



SALES TALK

FOR THE PARENTS OF SALESIANUM SCHOOL

JANUARY 11, 2014

A THOUGHT FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Happy are the pliant hearts. They will never break.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS – principal@salesianum.org

Dear Parents,

The return from Christmas vacation brings the “second half” of the school year, and with it a number of challenges: the conclusion of the first semester, snow and winter weather, cold and flu season, and a number of events and activities through the winter and spring that will culminate with graduation and the end of the school year in late May. As the school year marches on, the academic routines, extracurricular commitment, and disciplinary expectations that were so fresh in August and September can become stale and more of a grind, goals and expectations become harder to maintain and begin to fade, and slowly but surely, “living in the present moment” can easily give way to looking ahead to the summer or next school year. And though it manifests itself in different ways, variations on “senioritis” can infect students, teachers, and parents of all ages and responsibilities.

This year, the Student Council chose to put a familiar phrase on the back of the Spirit Week t-shirt: “Don’t count the days, make the days count.” This is a favorite phrase of the now retired legendary Salesianum science teacher and wrestling coach, John Rusnak, who is still a regular visitor to campus. And although the phrase could be applied to any walk of life, it certainly applies to school communities in particular. Perhaps one late submission to our New Year’s resolutions could be a renewed effort in regard to our “Salesian optimism” – the decision not only to remain in the present moment, but to choose to be positive, hopeful, and mutually supportive in that moment, even when we are stressed and our own energy may be waning. For me, one of the best ways to do this – often at my moments of peak frustration, fatigue, or stress – is to stop what I am doing for a few minutes and refocus. We don’t often have the luxury of escaping our commitments for a few days, and real vacations come along only every so often. But stopping for a few minutes, long enough to really remember that God is present, can do wonders. One of my favorite “go to” ideas at these times is to remember a simple truth in those moments: there’s nothing I can do to make God love me any *more*, and there’s nothing I can do to make God love me any *less*. The only real response we need to that unconditional love is gratitude. And if anything can refocus a day for me, it is a quick, quiet moment to give thanks for the many blessings in my life which most days overwhelmingly outnumber my challenges, but can be easier to forget.

So, let’s have a Happy New Year, knowing there will always be challenges to face, but trusting that we never face those challenges alone. And this is the true calling of any community: to be present to one another as the living reminder that that we belong not only to one another, but to God.

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Jude Szczerba, Dean of Academic Affairs – juszczer@salesianum.org

2nd quarter report cards

Report cards will be posted on NetClassroom on January 22. These report cards will include 2nd quarter grades for all current courses. They also will include final assessment grades (FE) and final course grades (FG) for courses ending January 13. Students who completed Technology Skills during the summer 2014 will see their final grade reflected.

Course selection and scheduling for 2015-2016

For students in the classes of 2016, 2017, and 2018, January will be a busy and exciting time. The end of the 2nd quarter will usher in the beginning of schedule planning for next year. The 2015-2016 Program of Studies is now available under the “Parent” link and “Student” link of the website; this electronic document contains course descriptions for all courses available next school year. Please take some time with your son to discuss electives he may wish to take next year. Course selection will begin in late January.

Second Semester Schedules

All half-year courses that began in August 2014 will end on January 13. This is also the last day of the 2nd quarter. Students will receive hard copies of their 2nd semester schedules in homeroom during the first school week in January. The 2nd semester schedules are also available on NetClassroom. Students are asked to check their 2nd semester schedules for errors and to notify the Academic Office juszczer@salesianum.org. Please note the following:

1. Freshmen: the *Health* and *P.E.* classes will trade places on the schedule with the exception of the A1 section.
2. All 1-semester courses will end and be replaced by a new course or study hall.
3. Most juniors will have *Junior Advisory* added to their schedules. This course will meet 1 time per cycle.
4. At this time, students are not permitted to request schedule changes unless an extraordinary need arises.

Final failures: 1st semester courses

Students who receive a final failing grade for a 1-semester course will receive information in the mail about requirements to recover the credit during; credit recovery cannot take place until the summer. Honor roll and extracurricular eligibility for the 3rd quarter is determined by 2nd quarter grades, *not final grades*. The 2nd quarter GPA is calculated using 2nd quarter grades only. Cumulative GPAs use final grades and are not recalculated until the end of the school year.

Winter Parent-Teacher Conferences: January 28

We will again use an online appointment system to structure our parent-teacher conferences. Each teacher will have 12 time slots available between 6:00pm and 8:30pm. The evening is designed for parents who may be in need of meeting with 2 or more teachers. Please keep in mind the following as you decide whether or not to sign-up for an appointment with a specific teacher:

1. Carefully consider your son’s performance in each class. **It may be best to only schedule a meeting if your son is doing poorly on assessments or struggling with work.**
2. The conferences are designed for parents to discuss rather urgent academic issues with teachers. We do not want to discourage anyone from attending, but we also do not want to prevent parents from scheduling meetings that may be more urgent. If your son has made a good adjustment and seems to be doing well in a particular class, we would ask that you refrain from scheduling an appointment. In grade school, many parents are able to make it to conferences with all teachers, even if their children are performing well. In high school, because students have 7 or more teachers, it may not be feasible or necessary to meet with all teachers. Parents should not feel obligated to meet with the teachers. Keep in mind that conferences can be scheduled on other days throughout the school year if necessary.
3. If a particular teacher’s time slots fill online and you would still like to schedule an appointment, I would encourage you to email the teacher to request an appointment at another time.
4. On the evening of our conferences, it will be important for everyone to be faithful to the appointment schedule. If you are late to a scheduled appointment, it may be impossible for the teacher to reschedule it that evening.

We will use an online appointment system to structure conferences. 10-minute time slots are designed for 5-7 minute meetings. If open slots remain, teachers will be available for “walk-ins.” Teacher schedules will be posted outside of doorways that evening. If you have trouble scheduling an appointment, please email the specific teacher or teachers.

1. Go to <https://salesianum.acuityscheduling.com/schedule.php>
2. Choose the calendar of a teacher of choice from the scroll down menu.
3. Choose January 28 using the calendar.
4. Choose an available appointment time. Appointment slots that have been taken will not show.
5. After the 1st appointment, setup an account if you would like email reminders of your appointment(s).
6. Select “New Appointment” to schedule additional appointments for the evening.

STUDENT LIFE

Mr. Mike Gallagher, Dean of Student Life - mgallagh@salesianum.org

Mr. Bill Dinardo, Assistant Principal for Student Discipline - wdinardo@salesianum.org

Mr. Dan Jackman, Director of Student Activities - djackman@salesianum.org

Salesian Global Exchange

We are now accepting letters of interest from students to travel on the three Salesian Global Exchange trips this Easter. Students have the opportunity to travel on one of the following trips April 1-11.

- Annecy, France
- Dachsberg, Austria
- Montevideo, Uruguay

Student will live with host families from Oblate schools in the respective cities. Online information regarding the trips can be found [here](#). Please contact Dan Jackman at djackman@salesianum.org if you have any questions.

Host Families Needed

The Salesian Exchange Program is looking for host families for two students from our Oblate School in Annecy, France. These students would like to experience life with an American family and attend school with their Salesian brother. They will arrive around April 22 and stay would stay with your family for two months. Both students are 15 years old and have strong English language skills. To find out more about this amazing opportunity for your entire family, please contact Jennifer Vintigni at jvintigni@salesianum.org.

Summer Service Trip West Virginia: BRIDGE to Appalachia

Salesianum’s BRIDGE Program (Building Relationships In Diverse Global Environments) is sponsoring a service trip for current sophomores and juniors with JusticeWorx in West Virginia this summer. Students will serve the rural poor of Appalachia with home repairs and volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. The trip runs July 27-August 3 with a cost of \$700, which includes transportation, food, and lodging. Email Mr. Ryan at zryan@salesianum.org for information.

Student Information Letters

Attendance warning letters will be sent home next week for students who have excessive late or absence records. If you have any questions in this area, please contact Mr. DiNardo or Mr. Gallagher. Student conduct letters of warning are sent when a student approaches a level of detentions/demerits close to a suspension. Please refer to the Student Handbook if you have any questions in this area and direct inquiries to Mr. DiNardo.

Blue Mountain Ski Trip

The Salesianum Ski Trip to Blue Mountain will be on Saturday, February 21. All current Salesianum students may attend. The cost of the trip ranges from \$60-\$90 and includes transportation, lift ticket and equipment rental (if needed). Permission forms are available from Mrs. Speers in A211 or Ms. Saraco in A236 or via the link [here](#). All forms are due to Mrs. Speers by Thursday, February 12.

Senior Yearbook Ads – LAST CALL!

This is the absolute last call for senior ads available in the Salesianum yearbook. All sales and designs are completed via the Josten’s website - <http://goo.gl/UTGuPE>. All ads must be completed and purchased by January 12.

GUIDANCE

Mr. Will Yarnell, Director of Guidance – w yarnell@salesianum.org

SAT/ACT Practice Test

Salesianum will offer a full SAT and/or ACT practice test for sophomores and juniors on Saturday, January 24 from 9 AM – 1PM. Register online by January 21 at <http://goo.gl/1axN6N>.

Sophomore Parent Guidance Meeting

Mark your calendars for sophomore parent guidance meeting on Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 PM in Centenary Hall.

Registration deadlines for SAT and ACT

The next SAT test will occur on January 24. The LATE registration deadline via phone and online is January 13. The next ACT test will occur on February 7. The regular registration deadline is January 9 and the LATE registration period ends on January 16.

Senior Scholarship and Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available at www.fafsa.gov for financial assistance in college. If you plan to apply for need-based financial aid, you **must** complete the FAFSA. Please be mindful that certain schools may require additional documents, such as the CSS Profile. It is important to check the financial aid website of **each college** to which you have applied in order to find a checklist of all required financial aid documents and their deadlines (which vary by school and may be as early as February 15 in some cases). Please see your college counselor if you have questions about the financial aid process.

Delaware Scholarship Compendium Guide

A reminder that the DE Scholarship Compendium Guide for College Bound Students is available in the Guidance Department. This booklet highlights many scholarships and awards that can help offset college costs. Some of these scholarship application deadlines are quickly approaching so pick up your copy. Also, remember to check Naviance and CollegeBoard.org for a list of scholarship opportunities.

Sussex Tech Driver Education at Ursuline Academy

Students may sign up for the state certified driver's education class this summer. View the handout for more information regarding price and dates - <http://goo.gl/VrTsZp>.

Ursuline Academy Center for the Arts

Ursuline Academy's is a community-based after-school program focused on exploring the creative arts. Daniel Carunchio is a Salesianum graduate offering piano lessons as an artist in residence. Learn more - <http://goo.gl/Al1gGl>.

ADVANCEMENT

Mr. John Helmick, Dean of Advancement – jhelmick@salesianum.org

For the Boys

Interested in helping plan this year's For the Boys, Salesianum's largest fundraising event? There are lots of ways to help, from set-up, to auctions, to decorating. All are welcome. Questions, contact Liz Carter at lzcarter@aol.com.

Prom Activities Committee (PAC)

Senior Prom activities begin at 10:00 PM at the Hotel DuPont and concludes at 12:30 AM. The initial planning meeting for PAC will be on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM in Centenary Hall. Mrs. Patricia Seningen will head up PAC this year as the Chairperson. If you have any questions, contact Stacy Bartkowski at sbartkowski@salesianum.org.

NURSE

Mrs. Suzanne Mansi, Nurse – smansi@salesianum.org

Flu Update

In Delaware, the number of cases of flu has increased exponentially from last year, with several confirmed cases of the flu here at Salesianum. In order to prevent the spread of disease, students who have flu-like symptoms (fever, sore throat, cough, etc.) should stay at home until 24 hours after their temperature has returned to normal. In addition, remind your sons to wash hands frequently, use an antibacterial gel, cover noses and mouths with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing, and avoid sharing drinks, towels etc. with fellow students.

The flu is often confused with the common cold, but flu symptoms usually are more severe than the coughing, sneezing, and stuffiness of a cold. Symptoms can include fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, dizziness, loss of appetite, fatigue, malaise, cough, sore throat, stuffy/runny nose, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Flu symptoms usually last from 5-10 days, but fatigue and weakness may persist for several weeks. It is important to contact your physician when you suspect the flu to prevent the occurrence of any secondary problems such as pneumonia or other complications.

Please remember that students are not permitted to carry any medications with them or in their locker at school except for inhalers and/or Epi-pens. If your son should require a medication during the day, please contact me. Anytime you have any questions or concerns regarding your sons' health, please do not hesitate to contact me at smansi@salesianum.org or at 302-356-2637.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Fr. Mike Vogt, OSFS, Pastoral Care Coordinator

We keep in prayer this week all members of our extended School Community:

FOR HEALTH, HEALING AND WELL-BEING:

- Dr. Armando Mendez '76 recovery from heart attack
- Kevin Lynn, father of John Lynn '12, recovering from surgery
- Janice Flood, mother of freshman Joseph Flood
- Terry Campbell, grandfather of freshman Jack Shields, Terry is recovering from surgery
- Ms. Kirkland's sister who is recovering from surgery
- Eric Phillips, father of junior Reed Phillips

FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

- William Stem, father of Kyle '02, Drew '04, Keith '07, and Derek '09
- Stephen Strazdus, grandfather of Tyler Baldo '14
- Jane Falkowski, grandmother of freshman Jack Kuchma
- Susan Ayars, mother of senior Rory Richardson
- Karen Bartkowski, aunt of Matt Bartkowski '85
- Claire Schopfer, grandmother of freshman Evan Schopfer
- Ralph Shivone '68
- Michael Blanch '73
- Edward Miller '44
- Augusta Mae Wayne, grandmother of freshman Nick Grant
- Bro. John Bailey, OSFS
- Fr. Lou Komorowski, OSFS
- Ana Soto, grandmother of senior Nick Castoria
- **And for all the names listed in the Book of Remembrance kept in the school chapel.**

ALL LOVE, NO FEAR

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of January 12 - 18

Monday January 12	<u>F-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u>
Tuesday January 13	<u>G-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sophomore Parent Guidance Meeting, 7:00 PM▪ Varsity Basketball vs. Tatnall, Birkenheuer Gym, 7:30 PM
Wednesday January 14	<u>A-DAY: WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Faculty Meeting, 2:00 PM, Centenary Hall▪ Class of 2019 Salesian Scholars Reception, 6:30 PM▪ Swimming at Concord, 3:30 PM
Thursday January 15	<u>B-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u>
Friday January 16	<u>C-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Swimming at St. Augustine Prep, 4:00 PM
Saturday January 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Varsity Basketball: vs. M.L. King HS in Kobe Bryant Classic, Lower Merion, PA▪ Wrestling at Archbishop Spalding
Sunday January 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Indoor Track at N5CTA Meet, Haverford, 9:00 AM

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of January 19 - 25

<p>Monday January 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY, SCHOOL CLOSED ▪ Varsity Basketball: Cancer Classic at Concord HS, 4:00 PM 	
<p>Tuesday January 20</p>	<p><u>D-DAY: AM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MLK/SFDS Assembly, 9:00 AM, Auditorium 	
<p>Wednesday January 21</p>	<p><u>E-DAY: WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ House Assembly, 2:00 PM, Gym ▪ No Wednesday Faculty Meeting ▪ Class of 2019 Salesian Scholar Reception, 6:30 PM ▪ Swimming at The Hill School, 4:00 PM 	
<p>Thursday January 22</p>	<p><u>F-DAY: AM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Mass, 9:00 AM, Gym ▪ Martin Luther King Dinner, 6:00 PM 	
<p>Friday January 23</p>	<p><u>G-DAY: PM ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pep Rally, 12:50 PM, Gym ▪ Swimming at LaSalle College High School, 6:00 PM ▪ Wrestling at Caesar Rodney, 7:15 PM ▪ Varsity Basketball vs. St. Mark's, 7:30 PM 	
<p>Saturday January 24</p>		
<p>Sunday January 25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ice Hockey vs. Washington Township, 3:45 PM, The Pond 	
<p>Looking Ahead...</p>	<p>Mon, Jan 26 Wed, Jan 28 Tue, Feb 3 Thurs, Feb 12</p>	<p>St. Francis de Sales Holiday, SCHOOL CLOSED Parent-Teacher Conferences Music Assembly (New Date) Freshman Parent Guidance Meeting</p>