

# SAINTS SCENE



Saints Scene publishes this image for its historical significance as in days ahead we will recall to future children and grandchildren how student life changed during this awful pandemic. But the image, above, is symbolic and shows how the students, the school and life in general endured with our faith in God and our church and state and social institutions as guides. Here we see Saints and our neighbor San Diego High line up for the national anthem at a recent basketball game that Saints won 76-36. Even with limited attendance this act of normalcy was much appreciated and provided a needed morale boost for beleaguered sports programs. It also says the line for a better future starts with us: one day, one event at a time. And, of course, cherished thanks go to all who contributed to making an in-class school year [2020-21] possible against all odds.

Thank you, Thank you.

## Summer is Here, But Not Yet

Dear Parents & Friends.

Yes, it is warm. Yes, it is cold. Yes, it is cloudy and Yes, it is sunny. Must be spring on Nutmeg Street.

And school is almost out for the summer. But stop fidgeting. We have material to cover.

You can feel it, as soon as the weather gets nice. Parents feel it. Administrators feel it. The students and the teachers certainly feel it—something about the end of testing, submission of the big research project, the arrival of summer heat and the approaching final day of school—once impossibly distant but suddenly tantalizingly close.

Continued on page 8

#### **Senior Prom News**

This literally "breaking news" as the school is currently making plans for a Senior Prom to be held on Saturday, May 8th @ 5:30pm on campus. It will not be similar to "Proms" in the past, because of covid restrictions. Nevertheless, we are happy to welcome the boys and their dates for this special year-end event.

Questions? Senior Class advisor Mr. John Lamerato, jlamerato@sahs.org



A sneak peek at the E-Sports lab which is on the second floor of Villanova hall. The lab supports Saints' engineering lessons by day and the e-Sports club in the after-school hours. For more on Saints new e-Sports Club see page 5.

The Road Together...

## Moving Forward with Hope and Thanks

By Edwin Hearn, President, St. Augustine High School



Mr. Ed Hearn

As one of the most tumultuous years in the history of Saints begins winding down, the administration is grateful for the community staying the course with us. There have been many adjustments and new schedules that have been annoying to all of us as we have proceeded. The road we chose to take was the more difficult—it was one that might have ignited controversy and weakened the community.

## AUGUSTINIAN HERITAGE

## **God's Plenty**

By Maxime Villeneuve, OSA, Chaplain, St. Augustine High School

There are countless ways in which to encounter God. This is reflected in the many offerings which our school community offers Saintsmen to encounter Him; such as through service, study, athletics, social events and clubs, etc. One of these ways is known in Latin is known as the Via Pulchris or "the path of beauty". The Via Pulchris is a way in which we encounter God in a profound and meaningful way.

St. Augustine speaks of our God as being beauty itself when he writes in his Confessions, "Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you!" It is for this reason that our school prides itself on being the home of a thriving Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program, in which Saintsmen can apply themselves in the arts, and in so doing discover ever more our God who is Beauty itself.

The monastery on campus has recently gone through a process of renovating areas that were becoming dated and stale- which would be normal for any nearly 100 year old building. One of the areas to be updated was the back deck of the monastery. In the process of putting in a new deck, the friars of the monastery, led by our Prior Provincial Fr. Gary Sanders, OSA, noticed that the |plain back wall of the old Halo Joe's shop ought to be "beautified"- and we naturally thought that the students of the school ought to be involved.

With the assistance of our art teacher Mrs. Drummy and her Art Club, a contest was held with the students to propose a mural for the wall. After reviewing the proposals, Junior Nick Watson's design was selected as the winner. The Augustinians will be making a donation in his name to the orphanage, as well as a personal prize for his efforts. The mural celebrates our faith, San Diego, and our Augustinian heritage. The Augustinians look forward to this beautiful mural to be! Stay tuned for more updates in a future edition of Saints Scene.



Junior Nick Watson's winning design



The newly renovated patio at the Augustinian Monastery on campus. The white wall at the east end of the patio will soon be painted by Nick Watson and a crew of Saintsmen.

### SENIOR NEWS



#### Senior Awards Assembly Changes

Thanks to Covid much has changed regarding traditional events on campus. Senior Awards Assembly is no different. For 2021, the program will be on Friday, May 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Winners of a variety of awards will be announced at this assembly. Space will be limited and so this will be a student only event.

The school will broadcast the Senior Awards via Facebook Live/YouTube.



#### Cap, Gown Distribution

Graduation practice and Senior March will take place after the Senior Awards assembly from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on May 21. All seniors must be present for this practice. Caps, gowns, graduation tickets and yearbooks will be distributed immediately after graduation practice and the Senior March.



#### Final Bit of Business for Seniors

Senior Exams: will be given on Monday, May 24th (English and Religion), Tuesday, May 25th (Math and Social Studies), and Wednesday, May 26th (World Language and Science).



#### What About Returning Text Books?

Covid restrictions mean that Follett, our book provider, will not be providing in-person book rental returns and book buyback. Students can sell or return textbooks to Follett via US Mail.

Students/families will generate a return shipping label through their Follett account for returning all rented books. Shortly we expect Follett will also provide us with a web link for students/families to try to sell back purchased books. The school will forward it to you just as soon as it is available.



ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PRESENTS



4PM

MAY

22

2021

ON THE GYM ROOFTOP

ALSO LIVESTREAMED AT

FACEBOOK.COM/32NDSTREETJAZZ



# AROUND CAMPUS



## Plan Ahead: Alumni Golf Tourney

The 35th annual Saints Alumni Golf Tournament will take place 1 pm Friday, August 20 at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn golf course. Hurry spots are filling up.

Signup at: Alumni.sahs.org

Discounted room rates available, especially if you wish to attend the tournament dinner and Saints Alumni Live Auction. Non golfers are welcome to attend all the festivities.

Cost: \$200 per person.

Interested in being a tournament or hole in one sponsor go to the following link for options: https://alumni.sahs.org/events/35th-annual-saints-alumni-golf-classic/



## Saints E-Sports Club Hosts Parochial Tourney

The Saints E-Sports club, under the leadership of Senior Joe Selfani and Junior Jason Halabo, has completed its inaugural Parochial E-sports (video game) tournament. Students were invited from every elementary school in the Diocese to participate in playing Fortnite and Rocket League.

The championships for the tournament were held on campus in the newly built E-Sports Gaming Lab which was completed in April 2021. Student leaders in the E-Sports club secured funding, presented a plan to the administration, and worked with the Director of Technology to install and setup the machines and complete the build out of the lab. The E-Sports club has GAME!

#### What's Fortnite?

It is a newbie free to play (once you have equipment etc.) video game that is a worldwide phenomenon. The newbie friendly video game is set in modern day Earth, but most of humanity has disappeared. One of the game's core mechanics is collecting materials to build protective fortifications. Of course, that's until you're over run by e-Visigoths.

#### PAROCHIAL SCHOOL FORTNITE CHAMPION. Ethan Basa from St. Rita's pictured with Saints ASB President, Joe Selfani '21.



## This is the Year You Join the Alumni Association

Join the Alumni Association: looking for a way to get back involved with Saints? Then join the St. Augustine Alumni Association. It's a great way to reconnect with your brothers and network with brothers from other classes. If you would like more information about the group, and how you can get involved, please contact Mark Johnson '83 the Alumni Association Membership Chairman: markjohnson.sandiego@gmail.com And, ask Mark how you can get one of those cool Saints Alumni caps.





# AROUND CAMPUS

## **Spikeball: Competive Sports Newest Sensation**

SpikeBall is the game in season as Saints Intramurals move thru the Spring. Recently each grade level had a playoff to determine the best team in the class. That team will then move on to represent their class in the school finals. The following pictures are from the Senior Class Championship Match.



Saintsman Alex Alcalay and Eric Engelman (left) defeated fellow seniors Luke Schepper and Dom Pacheco (right) in triple overtime for the senior class Spikeball championship – final score 24-22. The match was officiated by intramural coordinator, Mr. Jason Alcoser (background).



Alex Alcalay volleys a pass to teammate Eric Engelman... Mr. Alcoser, the match official, watches closely.



Luke Schepper aims for the kill as Alex Alcalay circles the net in defense.

#### **HOW TO PLAY SPIKE BALL:**

Explaining how to play the game by reading or listening is tough. Not impossible, but time consuming. Thanks to YouTube showing is better than reading. The following video explains this new sports phenomenon. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Svtw5A4SqDI

#### **Wait Until Next Year**

Fr. Max gave a prayer with the two teams together before the game as well. On the coin toss the seniors linked arms at mid-field. It was a rough night as key injuries hampered Saints' game plan.



Lincoln won the final game of the short Varsity football season. Lincoln is always big and fast and it showed. They definitely had the better night. Text and images by Saints Dad of Alum, Mr. William Hill.





# AROUND CAMPUS

#### **Back Normal: Welcome Back Senior Mother Son Luncheon**

The Annual Mother and Senior Tribute Brunch was held at the Bahia Resort Hotel, West Bay Beach on Sunday, April 18. The long-standing tradition is held in honor of the Mothers' support, encouragement, and love for their Saintsmen sons during their years at Saints. This year's event was long hoped for and is the first in a series of Senior class events that are now possible as all facets of life are beginning to "re-open".



Senior Joseph Alcoser and his mother Lauren.



Senior Matt Parada and his mother Mary.



Senior Juan Enciso and his mother Gabriella.



You are invited to an informal social with President, Ed Hearn and Principal, Jim Horne Cocktails and light refreshments will be served. Parents only please.

#### Freshman Parents - Class of 2025

Saturday, August 28th 3-5pm OR Sunday August 29th 4-6pm Both in The Commons Lobby

#### Sophomore Parents Class of 2024

Saturday, August 28th 6-8pm On the Rooftop Basketball Courts

#### Junior & Senior Parents Class of 2022 & 2023

Saturday, September 11 4-6 pm In the Commons Lobby

#### Moving Forward with Hope and Thanks

Continued from page 1

On behalf of the administration, thank you for your trust and confidence in our ability to balance health issues along with educational issues. We owe a great deal of gratitude for your support as we traveled along a very lonely stretch of road we created as we moved forward.

We knew some parents, faculty and staff had strong contrary positions regarding our direction, but we also knew there was trust among all members of our community that the Board of Directors and administration would successfully navigate the troubled waters of the pandemic.

In reflecting on the year, I am extremely proud of our Board of Directors and the administration for placing our students first and positioning Saints to safeguard everyone's health while offering "in-person" education to our boys. Without the parent community behind our direction, we would have floundered and allowed the controversy to divide us. Your belief in our core values of Community, Truth and Love have held us together. On behalf of the staff, faculty and administration, we offer our appreciation. You have allowed us to thrive during trying times.

Our strength is our unity of purpose built around our faith, the encouragement of our teachers for their students, and the strong relationships created throughout the community. However, due to the pandemic, we have yet to meet the parents from this year's freshman class. The normal ways of ensuring the development of friendship with the parent community was greatly compromised this year. Every event that is

normally calendared was changed into a Zoom meeting or a video.

Fr. Max Villeneuve, OSA, Saints' chaplain, during one of the countless Zoom meetings we experienced this year stated, "We are at our best when we are face-to-face and heart-to-heart." I wrote the wording down immediately as I knew this phrase captures the ethos of our school. Our energy in the coming months will get back to the Augustinian way of developing community—a way that encourages unity of purpose and achievement.

Although I do not want to speak for others, I think we are at our best when we are basking in the warm love of Jesus as experienced through our friendships with one another. It is in the glow of this light that we become who we were created to be. To be our true authentic selves. Like you, our administration, faculty and staff want to get back to seeing you, laughing with you, helping with family problems and your sons' issues—face-to-face and heart-to-heart.

My office is on the south side of St. Augustine Commons. You will find signage directing you to a small office of suites on the Terrace Level of the building. I encourage you to walk up the steps and drop by to introduce yourselves to me, Casey Callery, the Director of Advancement, and Chris Cashman, the Director of Alumni. Holly Ferrari, the Administrative Assistant, primarily responsible for recording gifts to the school and running Halo Joe's Store works in the main office in Vasey Hall. We look forward to meeting all of you in the near future.

#### Summer is Here, But Not Yet

Continued from page 1

The poet T. S. Eliot once said that April was the cruelest month. I think he should have chosen May instead. For students and teachers alike it is tough to be focused in the classroom while a spectacular summer blossoms.

However, we are not yet done. We must finish the race of the academic year.

In a recent address to the student body as we gathered for our weekly Mass, I commented that the true nature of success is not some grand elusive secret. Actually, it is quite simple. Success takes tenacity, not brilliance or some stroke of genius luck. Success requires that each of us put forth our best effort daily, despite temptations and distractions that dissuade us.

As we sense the joys of summer, let's remain focused on the great race of the school year and commit to finishing strong and continuing the tradition of excellence that is St. Augustine High School.

In the Spirit of Catholic Education,

James Home

James Horne Principal







## So, You've Never Been Deep Sea Fishing?

Here's Your Chance.

Join Saints alumni, teachers and friends of the school for the 12<sup>TH</sup> Annual Alumni Fishing Trip

Hop aboard this limited-passenger charter (only 28 get to go) to fish offshore for those elusive yellow Tail, Yellow Fin and Blue Fin Tuna.

What? No Fishing Gear? No worries, you can rent a rod & reel.

WHEN: Sunday, August 1, 2021.

**DURATION:** Full Day Trip.

**LOCATION: Pacific Ocean** 

**BOARDING: H&M Landing.** 

COST: \$175 per person.

**MORE INFO:** 

https://alumni.sahs.org/events/12th-annual-alumni-fishing-trip





Fans of Saints Fishing enjoying themselves aboard the Relentless (same boat as last year).

# Saints Baseball Streaky Hot

By Coach Craig daLuz, Saints Varsity Baseball Coach



Team photo after winning the annual San Diego Lions' Tournament.

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The 2021 season is off to a great start. We are at the half way point and currently sit at 12-2-1. We have played in three tournaments (Saints Bill Whittaker Classic, San Diego Lion's Tournament, and the Grossmont Metro City [GMC] Tournament).

We placed first in all 3 in pool play, lost the tie breaker to advance to the Championship game in the GMC, but won the Championship game in both the Saints Bill Whittaker Classic (Saints 10 San Marcos 5) and the SD Lions Tournament (Saints 10 Mission Hills 0).

At deadline for Saints Scene late last month, we headed into league play with a team ERA of 1.57. In 98 innings pitched we have allowed only 22 earned runs and struck out 110 batters.

Chaz McRoberts '22 (3-0) Jacob Odle '21 (3-0), Manny Butler '22 (3-1), Sinjon Bobolia '21 (1-0, 4 Saves) are some of our pitching standouts early on this season.

Defensively we are fielding at a .964 clip with short stop Cade Martinez '22 and catcher Ariel Armas '21 having been defensive standouts and anchors to our defense.

Offensively we are hitting .345 as a team and have 142 hits, 34 doubles, 7 triples, and 11 Home runs (HR's: Trevor Fox '22 – 3, Jakob Christian '21 – 3, Xavier Franco '22 – 2, Cade Martinez '22 – 1, MJ Sweeney '23 – 1, and Justin Heffler '24 – 1) in 411 at bats on the young season.

We have stolen 45 bases in 15 games (Luke Rhee '22 – 12SB's) to go along with a team on base percentage of .449 and slugging percentage of .542.



Catcher Ariel Armas ('21) had a remarkable Whittaker championship game batting and catching.



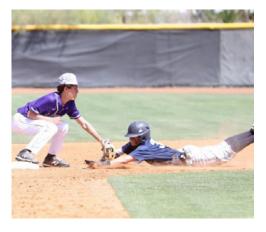




Senior Sinjon Bobolia was the winning pitcher in relief vs. San Marcos High in the Whittaker win.



Head coach Mr. Craig da Luz waves homeward bound Cade Martinez ('22).



Chaz McRoberts ('22) puts a tag on runner after taking spot on throw from catcher Ariel Armas.

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Scorecard shows winning Whittaker tournament stats.



## Saints Capture Bill Whittaker Classic

By Coach Craig daLuz, Saints Varsity Baseball Coach

In the annual Whittaker tournament pool play we finished 4-0-1 to advance to the championship against San Marcos.

We played a very good game and won the championship 10-5. In the championship game Ariel Armas '21 went 3 for 4 with 2 triples, 2 runs scored and 3 RBI and played exceptional defense behind the plate, picking off a crucial runner and throwing out two would be base stealers.

MJ Sweeney '23 was 3 for 3 with a double, run scored, and an RBI, while Jakob Christian '21 was 2 for 4 with a double, triple, run scored and an RBI and Domenic Carini '22 was 2 for 3 with a double, stolen base, and 2 RBI.

On the hill in the championship game Chaz McRoberts '22 kept the Knights at bay going strong for 4 innings before being relieved by Sinjon Bobolia '21 who got the win in relief.

Trevor Fox '22 earned the save with 2 innings of perfect relief work to close out the championship. The Saints outscored their opponents 59-18 over the tournament. Read more about Saints Varsity Baseball next month.



### Are You Following Your Teen's Social Media?

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pheed, Snapchat... They are the way the youth of today communicate. And despite the frequency of inappropriate pictures and graphic language these hugely popular sites are the new norm in the world of teen social culture. These sites combine just about every new technology that kids love and parents distrust—instant messaging, blogging, chat rooms, music and video downloads and more.

Social Media sites are part of the social scene at schools everywhere. The online social-networking craze has now hit younger kids—down to age 9 or 10. Nonexistent just about a decade ago, these sites now boast having hundreds of millions of users.

Once registered, most of these sites ask users to post a profile. On their individual profiles, teens list everything from their birthday, school and hometown to favorite bands and TV shows; add pictures of themselves and friends; and download music and video clips. Visitors can post immediate comments to the site or contact the person directly.

We know that teen communication is all about social relationships and it isn't all that surprising that this communication has now moved online. After all, kids have always wanted to hang out and not tell their parents what they're doing. But because of the proliferation of profane language, references to drugs and alcohol, and obscene photos and commentary, we think parents should be aware.

Saints does not want to prejudice anyone against the appropriate use of sites like facebook, twitter, instagram, pheed, shapchat, tumblr, vine, and others. It's just that so much of what is posted and available on these sites is clearly crossing the line.

Take an active role, talk with your Saintsman about privacy, posting and knowing what is appropriate. And by all means, follow your students' social media.





### SAINTS SCENE

Your Award-Winning\* monthly report on the St. Augustine High School Experience

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Correction Policy: While every effort is made to be accurate, we occasionally err. We do apologize to those impacted and kindly ask that you notify Saints Coordinator: Thomas.Shess@gmail.com for any corrections.

Mission of St. Augustine High School – Our mission is to provide a Catholic liberal arts education for young men in an environment that promotes the development of mind, heart and body in the Augustinian tradition. By helping to form loving disciples of Jesus Christ we communicate to the world the gospel values of community, truth and love.