

THE AUGUSTINIAN

“Tolle Lege”

Issue 5

April 28, 2016

St. Augustine High School



College Counseling Loses its Caine



Mrs. Caine hard at work getting Saintsmen into college.

Vincent Nguyen ('16)



By Sean Panado ('17)
STAFF WRITER

For the past 17 years, Ms. Nancy Caine has established, improved, and perfected the college counseling system at Saint Augustine High School. After this 2015-2016 school year, she will be retiring from her position as the Director of College Counseling.

Ms. Caine has worked with thousands of Saintsmen and families to search for the right college “fit.” As a result, countless students have become eligible for schools

in-state, across the nation, and even in other countries. Some of her other contributions include: enhancing the Advanced Placement (AP) program, introducing Saints to the International Boys’ School Coalition (IBSC), and founding the Senior College Application Workshop. Her efforts were recognized in 2003 when she was named the San Diego/Imperial County College Counselor of the Year.

One of her most memorable experiences within the Saints community was how she was hired. In the year that her son graduated

from high school in 1999, the late Fr. Walter Vogel, O.S.A. stepped down from the part-time college counselor position at Saints. Fr. Vogel had been her student at UCSD where she founded and taught the UCSD college counseling and certificate program. Ms. Caine was working in the Poway School District at the time. Father John Sanders, the former principal, called her and asked if she would be interested in filling the position. She gladly accepted.

Fr. Sanders requested that she create a “college-going culture.” With the help

of key figures such as Fr. Sanders and Mr. Healy, the late ninth grade counselor, the foundation of a successful college culture was set.

Dr. Rey will become the Director of Counseling Services in the Guidance Department where college counseling will become part of each counselor’s job.

“She has been an incredible mentor to me. I started from knowing little about college admissions to feeling extremely confident,” said Dr. Rey.

Ms. Caine is most proud of the hard work Saintsmen put in from the time they’re freshman to the day they graduate. In the most recent years, Saintsmen have earned over two million dollars a year in scholarship grants. Ms. Caine has also been instrumental in helping several Saintsmen become Gates Millennium Scholars over the years.

With her involvement in multiple college counseling programs, it is not rare for Ms. Caine and Saints’ administration to meet and discuss updates on college expectations, courses, and requirements.

“Ms. Caine is a true legend in the world of college counseling,” Mr. Hecht said. “She has taken Saints to new heights in the area of college admissions and the reputation of our school in San Diego. I am most grateful for her partnership and leadership over the course of my time, here at Saints.”

Ms. Caine currently does not hold any specific plans for after retirement. She simply hopes to take on each day one at a time.

“The counselors here at Saints are among the best counselors with whom I have ever worked. Their level of quality and care is unequalled,” said Ms. Caine. “In the future, I would like to support the college counseling services at Saints in whatever way I can.”

Remembering Beloved Chef Ted Mlotkowski



By Jacques Paye ('16)
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On March 1st, 2016, longtime chef and manager of Ted’s Kitchen Thaddeus Mlotkowski passed away. Affectionately known to the Saints community as Ted, Mr. Mlotkowski served up delicious food options from hamburgers to pizza at an affordable price.

Ted was born on January 3, 1946 in Detroit, Michigan. After attending school in the Detroit area he was drafted into the United States Army in 1968 and served until 1971, when he was honorably discharged. Ted’s years in the military helped him find a passion for cooking, which he would pursue for the rest of his life.

Ted became a chef and secured a position cooking at the Pentagon, where he served meals to top military brass. In 1981, he moved his family to San Diego, where he would join the St. Augustine High School staff in 1982.

Ted served the St. Augustine High School community for 33 years. For over a decade of his career, he also kept the food service running for weekend bingo games. Ted’s overwhelming passion during the three decades he spent at Saints was providing quality food service to every member

of the Saints community. His passing was commemorated by a memorial service on Saturday, March 19th at Saints.

Ted is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 45 years, Cheryle; daughter Aimee; sons Robin and Jeremy; and three grandchildren Christian, Landon and Bella.

“He spent 33 years of his life at Saints. His time at Saints was very important to him. He loved working with the kids in the kitchen and had many great memories,” Ted’s son Robin said. “Honestly Saints is a huge part of the whole Mlotkowski family. For my early teens and up until after I graduated from Saints my brother and I would set up and tear down the entire gym for bingo on the weekends.”

Ted’s work went very appreciated by the Saints administration.

“Ted got here in 1982. He worked here for 30-odd years. He was a great employee,

showed up every day,” Mr. O’Beirne said. “He ran that place that everyone loved with no complaints.”

Ted also made a lasting impression on the students who worked in the kitchen during his tenure.

“Ted was a great member of the Saints community. The only reason he stopped serving the Saints community was because his body didn’t let him carry on,” senior Sam Dixon said. “We are going to miss him and all of the tasty food he provided!”



Ted Mlotkowski with his grandchildren.

Photo courtesy of Robin Mlotkowski ('16)

Saintsmen Strike Out Competition



By Joseph Mikolaycik ('17)
STAFF WRITER

This year’s St. Augustine High School baseball team members are enjoying one of their best seasons in history. The team currently has a 13-4 record and is ranked #4 in San Diego. They had a dominant start to the season, going 10-2 and being ranked #1 in the county.

Although the Saints struggled in back-to-back losses against Granite Hills and Patrick Henry, the team regrouped and defeated their bitter rivals, the Cathedral Catholic Dons. They triumphed, 1-0, during a game that was hard fought, despite a few “rough calls.”

“We had a great start to this year,” junior team manager Billy Hopson said. “We had a two game losing skid last week, but fortunately we were able to break it against our rival Cathedral.”

Senior star Jack Dashwood led the way pitching a complete game shutout with only 5 hits and no walks allowed. Junior Nico Anderson also helped seal the victory with two amazing catches in the outfield that kept Saints in the lead. Anderson has been a big contributor throughout the whole season as he had a 13 game hitting streak to start the year.

For only being in mid-season, the Saints have already had their share of memorable victories. Some highlights include an extra innings battle that was won on a walk off single by junior Ruben Fontes and a game against Scripps Ranch that ended when a ball collided with senior Peyton Murasky’s helmet during a rundown, allowing junior Ryan Marchesano to score the winning run from third. Coach Da Luz has confidence in his team as they prepare for the rest of the season.



Senior pitcher Jack Dashwood in action.

“Right now we are in mid-season and in good shape. We’re one of the top teams in the county with a good blend of newcomers and experienced leaders,” Coach Da Luz said. “Hopefully we are able to continue to play well enough to stay in the Top 8 so we can be in the Open Division for playoffs. We want to do anything we can to bring home a championship.”

Jack Dashwood, the ace pitcher on the team, feels confident about the team and other senior leaders on the field.

“I am more confident in this years team more than ever,” Dashwood said. “Our work ethic, determination, and desire to win is something that will help put this team in playoffs and have a great opportunity of doing something really special for

Saints Facebook

ourselves and also the school. Our senior leaders have been in the program for four years and know what it takes to play Saints baseball the right way. They also know how to be a leader to all players and be someone that other players can look up to and be an inspiration for them.”

Be sure to go out and support Saints baseball as the team heads into playoffs.

Saints Lacrosse Cradles a New Dream



Lacrosse team members celebrate their league banner.



By Ryan Phan ('16)
STAFF WRITER

Saints Lacrosse is winding down with a successful season of ten wins and two losses thus far and is on its way to having the best lacrosse record in school history.

Much of this success has been found due to the hard work and dedication of a predominantly returning varsity squad, rounded out with new key additions such as freshman Matthew Beddow and junior Jack Spencer.

“As a senior on the lacrosse team, it feels great to be closing off the high school experience by playing with one of the best teams Saints Lacrosse has ever had,” senior Sebastian Lopez said.

During the first eleven games Saints Lacrosse scored 156 goals while only letting in 48 goals. These high scoring games have been in part due to the excellent variety of shooters on the team, including junior Spencer Mishky, sophomore Adam Gainor, and senior Tim Spencer.

Max Brandon ('16)

After having a rough season last year, Saints Lacrosse has come up big against their opponents. One highlight of the season was the victory against Otay Ranch High School, a tough opponent that the team had previously lost to in the 2015 season. Saints Lacrosse had a difficult start with a score of 4-2 Saints at halftime. With motivation from Head Coach John Tolla, Saints put in nine more goals while sophomore goalie Aidan Dougherty let in zero wrapping up the game with a score of 13-2.

Another highlight was the league victory against San Diego High School, a team Saints Lacrosse had previously lost to in overtime in the 2015 season. After a competitive first quarter ending with a score of 6-4 Saints, the team went on a scoring run, crushing the opponent 21-9. Saints Lacrosse also performed well against rival Point Loma High School, winning two games in the same week after a heartbreaking loss to them in double overtime in the 2015 season. These victories show the vast improvement the team has made since last year.

“This year we’ve been lucky enough to have a great coaching staff who have been able to coach us through our mistakes,” senior co-captain Harley Lehrke said. “On top of the fantastic coaching staff we have accumulated different athletes from the school’s other varsity programs who have contributed to the team’s success.”

The season has also had its downs with tough losses against Patrick Henry High School and league opponent La Jolla High School. However after a key victory against La Jolla, Saints Lacrosse has earned itself its second banner in school history, splitting the league championship with La Jolla. Saints Lacrosse plans to keep this momentum up as they move into CIF playoffs with the ultimate goal of bringing home a CIF championship and banner for the school.

“As a senior on the lacrosse team, it feels great to be closing off the high school experience by playing with one of the best teams Saints Lacrosse has ever had,” senior co-captain Dominic Petti said. “After a few years of ups and downs, the 2016 team has grown immensely. The team shows great promise for the future.”

Be on the lookout for announcements of upcoming games through the Saints Lacrosse twitter @saints_lax.

Political Awareness Club Debates Economic Policy

On April 13, the Political Awareness Club held a debate on economic policy. Featured below is a summary of the arguments prepared by the debate participants.

The Liberal Argument By Ricardo Soto ('17)

When discussing the effects of government intervention on the economy, it is important to get past the myth of the free market. There is no such thing as a free market; rather, the government sets the rules by which the economy functions. The real question to ask is whom do those rules favor: the majority of the Americans, or the plutocrats.

Income inequality is at its highest levels since the roaring 20s. America's middle class is rapidly evaporating as median wages in the US have remained stagnant for decades. Meanwhile the ultra-rich have managed to rig the rules and rob the payroll tax by paying an incredibly low tax rate while the burden of government expenditures and corporate welfare gets shifted to the average American..

How did things get to where they are today? Simply put, our leaders sold us the lie of supply-side economics. While our politicians, both Democrats and Republicans, have peddled the idea that more money at the top means more money for the average American, this has failed to come to fruition. Reagan and his successors have deregulated the banking industry, lowered taxes on the wealthy, allowed for multi-national corporations to hide trillions of dollars in untaxed money overseas, destroyed organized labor in the US, and created a pattern of fiscal irresponsibility that has resulted in a concentration of wealth for the richest Americans and trillions of dollars in debt for the federal government.

And what did Americans get for all this deregulation? A country where the minimum wage, adjusted for inflation, is lower than it was in 1970. A country where the average amount of household debt is 370% of the median household income. A country where we

stand as one of only two nations globally that does not guarantee paid maternity leave. And a country that in 2012 had a higher childhood poverty rate than 33 other developed nations, including nations in horrid recessions, such as Greece.

Often the line between a government that provides social programs, such as healthcare, and one that does not is seen as the difference between a wasteful government and a fiscally responsible government. However, upon examination of data, economic trends, and history, it is easy to see that by instituting welfare programs, such as single-payer healthcare and free public college, we, as a nation, can once again return to an era of economic justice. By returning the purchasing power back to the working and middle classes—the consumers who really drive economic growth—we can live in a society that has greater economic equality, a higher standard of living for more citizens, and a more prosperous national economic engine.

For more, including the full article and sources, visit pensivepolitics.com.

The Conservative Argument By Trevor South ('17)

America today has entered a state of confusion. Nearly everyone is in search for the answer to help save both the American economy and political system from turmoil. It is in this time that we should return to our capitalist roots, rather than resorting to the ideas of radicals. It is our economic system that helped differentiate us from old world countries. It is here and here only, that anyone from anywhere, could start with nothing and make it to the top. We must not ruin that with an entitlement system looking to destroy wealth, rather than build it.

THE AUGUSTINIAN

JACQUES PAYE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

DAVID PEPPER
MANAGING EDITOR

MATTHEW DANAHER
EDITOR

MR. VLADIMIR BACHYNSKY
MODERATOR

GIAN FERRER
EDITOR

BRENDAN LEAHY
EDITOR

MAX BRANDON
CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Augustinian is St. Augustine High School's student-run, administrator-reviewed newspaper. The staff meets at lunch on Tuesdays in room 318. New members are always welcome. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of St. Augustine High School. Please send a letter to the editor to saintsnewspaper@gmail.com if you have any comments.

Modern day socialists have only expanded the idea of entitlement, thereby attempting to strip this country from its capitalistic roots. They have preached that the answer to restoring the middle class is making the upper classes pay for their problems. This is the real inequality. This demolishes the economic foundation which made us great. It punishes any American who lives the American Dream. We should facilitate an economy that creates more millionaires, rather than stripping them from their earnings.

Regardless, my opponents are correct in that our middle class and small businesses are struggling. They have long overpaid their share under a tax code that has failed them. Republicans, including myself, believe in abolishing the IRS and replacing it with a flat tax, ranging from ten to fifteen percent. This would create true equality. All individuals and businesses would share the same flat tax bracket regardless of their income. This would additionally close various loopholes

and deductions as well as facilitate a business friendly economy.

Furthermore, such a policy would return more money to all the economic classes, allowing them to chose where to put their money. As opposed to big government forcing health care and other programs onto the backs of everyone, it would give people a choice.

Finally, liberals hope to rebuild the middle class by increasing the minimum wage to help shrink the wage gap. We must remember that minimum wage jobs are not designed to feed a family, but rather to act as stepping stone for our youth in order to gain experience for greater work. Our struggling small businesses cannot afford such an increase, which would only close or relocate businesses nationwide and rapidly increase inflation. We should work with public colleges to stabilize their prices and make college affordable. We must create a strong economy to take care of a strong middle class and a strong nation.

Political Awareness Club Rocks the Boat

By Gian Ferrer ('17)
EDITOR

On April 13, the Saints Political Awareness Club hosted a debate on economic policy in Room 319. Members struggled to find seats as the room was already a full house mere minutes after the lunch bell.

The debate was between juniors Trevor South and Ricky Soto, co-presidents and founders of the club. While South argued for less government involvement in economic affairs, Soto discussed the benefits of a welfare state. Saintsmen carefully listened to both sides as each orator made his points. In the end, the audience enthusiastically clapped for both South and Soto.

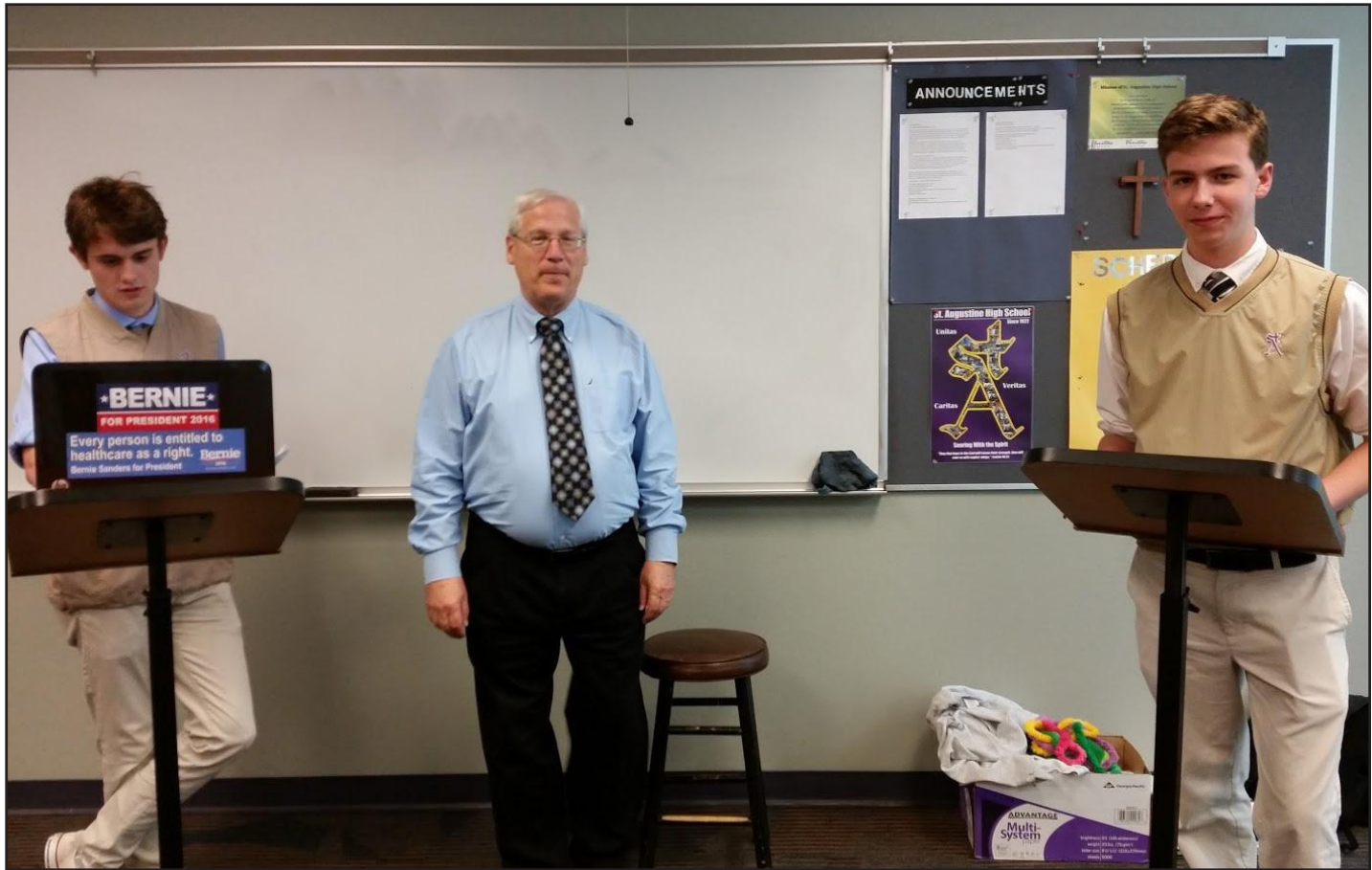
This debate was just one of the past discussions the club has had. Other topics including health care, gun control, immigration, and foreign policy have also been reviewed. The club now has approximately fifty active members. Besides the co-presidents, it also has a board of directors and elected officers. The club, however, was not originally as large as it is now.

“Just as starting any club with Saints, there were many difficulties. Our first months during sophomore year, there would only be about eight people per meeting,” South said. “Our debates and Twitter page have really helped us get off the ground.”

Soto said, “Currently there are fifty members signed up for remind 101 notifications, which anyone can add themselves to by texting '@saintscom' to 81010.”

When the club was smaller, one member at a time would present a Powerpoint with facts and data about a particular policy. After a member presented his topic, the whole club would discuss it. Now, the club has evolved into an arena for debate in which two members take positions on one issue.

“The debates are a recent development in



Mr. Vignol moderates as juniors Ricky Soto and Trevor South face off.

Max Brandon ('16)

the club as we can no longer facilitate discussions and topic presentations since the club is quite large now. The debates consist of two students choosing a topic which centers around policy and mediated discussions of ideas and facts between the two opponents,” Soto said.

The primary goal and mission of the Political Awareness Club is to create an academic environment through discussions and debates so that its members become well informed and knowledgeable of important policies. It also offers an opportunity for students to express their opinions to one another.

The club was started in February 2015 be-

cause of the passion its members had towards politics.

“Ricky and I were motivated to share our passion of politics with everyone interested. The club serves to educate and help people argue their personal political beliefs. While other schools have debate teams, we feel that the Committee for Political Awareness is unique to Saints,” South said.

Mr. Vignol, sophomore religion teacher best known by Saintsmen for his Old Testament and Honors Philosophy courses, moderates the club.


“His style of moderation is hands off and

allows for the students to communicate their ideas effectively and intelligently,” Soto said. “At the same time, he holds all of us to an intellectual standard when presenting our arguments. He also provides order to our club as an authority figure.”

Saintsmen who are interested in joining should not feel shy or intimidated.

“You don’t have to be an expert on politics to join. We were established in part to educate and provide the tools to gain an opinion and defend it. Please stop by when meetings are announced.” South said.

Almond and VAPA Bring Down the House



By James McCarthy ('16)
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, April 21st, Saints held its annual Visual and Performing Arts Assembly in Dougherty Gym. The assembly highlights students' artwork from several different fields, and this year's assembly featured the Symphonic Band, artwork from Ms. Drummy's art classes, the Saints Players, and the 32nd St. Jazz Band.

The Symphonic Band was the first to perform, playing "Lightning Field" by John Mackey, "The Machine Awakes" by Steven Bryant, and "Elements" by Brian Balmages.

"The Machine Awakes" featured electronic music in addition to the instrumental music from the band. Designed to call to mind a real machine awakening, the electronic groove syncs with the band to create a fusion of classical and contemporary music. It was a sort of experimental piece for the band.

During the band's performance of "Elements", artwork from Ms. Drummy's beginning art students was projected on a screen. Their works were inspired by the piece's four movements, Air, Water, Earth, and Fire.

"It was a little bit of a challenge at first, but once they [the art students] got their ideas down, they got into it." Ms. Drummy said. "I was very happy with the results and look forward to participating next year if Maestro Jagow is down for it."

The first piece the band performed, "Lightning Field", will also be the featured piece at the graduation for the class of 2016.

Next up were the Saints Players, under Mr. Manley as the drama director. The students performed a piece from the "Spoon River Anthology" by Edgar Lee Masters.

"I want people to see that maybe they can see themselves up there", Mr. Manley said. "I hope our performance gives a taste as to



Mr. Jagow directs the band during the VAPA presentation.

Max Brandon ('16)

what theater can be, it doesn't necessarily need to be a play or a scene from a play, but a performance piece pulled together by the students."

The Saints Drama department also has big plans for next year.

"We are actively looking to hire a full time theater director and join them in their vision," Mr. Manley said. "I know that a musical will return for next year, and I'm hoping that there will be more theater class offerings as well," he added.

The last group to present was the 32nd Street Jazz Band. Performing the pieces "Jaime" by Sammy Nestico, "A Good Hard Look" by Roger Schmidli, and "Eighteen" by Pat Metheny.

Alex Almond, the lead saxophone player and student director in the jazz band, improvised on the tenor saxophone for "A Good Hard Look" and on the soprano saxophone for "Eighteen".

"I enjoy jazz since it lets me be creative", he said. "Improv lets me make up a solo on the spot. My inspiration comes from John Coltrane's unique style, techniques, and sound."

Alex, who has been playing the saxo-

phone for seven years, has been in the jazz band for four. He plans to continue music at UC Berkeley.

"I have transitioned from being a classical saxophonist to more of a jazz player over my time here at Saints," he said. When asked how he shreds on his solos, he replied, "I always show up on game day, if you know what I'm saying."


The VAPA assembly has shown that the arts at Saints are thriving, and we here at The Augustinian join the school community in looking forward to what the arts have to offer next year.

Band Outreach Awes Elementary Audiences



The 32nd St. Jazz Band performing at the VAPA event.

Max Brandon ('16)



By Michael Senoff ('17)
STAFF WRITER

We know that the Saints band plays at school functions, whether it's the 32nd Street Jazz Band or Symphonic Band. You may have seen them playing at this year's open house, the home football games, groundbreaking ceremony, 8th grade visitation day, and, most recently, this year's VAPA assembly. However, what many Saintsmen have never seen, or even heard about, are the many outreach shows that have been occur-

ring since the beginning of last school year.

Starting in the fall, the 32nd Street Jazz band has tirelessly played at many of the Catholic elementary schools all over San Diego in hopes of sparking interest in music within the students there as well as recruiting potential future Saintsmen and future ladies of OLP.

"It feels good to recruit the next generation of the Saints Band," said senior Ivan Woestman, drummer of the Jazz Band. "Knowing that I am the reason why some-

one might pick up an instrument and join the Saint's Band is a special feeling."

So far this April, the very dedicated members of the Jazz Band have played at three middle schools, almost one a week. Since each of these elementary school concerts lasts from two to four sets of thirty minutes, the members of the band have had to miss a lot of class time.

"It's a lot of school to miss, especially with three AP classes, but you know it's worth it when you receive the thank you

cards from the kindergartners of the schools that we play at, and it's great to represent Saints in such huge way," said junior Nikolas Vedder, trumpet player of the Jazz Band.

"There is a definite commitment in that you have to miss a good amount of school, but it is worth it putting smiles on the kid's faces and inspiring them through our music," said junior and saxophonist Kyle Faulkner.

Not only has the Jazz Band been recruiting, but the Saints Symphonic Band has as well. On Wednesday, April 13, the gentlemen and ladies of the Symphonic Band took a bus to OLP in order to play at their VAPA assembly in the hopes of recruiting more ladies who might be interested in the opportunity to play in the band and receive credit for it as well. The Symphonic Band includes not only Saintsmen but also quite a few ladies from the Academy of Our Lady of Peace.

"Just like any other sports team, the band is like one large family that supports and builds each other up," said Junior Sara Anfuso of OLP, clarinetist of the Symphonic Band.

The creation of Symphonic Band as a Zero Block Class has made it possible for the ladies of OLP to become band members and receive VAPA course credit.

"When I entered the band, I had no idea how to play any instrument. But, through the band, I've learned how to play trumpet and have made some fantastic friends. It has helped me get used to being around people and has made me a more confident person," said junior Hannah Littlefield of OLP, trumpet player for the Symphonic Band.

The Saints Band is always looking for new people and accepts musicians of any or no skill level. If you are interested in or considering joining the Saints Band, stop by the band room to see Mr. Jagow or ask any current member about the program.

Captain Kirk to Become Chaplain



Fr. Kirk plans his next steps as incoming chaplain.

By Mitchell Stoddard ('18)
STAFF WRITER

After eleven years of being school chaplain, Father Bob Gavotto will be retiring at the end of this year. Father Bob leaves the position after performing countless tasks, such as teaching new lectors and Eucharistic ministers, organizing the lineup of visiting priests for Mass, and creating penance services. He is widely respected in the Saints community for his role in fostering spiritual growth in the Saints community, and the fruits of his labors are beyond measure.

Father Kirk will be assuming his posi-

tion starting next school year.

“I hope to humbly follow in Father Bob’s footsteps and let the spirit guide me in my work for the betterment of the school and community it serves,” Father Kirk said.

The excitement for Father Kirk becoming new chaplain can be seen in the dozens of students who spend time in campus ministry after school and at lunch.

“Father Kirk is more than a member of the faculty,” senior Paul Ammons said. “He cares about each and every student here at Saints. He takes time to learn about everyone’s lives and I know he will be

great for the job.”

Members of the faculty also reacted to the change.

“[Father] Kirk is a great man who brings energy with him wherever he goes and I know he’ll be able to ‘fire up’ the school in his new office,” Mr. Wilson said.

Brother Barney agreed.

“Father Kirk is a vibrant and enthusiastic man who cares very much about the school and its students,” he said.

When he assumed his new role this fall, Father Kirk’s enthusiastic leadership and pastoral care should show students and faculty that the chaplain is indeed, still in.

Ronoel Rorman ('17)

Chaplain's Corner

By Fr. Bob Gavotto, O.S.A.
COLUMNIST

We celebrated the feast of Easter on March 27, and the Church continues to celebrate this feast! We take 50 days (longer than for Lent!) for a continuous Easter, the Easter season, a season of joy! The Easter season ends with the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost on May 15.

St. Athanasius (296-373) puts it this way. “The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one ‘great Sunday’.” (*Epistula festalis*)

We can also listen to St. Augustine (354-430). “These days after the Lord’s resurrection form a period, not of labor, but of peace and joy. That is why there is no fasting and we pray standing, which is a sign of resurrection. This practice is observed at the altar on all Sundays, and the Alleluia is sung to indicate that our future occupation is to be none other than the praise of God.” (*Letters*)

So it is party time, or is it? A modern author puts this in perspective. “Party time is for many an invitation to obliterate consciousness, to get wasted, to veg out, to forget. But a season of Christian festival is precisely the opposite. It is a time of intensified consciousness, finely tuned awareness, awakened memory. The great fifty days of Pentecost are not an unwelcome, unrealistic, obligation to ‘party on’, even if we don’t feel like it, but an invitation to explore more deeply the weather of our heart, to awaken the memory of God’s presence and power in our lives, to look more closely at all the rich and varied textures of creation. Fifty days of dwelling in the pascal mystery; fifty days of surrendering in joyful faith and love as the Spirit of God takes possession of our lives; fifty days of walking with the neophytes ever more deeply into the baptismal mysteries of death and resurrection.”

Nathan Mitchell, *The Blessed Pentecost*.

A very happy and blessed Easter!

Saints Day of Service Sweeps San Diego

By Ian Haliburton ('17)
STAFF WRITER

The first week of this year’s final quarter was dedicated to celebrating the Saints community and the larger community of San Diego to which the school is closely tied. Festivities spanned across the week with an official Saints Spirit Week entailing daily themes and events. The week came to a climactic close with a major focus: a school wide day of service.

Campus ministry and the administration had been planning for the day for some time since the last service day four years ago as part of the school’s 90th anniversary celebration. For its part, the ASB took part in brainstorming the Spirit Week’s events. The Spirit Week and the day of service are both very new to the school, with the former having made its debut this year and the latter having been held for only the second time in school history. Two such events have never coincided before.

Spirit Week consisted of four uniquely themed days. Monday, the ASB rallied American patriotism, Tuesday was Hawaiian-themed, and Wednesday was sports jersey day featuring a series of intramural dodgeball program games, culminating in teacher vs. student matches. Then on Thursday, the Spirit Week worked to kickstart the following day of service, bringing students together in the gym again to celebrate Mass and to recognize the groups at Saints that work year round as ambassadors for service.

“We wanted to invoke spirit and celebration with a week recognizing our accomplishments throughout the year. It’s critical that we acknowledge the spirit of our campus,” said ASB moderator Mr. Inzunza, who guided the Spirit Week under the leadership of the ASB and its president, Christopher Callipari.

Friday morning, students were not in classrooms, but already dispersed throughout the county by their homeroom, ready to perform works of service in key designated



Saintsmen celebrate their day of service.

spots across San Diego. Service performed at Sweetwater Summit Park, the Tijuana river valley, Otay Valley regional park, Mission Trails and Fiesta Island had an environmental value and an essence of preservation. Two homerooms had the opportunity to work at the San Diego Food Bank as well.

“Service day means that the school has a chance to show its face to the community and the community sees us through the person-

ages of the students. What they see can give people hope in future generation as they devote time to service,” said Father Kirk, who worked with Mr. O’Beirne to bring plans to fruition.


The day of service has also connected Saints to the greater Augustinian school community, particularly to Villanova Prep. Villanova has also implemented the celebration of a service day in recent year, sending out Villanova students into the Ojai community yearly.

Photo courtesy of Mr. Davis

Villanova invites Saints upperclassmen to participate each time, just as their students participated in the Saints days of service.

Both the Spirit Week and the day of service will continue as new traditions. Spirit Week will return yearly to campus, and the day of service will be organized for students every four years so that each Saintsmen will have taken part in one of the city-wide days of service by the time he graduates.

Saintsmen Take on the Bay Area



By Liam Brucker-Casey ('19)
STAFF WRITER

This spring break, a group of Saintsmen went on a trip to San Francisco to see colleges and perform service in the area.

The trip marked the continuation of a tradition: Saintsmen traveling to another city to do local service, visit colleges, and see the sights during spring break.

“Every year we offer an alternative spring break experience, which always happens the week after Easter. We pick a different city every year. The criteria is that it’s a city in which we can get around with public transportation, and that we can get to (at least somewhat reasonably),” Father Kirk said.

After establishing themselves, the Saintsmen performed a number of activities in service of the community.

“While we’re there we stay someplace that’s usually pretty basic, either a hostel, or in the case of this year we stayed at The Augustinian House in San Francisco,” Fr. Kirk said. “We brought tents and set the tents up in the backyard. The students slept there, and were able to use the facilities in the house.”

“We visited colleges and engaged in local service, so we got to know the city a little bit, through service. For example we spent two days working with the St. Anthony Foundation, and then we spent a morning visiting The National AIDS Memorial Grove, learning about HIV and AIDS,” Fr. Kirk said. “It is a memorial that has been developed for people who have been affected by it. We also visited some local colleges and did some sightseeing.”

Typically, the spring trips are open to sophomores and juniors. This year, howev-



The Saints group poses after visiting Bay area colleges.

Photo courtesy of campus ministry

er, freshman Ryan McNamara was able to go. Ryan had to write an essay and fulfill other requirements to go.

“We went to Alcatraz, and Fisherman’s Wharf where we ate lunch,” McNamara said. “The colleges we got to visit were the University of San Francisco, San Francisco State, UC Berke-

ley, and St. Mary’s College of California. They didn’t have enough room in the actual house, so we stayed in tents in the backyard, we had eight people in one tent and six in another, and it was really cold and windy at night. Coach Osberg brought the tents.”

For \$375, this experience in the Bay

Area was a bargain. The Saintsmen got to serve the local community with the St. Anthony Foundation and see famous local sights. Aside from all of these fun excursions, they got to experience the campuses of local colleges. This year’s spring break trip was eventful and exciting for all those involved.

Student Activity Center Timelapse



This is the fourth part of a continuing series showcasing the development of the new Student Activities Center.

Math Tutoring Experts.

Saints Special Offer!

Mention this ad and receive 15% off your 1st Private Tutoring package OR receive 1 FREE month of membership with a minimum purchase of a 6-month enrollment.*

(619) 281-6284

* Only valid for new enrollments

We Are Math Specialists.

Mathnasium is a learning center in your neighborhood where kids go to catch up, keep up, and get ahead in math. The Mathnasium Method was developed over 30 years of hands-on instruction.

Mathnasium is Tutoring That Works.

Sophisticated assessments shape a customized learning program for each student. At each lesson, passionate, specially-trained instructors provide one-on-one teaching to ensure success.

Learn More at Mathnasium.com



Mathnasium of Mission Gorge

10330 Friars Rd., #109
San Diego, CA 92120
(619) 281-6284

www.mathnasium.com/missiongorge

