



# SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians:

**Happy Catholic Schools Week!** Yesterday marked the beginning of a special week that is celebrated by all Catholic schools nationwide. In every state we are recognized as communities of faith, knowledge, and service. The mission of all Catholic schools is to teach our students the important lessons that will last...not for a decade...not for a generation...but forever. Any number of studies will tell you that Catholic schools provide an outstanding academic foundation as demonstrated by high achievement and graduation rates, and top scores on standardized assessments. However, what Catholic schools uniquely offer our students is the one thing that endures—the opportunity to grow and develop in their relationship with Jesus Christ. In a culture that increasingly marginalizes religion, Catholic schools always keep faith at the forefront. A central aspect of what we do at St. Paul's is help our students grow in their faith by embracing the teachings of the Church, and demonstrating the values they gain by striving to make the world a better place.

Each day our students witness the lived faith of a believing community and learn how Christ permeates every aspect of life. From learning about Catholic contributions in history and science, to exploring religious themes in literature, from daily school prayer, to special schoolwide liturgies, we offer our students an ongoing invitation to recognize God in their lives. We are honored to be part of this spiritual and educational journey with our students.

In recognition and celebration of who we are as a Catholic school community, there will be a **special Mass next Sunday, February 6, at 9:30 a.m.** Additionally, the **SPA Father's Club** will be hosting a delicious **Pancake Breakfast** in celebration of Catholic

Schools Week next Sunday, beginning at 8:00 a.m., and immediately following the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. masses. The cost is \$5 per person, or \$20 per family. The breakfast will be set up in front of the Parish Center with outside seating. Yummy...we can't wait!

There will be many other enjoyable things happening this week, and to help us facilitate the different activities our Student Council members will be **“spinning the wheel”** each morning after prayer. **Wherever the wheel stops will determine which event/activity our faculty, staff, and students will be participating in the following day.** Last Friday before dismissal, the wheel landed on **“Dress Like a Tourist Day.”** This means that our students may have **FREE DRESS today** and wear something that they would put on if they were going on a vacation trip. For example, if they were going to Hawaii (floral tops, shorts, flowers in the hair, leis around their neck), Disney World (Disney character tops, Mickey Mouse ears, etc.), Texas (a cowboy hat, jeans, western boots, etc.) or New York/Aspen (warm mittens, sweaters, caps, ski clothing) these items would probably be packed in their suitcases. Let them have fun in selecting their outfits, but please remember that ALL clothing MUST be appropriate for a Catholic School setting.

By spinning the wheel, we do realize that you may not have as much advanced notice as you would need for some of the free dress days, but please understand that our students tremendously enjoy this “game of chance.” Also note that students do NOT have to participate in any of the free dress activities, but anyone not wanting to do so must wear their SPA uniform to school.

Thank you, once again, for ALL that you do to support the ministry of Catholic education, and especially St. Paul the Apostle School. We are truly blessed to have you with us each and every day!

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal Pinkofsky  
Principal

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COVID NOTIFICATIONS!



Last Friday and Saturday, Nurse Anderson was informed of students who had recently tested positive for COVID. These notifications came from four different families. It appears that all of these cases were from off campus sources. Emails regarding this matter were sent to the grade level families. Students who were considered close contacts have been notified by Nurse Anderson to stay home for the required number of quarantine days. Everyone else may return to campus. To help us maintain the safety of our community, please remind your children to wear their masks correctly while indoors, wash and sanitize their hands frequently, and adhere to social distancing whenever possible. Thank you!

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### BLESSING OF THE THROATS - SCHOOL MASS

This Thursday, February 3, our school community will honor the



Feast Day of St. Blaise, a 3<sup>rd</sup> century Bishop, with a special liturgy. Because he is the patron saint of those with throat ailments, many churches commemorate this day with a “blessing of the throats, the sick, and the injured.” Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade and Kindergarten students will attend this mass in church, and all other classes will participate via the St. Paul the Apostle Media YouTube channel. All members of our school community will receive a special blessing of the throats during this liturgy.

## VACCINATION CLINIC AT SPA

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St. Paul the Apostle Parish will be hosting another vaccination clinic on Tuesday, February 8, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. All versions of the vaccination will be available for everyone who is eligible. Just click on the link below to reserve an appointment time.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054DAAAF2AA6F85-vaccination>

## VALENTINE'S DAY

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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!

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## SPA COVID TESTING

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Our next round of COVID testing for all faculty, staff, and students will be held **this Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</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)

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

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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](#)