



*The President's Hebdomadal **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter*
Celebrating 110 years of educational excellence in Covington
341 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
January 10 – 17, 2022



Thanks to all who made the return to school such a success – in spite of COVID!

I offer the following quote from our Founder, Saint John Baptist de La Salle to sustain us in these trying times.



*"Do not have any anxiety about the future.
Leave everything in God's hands for He will
take care of you."*

Saint John the Baptist de La Salle

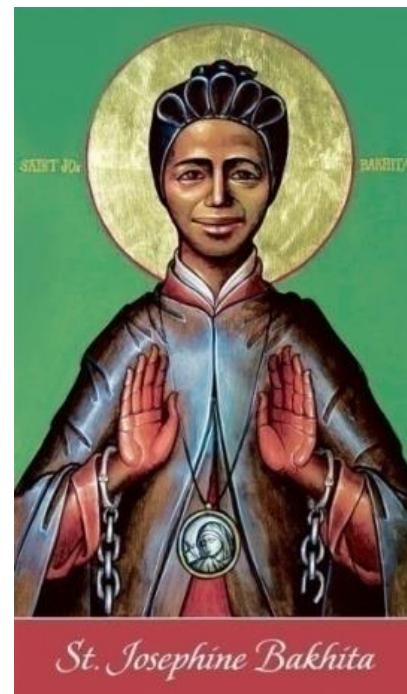
Mon, Jan 10 (9 am start; NO faculty meeting; G A B C)

- **This Day in History:** In 1901, a drilling derrick at [Spindletop Hill](#) near Beaumont, TX, produces an enormous gusher of crude oil, coating the landscape for hundreds of feet and signaling the advent of the American oil industry.
- **Clean Off Your Desk Day (always 2nd Mon):** Actually, I did this over the holidays but it got cluttered again this past week!
- **Houseplant Appreciation Day:** Take care of those botanical beauties around the home!
- **Basketball:** 8th & 9th v. Jesuit (5:30 & 6:30)

Tue, Jan 11 (D E F G)

- **TDIH:** In 2012, a special blessing and opening ceremony for the newly renovated La Salle Hall was held. The building has served us well, and we continue to marvel at this incredible transformation of the old dormitory into currently usable space. As we mark the ten-year anniversary, let's not forget to remember all those who helped make it possible and treat the building with respect and appreciation. In particular, I'd like to recognize the members of the Centennial Club, who donated \$50,000 each to the project: An Anonymous Alumnus, Bobby Nolan, Greg and Lisa Pellegrini, Tom and Sue Lavin Family, James Branton, Chris & Angie Jean, & the Craig Paretti Family.
- **TDIH:** In 2016, John Bel Edwards was inaugurated as Governor of Louisiana. Regardless of our party affiliation, we should offer our governor and other elected officials our prayers and best wishes as they address the problems of our beloved state. May they govern wisely and honestly!

- **Milk Day:** In 1878 milk was reportedly delivered in bottles for the very first time. Prior to this, milk was brought door to door in large metal cans and they'd ladle you out a portion.
- **Human Trafficking Day:** We don't think much about this human horror, so today attempts to raise awareness about the effects of what has been termed modern day slavery.
- **Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of those who are trafficked:** *St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved.*
- **Basketball:** JV & Varsity at Covington (6)
- **Soccer:** Varsity at Hammond (4)



Wed, Jan 12 (A B C D)

- **TDIH:** 1969, in the most celebrated performance of his prolific career, quarterback Joe Namath leads New York Jets to a stunning 16-7 victory over heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III.
- **Pharmacists Day:** We salute all pharmacists!
- **TDIH:** The Beatles release "Yellow Submarine." Listen to this iconic song today! *We all live in a yellow submarine!*
- **Soccer:** ½ of 9th at PJP (5:30) & ½ of 9th v MHS (5:30); JV v. MHS (7)
- **Wrestling:** SPS at Live Oak in dual meet
- **Basketball:** 8th & 9th v. John Curtis (6 & 7)

Thu, Jan 13 (E F G A)

- **Rubber Duckie Day**
- **Bowling:** SPS v. Hammond at Tangi Lanes

Fri, Jan 14 (B C D E)

- **TDIH:** 1973, Miami Dolphins defeat the Washington Redskins 14-7 at the Los Angeles Coliseum in Super Bowl VII, becoming the first team in National Football League (NFL) history to finish with an undefeated season.
- **Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day:** Created to preserve meat before refrigeration, pastrami is beef that's brined, dried, seasoned, smoked and then steamed. It was first served in New York delis in 1887
- **Dress Up Your Pet Day:** You have the opportunity to show off your pet's fashion sense – or not.
- **Basketball:** JV and Varsity v. Northshore
- **Soccer:** Varsity v. Covington (7)
- **Wrestling:** Wolves in Louisiana Classic in Gonzales through Sat



Art students work on two-point perspective!

Sat, Jan 15

- **TDIH:** in 1967, the Super Bowl I is played. Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10, led by Bart Starr.
- **Strawberry Ice Cream Day:** Enjoy gold ole' strawberry today.
- **Soccer:** SPS 8th grade Tournament; 9th & JV in Dunham Tournament
- **Powerlifting:** SPS in Covington Meet
- **Football Awards Ceremony**

Sun, Jan 16

- **TDIH:** In 1991, Operation Desert Storm was launched. US and coalition forces invaded Kuwait to liberate it from Iraqi takeover. The war lasted until Feb 28th.
- **TDIH:** In 1945, Adolf Hitler hides in his underground bunker, where he stays for 105 days until committing suicide.
- **TDIH:** In 1919, the 18th Amendment to the US Constitution, prohibiting the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," becomes the law of the land.
- **Fig Newton Day:** Enjoy this classic cookie!
- **Do Nothing Day:** It's a Sunday, so celebrate and observe this day!
- **TDIH:** 1838, Samuel Morse's telegraph system is demonstrated for the first time.

Mon, Jan 17 – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – no classes)

- **TDIH:** In 1953, the Chevrolet Corvette sports car makes its debut at General Motors' (GM) Motorama auto show at in New York. The Corvette, named for a fast type of naval warship, would eventually become an iconic American muscle car and remains in production today – but is certainly out of my price range and comfort zone!

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

Rise Up, O Men of God

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

ACT ACADEMY: A great New Year's Resolution! Preparation for success on the ACT is a marathon, not a sprint. DAILY practice is ideal, starting in 8th 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/>

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

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short-term projects, e.g., technology, special programs, etc. The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation, the \$4.5 million new gym, the \$4 million Benilde Hall renovation and now the \$2.5 million band building.)

- You may “pledge” your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. **WONDERFUL!**
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What’s important is that everyone participates. Of course, no gift is too large!
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to the Annual Fund increase participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

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

APOLOGY / MY PHONE: Our phone system took a hit during Ida. Over the holidays, I discovered a number of voice mails from Ida through early December that never made it to my phone. If you called me, therefore, and I didn’t return the call, I deeply apologize! We think everything is back in working order!

Two Lasallian Schools show solidarity before competing in soccer in Los Angeles: Saint Paul’s of Covington and Cathedral



APPLICATION LETTER EXCERPTS: Each year, I print unedited excerpts from the letters next year’s applicants write as part of the admissions process. Here is the first batch. Enjoy.

- *When I hear St. Paul’s School, I hear brotherhood, faith, and soccer. [I’m sure academics is included!]*
- *Watching my brother so happy going to school has made me want to attend SPS even more. He loves SPS.*
- *My older brother talked a lot about Brother Ray and how he cares for students. [Shameless flattery!]*
- *During my tour, everyone seemed so happy to be part of SPS. [We want all to be happy!]*

- *I love the brotherhood because I have always had girls around and not many boys. [Then come to SPS!]*
- *On my tour, I was blown away by the weight room.*
- *There are no girls or other distractions at SPS.*
- *At Saint Paul's, I would be able to dip my feet into the waters of biomed, engineering, business and other electives. [Dip his feet? Wonderful writing!]*
- *At football games, the student section is purely electric and beaming with enthusiasm. [Beaming? Great!]*
- *The campus is the most beautiful school campus I have ever seen. [Me, too!]*

ASSEMBLY ON JANUARY 06: I hope the students enjoyed our first assembly of 2022 – even though it was virtual and had technical issues! Here's some of what we did:

- Began by listening to a contemporary version of “Rise Up O Men of God” sung by Christian rock singer Phil Keaggy. I play it at the first assembly of a new year in order to set the tone for the year – that we must view 2022 as a new opportunity for the students to rise up as men of God. It's a powerful song that means so much to our school. While the music was playing, we lit the prayer candle virtually to remind us of God's presence among us and we prayed. And we prayed for those who have left earthly life for God's Kingdom:
 - *Mr. James Russell Pritchard, grandfather of Mrs. Julie Beck*
 - *Mr. James Felder, grandfather of Matthew '19 and Blake '22 Weimer*
 - *And since Jan 06, was the one year anniversary*
- Asked the students to make the following New Year's Resolutions:
 - Don't litter the campus
 - Respect the neighborhood, especially with their driving
 - Ask for help if needed. These are stressful times and things can seem overwhelming at times. We stand ready to help.
 - Give thanks for each day of life and make the most of it.
 - Rise up as a man of God.
- Reminded the students that their semester grades have changed their overall grade point averages.
 - 8th Graders now have a GPA, as several of their classes count for high school credit.
 - 9th Graders have plenty of time to improve their GPAs if needed.
 - 10th Graders have reached the mid-point of their GPA career and it will get harder from now on to affect it but there is still time.
 - 11th Graders have only one more semester before most will be applying to college, where GPA will become important.
 - 12th Graders have only one semester left in their high school careers – so finish strong.
- Recognized and congratulated SPS math teacher Mr. Alex Lacour on the birth of his daughter Violet Marie in early December. Welcome to the SPS world, Violet!

- Recognized and congratulated the SPS Student Council on an outstanding luminaria night this December. I showed pics of students preparing the bags with their prayers, filling the bags with sand and candles, placing the bags throughout the campus, lighting the bags at dusk, caroling around the oak tree, conducting the chapel service, listening to the jazz band perform, and just enjoying the beautiful campus scene – especially AGAPE, which Marco Vargas forcefully explicated for us!
- Recognized and congratulated the Marching Wolves for performing in the Madisonville Christmas parade, a precursor to Mardi Gras season.
- Then, as if by magic, the “Ride of the Valkyries” from Richard Wagner’s opera **Die Walkure** started playing, which meant it was time to recognize our wrestling wolves by projecting slides of all of their dual meet victories, most by lopsided wins.

- Ran out of time before I could do any more recognitions – which will “roll over” to the next assembly!
- We ended the assembly by humming Rise Up O Men of God while the Class of 2011 sang. I then extinguished the virtual candle and reminded the students what the candle represents – the presence of God among us. I exhorted them to leave the Google Meet assembly and spread God’s love to all whom they meet. Teachers logged off to the sounds of “Rise Up O Men of God!”
- It was a great assembly (in spite of the technical difficulties!) -- at least I thought so!

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.**

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

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am and 11:15 – 12:45
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

COMMITMENT DAY ON JAN 8: If you know of any prospective student considering SPS for 8th or 9th grade next year who missed testing on Jan 8, have them contact us. Due to a few COVID-related absences, we are allowed to offer a make-up testing session in two weeks. This is not a commitment on anyone’s part, but merely keeps the option open. Thanks for spreading the good word about SPS.

CAFETERIA:

- ALL students may continue to receive a FREE BREAKFAST and LUNCH **throughout the rest of the school year!** Students MUST still obtain the meals with their ID card (no ID, no food) but it is FREE.
- Note: “extras” such as juice, ice cream, etc. are NOT free and students will be charged. The free lunch includes milk.
- This is a great opportunity for our students – and savings for you! And it helps keep the cafeteria staff employed! Encourage your son to take advantage of this!

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

CALENDAR FOR 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 - 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

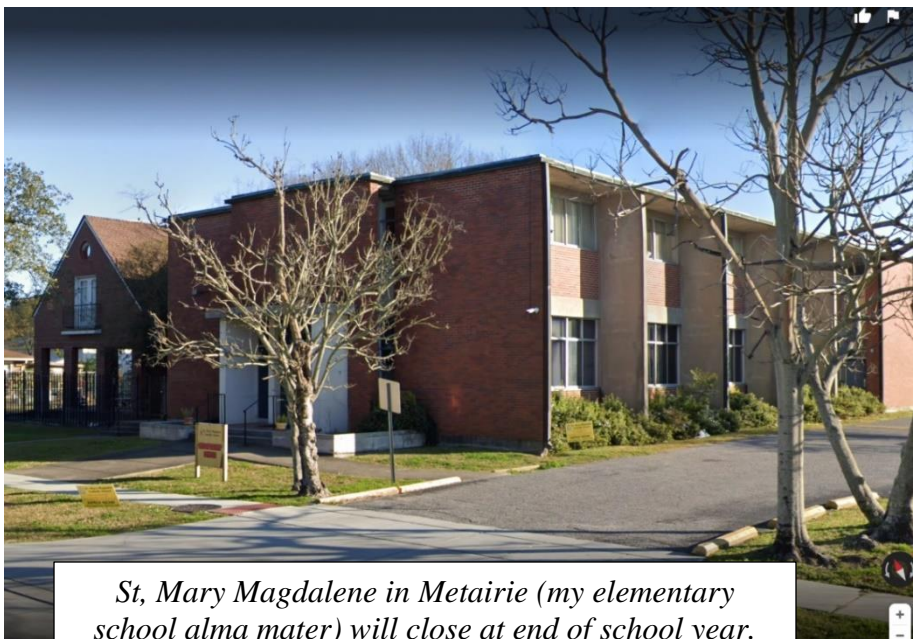
In case of emergency closings, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays – as we did with Ida. Please do not schedule vacations during school time.

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

COVID: The Governor's on Dec 30 concerning schools were followed up by recommendations from the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Trevor Watkins sent a letter on Jan 2 explaining SPS's response to these recommendations. As of now, these are recommendations and not mandates, but we encourage all to comply, lest they become mandates. And we continue to pray as we see more students diagnosed with COVID and more quarantines.

DRIVING: I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2022 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!
- **School Zone Cell Phone Ban:** It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.



FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

DEPT: On Friday evening, the Archdiocese of New Orleans, citing ongoing concerns about viability, announced the closure of three Catholic schools at the end of this school year. St. Mary Magdalene in Metairie, St. Rita in New Orleans, and St. Rosalie in Harvey will all close their doors at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dr. RaeNell Houston said “These very difficult decisions were made after prayerful discernment and with the support of Archbishop Gregory Aymond, school leadership

and pastors.” St. Mary Magdalene is particularly close to my heart, as I graduated elementary school from there – many years ago, and received an outstanding education that prepared me for high school and beyond. The Sisters of Christian Charity operated the school at the time and were outstanding teachers. At times like these, I reflect on John Donne’s poem “Meditation XVII”: *No man is an island, entire of itself; ... any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.* Saint Paul’s is thus diminished by the closing of these schools. God bless them and thank them for all the good they did over their many years!

GRADES, EXAMS, & REPORT CARDS:

- **Report Cards** were mailed on Jan 5, although grades were accessible on Plus Portals for a while. **Let me know if you did not receive a report card. There are no parent-teacher conferences until Feb, so email any concerns to teachers.**
- **Semester Exams** DID NOT lower most student averages. The overwhelming number of students earned the same grade on exams that they had going into exams. There were a few exceptions – on BOTH ends of the spectrum (students who did worse and students who did better.) **What the semester exams did accomplish is give your son college preparatory experience.**
- **Honor Roll Breakfasts:** Due to COVID, we must postpone HR Breakfasts. Here is the **NEW schedule:**

- *Jan 19 – 8th HR Breakfast*
- *Jan 20 – 9th HR Breakfast*
- *Jan 21 --10th HR Breakfast*
- *Jan 26 – 11th HR Breakfast*
- *Jan 27 – 12th HR Breakfast*

- All breakfasts last from 7:45 – 8:20 Note: HR is based on **second QUARTER (not semester) grades.**

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

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

LAST WEEK:

- **Application Day:** A large number of future Wolves arrived on Sat morning to take a placement test for next year. We wish them all success! Many thanks to counseling staff and Jeaneen for taking care of all the logistics for the morning – especially meeting latest COVID protocols.
- **Basketball:** GREAT District win over Slidell and a thrilling win over Hammond! 2-0 in District play! JV also beat Hammond; 9th beat Bro. Martin and 8th fought hard against Bro. Martin.
- **Soccer:** Big win over Bonnabel; and a win over Slidell when they forfeited several hours before the game.
- **Wrestling:**

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

MARCH THROUGH THE ARCH PICTURES 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.

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH: Congrats to MQP on its 25th anniversary of establishment! Join them in celebrating on January 30 at 2 pm:

The poster has a dark green background. At the top, the text "You are invited!" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below this, in the center, is a white rectangular box containing the school's crest. The crest is circular with a blue border, featuring a green cross, a blue fleur-de-lis, and a white dove, with the text "Mary Queen of Peace Catholic School" and "Established 1906" around it. Below the crest, the text "CELEBRATING 25 YEARS" is written in a green, serif font, with "CELEBRATING" on one line and "25 YEARS" on the next. Underneath this, the words "LEARN LAUGH PLAY PRAY" are written in a green, sans-serif font, separated by vertical bars. At the bottom of the white box, the text "JANUARY 30, 2022 | MASS AT 2 PM" and "RECEPTION/OPEN HOUSE TO FOLLOW" is written in a green, sans-serif font. To the right of the white box, there is a QR code. Below the QR code, a white arrow points upwards towards the code, and the text "Scan to RSVP" is written in a white, sans-serif font.

You are invited!



**CELEBRATING
25 YEARS**

LEARN LAUGH PLAY PRAY

**JANUARY 30, 2022 | MASS AT 2 PM
RECEPTION/OPEN HOUSE TO FOLLOW**



**Scan
to
RSVP**

MONEY: Parents, please stress with you son that they should NOT bring large sums of money to school. There is absolutely no need for students to have large cash amounts – which they invariable talk about which tempts others.

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

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



RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 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 8th graders will be asked to register during the last two weeks of January. We need to know if any current 8th graders do not plan on returning next year in order for us to know how many new (if any) 9th graders we can accept.
- Current 9th – 11th grade students will be asked to register during the first two weeks of February.
- Current 12th 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.



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 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!

SUMMER CAMP DIRECTORS: I have appointed Coaches Stephen Dale and Matt Pinero as co-directors of the SPS Summer Camp Program, one of the premier summer camp programs around. They will build on what Coach Craig Ketelsen established, bringing the program 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. **On-line-line registration, is available, just in time for late-Christmas or birthday giving.** I am deeply appreciative to both of these outstanding coaches for assuming this important position. Athletic Director Sam Francis will serve as a consultant and assistant when needed.

TEEN LIFE COUNTS: A guest speaker from the Jewish Family Service's Teen Life Counts will be visiting sophomore religion classes during January 10-21, 2022. Teen Life Counts is an educational suicide prevention program designed to help teens learn the warning signs of suicide and how to seek help if they need personal assistance or if they believe a friend is in danger. Through participation, students learn to be more sensitive to their friends' comments and feelings as well as how to appropriately deal with personal challenges in their own lives. Because of the rising suicide rate in St. Tammany Parish, St. Paul's takes this issue especially seriously. Believing it is beneficial for both our students and their families, our sophomores have participated in Teen Life Counts for many years. For additional information about the program, visit <http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/>. PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER!

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!**

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

VAPING: 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.



Student proctors helped on Commitment Day on Sat. We could not have done it without them. L to R: Briggs, Cavin, Hayden, Carter, Eddie, Christian, & Shawn. Gunnar had to leave for a soccer game before the pic. Many thanks!

WEEKLY HUMOR: In honor of Milk Day on Tuesday, some milk jokes:

1. My milk found all these jokes to be pretty fun. He said they were a-moo-sing!
2. I tried to milk my cow last night, but nothing I did seemed to work. It was an udder failure.
3. Some people prefer milk after it has churned. I guess they find it butter that way.
4. Did you know milk is the fastest liquid in existence? It's pasteurized before you ever notice.
5. Did you know that milk is a very religious beverage? Most of them are pastor-ized.
6. Where do Russians get all of their milk from? Mos-cow!
7. Where do astronauts buy their milk? From the milky way!!!
8. What do you call fraudulent milk? Cow-nterfeit.
9. What's a milk's favorite fruit? Cow-conuts.
10. I brought some spoiled milk to my first economics class. I heard we'd be learning about gross domestic products, and I thought bringing an example would give me extra credit.
11. Why do workers at the dairy factory always need a charger? Their milk is stuck at 1%.
12. Why did the police arrest the milk after it was poured into a bowl of Fruit Loops? They witnessed him drown them. They knew he must be a cereal killer!

13. *Why did no one drink the youngest milk? Its parents spoiled it.*
14. *What did the farmer yell out when ducks invaded his dairy farm? Cheese and crackers!*
15. *Did you hear about the CEO that got fired at the dairy farm? He was skimming a little bit off the top.*
16. *There was a stampede out on the dairy farm. It was udder chaos*

Second Semester Period Rotation

January

- 10 – GABC – Late Start (9 am)
11 – DEFG - Pack Time
12 – ABCD
13 – EFGA
14 - BCDE
17 – MLK Holiday
18 – FGAB - President's Assembly
19 – CDEF - 8th HR Breakfast
20 – GABC - 9th HR Breakfast
21 – DEFG - 10th HR Breakfast
24 – ABCD – President's Assembly
25 – EFGA - Mass – Feast of St. Paul
26 – BCDE - 11th HR Breakfast
27 – FGAB - 12th HR Breakfast
28 – CDEF
31 – GABC

February

- 1 – DEFG - Pack Time
2- ABCD
3 – EFGA – Career Day of Juniors
4 - BCDE
7 – FGAB - Late Start – Safe Schools Training / Parent Teacher Conferences 5-7
8 – CDEF - President's Assembly
9 – GABC – Pre ACT for 8th Graders
10 – DEFG – Pre ACT for 9th Graders
11 – ABCD – Pre ACT for 10th Graders
14 - EFGA
15 – BCDE - Pack Time
16 – FGAB
17 – CDEF
18 – GABC – Life Skills Day for Seniors
21 - DEFG
22 – ABCD - President's Assembly
23 – EFGA – Juniors on Retreat
24 – BCDE – Juniors on Retreat
25 – Faculty Retreat – no classes for students

March

- 7 - FGAB
- 8 – CDEF - ACT for Juniors
- 9 – GABC – President’s Assembly
- 10 - DEFG
- 11 – ABCD -End of 3rd Quarter
- 14 – EFGA - Late Start (9 am)
- 15 – BCDE - Pack Time
- 16 – FGAB
- 17 - CDEF
- 18 – GABC - Mass – Feast of St. Joseph
- 21 – DEFG - Benito Juarez’s Birthday
- 22 – ABCD - President’s Assembly
- 23 - EFGA
- 24 – BCDE - 12th HR Breakfast
- 25 – FGAB - 8th HR Breakfast
- 28 - CDEF
- 29 – GABC -Pack Time
- 30 – DEFG - 9th HR Breakfast / Senior Retreat (March 30 - April 1)
- 31- ABCD -10th HR Breakfast / Senior Retreat

April

- 1 – EFGA -11th HR Breakfast / Senior Retreat
- 4 – Blue Ribbon Holiday
- 5 –8 Leadership Week
- 5 – BCDE -Leadership Breakfast
- 6 – FGAB- Leadership Speaker
- 7 – CDEF – Founder’s Day Mass
- 8 – GABC – Year-In-Review Assembly
- 11 – DEFG – Late Start
- 12 – ABCD - President’s Assembly
- 13 – EFGA - Passion Play
- 14 – BCDE - *Mandatum*
- 25 – FGAB - Last Pack Time
- 26 – CDEF - President’s Assembly
- 27 – GABC – Senior Exams
- 28 – DEFG – Senior Exams
- 29 – ABCD – Senior Exams

May

- 2 - EFGA
- 3 – BCDE - Pack Time
- 4 – FGAB
- 5 – CDEF
- 6 – GABC

- 9 – DEFG – 8th Grade Exams
- 10 – ABCD - Last President's Assembly / 8th Grade Exams
- 11 – EFGA - 8th Grade Exams
- 12 – BCDE - 8th Grade Promotion
- 13 – FGAB
- 14 – 12th Grade Graduation
- 16 – CDEFG (5 Period Day)
- 17 – 20 – 9th -11th Final Exams
- 20 – Last Day of School – noon dismissal



As Christmas 2021 fades, let us not forget the inspiration by Student Council on luminaria night: *AGAPE!*

Whew! I've worn you out in this second week of 2022. Even though it's a New Year, I will still close with a paraphrase of one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I can't listen to anymore since it stopped broadcasting but I still remember it and LOL): well, it's happened again – you've squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings! Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we begin the New Year! Again, thanks for being part of SPS 2021 - 22! Happy 2022!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Blessed Beyond Measure to See 2022 as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul's School



.... 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 2022 with no problems – as befits a Lasallian Catholic National Blue-Ribbon School.