleau, a first round playoff bye, a thrilling playoff win over Scotlandville, and a heart-breaking, one point loss in the semis. Congrats, Wolves, for accomplishing what no other SPS football team has done. You will long be remembered.
- Library: Four years ago this week, we began dismantling our Benilde library. I hope the thousands of books we removed are getting better use than they did gathering dust in our library. And while I am most pleased with the Benilde Hall transformation, the dinosaur in me has nostalgia for meandering through the "stacks", discovering heretofore undiscovered treasures of interest. An era has ended. I must adjust.
- HR Breakfasts: Our Physical Plant crew did a masterful job in setting up socially distant seating in the BAC, and the Development Team did a masterful job in arranging food service, thanks to SPS parent Rick Gonzales, proprietor of Chick-fil-A. BTW, my vocabulary words for this quarter were *Feckless* (Ineffective; having no real purpose); *Intrepid* (Fearless; bold; courageous); *Clodpoll* (A stupid person; blockhead) and *Apotheosis* (The ideal example; a glorified ideal; epitome; the best). I encouraged the boys to be an intrepid apotheosis at all times and in all that they do and to never be a feckless clodpoll.
- Manresa Retreat: Many positive remarks from the boys on their silent retreat at this holy house.
- Marching Wolves had a GREAT football season, too! Thanks, Mr. Moran, Band Boosters, & MWS!
- Soccer: Much activity; too many wins to list! All teams look good!



- **Sudden Impact:** The final presentation took place before the break. We are MOST grateful to the local hospitals and the LA State Police for putting on this impactful program on safe and impaired driving to our sophomores, who are just beginning their driving careers.
- Swimming: The Aqua Wolves placed 3rd at the state meet for the third straight year! Geaux Aqua Wolves! I hear Handel playing! Congrats to Coach Emmet Smith, Moderator Andrew Dart and Aqua Wolves!
- Wrestling: Ditto basketball and soccer comments! LOTS of activity and lots of great performances.
- Yearbook Distribution to the Class of 2021: Alumni Director Al Nastasi welcomed members of the Class of 2021 to campus on Fri, Nov 26, to pick up their senior year yearbooks. They seemed to be doing well.

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

**LUMINARIAS:** Our annual Festival of Lights is Thursday, Dec 2, beginning at dusk. On Tue, November 30, the boys will construct the luminaria bags in Wolf Packs but the festival is Thursday, Dec 2.

**MARCH THROUGH THE ARCH PICURES FOR SENIORS ARE IN:** Expressions Photography did an outstanding job in producing the pics, which are in the Administration Building and may be picked up during business hours. Your son may pick up his pic with a note from you. We do this as in the past, some seniors got the pics and left them in book bags or back car seats and the pics never made it home.

**OCTOBERFEST:** Saint Paul's first Oktoberfest has been **re-schedule**d 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 <u>www.stpauls.com</u>





PAPER WOLF: Read The Paper Wolf! (www.thepaperwolf.com) I do! We've got an outstanding, AWARD

WINNING digital newspaper! Compliment the outstanding staff. Subscribe! Support the future of journalism! Geaux Paper Wolves!



**Project Christmas:** As customary, we have partnered with St. Tammany Project Christmas to serve those in need in our community during the holiday season. We have "adopted" 40 children spread across 17 families. Project Christmas has provided us with a series of wish list items specifically requested by the families. If you are able to support this initiative, families can do so in two ways: purchasing gifts off our wish list and/or sending in a monetary donation:

1) **Purchasing Gifts:** Sign up to purchase wish list item(s) using <u>this Sign Up Genius link</u>. Please remember to indicate the students and/or parent name on the sign up platform. Once purchased, gifts can be brought to Andrea Francis in the Administration Building or to Claire Coutrado in the Main School Building by Thursday, December 2nd. All gifts should be unwrapped, and please indicate your name on the purchased gift either on a piece of masking tape or on the exterior of a bag.

### Sign Up Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BAFA82DA6F94-project

2) **Monetary Donation:** Many wish list items are not listed in the Sign Up Genius. A monetary donation will allow us to purchase items either not listed or purchased via the Sign Up Genius. Monetary donation also allows us to contribute to a holiday meal for our adopted families and support other partner agencies. Monetary donations can be sent in via check or cash to your student's Religion class. If you would like to support by monetary donation, please send in donation by Thursday, December 2nd.

### Dress uniform for students on Wed, Dec 1 For our official

### Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony, which will be livestreamed starting at 1:30 if you wish to view. I will send the link in a separate email on Tue or Wed morning.

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

**RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2022 - 23** Yes, it is time to start thinking about next year! Shortly after Christmas, we will begin registering current students for 2022-23. Here's the process:

- Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8<sup>th</sup> graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9<sup>th</sup> graders we can accept.
- Current  $9^{th} 11^{th}$  grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12<sup>th</sup> graders well, they don't have to worry about registering for SPS next year!
- In all re-registration for 2022 23, a \$300 registration fee will be due.
- Also, if your son does not plan on returning for the second semester of this year, please let me know ASAP. We are getting inquiries about January admissions.

**REPORT CARDS AND SEMESTER GRADES:** Remember that the first quarter accounts for 40% of the semester grade, with the second quarter accounting for 40% and the semester exam accounting for 20%. Remember that the only grade that really counts is the SEMESTER grade – that's the one that goes on transcripts and is used to calculate grade point average. Check out the exam schedule below.



**SLOW YOUR ROLL.** This week is the one-year anniversary of Mayor Mark Johnson's initiative to improve driving habits within Covington – one of his main campaign pledges. Did you know:

- Two of the most often repeated complaints to the candidates in last year's election were speeding and the running of stop signs? And SPS students/parents came in for their fair share of blame!
- On any given weekday, over 15,000 people drive into and out of Covington?
- Many of our streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of the automobile, thus not designed for cars?

Mayor Mark's goal is "to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets." The Mayor is asking everyone to "relax, take a deep breath and slow down. I applaud the Mayor's initiative and pledged to him our support. Please reinforce this with students whenever possible. And please set a good example yourself!

**SOCIAL HOSTING /UNDERAGE DRINKING:** With the holiday season upon us, the temptations for alcohol use by students increases. One issue facing parents is hosting parties where teens are exposed to or even given alcohol. This is known as "social hosting." I have sent a brochure on this activity, which may have legal consequences, to our parents. The brochure was provided to me by Mr. Hal Fox, owner of Fox Litho of Mandeville, and father of Hal. Here's the link: <u>http://fb.mediarelay.com/pbda246</u>

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Connect with the Wolves on Social Media to see the latest pictures and posts of all the wonderful events at St. Paul's School. The Facebook and Twitter feeds are on website, or you can follow us at Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana Twitter @SPSWolfpackStudy

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. And read about Tic Toc!



State Cross Country qualifiers continue the tradition of attending Holy Mass at St. Joseph Abbey prior to departing for the meet. #Faith in the presence of God

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

**SUMMER CAMP DIRECTORS:** I am pleased to appoint Coaches Stephen Dale and Matt Pinero as codirectors of the Saint Paul's Summer Camp Program, one of the premier summer camp programs around. They will build on what Coach Craig Ketelsen established, bringing the program to even greater success. Since both Stephen and Matt have some summer commitments with their respective sports of basketball and wrestling, the co-director model emerged as the best fit. Stephen and Matt have hit the ground running and a schedule, along with on-line registration, will soon be available, just in time for Christmas giving. I am deeply appreciative to both of these outstanding coaches for assuming this important position, as the camps are great recruiting tools for SPS. Athletic Director Sam Francis will serve as a consultant and assistant when needed.

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

**TUTORING:** Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in the library for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services also provided. It is not embarrassing to go for tutoring!

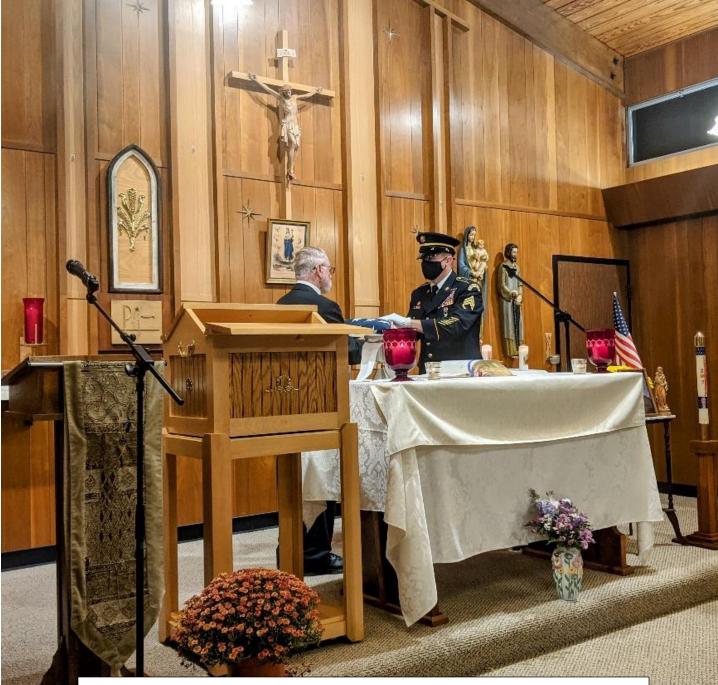
**VAPING:** Unfortunately, vaping is on the rise, even among our students. The health message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, all too often ignore the warnings of science.) Please stress this with your sons.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

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



Dress uniform for students on Wed, Dec 1 For our official Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony, which will be live-

streamed starting at 1:30 if you wish to view. I will send the link in a separate email on Tue or Wed morning.



Bro. Jerry, Director of the Brothers' Community, receives an American flag at Brother Duane's funeral from a military honor guard in honor of Duane's military service prior to his joining the Brothers. RIP, Brother Duane, and thank you for your service to our country! # Faith in the Presence of God

#### WEEKLY HUMOR: Some puns to start Advent:

- Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.
- She was only a moonshiner's daughter, but I miss her still.
- What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.
- Why do bees stay in hives during winter? Swarm.
- Just so everyone is clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.
- A commander walks into a bar and orders everyone around.

- I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.
- Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.
- How much did the pirate pay to get his ears pierced? A buccaneer.
- *I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.*
- *My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'. It's a cover band.*
- I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll never hear the end of it.

**WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT:** I received the following note over the holidays from Mr. Jim Brennan, a 1972 grad: *I arrived at St. Paul's in September of 1967. I was a pretty scared 12 year old from Chicago. Thankfully, there was Brother Austin. The enclosed is a small token of my appreciation for all the Brothers and teachers who affected my life in a positive way. I look forward to my 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion.* Enclosed was a check for \$1000. May our work today cause our students to send similar notes and gifts to SPS in the future!

### A LOOK AHEAD:

#### November

- 29 ABCD Classes resume from Thanksgiving holidays
- 30 EFGA Pack Time Students prepare Luminaria bags in Pack Time

### December

- 1 BCDE BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION CEREMONY; DRESS UNIFORM!
- 2 FGAB Luminaria celebration beginning at dusk.
- 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 11:30.

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Blue Ribbon Recognition Ceremony, which will be livestreamed starting at 1:30 if you wish to view. I will send the link in a separate email on Tue or Wed morning.

### First Semester Exam Schedule 2021

- Monday, December 13 FG \*(A)
- 2 PERIOD SCHEDULE (With SSR) and Exam Review for Period A
- (85 min classes)
- CHIMES 8:00
- PERIOD F 8:05-9:35
- PERIOD G/SSR 9:42-11:22
- LUNCH 11:22-12:05
- PERIOD A 12:10-1:00 (Exam Review)
- DISMISSAL 1:00
- •

#### • <u>Tuesday, December 14 – A (BC)</u>

- CHIMES 8:00
- PERIOD A EXAM 8:15 -9:45
- PRAYER SERVICE 9:50 -10:20
- PERIOD B REVIEW 10:25 -10:55
- LUNCH 11:00 11:30
- P. ASSEMBLY 11:35 12:25
- PERIOD C REVIEW 12:30 1:00
- DISSMISAL 1:00

### • Wednesday, December 15 – BC (DE)

- CHIMES 8:00
- PERIOD B EXAM 8:10 9:40
- PERIOD C EXAM 9:50 11:20
- LUNCH 11:20 11:50
- PERIOD D REVIEW 11:50 12:20
- PERIOD E REVIEW 12:30 1:00
- DISMISSAL 1:00

### • <u>Thursday, December 16 – DE (FG)</u>

- CHIMES 8:00
- PERIOD D EXAM 8:10 9:40
- PERIOD E EXAM 9:50 11:20
- LUNCH 11:20 11:50
- PERIOD F REVIEW 11:50 12:20
- PERIOD G REVIEW 12:30 1:00
- DISMISSAL 1:00

- Friday, December 17 FG
- CHIMES 8:00
- PERIOD F EXAM 8:10 9:40
- PERIOD G EXAM 9:50 11:20
- DISMISSAL 11:20



## St. Paul's School Blood Drive Friday, December 3rd 8 am – 2 pm Gym Lobby Requirements for Donating Blood:

Students must not be in an active sports season

17 year-olds must weigh 110 pounds

16 year-olds must weigh 130 pounds

Sign up with Ms. Suzy and pick up a permission slip (all students MUST have school

permission slip signed and 16 year-olds must also have parental permission slip signed).

Please eat a good meal before donating and bring a picture ID.

Whew! Enough for now! Hope I haven't taxed your patience too much this week! But you had a break from the newsletter last Sunday! Can't believe we are starting the sixteenth week of the school year. As usual, I'll close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to any more and LOL since WWNO stopped broadcasting the show): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Pray that things go well! We've already reached the seventh week of the second quarter! Time marches relentlessly on, and the only thing we can do about it is decide how we use each second of each minute of each day of each week of each month of each...OK, you get the idea.

May the final weeks of 2021 (good riddance 2021!) be ones of grace and blessing! Know of my prayer for you and your family. Again, thanks for being part of the 2021 - 22 edition of Saint Paul's – our  $111^{\text{th}}$  year!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC Praying for Patience in Advent as the 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School

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

"Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept."

~ St. John Baptist de La Salle

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

### Did I mention we have a dress uniform day Dec 1 for our 1:30 Blue Ribbon Recognition assembly which will be livestreamed?



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

# 🐐 Saint Paul's 🧋





26

Thomas Canonavette



Whaten





Brody

Being



William

Ditta

2021 National Merit Semifinalists





Walker Dubreuil



Gage Graham





Andrew Highcowar



Cartur Murphy



Michael Oliwn



Zachary Nichola

