



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we continue our Lenten journey this week, we are often reminded that the 40 days of Lent that lead to Easter are the most sacred and spiritually powerful in the Christian calendar. From the ashes we received on Ash Wednesday, to the Stations of the Cross that are prayed on Fridays, to the joyful Easter liturgy that awaits us, Lent is a time when we are invited to examine our religious beliefs and deepen our commitment to live a faith-filled Christian life. Some people see Lent as the church's season of darkness—nothing but doom and gloom, guilt and depression. While repentance and self-denial have long been a part of Lent, we can also use it as a time to take on more positive practices...and that's really the whole point. And what could be more joyful than a season during the church year that we specifically set aside to grow in our faith, to grow closer to God? If we can focus on Lent as a time for reconciliation and self-reflection, it's easy to view the cross, that symbol of Jesus' death, as a symbol that is meant to be unifying and not divisive.

Generally, when we think of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, we realize that sometimes it includes "bearing some sort of cross." Jesus told his apostles that if they really wanted to be his disciples they must be willing to take up the cross on a daily basis in order to follow him. We all know that Jesus wasn't asking them to do something he wasn't willing to do himself. In fact, Jesus spent a lot of time *removing* crosses from people who were in the depths of despair. The bulk of Jesus' ministry was spent *taking crosses away* and carrying them himself.

In many ways, we can also remove crosses from the people we encounter every day. Some simple suggestions include: holding that complaint; speaking politely to a neighbor; reserving that judgment or criticism; refraining from gossip; congratulating an achiever; complimenting a co-worker; apologizing for a wrong-doing; donating food and clothing to a homeless shelter; saying "yes" when asked to help; expressing gratitude; comforting the

bereaved; granting forgiveness; and praying for those in need.

It's amazing how much lighter our own cross becomes each time we take one off the shoulders of someone else!

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

18	MAR 2019, MON	● 6:30 – 7:30pm	2nd Grade Sacrament meeting JCPC JCPC
19	MAR 2019, TUE	● 6 – 10pm	Basketball Sports Banquet - JCPC JCPC
20	MAR 2019, WED	● 6 – 10pm	Basketball Sports Banquet - JCPC JCPC
21	MAR 2019, THU	● 6:30 – 7:30pm	1st Grade Sacrament Preparation meeting parents and students JCPC JCPC
22	MAR 2019, FRI	● All day	No School--Religious Education Congress
24	MAR 2019, SUN	● 4 – 9pm	Men's Basketball Tournament--Gym Gym
28	MAR 2019, THU	● 7 – 8:30pm	Jr. High Night - SSM Media Center
29	MAR 2019, FRI	● 7 – 9am	School Comm. Coffee - MPR
1	APR 2019, MON	● 8 – 9:30am	PWC Board meeting--JACC JACC
7	APR 2019, SUN	● 9:30 – 10:30am	1st Grade Family Mass St. Paul the Apostle Church
8	APR 2019, MON	● 6:30 – 8:30pm	2nd Grade Prayer Service/Dinner JCPC JCPC
10	APR 2019, WED	● All day ● 11am – 1:30pm	Spring Sing 1 - JCPC Spring Sing 1 Grades 5-8 JCPC
11	APR 2019, THU	● 7 – 8:30pm	Jr. High Night - SSM Media Center
12	APR 2019, FRI	● 7 – 8pm	Sandwich Builders-JCPC JCPC



NO SCHOOL!

This is just a reminder that school will **not** be in session on Friday, March 22, as all of the faculty will be attending the Religious Education Congress in Anaheim. Classes will resume Monday morning with our prayer assembly.



2nd TRIMESTER REPORT CARDS

Report cards for the 2nd trimester will be sent home with the students this Thursday, March 21st. Please make sure that you sign the report card envelope and return it to your child's teacher. As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's academic progress or conduct grade, please request a conference with his/her teacher. Thank you!



SAFETY AT SPA - KUDOS TO OUR STAFF/PARENTS!

As many of you have learned by now, last Friday afternoon after dismissal we received several alerts regarding an “active shooter” at the Westfield Century City mall. That news was immediately disseminated to all SPA faculty and staff, and the students who were either at after-school care or participating in extracurricular programs were quickly brought into the school buildings and a lockdown was implemented. An automated phone message was sent to all SPA parents, and some came quickly to pick up their children, offering to stay and help us in any way deemed necessary. As of this writing, the LAPD officers have not located anyone with a weapon, but they are investigating a “suspicious” package. Sirens can still be heard and helicopters continue to circle. We are praying that this all ends safely for everyone involved. Many, many thanks to our wonderful teachers, staff, and parents who immediately sprang into “protective” action for our students. St. Paul’s is blessed to have you!



IMPORTANT SAFETY ALERT!

It has been brought to our attention that an incident occurred last Friday morning during the parent carpool drop-off line. Coffee that a parent volunteer was holding accidentally spilled all over a child’s backpack while she was exiting the car. It is my understanding that parent volunteers are told their hands must be free to help the students carefully exit the vehicles. Obviously more important than damaging the backpack is the safety concern as the hot coffee could have easily burned the child. We are very grateful that did not happen. We respectfully ask that everyone please, please, please be very careful and attentive when assisting with morning drop-off! Thank you!



FINGERPRINTING AVAILABLE AT SPA!

Another fingerprinting opportunity will be available at St. Paul’s this Thursday, March 21, from 12:25 - 6:45 p.m. in the Parish multi-purpose room. Please remember that all parents who want to volunteer to assist with students in any capacity (i.e. coaching, chaperoning a field trip, helping in the classroom, etc.) must have fingerprint clearance. If you have any questions please contact Mayora Hiney at mhiney@sp-apostle.org or 310-474-1588, extension 7221.



AUTHOR VISIT AT SPA!

Chris Van Dusen will be visiting the DK – 2nd grade students at St. Paul’s on Tuesday, April 2nd. His new picture book is the delightful “A Piglet Named Mercy.” Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson live ordinary lives. Sometimes they wish something different would happen. And one day it does, when someone unpredictable finds her way to

their front door. In a delightful story, a tiny piglet brings love (and chaos) to Deckawoo Drive—and the Watsons' lives will never be the same!

Order forms listing the author's books will be sent home with the students. If you wish to purchase autographed copies of any of the books, please complete the order form and return it to your child's teacher no later than Tuesday, March 26th.



FAMILY FAITH SHARING

It is often said that parents are the primary educators of their children and that is a very true statement. Our children learn so much from us as they are growing and maturing into the adults they will one day become. It doesn't matter if we are trying to teach our children life lessons about finances, friendships, or faith—we must talk so our children will listen to us, and listen carefully so they will talk to us! Talking about God and our Catholic beliefs is a wonderful opportunity for our children to deepen their personal faith. We know that you all have incredibly busy schedules, but it is our hope that the information we will share with you each during Lent will assist you in having intentional conversations with your children about their faith journey.



SPA SUMMER SCHOOL!!

All of our SPA students are invited to join us for a summer of learning and fun! St. Paul the Apostle School will be offering a variety of programs this coming summer. The sessions will be held Monday through Thursday, from June 17th until July 11th. Classes will be available that satisfy the Summer School Practice Requirements. NEW this year: Coach Keith and Coach Anthony will be offering a Summer Camp! Also new this year: we have added Lazy Fridays that are guaranteed to be a lot of fun. So, if your children are beginning to wonder what they will be doing all summer, log on to the [registration link](#) and sign them up for days of fun! You can also log on to the PWC website at <http://www.spapwc.com/summerschool/>. Detailed information brochures will be sent home with the students today.



SPRING CHESS TOURNAMENT at SPA!

It's time to register for the Spring Chess Tournament at SPA! The tournament will be held on Sunday, April 28, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the SPA gym. All level of players are welcome to participate, from beginners through advanced. Individual trophies and team trophies will be awarded, and all other players will receive a medal. Come and help SPA win back the Best School Team trophy! Register today at: [Chess 4 Success](#).

FESTIVAL SNEAK PEAK

Want to get the **FIRST LOOK** at the 2019 SPA Festival? Get a sneak peek by following us on Instagram [@spafestival](#) for the unveiling of our Festival 2019 theme & logo on Monday, March 18!!! Be sure to follow us on [@spafestival](#) for exclusive announcements, get involved with polling to help us plan for the festival, and see all great photos of the faces we love so much across our SPA community!



PWC COMMUNITY COFFEE

Please mark your calendar for next month's coffee where we will have an informal book club about **Fr. Greg Boyle's "Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship"** on **Friday, March 29th**. Fr. Boyle founded Homeboy Industries, the largest gang-intervention program in the world. The Amazon description regarding his book says, "In a moving example of unconditional love in difficult times, Gregory Boyle, the Jesuit priest and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tattoos on the Heart*, shares what working with gang members in Los Angeles has taught him about faith, compassion, and the enduring power of kinship." The 224-page book is available at the library, as well as in many formats for about \$11. At our gathering, you can also be reunited with long lost lunch boxes, water bottles and more...lost and found items will be on display that morning. So get reading and please make plans to join us!



FR. TOM JONES MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The SPA Father's Club will be hosting the annual Fr. Tom Jones Memorial Golf Tournament, and WE need YOUR support! The Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, May 6th! We are soliciting participation, sponsorship, donations, volunteers, anything and everything we can get. Please sign-up today and help in whatever way you can. Corporate sponsorship and/or donations are graciously accepted. All proceeds will benefit St. Paul's Financial Aid Program, including assisting with tuition and subsidizing field trips. This is our only fundraiser for Financial Aid, so please help! To learn more click [here](#).



SPA SCHOOL WEBSITE NEWS!

After months and months of endless meetings, planning, hard work and dedication, we are pleased to announce that our new St. Paul the Apostle School website is now available to everyone! Please visit <https://school.sp-apostle.org> and browse around the site noting all that St. Paul's has to offer, who we are as a Catholic school community, and what we have to offer our families. We have added quite a bit of pertinent information regarding our enrollment process, our faith community, the academic programs,

and the numerous extracurricular activities. Keep an eye on our Calendar of Events and the most important news on the front page of the website. You can also access our social media pages at the bottom of the site whenever you like! If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding the school website please don't hesitate to email Daniel Chung at dchung@sp-apostle.org. Thanks, and enjoy!



SPA'S SOCIAL MEDIA

Please join St. Paul's this year as we ramp up our social media game on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube! We will be posting regular updates along with the parish to share the news about everything that's happening around campus and in the community. Check it out and share your "likes" to show your support! You can subscribe below by clicking on the links!

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)