

The President's Hebdomadal Blue Ribbon Newsletter March 20 - 26, 2017



The original seal of the

Institute created by St. La

Salle shows St. Joseph and the boy Jesus: Joseph, the teacher

caring for and raising the boy

Jesus; the Lasallian teacher

caring for and raising

students entrusted to him/her.

God is a spring of living water which flows unceasingly into the hearts of those who pray.

St. Louis De Montfort

Mon, Mar 20 (Regular; C D E F) - Feast of St. Joseph observed today since March 19 was a Sunday



• Today's feast was special to Saint John Baptist de La Salle. The morning and night prayers of the first Brothers included a special prayer to Joseph and in the Brothers' Rule of 1705, the Brothers were instructed to gather at 1 pm (before afternoon classes) to recite the litany of Saint Joseph, the "patron and protector of the Institute." And a holiday was given in those early days on the feast of Saint Joseph! (Oh, for the good old days!) In his meditation for the feast of Saint Joseph, Saint La Salle says: You have been charged, like Saint Joseph, with a holy work very similar to his and requiring that your

piety and your virtue be more than ordinary. You have been made responsible for your students just as Saint Joseph was made responsible for the Savior of the world. Take Saint Joseph as your model to make yourself worthy of your ministry.

• The **Vernal Equinox** (the arrival of spring), arrives this morning at 05:28 am (CDT) when the Sun crossed directly over the Earth's equator. Easter is fixed as the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Day and night grow equal; more wonderfully, day grows longer than night. Winter is over. Ancient Jewish & Christian poets saw the equinox as the anniversary of creation, with spring equinox as lovelier and richer of the two because it's followed by light

with spring equinox as lovelier and richer of the two because it's followed by light winning over dark, an image of paschal mystery. Our redemption is nigh!

• **Bowling:** Wolves in Regional Meet

Tue, Mar 21 (Special Assembly Schedule; G A B C)

- **TDIH:** In 1980, President Jimmy Carter announces that the U.S. will boycott the Olympic Games scheduled to take place in Moscow that summer to protest Russia's invasion of Afghanistan.
- **Baseball:** 8th at Rummel (4:30) & JV & Varsity v. Hammond (4 & 6:30)
- Basketball Awards Banquet (7 pm at Benedict's)
- Track: JV at Slidell
- **Drama:** Preview Night for Fiddler on the Roof

Wed, Mar 22 (Special Assembly Schedule; D E F G)

- TDIH: In 1765, the British government passes the Stamp Act, which levied a direct tax on all materials printed for commercial and legal use in the colonies, from newspapers and pamphlets to playing cards and dice which stirred a storm of protest in the colonies leading to the slogan "No taxation without representation."
- National Goof Off Day: SPS will not be celebrating this day!
- **Drama:** Fiddler on the Roof opens tonight at 7. We wish the Marian Players an outstanding run of this show.
- Lacrosse: JV & Varsity v. Brother Martin
- **Tennis:** SPS v Pope John Paul II

Thu, Mar 23 (Regular; A B C D)

- **Near Miss Day** commemorates March 23, 1989, when a huge asteroid came within 500,000 miles of hitting Earth. In interstellar terms, it was a near miss. Had it collided with Earth, its effect would have been catastrophic.
- Celebrity Waiters Dinner: Thanks to the Development Team for their hard work in making this special event so successful. Proceeds from CWD fund The Renaissance Program, which does so much for our school.
- Baseball: JV & Varsity at Covington
- Track: Jr Hi in SSA Invitational
- Junior Retreat/Unity Day: Half the class will travel to Angola as part of their social justice unit; the other half will participate in retreat/unity activities.

Fri, Mar 24 (Regular, E F G A)

- **Junior Retreat/Unity Day:** Yesterday's groups will swap activities today.
- Track: Wolves in Ponchatoula Relays
- **Drama:** *Fiddler on the Roof (7)*

Sat, Mar 25

- Feast of the Annunciation
- **TDIH:** In 1954, RCA manufactured its first color TV set and began mass production. We've come a long way! Today's students probably can't imagine a black and white TV set!
- **Pecan Day:** Name the only nut tree native to North America. ... You guessed it....... Pecan trees. Celebrate Pecan Day by cracking open and eating a few pecan nuts. Or have some pecan pie.
- Vaffeldagen (Waffle Day): While primarily a Swedish celebration, it's a good excuse to eat a waffle today! And you can add pecans to the batter for a double celebration!
- **Abbey Youth Fest** on the grounds of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College. This annual gathering of literally thousands of young people from around the state is quite an event, as the students gather to proclaim their Faith.
- **Baseball:** 9th v. Northshore & Covington at Covington; JV & Varsity v. Ponchatoula
- **Baseban.** 9 v. Northishore & Covington at Covington, 3 v & varsity v. 1 v.
- Wrestling: End of season party (1 pm Wolf Dome)
- Lacrosse: TBA
- **Drama:** Fiddler on the Roof (7)

Sun, Mar 26

- Manatee Appreciation Day: Cherish the endangered manatee today! Here's a poem: I Like Manatees swimming in the sea / Manatee, manatee/ Come play with me! Big and gray, In the bay, eating plants all day. /I like manatees swimming in the sea. Manatee, Manatee, come play with me.
- National Spinach Day: Enjoy this wonderful veggie today! I love spinach!
- Marian Players: Fiddler on the Roof, matinee at 3 pm

Report Cards were emailed last week and, in some cases, reality is starting to set in. Respond to parental concerns. Call on us if you need assistance, but respond.

Musings on Last Week:

- Saint Joseph Altar: Special thanks to Dr. Ann Kay Logarbo and her volunteers for an incredible St. Joseph Altar.
- Bowling: Wolves defeated St. Thomas and move into Regional play on Monday
- Golf: A first place win with a 308 score (which I'm told is very good!) in the Northshore league.
- Tennis: A 6-0 win over Northshore and a 3-2 win over Fontainebleau. Go tennis wolves1



- **Sudden Impact:** Another powerful program for our last group of sophomores.
- **Powerlifting:** I'm sure the Wolves did well at state meet but I don't have any results.
- **Drama:** Rehearsals were in full swing in preparation for opening this week. Tradition!
- **Battle of the Bands:** Marching Wolves were one of only 8 bands chosen to participate at UNO on Saturday. As usual, they performed in an exemplary manner.
- **Drama Field Trip:** The Archdiocese sponsored a Catholic musical called "Garden" at Notre Dame Seminary. A group of Wolves from drama classes represented us.
- LA College/TOPS Night: Congrats to the Counseling Department for this informative evening for our students.
- Lacrosse: I did not get results, but I think we did very well.
- **Baseball:** Teams were in action but I did not get any results except for a 3-2 varsity loss to Northshore.
- **Track:** A successful SPS/Trafton Academy Jr Hi Track Meet had the Wolves finishing in 4th place. Varsity finished FIRST in the Andy Thiel Invitational at FHS.
- Athletic Training Day at SLU: I received the following from Trainer Chris Stipe: I am just returning to school after attending the student athletic training day at SLU. I brought Kenneth Avanzino, Bam Barriero, Stephen Beach, Thomas Celestine and Alex Paille with me. All are seniors planning on pursuing a career in sports medicine next year in college. I just wanted you to know that 3 different people (a professor, a Graduate Assistant and a SLU senior student) at 3 different times pulled me aside to tell me "your kids are killing it!" Needless to say, I couldn't help but feel very proud of them. I told them that I was so proud of them that I would brag about them to you. Therefore, I'm bragging. Thank you for your time. Thank you, Chris, for your work with these future athletic trainers!
- Cross Country Team Ring Ceremony went well. Congrats to them, again!



March Is National Athletic Training Month: The mission and drive of an AT is best summed up by this year's National Athletic Training Month (NATM) slogan, "Your Protection is Our Priority." The National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA), and Louisiana Athletic Trainer's Association (LATA) sponsor NATM, both not-for-profit organizations, are focused on improving the healthcare of athletes through injury prevention,

rehabilitation of injuries, and protection of athletes through awareness. LATA's overall goal is to have athletic trainers (AT) at every High School in the State. Here at SPS, we are blessed to have nationally certified Chris Stipe as our Athletic Trainer. He is assisted by trainers from local medical facilities when needed. Thanks, Chris!

New Oak Trees: Three new live oaks were purchased last week and will soon be planted along 11th Avenue by the front of the cafeteria to replace the large water oak that fell down last year. Thanks to Campus Beautification Chair Linda Trahan for spearheading this project and to the Mothers Club for donating the cost of one of the trees.

ACT Test Center Data: Being a testing center is a pain. Don Pressley does a great job in handling the logistics of the test and deserves our thanks. Last week, we received some interesting data from ACT concerning SPS as a testing Center:

- We have been an ACT test center since 1991-1992.
- Over this time, approximately 18,796 students have tested here.

• For the December 10, 2016 test date, about 251 students registered, with currently at least 241 students with reportable scores. Of those who tested, 10% of students come from the underserved learners' population. Test results have already been sent to 104 colleges and universities across 28 different states from the Dec test.

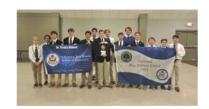


Members of Retired Brothers Community attend Father Jacob's blessing of Saint Joseph Altar. L to R: Brothers Alfred, Ralph, Jerry, Duane, and Father Jacob

From Archbishop Gregory Aymond: I pray that your Lenten journey has been a time of drawing closer to Christ and responding to his invitation to conversion. As we identify an area of our life that needs change, we can be assured of God's help for us to face our weakness and experience a change of heart. Lent should include standing before our merciful God and asking for his forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, better known as Confession. Be reminded that a priest will be available in every church in the Archdiocese of New Orleans for the next 3 Wednesdays from 5:00pm - 6:30pm. The heart of Jesus is open and he invites you to know and accept his mercy. Whether we have been to Confession recently, or perhaps it has been many years, now is the time to know that his heart is open and eager to forgive. Let us remember one another in prayer as we continue this journey through Lent to the new life of Easter.

H of the W: Quotes from Steven Wright, "American stand-up comedian, actor, writer, and an Oscar-winning film producer. He is known for his distinctly lethargic voice and slow, deadpan delivery of ironic, philosophical, and sometimes nonsense jokes, paraprosdokians, non-sequiturs, anti-humor, and one-liners with contrived situations. Wright was ranked as the twenty-third greatest comedian by Comedy Central in a list of the 100 greatest stand-up comics."

- I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- I almost had a psychic girlfriend... But she left me before we met.
- *OK*, so what's the speed of dark?
- How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- *Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.*
- I intend to live forever... So far, so good.
- *If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?*
- Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?





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