



# SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

---

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL



---

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

---

Dear Parents/Guardians:

*“For unto you this day in the city of David,  
a Savior has been born;  
He is Christ the Lord” –Luke 2:11*

The spirit of Christmas is in the air, and everyone here at SPA is beginning to feel it, especially our students. Yes, they know that Santa and his elves are on the way, and they are hoping he will be bringing a sleigh that is filled with all of the gifts on their list. But during these final days of Advent, we are making every effort to keep our students focused on the greatest gift of all—the birth of the Christ child.

As a Catholic school community that recognizes and embraces the tenets of our faith, this is a period on the Church calendar that is of much significance to us. The overriding message we always hear at Christmas is one of “peace and goodwill” to everyone. It is my hope that our preparations this season will further remind us of the importance this message brings, not just for Christmas, but for all seasons of the year. It should serve as an underlying principle of our faith, and a reminder of what should be a way of life for all of us.

With the birth of Jesus came the promise that we are not alone, that God has not forsaken us. This is deeply reassuring given the many COVID pandemic challenges, painful personal losses, disappointments and setbacks we have experienced this past

year. The angels didn't tell us not to be afraid because there is nothing to fear. The angels' message tells us not be afraid because there is Good News that can bring light to our darkness, hope to those who despair, eternal life where there is death, and love that overpowers any fear we might have. Indeed, be not afraid, for God is born among us once again.

Somewhere in the flurry of the season may we find time to reflect upon that blessed and holy night that changed the world...time to remember the truths that Jesus taught and everything He has done for us...and time to give thanks with all our hearts that God so loved the world He gave us His only Son. May you leave our SPA Christmas liturgies and your personal holiday celebrations with enough inspiration to live the true meaning of Christmas throughout 2022.

On behalf of the Paulist Fathers, the DMJ Sisters, the faculty, and staff, I wish you all a merry and holy Christmas followed by a New Year that is filled with peace, promise, contentment, and many quiet moments to reflect on all the ways that God has truly blessed your life.

*Merry Christmas!*

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal Pinkofsky  
Principal

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SPA SCHOOL CHRISTMAS VACATION



Our Christmas vacation will begin at 12:30 p.m. this Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. **Please note that after-school care for our students will NOT be available this Friday.** Classes and after-school care will resume on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### SPA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



---

## Christmas Pageant

---

As previously announced, our annual Christmas program will be virtual this year. Please join us on **Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m.** as we login to the St. Paul the Apostle Media YouTube channel to enjoy the program. The students have been diligently rehearsing their assigned readings and carols to help bring a bit of Christmas joy to our SPA community. We are looking forward to sharing their delightful talents with you!

**Please note that all of our students will be recorded singing their songs for the program TODAY.** We are requesting that all students at every grade level wear their “best and most respectful” attire for the recording. **This means NO athletic wear, shorts, jeans/denim, sagging pants, t-shirts, bare midriffs, extremely short skirts or dresses, or flip flops of any kind.** Students who are inappropriately attired will, regrettably, not be allowed to participate in the program.

As a special “thank you” to all of our students for their hard work in preparing for this year’s presentation, all students may have **FREE DRESS this Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.** Students may wear jeans, sweats, Christmas colors, holiday t-shirts and sweatshirts, **OR...CHRISTMAS-THEMED PAJAMAS!** Once again, all attire—including the pajamas—**MUST** be appropriate for a Catholic school setting. The weather is predicted to be a bit colder than usual next week, so please make sure your children are dressed warmly each and every day.

## 1ST TRIMESTER REPORT CARDS

---

Report cards for the first trimester will be sent home this **Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.** Please take a minute to search your child’s backpack for this important information in case they forget to give it to you. As always, we ask that you sign and return the envelope, and if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child’s academic progress or conduct grade, please reach out to the teachers when we return from Christmas vacation.



## SPA BUSINESS BREAKFAST

---



The next business breakfast is Tuesday, December 14, from 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Multi-Purpose Room. Our guest speaker will be **Mary Margaret Powell**, who is the editor-in-chief of “Entertainment Weekly”. Ms. Powell will take you on a tour about the future of entertainment media.

## 2022 YEARBOOK ORDERS

---



It's time to order your 2021-2022 St. Paul the Apostle School yearbook! Don't miss out! It is a wonderful way to remember the school year! You can just click [HERE](#) to order.

\$35- if ordered between November 16th – December 17th

\$45- if ordered between December 18th – January 18th

\$55- if paid for in June during yearbook distribution, but there is no guarantee there will be any yearbooks left.

---

## SPA COVID TESTING

---



Our next round of COVID testing for all faculty, staff, and students will be held this **Wednesday, December 15th**, beginning at 8:15 a.m. The **ONLY** document your children will need to have for testing is a dated and signed copy of the **COVID-19 Patient Test Request Form**.

**Please note that students in grades 4 – 8 may receive the NOSTRIL swab or NASAL swab. If this is the type of COVID test you want for your child, just check either one of those boxes on the form, otherwise, he/she will receive the MOUTH swab.**

When completing the Patient Request Form, please remember to **include your email address** so that the results of the lab test can be sent directly to you, as well as Nurse Anderson. **We strongly suggest that you TYPE the requested information onto the form so that everything—including your email address—is legible.** Keep in mind that we are not using a “rapid” test, so we should expect to receive the results in approximately 24 hours. If you have not received the results by then, please contact the lab or Nurse Anderson. Any measures that we can take to help keep our community safe is well worth the effort. Thank you for your cooperation regarding this very important matter!

**[COVID-19 Patient Test Request Form Link](#)**

(This document is now Form Fillable)