



The President's Newsletter for Apr 14 - 27, 2014

2014 -- A Year of Family and Faith in the Archdiocese of New Orleans



Holy Week



Campus chapel with Lenten cross and basket for student prayer intentions

I'm a word nerd. I love what individual words can do and the power that they hold, especially when one word becomes sort of a mantra or theme of someone's presentation. I was thus struck last Thursday by Glen Ballard's Leadership Day talk to the students. Mr. Ballard is a famous song writer and composer who has written for Michael Jackson, Elton John, and many other famous entertainers. He told the students about his struggle to join the entertainment industry and the challenges he faced. He told them to "find your passion" and follow it because they will be working for a long time. I hope your son told you about this assembly and Mr. Ballard's wonderful talk and interaction with the student body.

I boiled down Mr. Ballard's message into: *Pursue your passion!* He kept repeating the word "passion" so often that I doubt if any student (even with their wandering attention spans) did not hear it. What a wonderful message for our students! What a wonderful message for us!

As Mr. Ballard spoke, I couldn't help but think of the etymology of the word passion: from the Latin *passio* meaning *to suffer*. Often, in pursuing our passions, suffering is required. Mr. Ballard described his suffering as he attempted to follow his music passion and become part of the recording industry in Los Angeles. But his suffering gave way to success. And his real message thus becomes: do what you love even if it involves suffering, as that will give way to love and success. I don't think any truly successful person never experienced some failure.

This week, we focus on The Passion, the ultimate suffering of our Savior, who loved us enough to die for us in order that we might gain eternal life. I can't help but link Mr. Ballard's message with the focus of this week. We are called, as Lasallian educators, to have passion for our vocation. Saint La Salle used the word "zeal" (from the Greek *zelos* meaning ardor) but the two are similar. We must love what we do even if it involves suffering, as that will lead to success, love, and happiness. Let's face it: our jobs are not often easy and not for the faint of heart. The same is true of parenting: your job as parent is not often easy and not for the faint of heart. You parent because you love!

As we remember The Passion this week, let us ask for grace to be *passionate* about our work – both whether as educators or as parents. And as I wrote to the faculty, if we are not, we need to go pursue something else. May the grace of Holy Week fill our lives and the lives of our students and children!

Mon, Apr 14 – (7:45 faculty meeting; 9:00 AM CLASS START; A B C D)

- **9 AM Start Today To Allow For Faculty Meeting:** Cafeteria and library will be open for early arrivals so that's not a problem.
- **International Moment of Laughter Day:** To celebrate this day, tell jokes or do funny things that cause people to laugh. Just a smile is not a good enough. Successful participation in this day results in whole-hearted laughter.

- **National Dolphin Day:** Celebrate the dolphin today! Watch clips of “Flipper” on You Tube! Am I the only one who remembers the TV show “Flipper?”
- **TDIH:** In 1865, John Wilkes Booth, an actor and Confederate sympathizer, fatally shoots President Abraham Lincoln at a play at Ford's Theater in Washington.
- **TDIH II:** In 2011, the entire SPS school community participated in the **Centennial March to the Courthouse** from school to St. Tammany Justice Center. This was an outstanding event. The Committee, chaired by then SPS mom Shawn Reed, had assembled a stellar cast of dignitaries to honor our students and school. We remain very grateful.
- **Football Test Day (3:30):** Hard to believe, but the 2014 edition of SPS Football begins today!
- **Challenge Night:** The annual “Battle of the Sexes” between SPS & SSA takes place tonight in good natured fun and competition. This is NOT a sexist thing and we’re not about to turn it into one! Please speak with your son and if he is attending, make sure he plans to do so appropriately.
- **Baseball:** Postponed from Sat, the Wolves play at Mandeville tonight.
- **Passover (Pesach)** the 7 day Jewish festival of unleavened bread celebrating the Exodus, which freed the Jewish slaves for Egyptian oppression, begins at sundown today. We wish our Jewish brothers and sisters and most blessed and joyous Passover season.

Tue, Apr 15 (Pack Schedule; E F G A)

- **TDIH:** The “unsinkable” RMS Titanic sinks after hitting an iceberg on its maiden voyage, killing 1,517 people.
- **TDIH:** In 1865 Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the US, dies. Shot by John Wilkes Booth at Ford’s Theater in Washington the night before, he lived for 9 hours before succumbing to the severe head wound he sustained.
- **Rubber Eraser Day:** We all make mistakes! Where would we be with erasers? If only we could erase all the mistakes in our lives, not just the ones written in pencil on paper.
- **World Art Day:** Celebrate art on the anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci’s birthday in 1452! Check out da Vince’s art (including The Last Supper & The Mona Lisa) on a search engine of your choice.
- **Golf:** League leading Wolves in Northshore league play
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity v. Northshore (4 & 6:30)
- **Rugby:** Team travels to Gretna to play the Houma Hurricanes
- **Tennis:** Wolves play Mandeville, which will probably decide the district championship. Go Tennis Wolves!



Senior Lacrosse Wolves!

Wed, Apr 16 (Passion Play Schedule; B C D E)

- **National Librarian Day:** Be nice to a librarian today! Thanks, Ann Forster, for being a great one for SPS!
- **National Healthcare Decisions Day:** Archbishop Aymond encourages us to observe today to promote the importance of advance care planning, to educate and encourage patients to express their health care wishes through the use of advance directives and health care power of attorney documents, and to encourage health care providers and facilities to honor those wishes. Fr. José Lavastida, Director of Christian Formation for the

Archdiocese has worked very closely with LAPost (the Louisiana Physicians Order for Scope of Treatment) on developing information for Catholics on end of life care issues. These are not always easy discussions, but important ones.

- **Passion Play:** Thanks to Denny, Liturgical Band, and Drama classes for this annual Holy Week devotion.
- **Football:** New Parent Meeting (7 in the BAC)

Thu, Apr 17 (Assembly; E F G A)

- *Mandatum (Washing of the Feet) Ceremony*
- **TDIH:** In 1970, with the world anxiously watching, *Apollo 13*, a U.S. lunar spacecraft that suffered a severe malfunction on its journey to the moon, safely returns to Earth.
- **National Blah, Blah, Blah Day:** The intent of this day is to do things that people have been nagging you to do.
- **National Haiku Poetry Day** is a celebration of the genre of haiku, a kind of poetry whose origins date back a millennium in Japan. Write some haiku today – a 17 syllable poem divided into 3 lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables, and employing highly evocative allusions and comparisons, often on the subject of nature or one of the seasons. Here’s an example dating back to the 1600s:
 - **An old silent pond...**
A frog jumps into the pond
Splash! Silence again
- **TDIH:** Ford Motor Company officially unveils the Ford Mustang automobile.
- **Baseball:** JV & Varsity at Covington (4 & 6:30)

Fri, Apr 18 (Good Friday; no classes)

- **TDIH:** In 1775, Paul Revere makes his famous ride to warn of British military movement, “one if by land; two if by sea” (one & two being the lanterns hung in steeple of Old North Church – but you knew that.)
- **National Wear Your Pajamas to Work Day.** Well, we don’t have school, so stay in your pajamas.
- **National Poem in Your Pocket Day:** Select a poem you love during National Poetry Month then carry it with you to share with co-workers, family, and friends.

Sat, Apr 19 (Holy Saturday)

- **TDIH:** in 1775, the American Revolution begins with the Battle of Lexington. It’s also **John Parker Day** who gave the order, “Stand your ground. Don’t fire unless fired upon; but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here.”

Sun, Apr 20 – Easter! Alleluia! He is Risen!

- I don’t usually print TDIH on Easter Sunday, but the following are important enough to remember – and to pray that they never happen again. **TDIH: In 1999, Columbine High School Tragedy occurs.** Remain vigilant and reinforce the need for students to report any threat immediately. **On this 15th Anniversary of the Columbine.** I invite all to pray: *Heavenly Father, fill all schools with Your Holy Spirit. May Your grace and power keep schools safe and eliminate such problems as alcohol, drugs, guns, pornography, violence, depression, and disrespect for life. Turn the hearts of students toward You. Open their eyes, hearts and minds that they may see what is really important in life. Dissipate the anger in all who lash out at others, bullying them or ridiculing them. Touch the hearts of those tempted to solve problems through violence. Make our schools safe harbors, with atmospheres that encourage all to live your Law of Love. Infuse wisdom, vigilance, caring, compassion, and understanding in teachers. Help administrators make just and wise decisions. Help*

everyone to spread the message that You are with us always and everywhere -- and that only You have the answer to the problems we face. Amen.

- **TDIH:** On this day in 2010, an oil rig run by British Petroleum (BP) exploded in the Gulf of Mexico about 50 miles off the Louisiana coast, resulting in the largest offshore oil spill in US history.

Mon, Apr 21 – Fri, Apr 25 – Easter Holidays (NOT Spring Break!)

Mon, Apr 28 – Classes resume from Easter Holidays with C D E F

Easter Holidays – NOT SPRING BREAK: Saint Paul's gives holidays in honor of Easter, not spring. It's important to recognize the religious nature of the holiday. The administrators of Catholic schools are growing increasingly concerned that students are forgetting their spiritual obligations at this time as they travel far and wide to "celebrate" – often inappropriately. PLEASE stress this with your sons – and don't let me hear any SPS student talk about "Spring Break" – there's no such animal at SPS.

Clarifying the Sunday Issue: Archdiocese issued "clarifications" about the "no Sunday events at Catholic schools":

- If the event is all weekend (i.e. student retreat or play), it will be allowed. The Archbishop prefers for the event to be held after 1pm on Sun to allow Family time for Church.
- If there is a fair all weekend, it is OK to have the fair after 1pm on Sunday. However if the fair is just held on Sunday, it must be moved to Saturday.
- If there is an Alumni Event, have it after 1pm on Sun.
- If it is a non-school sponsored event (i.e. play-off game), it is acceptable.
- If it is an event out of town, we must make sure Mass is offered to the students on Sunday.
- Open Houses should NOT be held on Sunday.



Cast & Crew of "Anything Goes" at the finale!

Class of 2015 Graduation Date: We have finally finalized the Class of 2015 graduation date. It will be on SATURDAY, May 17, 2015 at 4 pm in the Briggs Assembly Center. What took so long? Since 1972, Saint Paul's has been having its graduation on the third Sunday of May and SSA has been having its graduation on the third Saturday of May. Archbishop Aymond is no longer allowing Catholic schools to graduate on Sundays. Hence, SPS must move its date. Here was my problem.

- I really don't want to have graduation on a weekday night.
- I don't want to conflict with SSA on the third Saturday of May.
- I was going to have it on the third Friday, but SSA informed me that that is their Senior Night.
- I then thought about the second Saturday of May, but that would eliminate a full week of class instruction, play havoc with our awards ceremonies, and, most importantly, would be on the same day as the State Track Meet

and State 5A baseball tournament. (the latter two events assume we would make it that far – which we have in the past.)

So I settled on the third Saturday in May – the same day as SSA, but at a very different time. They have their ceremony at 10 am. We will have ours at 4 pm, which will allow plenty of time for the SSA ceremony and lunch or family gathering afterward for the families. Why the concern about SSA? We have three Class of 2015 members who have twin or triplet siblings at SSA. Hence, I wanted to be sensitive to these families. It took a while to check with all of them. They were all VERY understanding and cooperative and think the 4 pm time will work well for their families. I am grateful to them.

- Whew! That’s probably more than you wanted to know!

Musing on Last Week:

- **Apologies** to senior **Ben Danton** for omitting his name last week as a member of our Robotics Team that competed last week. I again congratulate the Robo-Wolves on their 8th place showing (out of over 50 schools) at the last week’s competition.
- **Shell Eco-Car:** The Wolves on Wheels represented us well in New Orleans at the invite of Shell Oil: **Quinn Anglada, Jordan Wyble, Jacob Tullos, Marcus Garner, Cray Pennison, Lucas Waldron, Shane Strander, Max Tepper, Grant Greffer, Cain Plaisance, Will Gement, Adam Fink, Andrew Juge, and moderators Mr. Mark Richards & Mr. John Carambat.**
- **Golf:** Weather postponed play this week.
- **Baseball:** Tough loss to Slidell; great win over Hammond; Mandy game postpone till Monday night.
- **Jazz Band Clinic:** Jazz Wolves did great.
- **ACT:** The testing team earned a 36!!
- **Leadership Week:** Thanks to student council for:
 - **Founder’s Mass:** our students were great! Our Lasallian guests from all over the country commented VERY favorably about the boys’ singing, demeanor, and participation!
 - **Leadership Breakfast: Covington Councilman at Large and 1963 SPS Honor Graduate Lee Alexius** addressed students. He focused on “Building a Strong Foundation” – and gave credit to SPS for his.
 - **Speaker: Mr. Glen Ballard**, famous music composer who has worked with Elton John, Michael Jackson and others, was excellent. He encouraged the students to “find what you love to do and be passionate about it.” The Q & A session was particularly powerful as students interacted with Mr. Ballard. He recommended that we read book by Malcolm Gladwell and read poetry by T.S. Eliot & Robert Frost.
 - Year in Review: There was a nice video of the year in review and the new Student Council Executive Board was introduced: **President Sam Giberga, Vice President Austin Grashoff, Secretary Adam Schmitt & Treasurer Leland van Deventer.**
- **Athletic Signings:** Thanks to Karen Hebert for organizing signings for **Kramer Jackson** to run track at LA Tech and Wyatt Popovich to play basketball at Huntingdon in Montgomery.
- **LSU Spring Testing:** Let’s hope our guys kept our string of Golden Achievement Awards going!
- **Crawfish Cookoff:** A grand time was had by all – except the crawfish! Well done, Alum Association!
- **Track:** 1st Place (so what else is new?) in the Ronnie Doyle Raider Invitational!



Robotics Wolves at competition last week

- **Thomas Ruli:** Spring Hill is featuring Thomas on their website. Check it out at <http://www.shc.edu/>
- **Confessions:** Thanks to **Fr. Bru (St. Peter), Fr. Mark (OLL), & Frs. Frank & Gary (St. Anselm)** for offering Sacrament of Reconciliation to our students last week.
- **Lacrosse:** A big playoff win against Mandeville! On to the semi-finals! Go LAX Wolves!

The G, B & U Dept:

- **The Good:** Most of the above and nine state rally winners to boot – more on then in future newsletter!
- **The Bad:** The continued health challenges of some of our students, the CA students who died or were injured in the bus crash on their way to a college visit, the PA students who were injured by a knife-wielding classmate (keep up your vigilance!) and a Ponchatoula High School teen who committed suicide and who was known to some of our students as he had attended Fontainebleau Jr Hi. We offered our prayers for all of these intentions.
- **The Ugly:** Last Tuesday, law enforcement showed up for a drug dog search. Why so soon after the last search? We did not want any student to think that we were relaxing our stance. I'm embarrassed to say that in a totally random search, the dogs "hit" on two students. A subsequent search found that they had brought pot and drug paraphernalia on campus; they were arrested by Covington PD and have withdrawn from school. My heart is heavy, especially coming so soon after the alcohol issue we dealt with last week. As a result of these students' actions, two families are devastated. While the promise of Holy Week gives hope that good will come from this incident, many are going through their own "passion" in the process. As much as I love our students, I cannot and will not allow them to bring drugs on campus – which is a violation of the law! Parents – PLEASE stress drug usage with your children. It is NOT OK! We will continue to be vigilant. And the testing will continue and the dogs will be back. Please join me in praying

Apr 08 Assembly: I hope the students enjoyed our Apr 08 assembly. Here's some of what we did:

- Students entered the gym to the strains of "I Surrender" as performed by Class of 2010 alums Thomas Lorando and Jackson Parsons. This has become a Lenten tradition since the days when Jackson and Thomas would perform the song live in the gym for the last assembly before Holy Week. I reminded the students that the song encourages us to surrender to God and give up our sinful ways. Time continues to pass. But it's not too late to change. Are we cooperating with God's plan? Are we making the most of the time we are allotted? While the music played, junior **David Heap** lit the prayer candle – still purple for Lent.
- Recognized and congratulated the **Lasallian Youth Leaders** for all their hard work in making Founder's Week such a great success. The LYLs stood and the student body applauded.
- Introduced the **Honorable Mike Cooper**, 1971 SPS Alum and Mayor of the City of Covington. Mayor Cooper told the boys how fortunate they were to attend SPS and how proud of the City is of SPS accomplishment. Toward that end, he presented our State Championship Soccer Team with a special proclamation honoring their achievement.
- Recognized and congratulated the STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MATH WOLVES who took 1st Place at last week's state convention: With over 700 students from 31 schools competing, SPS took:

- 9th Place in Equations (**Ethan Desforbes**)
- 9th Place in Advanced Algebra (**John Cresson**)
- 3rd & 7th Places in Math Functions (**Colin Skinner & Evan Lewis**)
- 3rd Place in History of Math (**Grant Connolly**)
- 4th Place in Statistics (**Mitch St. Pierre**)
- 1st Place in Algebra II (**Ryan Meraux**)
- 2nd Place in Algebra II (**Luke Avenel**)
- 10th Place in Advanced Math (**Max Gold**)
- 1st Place in Calculus (**George Cazenavette**)
- 5th Place in Calculus (**August Dixon**)
- 7th Place in Math Hustle (**Ethan Desforbes, Warner Moore, Ben Toups, Grant Connolly**)
- 1st Place in Algebra II Team (**Ryan Meraux, Luke Avenel, Ruston Keller, Patrick Connolly**)
- 3rd Place in Advanced Math Team (**Max Gold, Aaron Nguyen, Hunter Simonson, Matthew Baldone**)
- 3rd Place in Calculus Team (**August Dixon, George Cazenavette, Brennan Skinner, Ryan Keller**)
- 1st Place (with over 160 contestants!) in Ciphering (**Luke Avenel**)
- 5th Place in Lower School Team Competition (**John Cresson, Ethan Desforbes, Ryan Meraux, Ruston Keller, Luke Avenel**)
- 5th Place in Upper School Team Competition (**Aaron Nguyen, Hunter Simonson, Connor Lu, Matt Baldone, Max Gold, Winston Duffour, Michael Brands, Ben Toups, Warner Moore, Jack Dubrueil, August Dixon, George Cazenavette, Ryan Keller, Mitch St Pierre, Brennan Skinner, Grant Connolly, Grant Landwehr, Max Morvant, and Evan Lewis**)
- As a result of all the points scored, the SPS Mathletes finished in **FIRST PLACE** in SWEEPSTAKES – the equivalent of a **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**. Accordingly, as is our tradition, all of the Math participants assembled on the gym floor holding their “bling” (trophies and medals) and paraded around the gym while the strains of “We Are the Champions!” blared through the sound system and the rest of the student body cheered wildly. It was a magical moment.

- Recognized and congratulated the **cast and crew of *Anything Goes!*** The play ran for two successful weeks with mostly sold out performances. Ms. Charbonnet, Mr. Baumgartner, Mr Boudreaux and the cast and crew deserved our thanks. Special thanks to the Marian Players Boosters, too, for helping with the **MANY** logistical issues involved in putting on a play of this caliber.



Tucker in his state championship stance prepares to lift and win the state championship in his weight class.

- Recognized and congratulated the Ultimate Frisbee Team, The Dire Wolf. The Wolf finished in second place in the March 15th annual Ogre Open hosted by Baton Rouge High School. The best teams in the state were there. In his post tournament comments Coach Richards said “He’s never been more proud of the effort the boys showed today”. The Dire Wolf played 6 back to

back games. The Dire Wolf are many and a great bunch of players to be with. They are **Brad McNally, Trevor Watkins, Matt Rader, Cole Abraham, Justin Sciortino, Jack Ruli, David Heap, Cain Plaisance, Paul Tilley, Jordan Jacob, Ben Kenney, Kyle Waguespack, Connor Rees, Evan Young, Ben Toups, Jack Dubriel, Parker Rice, Joe Tanner, and led by Captain David Conroy.** The Wolf is looking forward to the State Championships the first weekend in May.

- Recognized and congratulated the participants and winners in the Foreign Language Festival at SLU: In Spanish Poetry Division, A.J. LaCroix placed 3rd in Spanish II, & Patrick Stewart placed 1st in Spanish III and William Kenyon placed 1st in Spanish IV. In (1st place). In **Spanish Extemporaneous Speaking** Jack Nunez placed 2nd in Spanish I, Austin Willis placed 2nd in Spanish III, and Kaleb Sandino placed 3rd in Native Speaker category. In the Spanish Music competition, Bryan Livaudais & Peter Yager placed 1st. And in a special treat, Bryan and Peter came to the floor and performed their award winning song for the whole assembly. It was WONDERFUL.
- Again, I ran out of time before I ran out of recognitions – which will carry over to the next assembly. So I quickly congratulated the gold, tennis, baseball, track, lacrosse Wolves and we encouraged everyone to finish strong by singing the fight song. We ended with the whole student body standing and singing that Lenten favorite, “O That Shame.” It was powerful. **Junior Nick Chaisson** extinguished the prayer candle while the recording of Thomas and Jackson singing “I Surrender” played. The students spontaneously joined in the singing. It was very moving. I closed by reminding the students what the candle represents – the love of God, the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. I exhorted them to spread God’s love to all whom they meet.
- It was a great assembly – at least I thought so!

Greater Lasallian World Dept: Congratulations to Lasallian schools Rummel and De La Salle for sponsoring a Team Up Against Violence Rally at Notre Dame Seminary on Sat. High school students from throughout the Archdiocese attended. Archbishop Aymond and US Attorney Kenneth Polite (himself a DLS grad) presided. We pray that their efforts will help reduce violence in our area.

H of the W: Even though it’s Holy Week, we can still chuckle:

1. *After the christening of his baby brother, Jason sobbed all the way home. His father asked what was wrong. The boy said, 'Father said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'*
2. *A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'*
3. *A mom was preparing pancakes for Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys argued over who*



2014-15 Eucharistic Ministers return from training

would get the first pancake. Their mom saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. 'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to Ryan and said, ' Ryan, you be Jesus!'

4. A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' the son asked. 'He died and went to Heaven,' the Dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'
5. A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' 'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'
6. An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?" The boy thought it over and said, "I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out!'"
7. Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life. The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"
8. OK, I'll stop!

SPS Yearbook: 2013-14 yearbooks are still on sale, and anyone wishing to purchase them may do so online through this link: <https://yearbookforever.com/ssDeepLink.aspx?sid=1-5H-1621&dest=BAYB> SENIORS DO NOT NEED TO ORDER AS THE BOOK WAS INCLUDED IN THE SENIOR FEE.

The West St. Tammany Exchange Club for Child Abuse Prevention is sponsoring Hook'd Up in Madisonville from 2 – 6 on Sun, Apr 13 (today!) The event will feature the band Soljet, which counts two SPS dads (Ray Serpas and Kraig Schexnayder) as members! It is a free concert, with donations taken by the Exchange Club for Child Abuse Prevention. It is a kid friendly event and should be a great time for the family. The event is sponsored by many local businesses in an effort to bring awareness during child abuse prevention month.

SPS Right to Life Club: From Monday to Thursday, the up-and-coming SPS Right to Life club will be holding a fund/item drive for the Northlake Crisis Pregnancy Center. For 28 years, Northlake CPC has served the Northshore with medical, counseling, and educational services for women looking for alternatives to abortion. They also provide material items (diapers, baby wipes, etc.) for poor mothers during the first 2 years of a baby's life. Check them out at <http://www.northlakecpc.com/default.html> **We will be collecting money and 5 items (diapers (sizes 1-5), baby wipes, baby wash, diaper cream, baby oil).** Please send any of these items to school with your son.

Words of Encouragement Dept: In view of the rough last two weeks, I needed more than one W of E right now! And so....

- From an email by Councilman Lee Alexius, following his talk at the leadership breakfast: *What a pleasure it was to speak at the Leadership Breakfast this morning. I cannot thank David Conroy and Trevor enough for the invitation and opportunity. As I would expect from a group of St. Paul students, they were extremely well behaved and very attentive. I hope my message was well received. Again, my appreciation for the opportunity to face the students.*
- From an email by a former student who visited campus last week: *When I was looking through all of the yearbooks from 1948-1953, what wonderful memories I have from living at St. Paul's those years. I was*

young and had severe asthma and wasn't doing well. My uncle, Brother Wil Landry, was a Christian Brother and the family suggested that I live across the lake. Moving so far away from family for those 6 years was very difficult. Yet, I learned that I had a new family, my brothers at St. Paul. Later my childhood asthma subsided due to physical activities in football, track, marching band and more. I returned to New Orleans in 1953 and finished high school there. My days at St. Paul are filled with many memories of my classmates and teachers. It was very nostalgic returning after so many years have passed. New buildings that have replaced the old and seeing some that are still there. I am very grateful for my time that day and the warm reception given me. Thank you so much for spending time with me, allowing me to look through old yearbooks since mine were all destroyed in 'Betsy', and meeting such wonderful, helpful people. It was fun going into the ROTC class since I am retired from 20 years in the Air Force. I look forward to keeping in touch and another visit when I can spend more time. Again thank you for your time.

I'm Still Begging: Thanks to those who each week to my request. But PLEASE – I need everyone's help, including alumni and grandparents. For clarity, I offer the following:

- Almost **all private schools conduct annual funds**; many are high pressured; ours is not.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short term projects, e.g. technology, special programs (e.g. engineering). The Capital Campaign funds large infrastructure projects (the \$4 million La Salle Hall renovation.)
- You may “pledge” your gift and pay later or in installments (monthly, etc.). **More and more families are using automatic credit card monthly payments of \$10 or \$20 dollars. WONDERFUL!**
- Gifts of stock are welcome.
- **No gift is too small. I repeat: no gift is too small!** What's important is that everyone participates.
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or financially supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thanks. Can you send \$10 to 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. Many thanks!

WE NEED GRANDPARENT SUPPORT! Several grandparents approached me on GP Day about donating and asked why they aren't solicited like other schools do. I replied that we need and welcome their support and they all replied that they would contribute. **If you would like to inform your son's grandparents of the drive, please do so – or provide me with an address and I'll personally appeal. I'll send them a nice “thank you” note, too!** Even a small donation (\$5!) is welcome.

Hair Rule: With nature sprouting all over, our students' hair seems to be growing a fast rate, too. We are about to embark on “haircut” rule enforcement, so help us by insisting your son conforms to policy.

And, no, I don't think hair regulation is more important than drug (we're still testing!) and alcohol regulation but I'm not willing to ignore the less important rules that we have.

A Look Ahead:

April 17 – Easter Holidays (**NOT SPRING BREAK!**) begin at 3:00

Apr 21-25 Easter Holidays (**NOT SPRING BREAK!**)

Apr 28 – Class resume from Easter Holidays (**NOT SPRING BREAK!**) with C D E F

April 29 – President's Assembly

May 2 – Sophomore Service Day

May 6 – Pack Time / AP Exams begin

May 7-9 – Senior Exams

May 12 - Athletic Awards in AM
May 13 – President’s Assembly – Band Awards in PM
May 14-16 – Pre Freshmen Exams
May 14 – Senior Grad Night
May 15 – Level Awards in AM assembly
May 16 – Major Awards in AM assembly (dress uniform day)
May 18 – Senior Graduation
May 19 – Pre Freshmen Promotion / Exam Schedule Begins
May 22 – Exams End
May 23 – Make up exam day

Whew! I wore you out again this week but you get a break next week as the newsletter goes on Easter Holiday. Next edition will be Sunday, April 27. Enjoy your Easter Sunday without the newsletter cluttering up your email “in” box – or for many of you, your “spam” folder.

And even though we’re at the middle of April (already!) of 2014, I still close with a paraphrase from one of my favorite NPR radio shows (which I’m listening to now as I write and LOLing): well, it’s happened again – you’ve squandered perfectly good time reading my ramblings!

Again, please let me know if there’s an issue you would like me to address in my newsletters or a question you think applies to others. Know of my prayer for you and your family, especially as we march forward through 2014! Again, thanks for being part of the 2013-14 edition of Saint Paul’s!

Brother Ray Bulliard, FSC

Praying for God’s Blessing on You and Your Family During Holy Week, Easter, & Passover as the 17th Christian Brother President of Saint Paul’s School

***CQIRF! RABTGN! OTSNEIHG!
SPOP! PFU!
SJBDSL! PFU!
SB! HUDOTEW!
LJIOH! F!***

