

Saints Scene Special Report

Two Letters to the Saints Community in This Time of Crisis



Edwin Hearn, President
St. Augustine High School

1. From President Edwin Hearn

Over my fourteen years as President of St. Augustine High School, there has been much to be proud of. However, the online learning plan that began this week is truly a defining moment. Saints students have always been the center of our mission. Their progress as learners is our primary concern. This has been evidenced by the smooth implementation of the online learning plan recently.

The foresight of Mr. Horne in recognizing the seriousness of this situation weeks ago and then preparing for it is to be congratulated. Physical school ended with the conclusion of mass last Friday. The faculty convened at a meeting on Monday and the plan was launched. Those teachers who are more skilled were asked to help others with the various apps that would aid instruction. The degree of sharing by those in the know was extensive. Todd Igelman, our Tech Guy, scheduled workshops for the next day and teacher learning began in earnest. No doubt we are learning as we go, but it is clear, we are getting better in our execution and delivery of the curriculum.

There have been countless communications from parents praising our teachers and administration for the excellence of the plan. While only having completed week one, both teachers and students are reacting just as expected - optimistically. A trying moment in our history has been transformed into another Saints positive. The imagination and creativity being unleashed has made Saints a better high school.

A tremendous thank you to Jim Horne, the entire faculty and staff for an exceptional week of education at our school. In all of this we can feel the love of Jesus surrounding us and moving us forward. Our Core Values, Unitas, Veritas, Caritas, have never been more pronounced as they have been this week.

With Deep Gratitude,

Edwin J. Hearn

President



James Horne



Todd Igelman



James Horne, Principal
St. Augustine High School

2. *From Principal James Horne*

“Necessity is the mother of invention”... and regarding our SAINTS EXPERIENCE, this has never been truer. Students are finding new ways to engage with their studies, their classmates and teachers. Teachers too, are using video resources, discussion/chat boards and streaming lessons: methods with which they have previously had little experience. We are even celebrating our weekly mass via Facebook Live.

I want to thank our faculty and families for the patience you have demonstrated and for your enterprising spirit that will ensure we navigate these turbulent times.

In this issue of *Saints Scene* we are sharing information from the various corners of the Saints Campus (academics, chaplaincy, academic/personal counseling, and athletics and activities) If the info you are looking for is not included, connect with us by phone and/or email and we will see if we can assist you.

This pandemic is a disruptor on the largest of scales. It has disrupted our daily routines on every level, but we will return to normal...*sometime*. Until then, thanks for your support and continue to flex with us.

Yours in the Spirit of Catholic, Augustinian Education,
James Horne
Principal



HEALING PRAYER
FROM ROME
See Page 3

SAINTS SCENE



Covid-19 Crisis Puts School Online Keeping Up With Ongoing Changes

From the Augustinians, Faculty and Staff of St. Augustine High School

Now that St. Augustine High School has cancelled face to face instruction until further notice we want to take this opportunity to inform the greater Saints community, such as alumni, grandparents and the surrounding North Park community as to what has transpired at the school during this worldwide health crisis.

All academic classes have moved to online delivery of education that began Monday March 16th.

The following is a reminder of measures that apply:

- The school has suspended all in-person classes and transition to the CANVAS online platform until it is deemed safe to resume normal operations.
- We will provide regular updates to the entire community via CANVAS, our website and social media channels.
- All extra-curricular activities during the time that the school is closed have been suspended.
- We have suspended all athletic activities during the time the school is closed.
- Campus hours for the time being will be 8am-2pm. Campus will only be open to faculty and staff. There will be exceptions for those needing the school's chaplaincy, academic/college counseling, or business office services. If you are in this group during the closure you can connect via email and schedule an appointment.

The school will continue to be diligent in communicating facts and changes to school plans/activities and push notifications to the community using CANVAS, social media sites, and the website.

Thank you, and please bear with us while we transition through this evolving health crisis.

Making Studying From Home Work

*By Mr. Gregory Hecht,
Assistant Principal for Academics.*



Mr. Gregory Hecht

As we transition to our online learning environment via CANVAS, please keep the following in mind:

Students are **REQUIRED** to log in to each

class daily and check for updated information, assignments and instructions. Please keep in mind that CANVAS allows teachers to see when a student has logged into a class and it records the duration of their stay and any interactions.

Many teachers will be providing specific dates and times for certain assignments or teacher interactions, so it is imperative that all students stay engaged and communicate with their teachers as is warranted. Do not assume anything! If a student has questions or does not understand something, they should raise their

Continued on page 8

New World of Canvas Dear Saints and Families,



Principal James Horne

Welcome to our new normal for the short-term...online class delivery via CANVAS. I want to thank our faculty and staff who have done

Continued on page 5

AUGUSTINIAN HERITAGE



Soon with God's grace we will return to better days like the one School Chaplain Fr. Max Villeneuve, O.S.A. shared with students and chaperones to a recent visit to Guatemala during Intersession.

Letter to the Saints Community From School Chaplain Fr. Maxime Villeneuve, O.S.A

As our Church, the nation, and the world take various steps to protect the most vulnerable among us in response to the spread of Covid-19, I wanted to take a moment as chaplain of our school to address each of you personally.

First, I would like you to know that you are being supported in prayer by the friars of the St. Augustine Monastery community, as well as Augustinians around the world who know and love Saints. We are praying unceasingly for you, your families, and the Saints community.

As our Diocese has joined many others in taking steps to reduce the spread of the virus by suspending the public celebration of Mass, I want to emphasize a few important points as we navigate through these uncharted waters.

The private celebration of Mass, by a priest alone, is still If you would like a Mass to be celebrated for a particular intention, such as a loved one who may be ill, for the sick, for those suffering from economic hardship, or for the Saints community itself, please email me mwilleneuve@sahs.org and myself or Fr. Sarfraz will be happy to celebrate a private Mass for your intention.

While communal penance services have been suspended across the Diocese, individual Confession is still Please reach out to me if you or members of your family would like to arrange for the celebration of Confession and celebrate the love and mercy of God in these difficult times.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is a sign of hope and comfort for those who are ill. If you or someone you know would like to be anointed, please do not hesitate to call the priests at your local parish or me

Through our Augustinian value of Unitas, we will continue to support one another during these unprecedented times. I want everyone to know that even amidst the uncertainty in our world today, the Church is here for you. In living out the values which we teach and profess at St. Augustine High School, we will walk with Christ as we become Christ for one another, in our school community and throughout society.

May God bless you and may God bless our school.

Our Lady, Help of the Sick—pray for us!

St. Augustine—pray for us!



God willing, this too shall pass.

Athletic Dept. Changes

From the Assistant Principal for Auxiliary Services – Mr. Michael Haupt and from the Athletic Director – Mr. Matthew Linville

With respect to athletics moving forward, Saints will follow CIF guidelines. Teams will not practice or compete while the school is closed; this includes practicing at alternative sites. For all intents and purposes, “no-contact period” guidelines will be in effect—coaches may not coordinate, schedule, direct or plan team activities (banquets, meetings etc.) and there can be no parent or student-organized or led practices. Also, if athletes participate with a club team during this hiatus, they will be ruled ineligible for CIF play upon our return. San Diego Unified and City Conference have already announced cancellations through Monday, April 6. As a member of City Conference, we will be abiding by that April 6 date for all league games, unless otherwise notified.



Mr. Michael Haupt



Mr. Matthew Linville

Augustinian Spirituality Institute Invitation to Prayer



Rome, March 11, 2020

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE ORDER

Dear brothers and sisters:

In these days of global crisis due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), our response must be based on four pillars: prayer, prevention, serenity and responsibility.

The Executive Committee of the Augustinian Spirituality Institute invites all members of our Augustinian family to join us in prayer on **Friday, March 20**. We propose the following outline.

With warm fraternal greetings and thanks to all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Luis Marín".

Fr. Luis Marín de San Martín, O.S.A.
President of the Institute of Augustinian Spirituality

Continued on page 4

Augustinian Spirituality Institute Invitation to Prayer

Continued from page 3



+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *R/.* Amen

1. RECITE PSALM 90 ANT. IN YOUR MERCY, LORD, WE SEEK YOUR STRENGTH AND GRACE

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shade of the Almighty,
Say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress,
my God in whom I trust."

He will rescue you from the fowler's snare,
from the destroying plague,
He will shelter you with his pinions,
and under his wings you may take refuge;
his faithfulness is a protecting shield.

You shall not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day,
Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness,
nor the plague that ravages at noon.

Though a thousand fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
near you it shall not come.

Because you have the LORD for your refuge
and have made the Most High your stronghold,
No evil shall befall you,
no affliction will come near your tent.

For he commands his angels with regard to you,
to guard you wherever you go.
With their hands they shall support you,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

You can tread upon the asp and the viper, trample the lion and the dragon.
Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; because he knows my name,
I will set him on high.

He will call upon me and I will answer;
I will be with him in distress;
I will deliver him and give him honor.
With length of days I will satisfy him,
and fill him with my saving power.

Glory to the Father...

Brief Silence

2. READING FROM SAINT AUGUSTINE

I will sing and play the lyre to the Lord. We shall be free from anxiety, and carefree we shall sing, and carefree we shall play the lyre when we contemplate the delight of the Lord and are protected as his temple, in that incorruptibility where death is swallowed up in victory. But what of the present? Already we have spoken of the joys that will be ours when that one petition is granted to us. But what of the present? Hearken, Lord, to my voice. Let us groan now, let us pray now. Groaning is proper only to people in misery, prayer only to those in need.

Prayer will pass away, praise will take over; weeping will pass away, joy will take its place. In the meantime, when we are in the days of our troubles, let our prayer to God not cease, and let us go on asking him for that one thing. Let us not interrupt that petition until it is answered, by God's gift and through God's goodness. Hearken, Lord, to my voice, with which I have cried to you; have mercy on me, and hearken to me. He made that one petition; through his long begging, weeping, groaning, he asked only that. He has made an end of all desires; that one plea alone is left (*Exposition 2 of Psalm 26, 14*).

Brief Silence

3. PRAY TOGETHER:

1) Our Father... 2) Hail Mary... 3) Glory to the Father

4. PRAYER:

Almighty and merciful God, refreshment in our weariness, support in our weakness, comfort in our sadness. We come to you to invoke your mercy, since today we still experience the fragility of the human condition in the presence of a new viral pandemic. Listen to the prayer we offer, comfort your children, save us from the present distress and open our hearts to be people of hope.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. (Amen)

5. BLESSING: + The Lord be with you. *R/.* And with your spirit.

+ May almighty God bless you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Amen), or

+ May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. (Amen)

Where Are They Now Saints Alum Report In



Eric Monroe (Saintsman '16), who led the Yale University Bulldogs in the 2019-20 as team captain, has finished his NCAA basketball career.

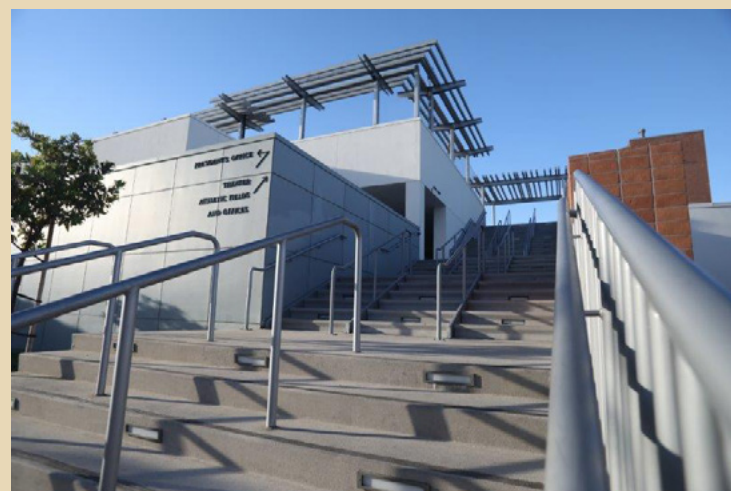
Yale recognized Eric at the final home game of the year, Senior Night. Eric is pictured here with his parents Phil and Amy Monroe and the Yale head coach, James Jones.

In the 2020 season Monroe led the ivy league in 3-point % shooting (40%) and in the assist /turnover ratio (2.1).

Campus Scenes

For our Saints Scene Readers who don't have the opportunity to stop by the campus, we will publish Campus Scenes images from time to time. Pictured are Tolle Lege Plaza (10 years ago) and the new Gymnasium complex.

Photography by William Hill, Saints Parent.



New World of Canvas

Continued from page 1

a marvelous job in this chaotic transition. The Saints faculty is the best and have done a great job transitioning their instruction, resources and assignments so we encounter minimal downtime, if any. We understand there will be questions around many issues. Please be assured that answers and additional information will be forthcoming in our regular response plan updates. This is the first of those communications. We will communicate facts and changes to school plans/activities and push notifications to the

community using CANVAS, social media sites, and the website.

Campus hours for the remainder of the school closure will be Monday – Thursday 8am-2pm. Campus will only be open to faculty and staff. Those needing the school's chaplaincy, academic/college counseling, or business office services can arrange for a video conference or phone meeting. If you are in this group during the closure you can connect via email or phone and schedule a designated time to meet.

Thanks, and please bear with us while we ALL (faculty, students and parents) transition

through this new way to deliver the St. Augustine High School curriculum.

Yours in the spirit of Catholic Education,

James W. Home



School is Closed. What About My AP Exam?



Many are worried about how the current closure affects their advanced Placement studies and the associated tests scheduled for May of 2020.

Here is the most recent statement from the College Board:

Your health and safety are our top priorities. We know the coronavirus has created new and unexpected challenges.

Here's how the AP Program is supporting you and your school:

- We're developing a new at-home testing option.
- We're providing live and on-demand AP courses for free

Based on the number and length of school closures, it's clear that the usual way AP Exams are given at schools won't be possible.

Some students may want to take the exam sooner rather than later, while the content is still fresh. Other students may want more time to practice. For each AP subject, there will be two different testing dates. The full exam schedule, specific free-response question types that will be on each AP Exam, and additional testing information will be available by April 3.

TAKING THE EXAM

We surveyed 18,000 AP students to see if they still wanted the opportunity to test this year. Their answer: a resounding yes. Free resources will be available through exam day to help you get ready. While we encourage you to wait until closer to the test to decide, any student registered for an exam can cancel at no charge.

FOR THE 2019-20 EXAM ADMINISTRATION ONLY:

- We're developing secure 45-minute online free-response exams for each course.
- The exam content will focus on what most schools were able to

complete by early March.

- You'll be able to take your exams on any device you have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone. You'll also have the option to write your responses by hand and submit a photo.
- Colleges support this solution and are committed to ensuring that AP students receive the credit they have worked to earn. For decades, colleges have accepted a shortened AP Exam for college credit when groups of students have experienced emergencies.
- We know that not all students have access to the internet or a device. We're working on solutions to help students get what they need to show their best work. If you need mobile tools or connectivity or know someone who does, you can reach us directly to let us know.

The exams will be secure. We're using a variety of digital security tools, including plagiarism detection software.

FREE AP REVIEW CLASSES

Beginning on Wednesday, March 25, you can attend free, live AP review courses, delivered by AP teachers from across the country.

These courses:

- Are optional, mobile-friendly, and can be used alongside any work your teacher may give you.
- Will be available on-demand, so you can access them any time.
- Will focus on reviewing the skills and concepts from the first 75% of the course. There will also be some supplementary lessons covering the final 25% of the course.

For updates on AP and COVID-19 click on the link:

<https://pages.collegeboard.org/collegeboard-covid-19-updates>

Intersession Travel

Saintsmen Return to San Gimignano, Italy Just Before the Siege

Just as the proverbial swallows return each year to San Juan Capistrano, Saintsmen travelers have been trekking to the same village in Italy for the past decade during Intersession. This year, the visit was completed in time to avoid the pandemic that swept the world. A crisis that impacted Italy especially hard.

Let's enjoy Italy even if it's a fond memory. Students arrive at San Gimignano, an Italian hill town in Tuscany, Southwest of Florence, to assist with maintenance chores at the Chiesa di Sant'Agostino, the church owned by the Order of Saint Augustine. It is this chapel and monastery that Saintsmen have lovingly performed restorative on for

years. that's located inside the 13th century walls of the village.

Saints faculty chaperones and members of school's ministry accompany the students to 13th century San Gimignano along with stops at a selection of noted sites and museum inside Italy.



San Gimignano is an Italian hill town in Tuscany, southwest of Florence. Encircled by 13th-century walls, its old town centers on Piazza della Cisterna, a triangular square lined with medieval houses.



The chiesa di Sant'Agostino is the second largest church in San Gimignano, Italy, after the Collegiata. It is owned by the Order of Saint Augustine. This is the Chapel Saintsmen have lovingly worked at for nearly a decade.



Among the many chores to be completed at the Monastery, cleaning wax off the candleholders.



Students served the church and friars by providing a deep cleaning to tiles and pews.

Continued on page 13

School Events Update

The following is a list of events that, as of March 16, have been cancelled or postponed:

March 20 – Junior Mass and Brunch-CANCELLED; Boat Dance-POSTPONED

March 24 – Border Days-CANCELLED

March 25 – New Family Night-CANCELLED

March 27 – Senior Mass with OLP-CANCELLED

March 31 – Kairos-CANCELLED

April 2 – Spring Play-CANCELLED

April 3 – Saints/OLP Art Show-CANCELLED; Spring Play-CANCELLED

April 4 – Hogar Infantil -CANCELLED; Spring Play-CANCELLED

April 5 – Mother Son Brunch-POSTPONED– more information to follow.

April 7 – Border Days-CANCELLED

April 8 – Stations of the Cross-CANCELLED

April 23 – Spring Concert-CANCELLED

April 28 – Sophomore Retreat-CANCELLED

We understand there will be questions around many issues. Please be assured that answers and additional information will be forthcoming in our regular response plan updates. We will continue to be diligent in communicating facts and changes to school plans/activities and push notifications to the community using CANVAS, social media sites, and the website.

Thanks, and please bear with us while we transition through this evolving health crisis.

Making Studying From Home Work

Continued from page 1

'virtual' hand by e-mailing their teacher(s) via their CANVAS class.

If a student is taking two classes in the same department, students should notify those teachers and the department chair. Teachers have been made aware that they might have students in this situation and they (teachers) are being asked to be as accommodating as possible.

If you are a student with documentation on file with the school that stipulates extended time, our teachers have been encouraged to be flexible and we ask that you work directly with your teacher(s) to find a reasonable way forward on assignments and assessments.

We are also aware that there are questions surrounding Advanced Placement testing and we will continue to provide updates to you as the College Board makes information available to us here at St. Augustine.

PLEASE NOTE: *Advanced Placement testing, in a revised format, is scheduled to take place. Consult page 6 for details from the College Board.*



Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others.

-Saint Augustine

Saints Tennis Much Improved

The Saints tennis team returned to action this spring following one of its most successful seasons in 2019 when they qualified for the Open Division postseason tournament for the first time.

The varsity team returned only 3 starters from last year's team which opened the door for nearly a dozen new team members. The varsity team has enjoyed early season victories over Carlsbad, San Dieguito, Grossmont, and Pt. Loma.

The team is led by Captain Diego Gutierrez who has been a varsity team member for four years. Sophomores Julio Salazar and Gabriel Casta also return after a successful freshman year with the team.

This year's varsity team led by Coach Tim Golden, features several freshman that include Casey Bayless, Donaldo Gutierrez, Nico Salem, and Thomas Salem. The Junior Varsity team has also experienced some early season success with victories over Grossmont, Santana, and Pt. Loma.



Julio Salazar wearing white ('22) with Diego Gutierrez ('20) clad in black at practice.



Captain Diego Gutierrez ('20) taking a volley in practice.



Sophomore JV players Arturo Perez and Victor Cuen in practice.

Continued on page 10

Saints Tennis Much Improved

Continued from page 9



Julio Salazar hitting a backhand in practice.



Sophomore Ethan Huyhn another varsity captain in practice.



JV player Arturo Perez ('22).

Becoming a Saintsman

BE YOUR OWN MAN

KEEP A POSITIVE OUTLOOK ON LIFE

DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE

HESITATE TO CRITICIZE

HELP THOSE IN NEED

DEMONSTRATE IMPECCABLE INTEGRITY

CONTROL YOUR ANGER

BRING OUT THE BEST IN OTHER PEOPLE

USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE



26th Annual Saints Alumni Bocce Ball Tournament



When: 9 a.m., Saturday, September 12th

Where: Athletic Fields on St. Augustine High School Campus
3266 Nutmeg St., North Park

What: Fun-filled day of Spirited Bocce Ball Play.
Form your own Two-Person Team or We will Match
you with a Partner.

What Else: Mimosas, Coffee and Doughnuts at 9 a.m.
Lunch of Antipasto Salad and Pizza.
Unlimited beer, wine, soft drinks and bottled water.
Great Raffle Prizes!

Why: Tournament Proceeds benefit Scholarship Funds of
St. Augustine High School.

How Much: \$45 per person. Includes everything. Register by
Tuesday, Sept. 8th at [Http://alumni.sahs.org](http://alumni.sahs.org)
For those not wishing to play, \$30 for food and bev only.
For kids under 12, \$5 for food and soft drinks only.

For More Information contact:

Joseph "Danny" Toscano '68
(619) 246-6250
jtoscano@san.rr.com

Pete Reck '68
(858) 336-2512
p_reck@yahoo.com



AROUND CAMPUS



WHEN THINGS GET BETTER. The Alumni Office met up with film producer and Saints Alum Tony Bill '58 to talk about Saints in the 50's and his success in the film industry. Tony will join us Homecoming Week to screen his Academy Award Winning Film "The Sting."



TUNE IN WITH FR. MAX. Join Fr. Max Villeneuve, O.S.A. as our Saints Chaplain conducts weekly Wednesday Mass on Facebook.



MESSAGE TO FROSH. Getting a kick out of seeing the new Frosh posting is Senior Tyson McWilliams "...congratulations Class of 2024. Going to Saints and playing for @SASaintsFB and @stahoops was the best decision I have made in my life. Enjoy your time at St. Augustine High..." Tyson will attend the University of California, Berkeley next fall. Earlier this year, Tyson was voted KUSI's Top Pigskin Prep personality.



TOP MAN. Chibuzo Agbo ('20) is ready to attend Texas Tech University in the Fall. The Red Raiders based in Waco are lucky to add San Diego CIF's Regional Player of the Year for varsity basketball. Photo is by North Park resident John Gastaldo.

Intersession Travel

Continued from page 7



Posing beside San Gimignano's Medieval walls (and a 21st century trash bin) are this year's Intersession travel team to Italy. [Standing, left to right:] Zach Stall, Roman Beck, Akira Wolf, Donovan Gadler, Hudson Daily, Max Wright, Juan Enciso, Lance Frias, Joaquin Torre, Jacob Bartel. (kneeling) Max Cortese, Sam Stall.



Student works his way down the ladder cleaning the huge windows and glass doors.



It wasn't all work as Saintsman also visited many sites and museums in Italy as well. In Firenze (Florence) at the Galleria dell'Accademia, the team visited the masterpiece of Renaissance sculpture, the statue of David, created in marble between 1501 and 1504 by the Italian artist Michelangelo.



California visitors share a meal with church staff and resident Augustinians.



Visitors, mainly students queue outside Firenze's Via Ricasoli, where Galleria dell'Accademia is located. Underclassmen wishing to travel to Italy next Intersession should contact Campus Ministry sooner than later.



Saintsmen diligently clean books and bookshelves.

Everyone Needs a Mentor

Especially During Hard Times

A remembrance of a good man, who made those around him succeed.

By Edwin Hearn, President, St. Augustine High School



Edwin Hearn

that tested the very fabric of society. Like today, it seemed the world was imploding.

In 1967, it seemed as if the world was falling off a cliff. College students were protesting the War in Vietnam, and marching for Civil Rights. There were sit in's and the free speech movement. Some people were demanding change, while others were digging in their heels and wanted to keep the status quo. For some the mantra was "Drop out and Turn On," and for others it was "Love it or Leave it." These were trying times



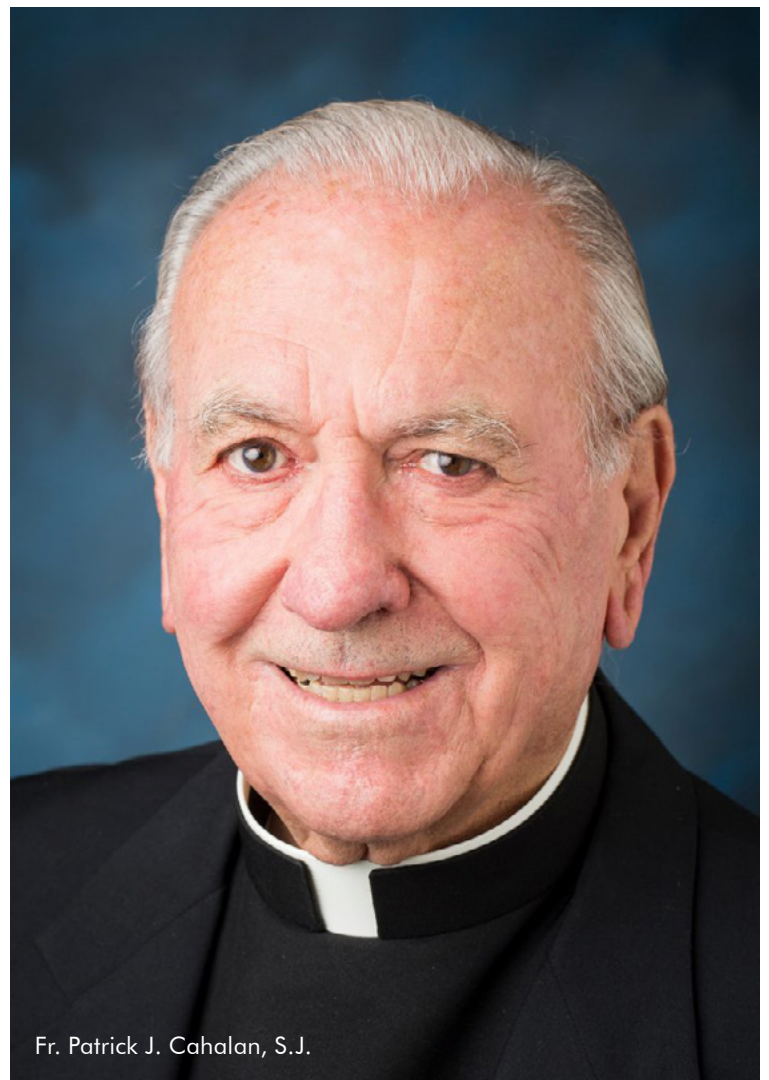
I graduated from high school that year in a small agricultural town an hour outside Los Angeles. My father, being an ex-Marine and a strong Protestant, decided I would go to Loyola University, in Los Angeles for college. It was a safe haven for his son as it was far away from the demonstrations that were occurring in the streets around major universities. It was an all-male college at the time, but at the beginning of my sophomore year it became coed and was renamed Loyola Marymount University.



From the moment I was moving into my dorm room, the friction that existed between generations reared up between my father and me. As my father and mother were finished helping me move in my dorm and getting ready to leave, a young man

moving into his room. He wore his hair a little past shoulder length with a thick fu manchu mustache. I can still remember the surprise on my dad's face, when he walked by them, he could not believe a student should be able to wear his hair like that. The Peace Movement was just beginning and would explode during my college years. He wanted to say something, but I asked him to calm down and let it pass. After an argument, my dad and mom left me at the school.

Like most college freshmen, life was especially uneasy for me. Not being a Catholic, unsophisticated, and living in a large city, made life uncertain and unfamiliar. Certainly, my eyes were wide open as I began navigating the culture of my new school. It took a while for me to adjust to seeing priests around campus and having priests as professors. To know only a small town and attend public school made my initial experience intimidating and required some personal adjustment. As it turned out, I found a job in food service my sophomore year and worked the dinner shift. One night, just before closing time, I was



Fr. Patrick J. Cahalan, S.J.

on my knees putting plates away with my back to the counter, when I heard, "Hey you!" As I turned around, I saw a large Jesuit Priest with a ruddy complexion looking at me. He told me his name was Fr. Patrick Cahalan and asked when my shift ended, and to come by his office after work. A few minutes later I was standing at his door, and noticed a plaque identifying him; Fr. Patrick J. Cahalan, S.J., Associate Dean of Student Life.

I remember standing in front of his desk wondering what was going on. He asked me my name and said he had observed I was a hard worker. He was looking for someone like me who could help him with a wing in a dorm that was out of control. It seemed that some baseball players had behaved so poorly and rudely that they had chased the Resident Advisor away. As I stood there, I had remembered hearing these guys were notorious for not following the rules. I blurted out I cannot be a Resident Advisor for those guys. I am a sophomore, they are juniors and seniors and they will not follow the rules. As I was to find out later — there was no talking Father Cahalan out of his position. He told me he would help me, I said yes and my relationship with him began not knowing he would become my life-long mentor.

When I reflect back on my college years, much of life out on the street was chaotic and was spilling onto campus. It was the Resident Advisors that tried to hold things together and keep a semblance of normalcy at school when society was tilting towards anarchy.

Continued on page 15

Everyone Needs a Mentor

Continued from page 14

Interestingly, my dad and mom had not gone to college and could not help me with academic questions that arose during my college days. Knowing Father Cahalan always had my best interests at heart, helped me ask him for help when I needed it. For instance, when my dad was facing a financial hardship, I asked whether he could help me find a job so I could pay my tuition. Within days, he instructed me to meet with a manager at a factory close by for a job. I became a maintenance-man, cleaning cubicles where pharmaceuticals were manufactured.

Fr. Cahalan became President of Loyola High School the next year, but I was on my way financially. Before he left for his new position, he introduced me to a few Jesuits. With the strong relationships I formed with my Jesuit teachers, I was drawn to the Catholic faith and became a convert my junior year. When I graduated, even though I thought I was going to attend graduate school, Fr. Cahalan phoned to offer me a teaching position that I accepted. Thus, began my 19-year experience at Loyola High School and my 48 year journey as a Catholic educator.

While it is a long story, Fr. Cahalan mentored me through my life as husband, father, teacher, administrator and friend. Most of the time I had no knowledge he was teaching me the lessons of leadership and how to accomplish the great tasks facing Catholic educators. While we were in the same building for nineteen years, he always brought me into his world of how to move Loyola forward. After hours, he would spend time with me talking about his day, my day, problems he was experiencing, most of the time I had no idea he was preparing me for the day I would be carrying on his work; the work of Catholic schools.

Father Cahalan moved on to live eternally with God a few weeks ago. He was 86 years old and his heart just gave out. With his death, my phone, email and text messaging took on new proportions. Former students, teachers and parents from years ago reached out to make sure I was alright. While I am fine, Fr. Cahalan's impact on me and so many others have made me reflective about our duties to prepare others to carry on after us. His life was a life well-lived, and his impact on others was profound. Even people he never knew have and will benefit from his work.

Although today's world seems a lot like the world of the late 1960's, it is people like Fr. Cahalan that form communities that become the glue that holds society together and gives hope to others. His 27 years at Loyola High School and his later years as Chancellor at Loyola Marymount University should be inspiring to priests and lay people alike that great work can be accomplished when we gather together with the common purpose to build the Kingdom of God.

Each of us needs a mentor; a Fr. Cahalan who had a vision for a school he loved. He saw in me what I did see in myself. He pushed me, prodded me and was a tough task-master. He defined "old school" and while some people did not understand him, he was understood and loved by me and many others.

In a way, he made sure when he passed to God, there were people who had been trained to pass it on.

God Rest your soul Pat! You truly made a difference and this continues today and well beyond.

Letter to the Editor

Thank You Saints!

There has been a lot of praise for the faculty and staff at Saints and their response to support students and families.

"I want to say Thank you!!! THANK YOU to the teachers who are being creative and engaging, THANK YOU to Father Max for holding mass on Wednesday, THANK YOU to the people handling

the social media, THANK YOU to the counseling office for still helping our seniors stay on top of the college process. THANK YOU SAINTS."

– Mother of a Senior Saintman



SAINTS SCENE

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

*Awards: Saint Scene has been voted by the San Diego Press Club as the Best Community Newsletter by an Organization, 2011. Second Place in 2006 and Third Place 2012.

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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.