



# SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

---

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL



---

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

---

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy Monday, once again, and another heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our SPA families for your continued partnership and support of our community! This past Saturday we had the pleasure of meeting many new families as they brought their children to campus for our annual Kindergarten assessment process. These families are eagerly looking forward to having their children join our school as DK or Kindergarten students next year. Some of the parents we spoke to are alums of SPA, having attended many years ago, but still holding on to those fond memories. Other applicants are families who have heard so many wonderful things about our SPA community that they want their children to be able to experience, from the meaningful faith formation journey and excellent academics, to all of the enjoyable extracurricular activities and special moments that define who we are. It was definitely a joyful day, and affirming in so many unexpected ways. We look forward to having all of these families join our community next year.

One of the things that was noted by a few of the families was the “gating” of our school property. They were happy to see that, and to learn that we also have security personnel on campus from the beginning of our school day until 6:00 p.m. when after-school care ends. We are very fortunate to have this invaluable resource, and like many other things that happen at SPA, the safety and security of our community is also a “team effort.” The importance of this cannot be emphasized enough, as indicated in the following paragraphs.

Last Tuesday at approximately 3:20 p.m., our security officers had to “remove” an “intoxicated” person who had gained access to our playground using the back gate that

is located between our church and the Mormon field. **Since a fob is required to open the gate, it was later determined that this individual could only have accessed the campus one of two ways: either the gate was left propped open at some point, or someone exiting from that gate enabled him to gain access before the gate closed completely.** Our after-school care staff immediately noticed the person and the swift actions of our security officers, and ushered all of the students who were outside into the gym and the music classroom where the doors were locked and secured. The police were notified, and the person remained under the surveillance of our security officers until he got into his vehicle that was parked on Ohio and drove away before the police arrived.

This incident was discussed with our Pastor and school administration, our School Board members, a police officer from the LAPD, and the administrative personnel of our security company. We are grateful that the event was handled swiftly and efficiently, and we have noted the one area of concern that needs to be addressed: **the propping open of any gates that are not being watched by school or security personnel.** I can attest to the fact that there have been several occasions when I am leaving campus in the late afternoon, and I have found the gate near the Selby driveway entrance propped open. I understand the need to prop a gate open if you have strollers, several children carrying backpacks, large packages, etc., **but please make sure that the gate is closed upon your departure.** This will help to ensure the safety of everyone who is still on campus.

As always, we will continue to do everything within reason to maintain the reputation of our school as one of the best in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Thank you for joining with us in these efforts.

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal Pinkofsky  
Principal

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MLK DAY—TEACHER GRATITUDE

---



Thank you to all of our SPA teachers for the many lessons you shared with your students last week that focused on the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Across the grade levels, from DK through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, the faculty and students engaged in activities and meaningful discussions about the importance of Dr. King's work, and how it has impacted our nation. In the lower grades, the teachers encouraged their students to be

good friends to one another based on Martin Luther's teaching of friendship, equality, unity, and peace. The upper grades discussed how even though slavery was abolished, how institutional racism was still very prevalent throughout the country (Jim Crow laws, segregated schools, etc.). The teachers pointed out the different ways Dr. King made a difference during the Civil Rights Movement (using his voice, peaceful protesting, spreading his Christianity, etc.) The theme from the many lessons and discussions was one that our students hear from their teachers every day: *everyone is a child of God!*

## ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE MASS

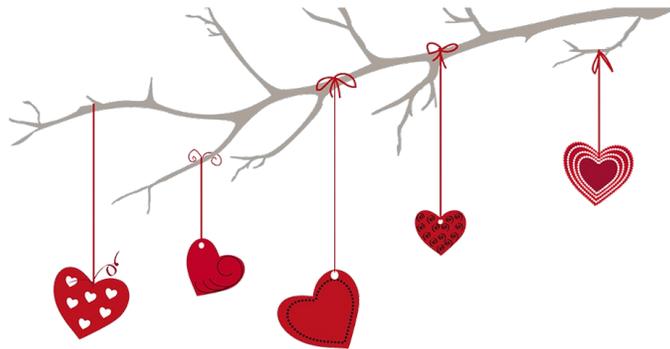
---



Our school community will celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle at a special Mass on Tuesday, January 25, at 8:15 a.m. Our 4th and 5th grade classes will be in church, and all of the other classes will join via the St. Paul the Apostle Media YouTube link. Parents are cordially invited to join us as well.

## VALENTINE'S DAY

---



We are beginning to receive many questions about Valentine's Day this year, and what will be allowed to happen on campus to celebrate the day. During our faculty meeting last Friday, it was agreed that the students would be able to exchange Valentine cards and treats as long as the following protocols are followed:

- While it is completely voluntary, students who want to distribute Valentine cards at school **MUST** have a card for each of the classmates in their homeroom. This will help to ensure that everyone is included, and no one is left out.
- Any candy "treats" that are shared **MUST** be purchased already individually wrapped to help keep our students safe. The same policy applies to the sharing of treats as well—everyone must be included.

All of the cards and treats will be distributed at the end of the day. Students will be given bags in which to place all of their Valentine goodies to take home. Parents can then decide how and when the Valentine treats can be enjoyed.

As an extra added "bonus", students may have **FREE DRESS** on Valentine's Day if at least one item of clothing is red, pink or white. (And yes, socks are considered as one item of clothing.) We are looking forward to a fun day with everyone!

## COVID UPDATE

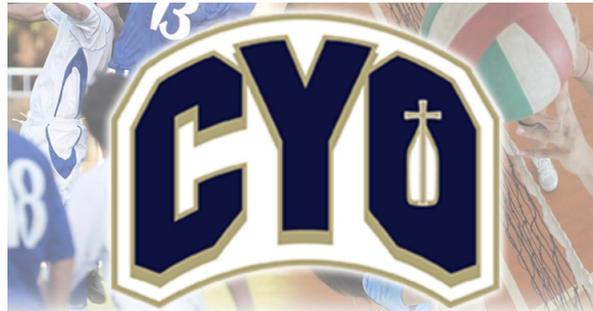
---



Nurse Anderson shared with me that we had NO reports of a positive COVID case from the lab after last week's testing. Thank you to all of our families for doing everything you can to help keep our students safe and our campus COVID-free!

## FROM CYO SPORTS ADMINISTRATION!

---



This will provide you with an update on the CYO basketball season amid the ongoing spread of the Omicron virus. Cases are rapidly increasing across the county, state, and county. The variant is highly contagious, the symptoms are generally mild or non-existent, and people of all ages are contracting it. It is known that the variant has a life of two-three weeks and then it decreases significantly.

Based on this and out of an abundance of caution, CYO will postpone all basketball games until Monday, January 24, for girls and Monday, January 31, for boys, **A level only**. B/C games shall remain paused and will be addressed down the road.

It is CYO's intent to offer a viable basketball season with playoffs. We have a plan in place that is adaptable as necessary. All other CYO events will be considered individually as we move through the next few weeks and will be subject to time and availability. This decision comes after thorough consideration along with discussion among our Board, AD's, Staff, ADLA/DCS, and medical personnel.

To avoid any confusion, the basketball schedules will be taken down from the website. Once we realign all the games, you will be notified that they are back up and can be adjusted as necessary. Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

## 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. If you did not take advantage of the pre-order opportunity, please note the cost of \$55 if the yearbook is purchased in June during yearbook distribution, but there is no guarantee there will be any extra yearbooks.

---

## SPA COVID TESTING

---



Our next round of COVID testing for all faculty, staff, and students will be held **this Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**. The **ONLY** document your children will need to have 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)

## U.C.L.A.S.A.F.E. COLLECTION CENTER

---



As we begin to rearrange closets, cabinets and desk space to make room for our new Christmas gifts, please know that UCLA could possibly accept some of the items you may be wanting to discard. Please note the lists and information below:

**THEY ACCEPT:** paint and solvents; used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, and other

automotive fluids; cleaning products; pool and garden chemicals; aerosol cans; all medicine; auto batteries; household (alkaline) batteries; fluorescent tubes and bulbs, thermostats, and other mercury-containing lamps.

**THEY ALSO ACCEPT:** computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys. **\*Residents are limited to a total of six pieces of electronic waste per visit to a SAFE Center and items will be accepted on Saturdays only.**

**THEY DO NOT ACCEPT:** business waste, ammunition, explosives, radioactive material, biological waste or tires. *Bulky Items:* furniture, refrigerators, washing machines/dryers, conventional ovens, paper, or computer software

The Center is located at **550 Charles E. Young Dr. West, Los Angeles, 90095**. Their **hours of operation are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday\* from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Follow the drop-off signs. \*\*\* They will accept electronic waste on Saturdays only. For more Information, please call 1-800-98-TOXIC (1-800-988-6942).

[Click here for more Information](#)