

March 7, 2021



Lent 2021

*Reflect today upon those parts of your life that you want to cleanse.
Allow Jesus to speak to you so that you will be driven to repentance.*

Peace & Greetings,

As you may know, Pope Francis completed today an historic 4-day Apostolic Visit to Iraq, the first ever papal trip to this overwhelmingly Muslim country. He visited Erbil, Iraq celebrating Mass in the Franso Hariri Stadium. This has special significance for St. Paul since for the last few years our school has been praying in particular for the persecuted Christians in Ankawa, Erbil.

Upon his arrival in Baghdad, Pope Francis stated, “I come as a pilgrim, as a penitent pilgrim to implore forgiveness and reconciliation from the Lord after years of war and terrorism ... to ask God for the consolation of hearts and healing of wounds.” Prior to his trip Pope Francis indicated, “We must work to ensure that the Christian presence in these lands continue to be what it has always been: a sign of peace, progress, development and reconciliation between peoples.” The Pope called for respect for all religions and an end to violence and extremism.

This article from Vatican News has information about the city of Erbil:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-03/pope-francis-iraqi-kurdistan-erbil-apostolic-journey.html>

EVENING REFLECTION & PRAYER

He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money-changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, “Take these out of here, and stop making my Father’s house a marketplace.” His disciples recalled the words of scripture, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” (John 2:12-14)

Jesus is righteously angry about how the temple of the Lord, a sacred space, has been turned into a place of commerce and financial exchange. We as the Church must always be on guard that our churches and parishes do not become places of exclusivity where only the so called “holy people” are allowed to partake. Rather, our parishes, our communities should be inclusive, accepting, welcoming to all. Most importantly, they should be places where divine grace is infused into our souls for sanctification.

Pope Francis has been in Iraq this week visiting the Catholic people there and praying for unity and peace in a divided area of the world. The Holy Father remarked that love is our strength. Indeed, the love of Jesus Christ is always our strength, our courage, and our hope.

Let us pray,

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscious, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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.

Enjoy the week.

Fr. Glen, Chaplain

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Week of March, 8 – 12, 2021

Monday (Day 1), Tuesday (Day 2), Wednesday (Day 3), Thursday (Day 1) and Friday (Day 2).

Rotation

	Day 1 Drop G & H	Day 2 Drop E & F	Day 3 Drop C & D
7:45-8:26	A	A	A
8:34-9:10	B	B	B
9:28-10:22	C	G	F
10:30-11:54	D	C	H
12:02-12:56	E	D	G
1:14-2:08	F	H	E

There will be a **NOON DISMISSAL** this Wednesday, March 10 as faculty, staff and coaches will be vaccinated. We are very grateful to the BBHD for providing us this opportunity. Wednesday's Day 3 schedule will be Periods A, B, F, E (in that order). This is a special schedule to pick up Period E & F classes which are not meeting on Tuesday. Busing will be provided.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

During Lent, Fr. Glen will hear confessions on Mondays from 1:00 – 2:00 pm in the Chapel.

WEEKDAY MASS

This week Mass will be held on Wednesday, March 10 at 7:15 am at St. Gregory the Great Church for the special intentions of the **Indoor Track** team and **Cheerleaders**. As always, any students and faculty are welcome to attend. Please enter by the side door.

DEVINE MERCY CHAPLET

The Devine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed on Fridays at 7:30 am in the Chapel.

“BE A BLESSING TO ONE – BE THE LIGHT”

Blessing to One is a tangible way to help homeless people in our communities. People experiencing homelessness are veterans, young adults and families – people just like us. As a Catholic school, we are called to help the poor as God's hands for people in need.

Join the Mission Club, Thessalonians House and Junior Class in providing personal care kits for the homeless shelter at St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol. It is simple, purchase items from the list below, package in zip-top bags at home, and bring bags to school. Donations can be placed in the blue collection box outside the Main Office starting tomorrow through March 14. Our goal is to prepare 100 bags! Let us be a blessing to one and all.

Shopping List: Socks, deodorant, hairbrush/comb, chapstick, baby wipes, band-aids, trail mix or granola bar (only soft), bottle water, toothbrush and toothpaste, tissues, mini-packs of disposable masks (10-count), 1-gallon zip top bag.

See Dr. Gnoza, Señora LeBron-Rojas, Sr. Marie Benedict or Mrs. Zillich for more information.

2021 – 2022 RE-REGISTRATION FORMS

A reminder that re-registration forms for the 2021 – 2022 Academic Year were due in the Guidance Office during the month of February. If you haven't submitted your form with your registration deposit, please do so ASAP, thank you!

DATA ANALYTICS & TED-ED (DATT)

The Data Analytics and TED-ED Team (DATT) will be hosting a meeting on Monday March 8 after school from 2:15 – 4:00 pm in Room 214 to discuss upcoming spring data competitions, including but not limited to the ASA Data Visualization Poster Competition and the Breakthrough Junior Challenge. If you are interested but are unable to attend the meeting, contact the team advisor, Mrs. Clarke (mclarke@spchs.com), or team officers, Alecia Barbieri (alecia.barbieri@students.spchs.com) or Colin Ivers (colin.ivers@students.spchs.com), to express your interest. If you are unable to attend in person, please use the link below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81019699444?pwd=ZTBHWnA5UWtKa0tNcCtJYjBsR2lNdz09>

Meeting ID: 810 1969 9444

Passcode: 837084

GUIDANCE NEWS

HARTFORD NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR: <https://www.collegefairguide.com/hartford-national-college-fair>

The Spring 2021 National College Fairs have transitioned to a Virtual Platform. With in-person events limited across the country, college admissions offices are eager to connect with sophomores, juniors and seniors who are looking toward postsecondary education.

Virtual College Fairs, **sponsored by the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)**, are a timesaving opportunity for students and parents to gather a lot of information in one day. College admissions representatives will be online to answer key questions ranging from acceptance policies to student-faculty ratio.

NACAC's Virtual College Fairs are one-day events that are free to attend. These interactive events are designed with the mobile user in mind. Students can login from their phones or computers. Students and parents are invited to attend one or all of these online events.

More than 600 college and university representatives will be online and available to answer questions. Students and parents will also be able to schedule one-on-one virtual meetings. Students can sign up for a Virtual College Fair at virtualcollegefairs.org.

TRIBUNE PUBLISHING NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR: <https://tribpubcollegefair.com/>

Connecting Universities, Colleges, Vocational Schools & More
with Prospective Students, Parents & Families

Tribune Publishing is proud to launch this FREE online event series and content hub in March 2021; designed to provide students, parents and families easy access to the latest higher education information. This interactive, easy-to-navigate event experience will feature a wide variety of schools and exhibitors from all over the country, expert keynote speakers, virtual campus tours, live chats and fun giveaways.

CONNect COLLEGE FAIR hosted by Connecticut's public universities

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn from representatives at each of Connecticut's four state universities (Central, Eastern, Southern, and Western) and the University of Connecticut. It's a one-stop shop event to get to know what makes each institution special and have all your questions answered - without having to schedule five different Zoom meetings. You'll have a chance to chat with representatives at each university to ask anything you may be wondering about, such as internship opportunities for your major, what there is to do on campus, and what the food is really like! www.connectfairs.eventbrite.com

Event dates and times are:

Thursday, March 18 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Wednesday, April 21 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Wednesday, May 12 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS HARTFORD

Society of Women Engineers Hartford is hosting a 6-week Makerspace Virtual Workshop for women (Grades 9-12) interested in Engineering beginning April 6. This is the hands-on building event that students have been craving. You will get your own design kit shipped directly to your door. Starting April 6 - May 11, meets every Tuesday night from 5:00 – 8:00 pm (6 nights).

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7OzOPrLUOJZkbYItfHo9A-QfkfO37IdDGmxonNvgTFceRpA/viewform>

Topics include:

1. Working Together on Design Teams
2. Rapid Prototyping Prosthetic Arms to Communicate Design Ideas
3. Ideating in Virtual Teams
4. CAD and 3D Printing
5. Build your Own Microscope & Look at Your Cells
6. Intro to Tissue Engineering & Bioreactor Design

IBM/JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT TECHNOLOGY WEBINARS

Junior Achievement invites you to participate in a webinar and learn from technology experts from IBM – a leader in the tech world for over a century! There will be two panels – March 10 and March 17 from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. IBM volunteers will share their pathway to a career in technology and what future careers look like. Register by selecting which date you would like to participate:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/b715260d001/167543ce-efd7-45e9-a286-16eeb7310d60.pdf>

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Seniors on their recent college acceptances:

Romi Bagdasarian	Manhattan College, Providence College, Quinnipiac University, UCONN, University of Rhode Island
Alecia Barbieri	Penn State, Purdue University, Virginia Tech, University of Illinois, University of Texas, Worcester Polytechnic University
Eleanor Bryda	Sacred Heart University
Joseph Conroy	SUNY Delhi, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Wentworth Institute of Technology
Adrian George	UCONN, University of Hartford
Sophia Gerst	Rochester Institute of Technology, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Quinnipiac University, UCONN, UMASS, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Western New England University, Worcester Polytechnic University
Madelyn Hooks	Clemson University, Gonzaga University, Penn State, Purdue University
Delaney Jordan	Bridgewater State University, Suffolk University
Martina Joun	UCONN
Thomas Lorenzetti	Dean College, Elms College
Jonathan Passander	Virginia Tech
Grace Perugini	Clemson University, Florida State University
Joshua Silva	UCONN
Benjamin Speaker	Norwich University, University of New Haven, Western New England University
Julie Swicklas	Bay Path College, University of St. Joseph

Seniors are reminded to notify their school counselor if they want their college acceptances to be acknowledged.

SAT PREP CLASS – CLASS OF 2022

The Lentz & Lentz SAT Prep course began in-person at St. Paul yesterday in preparation for the May 8 SAT. Virtual classes begin the week of March 14. Those students unable to attend yesterday's class due to quarantining at home should email info@lentzsatprep.com to coordinate a Zoom makeup lesson. The Zoom make-up classes normally take place approximately one week after the in-person lesson.

ATHLETICS

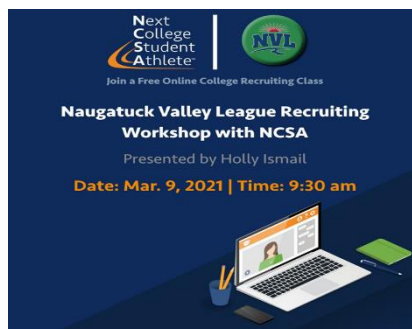
GYM SCHEDULE

Week of March 8

Monday	Fr. Boys BB 2:30 – 4:15 pm; Indoor Track 4:30 – 5:45 pm; JV/V Boys BB 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Tuesday	Fr. Boys BB 2:30 – 3:30 pm; Indoor Track 4:15 – 5:30 pm; Outside Practice (meet behind the gym - weather dependent); JV/V Boys BB Game vs Torrington 4:30 & 6:15 pm
Wednesday	Fr. Girls BB 12:15 – 2:00 pm; JV/V Girls BB 2:15 – 4:15 pm; Fr. Boys BB 4:30 – 6:00 pm; JV/V Boys BB 6:15 – 8:15 pm
Thursday	Fr. Girls & Boys BB 2:30 – 3:30; Cheer & Wrestling 3:45 – 4:45 pm; JV/V Girls BB 5:00 – 6:30 pm; JV/V Boys BB 6:45 – 8:15 pm
Friday	Fr. Girls BB 2:30 – 3:30 pm; JV/V Girls BB Game vs Sacred Heart 4:30 & 6:15 pm
Saturday	Indoor Track 8:00 – 9:30 am; Fr. Girls BB Game vs Torrington 11:00 am; Fr. Boys BB Game vs Torrington 1:30 pm
Sunday	BB – TBA

FYI – The NVL Boys' & Girls' Basketball Tournament begins on Saturday, March 20.

NVL SPONSORED – COLLEGE STUDENT-ATHLETE RECRUITING WORKSHOP



Interested Sophomores and Juniors are asked to pre-register for this workshop and inform Mr. Dennehy, ddennehy@spchs.com, of your attendance by tomorrow, Monday (3/8) at 10:00 am. An announcement will be made in school on Monday indicating where you will meet for the Tuesday workshop that runs from 9:30 – 10:30 am.

SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL NIGHT

The boys' basketball team will host Torrington High School Tuesday night at 6:15 pm for their senior night game. We are asking that only **one** underclassmen parent/family member per player attend the game so that additional senior family members may attend and yet we can continue to comply with indoor seating capacity limits.

PRE-SEASON TEAM MEETINGS FOR SPRING SPORTS

Announcements will be made this week for pre-season team meetings for Girls Tennis, Boys' & Girls' Lacrosse, Girls' Tennis and Track & Field. The pre-season informational player meeting for **Boys' & Girls' Golf** is scheduled for Monday night at 6:30 pm. Mr. Dennehy has sent that Zoom meeting link through your St. Paul student emails.

START OF SPRING SPORTS

Baseball Pitchers & Catchers Week is March 20 – 26 The schedule will be sent out by the coaching staff as discussed during the team Zoom Meeting.

Official start date for all Spring Sports is Saturday, March 27. Date for first contests is April 10.

COLLEGE COMMITMENTS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES



Nicholas Jackson – Rivier University
Lacrosse



Quentin Conner – Anna Maria College
Football

Mr. Dennehy will be contacting in the next few weeks Seniors who have not yet had an opportunity for a photo-op recognizing your commitment to continue your athletic career in college.

FOREVER FALCONS VIRTUAL GALA



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83578050916?pwd=bC9BeWFvZzFVQzQrbmttbjRTYVINdz09>

Meeting ID: 835 7805 0916 Passcode: 190511

HAPPY BIRTHDAY (March 8 – 14)

Happy Birthday to: Cameron Baston, Anna Beresford, Katherine Darragjati, Andrew Deegan, Ellie Galasso, Luca Izzo, Mario Izzo, Andrew Pauloz, Richard Scott and Mrs. Kromidas.

FINAL WORD

COVID-19 ANNIVERSARY

Hard to believe that it's been a year ago this Friday, March 12, 2020 that we sent out the following message regarding COVID-19 to St. Paul students, parents and faculty.

In consultation earlier today with the Archdiocese of Hartford and health directors from the Bristol Burlington Health District and consistent with the recent announcement this evening that Bristol public schools will be closed for the next two weeks, we have decided that St. Paul Catholic High School will be closed from Monday, March 16 through Friday, March 27, 2020. Our students are already off from school tomorrow, Friday, March 13 due to a planned faculty retreat.

Humm, two weeks ... weren't we optimistic! And what a year it has been!

It's a good to time to say once again how grateful I am to our entire school community: students, parents/guardians, faculty, staff and coaches for all we have accomplished the last year living through this global pandemic. It's certainly been challenging and emotionally draining, at times, dealing with the inconveniences and disappointments to our accustomed daily lives. Your patience, understanding, flexibility, commitment and partnership on this journey has been inspiring! The last year has it taught us a lot about ourselves and about the special people who comprise our school community. For this, we can all be proud. **THANK YOU!**

I finish tonight's newsletter on a lighter note hoping that in spite of all we've gone through the last year we can still put a smile on our masked covered faces.

- *Saw my neighbor scraping the "my kid is a terrific student" sticker off her car this afternoon. Guess that first week of homeschooling didn't go so well."*
- *Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?*
- *I'm so bored I went outside to knock on my own door. Then came back in and said, "Who is it?"*
- *So, in retrospect, in 2015, not a single person got the answer right to "Where do you see yourself in 5 years from now?"*
- *If we can just get through this month, we only have one more month to go before we need to get through another month.*
- *If 2020 was a math problem: If you're going down a river at 2 mph and your canoe loses a wheel, how much pancake mix would you need to re-shingle your roof?*
- *Nobody claim 2021 as "your year." We're all going to walk in real slow. Be good. Be quiet. Don't touch anything.*
- *Just train all the Amazon delivery guys to give the vaccine. The whole world will be immunized by Sunday. Friday if you have Prime.*
- *So, we're just letting March come back after the way it ended last year?*



**Keep it up ... stay vigilant.
It takes all of us, all of the time!**

MASK UP – WASH HANDS – KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

TRAVEL GUIDELINES

Recently, I've had some questions regarding returning to St. Paul following out-of-state travel. While the guidelines are always subject to change and Governor Lamont indicated last Thursday the possibility of loosening travel restrictions, these are the BBHD policies we are currently following when traveling to states other than New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island for more than a 24-hour period:

Three options:

- 1) The first option – test 72 hours prior to arrival back to CT. A negative test would allow you to return to school.
- 2) The second option – test when you return to CT. Quarantine until you get your test results. You may get a rapid test (only in travel circumstances; all other situations require a PCR test). A negative test allows you to be out of quarantine and return to school.
- 3) If you do not want to test – you must stay in quarantine for 10 days from the day you arrive back in CT.

If anyone test positive, this would all change. I will continue to communicate any policy changes.

Don't forget to "spring ahead" next Sunday, March 14 as we shift to Daylight Savings Time.

Be **KIND** ... take care of yourself and take care of each other in making this a **GREAT** week!

St. Paul, pray for us!

Cary M. Dupont '72
President/Chief Administrator