



**The Weekly Newsletter**  
**Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington**  
**342 Years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world**  
**January 30-February 2, 2023**



Welcome to February! Next week begins Catholic Schools Week, when Catholic schools throughout the US celebrate and affirm the Catholic identity of our schools. The National Catholic Education Association has designated the theme of the week as "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service."

Historically, we cannot overstate the contribution of Catholic education to this country, especially in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Today, Catholic schools continue to produce outstanding achievement, in spite of the many challenges to their existence.

We remember and celebrate, too, that Saint Paul's is not just a private school or a Christian school -- we are a Lasallian Catholic school.

We remind ourselves of Saint John Baptist de La Salle, who Pope Pius XII proclaimed Patron of All Teachers by virtue of his contribution to education. To be faithful to our Lasallian Catholic nature, we must remember that Saint La Salle insisted upon quality schools which not only "ran well" but were "places of salvation" (both spiritual and temporal) for the students by teaching them the "Truths of their Religion." Thus, the Founder believed, the schools would "touch the hearts" of the students who attended.

St. La Salle said that "to touch the hearts of the students entrusted to your care is the greatest miracle you can perform and one which God expects of you." He also insisted that those who work in Catholic schools must look upon themselves as "ministers of God's grace" and "co-workers with God."

Saint La Salle would accept nothing less from the early brothers. We try to offer nothing less today. Celebrate our Lasallian Catholic heritage – always!



*Cold mornings lead to beautiful sunrises and remembering that we are in God's presence (picture by Brother Javier).*

**Mon, Jan 30 (CDEF)**

**Tues, Jan 31 (GABC Assembly)**

- **JV/V basketball vs Northshore**

**Wed, Feb 1 (DEFG)**

- **8/9 basketball @ Rummel**

**Thurs, Feb 2 (ABCD)**

- **9th-grade retreat**
- **Career Day for juniors**

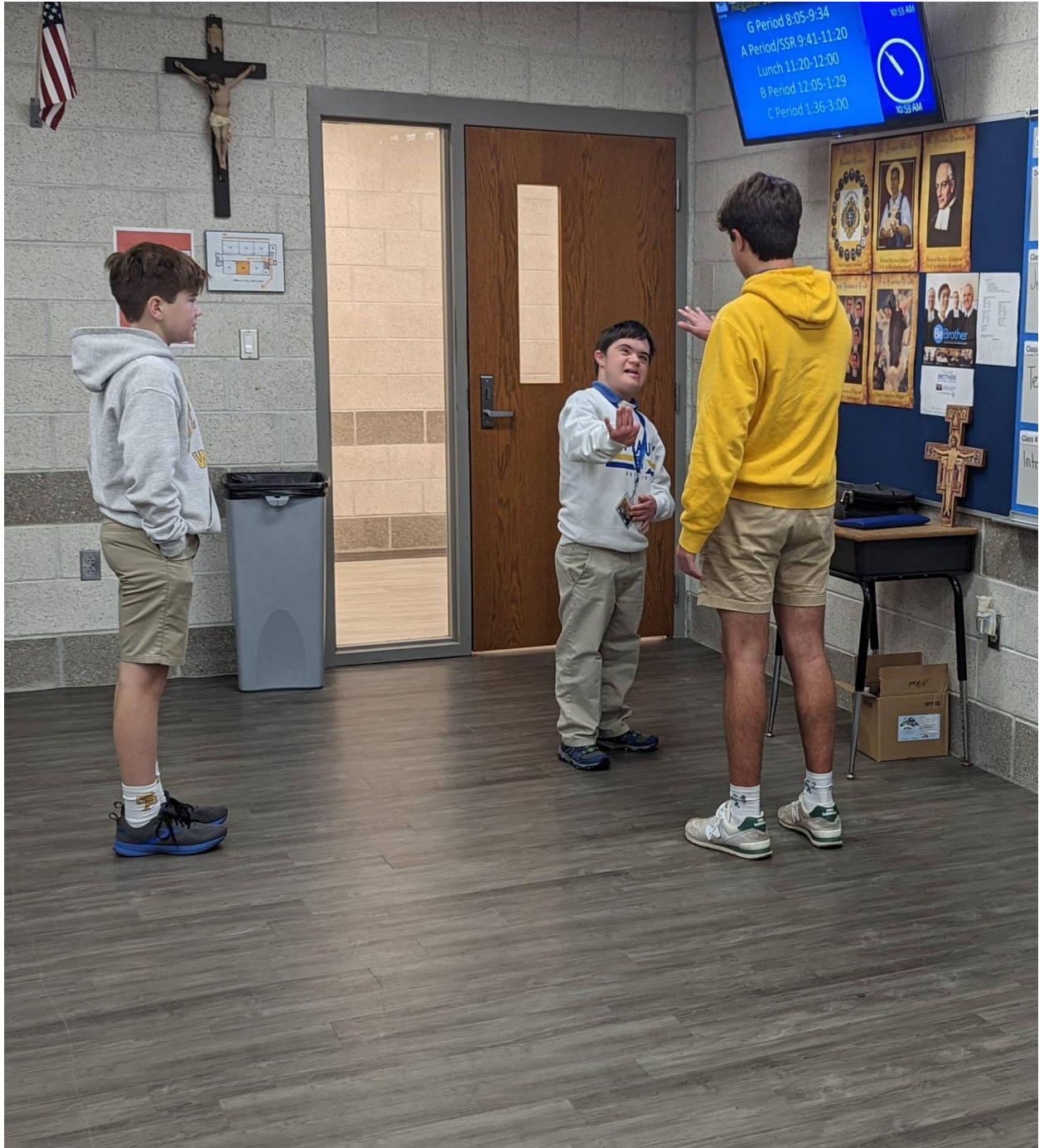
**Fri, Feb 3 (EFGA)**

- **9th-grade retreat**
- **9/JV/V basketball @ Mandeville**

**Sat, Feb 4**

- **Golf--Invitational in Zachary**
- **V basketball @ Booker T. Washington**
- **8/9 basketball @ Country Day**
- **Lacrosse @ St. Thomas Moore**
- **JH/JV wrestling state championships @ Brother Martin**
- **Indoor track @ LSU**
- **Habitat for Humanity workday**





*Students act out biblical scenes in 8th-grade religion*

**I offer the following:**

**Mother/Son Dinner:**

Join us as we celebrate the bond between mothers and sons.

The 2023 Saint Paul's Mother Son Dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. in Briggs Assembly Center.

Please register early as space is limited. Registration deadline is Thursday, February 16, 2023 or once maximum capacity has been reached.

Click the link to complete the online registration.

<https://www.stpauls.com/parents/mothers-club/mother-son-dinner/>

**LUNCH DROP-OFF (there is no such thing):** Do not pull onto campus to drop lunch off to your son during lunch or at any time. This is against school policy. Please plan ahead.

**KHAN ACADEMY:** A great New Year's Resolution! Preparation for success in classes and on standardized testing is a marathon, not a sprint. DAILY practice is ideal, starting in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. MANY materials (often free!) are available. Here is a good one: the Khan Academy. Khan Academy has a wealth of free prep in various subjects from math to social studies to standardized and AP testing. It grows each year and has turned into an incredible free resource. Encourage your sons to use it regularly. Here is the link: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

**AFTER SCHOOL:** The Library remains open to students until 4 pm. If your son is looking for a comfortable place to wait for his ride and get a jump on his homework, this is a good option for him.

**ANNUAL APPEAL: Many thanks to those who have responded. For clarity, I offer the following:**

- Almost all private schools conduct annual funds; many are high pressured; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high pressured.
- The Annual Fund funds tactical, short-term projects, e.g., technology, special programs, etc. The Capital Campaign 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 band building.)
- 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. Of course, no gift is too large!
- If you are contributing to the Capital Campaign or supporting SPS in some other way, I understand! Thank you for your generosity. Can you send \$10 to the Annual Fund increase participation?
- Please consider helping if you have not already done so and are in a position to do so. Many thanks!

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

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

**BOOK STORE:** All school supplies will be available for purchase, as well as St. Paul's apparel. Hours?

- M – F: 7:30 am - 8:15 am and 11:15 – 12:45
- By appointment. Email [spsbookstore16@gmail.com](mailto:spsbookstore16@gmail.com)
- All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

**CALENDAR FOR SPRING SEMESTER:**

Tues, Jan 03	Classes resume & Second Semester begins
Mon, Jan 16	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon, Feb 06	Parent-Teacher Conferences 5-7 pm
Fri, Feb 17	Faculty Retreat Day (no classes for students)
Mon-Fri, Feb 20 - 24	Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent Holidays
Mon, Feb 27	Classes resume
Fri, Mar 10	End of Third Quarter
Mar 20-24	Senior Retreat (tentative)
Fri – Fri Apr 07 – 14	Easter Holidays
Mon, Apr 17	Classes resume from Easter Holidays
Wed-Fri, Apr 26 – 28	Senior Final Exams
Thurs, May 11	Pre-Freshmen Promotion Ceremony (6:30)
Sat, May 13	Senior Graduation (4 pm)
Thurs – Tues, May 18-23	Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11

Wed, May 24  
Thurs, May 25

Conflict/Makeup Exam Day  
Conflict/Makeup Exam Day/Faculty Records Day

**COLD WEATHER CLOTHING:** Only Saint Paul's outwear is permissible in cool/cold weather. **If your son needs an SPS sweatshirt and money is tight right now, just have him come see me. This will be handled confidentially and appropriately.** ONLY SPS cool weather clothing is allowed.

**DRIVING:** I call the following to your attention:

- **Driver's License Requirement:** You need TWO of these: one when your son applies for his learner's permit and ANOTHER when he goes for his permanent license. Several parents have been turned away, not knowing they needed another form. Don't blame me! This is a legislative action.
- **SAFE DRIVING:** Parents –let's start 2022 with a resolution for safe driving! Set an example for the students! Students – the neighbors are watching (and filming!) and we will take action! This applies at all times: after school, after practice, on weekends, at games, etc. Please obey the traffic laws: speed limit, no tailgating, no texting while driving, no cell phone use during school zone hours, buckle up, etc. Thank you!
- **School Zone Cell Phone Ban:** It is illegal to use a cell phone in a school zone while driving. I see some students and parents driving in the morning and using a cell phone. This sets a bad example – and is illegal. Please do not drive on campus during school zone hours while using a cell phone.

**COMMITMENT DAY ON JAN 7:** If you know of any prospective student considering SPS for 8th or 9th grade next year who missed testing on Jan 7, have them contact us. Thanks for spreading the good word about SPS.

**HELPING SAINT PAUL'S:** Don't forget – here are painless ways to help:

- Office Depot, please give the SPS school code (70041640) and SPS receives 5% of your purchase!
- Box Tops for Education – these are redeemable for cash. Have your son bring them to his math teacher.
- And, of course, there's AmazonSmile!

**LOST & FOUND:** Lunch boxes, uniform shirts, books, shoes – all sorts of things are being left behind on campus – almost all with no names on them. Stress with your sons to keep track of his belongings. Putting his name on items helps, too. Lost & Found cabinet is located outside the Attendance Office.



**MARCH THROUGH THE ARCH PICTURES FOR SENIORS ARE IN:** Expressions Photography did an outstanding job in producing the pics, which are in the Administration Building and may be picked up during business hours. Your son may pick up his pic with a note from you. We do this as in the past, some seniors got the pics and left them in book bags or back car seats and the pics never made it home.

**RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2022 - 23** Yes, it is time to start thinking about next year! Shortly after Christmas, we will begin registering current students for 2022-23. Here's the process:

- Re-registration for 2023-2024 will be due on January 20 for current 8th-grade students and on February 17 for current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Please pay attention to the deadlines and the \$300 fee so we can plan accordingly for next year. Information will be sent home well in advance of the aforementioned deadlines.



*Students are acknowledged for achievement during a recent honor roll breakfast*



**SUMMER CAMP:** Summer sports camp registration is now open. Please help us get the word out regarding our quality athletic programs for boys ages 8-14:

<https://www.stpauls.com/student-life/summer-camp/> .

**TUTORING:** Tutoring offered by National Honor Society members is underway and occurs every day at lunch in Mrs. Pool's room in La Salle Hall for the remainder of the school year. All students are welcome to utilize this free tutoring service. Essay proofreading services are also provided. It is not embarrassing to go for tutoring! NHS members have been working with peers since August!



**National Honor Society**  
**tutoring begins on**  
**Tuesday, Aug 16**

Algebra I and II - Geometry  
Science - Math XL - Test Prep  
Homework Help



**TUTORING**  
**Mon - Tue - Wed - Thurs**  
**Lunch Period**  
LaSalle Hall L202



**UNIFORM SHIRTS:** We have a large number of pre-owned uniform shirts in good condition if your son has outgrown his and purchasing new ones is difficult for you. Just come to the Admin Bldg. Nothing will be done to embarrass your son. We also have khaki pants available – all for the taking.



**SLOW YOUR ROLL.** This week is the two-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 last year’s 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. I applaud the Mayor’s initiative and pledged to him our support. Please reinforce this with students whenever possible. And please set a good example yourself!

**TEEN LIFE COUNTS:** A guest speaker from the Jewish Family Service’s Teen Life Counts visited sophomore religion classes over the last two weeks. Teen Life Counts is an educational suicide prevention program designed to help teens learn the warning signs of suicide and how to seek help if they need personal assistance or if they believe a friend is in danger. Through participation, students learn to be more sensitive to their friends’ comments and feelings as well

as how to appropriately deal with personal challenges in their own lives. Because of the rising suicide rate in St. Tammany Parish, St. Paul's takes this issue especially seriously. Believing it is beneficial for both our students and their families, our sophomores have participated in Teen Life Counts for many years. For additional information about the program, visit <http://www.jfsneworleans.org/programs-services/teen-life-counts/>. PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER!

**VAPING:** Unfortunately, vaping is on the rise, even among our students. The health message is clear: there are too many unknowns in vaping for it to be considered safe – especially for the young (who, unfortunately, all too often ignore the warnings of science.) **Please stress this with your sons.** We have made our position very clear – it is prohibited and strong consequences are imposed if it is discovered. But we can't police outside of school – parents, **PLEASE insist with your sons that the dangers of this trend are not worth the risk. Have these important conversations.** Do not allow him to become addicted. We have made too much progress in this area to go backwards.

**WWII Museum Field Trip:** For the first time in over three years, our juniors will travel to the WWII Museum on February 15 & 16. Parents, be on the lookout for details from your son's teachers.



**Next Year's Calendar:**

### **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, student make-up days will be taken from scheduled holidays.  
Please do not schedule vacations during school time.

**I once again include the Profile of a Saint Paul's Alumnus to affirm the men that we want to launch into the world and to thank you for entrusting your sons to our care.**

**Live, Jesus, in our hearts! Forever!**



## Profile of a Saint Paul's Alumnus

The Saint Paul's alumnus lives the Five Core Principles which are the cornerstone of Lasallian Education:

**Quality Education**  
**Concern for the Poor and Social Justice**  
**Inclusive Community**  
**Respect for All Persons**  
**Faith in the Presence of God**

The Saint Paul's alumnus has garnered educational experiences that will help him move more seamlessly into adulthood. Because he understands that learning never ceases, he will continue to grow intellectually throughout his life.

The Saint Paul's alumnus understands service to his community and beyond. He willingly gives his time for the betterment of others, namely the marginalized. Furthermore, he champions social justice because he believes in the dignity of all persons.

The Saint Paul's alumnus advocates for equity and equality to encourage building a community that is unapologetically inclusive.

The Saint Paul's alumnus looks at the world and its citizens through an unbiased lens. He is respectful of all persons and sees the unity that must exist in diversity.

The Saint Paul's alumnus has grown in his faith and models not only being a disciple of Christ but also a Lasallian who understands the never-ending spiritual journey that he has just begun. He will always acknowledge and celebrate the Holy Presence of God.

All in all, the Saint Paul's alumnus is a Lasallian man of faith who embodies the Five Core Principles and continues to mature intellectually, spiritually, and morally beyond commencement and habitually exhibits integrity and dependability as he does the ordinary extraordinarily well.

