



The Weekly Newsletter
Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington
342 Years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
May 8-14



Welcome to the 8th week of the 4th Quarter.

Schedule of Events for Next Week:

Mon, May 8 (CDEF)

8th Grade Exams

8th Grade 1:00 PM Dismissal

Tues, May 9 (GABC)

8th Grade Exams

8th Grade 1:00 PM Dismissal

Wednesday, May 10 (DEFG)

8th Grade Exams

Senior Grad Night

Thurs, May 11 (ABCD)

8th Grade promotion ceremony – 6:30 pm in BAC

Athletic Awards Assembly

Fri, May 12 (FGAB)

Academic Awards Assembly

Football Pie Bowl at Pelican Park Gold Field 2 – 5:30 pm

Sat, May 13

Senior Graduation BAC – 4:00 pm

Sun, May 14

This Day in History: 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.

May 8th

TDIH: World War II in Europe officially ended at midnight in 1945. The war against Japan continued until the Japanese surrender in September.

TDIH: After a worldwide vaccination campaign, the World Health Organization declared that smallpox was eradicated in 1980.

TDIH: Former President Harry Truman was born on this day in 1884 in Lamar, Missouri. He succeeded President Franklin Roosevelt and was key in the end of World War II.

TDIH: US troops under Zachary Taylor defeated Mexican forces at the Battle of Palo Alto, the first battle of the Mexican American War.

TDIH: Edward Gibbon, the renowned author of “The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,” was born in England 1737.

TDIH: The French captured the city of Orleans with the help of Saint Joan d’Arc in 1429.

May 9th

TDIH: Christopher Columbus sets sail on his final voyage to the Americas still hoping to find a passage to Asia in 1502.

TDIH: American abolitionist John Brown who led an armed assault against the arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia in 1859 was born on this day in 1800.

May 10th

TDIH: Nelson Mandela, who was instrumental in ending apartheid in South Africa, was inaugurated president in 1994.

TDIH: The first issue of “The Incredible Hulk” was released in 1962. It was created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby.

TDIH: The same day Germany invaded Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, Neville Chamberlain lost support of the Conservatives in Parliament and was replaced by Winston Churchill as Prime Minister in 1940.

TDIH: J. Edgar Hoover was made Acting Director and would later become Director of the FBI in 1935, a post he would hold for 37 years.

TDIH: Victoria Woodhull became the first woman nominated for President by the Equal Right Party in 1872.

TDIH: The tracks of the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific are joined at Promontory, Utah and for the first time the United States has a transcontinental railroad in 1869.

TDIH: Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, is captured by Union Forces in Georgia in 1865.

TDIH: The Green Mountain Boys, under the joint commands of Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold, captured Fort Ticonderoga during the American Revolution in 1775.

TDIH: Louis XVI ascended to the throne along with his wife Marie Antoinette in 1774. They would eventually be beheaded during the French Revolution.

May 11th

TDIH: Constantine I of Rome dedicated Byzantium as the new capital of the Eastern Roman Empire in 330.. Its name would change to Constantinople and eventually to Istanbul.

TDIH: Jamaican reggae singer Bob Marley died of cancer in 1981 at the age of 36.

TDIH: Glacier National Park was established in Montana in 1910.

May 12th

TDIH: King George VI of the United Kingdom was crowned following the abdication of his brother Edward VIII in 1937.

TDIH: American baseball player Yogi Berra was born on this day in St. Louis Missouri in 1925.

May 13th

TDIH: The US declares war on Mexico in 1846.

TDIH: Pope John Paul II survived an assassination attempt in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City in 1981.

TDIH: Three children Lucia de Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto report seeing an apparition of the Virgin Mary near Fatima, Portugal in 1917.

May 14th

TDIH: The country of Israel declared statehood in 1948.

TDIH: American singer and actor Frank Sinatra died in 1998 at the age of 82.

TDIH: American Mark Zuckerberg, cofounder of Facebook, was born in 1984.

TDIH: Meriwether Lewis and William Clark began their journey to the Pacific Coast in 1804.

TDIH: Four year old Louis XIV ascended the throne of France in 1643. He would reign as king until 1715.

May 15th

TDIH: Two brothers Maurice (Mac) and Richard McDonald opened a drive thru burger restaurant in San Bernardino, CA in 1940.

TDIH: Sir Edmund Hilary and his guide Tenzing Norgay were the first two people to summit Mt. Everest in 1914.

Compiled by Brother Javier Hansen, FSC

General Information and Recognitions:

BROTHER RAY: It has been a difficult few days on our campus as we said goodbye to Brother Ray. It is hard to imagine this campus without his presence. As per his request, we held the service last Monday evening following his very specific directives. The senior class and numerous alumni were present to give him a fitting musical farewell. If you knew Brother Ray you could feel his presence throughout the ceremony.

Thanks to everyone who was present in the Briggs Assembly Center or by live stream to honor Brother Ray. Thanks also to the many of you who made donations in his honor. Many of you have asked how the school intends to use those funds. As with everything else, Brother had a plan. He specified that any funds donated should be used for one of the following: 1) to help pay off any building renovation; 2) to plant trees on campus; 3) upkeep the memorial gardens, especially my parents (Brother Ray's) grotto by the chapel.



*Left: Alexander Sibley, '11 sings **Holy God We Praise Thy Name**, a song requested by Brother Ray.*



Left: Multitudes from the Greater Saint Paul's Family gather to pay their respects in the Briggs Assembly Center.

As you know, we have several buildings under renovation at this time. The theater is just about done (we are still considering replacing the audience seating if we have enough funds). The chapel roof is being replaced as I write this note. And, the track and field at Hunter Stadium are under construction to replace the surface of each.

As far as trees are concerned, shortly after we lost over 150 mature trees to Katrina, at Brother Ray's request we began a campus reforestation program that continues to this day. Ida did not help since we lost another 105 trees to that recent storm. I hope you have noticed and appreciated the efforts over the past few years to keep and enhance the tree canopy on the campus. This was a priority for Brother which we need to continue.



Above: Campus Minister, Jeff Ramon, with seniors behind him on stage, leads the assembled at the memorial service.

Last, as I mentioned in my newsletters, the restoration of the chapel grotto is underway. Last weekend three seniors showed up to clean up the landscaping around the grotto. Several dads have come forward to offer to help restore the grotto itself. I will be in contact with them soon. In preparation for this work we are making a list of needed supplies and lumber.

Ultimately the Board of Trustees will decide how and when to use these funds. While I'm sure they will honor Brother's wishes, they may decide to do something additional in his name.

In the meantime, please continue to keep the Saint Paul's community in your prayers.

STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY – LAST CHANCE! YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED! If you have not yet given your feedback, please take a few minutes to take the survey. Thanks.

In an effort to prepare for the administrative leadership change at Saint Paul’s, the SPS Board of Trustees has directed the Administrative team to prepare an updated strategic plan for the school. Various stakeholder groups will be providing their feedback. For parents, we have designed a short survey enabling you to provide your opinions on various aspects of the school. It is an anonymous survey as the data will be sent directly to CARA – Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate.

We are asking that each family household complete one survey by either clicking on the link below or scanning the QR code provided in the attached document. It will take 10 – 12 minutes to complete your survey. At the end of the survey are two open-ended questions where we would like you to submit your personal responses. We have extended the deadline to tomorrow, **Monday, May 8, 2023.**

Thank you for taking the time to help us make Saint Paul’s an even better school! Link: bit.ly/40czTb9

CORE PACK FIELD TRIP: Last week the CORE Pack and their mentors took a field trip to Tony’s Seafood Market in Baton Rouge where they got to see the inner workings of a seafood market. Mr. Gary Bonanno, better known and Christopher’s dad, arranged the trip for the boys. First, Yvette Bonanno, met the group at Tony’s Seafood for a tour of the market to see how crawfish end up on the dinner plate. Later, the boys were able to visit the seafood factory, where they saw how boudin balls and crawfish etouffee were made. Last, the boys were treated to lunch where they were able to sample the products.



Above: The CORE Pack group at Tony’s Seafood

Below: CORE Pack members learn how a seafood factory operates.



SUMMER SPORTS/ACADEMIC CAMPS: Summer camp registration is now open. Please help us get the word out regarding our quality athletic and academic programs for boys ages 8-14:

<https://www.stpauls.com/student-life/summer-camp/>.

OUR LADY OF PEACE GROTTTO: This grotto is dedicated to Brother Ray's parents. Years ago, Brother noticed a similar grotto in Madisonville. He commissioned Brother Alfred Baltz to build a similar grotto on our campus. Today the grotto needs refurbishment. I regret not getting to this task before Brother Ray passed. Several dads responded to my request for help. Thanks. I look forward to getting started on the refurbishment once the chapel roof work is finished.



Left: Shawn Conney and his fellow seniors at the grotto last weekend.

SPEAKING OF THE CHAPEL: Have you ever noticed the bas-relief sculpture above the main entrance to the chapel? The next time you are on campus it is worth taking a look to appreciate this work of art by our own renaissance man, John Carambat. Read on to get the full story.

The sculpture of Our Lady, Queen of Peace by John Carambat

The bas-relief sculpture of Our Lady, Queen of Peace above the chapel door is the creation of John Carambat, an artist and teacher at Saint Paul's School. The original statue that this work is based upon is the statue of Our Lady, Queen of Peace that was commissioned by Pope Benedict XV during World War I and was placed in Santa Maria Maggiore (Our Lady's Basilica), in Rome, at the conclusion of the war. Her arm is stretched out, calling for peace to end the horrendous bloodshed of this first global war. Her eyes are cast down, filled with sadness at the loss of so many lives. She clings to the child Jesus, waiting to let him loose into a world in desperate need of his presence.

John Carambat was trained in sculpture and illustration at Southeastern Louisiana University where he received his Bachelors in art education and Biology education certification. He received his Masters in Advertising Design from Syracuse University in New York. He taught illustration and Graphic Design at LSU for 6 years and spent 20 years as an art director and illustrator in Baton Rouge. During that time, he won 42 awards for his art and designs, was elected to the board of the American Advertising Federation and won the Silver Award for service. He continued to produce art after moving to Covington and during his 20-year tenure as a teacher at Saint Paul's School.



The original sculpture by Roman artist Guido Galli was chosen as a point of reference for many reasons. It speaks the appropriate message for the chapel. Mary looks down on the faithful as they enter the building. In the original, Mary's face is harsh. Mr. Carambat felt that that was not appropriate to our chapel and softened her countenance based on studies of Mary by Michelangelo from the pieta. St. John Paul II declared that "Peace is not just the absence of war. Like a cathedral, peace must be constructed patiently and with unshakable faith." It took Mr. Carambat six months to build and perfect the full-sized clay sculpture. He then created a mold and cast two light-weight fiberglass copies. Another month went into the polish and finish. All imperfections were filled or sanded off. The rosin was then weather-proofed and artfully painted to appear to have an ancient bronze patina. The olive branch is a cast bronze piece purchased from Italy. The two copies were finished together and presented to Brother Ray to

choose the best one for the Chapel. The sculpture was donated to the school and after it was installed, the chapel door and frame were repainted to create the illusion that Mary and Jesus were emerging from the darkness.

Thank you, Mr. Carambat, for your latest artistic gift to Saint Paul's. Previous gifts include the "She Wolf with Pups" statue and the painting of the same subject nearby on the rear panel of the outdoor bulletin board.

GOLF AT STATE TOURNAMENT: The golf team traveled to Carencro, La. to compete in the Ocshner LHSAA State Golf Tournament held at Farm d'Allie Golf Course. The Wolves played a great first round shooting 8 over par 296. The Wolves had all 5 players in the 70s. The Wolves finished the tournament in 4th place. Nick Kelsey, Seth Gardiner, and team captain Joshua Achord led the Wolves 36-hole effort. Pre-freshmen Bennett LaNasa and junior Maerek Barberito also had an excellent tournament.



BASEBALL: The 2023 season ended with a loss in round 2 of the state playoffs. Some of the high points were several players being named to the 6-5A All District Team: HM - Easton LeBlanc (Inf), Logan Pontiff (inf), 1st Team Brennan Keim (DH), Cooper

Winchester ©, Kade Anderson (OF), Matthew Cody (OF), Marcus Newfield (INF), Braden Farizo (P). COY -Mick Nunez. The Wolves were also District Champs. Congratulations on a great season!

LACROSSE: Saint Paul's Lacrosse finished their season 6-4 in league play. They battled through a lot of different adversities this year, many including injuries, but worked their way to becoming ranked 5th in the state. Saint Paul's faced off against Isidore Newman in the Quarter Finals this past weekend. Although it was a hard-fought game, the Wolves fell short and were defeated by Newman. The Wolves had many individual accomplishments which included two preseason All-State players, Ben Vining and Trevor Flood, and some Saint Paul's record breakers: Ben Vining all time caused turnover leader, Braden Couvillion all-time save leader and save percentage leader, Trevor Flood 8 all-time in points and 8 all-time in goals, and Leyton Smith fifteenth all-time in points and fourteen all-time in goals. The Wolves have a number of players up for All-District and All-State honors, however, we will not have those results in until after Saturday, May 6th. Overall, the Wolves Lacrosse team had a great year and will look to build on this success for next year.



And this just in: The All District and League Coach of the Year Awards. Congratulations to the following:

1st Team All District:

Trevor Flood
Ben Vining

1st Team All State:

Trevor Flood
Ben Vining

2nd Team All District:

Kyle Olsen
Leyton Smith

Honorable Mention All-District:

Deke Carpenter
Braden Couvillion
Christian Cowley
Connor Donohue
Matthew Kleinschmidt
Will Kitchen
Jeremy Lauterbach

USA Lacrosse Louisiana Coach of the year and Louisiana High School Lacrosse League (LHSL) Coach of the Year:

Aaron Falkenstein

SPRING CONCERT: Yesterday the Saint Paul’s music program presented their annual Spring Concert in the Briggs Assembly Center. Various ensembles performed for the crowd, showcasing their musical talent.



Above: Director of Bands, Mr. Moran directs the Concert Band in a rendition of “Fanfare for the Common Man”, a Brother Ray favorite.

Among the groups that performed were the Fife and Drum group and the two Jazz ensembles.



Left: Mr. Moran congratulates the performance by the Fife and Drum ensemble.

Below: Lacey Blackledge, Assistant Band Director, conducts the Jazz Band.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES: For those who want to avoid the hassle of shopping for school supplies, the Mothers' Club is offering 2023-2024 school supply boxes via Ramrock. Order online at www.ramrockschoolsupplies.com. A list of items included in the supply box is located on the Ramrock site. Questions can be sent to spsbookstore@gmail.com or mary@ramrockschoolsupplies.com

Please notice that ALL orders MUST be picked up from Saint Paul's Wolf Den during Back to School Week from Friday, August 4 – Wednesday, August 9 excluding Sunday, August 6. See the attachment for more details.

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

- Monday – Friday 7:30 A.M. to 8:15 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
- By appointment. Email spsbookstore16@gmail.com
- All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

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.**

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.



CALENDAR FOR SPRING SEMESTER:

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

ANNUAL APPEAL: Many thanks to those who have responded. For clarity, we offer the following: Almost all private schools conduct annual funds; many are high-pressure; ours is not – but we 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, the \$2.5 million music building, and now the \$1.2 million track and field replacement/upgrade)

- · 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!

CAMPUS UPDATE PART II – TRACK AND FIELD: Last Monday work began on the replacement of the existing track and field at Hunter Stadium. The field will receive its third carpet of artificial turf since this work was first completed in 2009. The track will be resurfaced as well. Several improvements and upgrades to the facility are part of the replacement plan. These include the addition of an impact pad below the surface of the grass and a new infill product called BrockFILL™. This product is a highly engineered wood particle infill specifically designed to improve traction and reduce artificial turf heat.

Gone will be the little rubber particles that end up in your wash cycles!



Left: Football uprights in a field of limestone await the new turf.

These two upgrades will significantly improve the safety and usability of the field, especially during the heat of summer. We will also add turf in the south D-zone, giving field users additional warm up and practice space. Also, and equally important to our PE and track athletes, the track will be completely replaced as well, bringing the entire facility a major facelift and extending the life of this much used facility.

This facility is used every day by PE and other classes as well as seasonally for practices and games/meets by football, cross country, soccer, lacrosse, rugby,

ultimate frisbee, and track and field. Since it is an all-weather facility it can be used when many events on a natural field would have to be canceled. We also use the facility for numerous summer camps and school activities such as field days and pep rallies. It is the most widely used facility on our campus!

Last, during a recent inspection we discovered major termite damage to the press box at Hunter Stadium. Work was just completed to make the structure safe for use again in the upcoming football season.

Interested in helping fund these repairs and improvements? Several naming opportunities are available!



Above: The old field surface awaits disposal.

Below: Track remnants ready to be removed.



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.

CAMPUS UPDATE PART III: OUR LADY OF PEACE STUDENT CHAPEL

A few weeks ago, I wrote about roof leaks at OLP Chapel that caused extensive ceiling damage. Upon further inspection it was discovered that the roof was in urgent need of replacement. Last Monday work began to replace the roof of the chapel. You will notice barricades around the chapel during this time. I apologize for the inconvenience but this work must be done as soon as possible to avoid further damage to the interior of the building.

Interested in helping fund these repairs and improvements to the chapel? Please give me a call.



Above: Workers remove the old chapel roof to prepare the surface for the new roof.

Below: The majestic Dixon Oak shades the roofers as they continue their work.



DRIVING: I call the following to your attention:

Please watch for Paula and other fowl as you drive through campus!

- **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.

EASY AND PAINLESS WAYS TO HELP SAINT PAUL’S: Don’t forget:

- Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- Box Tops for Education – 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. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside the Attendance Office.

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.

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!

If I may be of assistance please do not hesitate to call or write.

Live Jesus in our Hearts.... Forever!

Trevor C. Watkins, AFSC
Interim President



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.