



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The planning, anticipation and excitement for Catholic Schools Week are increasing, and I have had several students approach me and inquire about what fun things we are going to put on “the wheel” this year! When I ask them what they hope will be there, the overwhelming response has been “pajama day.” No surprises there! I must admit that when I attended Catholic elementary school (100 years ago?), there was no celebration of a Catholic Schools Week, and even if there had been, I seriously doubt that the Dominican Sisters would have allowed us to wear our pajamas to school. No surprises there either!

When I was growing up, my parents instilled in me the belief that a good education was one of the most important gifts parents could give their children. My parents worked hard to give my brother and I that gift. Accordingly, we attended both Catholic elementary and secondary schools. Years later, when I became a parent, the decision to send my children to a Catholic school was never a question. To me, there was no other alternative. I viewed Catholic schools as providing a holistic education, which I believed was extremely important. Having been educated in the system, I knew that the special character of the Catholic school, and the underlying reason for its existence, was the quality of the faith formation that was integrated into the overall curriculum of the students it served. It was important to me that my children learn about the faith into which they had been baptized, and to have that spirituality nurtured by the people who shared it. I was never disappointed with that decision. In fact, I was often quite relieved to have my children in an environment that was a sign of stability in a society that was often in chaos and flux. I wanted them to be consistently counseled so that they would evolve, accept challenge, and dare to expand their horizons to more fully realize their potential. I wanted

them to know discipline and forgiveness when they made wrong choices. I also wanted them to know that “diversity” was not a concept to be learned, but a reality to be lived. In the process, they learned the real meanings of compassion and acceptance. And because they were in a Catholic school, they learned about the world through a lens filtered by charity, the greatest virtue of all.

Every once in a while, I have been privy to conversations with parents about the sacrifices they make in order to send their children to Catholic schools, and whether or not what’s being forfeited (bigger homes, fancier cars, more extravagant vacations, etc.) is worth it. It’s a valid question, and the answer depends solely on what parents want most for their children. I know firsthand that some sacrifices have to be made in providing for the education of our children, from elementary school through college. But I also know that it’s worth every penny. I am extremely grateful to all of the families who support Catholic education. By doing so, you can take special comfort in the realization that today’s Catholic schools remain a parent’s true complement and firm support. In this special setting, values are shared and sacraments are celebrated; through school and weekend liturgies, our students learn at a young age that the Eucharist plays an integral part in their growth and development.

The legacy given to those nurtured in the Catholic school has distinct consequences. Clearly, your children are the principal beneficiaries of the vision we hold about Catholic education. Thank you for choosing St. Paul the Apostle School! May God continue to bless you in the most important ministry of all—parenting! And may your children’s futures be marked with the tremendous gifts of the Spirit.

Peace and blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

20	JAN 2020, MON	● All day	NO School - Martin Luther King Day
21	JAN 2020, TUE	● 15:30 – 16:30	Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
22	JAN 2020, WED	● 15:45 – 16:45	Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
23	JAN 2020, THU	● 16:00 – 17:00 ● 18:30 – 20:30	Sports - Basketball Games - GYM 1st Grade (Parents only) Sacrament Mtg - JCPC
24	JAN 2020, FRI	● All day ● 08:00 – 09:00 ● 15:00 – 19:30	STAR Window 2 Closes School Mass - Feast of Saint Paul - 4th Grade Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
25	JAN 2020, SAT	● All day ● 08:00 – 16:00	DK/Kinder Assessment Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
26	JAN 2020, SUN	● All day ● 08:30 – 11:00 ● 09:30 – 10:30 ● 10:30 – 12:00 ● 13:00 – 16:00	Catholic Schools Week Begins - School Open House Pancake Breakfast - JCPC Catholic Schools Week Mass - CH School Open House - All Are Welcome! Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
28	JAN 2020, TUE	● 15:30 – 19:00	Sports - Basketball Games - GYM
29	JAN 2020, WED	● 15:30 – 17:30	Sports - Basketball Game - GYM
31	JAN 2020, FRI	● 15:00 – 19:00 ● 19:00 – 20:00	Sports - Basketball - GYM Sandwich Builders -JCPC (Kindergarten)



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!

Beginning Sunday, January 26, St. Paul the Apostle School will be celebrating **Catholic Schools Week!** We will begin our special celebration by coming together at the **9:30 a.m. Mass**. All current school families, parishioners, and prospective school families are invited to join us for this special liturgy. Because Pope Francis has designated the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as the "Sunday of the Word of God," everyone is invited to bring their **family or personal Bibles** to Mass with them to receive a special blessing. Study Bibles and Children's Bibles will also be available for sale to help in making the Scriptures part of our everyday lives.

The SPA Father's Club will be hosting a delicious **Pancake Breakfast** immediately following the 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Masses. (Yummy! Please pass the syrup!)

Everyone is also cordially invited to attend our **SPA School Open House** which will begin immediately after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Please feel free to bring your relatives, friends, neighbors, and any prospective school families. Our students are eagerly anticipating having you visit their classrooms to see examples of some of the

wonderful work they have done. Light refreshments will be served, and guided tours of the campus conducted by our Student Council members will be available upon request.

And once again, to help facilitate this annual celebration, the faculty and students will gather together every morning during CSW for prayer and announcements. Our Student Council members will also be “**Spinning the Wheel**” to determine the event/activity we will be participating in each day. If last year was any indication, we anticipate that our students will once again enjoy this “game of chance.” As always, parents are most welcome to join us each morning for prayer and the wheel-spinning results!



SCHOOL TARDIES, GROOMING POLICIES, ETC.

It has been brought to my attention that we have a rapidly rising increase in the number of students who are arriving late to school every day. Tardiness is defined as arriving to school after the 7:45 a.m. bell. In keeping with the efforts to do the utmost for all of our students, we are requesting your cooperation and assistance regarding this matter. The administration and faculty have stressed many times the importance of regular and prompt attendance so that your children can receive the maximum benefits from daily sequential instruction. Our teachers are most anxious to have all of the students present and ready to learn at the beginning of each day. It is difficult to conduct a lesson when students arrive late. This is not only a disruption to the lesson, it is also a disservice to the other students who arrive at school on time. If there are extenuating circumstances of which the school is not aware, please feel free to inform your child's homeroom teacher. Failure to adequately address the problem of tardiness at this point could lead to a meeting with the administration and teachers to discuss the situation.

Also, please take a few minutes to review the SPA Handbook regarding the school uniform, haircut, and make-up policies. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in detentions, which can have a negative impact on a student's conduct grade.



LET'S GO SAINTS!

Everyone is invited to come out and cheer on our SPA Girls' varsity soccer and basketball teams! All of the soccer games are away as noted below. All of the basketball games are held here at SPA unless otherwise noted in the schedule. Please contact Coach Keith Mortimer or Coach Anthony Palmieri if you have any questions. **Go, Saints!**

PBL Varsity Girls' Soccer Schedule:

Wednesday, 1/22	2:30 p.m.	SPA vs. Archer (away)
Wednesday, 1/29	3:45 p.m.	SPA vs. Crossroads (away)

PBL Varsity Girls' Basketball Schedule:

Tuesday 1/21	3:30 p.m.	SPA vs. Geffen
Wednesday 1/22	3:45 p.m.	SPA vs. Notre Dame
Thursday 1/23	4:00 p.m.	SPA vs. Wildwood
Tuesday 1/28	3:30 p.m.	SPA vs. Calvary
Tuesday 1/28	5:00 p.m.	SPA vs. Corpus Christi
Tuesday 2/11	4:00 p.m.	SPA vs. St. Monica (away)



HECKER AWARD CELEBRATION!

The Paulist Fathers, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Community, and the PWC cordially invite all parents to join us as we honor our beloved school nurse, Ms. Van Anderson! "Nurse A" will be celebrated for her 37 years of service to our school community, and presented with the Isaac Hecker Service Award at a Cocktail Reception on Saturday, February 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the SPA School gymnasium. Please note that this event is for ADULTS ONLY. Invitations will be sent to all of our school families soon! We ask that you RSVP as soon as possible so that we can have an accurate guest count for the evening. We hope to see you there!



FINGERPRINTING at SPA

All parents who volunteer to assist us with SPA student activities (i.e. coaching, chaperoning field trips, helping in the classrooms/library, yard duty, etc.) MUST first be fingerprinted as part of the Safe Environment directives from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. We will have another opportunity for you to schedule an appointment here at SPA. The session will be held on Tuesday, January 21, from 12:00 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. in the Multi-purpose room. To reserve an appointment time please call Cheryl Crump at 310-474-1588, or email: ccrump@sp-apostle.org. Please remember to bring a valid photo ID with you.



USED CLOTHING & UNIFORMS

Please note that the church office does not take, or have a need for, used clothing or school uniforms. Apparently, several times a week bags of used clothing are being left in the parish office, but there is no place for all of these items to be stored. If you have school uniforms that you would like to donate to our uniform exchange, please hold on to them until we announce the date of our next exchange event. All other used clothing should be given directly to Goodwill or any other local thrift store that accepts clothing. Thank you!

PWC NEWS CORNER!



SPA MOTHERS' LUNCHEON & FATHER'S CLUB FUN RUN

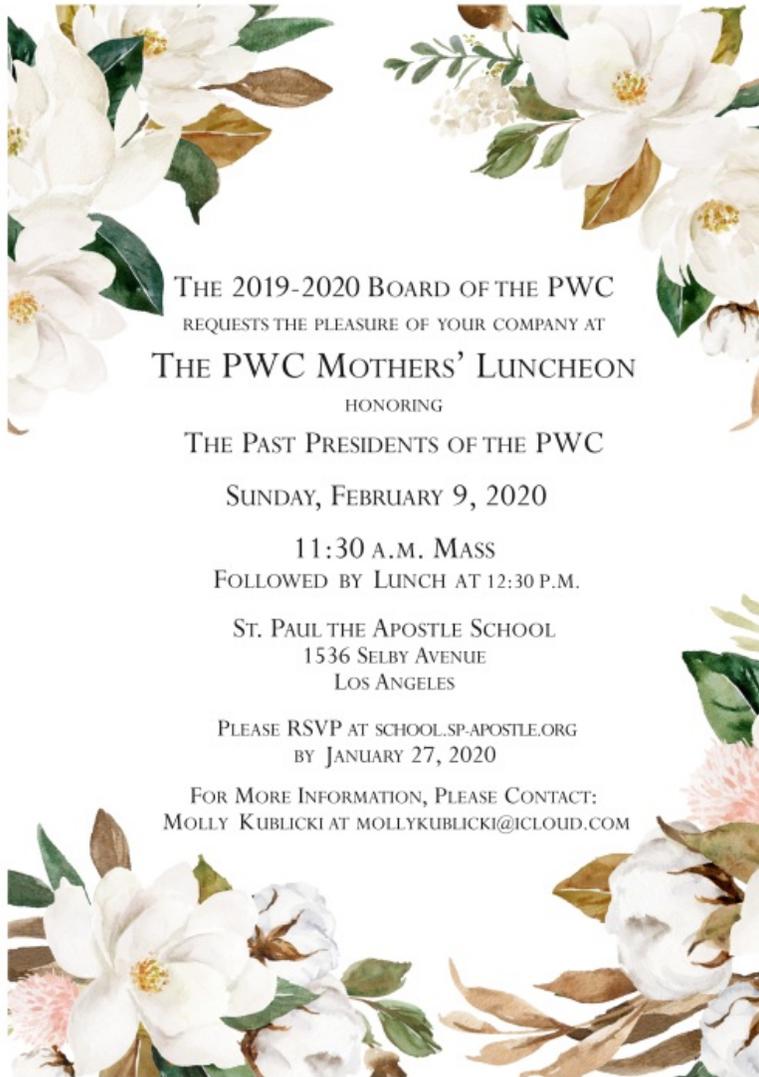
Are you wondering how to juggle the SPA Mothers' Luncheon, weekend fun, and your New Year's Resolution all on Sunday, February 9th? Get everyone out of the house bright and early for an easy 5K at "Home Run for Kids" in Brentwood. The Father's Club is hosting a St. Paul the Apostle Team that benefits Upward Bound House. You will be done in time to join the luncheon, or you can send the kids to hang with dad and join us for 11:30 a.m. Mass and our annual [PWC Mother's Luncheon](#).

With two locations on the Westside, Upward Bound House strives to eliminate homelessness among families with children in Los Angeles by providing housing, supportive services, and advocacy. Please visit [here](#) to register for Team SPA and learn more about this event and Upward Bound House. Thank you for your support!



PWC MOTHERS' LUNCHEON

The PWC Mothers' Luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 9, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Our speaker this year will be Dr. Judy Ho, award-winning clinical psychologist, TV personality, and author of the book "Stop Self-Sabotage". ALL SPA mothers, current and alumni, are invited to celebrate the unwavering dedication and service that each of you provide to the SPA community. Come and reserve a table with friends and spend the afternoon with amazing company! We will have wonderful raffle baskets available courtesy of the PWC. Please view the attached invitation and RSVP by January 27, 2020.



CLICK ON THIS LINK TO REGISTER:

<https://www.prestoregister.com/cgi-bin/order.pl?ref=spapwc44&fm=35>



RECAP: SPA FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS for PWC OUTREACH INITIATIVES

We would like to take a moment to acknowledge the generosity of our school families. Without your dedication and willingness to provide for those in need, we would not have exceeded our goals for our various holiday Outreach programs. We would also like to thank PWC Outreach Co-Chairs, Allison Woods and Lisa Tyler, along with their families, for spearheading, organizing, hauling, and advertising our many drives and programs. They have been, and continue to be, true SPA Saints!!

1) Hygiene Drive: In October, we collected more than 170 lbs. of toiletries on behalf of Westside Thanksgiving, which is led by former SPA parent Daryl Crowley. Westside Thanksgiving provides toiletries, haircuts, clothes, doctor visits, face painters for the kids, and a traditional Thanksgiving meal to more than 2000 people in need on Thanksgiving day. Your donated items were stored and distributed at the event.

2) Halloween Candy Drive: We collected over 330 lbs. of Halloween candy for Operation Gratitude, which provides care packages to our troops overseas.

3) Thanksgiving Bags: We collected approximately 175 grocery bags filled with all the fixings for Thanksgiving dinner, and a \$25 grocery gift card for the purchase of a turkey. These bags will go to clients of St. Joseph's Center. Most bags came from school students and families, but we also had a number of bags donated by parishioners. We understand that this represents a large increase in the breadth of participation from the school this year.

4) Turkey and Pie Drive: We surpassed our goals and collected 43 cooked turkeys and 127 pumpkin pies for Westside Thanksgiving, which was ecstatic with this result. This great outcome was made possible by a true combined group effort from the participation of school, parish, and alumni families, as well as SPA staff! Our St. Paul's contributions fed more than 400 people on Thanksgiving at the Westside Thanksgiving event.

5) Share the Season: St. Paul's families committed for all the families and individuals we were assigned by St. Joseph's Center. Our SPA families sponsored Christmas gifts for 50 St. Joseph's Center families (ranging in size from 2 to 7 members). And new this year, we were able to stuff Christmas stockings for 72 housed and unhoused adult individual clients of St Joseph's Center.

Thank you, everyone, for sharing this beautiful spirit of giving!



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 here!

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)