



***The SPS President's Newsletter***  
***Celebrating 112 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***343 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***November 26-December 3, 2023***



Dear Parents,

Today, Nov 26, on the last Sunday of the Church year, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. May our focus this week be a realization that Christ must reign supreme in our hearts. As a Lasallian Catholic school, we cannot stress this enough. I offer the following prayer for us this week (borrowed from a previous letter from Brother Ray).

*Almighty and everlasting God, who in your beloved Son, the King of the whole world, has willed to restore all things, mercifully grant that the people of the nations that are divided by the wound of sin may be brought under the gentle yoke of His rule. Christ our King, we renew our pledge of love and loyalty to you. Keep us always close to your loving Heart and to the most pure Heart of your Mother. May we love one another more and more each day, forgiving each other's faults as you forgive us our sins. Teach us to see you in the members of our family and those we meet outside our home, and to love them as you love them, especially the poor and the oppressed, that we may be instrumental in bringing about justice and peace. Help us to carry our cross daily out of love for You. Thank you, King and Friend, for all the blessings of this day.*



***Christus Vincit! Christus Regnat! Christus Imperat!***

## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT PAUL'S**

### **Sunday, November 26**

- Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

### **Monday, November 27 – EFGA**

- Golf at St. Thomas More Cougar Invitational, Lafayette

### **Tuesday, November 28 - BCDE**

- Pack Time – Luminarias
- Sudden Impact Tonry Period E class
- JV/Varsity Basketball v. Broadmoor @ 6 & 7 in New Gym

### **Wednesday, November 29 - FGAB**

- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Basketball at Jesuit
- JV/Varsity Wrestling v. Catholic in Wrestling Gym
- JV Soccer v. Pope John Paul – 5:30 at Pope John Paul
- 8<sup>th</sup> Soccer @ Fontainebleau JH 7:00 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Soccer @ Dutchtown 6:00 pm

### **Thursday, November 30**

- JV/Varsity Basketball @ Zachary 5:30 & 6:30
- Varsity Soccer at COPA Tournament, Burbank Park, BR
- 9<sup>th</sup>/JV Soccer v. Mandeville 5:30 & 7:00 pm at Hunter Stadium

### **Friday, December 1**

- Wrestling @ Border Wars Tournament, South Walton, Florida
- JV Wrestling @ Tryg Memorial @ Rummel
- Varsity Soccer @ COPA Tournament, Baton Rouge

### **Saturday, November 25**

- 9<sup>th</sup>/JV Basketball @ St. Michael 10:00 & 11:00 am
- 8<sup>th</sup> Basketball v. John Curtis @ New Gym 2:00 pm
- Varsity Basketball @ Harrison Central 7:00 pm
- Wrestling @ Border Wars Tournament, South Walton, Florida
- JV Wrestling @ Trygg Memorial @ Rummel
- Soccer Varsity at COPA Tournament, Burbank Park, Baton Rouge
- 9<sup>th</sup>/JV Soccer v. Brother Martin – 11:00 & 12:30 – Hunter Stadium

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

**ANNUAL APPEAL:** Two weeks ago, you should have received the Saint Paul's Advancement Review which contained the President's Annual Educational Fund Report. Many thanks to those who responded to Brother Ray's appeal. We invite you to review the listed business and individuals who generously supported Saint Paul's last year. Your contributions were essential to the continued quality of our offerings to our students and support of our faculty.

This year we invite you to continue or even increase your contributions to the Annual Appeal. If you did not contribute last year, I humbly request that you consider donating. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not – but we need your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- The Annual Fund supports tactical, short term projects, e.g., technology, special programs, STEM equipment and supplies, unique one-time academic needs, teacher formation and professional development, minor campus upgrades and renovations, student activities, etc. In short, the necessary funds to ensure a superior education for our students.
- The Capital Campaign (more on this later) 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 Music Hall.)
- 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, \$20, or more dollars. GREAT!
- 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 financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to the Annual Fund so I can show an increase in participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so.
- Please also consider asking friends or family who may be in a position to help. Many thanks!

**ANNUAL APPEAL AND GRANDPARENTS:** We are blessed with many supportive grandparents. Many schools solicit donations from grandparents directly. Again, we do it differently than other schools that directly solicit grandparents. We ask that you inform your son's grandparents or, if you want, we'll be happy to send them the information directly if you wish. Just provide me with the information. **We 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.

**ADMISSIONS FOR 2024-25:** We are still accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year from students currently enrolled in public or non-Catholic private schools. Please encourage your friends, neighbors, or co-workers with sons entering high school to explore the 100+ year tradition of Lasallian Catholic education on Jahncke Avenue. Applications are being accepted at <https://forms.rediker.com/stpauls>.

**DADS' CLUB SOCIAL EVENT:** All SPS dads are invited to attend the first SPS Dads' Club Social Event of the year. Come out and meet other SPS dads and learn about the Dads' Club and all it has to offer. Beer and appetizers to be provided courtesy of the Dads' Club.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024  
6:30PM - 8:30PM

ABITA BREWERY TAP ROOM  
21084 HWY 36  
COVINGTON, LA

Please RSVP through the SignUp Genius link below. We look forward to seeing you there!!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094FAAAB2DA4FB6-46339228-spsdads>

**PROJECT CHRISTMAS:** To respond to the needs in our community during the forthcoming Advent and Christmas seasons, Saint Paul's has partnered with St. Tammany Project Christmas and have "adopted" 40 children in Saint Tammany Parish. Project Christmas has provided us with a series of wish list items specifically requested by the families. While many of these wish list items have been purchased already, we always seek to go above what is listed for each young person by providing clothing and other necessities. This week, we will collect monetary donations in religion classes to offset the cost of these clothing and other items of necessity. If you would like to offer support, please send in monetary donations by Friday, December 1st to your religion teacher. Thank you for your generosity!

**HOST A LASALLIAN STUDENT FROM COSTA RICA:**

Since the end of COVID Saint Paul's has participated in an exchange program with our Lasallian partner school in San Jose, Costa Rica. From January 12-26 we will be hosting eight students. If you are interested in hosting a student, please contact Dr. Shawn Mullet, [s.mullet@stpauls.com](mailto:s.mullet@stpauls.com). Hosting an exchange student is an excellent experience not only for your son but also for your entire family.

**ACT TEST – PERFECT SUBJECT SCORES (SENIORS):** Congratulations to the following seniors who have scored a perfect subject score on the recent ACT tests in English, Reading, Math and Science. We continue to add to the list as more students achieve perfect scores. In fact, we expect to add to this list soon as another ACT test was administered on our campus yesterday. Stay tuned for even more perfect results in subsequent tests:

**October 22nd ACT 2022**

William Coles—36 English  
Shawn Cooney—36 English  
Jack Freret—36 Reading  
Joseph Mire—36 English

**December 10th ACT 2022**

Alexander Bradford—36 English  
Shawn Cooney—36 English  
Brock Duncan—36 English  
Dominic Muguira—36 English  
Preston Olivier—36 English

**February 11th ACT 2023**

Jack Freret—36 Reading

**School Day ACT March 7th 2023**

Alexander Bradford—36 English

William Coles—36 Math; 36 Reading; 36 English

Joseph DiGiovanni—36 English

Joseph Mire—36 Math

Dominic Muguira—36 Reading

Jake Theriot—36 Reading

**June 10th ACT 2023**

Andrew Blossman—36 Reading

Dominic Muguira—36 Reading

**July 15th ACT 2023**

Jack Freret—36 Science

**September 9th ACT 2023**

Austin Asher—36 Reading

John Baricev—36 Reading

**SAINT SCHOLASTICA ACADEMY ADVENT SERVICE:** The Dove Ministries committee of the SSA Parent Board will hold its Advent service on Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel (pictured below) on SSA's campus. For the first time, the event will be an evening candlelight service featuring the St. Peter's Parish musicians and choir. The program will follow the Taize style of songs and prayer, which was created in the 1940s by monks in France. The theme of the service is "Out of Darkness, Into Light" and will beautifully observe the Advent season as we prepare our hearts for the light that comes from the birth of Christ at Christmas. All family and friends of the SSA and St. Paul's communities are invited to attend.

*Below and Right: Chapel at SSA*



**COATS FOR KIDS:** Looking to clean out the closet clutter? Coats for Kids is an annual clothing drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 12906, St. Peter Church, and endorsed by local ministries, the Mayor, and the Parish President. These new and slightly used coats, jackets, and sweatshirts will be distributed to the needy youth of Covington before both Thanksgiving and Christmas. They also accept adult coats for those in need. The collection box is located in the main school building lobby.

**GET TO KNOW THE SAN FRANCISCO-NEW ORLEANS LASALLIAN DISTRICT:**  
**(repeat from last week)**

It is important that we remember that Saint Paul's School is part of a larger Lasallian District, the San Francisco-New Orleans District, which itself is part of a worldwide network of over 1000 schools and universities. Below is a link to another school in our district, Saint Michael's High School in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

<https://www.stmichaelsf.org/>

From the St. Mike's website: *St. Michael's High School or, as it was first known, El Colegio de San Miguel, was conceived in the mind of Jean-Baptiste Lamy, the first bishop and archbishop of Santa Fe, New Mexico. He began efforts to establish a school upon his arrival in Santa Fe in 1851, but it took seven years to recruit four Christian Brothers from his native France.*

*Brothers Hilarien, Gondulph, Geramius and Galmier Joseph arrived on October 27, 1859, exhausted after two and a half months of travel by ship, train and covered wagon. The Brothers were welcomed warmly and set up in the first buildings of El Colegio de San Miguel, which, like most Santa Fe buildings, were made of adobe and had dirt floors. Some of these buildings, including the San Miguel Chapel, remain standing today on Old Santa Fe Trail and De Vargas Street.*

**Interesting Facts**

**Founded:** 1859 by the Brothers of the Christian Schools

**Chartered:** 1874 by the Territorial Legislature of New Mexico

**Ethnicity of Student Population**

Native American: 3.98%

African American: 1.74%

Latino/Hispanic: 51.99%

Caucasian: 18.66%

Other: 23.63%

**Co-Ed:** Grades 7-12

**Mascot:** The Horsemen

**San Miguel Mission Church:**

<https://www.sanmiguelchapelsantafe.org/>  
(The Oldest Church in the United States) St. Michael's High School original campus was at the site of this church and is the proud owner and caretaker of this historic treasure today.





**LUMINARIAS:** The “local” tradition of luminarias at Christmas was brought to Saint Paul’s by the Brothers who attended the College of Santa Fe, New Mexico, for their Novitiate. Today, this tradition has spread from the Saint Paul’s campus to many local neighborhoods. The photo above shows the San Miguel Mission Church in Santa Fe decorated with the traditional luminarias.

**EARN COLLEGE CREDIT THROUGH CLEP TESTING:** See the announcement below from Librarian Mr. Jeff Drivon for more information.

**\*\*EARN COLLEGE  
CLASS CREDITS\*\***

**Saint Paul’s School Library**

**COLLEGE CLEP  
EXAMINATION  
COURSES**

**\*\*COURSES TAKE  
APPROXIMATELY 6  
WEEKS TO COMPLETE\*\***



**For more info: Contact Coach Jeff Drivon  
Email: [j.drivon@stpauls.com](mailto:j.drivon@stpauls.com)**

**BOOK STORE:** The Mothers’ Club Bookstore will be open 7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm each school day. **PLEASE patronize the MC’s Bookstore when possible.**

**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 our website, or you can follow us at

Facebook @St.Pauls.School.Covington.Louisiana

Twitter @SPSWolfpack

**SOCIAL MEDIA II:** Speak with your sons about responsible social media use. Inappropriate postings can have legal ramifications. SPS reserves the right to impose consequences for social media misuse.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS:** We are already eight weeks into the second quarter! When we return from Thanksgiving we will have only two and a half weeks left of classes before semester exams. If your son is struggling in any class, insist that he go seek help. Help your son develop proper attitudes and habits for success. Show confidence in his ability; work with him to set realistic academic goals. Help him develop an orderly study environment. Teens enjoy chaos, so the trick is to help your son create enough order in his chaos for proper study to occur. Designate a place and time to study. **Require 1-2 hours of study per night. Do not accept the "I have no homework"** excuse. He always has homework -- review, study, and advanced preparation. At the end of his study session, have him organize books, assignments, PE clothes, etc. for the next day.

**FREE NHS TUTORING:** National Honor Society students offer free tutoring in any subject. Tutoring is held Monday-Thursday outside Room L201 at lunch. Encourage your sons to attend if needed!



**Rise Up, O Men of God**

**HELPING SAINT PAUL'S:**

**OFFICE DEPOT:** If you shop at Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:** Box Tops for Education continues to be an easy way to earn money for Saint Paul's. The traditional clip box tops have been replaced with an easy to use app. All you have to do is buy Box Tops participating products (like Cheerios!) and scan your grocery receipt. Box Tops are worth \$.10 each and twice a year, our school receives a check.

Download the Box Tops for Education app

here: [https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral\\_code=R26O6QQ0](https://btfe.smart.link/c2jjdifkw?referral_code=R26O6QQ0)

Use this referral code R26O6QQ0 when you sign up and you'll get 25 Bonus Box Tops when you scan your first receipt now through 05/31/2024, while supplies last! Traditional paper box tops that have not expired can still be turned in to your son's math teacher. If you have any questions email Shannon d'Hemecourt at [s.dhemecourt@stpauls.com](mailto:s.dhemecourt@stpauls.com)



**SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: 988:** On July 16, 2022, Louisiana joined the rest of the nation in launching 988, the new three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to make it easier for people to receive assistance during a mental health crisis. When you call (multiple languages), text (English only) or chat 988, you will be connected to trained, compassionate crisis counselors who will listen to your concerns, provide support, and connect you with local resources. The chat feature is available through the Lifeline’s [website \(www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/\)](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/). People can use 988 if they are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support



**LOST AND FOUND:** Now that Fall weather is upon us, the L&F closet is full of cold weather attire! Tell your son to look there for any misplaced or “stolen” items. The Lost and Found Closet is located under the outside stairs behind the large wall at Founder’s Circle. Lunch boxes, sweatshirts, PE uniforms, book bags, and sports equipment are some of the most frequent items “lost”. Misplaced phones, keys, ID cards, and electronics are handled by Mrs. Claire’s office.

**BARGAIN UNIFORMS:** We have a number of clean, pre-owned SPS uniform shirts and shorts in good condition. If the family budget is tight, feel free to ask for some of these clothes. Nothing is done to embarrass a student and no one will know. Thanks to those families who supply us with their outgrown uniforms. If you have a returning student who has outgrown his SPS apparel, we gladly accept gently used items. Just drop the items off at the Administration Building.

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAM SCHEDULE:** The exam schedule for the first semester has been posted by Principal Joe Dickens. A copy can be found at the end of this newsletter. **Please do not schedule trips or begin your family holiday until after exams!** Doing so adds an extra burden for teachers at a very busy time of the academic calendar. Thanks.

## 5 CORE PRINCIPLES OF LASALLIAN SCHOOLS



## SPORTS NEWS:

**BASKETBALL:** I know the teams were active during the holidays but I have no scores to report.

**WRESTLING:** The Wolves have been busy since school let out for the Thanksgiving holiday! On Saturday a group of young Wolves put in an extremely strong performance at the SPS Junior High Scrimmage. Also, on Saturday, a group of Wolves participated in the Bulldog Brawl at Fontainebleau. The following placed in the Top 5 in their weight classes:

William Coles - 1st Place

Bray Bertucci - 3rd Place

Jake Gaudet - 3rd Place

Jason Thigpen - 4th Place

Sam Jones - 5th Place

Finally, on Tuesday the varsity Wolves competed in the Brusly Quad Meet against Live Oak, St. Thomas More, and Brusly. The Wolves put in dominant performances in the matches, earning a 72-3 win over Live Oak, a 59-6 victory over St. Thomas More, and a 66-9 victory over Brusly. The Wolves will be back in action next Wednesday at home against Catholic High!

**SOCCER:** The JV and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade teams were in action this week at Mandeville High. Both were victorious against the skippers. The 9<sup>th</sup> came away with a 1-0 win and the JV 3-nil.

**SWIMMING:** Congratulations to the Aquatic Wolves on placing fourth at the State Swim Meet. For such a young team the result was outstanding! Senior captain Conner Dobie led the swimmers to a hard fought 4th place finish with outstanding performances by all state swimmers to contribute to the final score. *Below: Swim team at the State Meet*





**LACROSSE:** The Lacrosse Program honored Brandon Power '13 and Graham Jordan '14 this past weekend by presenting their jerseys to The Power Family, The Jordan Family, and SPS. The ceremony was followed by the second annual memorial scrimmage held in their honor. Pictured below are the Power family (left) and the Jordan family (right) with the framed jerseys that were presented to the school.



**FOOTBALL:** Congratulations to Coach Ken Sears, his assistants, and the varsity football team on an outstanding season. The Wolves battled a strong Rummel team last Friday, but ended their quest for state with a heartbreaking 35-21 loss in the LHSAA Select Division I State Playoff Quarterfinal contest at Hunter Stadium. The Wolves end their season with an outstanding 10-2 overall record and a perfect 7-0 District Championship.



*Brennan Keim passes against Rummel in the Quarterfinal game Friday night.*



**FROM THE FILES:** Each week the newsletter will include a few historical events or moments of Saint Paul's School (College) captured by photographers through the years. So far, the focus has been on the first three decades from the last century. If there is something in particular that you would like me to include, please let me know and I will try to locate a photo or document related to the subject to include in future newsletters.



*Above: 1954 Freshman Basketball Team    Below: Seventh Grade Softball Team 1950*



Below: Fundraising appeal from Brother Cassian, Principal, in 1959 for the athletic teams at Saint Paul's. This was in a brochure sent to all parents and alumni.

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A MESSAGE FROM BROTHER CASSIAN.....

The very successful gridiron season of the St. Paul's Wolves has brought forth many constructive remarks from a host of friends and alumni. Their interest in St. Paul's is always appreciated especially when it means a bigger and better school.

To keep pace with the physical plant improvements, the St. Paul's College Athletic Association has planned to develop the athletic program here in all areas. The first step envisioned is the purchase of adequate, well-tailored equipment for all varsity sports.

To know what this embodies, an itemized list of equipment is presented for your consideration. We want the 1959 Wolves to be the best-dressed outfit in our division and the Riverside League.

Won't you help us achieve this goal?

Sincerely,

*Brother Cassian*  
Brother Cassian, Principal  
St. Paul's College



The brochure includes a letter (below) from the Athletic Association (longtime booster club for Saint Paul's Athletics) outlining the cost of outfitting the football, basketball, baseball and track varsity teams. Notice they estimate they can outfit the entire athletic program for \$2,500!

FRIENDS.....

This brochure is being mailed to the many alumni and friends of St. Paul's College. We, the Athletic Association, feel that the entire athletic and physical development program at St. Paul's needs a boost. A small contribution to the Athletic Fund by each one of you will easily enable us to raise the amount required to outfit our athletic teams and provide the necessary equipment and supplies needed by the physical education program.

On the following pages of this brochure, you will find a financial statement of the athletic and intramural programs, a list of equipment and supplies we feel are essential to bring these programs up to a standard we contemplate, and statements from our coaches which we hope will help explain our appeal.

It has been estimated that a minimum of \$2500 is needed for the coaches to outfit our Varsity teams as illustrated on the front and back covers of this pamphlet. By making purchases of nearly complete new uniforms for the varsity squads, we will automatically make available the equipment now on hand for junior varsity teams and intramural squads. The sum of \$2500, when divided up among the many supporters of the Wolfpack teams is comparatively small provided that WE ALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND.

So - won't you please contribute what you can, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 or whatever you can, and DO IT TODAY...Please do not put it off.

As you read on in this brochure, you will realize that our need is NOW. Use the envelope and card enclosed for your convenience. Make your check or money order payable to St. Paul's College.

AND AGAIN, PLEASE DO IT TODAY!



*Science Classroom 1954 (shortly after the Main School Building was constructed). One of the light fixtures pictured below was salvaged during a later renovation and now hangs in the Elevator lobby.*

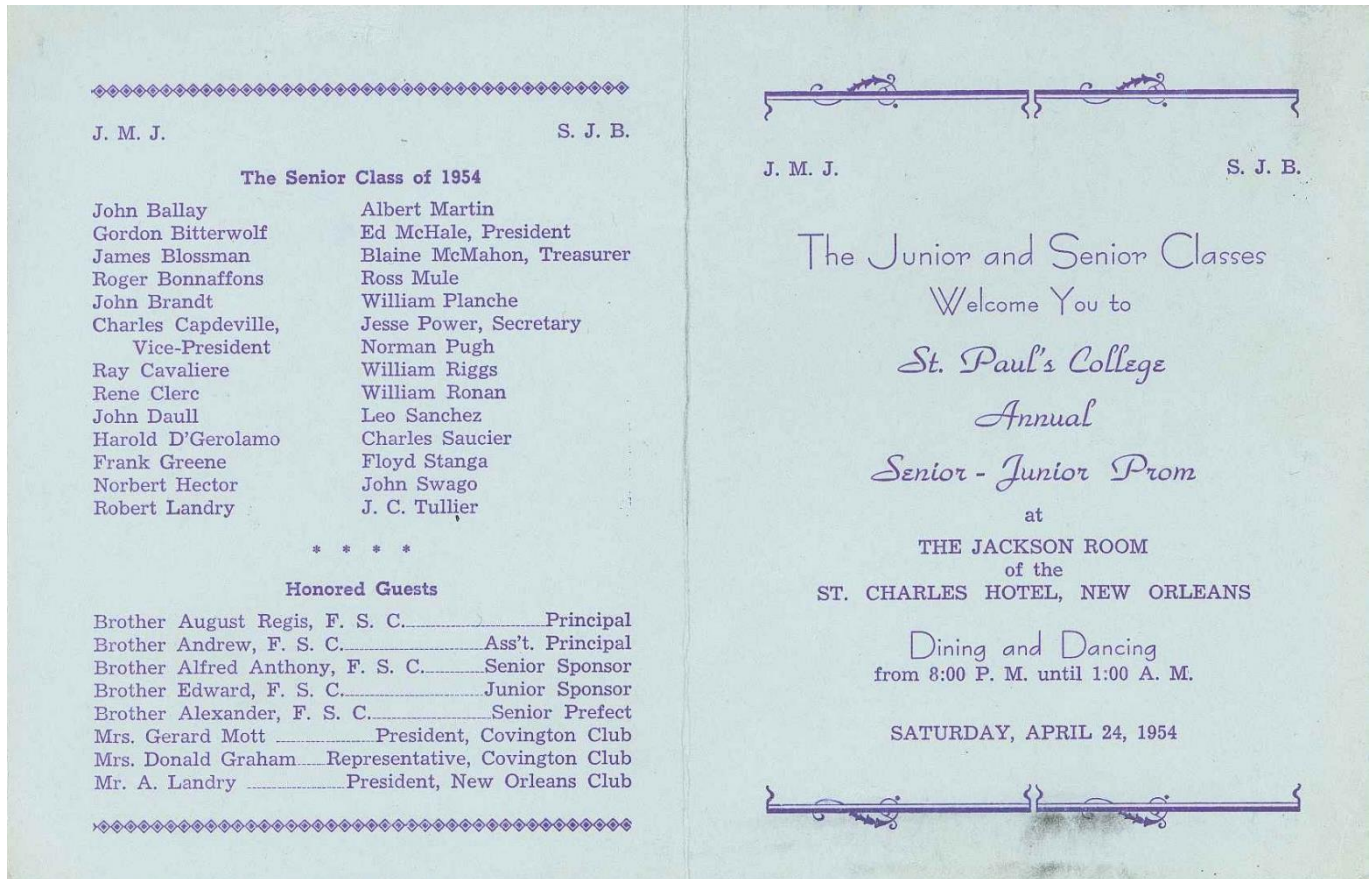


*Below: 1957 The Old Chapel Burns*

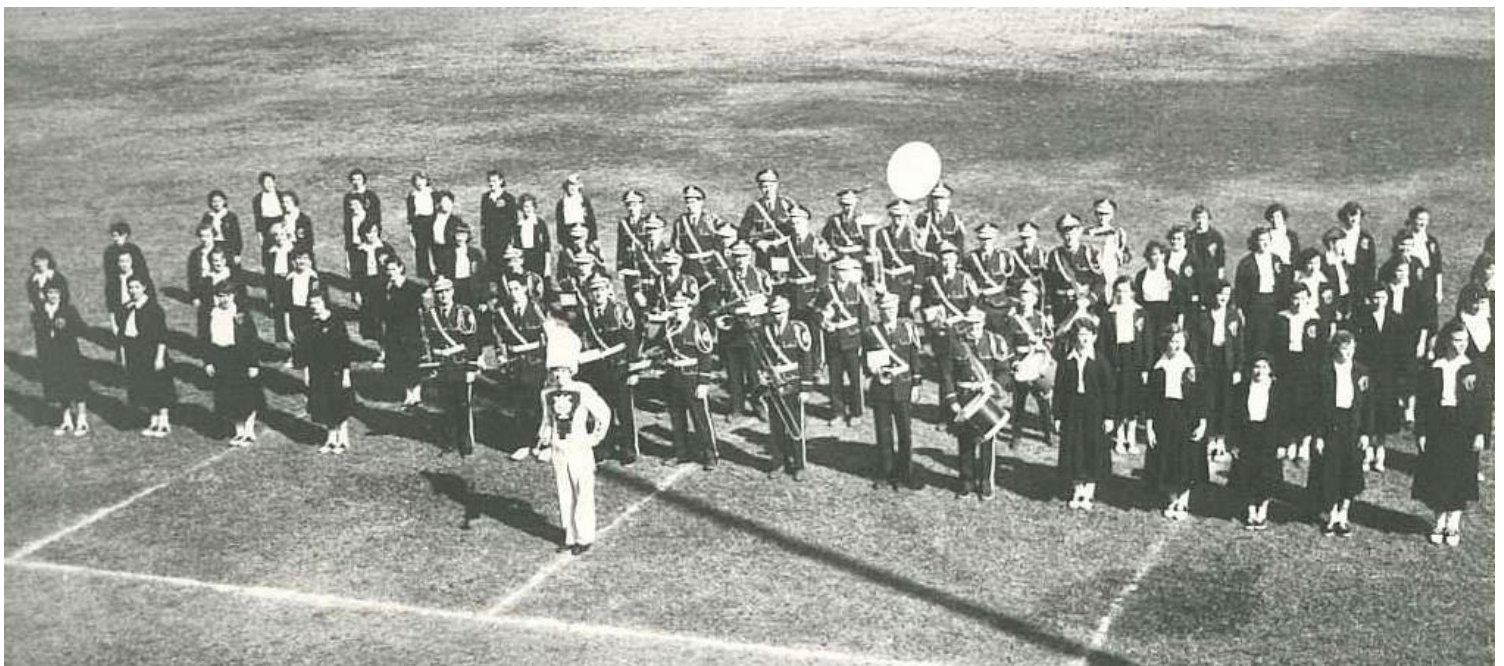




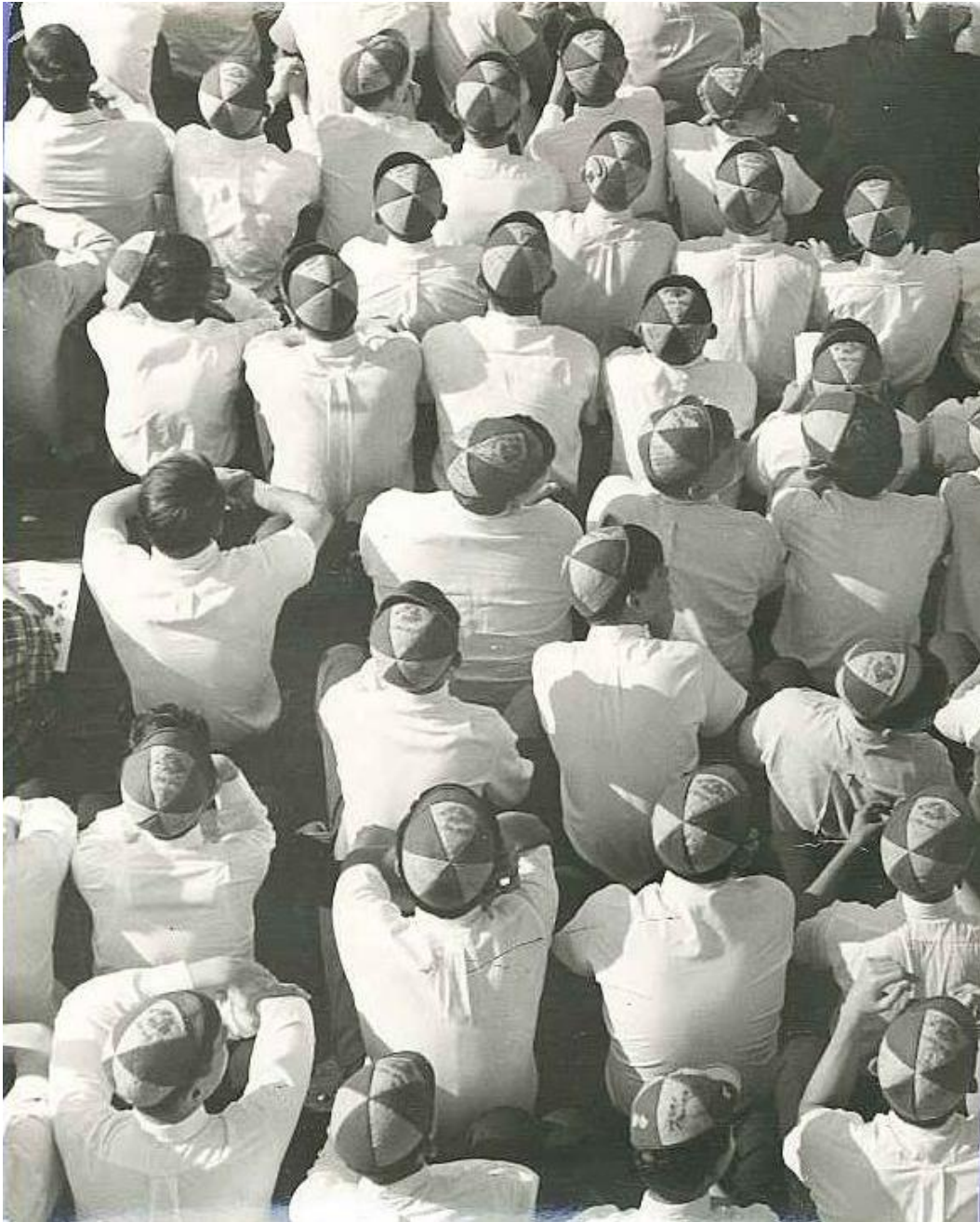
*1954 Prom Invitation (Most Proms were held in New Orleans until the 1980s)*



*1953 Marching Band*



*Spectators show their school spirit, Circa 1955*



**SCENES FROM THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL:** Thankfully, there was not much to report other than athletics. See above for news in that regard.



***AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY REMAINS OPEN:*** Remember that students may take advantage of the library's after school hours to stay on top of their academic work.



**SCHOOL POLICIES:** I will continue to include the following notes in each newsletter since they are frequently asked about throughout the year. However, since they are repeated each week, I will group them in this new section. Feel free to skip over if you are already familiar with them.

**ATTENDANCE:** Please follow SPS attendance regulations in the Student-Parent Handbook and make Mrs. Kelsey'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. **Do not allow your sons to miss school for less than very serious reasons.**

**CHECKING OUT YOUR SON:** Most efficient way to check out your child:



- Either the night before or early the morning of desired check out day, send an email to [attendance@stpauls.com](mailto:attendance@stpauls.com) giving your child permission to check out. Include the name of your child and the time you would like them to get out of class.
- Have your child come to the attendance office (Main Building) at some point before said check out time to get his “get out of class pass.”
- At the said dismissal time, your child will come to the attendance office and scan his ID. If he drives, he can go to his car, if you are picking him up, he can come out to you as soon as he scans his ID.

**TARDIES and ABSENCES:** Please note, the tardy policy has changed. For every 10 tardies or absences, your child will have to make up seat time on a specified Saturday morning. ONLY DOCTOR NOTES can “exempt” both absences and tardies.

**DRUG TESTING:** Please speak with your son. We have resumed drug testing. We had suspended testing due to COVID but are comfortable in resuming the tests. We use a Random Plus approach: some students will be chosen randomly and some for “cause” (e.g. drop in grades, behavioral problems, etc.) If a student tests positive, he is allowed 100 days before a re-test is given. A second positive results may well jeopardize his enrollment at SPS. We pray that our program serves as a deterrent and is not viewed as punitive. We remain convinced that drug usage is detrimental to adolescent development. BTW, legit medication (for ADD, etc.) is screened by the test. Your son will not be embarrassed in any way if he is selected to be testing. **Results are confidential to counselor and administrators.** And, yes, you may refer your son to us for testing. We pray....

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:** All individuals planning to volunteer with St. Paul's must complete safe environment training as mandated by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Contact Claire Courtrado, at [clairec@stpauls.com](mailto:clairec@stpauls.com) for details.

**EMERGENCY CLOSINGS:** Even though we are past the peak of hurricane season, please be aware of our emergency closing policies. Ordinarily, our procedure is to follow the civil parish. Thus, Saint Paul's School would follow the same decision of closure as the public-school system of St. Tammany Parish. The announcement concerning emergency closures would be broadcast on local television stations in the metropolitan area of NO when possible. School messaging will be activated with updated information and situations unique to SPS. For multi-day closings, Saint Paul's reserves the right to re-open when our situation warrants. In the meantime, we pray: Our Lady of Prompt Succor! Hasten to help us!

**SERVICE REQUIRMENT FOR SPS STUDENTS:** Between the start of each student's sophomore year and January 1st of his senior year, each Saint Paul's student is required to complete 50 non-compensated service hours. Of those 50 service hours, 30 of those hours must be in either direct service of the poor/marginalized or through organizations which benefit the poor/marginalized. The remaining 20 of those hours can be completed through campus organizations that benefit the Saint Paul's community or events that benefit the St. Tammany

Parish community. All service hours must be reported using the MobileServe platform. All 10th-12th grade students were onboarded to the platform over the last few weeks. This week, all 8th and 9th grade students will go through their onboarding process. Information regarding a webinar for parents addressing the service requirement and the MobileServe platform will be in next week's newsletter. Visit [this page](#) for more information . Address any questions to our Campus Minister, Jeff Ramon, at [j.ramon@stpauls.com](mailto:j.ramon@stpauls.com).

**SCHOOL SAFETY:** School safety remains paramount for all of us. Promote safety with your son. The media has reported recent arrests of students in St. Tammany b/c of inappropriate threats. Take every appropriate opportunity to do the same with your sons. Safety is our priority – and it is EVERYONE’S JOB. Report ANY rumor or threat to safety about which you hear. Encourage your sons to report, too. **All visitors to campus must sign in and receive a Visitor’s Pass. You may not just wander the campus. Thanks for understanding this procedure.** Our prayers rise to heaven for a safe school year to continue and the elimination of violence of all kinds in our schools – and in all of society.

**SLOW YOUR ROLL.** Last week was the four-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. We applaud the Mayor’s initiative and pledged to him our support. Please reinforce this with your sons. And please set a good example yourself, as in the words of Saint La Salle: **“Preach by example, and practice before the eyes of the young what you wish them to accept.”**

**SILENT SUSTAINED READING:** Daily, we do SSR (Silent Sustained Reading) during the first 15 minutes of Block 2. During this time, everyone reads silently for 15 minutes. This is not a time for homework, tutoring, studying or doing assigned reading, but is designed to make reading a school-wide priority by reading for pleasure. We hope to develop a population of self-motivated readers. The program was created over 30 years ago at the University of Vermont and has resulted in increased vocabulary development, reading fluency and comprehension, writing

quality, improved test scores, increased knowledge on many topics, and increased reading out of school. Students must bring their own reading material but we will have classrooms stocked with magazines, novels, short stories, etc. **Help your son prepare for this initiative and have him come prepared every day thereafter.** He should bring a PRINTED READING MATERIAL – not electronic material **Consider initiating a family SSR time, too!**  
**DROP OFF AND PICK UP:** Please DO NOT drop off or pick up students on the shoulders of roads or on the roads around campus. Officer Toups has mentioned that he still sees a couple of impatient violators in this regard. This is a hazard to pedestrians and other drivers.

## **A LOOK AHEAD:**

### **December**

- 5 – ABCD – Principal's Assembly (Sudden Impact - Ramon Period B)
- 7 – BCDE – Late start/ Luminaries/ Snack day
- 8 – FGAB – Mass- Feast of Immaculate Conception (dress uniform day)
- 9 – ACT Test Date
- 14 - 19 – First Semester Exams
- 19 – Faculty Luncheon
- 20 – Conflict/ Make-up Day

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?** For academic issues, contact teachers, counselors, Principal Joe Dickens (985)892-3200 Ext. 1920, Assistant Principal Lee Pierre Ext. 1942, or Curriculum Coordinator Matt Pinero Ext. 1982. For discipline, attendance, or dress code questions, call Dean of Students, Mr. Ken Sears, Ext. 1981. Finances? Call Mrs. Jo Sutherlin Ext. 1905 or me. Athletics? Contact the coaches or Athletic Director, Mr. Sam Francis Ext. 1983. Naturally, call me, Trevor Watkins, if I can help. **My office phone is 985/892-3200, x 1901.**

Live Jesus in our Hearts...Forever!

Trevor C. Watkins, AFSC  
President



# **First Semester Exam Schedule 2023**

## **Wednesday, December 13 – DEFG**

Regular Schedule w/ SSR (84 min.)

CHIMES 8:00

BLOCK 1 8:05- 9:34

BLOCK 2/SSR 9:41-11:20

LUNCH 11:20-12:00

BLOCK 3 12:05-1:29

BLOCK 4 1:36- 3:00

## **Thursday, December 14 – A Review/A Exam (BC)**

CHIMES 8:00

PERIOD A REVIEW 8:10 -8:55

Break 8:55-9:05

PERIOD A EXAM 9:10 -10:40

PERIOD B REVIEW 10:50 – 11:30

LUNCH 11:30 – 12:10

PERIOD C REVIEW 12:15 – 1:00

DISMISSAL 1:00

## **Friday, December 15 – BC (DE)**

CHIMES 8:00

PERIOD B EXAM 8:10 – 9:40

PERIOD C EXAM 9:50 – 11:20

LUNCH 11:20 – 11:50

PERIOD D REVIEW 11:50 – 12:20

PERIOD E REVIEW 12:30 – 1:00

DISMISSAL 1:00

## **Monday, December 18 – DE (FG)**

CHIMES 8:00

PERIOD D EXAM 8:10 – 9:40

PERIOD E EXAM 9:50 – 11:20

LUNCH 11:20 – 11:50

PERIOD F REVIEW 11:50 – 12:20

PERIOD G REVIEW 12:30 – 1:00

DISMISSAL 1:00

## **Tuesday, December 19 - FG** CHIMES 8:00

PERIOD F EXAM 8:10 – 9:40 P

PERIOD G EXAM 9:50 – 11:20

DISMISSAL 11:20

## 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 <b>with full day of instruction</b>
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, make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays. PLEASE do not schedule vacations during school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.
- Note that public schools schedule 175 instructional days while Catholic schools schedule 177.
- In case of closings, we will make up days from holidays. Also, check the calendar for vacation dates and do not schedule vacations in conflict with school. Thank you for recognizing the need to make the most use of our academic time.



# First Semester Period Rotation

Updated 10/20/2023

## **November**

- 13 – FGAB
- 14 – CDEF – Principal's Assembly / Shadow Day (Public School)
- 15 – GABC (*Tentative: Sophomore Service Day & Food Drive*)
- 16 – DEFG
- 17 – ABCD
- 20 - 24 – Thanksgiving Holidays
- 27 – EFGA
- 28 – BCDE – Pack Time (Luminarias) (Sudden Impact - Tonry Period E)
- 29 – FGAB
- 30 – CDEF

## **December**

- 1 – GABC
- 4 – DEFG
- 5 – ABCD – Principal's Assembly (Sudden Impact - Ramon Period B)
- 6 – EFGA
- 7 – BCDE – Late start/ Luminaries/ Snack day
- 8 – FGAB – Mass- Feast of Immaculate Conception (dress uniform day)
- 9 – ACT Test Date
- 11 – CDEF
- 12 – GABC
- 13 – DEFG
- 14 - 19 – First Semester Exams
- 19 – Faculty Luncheon
- 20 – Conflict/ Make-up Day

# Second Semester Period Rotation

## **January**

- 3 – ABCD – Classes Resume; Senior Retreat
- 4 – EFGA – Senior Retreat
- 5 – BCDE – Senior Retreat
- 8 – FGAB
- 9 – CDEF – Principal's Assembly/ BioMed Day
- 10 – GABC
- 11 – DEFG – Late start
- 12 – ABCD
- 15 – MLK Holiday
- 16 – EFGA – Pack Time
- 17 – BCDE – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast

18 – FGAB – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
19 – CDEF – 10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
22 – GABC  
23 – DEFG – President’ Assembly  
24 – ABCD – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
25 – EFGA – Mass – Feast of St. Paul; Snack Day (dress uniform day)  
26 – BCDE – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
29 – FGAB  
30 – CDEF – Pack Time  
31 – GABC

## **February**

1 – DEFG - Career Day for Juniors  
2 – ABCD  
5 – EFGA – Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-7 in BAC  
6 – BCDE – Principal's Assembly  
7 – FGAB – Junior Retreat  
8 – CDEF – Junior Retreat  
9 – Faculty retreat (no classes)  
10 – ACT Test Date  
12 - 16 – Mardi Gras Holiday  
19 – GABC – Beginning of Lent Prayer Service  
20 – DEFG – Pack Time  
21 – ABCD – 10<sup>th</sup> Pre-ACT  
22 – EFGA – 9<sup>th</sup> Pre-ACT/ Teacher Appreciation/ Snack day  
23 – BCDE – 8<sup>th</sup> Pre- ACT (SSA Sweetheart Dance)  
26 – FGAB  
27 – CDEF – Principal's Assembly  
28 – GABC – 9<sup>th</sup> grade retreat  
29 – DEFG – 9<sup>th</sup> grade retreat

## **March**

1 – ABCD  
4 – EFGA  
5 – BCDE – Pack Time / Mother-Son (10-12<sup>th</sup>)  
6 – FGAB  
7 – CDEF – Mother-Son (8-9<sup>th</sup>)  
8 – GABC – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
11 – DEFG  
12 – ABC – SSA Challenge/1 PM Activities in Gym\*/ Junior ACT (In-school)  
13 – DEFG  
14 – ABCD  
15 – EFGA – Late start  
18 – BCDE  
19 – FGAB – 8<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast — Mass – Feast of St. Joseph (dress uniform day)/ Snack Day  
20 – CDEF – 9<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
21 – GABC – 10<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast

22 – DEFG – Principal's Assembly  
23 – Junior-Senior Prom  
25 – ABCD  
26 – EFGA – 11<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
27 – BCDE – 12<sup>th</sup> HR Breakfast  
28 – FGAB – Mandatum (dress uniform day)  
29 - Apr 5 - Easter Holidays

## **April**

8-12 – Leadership Week  
8 – CDEF  
9 – GABC – Leadership Breakfast  
10 – DEFG – Mass - (dress uniform day)  
11 – ABCD – Leadership Guest Speaker  
12 – EFGA – Year in Review Assembly  
13 – ACT Test Date  
15 – BCDE  
16 – FGAB – Pack Time (last for seniors)  
17 – CDEF  
18 – GABC – Teacher Appreciation Lunch/ Snack Day  
19 – DEFG – Class Level Elections  
22 – ABCD  
23 – EFGA – Principal's Assembly (last for seniors)  
24 – BCDE  
25 – FGAB  
26 – CDEF – Prayer Service; Senior Exams (elective)  
29 – GABC – Senior Exams (elective)  
30 – DEFG – Senior Exams

## **May**

1 – ABCD – Senior Exams  
2 – EFGA – Senior Exams  
3 – BCDE – Late start  
6 – FGAB  
7 – CDEF – Last Principal's Assembly  
8 – GABC  
9 – DEFG – Academic Awards – dress uniform day  
10 – ABCD – Athletic Awards; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams  
13 – EFGA – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams  
14 – BCDE – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams  
15 – FGAB – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Exams/ Senior Grad Night  
16 – CDEFG\* – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion  
17-22 – Final Exams  
18 – Graduation  
22 – Last Day of School – 11:30 Dismissal/ Faculty Luncheon