



SAINT PAUL
THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents/Guardians:

In loving memory of Thomas Hambric

It is with our deepest sorrow that we share information regarding the heartbreaking loss that one of our SPA School families is presently experiencing. Rocky and Mary Hambric's 16-year-old son, Thomas, passed away unexpectedly last Thursday. James Hambric, Thomas' younger brother, is one of our 8th grade students. A life so beautifully lived and loved deserves to be beautifully remembered. The funeral Mass for Thomas will be held here at St. Paul the Apostle this Friday, March 18, at 11:00 a.m. There are very few words to express the deep pain and sorrow the Hambric Family feels right now, but we respectfully ask that you keep them all in your prayers. I know that everyone in our SPA community will join us in showing our love and compassion for James as he completes his 8th grade year with his classmates. Thank you, in advance, for your care and support.

**A life that touches others goes on
forever!**

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal Pinkofsky
Principal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

40 ACTS OF LOVE

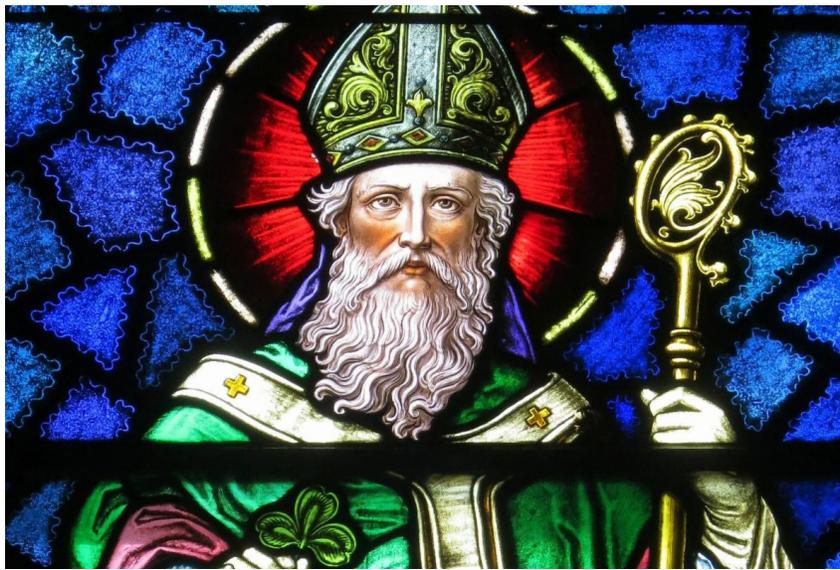
As we begin our third week of Lent, we continue to focus on the sacrifice that Christ made for all of us by His death on the cross. It should come as no surprise that someone who had spent most of His life “doing for others” would not hesitate to also offer His life in order to save ours. As the teachers continue to guide our students through this Lenten journey, they will spend much time talking to the students about the importance of “actively” living their faith and embracing Jesus’ Gospel message of LOVE. To assist our teachers with these important lessons, Fr. Gil has purchased “**40 ACTS OF LOVE**”, a Lenten card that will help our students put their faith into action by completing simple acts of kindness each day. Some suggestions include:



- Pray for peace in the world.
- Make an extra effort to smile more.
- Send a kind note to a classmate or friend.
- Go a whole day without arguing.
- Hold the door open for someone.
- Apologize to someone you may have hurt.
- Forgive someone who has wronged you.

These behaviors are the type of actions that help to make our SPA community a safe, caring, and nurturing environment for all of our students. The teachers and I respectfully request that you make some time each day to discuss with your children which “ACT OF LOVE” they were able to successfully complete. Of course, our hope is that these acts will continue long after Easter Sunday has come and gone. As always, thank you for your help!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



This Thursday, March 17, is St. Patrick's Day! Whether you're Irish or not, chances are you have joined many other families and friends in celebrating St. Patrick's Day at some point in your life. People of all backgrounds love to go to St. Patrick's Day parades, wear green clothing, and decorate with shamrocks. Though the day has morphed over the years into more of a secular celebration, St. Patrick's Day was originally a religious holiday intended to commemorate the life of St. Patrick, the man credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland.

In recognition of this special day, our students may have **FREE DRESS on Thursday** as long as **at least ONE item of clothing is GREEN!** And yes, socks do count as one item of clothing.

SPA FUNDRAISER FOR UKRAINE



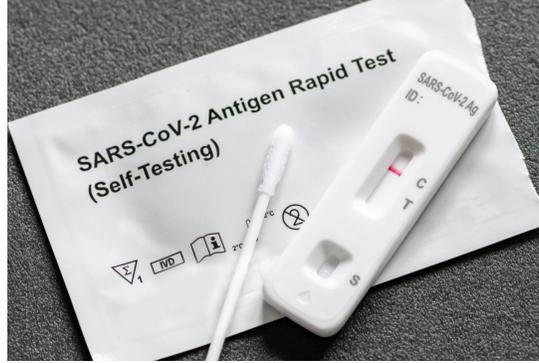
Several parents and some students have asked if we can have some sort of fundraiser to assist the citizens of Ukraine as they grapple with the devastation that is happening in their country. The faculty will be developing a very simple plan that will help to highlight an appreciation for all that we have on a daily basis and often take for granted, and assist the Ukrainians as they struggle for basic items like food and medical care. The information regarding this fundraiser will be sent home with the students next week. All donations received will be sent to Catholic Relief Services.

NEW MASK POLICY



Beginning today, **Monday, March 14**, faculty and students will **no longer be REQUIRED** to wear face masks while indoors. However, it has been **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that we all continue to do so. Even when the outdoor mask mandate was lifted for our students, it was noticed that about half of our students were choosing to still wear their masks while they played during recess and lunch, and that is perfectly fine. Speak to your children and let them know what your expectations are. **Also let them know that teasing another student for either wearing—or not wearing—a mask will NOT be tolerated.** As the restrictions are lifted, student mask wearing will be a family's personal choice, and not something that is decided by their peers.

FREE AT-HOME COVID TESTS



If any SPA family would like a box of FREE at-home COVID-19 tests, **these will be available for pick-up after school TODAY, March 14th**. The ADLA was able to obtain and distribute several boxes of these iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests to the Catholic schools. We have been asked to share these resources with faculty, staff, and families. **A table will be set up near the front office from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m. today.** If you would like to have a box at home “just in case”, feel free to take one. Please note that **families are limited to just one box, so if you were able to pick one up last week, please allow other families access to these resources.** These will NOT be given to the students to take home.

NO SCHOOL FRIDAY!



This is just a gentle reminder that school will not be in session this **Friday, March 18**, so that the teachers may attend the Religious Education Congress. Classes will resume Monday morning.

SPA SCHOOL BOARD SUBMISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENT



The SPA School Board is now accepting submissions to be considered for membership.

The School Board is a different entity than the PWC Board or the Sister Stella Foundation Board. They are an advisory board who work closely with the principal and school leadership to consult on issues such as strategic planning, policy development, financing, capital improvements, technology, PR and marketing, community outreach, and the overall well-being of the school and its stakeholders.

The Board meets monthly (after school) during the school year, September through June. Members also lead and serve on subcommittees which are formed to study and make recommendations on various school-related issues throughout the year. The members are selected for a term of three years, and may be re-elected for a second term of three years.

Anyone who is an active member of the St. Paul the Apostle School and/or Parish is eligible. To be considered, please submit a resume and cover letter to: **Devon Farley** at **devon_kaiser@hotmail.com**. Submissions must be received no later than March 25,

2022, to be considered for the next school year.

WALKING TOGETHER IN FAITH



By now you are probably aware that Pope Francis has inaugurated an exciting opportunity for the worldwide Church. He wants to listen to us – all of us – to seek input on what it means to journey together. The Pope is intentionally reaching out to each of us at the parish and neighborhood level to hear about our experience of Church, including the experience of those who no longer participate. This process, called *Synodality*, refers to the path we walk together, wherever we are on our faith journey. Our pastor at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Community, Fr. Gil Martinez, CSP, reminds us that “it is an uncommon word referring to an uncommon process of listening to everyone.”

To respond to this invitation, Fr. Gil is working with our SPA Parish Council to develop multiple opportunities for us to engage and be heard. The input received will benefit not only the worldwide process but also guide how we minister to each other at St. Paul's.

One of the most important opportunities currently in formation is a series of in-person listening sessions that will be offered at St. Paul's during Lent. These gatherings will provide the faithful, the marginalized, the disaffiliated and all others with an opportunity to listen to and learn from one another, and to discern how God is calling us to journey together more closely as Church. Beginning with prayer, each gathering will offer opportunities for small-group discussion on specific themes. St. Paul's will offer three listening sessions in the Parish Center on the following dates. Please go to the parish website to sign-up for a time to participate in this valuable process.

- **Saturday, March 26th** 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, April 2nd** from 9:00 a.m. to Noon

SPA COVID TESTING



Our next round of COVID testing for all faculty, staff and students will be held **this Wednesday, March 16th**. 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 Form Fillable)