

June 1, 2020

## **MONDAY MORNING ASSEMBLY**

Good morning!

Trust you and your family are in good health. Unbelievably, the calendar has reached June and we're approaching the finish line of this unprecedented school year. Congratulations to the Class of 2020 who will celebrate their Senior Class Mass this evening and Commencement Exercises tomorrow. We're looking forward to sharing in their excitement.

Thought I'd share a magnificent sunset photo overlooking McPhee Field last week. Only thing missing is some Falcon warriors competing on the athletic field! One day, the virus will be behind us and we will be ready!

Did you happen to watch the historic NASA and SpaceX launch on Saturday afternoon? It didn't go unnoticed that the first U.S. space launch in nearly ten years was powered by the **Falcon 9**, the world's first orbital class reusable rocket. Falcons soaring to greatness ... innovative and courageous in space and a visual challenge for our own lives.

**Today, is Day 2.**

Let us begin this day in prayer.

### **MORNING PRAYER**

We **PRAY** for the Class of 2020 as they leave the Falcon Nest this week embarking on the next exciting chapter of their hopeful lives.

We **PRAY** for peace, civility and an end to the violence erupting across our country in response to the tragic death of George Floyd. May hope be restored, respect for life preserved, racism eradicated and justice served. We believe every person is made in the image and likeness of God and has value and worth. **#lovethyneighbor**

We **PRAY** for the doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals, many of them our parents, relatives, and alumni who serve as the front line of defense and put their own life in harm's way to care for those afflicted by this deadly virus. We **PRAY** for emergency and military personal, scientists searching for a cure, truck drivers and grocery store workers who keep the food supply chain going. There are many other everyday ordinary people doing extraordinary works of mercy and kindness, all of them unsung heroes.

**"Come Holy Spirit!"** Yesterday, Christians everywhere celebrated the solemnity of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit first descended upon the disciples of Jesus. Scripture identifies the Holy Spirit as the Teacher, the Advocate, and the Comforter. The Spirit is the breath, the life, the very love of God the Father and God the Son. Come Holy Spirit, breathe in us, renew us, and dwell within us ... today and forever.



Our last Chapel Prayer Service of the school year will be this Thursday (6/4) at 8:15 am with Fr. Hector, Sr. Marie Benedict, Sr. Mary Mercy and members of the Class of 2023 praying the rosary. All are welcome to join us. Look for a Zoom invitation from Sr. Mary Mercy.

#### BISHOP LOVERDE VISIT

A very nice article that the *Arlington Catholic Herald* published about Bishop Loverde recently attending Zoom classes of some of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist which included visiting Sr. Marie Benedict and Sr. Mary Mercy and their St. Paul religion classes. Here is the link:

[https://www.catholicherald.com/News/Local\\_News/Bishop\\_Loverde\\_joins\\_the\\_online\\_teaching\\_trend/](https://www.catholicherald.com/News/Local_News/Bishop_Loverde_joins_the_online_teaching_trend/)

## CLASS OF 2020 SENIOR CLASS MASS AND GRADUATION

Tonight, Monday, June 1 just prior to 7:00 pm, we will release to our entire St. Paul community the link for the program (you can print a copy at home) and pre-recording of our **Baccalaureate or Senior Class Mass**. It's the last liturgy of the 2019-2020 academic year ... one of the most beautiful and meaningful highlights of our St. Paul experience.

While acknowledging that due to COVID-19, it's not the same as physically being present in St. Gregory the Great Church, we will still be together spiritually. God bless the Class of 2020.

Tuesday, June 2, **Graduation** for the St. Paul Catholic High School Class of 2020 will be held like none other before. As a result of COVID-19, the **51st Commencement Exercises** will be an historic hybrid event. During the day, each graduate will participate in an on-campus "parade" in a car with their family at a specified time driving by cheering faculty, staff and coaches stopping at several gift and award stations. Amidst *Pomp and Circumstance*, graduates will walk across a stage on the front circle overlooked by the statue of St. Paul to receive their diploma and servant towel. We have made it a priority to follow all social distancing guidelines during this celebration.

Then just prior to 6:00 pm, the originally scheduled graduation date and time, we will release to our entire St. Paul community the link for the pre-recorded ceremony from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford with the Most Rev. Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Hartford offering the invocation and the Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop, Archdiocese of Hartford sharing a special message to the Class of 2020. **CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES!**

I'm very grateful to Mazz Media and everyone who contributed to making these memorable keepsake recordings available to the Class of 2020 and everyone else including Falcons across the country.

## VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN



**CONGRATULATIONS!** The Valedictorian and Salutatorian were recently announced during our virtual Academic Awards Night program. Thomas Pauloz '20 was named Valedictorian of the Class of 2020. Thomas has chosen to attend Boston College where he will study Business Marketing.

Thomas received an Archdiocesan Summa Scholar award presented by the Archdiocese of Hartford. He is Senior Class President, a member of the National Honor Society, Student Government, Performing Arts and a co-leader of the SPTV channel. Thomas was also named a Commended Student in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program.

His favorite moment at St. Paul was serving as Class President his Junior and Senior years. *“What I will miss most at St. Paul is coming to school each day knowing that at any moment there would be amazing opportunities from the supportive family here – anything is possible.”*

Seokhyun “Stevan” Hong ‘20 was named Salutatorian of the Class of 2020. Seokhyun is an international student from South Korea who will attend the University of Southern California majoring in Applied and Computational Math. He also has been recognized as an Archdiocesan Summa Scholar, AP Scholar and member of the National Honor Society.

Stevan’s favorite memory of St. Paul was, *“Religion classes! My growth in personal holiness was fostered here. I developed skills in serving others, especially those in need. I have completed more than 600 service hours here at St. Paul and having faith made my life completely different. I will miss the St. Paul family that welcomed me with respect, care, and encouragement.”*

## **CLASS OF 2020 VIDEOS**

I’d like to share two congratulatory video links for the Class of 2020. The first was created by Sarah Lynch ’20: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=VZhXJzrfRVI> and the second by Mrs Mendoza, advancement staff: [https://youtu.be/ouQQjMxx7\\_g](https://youtu.be/ouQQjMxx7_g). Thanks for capturing the essence of the Class of 2020.

## **YEARBOOKS**

Due to COVID-19 many printing plants have been shut down or are running at 50% capacity. Unfortunately, the 2020 Yearbooks will not be printed and delivered to St. Paul until sometime after school is closed for summer vacation. When they arrive, we will plan arrangements for yearbooks to be picked up or delivered to those students who ordered a copy.

## **ACADEMIC CALENDAR (6/1 – 6/8)**

- The remaining schedule of instructional distance learning for 2019-2020 is as follows:

Monday (6/1)	Day 2
Tuesday (6/2)	Class of 2020 Graduation, non-instructional day – opportunity to get caught up with assignments, papers or projects
Wednesday (6/3)	Day 1
Thursday (6/4)	Day 2
Friday (6/5)	Day 1
Monday (6/8)	Day 2 – last instructional day

- **Monday, June 8 is the last instructional day for juniors, sophomores and freshmen.** Tuesday, June 9 – Friday, June 12 were originally scheduled for final exams. Previously, a decision was communicated to waive final exams for these grades. Students can use these four days to complete assignments, papers and projects or schedule a time to make up any missed quizzes or tests. Faculty will be available for extra help or 1:1 Zoom appointments during this time. **Grades will close for Fourth Quarter on Friday, June 12 at noon.**

#### **LOCKER CLEAN OUT (6/9 – 6/12)**

The time windows for juniors, sophomores and freshmen to pick up any awards, clean out your locker, donate used uniforms, donate or drop off books for the used bookstore (i.e. receive a percentage of those books that are purchased for next year) has been scheduled. **In all cases, safe social distancing guidelines will be observed including wearing a mask/gloves and limiting entry numbers to 8-10 students at a time.**

Class of 2021:                    Tuesday, June 9  
 Class of 2022:                    Wednesday, June 10  
 Class of 2023:                    Thursday, June 11

Reference is made to the attachments to this email to confirm your respective window time/number. To comply with social distancing, we are spreading out the alphabet so you are not assembled together by your lockers. **Siblings in different grades can choose either assigned window.**

#### Window Number and Time

1	9:00 AM	7	11:00 AM
2	9:20 AM	8	11:20 AM
3	9:40 AM	9	11:40 AM
4	10:00 AM	10	12:00 PM
5	10:20 AM	11	12:20 PM
6	10:40 AM	12	12:40 PM

Friday, June 12 will be the make-up date for students unable to come to St. Paul at their assigned date and time. The schedule (by last names) for Friday will be:

ABC	9:00 AM	MNO	11:00 AM
DEF	9:30 AM	PQR	11:30 AM
GHI	10:00 AM	STU	12:00 PM
JKL	10:30 AM	VWXYZ	12:30 PM

**After Friday, June 12 all the lockers will be cleaned out by staff including any leftover personal belongings.**

## SPCHS DATA ANALYTICS TEAM UPDATE

- **Microsoft Imagine Cup Junior 2020:**

Microsoft Imagine Cup Junior 2020, <https://imaginecup.microsoft.com/en-us/junior>

The SPCHS Data Analytics Team is proud to announce that Colin Ivers '21, Alecia Barbieri '21, Frank Wankerl '23, and Lila Alderete '23 are representing SPCHS in this year's Microsoft Imagine Cup Junior 2020. Focusing on this year's theme of Artificial Intelligence, the team is developing systems that aim to improve communication channels for those children on the autism spectrum, as well as those suffering from other disabilities that impact one's ability to communicate effectively.

The team is working on a system that will gather and analyze dynamic biometric, emotional and behavioral data, and will utilize AI and ML to learn, process, translate and generate appropriate behavioral responses. This data will provide a means to guide an effective response to ensure that individual needs are successfully communicated and satisfactorily met.

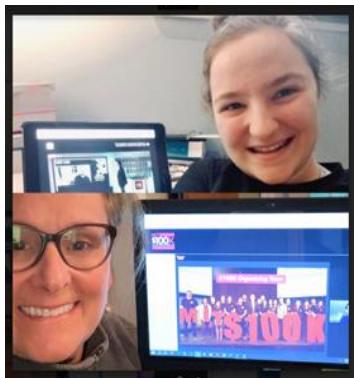
- **MIT COVID-19 Challenge: Beat the Pandemic:**

MIT Covid-19 Challenge: Beat the Pandemic, <https://covid19challenge.mit.edu/>

The SPCHS Data Analytics Team is proud to announce that Alecia Barbieri '21 applied to and was accepted to compete in MIT's selective 2020 Hackathon. The focus of this year's Hackathon is Covid-19 Challenge, Beat the Pandemic. MIT reviewed submissions from around the world through an "incredibly competitive application process". Those accepted were then assigned to an international team to collaborate and address the many serious global issues associated with the pandemic. Alecia is now on a team with 5 other competitors from around the world! We wish Alecia the best of luck as she represents the SPCHS Falcons Data Analytics Team in this very exciting and important challenge.

- **Viewing party for Harvard's President's Innovation Challenge and MIT \$100K Launch:**

On the evening of Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 pm to after 9:00 pm the SPCHS Data Analytics Team were excited to hold a viewing party for Harvard's 2020 President's Innovation Challenge (PIC) Virtual Awards Ceremony, <https://innovationlabs.harvard.edu/presidents-innovation-challenge/> and for MIT's \$100K Launch Winners, <https://www.mit100k.org/>. In attendance from SPCHS was Alecia Barbieri '21, Frank Wankerl '23, and Mrs Clarke. Frank is not pictured in the photo below.



## SUMMER PROGRAMS – CLASS OF 2021

At this time, all scheduled summer programs are tentatively on hold with the exception of **Writing the College Essay** for St. Paul rising seniors. This workshop, instructed by Ms. Catherine Strycharz, is geared toward students (maximum 25) who will begin writing their college admission essays. The course will teach rising seniors how to respond to college essay questions, focus on developing students' ideas into an effective piece of writing, read and analyze sample college essays, and discuss the positive and negative aspects of those sample writings. Students will also receive 1:1 instructional time with the teacher to edit and revise their college essay. The course will be offered online unless social distancing restrictions allow for in-person instruction. **Registration is on a first come, first serve basis.** Cost for the workshop is \$75.00. To preregister, email Mrs. Lindquist, [mlindquist@spchs.com](mailto:mlindquist@spchs.com) indicating your course preference week.

Week 1:	July 13 – 17	9:00 am – noon	<b>4 SEATS LEFT</b>
Week 2:	July 20 – 24	9:00 am – noon	

If sufficient interest, a third week August 3 – 7 from 9:00 am – noon will be offered.

## GUIDANCE

- Reminder to all students in the Class of 2021 to fill out this one question form ASAP. Your school counsellors need to know who you asked for your letters of recommendation for college. Thank you! <https://forms.gle/w2hMxLpeB3v9aiki7>.

## ATHLETICS

- St. Paul is thrilled to announce that it will be installing Pixellot cameras this summer on McPhee Field and in the Rev. Brian Monnerat Gymnasium. This technology will allow us to broadcast all St. Paul Falcon sporting events in those venues and allow parents, families and friends to view those broadcasts through the NHFS network. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting news. Go Falcons!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Class Elections:** The Class of 2021 election for Senior Class officers will take place on Monday, June 8. The election will be held on ecampus from 8:45 am – 1:00 pm. Rising sophomores and juniors will vote for class officers when we return to school in the fall.

Interested senior candidates should email Mrs. Kendrick with their intent to run for office no later than 1:00 pm Thursday, June 4. In the email, please specify the position you would like to run for and a brief paragraph why you would be a good candidate for the position. There will be a volunteer zoom meeting for candidates who want to deliver a short (2-3 minute) speech. The Class of 2021 will be invited to hear these speeches. The date for that zoom meeting will be Friday June 5 at 1:00 pm.

- **Happy Birthday** wishes last week go to: Ava Boucino, Joseph D'Orso, Carter Dossias, Jessica Gonzalez, Salem Granados, Victoria Lally, Joseph Patrucco, Jack Soudier and Storr Zhao AND this week to: Romi Bagdasarian, Miranda-Corine Bunnell, Jacob Courtemache, Nathan Duhaime, Jenna Fulvi, James Hannan, Jillian Kiazim, Stephen Morelli, Kathryn Plourde, Lillian Sirois, Julie Swicklas, Declan Toland and Mr. Aliberti.

#### **FR. HECTOR'S FINAL BLESSING**

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Easter Season. We celebrate the solemnity of Pentecost as the beginning of our Church right after Jesus went back to God our Father. At Pentecost, the early followers of Jesus gathered as their Lord had instructed them, expecting the fulfillment of the promise he had made to send the Holy Spirit. We refer to Pentecost as the birthday of the missionary church for a good reason. Their encounter with the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room changed them.

They were filled with the same Holy Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead. The Apostle Paul would later explain the experience. Even though he was not at that first Pentecost, he certainly experienced the same encounter, and came to know of its powerful, transformative effects! (Romans 8:11)

The Holy Spirit capacitated the early followers of Jesus to go from being a frightened fraternity to a band of brothers and sisters of whom it was said “they turned the world upside down” Acts 17:6) They were empowered to carry forward in time the ongoing mission of Jesus Christ until he returns to complete the work of redemption.

Let's pray.

*Lord God,  
you sanctify your Church in every race and nation  
by the mystery we celebrate on this day.  
Pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on all mankind,  
and fulfil now in the hearts of your faithful  
what you accomplished when the Gospel was first preached on earth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

*May almighty God Bless you,  
+ The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Let's keep our hope up!  
Thanks be to God and thanks to everyone. I will see you guys soon. I miss you all!



**We miss you!** It's going to be a great week. Finish strong! Juniors lead us out of here.

Stay well,

Mr. Dupont '72  
President/Chief Administrator