



The Weekly Newsletter
Celebrating 111 years of educational excellence in Covington
342 Years of Lasallian tradition throughout the world
February 27 - March 5, 2023



*Never speak to anyone
except with kindness,
and if you fear to speak otherwise,
keep silent.*

De La Salle

Meditation #52
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The words from our Founder are more profound than ever in today's digital world.

Welcome to the 8th week of the 3rd Quarter and the first full week of Lent! I pray that your Mardi Gras / Beginning of Lent holidays were safe, enjoyable, and renewing. As Brother Ray asked us to do last year at this time (unfortunately it is still relevant), I invite you to join me at the beginning of Lent to pray for peace:

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

*O Prince of Peace, once more we hear the guns of war;
Once more we see the faces of frightened children.
We pray for the people of Ukraine, that they may be granted peace;
We pray for the people of Russia, that they may demand peace;
We pray for our country, that we may be a positive part
Of peacemaking in this world. O Prince of Peace,
Lead us from this dark time to a deeper understanding
Of the global human family, so all may break bread together
In the secure embrace of peace. Amen.*

LENT: I invite you to access the Archdiocese of New Orleans website link to lenten resources.
<https://nolacatholic.org/lent>

Schedule of Events for Next Week:

Mon, Feb 27 (CDEF)

- JV/Varsity Golf - Slidell
- 9th Baseball v. Rummel -4:30 Heap Field

Tues, Feb 28 (GABC) - Pack Time

- Baseball Varsity v. John Curtis 5:00 Heap Field
- Basketball at Pineville 6:30 (second round of state playoffs)

Wed, March 1 (DEFG)

- Bowling v. Loranger @ Tangi Lanes
- 9th/JV Baseball v. Fontainebleau - 4 and 6:30 Heap Field
- Spring Musical - Little Shop of Horrors 7:00 - Theater
- Spring Blood Drive 8 am - 2 pm - BAC

Thurs, March 2 (ABCD)

- Spring Musical - Little Shop of Horrors 7:00 - Theater
- JV/Varsity Golf @ 2:30 Covington CC
- Bowling v. Hannan at Tangi Lanes
- JH Outdoor Track and Field at Mandeville High
- V. Baseball v. Hahnville @ 4:00 and Hannan @ 6:30 at Heap Field

Fri, March 3 (EFGA)

- Spring Musical - Little Shop of Horrors 7:00 pm - Theater
- Varsity Track and Field @ Ponchatoula HS
- Varsity Baseball v. Dutchtown -6:30 @ Heap Field

Sat, March 4

- Spring Musical - Little Shop of Horrors
- ACT Prep Class 9:00 -11:30 am - LaSalle Hall Rm. L201
- Bro. Bill Parsons Memorial Quiz Bowl - Benilde Hall
- V. Baseball CORE Pack Inclusion Day v. St. Amant -12:30 at Heap Field
- Ultimate Frisbee v. Bro. Martin at Hunter Stadium

Sun, March 5

And just in case you were missing the important events in history that occurred this week, Brother Javier has compiled the list. I've kept them separate for those of you who already knew these facts (not me) or who just wanted the school information for this week. If so, just skip past the list. Thanks Brother Javier.

Monday February 27th

-TDIH: The Emperor Constantine was born on this day around the year 280 AD. He was the first Roman Emperor to profess Christianity and had a major impact on it becoming the official religion of the empire.

-TDIH: In 1991, George H.W. Bush ordered a cease fire effective at midnight and declared victory in the Persian Gulf War. This conflict was triggered when Iraq invaded and occupied the country of Kuwait.

-TDIH: In 1951, the US Congress officially ratified the 22nd Amendment officially limiting the number terms someone may serve as President of the United States.

-TDIH: In 1933, the Reichstag, the German Parliament building, caught fire. This was a key event in the establishment of the Nazi dictatorship.

-TDIH: In 1902, George Steinbeck, American author best known for his book the Grapes of Wrath, was born.

Tuesday February 28th

-TDIH: On this day in 2013, Pope Benedict XVI became the first pope to resign since Pope Gregory XII in 1415. He would spend almost ten years as Pope Emeritus before passing away a couple months ago.

-TDIH: On this day in 1983, an estimated 106 million people watched the final episode of the immensely popular TV show M*A*S*H.

-TDIH: Egypt was declared an independent country in 1922.

Wednesday March 1st

-TDIH: Justin Bieber, Canadian singer, was born on this day in 1994. His appealing pop songs created a global craze in 2009.

-TDIH: In 1872, Yellowstone was designated as the first US National Park.

-TDIH: The Peace Corps was created by John F Kennedy as a result of his Peace Corps Act of 1961.

-TDIH: The Hoover Dam, which is the tallest concrete arch dam in the United States, was completed on this day in 1936 on the Arizona and Nevada border.

-TDIH: Br. Ray would like us to know that on this day Frederic Chopin, a Polish French composer, was born.

Thursday March 2nd

-TDIH: In 1904, Dr. Seuss, American author and illustrator, was born on this day. Some of his most notable works include *Cat in the Hat* and *Green Eggs and Ham*.

-TDIH: Daniel Craig, the sixth actor to play James Bond, was born in England in 1968.

-TDIH: The Sound of Music movie premiered on this day in 1965. It was based on the real life story of the Trapp Family in Austria and later won an Oscar for Best Picture.

-TDIH: Wilt Chamberlain scored a record 100 points in a single NBA game in 1962.

-TDIH: King Kong, the first significant feature film to use an animated character, premiered on this day in 1933.

-TDIH: Rutherford B. Hayes was declared president after an Electoral Commission awarded him the electoral votes he needed after a disputed presidential election in 1877.

Friday March 3rd

-TDIH: Roger Bannister, the first person to run a mile under four minutes, died on this day in 2018 at the age of 88.

-TDIH: Following a high speed car chase, Los Angeles Police officers brutally beat African American Rodney King in 1991. After the acquittal of the police officers in 1992, large-scale rioting broke out across the city.

-TDIH: The Star Spangled Banner was adopted on this day in 1931 as the US National Anthem. It was originally composed by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812.

-TDIH: Russian Emperor Alexander II, in 1861, issued the Emancipation Manifesto freeing serfs in his country.

Saturday March 4th

-TDIH: Franklin Roosevelt was inaugurated as the 32nd president of the United States in 1933. He would lead the country through the Great Depression and victory during World War II.

-TDIH: In 1837, Chicago was incorporated as a city with a population of 4,200 residents. Today it has a total population of 2.5 million.

-TDIH: William Penn was granted by King Charles II the colonial province of Pennsylvania in 1681 to help create a refuge for Quakers and other religiously persecuted people.

Sunday March 5th

-TDIH: After being harassed by a mob, a group of British soldiers fired on American colonists killing four of them in 1770. This event became known as the Boston Massacre and helped galvanize anti-British sentiments which led to the American Revolution.

-TDIH: Joseph Stalin, who had ruled the Soviet Union for a quarter of a century, died on this day in 1953.

-TDIH: English Prime Minister Winston Churchill used the term “Iron Curtain” to describe the separation between the Soviet Union and the West in a speech in 1946.

Compiled by Brother Javier Hansen, FSC



General Information and Recognitions:

RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS FOR 2023 - 24: Re-registration for 2023-2024 was due on January 20 for current 8th-grade students and on February 17 for current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. If you missed the due date but plan to re register your son, please get your form and \$300 fee in ASAP so that we can complete our registration process for next year. A secure drop box is available next to the administration building door for after hours drop offs. If you do not intend to re register your son, please let us know so that we can offer those spots to other prospective students. Thanks.

SLIGHT CHANGE TO CALENDAR: Please note that there is NO LATE START on March 9. School will start at the regular time on that day.

MARCHING WOLVES: Congratulations and thanks to the Marching Wolves for their outstanding appearances in SEVEN Mardi Gras parades over the past two weeks. The band is a parade-goers favorite, and in high demand by parade krewes on both shores. (See the news story from WDSU about the band at:

<https://www.wdsu.com/article/st-pauls-marching-wolves-begin-epic-40-mile-carnival-season/42826389>)Thanks also to Band Director Andrew Moran and to the army of parent Band

Boosters who accompanied, fed, hydrated, transported, and kept safe the girls and boys that make up the Marching Wolves.



Marching Wolves take a moment to compare notes on how to entertain crowds in NO.

SOCCER ON TO STATE FINALS!: Congratulations to Coach Moser and the varsity soccer team for their State Semi-Final 2-0 victory over Mandeville High last week. The Wolves now travel to Strawberry Stadium in Hammond this Saturday, February 24, at 4:30 to take on Dutchtown at their 12th appearance in 13 years in the LHSAA soccer championship game. See TV news story on the team at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwPbcyUOfyQ> .



Varsity Soccer team after their 2-0 win over Mandeville in the Semi-Finals

BASKETBALL: Congratulations to the Varsity team for their 51-35 win last night over Lafayette High in the first round of the select Division I Basketball State Championship Tournament. The Wolves now move on to the second round of playoffs, traveling to Pineville on Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30 pm. Best of luck to Coach Dale and his crew and the team as they bounce their way through the playoffs!

POWERLIFTING: Good luck to our powerlifters who compete in Regionals today. I hope to have great news about results in my next newsletter.

SPRING SPORTS: Baseball, Track and Field, Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee, and Golf are launching their seasons. Best of luck to all! I look forward to posting more about these groups in the near future.

ROBO WOLVES: As I write this note our ROBO Wolves are hard at work putting the final touches on their entries for the state competition in Lake Charles this weekend. Thanks to Mrs. Beck and the many parents who will accompany these STEM maestros as they compete against teams from throughout the state.

ROCKIN' IN REIMS: Join us for a fun evening of dinner followed by dancing and learn more about the Five Core Principles. Help us benefit our CORE Pack Program as well as other extracurricular activities such as Habitat for Humanity, Mu Alpha Theta, Etiquette Training, and many more. Please see the attached flyer to learn more or click on the link to register:
<https://saintpaulsschool.salsalabs.org/rockininreims/index.html>

CRAWFISH COOK-OFF: The Crawfish Cook-off is a charitable event presented by Saint Paul's Alumni Association. The purpose of this event is to raise funds for both Hope House of Saint Tammany and Saint Paul's Alumni Association while providing an entertaining event for all to enjoy. It allows for a good-natured competition for those in the community who wish to prove they cook the best boiled crawfish! Our next event is scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 1:00 to 6:00 pm on Saint Paul's beautiful campus in conjunction with Reunion Weekend. Please contact Al Nastasi, Alumni Director, at 985-892-3200 ext 1971 for more information.

DADS CLUB FATHER/SON DINNER: Join us for our annual father/son dinner on Saturday, March 18, at 5 PM. See the attached flyer for details.

MOTHERS CLUB LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION: The theme for this event on March 10 is *Mothers Raising Up Men of God*. See the attached flyer for details.

MOTHER/SON DINNER: Registration for Mother Son Dinner has been closed due to maximum capacity. Please send an email to spsmothersondinner2023@gmail.com to be placed on a waitlist. For those that have registered, please send an email if you are unable to attend in order to accommodate those on the waiting list.

JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM: The Junior/Senior Prom will be held Saturday, April 1, from 7:30 until 10:30 PM in the Briggs Assembly Center. Students will receive a link to order tickets and to complete behavior agreements by March 1. Only one female guest is allowed per male student, and they must enter the dance together. The dance is open to Saint Paul's Juniors and Seniors and their dates only. Please consult the dress code when making preparations:

PROM ATTIRE/DRESS: Attire should be suitable for a Catholic high school function: For males, tuxedo is the norm (see the attached flyer if you are interested in a great deal for a tuxedo), but not necessary. Suits are acceptable. Jackets may be removed, but students are to remain fully dressed throughout the dance. For females, **dresses must be full-length**. Slits in dresses may be no more than 4 inches above the knee. Dresses may not have a low, open back. There should be no 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.**

SUMMER CAMPS: 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/>.

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 8th 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/>

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.

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.

COSTA RICA LASALLIAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM: Along with Saint Scholastica, Saint Paul's recently hosted a group of students from Colegio LaSalle in San Jose, Costa Rica. Over the course of two weeks, SPS students had the chance to introduce their guests to a variety of activities. Among other things, the students explored the Honey Island Swamp, attended a Pelicans game, enjoyed a Saturday night of bowling, and visited the LSU campus. While in Costa Rica, our students had the opportunity to visit various attractions such as the Irazu volcano, rainforest national parks, and various sites in and around San Jose. They also spent a day on the Pacific coast learning to surf. If you would like your son to participate in the

exchange in Costa Rica in early June or you would like to host next January, please contact Dr. Shawn Mullet at s.mullet@stpauls.com.



Students from SPS and SSA enjoy a trip through the Costa Rican rain forests.

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-pressure; ours is not – but I need your support to keep it from being high-pressure. · 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 to 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
- All proceeds from the bookstore are used for the benefit of our students!

CALENDAR FOR SPRING SEMESTER:

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) in the BAC
Thurs – Tues, May 18-23 Final Exams for Grades 9 - 11
Wed, May 24 Conflict/Makeup Exam Day
Thurs, May 25 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 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.

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.

FREE BAND/ATHLETIC PHYSICALS: Free Athletic/Band physicals are scheduled for 7:30 am on May 6th at **AVALA Ortho, 1200 Pinnacle Parkway, Covington, LA**. A current physical is required for all athletes and band members. Contact Ms. Claire for more information clairec@stpauls.com

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE ST. JOSEPH ALTAR: Our Lady of the Lake is in need of volunteers (students and parents) to help prepare and host its St. Joseph’s altar. Students will receive service hours, and the time and dates are as follows: March 11 & 12 (9-5); March 19 (9-4).

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 the last election were speeding and the running of stop signs? And SPS students/parents came in for their fair share of blame!
- On any given weekday, over 15,000 people drive into and out of Covington? · Many of our streets were laid out PRIOR to the invention of the automobile, thus not designed for cars?

Mayor Mark’s goal is “to change driving habits in our city...to have each of us

understand that speeds over 25 MPH are not safe on most of our streets.” The Mayor is asking everyone to “relax, take a deep breath and slow down. 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!



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.

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 with full day of instruction
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.

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.

BROTHER RAY: Brother Ray has asked me to keep everyone updated on how he is doing. He continues his battle with cancer under the care of the nursing staff at the Brothers' Retirement Community here on campus and an excellent team of doctors. He is scheduled to undergo his next round of chemotherapy on Monday. On a very positive note, the chronic pain that Brother suffered from for many months has abated a bit recently and he is much more comfortable.

Brother asked me to extend his thanks to everyone for your continued support, good wishes, and especially your prayers. While he is unable to receive visitors, he is grateful for the many notes, cards and letters of concern and support. He asks about the students and staff regularly and we are trying our best to keep him informed of everything that is going on. He continues to pray for all of us and for the greater St. Paul's community.

Please continue to pray for Brother Ray's recovery.

LAST WORD: As I wrote in my letter to the St. Paul's community a few days ago, I am most humbled and honored to have been appointed the Interim President following Brother Ray's untimely illness. I appreciate the confidence that the Brothers of the San Francisco/New Orleans District and the St. Paul's Board of Trustees have placed in me. A few years ago when Brother Ray asked me if I would be willing to stand in as his emergency successor should one be needed, I accepted without hesitation, but also with the thought that this was a very unlikely scenario. God had other plans.

As I mentioned at our faculty gathering a few days ago, to borrow a quote from Dickens (not Joe), this is the best of times and the worst of times. Who would not want to be president of St. Paul's at this time in the history of the school? St. Paul's has an outstanding faculty and administrative team, unequalled campus and facilities, fantastic students and families, a proud alumni base, a supportive Brothers community and District, a talented and committed Board of Trustees, and a bright future in a beautiful and growing community.

On the other hand, who would want to succeed Brother Ray after his 30+ years as leader of St. Paul's? His are very large shoes to fill, and I will not even pretend to be able to adequately do so. I ask for your patience and understanding for me and our administrative team as the Board of Trustees, under the guidance of San Francisco/New Orleans Lasallian District, begins the process of finding a new President. Know that our team is committed to continuing his work, upholding the Five Core Principles of Lasallian schools, in all of our decisions and actions.

If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Live Jesus in our Hearts.....Forever!

Trevor Watkins, AFSC

