



The Weekly **Blue Ribbon** Newsletter
Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington
342 Years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
March 13-19, 2023



Welcome to the 1st week of the 4th Quarter and the third week of Lent.

LENT: I invite you to access the Archdiocese of New Orleans website link to lenten resources.
<https://nolacatholic.org/lent>

Schedule of Events for Next Week:

Mon, March 13 (ABCD)

- 8th Baseball vs. Ponchatoula Jr. High @ 4:30 pm

Tues, March 14 (EFG)

- SSA Challenge/1 Pm Activities in the Stadium
- JV - Outdoor Track and Field at Mandeville High

Wed, March 15 (ABCD)

- Mother Son Dinner @ 6:30 pm In BAC

Thurs, March 16 (EFGA)

- Golf @ 2:30 pm 9 holes at Money Hill
- Tennis vs. Christ Episcopal @ 3 pm at Stone Creek
- JH - Outdoor Track and Field CHS-TA JH Classic Invitational #1 at Covington High
- V Baseball vs. Rummel @ 5 pm at Heap Field

Fri, March 17 (BCDE)

- Lacrosse Game 4 pm vs. Catholic at Catholic High

Sat, March 18

Sun, March 19

And just in case you were missing the important events in history that occurred this week, Brother Javier has compiled the list. I've kept them separate for those of you who already knew these facts (not me) or who just wanted the school information for this week. If so, just skip past the list. Thanks Brother Javier.

March 13th

TDIH: Jorge Mario Bergoglio, former Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, is elected Pope on this day 2013. He took the name Francis and succeeded Pope Benedict XVI who had resigned.

TDIH: The state of Tennessee passed the Butler Act which made it illegal to teach Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution in 1925. In a highly publicized trial, John T. Scopes was convicted of breaking the law but later it was overturned. It was all part of a larger debate between modernists who said that evolution was consistent with religious teaching and fundamentalists who preferred a strict biblical interpretation.

TDIH: L. Ron Hubbard, founder of the Church of Scientology, was born in Nebraska in 1911. The organization has been the subject of much controversy.

March 14th

TDIH: Stephen Hawking, an English theoretical physicist, best known for his research on the physics of black holes, died in 2018 at the age of 76. While studying in university, he contracted ALS which physically impaired him for the rest of his life.

TDIH: In 1951, United Nations forces, including US troops, recapture Seoul, capital city of South Korea, during the Korean War.

TDIH: Historian and Revolutionary Karl Marx died on this day in 1883. He famously wrote The Communist Manifesto in 1848. He died at the age of 64.

TDIH: German American physicist Albert Einstein was born on this day in 1879. Known for his groundbreaking theories of relativity, he was one of the most famous intellectuals in human history.

TDIH: American inventor, Eli Whitney, receives a patent for the invention of the Cotton Gin in 1794.

March 15th

TDIH: Also known as the Ides of March, Roman dictator Julius Caesar is assassinated on this day by a group of nobles including Brutus and Cassius in 44 BC.

TDIH: Russian Tsar Nicholas II is forced to abdicate in 1917 in the midst of the Russian Revolution thus ending the Romanov Dynasty. He and his entire family were later executed.

TDIH: John McCloskey, second Archbishop of New York, is installed as the first American Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Pius IX in 1875. He is buried in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

TDIH: Military hero and seventh US President, Andrew Jackson, was born on this day in 1767. He earned celebrity status after defeating the British at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. He was the first US president born west of the Appalachian Mountains.

March 16th

TDIH: In 1968, US soldiers during the Vietnam War participated in the My Lai massacre of 500 unarmed civilians. Bodies were mutilated and many victims had been raped. This war crime was considered one of the most shocking episodes of the Vietnam War. My Lai was considered a stronghold of the Vietcong.

TDIH: US Marines capture the island of Iwo Jima during World War II in 1945. This location was important as a staging ground for later bombing raids on Japan.

TDIH: American author Nathaniel Hawthorne published *The Scarlet Letter* in 1850.

TDIH: The US Military Academy at West Point in New York, one of the oldest military academies in the world, was established on this day in 1802. Previously it was a training center for the US Corps of Engineers.

TDIH: Ferdinand Magellan, Spanish explorer, arrives in the Philippines on his trip to circumnavigate the globe in 1521 and establishes an alliance.

March 17th

TDIH: St. Patrick of Ireland, died on this day in 461. He is the patron of Ireland and now his feast day is widely celebrated throughout Ireland and the United States.

TDIH: Nat King Cole, African American musician, who first came to prominence as a jazz pianist was born in 1917.

TDIH: Eleanor Roosevelt, niece of Theodore Roosevelt, marries her distant cousin Franklin Roosevelt in 1905. She would become one of the more iconic First Ladies in US History.

TDIH: British General William Howe was forced to evacuate Boston in 1776 after a successful siege by American General George Washington.

March 18th

TDIH: The Paris Commune, an insurrection by Paris citizens, began on this day in 1871 and lasted until May 28th.

TDIH: Grover Cleveland, the only US President, so far, to serve two nonconsecutive terms was born this day in 1837.

March 19th

TDIH: US President George W. Bush ordered airstrikes on Baghdad, Iraq in 2003 thus beginning the Iraq War. The US believed Iraq under Saddam Hussein was producing weapons of mass destruction.

TDIH: Events leading to Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands began on this day in 1982. This led to a ten week war between Argentina and Great Britain. Diplomatic relations were reestablished in 1990

TDIH: US President Woodrow Wilson signed the Standard Time Act, which established Daylight Savings Time in the United States. It gave the federal government oversight of US time zones.

TDIH: While on an expedition to find the mouth of the Mississippi River, Rene Robert Cavelier, le sieur de La Salle, was murdered by his men in what is now Texas in 1687.

Compiled by Brother Javier Hansen, FSC



General Information and Recognitions:

RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2023 - 24: Re-registration for 2023-2024 was due on January 20 for current 8th-grade students and on February 17 for current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. If you missed the due date but plan to re register your son, please get your form and \$300 fee in ASAP so that we can complete our registration process for next year. A secure drop box is available next to the administration building door for after-hours drop offs. If you do not intend to re register your son, please let us know so that we can offer those spots to other prospective students. Thanks.

ROCKIN' IN REIMS: On Thursday, March 9, the BAC was the scene of the annual 5 Core Principles Dinner. This year's theme, Rockin' in Reims (the birthplace of St. La Salle), focused on the principle of Inclusive Community and in particular the SPS CORE Pack program. Special guests Dr. RaeNell Houston, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New Orleans Department of Catholic Schools and Faith Formation (DCSFF), along with Mrs. Katherine Shea, Associate Superintendent, joined faculty members Matt Pinero, Rachel Peak, Luke Barwick, and Barrett Baumgartner in presenting their take on each of the Five Core Principles of Lasallian Education.



Dr. ReaNel Houston, her husband Leon, and Mr. Watkins take a moment to pose for a picture.

Special Thanks to Danielle Lavie and Lori Kilgore in the Development Office for all of their organizational work and to Jeff Ramon, Campus Minister, who put together the program and acted as MC for the event. Thanks also to our Core Pack teachers, Mrs. Gee, Mr. Zimmer, and Mrs. Barwick for preparing the CORE Pack students and mentors who served as greeters and waiters for the event. The boys were the stars of the show and did an excellent job. Last, thanks to Mr. Gary Bonnano and his crew for preparing a delicious meal that complimented the Five Core Principle theme of the evening.



Matthew Seal and Hayden McWilliams expertly handle serving dessert.

CORE Pack students and mentors get ready to serve as hosts and waiters.



From the Tuesday Student Assembly:



Mr. Dickens takes a moment to thank assembly guest speaker Brandon Gallego after his talk to the student body.



The State Championship soccer team parades around the gym with their trophy to the enthusiastic applause of the student body.



Josh Pichon and Trey Higgins were recognized for completing the requirements to become Eagle Scouts.

15 STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AS NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS:

Congratulations to our 15 fantastic scholars recognized by the National Merit Corporation as National Merit Scholars. Peter Verges, Sam Gold, Nicholas Achee, John Palmer, Keegan Burrell, Sean Roberts and Jack Keller were named National Merit Finalists. Jackson Hadskey, Riley Hidalgo, Evan Leaber, Nikola Plazinic and Ethan Wilson were named Commended Scholars and Peter Verges, Preston Tate, Vincent Ruiz, Riley Hidalgo, Dominic Muguira and Ethan Wilson were named Hispanic Commended Students.



*National Merit **Finalists** Below from left to right: Peter Verges, Sam Gold, Nicholas Achee, John Palmer, Keegan Burrell, Sean Roberts and Jack Keller*



SPS/SSA CHALLENGE: Our annual Challenge versus SSA will be Tuesday, March 14 at 1:00 PM. The theme is Roman Empire—so get your togas ready. See Wolf Nation on Instagram for a toga tying tutorial. Students will be allowed to wear athletic shorts and t-shirts to school that day along with your togas. Students have been practicing our games and raising money for Catholic Relief Services. The Mothers' Club will have water and snacks for sale at the event.

LUNCH DROP-OFF (there is no such thing): For the safety of everyone on campus we insist that you do not pull onto campus to drop off lunch for your son. This is against school policy. We do not allow ANYTHING at ANYTIME to be dropped off without checking into the office first. If your son forgets his lunch and needs to purchase a cafeteria meal, have him see me if he needs to borrow a few bucks for a meal.

EAGLE SCOUTS: Over the years St. Paul's has benefited from numerous eagle scout projects. We are most grateful that our eagle scout students have chosen our school as beneficiaries of their hard work over the years. Last week I had the privilege of working with Jonah Weigel and his fellow scouts and dads on a beautification project on our campus. Jonah planned, organized, fund-raised, and directed the planting of 10 crepe myrtle trees to replace those recently lost to hurricane Ida along 14th Avenue. The next time you are driving down 14th avenue, take a moment to enjoy the newly planted trees.



Jonah (center with no hat) and his crew after the planting.



Eagle Scout Project trees along 14th Avenue

CRAWFISH COOK-OFF: The Crawfish Cook-off is a charitable event presented by Saint Paul's Alumni Association. The purpose of this event is to raise funds for both Hope House of Saint Tammany and Saint Paul's Alumni Association while providing an entertaining event for all to enjoy. It allows for a good-natured competition for those in the community who wish to prove they cook the best boiled crawfish! Our next event is scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 1:00 to 6:00 pm on Saint Paul's beautiful campus in conjunction with Reunion Weekend. Please contact Al Nastasi, Alumni Director, at 985-892-3200 ext 1971 for more information.

DADS CLUB FATHER/SON DINNER: Join us for our annual father/son dinner on Saturday, March 18, at 5 PM. See the attached flyer for details.

MOTHER/SON DINNER: Registration for Mother Son Dinner has been closed due to maximum capacity. Please send an email to spsmothersondinner2023@gmail.com to be placed on a waitlist. For those that have registered, please send an email if you are unable to attend in order to accommodate those on the waiting list.

SUMMER CAMPS: Summer sports camp registration is now open. Please help us get the word out regarding our quality athletic programs for boys ages 8-14:
<https://www.stpauls.com/student-life/summer-camp/>.

KHAN ACADEMY: A great New Year's Resolution! Preparation for success in classes and on standardized testing 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 Khan Academy. Khan Academy has a wealth of free prep in various subjects from math to social studies to standardized and AP testing. It grows each year and has turned into an incredible free resource. Encourage your sons to use it regularly. Here is the link:
<https://www.khanacademy.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.

JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM: The Junior/Senior Prom will be held Saturday, April 1, from 7:30 until 10:30 PM in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students will receive a link to order tickets and to complete behavior agreements by March 1. Only one female guest is allowed per male student, and they must enter the dance together. The dance is open to Saint Paul's Juniors and Seniors and their dates only. Please consult the dress code when making preparations:

PROM ATTIRE/DRESS: Attire should be suitable for a Catholic high school function: For males, tuxedo is the norm, but not necessary. Suits are acceptable. Jackets may be removed, but students are to remain fully dressed throughout the dance. For females, **dresses must be full-length**. Slits in dresses may be no more than 4 inches above the knee. Dresses may not have a low, open back. There should be no cutouts, openings, or low cut, revealing necklines.

No pierced body parts are to be visible except the ear lobes. **Shoes are to be worn at all times.**

COSTA RICA LASALLIAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM: If you would like your son to participate in the exchange in Costa Rica in early June or you would like to host next January, please contact Dr. Shawn Mullet at s.mullet@stpauls.com.



Students from SPS and SSA enjoy a trip through the Costa Rican rainforests.

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH GUEST SPEAKER: MQP Parish has asked us to spread the word about Brian Butler, a nationally renowned speaker, who will be presenting on March 20 at 6:30 pm.

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 11:00 – 12:30
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

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-pressure; ours is

not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressure. · 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 to 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.

MARIAN PLAYERS: Congratulations to the Marian Players, under the direction of Mr. Barrett Baumgartner and Mr. Gordon Carmadelle, who had a very successful run for *Little Shop of Horrors*.



Azaleas in bloom and Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe bless the Alumni Memorial Theater and all who enter this historic building.

CALENDAR FOR SPRING SEMESTER:

Mar 20-24 Senior Retreat

Fri – Fri Apr 07 – 14 Easter Holidays

Mon, Apr 17 Classes resume from Easter Holidays

Wed-Fri, Apr 26 – 28 Senior Final Exams

Thurs, May 11 Pre-Freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30)

Sat, May 13 Senior Graduation (4 pm) in the BAC

Thurs – Tues, May 18-23 Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11

Wed, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day

Thurs, May 25 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

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.

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 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.

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.

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. The Lost & Found cabinet is located outside the 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.

FREE BAND/ATHLETIC PHYSICALS: Free Athletic/Band physicals are scheduled for 7:30 am on May 6th at **AVALA Ortho, 1200 Pinnacle Parkway, Covington, LA**. A current physical is required for all athletes and band members. Contact Ms. Claire for more information clairec@stpauls.com

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE ST. JOSEPH ALTAR: Our Lady of the Lake is in need of volunteers (students and parents) to help prepare and host its St. Joseph’s altar. Students will receive service hours, and the time and dates are as follows: March 19 (9-4).

TUTORING: Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in Mrs. Pool’s room in La Salle Hall for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services are also provided. It is not embarrassing to go for tutoring! NHS members have been working with peers since August!

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.

GOLFING FOR BROTHER RAY:

Bennett LaNasa sends his best to Brother Ray. As of this writing, we don't know if this brought Bennett any luck on the links. I know it will bring a smile to Brother Ray's face.



SLOW YOUR ROLL. This week is the two-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 the last 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?

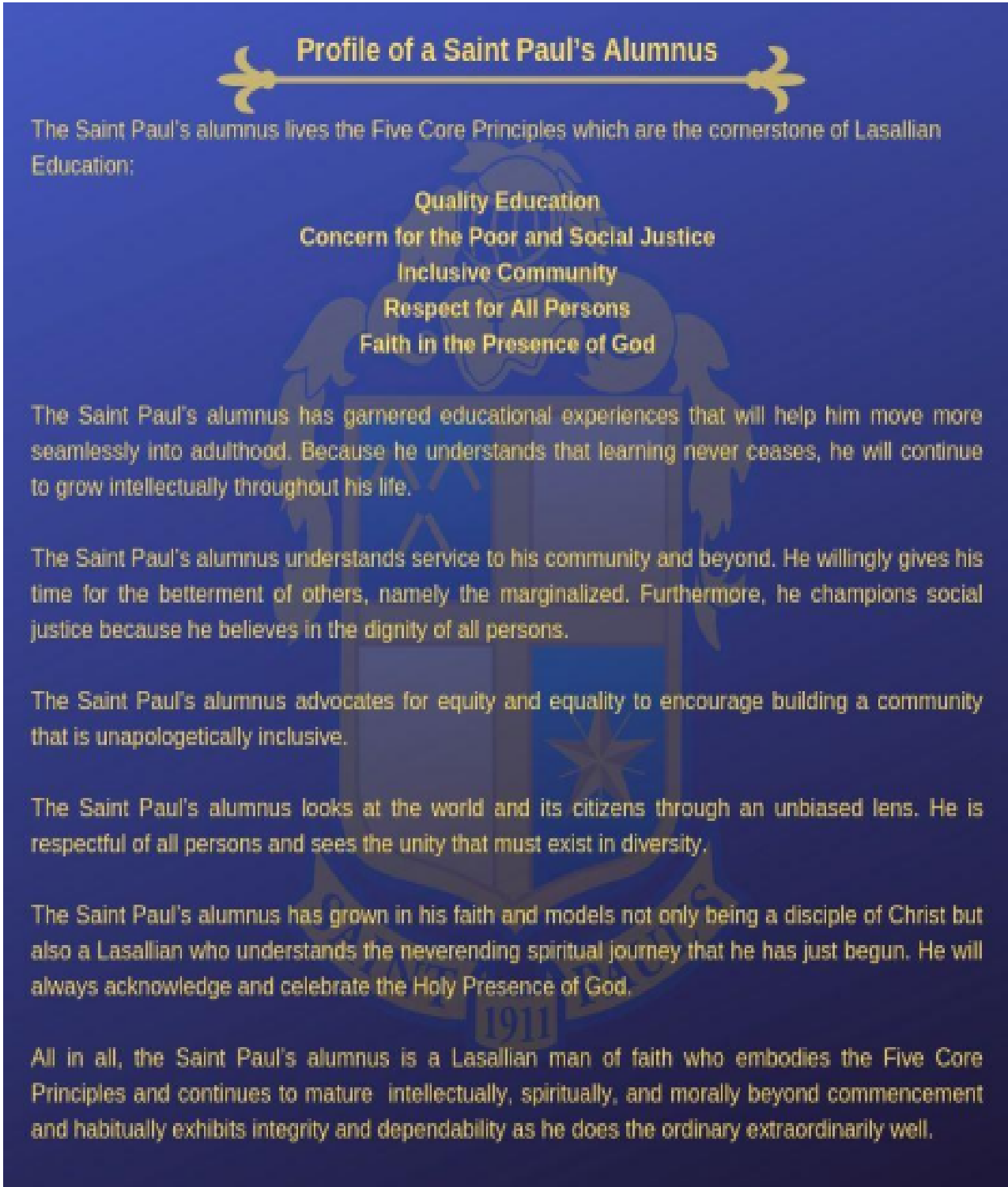
Mayor Mark's goal is "to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets." The Mayor is

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!



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 this trend are not worth the risk. Have these important conversations.** Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.

PROFILE OF A SAINT PAUL'S ALUMNUS: A few years ago, then Assistant Principal Mr. Dickens led the effort to compose the following Profile of a Saint Paul's Alumnus. It's worth a look. We hope you agree that this is what we hope for your sons upon graduation.



Profile of a Saint Paul's Alumnus

The Saint Paul's alumnus lives the Five Core Principles which are the cornerstone of Lasallian Education:

- Quality Education
- Concern for the Poor and Social Justice
- Inclusive Community
- Respect for All Persons
- Faith in the Presence of God

The Saint Paul's alumnus has garnered educational experiences that will help him move more seamlessly into adulthood. Because he understands that learning never ceases, he will continue to grow intellectually throughout his life.

The Saint Paul's alumnus understands service to his community and beyond. He willingly gives his time for the betterment of others, namely the marginalized. Furthermore, he champions social justice because he believes in the dignity of all persons.

The Saint Paul's alumnus advocates for equity and equality to encourage building a community that is unapologetically inclusive.

The Saint Paul's alumnus looks at the world and its citizens through an unbiased lens. He is respectful of all persons and sees the unity that must exist in diversity.

The Saint Paul's alumnus has grown in his faith and models not only being a disciple of Christ but also a Lasallian who understands the never-ending spiritual journey that he has just begun. He will always acknowledge and celebrate the Holy Presence of God.

All in all, the Saint Paul's alumnus is a Lasallian man of faith who embodies the Five Core Principles and continues to mature intellectually, spiritually, and morally beyond commencement and habitually exhibits integrity and dependability as he does the ordinary extraordinarily well.

THE LAST WORD: During this third week of Lent, I would like to share with you the words of Brother George Van Grieken, FSC, a friend I got to know on my frequent visits to Napa, California, where he lives in the retirement community of Brothers in the western side of our district. These words, which begin with a quote from Saint John Baptist de La Salle, seemed relevant to the Lenten season. The excerpt from the beginning of his essay is good to reflect on during the time of Lent. Lent, it seems, gives us an excuse or a reason to consider “what feeds us”, or as Brother George puts it, “what gets facetime” in our lives.

WHAT CAPTURES YOUR ATTENTION?

October 2020 – Br. George Van Grieken, FSC

“You must win them (students) over to practice the maxims of the holy Gospel, and to this end you must give them means that are easy and accommodated to their age.

Gradually accustomed to this practice, when older they will have acquired these maxims as a kind of habit and will practice them without great difficulty.”

- St. John Baptist de La Salle -

Certain things “capture” our attention. It could start out small enough – something read, seen, exposed to, experienced, or undergone. But we are either well and truly hooked immediately, or we are drawn more and more into its embrace. Vocations, life interests, and relationships result, or perhaps vices, addictions, and obsessions. The difference lies in what gets the “facetime,” what you return to again and again and again. Recall the story of the grandparent telling a grandchild that there are two wolves fighting inside a person. One is anger, envy, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, resentment, pride, and ego, while the other is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, compassion, and faith. When the child asked which wolf would win, the grandparent answered, “The one you feed.”² It is a good example of De La Salle’s advice in the quote above.

As teachers in a Lasallian school we must ask ourselves often if we are giving our students “the means that are easy and accommodated to their age” to “win them over to practice the maxims of the holy Gospel”. During Lent the virtues of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are perfect means to this end.

Do we (teachers and parents) model and encourage our students/sons to pray? Here at St. Paul’s we pray often. We pray to begin and end school. We pray to begin class. We pray in chapel services especially during holy seasons such as Lent. We pray anytime we gather for an event. Sometimes we just randomly pray for an unexpected intention. Our hope is that prayer will “capture the attention” of our students and help them to recognize that prayer should be habitual, frequent, and uncomplicated.

During Lent we encourage our students to consider fasting or abstinence from something that they enjoy. This simple act is a daily lesson in humility and personal, private sacrifice. Do we feel our whims or do we feed our will? Fasting can be a wonderful means to learn and practice self-discipline. Do we encourage this virtue in our students and sons enough?

During Lent we make a special push for our students to be especially generous in our mission collections...and they are. Giving without expecting anything in return is common among our students. I think of the record number of blood donors at our last blood drive. I think of or CORE Pack mentors. I

think of our Habitat Club builders. I could go on and on with examples of generosity, kindness, and giving on the part of our students. Should we, parents and teachers, ask even more of them? I think so because I have witnessed their giving spirit and the personal joy they receive in return. I know also that for many it has become a habit, or as De La Salle would say, they have “gradually grown accustomed to this practice”.

I encourage all of us, teachers and parents, to consider “what feeds our students/sons” and what “gets facetime.” Let’s use the season of Lent to give them the “means that are easy and accommodated to their age” so that “when older they will have acquired these maxims as a kind of habit and will practice them without great difficulty”.



Image of St. John Baptist De La Salle giving away his fortune in Reims, France.

If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Live Jesus in our Hearts.....Forever!

Trevor Watkins, AFSC



Next Year's Calendar:

Saint Paul's School 2023 - 2024 Calendar

Fri - Mon, Aug 4 & 7	Teacher Meetings
Tues, Aug 8	Teacher Prep Day
Wed, Aug 9	School Opens with full day of instruction
Mon, Aug 21	New Parent Reception and Information Meeting (6:30)
Thu, Aug 24	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Day
Fri, Aug 25	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Aug 28	Parent – Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Mon, Sep 04	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 06	Fall Break Holiday
Fri, Oct 13	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 13	Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:00)
Mon, Oct 23	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Sat, Oct 28	Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
Mon, Nov 06	Archdiocesan Formation Day (no classes for students) (tentative)
Mon-Fri, Nov 20 - 24	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Nov 27	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Fri - Wed, Dec 15-20	Semester Exams
Wed, Dec 20	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Wed, Jan 03	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 15	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 05	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
Fri, Feb 09	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 12 -16	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 19	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 8	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri, Mar 29 – Apr 05	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 08	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Mon-Thu, Apr 29 – May 02	Senior Final Exams
Thu, May 16	Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)
Sat, May 18	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Fri – Wed, May 17 - 22	Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11
Thu, May 23	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Fri, May 24	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

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