



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back from the Thanksgiving holiday! It is my hope that all of our families were able to spend time with family and friends in a spirit of giving and gratitude! The material things in this world can never replace the love, care and support that we receive from all the special people in our lives. And for that, we can never be thankful enough!

We are well into the third month of school, and heading towards the end of the first trimester which is this Friday, November 30th. By all accounts, our students have been working hard and giving their best efforts, and their teachers continue to assist them in reaching their highest academic and personal potential. As always, we commend our students for their dedication and academic accomplishments, and they have every right to be proud. I know that many parents sometimes enjoy putting one of those stickers proclaiming that their child is an “honor roll” student on their car bumper. After all, when our children do well, we do well by proxy—it is generally a good feeling for the entire family to experience. Helping your children set high academic goals and then make every effort to achieve them is certainly commendable. At St. Paul the Apostle School we believe that positive reinforcement can inspire students to strive even harder and attain even more.

At SPA, we also believe that there is something every student can do that is even more important than earning “honor roll” status—and that one thing is earning “Christian citizenship” by receiving the highest possible grade in conduct. Throughout both elementary school and high school, the FIRST grade I wanted to see on my own children’s report cards was “conduct.” As a parent, I always believed that my children’s behavior and character formation far outweighed their math skills or reading abilities. Very often, people are remembered for their character and moral fiber, and not for how well they performed on their science test or social studies report.

Character, simply defined, is that lasting and distinctive part of the inner person that governs behavior through informed choices and good habits. Character is formed and

maintained when an active and well-informed conscience becomes a consistent moral guide, and when such virtues as patience, generosity, honesty, respect, understanding, tolerance, civility, and perseverance become habits. Character formation and spiritual growth are major efforts at SPA. We recognize that it is not enough to teach our students to be “smart”; we must also teach them how to be good and faith-filled people. This is a conversation I recently had with a few students before our Thanksgiving break, and I do hope they have taken some time to reflect upon their actions, and what they can do to make better choices going forward.

And so, we commend all of our students who consistently make good choices and will be bringing home those “outstanding” grades in conduct on their first trimester report cards. We also thank all of the parents and guardians for working in partnership with us to help our students become young people of strong, Christian character. They could not experience this level of success without your support, and for that, we are truly grateful!

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

Wed Nov 28	● 6:30 – 8:30pm	7th-grade Liturgy and Dinner
Thu Nov 29	● 7 – 8:30pm	Jr. High Night - SSM Media Center
Fri Nov 30	● All day	Trimester 1 Ends
Sun Dec 2	● 8 – 9:30am	PWC Board Meeting (JACC)
Wed Dec 5	● All day	Kindergarten & Developmental Kindergarten sings @ JCPC
	● 6 – 10pm	Football Sports Banquet - JCPC
Thu Dec 6	● 6 – 10pm	Volleyball Sports Banquet - JCPC



THANKSGIVING TURKEY & PIE DRIVE SUCCESS!

We're delighted to let you know that the Turkey & Pie Drive was a resounding success! Thanks to the generosity of the SPA school and church community, we collected and delivered more than 137 pies (we lost count near the end!) and 43 turkeys to Westside Thanksgiving. In addition, several SPA donors brought five turkeys and three pies directly to the Civic Center. That is a total of 48 turkeys and more than 140 pies from SPA! This fantastic result not only exceeded last year's drive (by about 30-40%), BUT ALSO our own optimistic goals for this year of 40 turkeys and 100 pies. SPA contributions ultimately comprised nearly 20% of Westside Thanksgiving's anticipated turkey needs, and more than 20% of its pie needs---providing essential components of a Thanksgiving meal for about 700 people. On Thanksgiving morning, Westside Thanksgiving was pretty anxious about having enough turkeys for the day, so they were ecstatic and so very thankful to our community for their generosity. In addition to all the good that the SPA donations did for the Westside Thanksgiving guests, it was so

heartwarming to see this drive bring different segments of our own community together on this beautiful holiday. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way, and a special thanks to Allison & Mike Woods for graciously collecting the donations at their home and delivering them to the Civic Center! This was truly our faith in action!



ADVENT WREATH BUILDING at SPA

Everyone is invited to come and prepare for Christmas with your family and friends on Sunday, December 2, in the JCPC. This special gathering will be held from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. We will be creating Advent wreaths for you to bring home and enjoy! Wreath rings, evergreens, and Advent candles will be available for use, and you are also invited to bring your own special decorations from home to make your wreath a personal symbol of the Advent season. We will be delighted if you can join us!



SPA SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON & CONCERT

The winter holiday season will soon be here. We are thrilled to continue the beautiful tradition of hosting seniors from the parish at a special luncheon where the SPA Kinder and DK Classes will sweetly sing their Christmas Concert. This is a great way to get a glimpse of those adorable kids in their Christmas finest. The **PWC Senior Christmas Luncheon** will be held on **Wednesday, December 5**, in the JCPC. Social hour begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:00 p.m. The **DK and Kindergarten Concert** will begin at 1:00 p.m. Those not attending the lunch are more than welcome to come at 1:00 p.m. to enjoy the concert.

Help is needed for set-up, serving, clean up and contributing a yummy dessert. Thank you in advance for your help! [Sign up here.](#)



PWC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual PWC Christmas party is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 13th. Please save-the-date! Hosted at the beautiful home of Darcy & Matt Cobb, this jingle and mingle is not to be missed!! Thank you to the Cobb family for graciously opening their home. Details will be shared soon!



SPA ROBOTICS TEAM!

On Sunday, November 11, the St. Paul the Apostle Robotics Club, named "Space Y", competed in *FIRST* Lego League's West Ranch qualifying tournament at West Ranch High School. The attending team members were: Edward Cadow, Natalie Cadow, Stephen Saade, Aidan Whitney, Jude Spillane and Cash Roberts. SPA finished in the top five out of 26 teams, qualifying Space Y to

compete in the Los Angeles Championship Tournament at La Cañada High School on Sunday, December 9th. Congratulations to all of these students! We are so very proud of their well-earned achievement, and wish them well in their next tournament!



PARENT VIRTUS TRAINING/FINGERPRINTING POLICY

St. Paul the Apostle School is committed to protecting all of our students. It is for this reason that any adult who has contact with the students, whether an employee or a volunteer, must have successfully completed the VIRTUS training, TB testing and fingerprinting process. And while we understand that this can be a time-consuming process, we hope that all of our parents understand the importance of these requirements. St. Paul's is a very active community, and we rely on the parents and guardians of our students to assist us with many school activities and programs. This can be anything from reporting for yard duty at lunch time and coaching after-school sports, to chaperoning field trips and helping teachers in the classroom.

In meeting the "gold standard" of child protection and providing a safe school environment, fingerprinting is required for any parents who are:

- In consistent contact with students
- Chaperoning a field trip, whether a one-day event or overnight
- Driving students for any school-related events
- Being left alone with students, whether on-campus or away from campus

While *some* of these standards have been adhered to in previous years, we must now move forward with ensuring that the implementation of *all* standards are in process, and that everything will be strictly enforced beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. If

you would like to begin the fingerprinting process please note that we have scheduled the next session to be held at St. Paul's on Monday, January 14, 2019, from 12:00 until 7:20 p.m. In the meantime, parents who are in full compliance with the standards listed above will be given priority when we need volunteers at St. Paul's in any capacity.

Please note that this policy does NOT include our traffic volunteers simply because these wonderful people (at least 8 or 9 of them on a daily basis) are publically standing curbside and graciously opening car doors as parents pull up to let their children out. (It's SPA service with a smile!) Thank you for your cooperation, understanding and patience as we diligently do everything possible to care for your children.



SPA JUNIOR HIGH NIGHTS

All 7th and 8th grade students are welcome to join us on Thursday evenings in the Media Center from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. These evenings are filled with faith, food, friends, and fun. Come by and learn how to build your relationship with God, all while having a great time building community with other junior high-aged students. For more information, please contact Adrian Barrios at abarrios@sp-apostle.org or at (424) 832-5150.

Please note the Jr. High Night dates for 2018-2019: 11/29/18, 1/31/19, 2/28/19, 3/28/19, 4/11/19



SPA 2018-2019 YEARBOOKS

It's time to order your SPA yearbook! Ordering early allows you to get the lowest price possible:

- Order by November 22; the price is only \$25
- Order between November 23 – December 20; the price is \$35
- Order between December 20 – February 1; the price is \$45

Please note that yearbooks will not be sold after February 1st. You can logon to the SPAPWC website to place your order. Yearbooks will be labeled exactly as you have entered your child's name so please make certain that the name, grade level and homeroom information are all correctly entered. Thank you!

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S on DECEMBER 16

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S
WESTWOOD

The
CHRISTMAS
STORY *in*
WORD &
SONG

Sunday
December 16, 2018
3pm to 4:15pm

Reception Following

Children's Christmas Choir
Caritas Chorus
New Schola Cantorum



Conducted by
Christopher Walker
*Internationally Known Liturgical
Composer & Conductor*

St. Paul the Apostle Church
10750 Ohio Ave. at Selby
Los Angeles, California
90024

CA
FESTIVAL
of LESSONS
& CAROLS

Free Admission

(Collection Will Be Taken For Those Less Fortunate)



The
CHRISTMAS
STORY *in*
WORD &
SONG

COME AND HEAR

*the Christmas Story
read by children and parishioners*

SING all your favorite Christmas Carols

DELIGHT in music sung by

*The Children's Christmas Choir
The Caritas Chorus
The New Schola Cantorum*

FEAST ON a tasty reception of Traditional
English Mince Pies and English Tea

MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS

*And the Glory of the Lord ('Messiah' Handel)
Ave Maria/On the lips of an Angel
(Schubert/Soper)
Sir Christmas (Matthias)
Heaven's Lullaby (Buck)
In the Bleak Midwinter (Darke)
Carol of the Bethlehem Cave (Walker)
Calypso Carol*

St Paul the Apostle Church – Westwood
Sunday, December 16th, at 3:00 pm

Conducted by: Christopher Walker
with our organist: James Casey
and our pianist: John Sawoski



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](#)