



***The SPS President's Newsletter***  
***Celebrating 112 years of educational excellence in Covington***  
***343 years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world***  
***March 17-23, 2024***



Dear Parents,

At the end of this newsletter I have printed the first three pages of the *Historique de St. Paul's*, written by Brother Charles Crouzet. It is an account of the arrival of the first Brothers and their first year, 1918, of owning and running Saint Paul's after buying the school from the Benedictines at nearby St. Joseph Abby. It was written at the request by Brother Jeffery Calligan, who had assumed the principalship in 1978, so as to preserve the early historical accounts of the school by one of the founding Brothers.

Brother Charles was one of scores of Brothers who had fled for their lives from France in the early 1900s when the persecution of the Church and religious had reached a dangerous level. Given the choice of leaving his vocation or leaving his native France, he chose the latter. He and his confreres were sent to Mexico to found and run Lasallian schools in the rural, poor areas of Lasallian District of Northern Mexico. There they quickly learned a new language, culture, and educational system and within a few years were founding and running very successful schools.

Then, in 1916, they were forced to flee for their lives again as the religious persecution of the Mexican Revolution swept through Mexico. The notorious Pancho Villa himself forced the Brothers onto a train to the United States at gunpoint. Their community of twice-exiled Brothers were scattered throughout the United States in various religious communities while awaiting a new assignment. In this country their French and recently acquired Spanish skills were of little use so they again were forced to adapt to a new culture, language, and educational system.

In the *Historique de St. Paul's*, Brother Charles picks up the story of their community reuniting in Covington and assuming the ownership of Saint Paul's School. It is fascinating reading both for the heroic task that the Brothers assumed and for the description of Saint Paul's and Covington in 1918. I will add a few pages each week. I hope you enjoy this first installment.

*Notes on the Historique:*

- *The term "L5" refers to the Theater building. It was called L5 during the 1970s since it was one of five (5) classrooms that accommodated large (L) sized classes.*
- *Dixon Hall was the original school building built by Tulane University when the campus was Dixon Academy 1902-1911. It was destroyed by fire in 1981. It stood where Founders Circle is today.*

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

### **Sunday, March 17**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent
- Feast of Saint Patrick
- V Golf Bayou Rapides Tour. 36 holes-Links on the Bayou-Alexandria

### **Monday, March 18 BCDE**

- 9<sup>th</sup>/JV Baseball @ Live Oak-6p

### **Tuesday, March 19 FGAB- Dress Uniform Day**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Honor Roll Breakfast-BAC
- Mass-Feast of St. Joseph
- Snack Day
- V Baseball @ Live Oak-6p
- 8<sup>th</sup> Baseball @ Ponchatoula-6p
- Golf-18 holes-Pinewood-2p
- JV Outdoor Track & Field-Mandeville High School

### **Wednesday, March 20 CDEF**

- 9<sup>th</sup> Honor Roll Breakfast-BAC
- 9<sup>th</sup> Baseball v Mandeville-Heap Field-5p

### **Thursday, March 21 GABC**

- 10<sup>th</sup> Honor Roll Breakfast-BAC
- 8<sup>th</sup> Baseball-Double Header v Northshore-Heap Field-5:30p
- JH Outdoor Track & Field – SLU Jr. High Strawberry Relays-SLU
- 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Lacrosse-Hunter Stadium-5p
- Touchdown Club Meeting – Cafeteria – 7p

### **Friday, March 22 DEFG**

- Principals Assembly
- JV/V Baseball @ Zachary – 4 & 6p
- V Outdoor Track & Field-PHS Invitational – Ponchatoula High School

### **Saturday, March 23**

- Junior/Senior Prom-BAC
- Rugby v Warren Easton – 5:30p & v Br. Martin-B side game TBD-City Park, New Orleans-Marconi & Harrison Ave.
- JV/V Lacrosse v Catholic – Hunter Stadium-12 & 2:30p

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

**ANNUAL APPEAL:** Several weeks ago, you received the Saint Paul's Advancement Review which contained the President's Annual Educational Fund Report. Many thanks to those who responded to the appeal. We invite you to review the listed businesses and individuals who generously supported Saint Paul's last year. Your support is 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 campaigns**; many are high pressured; ours is not – but we request your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- Your annual gift 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 resources to ensure a superior education for our students.
- The Capital Campaign (more on this later) funds provides resources to expand and improve 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. Will 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. **Thank you!**

**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.

**FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH:** This Tuesday we celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph with an all-school Mass. This feast has special meaning for Saint Paul's. Saint Joseph is the Patron Saint of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, known locally in the United States as the Lasallian Brothers. Saint LaSalle had a special devotion to Saint Joseph, whose life and unique place in the Church mirrors the mission of the Brothers in their schools. As Saint LaSalle wrote in his **Meditations:**

*Because Saint Joseph was made responsible by God for the care and external guidance of Jesus Christ, it was important that he have the qualities and virtues necessary to fulfill worthily so holy and exalted a ministry. The Gospel tells us about three, all very fitting for the responsibility entrusted to him: he was just; he was very submissive to God's orders,<sup>1</sup> and he had a very special solicitude for the education and the protection of Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup>*

As Saint La Salle saw it, these three virtues were central qualities to be emulated in the life and ministry of a Brother in his schools. Hence, he designated Saint Joseph as the Patron Saint of the Institute of the Brothers.



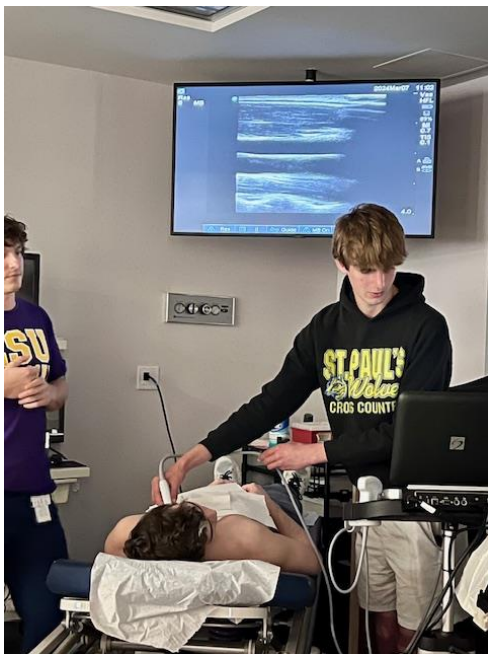
**BROTHER RAY MEMORIAL:** Many ask what has become of the donations to the Brother Ray Memorial Fund. The short answer is that nothing has happened yet but it continues to grow as people continue to donate. I humbly suggest that a portion of the fund should be dedicated to the purchase and proper placement of a statue of Saint Joseph somewhere on the Saint Paul's campus. And, that this statue of Saint Joseph be dedicated to Brother Ray, both to honor the Institute of the Brothers and Brother Ray in particular. I will soon be forming a Brother Ray Memorial Committee to help with the design, placement, and dedication for this statue. If you agree and would like to help with this project, please contact me.

**ADMISSIONS FOR 2024-25:** We are extremely pleased with the number of applicants for next year! And, we continue to receive more applicants! Thanks to all who helped make this happen. Thanks also for spreading the good news about Lasallian education at Saint Paul's School! Congratulations to all future Wolves!

**2024 - 2025 CALENDAR:** The 2024-25 School Calendar has been posted. You can find it at the end of this newsletter. Please refer to this calendar when making vacation or other plans. Thanks.

**MR. GIBBE APPOINTED HEAD BASEBALL COACH:**

Congratulations to Mr. Kristian Gibbe who has been appointed as our new head baseball coach for next year. We are excited to have Kristian lead our baseball program, and we are looking forward to successful seasons under his guidance and expertise. Mr. Gibbe succeeds Coach Mick Nunez who is stepping down to assume the Dean of Students position.



**BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:** Junior and senior PLTW Biomedical students recently experienced a day at LSU's Health and Sciences Center alongside second-year medical students. The program provided hands-on exposure to various medical skills, including performing heart ultrasounds, diagnosing heart and lung defects, excising tumors, administering CPR, managing uncontrolled bleeding, and conducting diagnostic patient interviews. The students also had the opportunity to examine human specimens, such as skeletal remains, kidneys, hearts, lungs, and spinal cords. While these skills align with our PLTW curriculum, the unique aspect of this day involved practicing on mannequins that simulated real-world conditions, complete with heartbeats, breathing sounds, speech capabilities, and eye movements. Those selected for this distinctive experience should be proud of their achievement, as the application process required a demonstration of their dedication to academic excellence.

*Above: Tyson Burns works on a patient.*

*Right: Fischer Redmond AND Harrison Rollins check the heartbeat.*



**STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS:** Any student, Juniors through Pre-Freshmen, who would like to run for a Student Council Executive or Class office for next year should attend a mandatory Leadership Workshop on Tuesday, March 19 during lunch in room 107. Students are not obligated to run if they attend the meeting, but they must attend the meeting to run for office.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered for students during lunch in Our Lady of Peace Chapel on Tuesday (3/19) and Thursday (3/21) of this week. For planning purposes, students who are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week, please complete [this very short form](#) by the end of the school day Monday (3/18). Completing the form is not required, but incredibly helpful to Mr. Ramon and the priests who will be with us those days. Lastly, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available at all church parishes from 5:00-6:30pm on Wednesday, March 20th.

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCES:** Just in case you did not get enough of the Saint Paul's Music program during Mardi Gras, the following is a list of upcoming performances by the various Saint Paul's ensembles:

April 15-20 Jazz Bands at the Bill Evans Festival at Southeastern Louisiana University

April 20 – Jazz Band, Rock Band combo at the Saint Paul's Crawfish Festival

May 8 – Small Recital Concert at the Saint Paul's Music Building

May 17 – Rock Class at Wolf Jam at the Covington Trailhead

May 27 - Concert Band, Jazz Bands, and Rock Band combos at the Spring Concert in the Briggs Assembly Center.

**SAINT PAUL'S – SAINT SCHOLASTICA CHALLENGE:** On Tuesday afternoon the entire SSA community made their way to the Saint Paul's New Gym for the annual inter-school Challenge. The Gym was rocking as students from their respective schools cheered on their participating teams in pursuit of the coveted Challenge Trophy. This year the Wolves emerged victorious and regained the trophy from the Doves. Congratulations to the Student Councils from both schools for organizing the event.



# Saint Paul's School



**NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS**  
**#QUALITYEDUCATION**

**MENTAL HEALTH CLUB:** A group of SPS students interested in improving their overall well-being started the Wolves for Mental Health club, which kicked off the week before Mardi Gras. The group meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Benilde Hall. Students will learn methods of self-improvement, practice techniques for dealing with stress and anxiety and have fun with their brothers. Meetings begin with snacks and socializing and end with games. The group meets monthly on Wednesday evenings. For more information contact Senior Shaun Cooney or Mrs. Kim Gardner.

**SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS:** Senior Parents, please do not forget to purchase a senior ad in the 2024 yearbook. This is a great way to leave a lasting message to your son(s). The due date for ads is May 15th. The ads can be purchased and created by going to [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com). Seniors do not need to purchase a yearbook as this is included in their senior fees paid at the beginning of the year.

**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](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/) ([www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/](https://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.



**HOPE HOUSE RECOGNIZES PHOENIX BIGLER:** Congratulations to senior Phoenix Bigler who was named Youth Champion Award Winner by Hope House Champions for Children. As stated by Hope House, these Champions, “are improving the quality of life and safety of children in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes. These everyday heroes deserve our thanks, and their efforts inspire us to be champions for children in our own lives.”





**SUMMER CAMPS:** Registration is now open for all of our summer camps, including musical theater and STEM camps. [Check out the website](#) for information and registration. Space is limited. Contact Ms. Tammy Freeman for STEM camp information: [t.freeman@stpauls.com](mailto:t.freeman@stpauls.com). If you or someone you know wants to attend a camp at Saint Paul's this summer, please register early. Most camps fill to capacity very early!



## 2024 SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS



June 3-7: Basketball



June 10-14: Football



June 17-21: Baseball



June 24-28: Soccer



June 24-28: Strength



June 24-28: Golf



July 8-12: S.A.S  
Speed, Agility, and Strength



July 15-19 - Wrestling



July 15-19 - Lacrosse



July 15-19 - Rugby

- All camps are staffed by the coaches and athletes that make up some of the top athletic programs in Louisiana!
- Camps run Monday - Friday, 9am-3pm at St. Paul's School, 917 South Jahncke Ave, Covington, LA
- Camps are open to all boys ages 8-14 Prior experience in a sport not necessary!
- All camps have limited enrollment numbers. Sign up early to reserve your spot!
- All SPS Sports Camps held on campus will have a resource officer on duty to ensure the safety of our campers.
- All camps cost \$240 for the week. Sibling discounts are available. A lunch option is available for \$35.
- To sign-up, go to: [stpauls.com/student-life/summer-camp](http://stpauls.com/student-life/summer-camp)

Questions? Contact [sportscamps@stpauls.com](mailto:sportscamps@stpauls.com) or (985) 778-9166

**JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM:** The Junior-Senior Prom is scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 7:30 - 10:30 PM in the Saint Paul's Briggs Assembly Center. The Junior-Senior Prom is a Saint Paul's School function for members of the 11th & 12th grade classes and their guests. Only one female guest is allowed per male student.

**Boys are expected to adhere to the following dress code for Prom**

- Tuxedo is the norm, but not necessary. Suits are acceptable. Ties must be worn.
- Jackets may be removed, but students are to remain fully dressed throughout the dance.
- Please label your jacket with your name to avoid lost items

**Girls are expected to adhere to the following dress code for Prom:**

- Dresses must reach the floor all around and be made of opaque material.
- Slits in dresses may be no more than 4 inches above the knee.
- Dresses may not have a low open back. The back must be at the natural bra line.
- Strapless and one shoulder dresses are acceptable as are spaghetti straps.
- There should be no immodest cutouts, openings, or low-cut, revealing necklines.
- No pierced body parts are to be visible except the ear lobes.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times.
- Comfortable shoes are recommended.

Tickets will go on sale in February—watch your email for details!

**LOST AND FOUND:** Now that Spring 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.



**SCHOOL ZONE DRIVING:** Covington Public Works recently added School Zone sign at East Eleventh Avenue reminding drivers that the school zone speed limit is 15 MPH. For the safety of everyone, please respect the speed limits in the Saint Paul's and all school zones!



**NEW HEAD WRESTLING COACH:** We are excited to announce that Coach Patrick Ritchie will be our new head wrestling coach. Coach Ritchie brings over 20 years of coaching experience to the coaching staff, including several years as a head coach at the high school level. Throughout his coaching career, he has coached countless state placers, state champions, and All-Americans. He has served as a member of the Louisiana National Team Coaching Staff numerous times and currently serves as the Louisiana USA Wrestling Coaches Director. In recognition of his impressive wrestling career, he was named to the Archbishop Rummel Athletic Hall of Fame in 2018.

Coach Ritchie is married to his wife, Jessica, and has two sons, Liam '26 and Jameson '29, who are looking forward to joining the Saint Paul's family.

**GET TO KNOW THE SAN FRANCISCO-NEW ORLEANS LASALLIAN DISTRICT:** 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, De LaSalle High School, Pasadena, California: <https://www.lasallehs.org/>

**From the De LaSalle High website:** *At La Salle College Preparatory, we develop and nurture personal growth through exploration and discovery. We educate and inspire our community of curious and capable students by providing powerful mentorship and instruction to innovate in and out of the classroom. We are a private, Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school founded on the Lasallian tradition of academic excellence and a community of persons deeply conscious of their responsibilities to each other, which is central to their success.*



**Interesting Facts:**

Opened: 1956  
Mascot: Lancers  
Student Faculty Ratio: 14:1  
Ethnicity of Student Population  
Asian / Filipino / Pacific Islander  
31.6%  
Caucasian: 26.8%  
Latino/Hispanic: 23.4%  
Black/African American: 3%  
Multiracial: 13.5%  
Native American: 0.2%  
No Response: 1.5%  
Male: 55%  
Female: 45%



Known for its academic rigor, De La Salle high offers 24 Advanced Placement courses and 82% of AP testers score a 3 or Higher.

**BLUE AND GOLD GALA:** Last night the Briggs Assembly Center was aglow with candle lit festivities as the Saint Paul’s community celebrated the inaugural Blue and Gold Gala event. I will share some of the scenes next week when I have time to recover from the very late night! In the meantime, I wish to once again thank all of the sponsors for their support of this event and their ongoing support for Saint Paul’s School. Thank you

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## **SPORTS NEWS:**

### **SOCCER:**



#### **2023-24 ST. TAMMANY FARMER ALL-PARISH BOYS SOCCER TEAM OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

Owen Spath, Forward, St. Paul's, Senior

**First-team All-District 5-I selection.**

Led the Wolves with 18 goals and 14 assists after he moved from central defender to forward midway through the season.

The Christian Brothers University commitment is a three-year letterman.

#### **DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**Connor Allen, Goalkeeper, St. Paul's, Senior**

Named District 5-I Overall MVP.

The two-year starter anchored a St. Paul's defense that posted 20 shutouts.

The University of Tampa signee had a 0.26 goals against average.

**Brock Duncan, Midfielder, St. Paul's, Senior**

First-team District 5-I selection.

The versatile midfielder and two-year starter finished with over 1,000 steals, along with four goals and eight assists.

**Wyatt Dupre, Forward, St. Paul's, Senior**

First-team District 5-I selection.

The Belhaven signee finished with 14 goals and 12 assists for the state semifinalists.

**2023-24 ALL-DISTRICT 5-I TEAM:** These teams were chosen by the district coaches.

**First team**

Brock Duncan, Wyatt Dupre, forward, Jacob Khashou, Owen Spath, forward,

**Second team**

Bryce Bordes

**Overall MVP:** Connor Allen, St. Paul's, Sr.

**RUGBY:** On Thursday, the Wolf Rugby team built an early lead but were unable to hold it, losing a close game to the Jesuit High School. Rugby will play @ Warren Easton Friday night, March 14, 2024. Kick-off at 6:00 PM.



**GOLF:** Congratulations to the Golf team who won the Northshore League Match earlier this week. Rylan Hess had the lowest score of the match with a score of 35.



*Below: The golfers also participated in the Bayou Rapides Invitational in Alexandria, LA, although I have no results to share.*



**TRACK AND FIELD:** This week saw all three levels of the track and field program in action. Members of our JV team continued to progress in route to season and personal bests. Our Varsity placed third in a highly competitive Thiel Invitational on Wednesday and our JH finished in second place at the CHS - Trafton Invitational on Thursday.

*Junior Eddie' d'Hemecourt in the 800m run in route to a season and lifetime PR.*



### **Results from 2024 CHS-TA JH Classic**

Team: 2nd Place

Individual Results:

Harper Freret: 1st Place 300m Hurdles

Jayden Williams: 1st Place 200m

3rd place 100m

Connor Frederick: 2nd Place 400m

Luke Bernard: 2nd Place 3200m

Bastian Graham: 3rd Place 3200m

Robert Fauchoux: 2nd Place Discus

2nd Place Shot Put

Brennan Higgins: 3rd Place Discus

2nd Place in the 4x100m

3rd Place in the 4x200m

2nd Place in the 4x400m

1st in the 4x800m



Many of our athletes PR'd in their respective events!



*Above: Luke Bernard and Bastian Graham running the 3200m event.*

*Left: 4x400 team - Harper Freret, Connor Frederick, Mickey Kennedy, and Patrick d'Hemecourt.*



**LACROSSE:** The Freshman Lacrosse team had a tremendous week starting with a road win at Newman Thursday night. In that game Matthew Gagliardi had three goals. On Saturday, the Wolves were ready for a rematch against St. Thomas More as part of the Freshman 4. This time, the Wolves left no doubt, winning an intense game 8-3 with 6 goals by Rhett Landry. Griffin Brownell, Grady Rosebush and Landon Zornes had multiple goals in the Wolves undefeated weekend as they defeated Brother Martin and Jesuit to remain unbeaten.



Then on Friday night the JV Lacrosse team beat Jesuit 10-5. Congratulations on a great weekend for the LAX Wolves!

**BASEBALL:** Last weekend the Varsity lost to De La Salle on Wednesday and then swept Lakeshore in the weekend series. On Tuesday they played Brother Martin Tuesday and then a series vs Rummel on Saturday but I have no results for these last games.

**VOLLEYBALL:** No results to report.

**BOWLING:** I know they have been active but have no results to share.

## SCENES FROM THIS WEEK AT SCHOOL:



*Saint Paul's CORE Pack hosted Hannan Grace Program students in the first annual Wolf Toss competition. Below are scenes from the event.*



*Right: CORE Pack students and their guests pose for a photo after the event.*



### Saint Paul's – Saint Scholastica Annual Challenge:



*Above: SSA Doves make their way to the Gym after walking from their campus.*

*Right: Mr. Sibley guards the coveted trophy.*



*Below: Wolves celebrate their big win over the Doves, returning the Challenge Cup to 917 S. Jahncke.*



*Below: students in religion classes attend Taize prayer services this week in Our Lady of Peace Student Chapel.*



**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. This semester we will focus on the second half of the last decade. Enjoy!



*Left: Brother Tim Coldwell directs soccer practice. Brother Tim was the founding coach of the Saint Paul's Soccer program in 1981.*

*Below: Water Polo was part of the H&PE program when we had a pool. The pool was located behind the Briggs Assembly Center.*



*Below: Saint Paul's had one of the first high school tracks in the state. Red cinder was the state-of-the-art material for tracks and Saint Paul's boasted one of the few red-cinder tracks until it was replaced by synthetic surface in 2005.*





*Above: 1982 football team. Notice the wooded area behind the team and the two horizontal crossbars on the goalposts. The woods stood between the stadium and the Brothers residence. These trees and many others (180 mature pines in total) were all destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, forever changing the appearance of the campus. The lower horizontal post was the improvised first soccer goal. It was 8 inches too narrow but, in those days, we were happy to have any goals at all.*

*Right:  
Homecoming  
parade c. 1985.*



Below: Letter written by Brother Ray on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint Paul's, celebrated in 1987.

## THE SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL



P. O. BOX 928  
COVINGTON, LA. 70434  
1-504-892-3200

March 6, 1987

Dear Friends of St. Paul's School,

Seventy-five years of tradition facilitates our educational ministry at St. Paul's, yet this heritage also challenges us all to continue to excel. In 1968 Brother Ephrem closed The St. Paul Story by writing:

The fine family spirit of mutual respect and cooperation which the founding French Brothers instilled into their first pupils in 1918 still persists today among the 350 resident and 250 day students. It stands a good chance of enduring at least another fifty years. [p. 129]

Today, half-way through Brother Ephrem's projection, I joyfully affirm that the spirit of community established in 1918 persists and thrives among the 100 resident and 400 day students, the faculty, the parents, and the alumni. This is part of the tradition which launches us toward the future.

Another crucial facet of the tradition which impels St. Paul's toward the year 2000 and toward its hundredth anniversary is summed up by St. John Baptist De La Salle's remarks in 1718 in the Common Rules for his Brothers. He wrote:

The Brothers of the Society shall strive by prayer, instruction, and by their vigilance and good conduct in school, to procure the salvation of the children confided to their care, bringing them up in piety and in a truly Christian spirit, that is, according to the rules and maxims of the Gospel. [p. 6]

This is the ideal we at St. Paul's continue to strive toward as we face a future filled with problems and uncertainties. With the courageous example of the first seventy-five years, we will also surmount every obstacle and continue to be faithful to our heritage.

Sincerely yours,

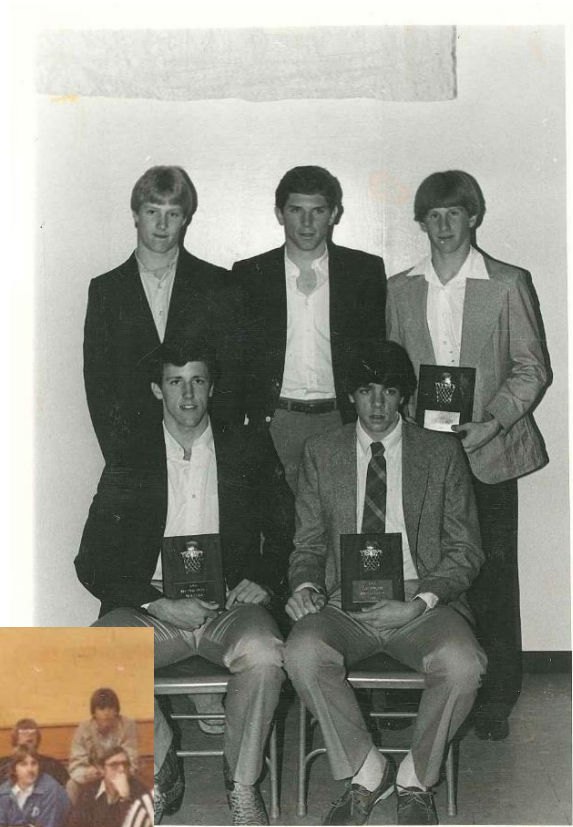
Brother Raymond Bulliard, FSC  
Principal





*Left: Legendary Coach Gene Bennett, after whom the Gene Bennett Sports Complex is named*

*Below: 1983 Major Athletic Award recipients. Notice Mr. Monty Fontenot (upper right), former Head of School at Northlake Christian and now Head Basketball coach at Covington High.*



*Left: Old Gym (now the wrestling gym) before renovation. In the 1980s it still had wooden bleachers.*



*Left: Brother Charles Crouzet addresses the school shortly before his retirement.*

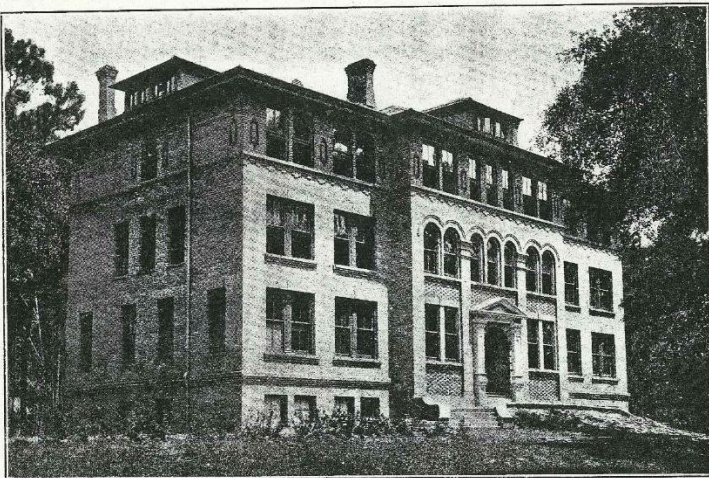
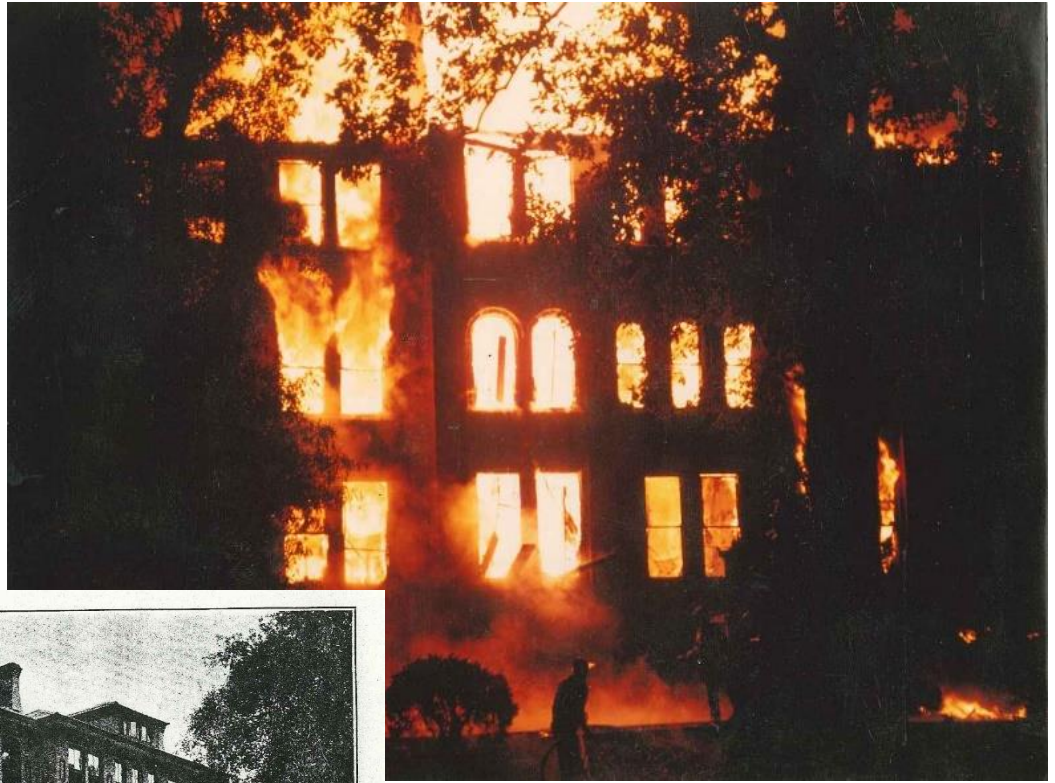
*Below Left: Rededication of the Sacred Heart statue after it had been moved to the front of Dixon Hall at the request of Brother Charles. It stood approximately between the flagpoles today at Founders Circle.*

*Below: The remains of the pedestal after the statue was destroyed in the Dixon Hall fire in November, 1981.*



*Below: Dixon Hall  
c.1918.*

*Right: Dixon Hall is  
destroyed by fire.*



THE NEW COLLEGE AT COVINGTON.  
(DIXON ACADEMY.)

*Below Right: The remains of Dixon Hall,  
the original school building built in 1903,  
after the fire of 1981. It stood where  
Founders Circle is today.*



*Below are the first three pages of the Historique de St. Paul's by Brother Charles Crouzet which I referenced at the beginning of this newsletter. I will print the rest of the Historique in following newsletters.*

## H I S T O R I Q U E   D E   S t .   P A U L ' S

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(These are my personal remembrances of St. Paul's.) It will cover: The Brothers that were here during the first summer; the property; the buildings; the Faculty; the hard times of the beginning; the regulations, etc., etc.

I was at Ocean Rest, (the place, in New Jersey, where the Brothers of the District of Baltimore spent their summers and had their retreats, on the sea shore.) I had begun to teach a Mechanical Drawing course to some Brothers, at the request of Bro. Visitor, Aban Philip. Early in July 1918, Brother Visitor called me and showed me a letter from our Visitor, Niceas Bertin, requesting him to send me to St. Paul's College, in Covington, La., where I was to teach typing, shorthand, bookkeeping, etc. Due to textbooks entirely new to me I was to reach the new school without delay in order to get acquainted with them.

A train ticket was given to me, covering from Ocean Rest to New Orleans, and instructions on where to go from there. I arrived at New Orleans in the morning of July 12. Since the New Orleans station was close to Canal Street and the Mississippi, I followed Canal Street until I reached the Southern station, on the same street, where I learned that there was only one train going to Covington, at 4:00 p.m. Most of my spare time was spent looking around. I discovered the very large St. Joseph's church, a few blocks away, and spent quite a bit of time in it. The train was a small one of two passenger cars. The crossing of Lake Pontchartrain impressed me for I could not see the bridge on either side of the car.

Brother Nilammon was waiting for me at the Covington depot with a horse and buggy. Jahncke Avenue was a narrow shell road with few houses along the way, but venerable old liveoaks with their long beards bordered it on each side from beginning to end.

The entrance to the school grounds was the same as now, but the road was narrow and on each side the grounds were low and marshy up to the entrance to the

cinder track. Before reaching the liveoak the road turned to the left, in a wide S curve, passing in front of the dormitory building,<sup>1</sup> skirting the kitchen and ending on the west side of same.

The traffic that had to do with school business turned around the oak tree and returned back out to Jahncke Avenue. Of course, the road, as now, passed in front of Dixon Hall and turned towards the northeast corner of the property, passing between L5 and the present gym, to reach the intersection of So. Jefferson St. and East 14th Ave. where a "farm gate" was. As far as I know, that stretch of road, from L5 out, was never used by vehicles. Practically the whole property was surrounded by a barb wire fence, except east of the football field that had a solid board fence over 6 ft. high and extending along east 14th Ave. up to the beginning of the track.

About where the Administration building is was a path used by the seniors to go to the football field, that was their playground also. From that path, all the way to E. 14th Ave. was a wooden grand stand<sup>2</sup>. A few years after 1918 that stand was considered unsafe, for part of the lumber was rotten. It was torn down and, with the lumber still usable, another stand was erected, but barely half the length of the original one. In order to make it last longer, a tin roof was built over it.<sup>3</sup>

There were five buildings on the property. The Dixon Hall, minus the two end starways, had a pretty main entrance on the east side, corresponding to the present first floor. A large terrace<sup>4</sup> about 12 by 30 ft. was just one step below the double doors.

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1. See page 51, top picture, The St. Paul's Story, by BRO. EPHREM HEBERT, F.S.C. (All the footnotes will refer to the same book so, no further reference will be made of the book and Author.)
  2. See page 16, top picture.
  3. See page 20, (the two pictures.
  4. See the Front Cover.

Two side concrete stair ways were leading, from the level road to the terrace. On the opposite side of the building, were two small doors, giving access to two narrow stairways going from ground level to the third floor. These were used by the Brothers who had their sleeping quarters on the third floor, and by the students to reach their classes (first and second floors) or to the labs, located in the half basement at both ends of the building.<sup>2</sup> (In 1918 that side of the building was completely covered, from sidewalk to roof, by a creeping vine. There sparrows and, mostly roaches had their empire!) In the middle part was a large furnace for hot-air heating; a barber shop and storage room. That part was on ground level and so, was barely 6 ft. high.

The present L5 was the seniors basketball court, and auditorium when plays were given.<sup>3</sup> It had 3 very large windows and two double door entrances between the windows. Where the Reading Lab is was the swimming pool, with a narrow walk on three sides of same while a fairly large concrete slap was on the stage side. Except during the middle of the summer the water was "ice cold!" That swimming pool was dirt filled and a floor built over it. A door was open on the west side (the present entrance to the reading lab.)

The infirmary building (a frame construction, two stories high) was facing the oak tree, but about 40 ft. from the sidewalk.<sup>4</sup> It had a small porch at each side of the center part, which extended about 8 ft. to the front.

Alongside of an open ditch (that is now replaced by a large concrete pipe) was the juniors gym. It was transformed into a chapel a few days after I arrived at St. Paul's.<sup>5</sup> When the Benedictine Fathers were operating St. Paul's they had a chapel on the third floor of the Dixon Hall. Because all of them were priests they could have their Mass at different hours, and a moderate number of students could

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2. See page 9.

3. See page 10.

4, See page 57.

5. See page 33.

## A LOOK AHEAD:

### March

- 26 – EFGA – 11th HR Breakfast
- 27 – BCDE – 12th HR Breakfast
- 28 – FGAB – Mandatum (dress uniform day)
- 29 - Apr 5 - Easter Holidays

**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 Ext. 1901. 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.**

### AND FINALLY:

#### *A Lenten Reflection:*

*Lent is a time to feast and fast. Fast from judging others. Feast on the God within them. Fast from emphasis on differences. Feast on the unity of all life. Fast from apparent darkness. Feast on the reality of light. Fast from thoughts of illness. Feast on the healing power of God. Fast from discontent. Feast on gratitude. Fast from anger. Feast on patience. Fast from pessimism. Feast on optimism. Fast from worry. Feast on God's love for you.*

*(Sister Margaret Murray, CSJ)*

Live Jesus in our Hearts...Forever!

Trevor C. Watkins, AFSC  
President



# Saint Paul's School 2023 - 2024 Calendar

## Second Semester

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.

## Second Semester Period Rotation

### March

- 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

## **5 CORE PRINCIPLES OF LASALLIAN SCHOOLS**



## Saint Paul's School 2024 - 2025 Calendar

Thu, Aug 1	Teacher Meetings
Fri, Aug 2	Archdiocesan Formation Day for teachers
Mon, 5	Teacher Meetings
Tues, Aug 6	Teacher Prep Day
Wed, Aug 7	School Opens <b>with full day of instruction</b>
Mon, Aug 19	New Parent Reception and Information Meeting (6:30)
Thu, Aug 22	Senior March through the Arch, Breakfast, Unity Day, Ring Day
Fri, Aug 23	Senior Ring Holiday
Mon, Aug 26	Parent-Teacher Mini Schedule Night (6:30)
Fri, Aug 30	N.O. Lasallian Convocation for Teachers (no classes for students)
Mon, Sep 2	Labor Day Holiday
Fri, Oct 4	Fall Break Holiday
Fri, Oct 11	End of First Quarter; 11:00 am dismissal
Fri., Oct 11	Grandparent Day (11:30 – 1:00)
Mon, Oct 21	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7
Sat, Nov 2	Prospective Student Open House (1 – 3 pm)
Mon-Fri, Nov 25 - 29	Thanksgiving Holidays
Mon, Dec 2	Classes resume from Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon - Thu, Dec 16-19	Semester Exams
Thu, Dec 19	Christmas Holidays begin at 11:45 following exams
Fri, Dec 20	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day
Mon, Jan 6	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 20	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 3	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
Fri, Feb 28	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Mar 3-7	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Mar 10	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 14	End of Third Quarter
Fri – Fri, Apr 18 – Apr 25	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 28	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Mon-Thu, May 5 – May 8	Senior Final Exams
Thu, May 15	Pre-freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30 pm)
Sat, May 17	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Mon – Thu, May 19 - 22	Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11
Fri, May 23	Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Tues, May 27	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.

