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2017-2018 Hilltopics Staff

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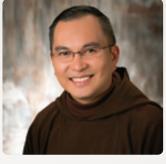
THREE OCCASIONS, THREE VALUES.

During the month of January, the Catholic Church and U.S. society mark three important occasions: National Migration Week, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and National Catholic Schools Week. Firstly, **National Migration Week** falls in the second week of January. This event, which started almost fifty years ago, is promoted by the U.S. bishops as an occasion for the faithful to "reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, refugees, children, and victims and survivors of human trafficking" (USCCB) and to stand with them, to welcome, protect and integrate them into our midst.

Secondly, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day falls on the third Monday of January. Regarded as a federal holiday here in the U.S., this is a day on which we celebrate the legacy of the eponymous civil rights leader and Nobel Laureate, who sought equality and through peaceful protest advocated the human rights of African Americans, the economically disadvantaged and all victims of social injustice. In his famous speech at the March on Washington in 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said these powerful words:

"I have a dream that one day... the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood... that little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character... (that) little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today." By: Fr. Zoy Garibay

Thirdly, NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK falls in the fourth week of January. This event originated 44 years ago and is celebrated annually to highlight the contributions of Catholic education in the fabric of the Church and society in the United States. It focuses on the value of Catholic education and



the crucial role it plays in the formation of the youth, the building-up of the Church and the shaping of society in the future.

As I reflect on these occasions, I am reminded of three of the values in our Mission and Values statement: Safe Community, Diversity, and Knowledge. We define safe community as "providing physical and emotional freedom that assists learning, growing and exploring"; diversity as "building fraternity and community by respecting and celebrating uniqueness"; and knowledge as "pursuing academic, moral and spiritual depth." These values are consistent with the Gospel message and the teachings of the Church. They are also correspondent with this month's celebrations.

Here at St. Lawrence, we strive to live by those values. We learn them. We model them. We hold each other up to those standards. As we progress through the remainder of this academic year, I invite us to reflect further on the significance of those three occasions. I also invite us to cultivate more deeply the values of safe community, diversity and knowledge, applying them assiduously in our daily lives. In so doing, not only will the goals and dreams of these celebrations be accomplished, we will also contribute to the creation of a more welcoming and caring society, and, therefore, a more just and peaceful world.

Walking With A Purpose By: Joseph Hable

very year, in Washington, D.C., tens of thousands of people gather for the March for Life, a time where pro-life and anti-abortion activists from around the country gather to protest the ruling by the Supreme Court in the case of Roe v. Wade, which legalized most abortions in the United States. This year, four SLS students traveled to Washington to participate in the march: seniors Isaiah King, Isaac Davison and Joseph Hable, and sophomore Sean D'Souza.

The march started out with Catholic Masses and Protestant services throughout the Capitol. Then, everyone assembled on the National Mall to hear representatives in the government speak. Senior Isaac Davison said this was his favorite part of the event, "Knowing that there are people in the government who actually care about abortion, who support the pro-life movement, who are willing to work to protect unborn lives, really makes me feel this movement is gaining ground." President Donald Trump delivered a speech live from the White House, something that no president had done before. After the speeches, the march began: a two-mile trek from the meeting ground to the pinnacle of Capitol Hill. Overall, the atmosphere of the march—including the spirit of the people who attended and the government support for the movement-made the experience something special and showed that the movement to protect life is strong and growing. T



March for Life in Washington, D.C.



(From right) Joseph Hable, Isaac Davison, Isaiah King and Sean D'Souza pose during the march.

St. Lawrence Seminary Opens Its Doors



Holyland Catholic School tours the Hill.



Sheperd of the Hills and St. Matthew's students eat with SLS seniors.

t. Lawrence Seminary has a long history of opening its doors to visitors and making them feel at home. Twice recently, SLS was able to do just that. On Wednesday, January 24th, students and parents from the Holyland Catholic School came up for a Wednesday night Mass and toured the Hill afterward. Needless to say, students and parents alike felt very welcomed to the Hill and were impressed with the new facilities. Participation in the Mass by SLS's students was one thing that stood out to many of the parents from the Holyland school.

Then, again, on Thursday, February 1st, over 200 students from St. Matthew School, located in Campbellsport, and Shepherd of the Hills Catholic School, located in Eden, came for a visit to celebrate Catholic Schools' Week. The beauty of the chapel and other buildings again awed students from these schools as they joined SLS for Mass and lunch. Members of the senior class escorted them on tours after lunch. The young visitors exclaimed how cool the new buildings were and how much they enjoyed lunch. After a day in which they seemed thoroughly to enjoy their visit, many young students left the Hill hoping it would not be the last time they visited. T

"After a day in which they seemed thoroughly to enjoy their visit, many young students left the Hill hoping it would not be the last time they visited."

Reast of the Very First Monning By: Wilson Burge

O many things make Saint Lawrence Seminary special and Unique in comparison to other high schools in the state and country. One of these differences is the community and its vast diversity. Because Saint Lawrence takes great pride in its diverse student population, it hosts multiple cultural celebrations throughout the year. While Saint Lawrence has students representing many countries and ethnicities, the Vietnamese are strongly represented at SLS. To commemorate and celebrate the culture of our Vietnamese students, St. Lawrence hosts a *Têt Nguyên Đán* celebration or "Feast of the First Morning of the First Day." In others words, this celebration marks the Vietnamese New Year, which is based on the lunar calendar.

Like many celebrations marking the transition from Dec. 31st to Jan. 1st, there are also often parties, dancing, music and feasting to ring in the Lunar New Year. Saint Lawrence's celebration consists of three main events. The first is an evening meal hosted by the Vietnamese students and some of their parents who join the students on campus. During this meal, they create and share their traditional Vietnamese cuisine. Some of the meal items often include $ph\hat{o}$, a noodle soup with beef or shrimp; che, a milk-based drink with fruit

pieces; and egg rolls. Later on, a dragon dance is performed in the chapel by Vietnamese students. When asked about what it is like to participate in the dragon dance, senior Teddy Le responded, "I enjoy sharing my culture with the students of SLS and

having fun with my Vietnamese brothers." Capuchin Friar and school librarian Fr. Oliver Bambenek said, "I most enjoy the dragon dance because it serves as a symbol of good over evil." Finally, a light show of firecrackers occurs outside, which seems to be a school favorite based on the students' cheering.

Events like this are great reminders of what SLS is all about and what its students have to offer. It gives everyone an opportunity to learn through experiencing different cultural traditions of their SLS brothers and people around the world. All in all, this event is exciting and enjoyable for every student and an event that many students, staff, and parents alike look forward to each New Year.



Chúc Mừng Năm Mới! (Happy New Year!)











Perfecting our Performance



Senior Teddy Le practices prose.



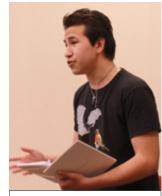
Mr. Martin Vu advises the SLS forensics team.

hether a student has a fear of public speaking or simply loves talking to people, forensics can be a beneficial program. For many years, forensics has been a prominent program at SLS that enables the students to compete in different categories of public speaking that span from prose, group interpretation, poetry, special occasion, even play acting and more. Each of these categories can help students develop communication skills and allow them to create personas of their own. It is a very competitive environment, but through the help of peers and coaches, many do their best in each of their performances.

This year SLS has welcomed Mr. Martin Vu, a graduate of the Class of 2017, as the new head coach of the forensics program. Mr. Vu had been part of the forensics program during his time at SLS and earned numerous first place titles in multiple categories and even earned the title of State Champion twice in group interpretation. Mr. Vu explained that his central goal was not only developing communication skills in students, but also building up confidence in the students themselves. One thing he wanted everyone to remember when thinking about performing or competing was "It's only failure if you don't learn from your mistakes."

By: Adrian Gonzalez





Freshman Emmanuel Pizaña practices for poetry.

The Road to Citizenship

Pefore I went to the oath ceremony, I kept on reassuring my husband that I wasn't going to get emotional, but I found myself shedding tears. After pledging the flag, I was so relieved and thankful; it was truly a blessing." This past

Mrs. Saavedra takes the oath.

year, Mrs. Claudia Saavedra, Office Manager for SLS's Development Office, acquired her U.S. citizenship. Few know of or understand this often tedious process. However, through the eyes of Mrs. Claudia Saavedra, Hilltopics was able to take a closer look of the long road to U.S.

Mrs. Saavedra was born and raised in La Paz, Bolivia. At the age of six, her family

citizenship.

moved to California but moved back to Bolivia where she completed her high school and college education. After college, Mrs. Saavedra got a job with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in Washington, D.C. where she realized that the U.S. was where she felt at home. While working in Washington, D.C., Mrs. Saavedra said, "Even though I missed my family a lot, I felt so comfortable within the American culture."

By: Eric Howard

Mrs. Saavedra began the journey for U.S. citizenship when she was working for the WWF. This process, which took her roughly 10 years to complete, was accomplished in 3 steps. The first step is to find a job that sponsors you, then you

working visa. After you receive a working visa and work in the country for a number of years, the next step is to apply for permanent residency This permanent residency document is informally known as the green card. Finally, the last measure in attaining U.S. citizenship is the application and approval process. While these stages might seem fairly simple, the process is anything but quick.

can apply for a



Mrs. Saavedra with her husband and the judge.

However, the gratification that Mrs. Saavedra felt when she had finished this arduous journey was all worthwhile. When pondering her road to U.S. citizenship, Mrs. Saavedra said, "This was a choice that I made, and it has made all the difference." T

Week of Faith

By: Alejandro Reyes

F irst introduced by the National Catholic Educational Association in 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is a nationwide celebration of Catholic education during the last week of January. Schools typically observe the week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to the Church, local communities and the nation.

At St. Lawrence, the week, from Jan. 28th-Feb. 3rd, was observed with a variety of events. An all-school Mass was held followed by a banquet for both students and staff. The banquet is dedicated to the staff who make St. Lawrence's Catholic education possible and was also held to celebrate select members of the staff, commemorating their accomplishments, contributions and years of service to the community. This year there were three honorees. Br. Neal Plale commemorated 40 years of service to SLS, Mr. Charles Lefeber for 35 years of service, and Mr. Ron Schaefer for 7 years of service and the celebration of his retirement.

For students, Catholic Schools Week also brought to mind the annual Winter Carnival. Held on an often-brisk Saturday in January, the carnival was a day filled with activities and competition between fraternities. The carnival, which celebrated its $45^{\rm th}$ anniversary, once began as a way for students to be active in a seemingly low and gloomy season. The school tradition has evolved into so much more, now including a theme, different fraternity competitions inside and out, and a staff vs. students basketball game, but the fun attributed to the day has remained.

Catholic Schools Week has always stood out for the community of SLS to proclaim their devotion to faith and what the promise of a Catholic-oriented environment calls for. Students and staff alike are brought into the light of their commitments and service as people of faith.











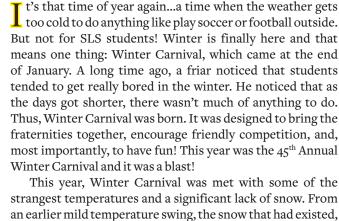




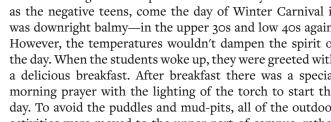
Br. Neal Plale - 40 years of Service
Mr. Charles Lefeber - 35 years of Service
Mr. Ron Schaefer - 7 years of Service + Retirement

Battle in the Cold?













melted. Though the temperatures in January sank as low as the negative teens, come the day of Winter Carnival it was downright balmy-in the upper 30s and low 40s again. However, the temperatures wouldn't dampen the spirit of the day. When the students woke up, they were greeted with a delicious breakfast. After breakfast there was a special morning prayer with the lighting of the torch to start the day. To avoid the puddles and mud-pits, all of the outdoor activities were moved to the upper part of campus, rather than taking place on the soccer field. Some of the activities that made up the morning were soccer, football, bean bag toss and a tin can/softball toss. Instead of the traditional broomball occurring, students also gathered to play dodgeball. The students in fraternities also participated in short relay races. Mr. Chad Dowland, the Activities Director, kindly kept the Gatorade coolers filled with water and, more importantly, hot chocolate. After the events in the morning, students had lunch and that is when the participants were chosen for that evening's staff vs. students basketball game. Some of the events that took place in the afternoon competition included ping pong, bowling, and, of course the most anticipated, 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Afterwards, the students had a scavenger hunt across the entire campus! The staff vs. students basketball game finished off the evening. The students loved the exciting play, and of course the staff won in the end!



Sophomore Josh Prado said, "I had a really fun time hanging out with my frat mates, and I got to bond with them outside of the dinner table." In the end, Fraternity 3 won the event, but all of the students were winners in that they got to spend time with one another in friendly competition. T

"I had a really fun time hanging out with my frat mates, and I got to bond with them outside of the dinner table." - Joshua Prado (Sophomore)

Bringing the Heat to the Winter Season

By: Yann Memiaghe

uring the winter season, one way to interact with and support one's classmates is through sports. The gym is consistently filled with adrenaline and energy as the Hilltoppers compete against other schools in both basketball and wrestling. At times, certain sport events can become the only thing that exists to the students and staff, as they are completely engaged in every movement on the floor. An example was already experienced this season when senior, varsity basketball player, Davee Vang hit a heart-stopping, three-pointer at the buzzer to win the game against Stockbridge. The crowd swarmed the court in elation in a moment that proved what winter sports at SLS are all about.

As for the wrestling team, both varsity and junior varsity members were grinding for victories. Varsity wrestling captain senior Kelly Paulsen said, "I feel good about this season. I think we have the potential of doing a lot better than the previous

vears." When asked how he envisioned his place on the team, Kelly said, "I think of myself as a leader but

> also a learner at the same time. I'm always learning new things, as I try to improve every day I hit the mat." All the players and coaches believe in each other and are in the mindset of winning. All participants in this winter's sports season

have high expectations and appreciate the school's avid support.



Scoreboard

JV Basketball

1/9: SLS 40 - Mishicot 49

1/13: SLS 50 - RANDOM LAKE 38

1/16: SLS 26- LIVING WORD 62

1/20: SLS 50 - WAYLAND 58

1/25: SLS 37- ELKHART LAKE 39

1/29: SLS 35 - RANDOM LAKE 59

2/3: SLS 39 - GIBRALTAR 46

Varsity Basketball

1/9: SLS 46 - MISHICOT 53

1/12: SLS 63 - EASTBROOK 46

1/16: SLS 39 - LIVING WORD 75

1/18: SLS 62 - MKE ARTS 75

1/20: SLS 41 - Wayland 52

1/25: SLS 59 - ELKHART LAKE 43

1/29: SLS 48 - RANDOM LAKE 56

2/3: SLS 36 - GIBRALTAR 68

Wrestling

1/16 SLS 21 - Horicon 47

1/18 SLS 32 - LACONIA 54

1/19 SLS 12 - OAKFIELD 43

1/25 SLS 9 - NFDL 65

Conference Tournament:

KELLY PAULSEN- 1st

Daniel Trinh- 2nd

KALVIN YANG- 3rd

Regional Tournament:

KELLY PAULSEN- 1st

DANIEL TRINH- 2nd

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Just Like the Old Days

By: Dominic Soto

n Saturday, February 3rd, many alumni came back to the Hill to participate in the annual 3-on-3 Alumni Basketball Tournament, where three members of one class faced off against three members of another class. The participants included members of the Classes of 2001, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2016, and even the Classes of 1976 and 1987. Beginning four years ago, the purpose of the event was to create a fun and friendly competition to bring the alumni together on the Hill again. With the Class of 2008 dominating the competition last year, they were set to face off once again. The final round was played between the Class of 2008 and the Class of 2009, but in the end, the Class of 2008 won and was presented the trophy. After the tournament, the alumni and their families gathered in the canteen for pizza and refreshments. This was a time to reminisce and catch up, which was the underlying value of the day.





A Fight to the End

By: Nick Rodriguez

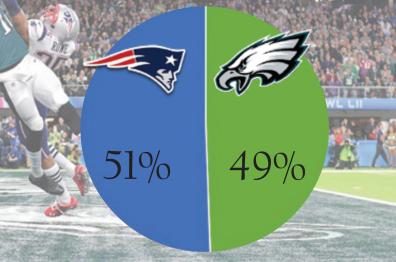
Sunday, February 4th, brought many together to watch the most renowned American football game—the Super Bowl. The Super Bowl is the final game of the National Football League season, when the two best teams from each conference (the AFC and the NFC) face each other for the championship and the famous Lombardi Trophy.

The Philadelphia Eagles and the New England Patriots were set to face off in the Super Bowl, which this year was held at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis. Prior to the game, *Hilltopics* conducted a poll of all 176 students on who they thought was going to win; the Patriots edged the Eagles by 2%. Many SLS students crowded around the T.V. to watch the Super Bowl in their dorms, while others watched on the giant projector in the auditorium. Loc Hoang, a sophomore who lives in Vietnam, said, "I was excited to see my very first Super Bowl, and it was interesting to watch."

This year's Super Bowl turned out to be just as intriguing as last year's. From the beginning all the way up to the end, neither team gave in. After a critical fourth down conversion by the Philadelphia Eagles in the fourth quarter, the Eagles drove down the field to score a touchdown to make the score 38-33 with just over 2 minutes left in the game. Then, Tom

Brady, known for his clutch comebacks in the Super Bowl, took the field. However, on that drive Tom Brady was sacked and fumbled the ball, which gave the Eagles their first Super Bowl championship in franchise history.

Who do you think will win?



A DAY OF FEAST BEFORE THE SEASON OF FAST

By: Peter Hall and Eric Howard

on Tuesday, February 13th, roughly three-and-a-half times the population of New Orleans flocked to the city. New Orleans itself spent over three million dollars on this one day. Every year, Mardi Gras is celebrated in many different ways around the world, and the city of New Orleans hosts the largest domestic party. Mardi Gras in the United States traces its roots all the way back to March of 1699, when two French explorers landed in what is now Louisiana. The men named the area "Pointe du Mardi Gras" and celebrated the occasion.

In Louisiana, however, celebrations are taken to the next level since the state celebrates the day as a legal holiday. The parades seen in New Orleans during this time are some of the most festive and largest in the world. During these parades, people dress in vivid colors to sing and dance exuberantly. "The atmosphere is hard to describe," said Louisianan Joshua Tran. "It's definitely a great experience." Over time, the holiday of Mardi Gras, also known as Carnival, has morphed into a Christian holiday celebrated on the day before Ash Wednesday by people all over the world. Some mark it as a day of celebrating excessively before embracing the solemnness and fasting of Lent that begins on Ash Wednesday. While students were enjoying their few days before the Lenten season, *Hilltopics* interviewed a group of students to see what they were going to give up or strive for during Lent.

What are you doing this Lent?

Lalo Martinez: I am going to start working out by going to the weight room every day.

Jae Suk Lee: I am going to try my best to give up eating candy, soda, and other junk food.

Angel Pagan: I am going to try my hardest to limit time on my phone and from playing video games.

Carlos Núñez: I will make a student or a faculty member smile or brighten their day.



In some countries, people celebrate Mardi Gras by eating pancakes and participating in pancake- themed activities.

The **year** when the first Mardi Gras celebration took place in New Orleans.



It is illegal to ride on a Mardi Gras parade float in New Orleans without wearing a mask.



King's cake (or three kings cake), is eaten throughout the world during carnival season. In the U.S., it is traditionally purple, green, and gold, with a trinket baby Jesus inside.

Whoever gets the baby Jesus is said to have good luck all year!



Mardi Gras parades feature **floats**, marching bands and a king and queen who lead the parade.



Coming Together through Interests

By: Nicholas Rodriguez

LScurrently offers many clubs for students to spend their time on the weekend. The clubs provide opportunities to share interests while having fun. The different clubs help students overcome homesickness and boredom. The clubs SLS currently offers include weight lifting club, anime club, international club, cooking club and movie club to name a few. More clubs are usually formed as the year goes on and students with similar interests form groups.

The clubs do something different to help students enjoy and pass time on weekends. Seniors Bryant Nguyen and Joe Ramirez teach and lead the weight lifting club, demonstrating how to properly lift and form a workout routine. The movie club, led by senior Mathew Mortell, plans the movies that are played for students in lower Saint Anthony Hall. Junior Mathew Tran, and seniors Ben Quiroz and Adrian Gonzalez organize an anime club to share their appreciation of anime. The international club gathers every other Friday to learn about different countries, especially lesser-known ones. Their leader, Mr. Krieg, said, "Both the choosing and the presentation of the countries are by our students." All the clubs at SLS provide an environment where students' interests converge to form another side of the community. T







International Club







Student Spotlight

AIDAN <u>Loop - 9th</u>

Hobbies: Drawing, Playing cards, Board games
Special traits: Red-haired, Short, Fashionable
Talents: Foosball, Quick-learner, Being organized
Favorite foods: Chicken Tikka Masala, Eggs Benedict, Pizza
What brought you to SLS: Joshua Prado told me about SLS
Motivational Quote: "When you're at your lowest,
the only way is to go up." the only way is to go up'

ENEO TECH - 10TH

Hobbies: Movies, Reading comic books, Shopping for shoes Special traits: Tall, Jolly, Determined Talents: Social skills, Eating lots of food, Cooking Favorite foods: Pizza, Nachos, Hotdogs What brought you to SLS: Mr. Hoffmann recruited me Motivational Quote: "Don't stop going"

ARMANDO PARRA-11TH

Hobbies: Collecting cards, Soccer, Basketball
Special traits: Silent, Friendly, Agreeable
Talents: Reading people, Social skills, Likeable
Favorite foods: Tamales, Flautas, Barbeque
What brought you to SLS: My previous school's community
Motivational Quote: "I am stronger than the seven deadly sins"

GERARD FERNANDES- 12TH

Hobbies: Basketball, Chess, Being outdoors
Special traits: Cracking jokes, Runs fast, Friendly
Talents: Soccer, Guitar, Table tennis
Favorite foods: Puri Bhaiji, Phily steak, Pizzas
What brought you to SLS: A friend who attended SLS
Motivation you always tell yourself: "Put your heart,
mind and soul in everything and be yourself"







