



*The SPS President's Newsletter*  
*Celebrating 112 years of educational excellence in Covington*  
*343 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world*  
*December 4-10, 2023*



Dear Parents,

This week's newsletter is a shorter than usual. You will notice no athletic results or other events from last week. I will have been in Napa, California at the Christian Brothers Provincial office since Wednesday, so I will have been unable to update the newsletter since last Tuesday. My wife, who works for the Christian Brothers, needed to be there so I took the opportunity to accompany her. While at Napa I will meet with various Brothers who I knew from their time at Saint Paul's. I also plan to meet with various district officials to learn from their expertise. Last, I will visit Justin Siena School in Napa (featured later in this newsletter) to learn about their international student program. So, the newsletter for next Sunday will contain updates from two weeks. Get ready!

For this week, once again, I borrow from the words of Brother Ray, this time for his comments on the beginning of the Advent season. For the last several years he wrote us this message.



## **MARANATHA!**

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

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

I like Advent. I know I'm in the minority here, but I find it a very human season. I know, too, that our students don't like Advent because they don't like the concept of waiting. They routinely

grumble about waiting in the cafeteria line, about how far away a particular event is that they are looking forward to, etc. Somehow, in our instant gratification society that emphasizes getting what you want as quickly as possible, patience is no longer promoted as a virtue. In a world where we upgrade to faster computers, buy faster Internet access, text and tweet instead of talk, deliver overnight, buy faster cars, patronize establishments that offer "lunch in ten minutes or it's free" and emphasize that time is money, our students no longer know how to wait. And yet think about how much time we do spend waiting: in store lines, in traffic jams, for the check that's in the mail, for a happy time to occur or a difficult time to end.

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

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

## ***Maranatha! Come, Lord!***

### 5 CORE PRINCIPLES OF LASALLIAN SCHOOLS



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

## **Sunday, December 3**

- First Sunday of Advent

## **Monday, December 4 - DEFG**

- 8 th Basketball Doubleheader 5 and 6pm @ St. Tammany JH, Slidell
- V Soccer vs Bonnabel 7pm @ Pan Am Stadium, New Orleans
- 8 th Soccer @ Mandeville JH 6pm

## **Tuesday, December 5 - ABCD**

- Principals Assembly
- Sudden Impact Ramon Period B class
- JV/V Basketball vs Loranger at 5:30 and 6:30pm in New Gym

## **Wednesday, December 6 - EFGA**

- Fall Drama Production – It's a Wonderful Life
- PF/F Basketball @ Brother Martin 5:30 & 6:30pm
- V Soccer vs St. Amant 7pm Hunter Stadium
- 8 th Soccer vs Hannan 5pm Hunter Stadium
- 9 th Soccer vs Dutchtown 6pm Hunter Stadium

## **Thursday, December 7 - BCDE**

- Late Start/Luminarias/Snack Day
- 8 th Soccer vs Madisonville JH @ Coquille Park

## **Friday, December 8 - FGAB**

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception- Mass- Dress Day
- Fall Drama Production – It's a Wonderful Life

## **Saturday, December 9**

- ACT Test Date
- Fall Drama Production- It's a Wonderful Life
- PF Basketball – Rummel Tourney @ Rummel
- F/JV Basketball 11am & 12pm New Gym
- JV/V Wrestling Dual @ Holy Cross
- JH Wrestling Scrimmage @ Rummel
- 8 th /9 th /JV/V Soccer @ Jesuit, 8 th @10, 9 th @11:30, JV@1:00pm, V@3:30

## 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>

**NEED IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS?** The Wolf Den will be open on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. for Special Holiday Shopping including Saint Paul's ornaments, plaques, jewelry, scarves, sweatshirts, pajama pants, and many more items.



### **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  
Perrin Duhe—36 English

Jacob Revere—36 English

#### **School Day ACT October 17th 2023 for 2024 (seniors)**

Shawn Cooney—36 English

#### **October 28th ACT 2023**

Jacob Revere—36 English

**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.



**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.



*Right: Chapel at SSA*

### **GET TO KNOW THE SAN FRANCISCO-NEW ORLEANS LASALLIAN DISTRICT:**

**Justin Siena High School, Napa, California:** In 1966 two schools opened on adjacent campuses--Justin High School (for boys) sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers and Siena High School (for girls) sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael. Merging in 1972, Justin-Siena High School continues today as part of a world-wide network of almost a thousand Lasallian schools found in 84 countries.



**Interesting Facts****Founded:** 1972**Co-Ed:** Grades 8-12**Enrollment:** 550 students (38 international)**Mascot:** Braves**Tuition:** \$22,750.00**International Students:** Justin Siena has an on-campus residence for international students, welcoming applicants from several other countries.

**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 below shows the San Miguel Mission Church in Santa Fe, the oldest church in the United States, decorated with the traditional luminarias. The Brothers are custodians of this church.

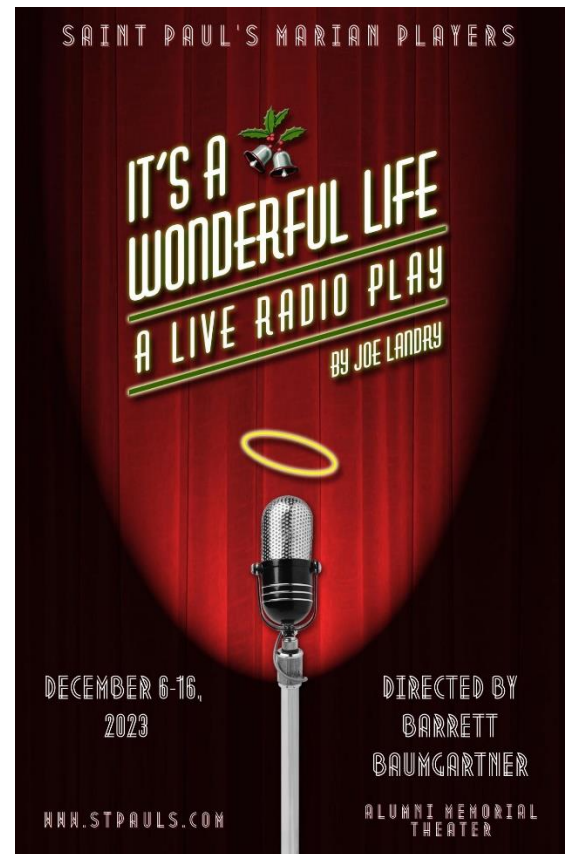


**STUDENT COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE LUMINARIAS:** Saint Paul’s Student Council is proud to present the annual luminaria display on Thursday, December 7, continuing a tradition brought to Covington by the Christian Brothers from their time in Santa Fe. At dusk, the candles inside the paper bags will be lit. Visitors are welcome to drive through de la Salle drive or park and walk the campus. A special word for the year will be displayed in the stands in the stadium, ushering in the season of Advent and the coming of the Christ child. At 6:00 PM, caroling will begin in Founders Circle followed by a prayer service in the chapel. Following the prayer service all are welcome to enjoy treats provided by the Mothers’ Club and music provided by the Music department in the Briggs Assembly Center.



**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE:** Saint Paul's Marian Players presents Joe Landry's *It's a Wonderful Life*. In this play, an angel is sent from Heaven to help a desperately frustrated businessman by showing him what life would have been like if he had never existed.

The play opens on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00pm with performances Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9 at 7:00pm. The following week, the play runs Thursday, December 14, and Friday and Saturday, December 15 – 16, all at 7:00pm. [Tickets on Sale NOW!](#)



**\*\*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)**

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

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS:** We have only a few days of classes left 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.

**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.

**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.

## **SPORTS NEWS: (will have to wait)**

**BASKETBALL:**

**WRESTLING:**

**SOCCER:**

**LACROSSE:**

**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.

*Below: School Census Beginning with Dixon Academy in 1900, the Benedictine Period from 1911-1918, and then finally the Christian Brothers from 1918-1958*

### Dixon Academy 1900

|             | Students | Day | Boarders |
|-------------|----------|-----|----------|
| 1900 - 1901 | 101      | 94  | 5        |
| 1902 - 1909 | 3        |     |          |

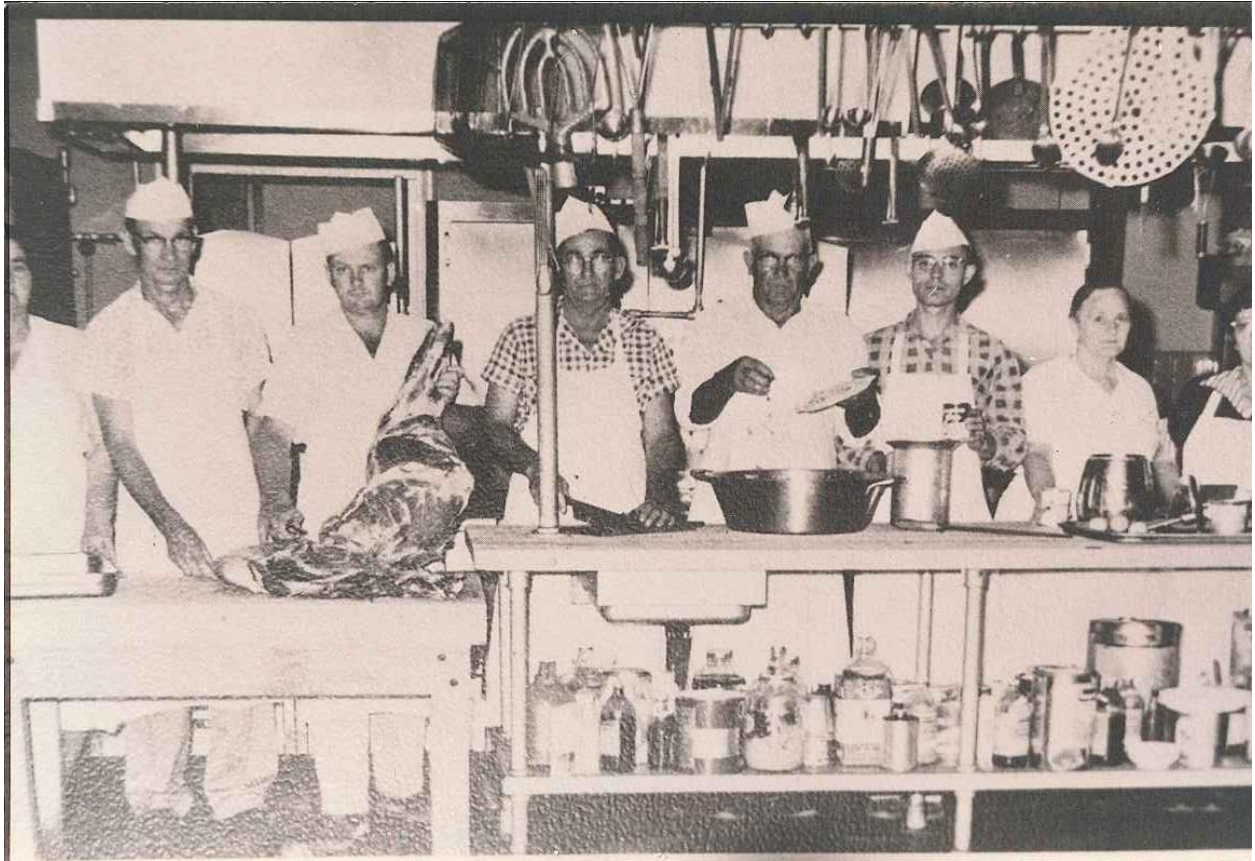
### St. Paul's College (O.S.B.) 1911

|             | Students | Day | Boarders |
|-------------|----------|-----|----------|
| 1911 - 1912 | 124      |     |          |
| 1912 - 1913 | 127      |     |          |
| 1913 - 1914 | 180      |     |          |
| 1914 - 1915 | 168      |     |          |
| 1915 - 1916 | 146      |     |          |
| 1916 - 1917 | 146      |     |          |
| 1917 - 1918 | 160      |     |          |

### St. Paul's College (F.S.C.) 1918

|             | Students | Day | Boarders |
|-------------|----------|-----|----------|
| 1918 - 1919 | 126      | 43  | 83       |
| 1919 - 1920 | 192      | 50  | 142      |
| 1920 - 1921 | 196      | 47  | 149      |
| 1921 - 1922 | 154      | 49  | 105      |
| 1922 - 1923 | 120      | 40  | 85       |
| 1923 - 1924 | 136      | 41  | 95       |
| 1924 - 1925 | 167      | 62  | 105      |
| 1925 - 1926 | 145      | 60  | 85       |
| 1926 - 1927 | 170      | 60  | 110      |
| 1927 - 1928 | 194      | 61  | 133      |
| 1928 - 1929 | 175      | 60  | 115      |
| 1929 - 1930 | 168      | 50  | 118      |
| 1953 - 1954 | 353      | 183 | 170      |
| 1954 - 1955 | 385      | 195 | 190      |
| 1955 - 1956 | 373      | 198 | 175      |
| 1956 - 1957 | 370      | 200 | 170      |
| 1957 - 1958 | 382      | 200 | 182      |





*Above: Kitchen Staff 1950*

*Below: Varsity Basketball Team 1955-56*





*1953 ROTC Cadets Practice Drills*



*Mother's Club 1948*



5570 #69 Mother's Club 1948

(69)

## SCENES FROM THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL: No reports this week.



***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.**



**BOOK STORE (AKA Wolf Den):** The Mothers' Club Wolf Den will be open 7:30 am to 8:15 am & 11:00 am to 12:30 pm each school day. **PLEASE patronize the Wolf Den when possible.**

**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 REQUIREMENT 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.

**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.

## **A LOOK AHEAD:**

### **December**

14 - 19 – First Semester Exams

19 – Faculty Luncheon

20 – Conflict/ Make-up Day

### **January**

3 – Classes Resume

15 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

### **February**

5 – Parent Teacher Conferences

9 – Faculty Retreat Day – No classes meet

12-16 Mardi Gras - Beginning of Lent Holiday

19 – Classes Resume

**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

## **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 – 10th Pre-ACT
- 22 – EFGA – 9th Pre-ACT/ Teacher Appreciation/ Snack day
- 23 – BCDE – 8th Pre- ACT (SSA Sweetheart Dance)
- 26 – FGAB
- 27 – CDEF – Principal's Assembly
- 28 – GABC – 9th grade retreat
- 29 – DEFG – 9th grade retreat

## **March**

- 1 – ABCD
- 4 – EFGA
- 5 – BCDE – Pack Time / Mother-Son (10-12th)
- 6 – FGAB
- 7 – CDEF – Mother-Son (8-9th)
- 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 – 8th 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