ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH OFFICE 3100 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-9812
Pastor: Fr. Drew Wood
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jaison Thomas, MSFS jaisonthomas@stlaurence.org
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Simon Kipiti skipiti@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Renato (Rey) Arellano deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe deaconal@ssjd.org
Deacon: Don Burns don@donburns.com
Deacon: Charles Plant stlaurencedeacon@aol.com
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari toltremari@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe deaconal@ssjd.org
Social Concerns: Pennie DeGroot pdegroot@stlaurence.org
Communications: Sharon Ehrenkranz sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2630 Austin Pkwy, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-0500
Principal: Debra Haney dhaney@stlaurence.org
Registrar: Marie Brown mbrown@stlaurence.org
WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM 3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-313-0329
Director: Becky Wilkinson bwilkinson@stlaurence.org
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari toltremari@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe deaconal@ssjd.org
Social Concerns: Pennie DeGroot pdegroot@stlaurence.org
Communications: Sharon Ehrenkranz sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org

PARISH LEADERSHIP COUNCILS 281-980-9812
Pastoral Council: Tom Ruck rucktg@gmail.com
Finance Council: Bob Ladd robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
Discipleship Council: Marc Sherman MarcSherman@iheartmedia.com

PARISH OFFICE & COURTYARD
The parish office provides services including pastoral care, liturgical planning, business, communications, & administrative support, and social concerns & social justice support. The parish hall and meeting rooms are available through reservation by calling Lise at 281-980-9812. Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-9:00pm; Friday 8:00am-6:00pm; and Saturday 8:30am-12:00noon.

AVE MARIA PARISH LIFE CENTER
The Ave Maria Parish Life Center is located across the street from the church and is the site for all religious education classes, programs and offices. Inquirers and drop-ins are welcome during office hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:00am-9:00pm and Friday 8:00am-4:00pm. The Weekday Children’s Program is offered for infants through preschool aged children. During the school year, WCP hours Monday-Friday are 8:00am-3:00pm.

His Mercy Endures Forever
2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND

December 28 Collection $ 59,603
Registered Households 7,201
Envelopes Used 868
Loose Checks 228
2nd Collect: Social Concerns $ 15,975

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 175,323
Participants 874

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 123,466
Amount Pledged $ 195,591
Participants 499

281-313-2833

Our Mission
We the people of St. Laurence Catholic Church are centered in the love of Christ and live to glorify God in all we do.

First Friday Mass
April 1 – In the Chapel
7:00 pm - Rosary & Confessions
7:30 pm - Mass

First Saturday Mass
April 2 – In the Church
7:45 am - Meditation & Rosary
8:30 am - Mass

Misa en Español
Marzo 12 - En la Capilla
7:00pm. Confesiones en Español antes de la misa de 6:00 a 6:45 pm.
Comunión a los enfermos, Irma Martinez
Tel 281-313-2833

Parish School & Chapel
St. Laurence Catholic School provides strong academics in a Christian environment to 720 students enrolled in PreK4 through Grade 8. Office Hours: Monday-Friday are 8:00am-4:00pm.
Adjacent to the school is the Chapel of the Divine Mercy which offers Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and serves as the site for smaller liturgies.
Who are Women Religious? They serve God through a diversity of ministries. Some live cloistered lives in contemplative prayer, while others work on the frontlines of global change, striving to improve various aspects of society, from environmental change to healthcare reform to human rights issues. All find ways to make the world a better place.

Here at St. Laurence, Principal Debra Haney is grateful for the presence of the Vietnamese Dominican Sisters of Mary Immaculate Province at our parish school. She says, “The sisters’ knowledge of our faith and love of the children they teach is a shining example of Christ in our midst. We are truly blessed to work with them each day and to have our children impacted by their vocation.”

Getting to know Sr. Mary Margaret Pham and Sr. Martina Vu...

Sr. Mary Margaret Pham

I once came across a quote: “If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans.” Like other teenagers, I had already made up my mind on what my life was going to be like, and that did not include becoming a religious sister. Being the fifth of six children and just finishing my freshman year in college, I felt the pressure to assure myself that I didn’t have the vocation to the religious life. I went to a ‘Come and See’ program where I spent 3 weeks discerning, but for the most part, I had already made up my mind. God has his own ways of telling me that He has greater plans in store for me. One day during prayer, a strong feeling of God’s love pervaded my soul through the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with a pierced hand reaching out to invite me to come, follow Him. Though I knew this was His invitation for me, I still denied it. After the initial response of saying “no” to God, I felt an intense feeling of emptiness and sadness in my soul, which could only be expressed with tears. These tears, however, also expressed my inner struggle to let God’s voice be heard within me. Like Mary who pondered at the words of the archangel Gabriel, I also pondered, “How can this be?” Eventually, I surrendered my will to God’s infinite goodness and love. I began to be in awe with the Dominican charism and decided to let God be my All in all. Therefore, each day is a response to God’s tremendous love in which I submit myself completely to his Providence.

I am now in my 9th year as a professed sister and am currently teaching 7th and 8th grade Religion at St. Laurence Catholic School. I enjoy learning and teaching for I know that “to fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek him the greatest adventure; to find him, the greatest human achievement” (St. Augustine).

Sister Martina Vu, O.P.

It was cold, dark, and the storm made our boat feel like a wooden toy floating in an angry sea of large swells. The school of squid illuminated what was to be the most frightening experience of my life. Our boat captain had fallen and drowned. That was 1982. I was barely thirteen. I was just happy to escape with my three younger siblings. Anything was better than prison, which I knew all too well in the previous three years since my parents began our family’s escape plans. We drifted in the sea for three days, hunger and dehydration took a toll on all of us. We prayed for rescue. We prayed for drinking water. Our prayers were answered when a light rain, provided us temporary relief. Little did we know, a storm soon followed and our boat was in jeopardy. We prayed again and again. I can only remember the roller coaster of my feelings toward God and his plans. Our rescue came on the third day, when we were picked up by a cargo vessel and transferred us to a refugee camp in Indonesia. After seven months in the refugee camp, my siblings and I were placed with a foster family in Charlotte, North Carolina, until we were reunited with our parents a few years later. It was through this whole experience that I solidified my commitment to the religious vocation.
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS March 6, 2016
ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH  4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

PRAY FOR INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON


PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Pray for Servicemen and Women

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrocik, US Army
 Pvt Michael Baird, US Army
 SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
 P.O. S Debra Barnette, US Navy
 LCpl Trevor Bello, USMC
 PFC John Blair, US Army
 Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
 Staff Sgt. Jason Chacon, USMC
 Lt Matthew Chesney, US Navy
 Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
 Capt. Patrick Coffman, USMC
 LTG Colin Day, US Navy
 1stLt Andrew Desplinter, Army
 Sgt. Nicholas Dockum, US Army
 Capt. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
 Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
 2ndLt Michael Eberhardt, US Army
 Capt. Stacey Eberhardt, US Army
 Derek Farias, US Navy
 Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
 Pvt. Jahnell Xavier George, US Army
 Sgtgt. Philip Graham, US Army
 1stLT Spencer Henry, US Army
 Daniel Hines, US Navy
 SSG Matthew Hollobaugh, US Army Reserve
 2LT Michelle Horstman, US Army
 SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
 Joseph Kingerski, US Navy
 EM4 James Locus, US Navy
 PFC Philip Loera, US Army
 PFC John Lundgren, US Army
 PFC William Marcellus, USMC
 Cpl Kevin McGinnis, USMC
 Capt. Brennan McPartland, USMC
 1stLt Todd Miller, US Army
 Capt. Alexander Morningstar, US Army
 CB, Richard Pinard, US Navy
 LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
 Sgt. Santiago Ramirez, US Army
 2ndLt Taylor Rammrath, US Army
 Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
 SRA Jonathan Slusser, US Air Force
 ENS Kevin Stransky, US Navy
 LCpl Daniel Thesing, USMC
 Capt. Michael Thesing, USMC
 Sgt. Bryce Whiteley, US Army

Pray for the Sick
 Please pray for these members of our parish family and all our loved ones listed in the Book of the Sick:

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Baptisms
Trinity Nguyen, Eden Nwajer, Emily Lovely, Lyla Gasiorowski, Erin Chiang, Noah Thai, Madison Lau, Devin Leder

Married
Stephanie Reed & Andrew Haley
Cecilia Navarro & Nicholas Ferrer
Marie Nicolai & Mike Jones

Funerals
Margaret Pawlowski, mother of Michael Pawlowski
Alesbia Preuss, daughter of Randy & Gail Parker

Mass Intentions
March 5 – 13
Saturday, Mar 5
5:00 pm  Odilia Champion (D)
Sunday, Mar 6
7:30 am  Salvador Rosario (D)
9:00 am  Jeanette Arellano (I)
11:00 am  Emelda Ugwuomu-Eze (I)
12:45 pm  Ivet Abdouche (D)
5:00 pm  St. Laurence Parishioners

Monday, Mar 7
7:30 am  Ira Eugene Burgan (D)
12:00 pm  Kurian Kurian (D)

Tuesday, Mar 8
7:30 am  Mary Rose Hengst (D)
12:00 pm  William Derr. (D)

Wednesday, Mar 9
7:30 am  Patrick J. Conroy (D)
6:30 pm  Orlando Quirk (D)

Thursday, Mar 10
7:30 am  Maria Balgos Ablang (D)
12:00 pm  Johnny Curiale. (D)

Friday, Mar 11
8:15 am  Edward Joseph (D)
12:00 am  Aura Espinosa (I)

Saturday, Mar 12
8:30 am  Shirley Norra (D)
5:00 pm  Patsy D’Souza (D)

Sunday, Mar 13
7:30 am  Dina DiMatteo (D)
9:00 am  Frank Boneno (D)
11:00 am  Robin Wolfley (D)
12:45 pm  Souriamma Galla (D)
5:00 pm  St. Laurence Parishioners

Pray for Our Parishioners

Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for...

Debbie Green & family, James Wehagen & family, Jesus Martinez & family, Robert Lee Martinez, Lecha Baron, Eva Molina, Teresa Ruiz, Miko Kraeer Cerrone, Jocinto, Rita & Louie Gonzalez, Raquel Gonzalez, Melinda Kraeer, Blanca family, Irma Lucio, Tatiana Sobeys, Carlos Espendez, Edward Lopez, Eva Metcalf, Kristal G, Deacon Al Bothe, the Society of St John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3.

Kingdom Care
Sunday Morning Masses: 9:00 & 11:00
Childcare is provided through Kingdom Care, a loving, Christian, and safe environment for young children while their parents attend Mass and other parish programs. Register in advance at the parish office with Christy Delamora, at 281-980-9812.

Pastoral Care to Sick & Homebound
If you or someone you know in our parish is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office at 281-980-9812. To volunteer, call Ambrose Graham at 713-865-3729.

WEDDING PREPARATION
Next classes: APRIL 4
The standard preparation time for weddings is 9-12 months in advance of the desired date. All engaged couples must attend an information session, usually offered every other month. Register with Theresa Rawls at 281-980-9812.

BAPTISM PREPARATION
Next classes: MAR 12 and APR 2
The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sundays each month. To schedule a baptism call Rose Davis at 281-980-9812. The parent prep class is offered monthly.

Pray for Our Parishioners in Religious Formation
Marc Fryer, Br. Peter Francis (Brian Kelsch), Chad Henry, Bryan Williams, Sr. Philomena (Krystle Cagandahan), Sr. Rachel (Gosda), Sr. Daniela (Megan Bennett) Margearet Uche, Dennis Henderson
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Today, our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports Catholic agencies that touch more than 85 million people in 101 countries on five continents. The funds from this Collection provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and show Christ’s love and respect to all people. Please give generously to the CRS collection and help Jesus in disguise.

JUST TWO FISH FRY’S LEFT THIS YEAR!

If you haven’t been to one of the great Lenten Fish Frys put on by our Knights of Columbus, come this Friday for some of the best fried fish and fish tacos around! Entrance at the door is just $10 for adults and $5 for kids. And true to tradition, the KCs will offer a CRAWFISH BOIL on March 18, the night of the last Fish Fry of the season. The estimated charge is $15 for 3 pounds of crawfish, plus all the fixings (check with us on Friday on the final cost). The Knights of Columbus wish to thank everyone for their tremendous support of the Fish Frys and all their fundraisers throughout the year to support their many charities, including Catholic tuition assistance funds, scholarships, seminarians, and Impact a Hero, plus many more in the parish and in the community.

COR ADORATION & WORSHIP NIGHT

Our next COR Worship Night is TOMORROW, Monday, March 7, from 7:00-8:30pm, at the Ave Maria Center and everyone is invited for 90 minutes of pure praise, teaching & adoration, offered to people of all ages, free of charge. Danielle Noonan will lead the music and Fr. Alvaro Interiano returns to St. Laurence as the featured speaker. It costs nothing and there’s no need to RSVP. Just come and join others in praising God!

MAR 12: Rays of Enlightenment

Spirit of Divine Mercy Ministries presents Rays of Enlightenment on Saturday, March 12, from 9:00am – 5:00pm at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church in Houston. The theme is “Blessed are the Merciful” featuring Fr. Jacek Mazur, plus presentations by Fr. Roy Oggero and Fr. Drew Wood. This is a grace filled day of talks, teachings, music, 3:00 hour prayer, Adoration, and Mass. There is no charge, but reservations must be made in advance by contacting Jack Alexander at 281-469-5533 or jack.alexander@ctrcc.com.

DON’T MISS THIS: Fr. Jacek Mazur will make a special visit to St. Laurence on Sunday, March 13, to give a presentation on the importance of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy in our faith journey. Come for this free event at 7:00pm in the church.

NEWS

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY – March 20
Saturday 5:00pm Vigil (March 19)
Sunday at 7:00am 9:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 5:00pm
(Blessing of palms & procession before the Saturday 5:00pm Mass)

HOLY THURSDAY – March 24
Mass of the Lord’s Supper
7:00pm
(Bilingual prayer vigil begins 12midnight, through 6:00am Good Friday)

GOOD FRIDAY – March 25
Stations of the Cross & Divine Mercy Devotion
12:00pm
Solemn Good Friday Liturgies
3:00pm and 7:00pm (wear RED)

EASTER VIGIL – March 26
8:30pm in the Church

EASTER SUNDAY – March 27
In the Church
7:00am 9:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 5:00pm
At the Ave Maria Center
9:15am and 11:15am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday in the Church
6:30pm - Liturgy of the Hours
7:00pm - Stations of the Cross

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Sign up to spend one hour in prayer and peaceful witness outside the Houston Planned Parenthood. St. Laurence has committed to 6:30am to 6:30pm on:
Wednesday, March 9
Thursday, March 17
To sign up and for more information: Marie McCoy at 281-265-7749
For Adults

Coming up in Adult Faith Formation
www.stlaurence.org/aff
facebook.com/groups/stlaurenceadultfaith

MONDAY
Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
7:30-9:00pm, St Francis Rm, Contact: Steve Ewbank
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com
Lay Apostle Prayer Group (First Monday, Mar 7)
10:30am-12:00pm, OR 7:00-8:30pm, Ave Maria Center Rm 205
Contact: Kay Quenan, 281-265-3238

TUESDAY
Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
6:30-7:30am, St Francis Rm, Contact: Steve Ewbank
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com
Tuesday Bible Study (Weekly)
9:15-11:45am Marian Hall, Contact: Regina Johnson 281-403-1792
Mar 8: Seven Bowls of Judgment and the Fall of Babylon

WEDNESDAY
Contemplative Prayer (Weekly)
9:30-11:30 am, Return to the Corpus Christi Room
Contact: Elaine Smith, 281-499-6660
Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy (1st and 3rd Wednesdays)
7:30-9:00pm, Corpus Christi Rm,
Contact: Patti Kallemeyn, 281-438-0696

THURSDAY
Catholic Men Called to be Saints (Weekly)
6:00-7:30am, Guardian Angels Room
Contact: Jim Kij, 713-855-0108, jimkij@comcast.net
Divine Mercy Study & Book Study (Weekly)
9:30am/10:30am, St Clare Rm, Contact: Sally Flowers for information at 281-799-0331
Spanish Bible Study (Weekly)
9:30-12:00pm, Marian Hall A, Contact: Veronica Reinoso, 281-980-1194, veronicareinoso62@gmail.com
Thursday Scripture Study (Weekly)
2 OPTIONS: 1:00-2:30pm, St Anne Rm OR 7:15-8:30pm, Ave Maria Center Rm 205. Contact: Julie Evett, jevett@comcast.net

SPEAKER SERIES
Father Tom Hawxhurst

Experiencing the Lord’s Mercy through Reconciliation
Monday, March 14
7:00-9:00 pm
Marian Hall B
There is no better time to experience the forgiveness and healing of the Lord than the Year of Mercy! Welcome back Fr. Tom, our former parochial vicar, as he reveals to us the depths of the Lord’s mercy available to us each time we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For more info, call 281-265-5774 or go to www.stlaurence.org/speakerseries.

Adult Confirmation
St. Laurence Catholic Church
Tuesdays, March 8 – May 10, 2016
7:00-9:00 pm
Marian Hall B
The sealing of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation into the Catholic Church. If for some reason you have not received this powerful sacrament, we encourage you to do so! Once each year, Adult Confirmation preparation is offered for Catholics who are at least 18 years of age, graduated from high school, already baptized, received first Eucharist and are actively practicing their faith. The sessions meet on 10 consecutive Tuesday evenings, concluding with the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 15.
Register at www.stlaurence/adultconfirmation
Complete the information form and email to Mary Visser at mvisser@stlaurence.org.
Discernment interviews are required prior to the first session. You will be contacted after we receive your form for an interview.

Jubilee Year: Remember the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
Father Jacek P. Mazur
Sunday March 13, 7:00pm, Church
During the Holy Year of Mercy, we are invited to join Father Mazur as he shares with us the importance of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy in our faith journey. The works of mercy are centered in the heart of Jesus, as revealed to St Faustina. Pope Francis reminds us that “the works of mercy are how Christians are to concretely carry out the spirit of mercy.” For more information, contact Sally Flowers at sallyjoflowers@comcast.net.

LAY APOSTLE PRAYER GROUP
Monday, March 7, Ave Maria Center Room 205
Choose from either 10:30am-12:00pm or 7:00-8:30pm
For more info, contact Kay Quenan at 281-265-3238
**Children’s Faith Formation**

**PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!**

**ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK**

*We Follow Jesus*

God calls everyone to make good choices and to live holy lives. As Christians, we look to Jesus as our role model of behavior and depend upon the grace given to us by the Holy Spirit in order to share God’s own life with Him by our own sanctification. This week in CCE, we will look at how we can live holy lives in order to share God’s special gift with us. As a family, discuss what new habits you can develop to live holier lives. Research a favorite Saint and discuss how s/he exemplifies holiness as a model for your own family.

*Lenten Challenge*

Together as a family, attend the Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm on Friday evening in the church.

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**Vacation Bible School**

*June 6-10*

*Ave Maria Center*

Registration for all children (incoming Kindergarten-5th) is still open at the Ave Maria Center, space permitting by grade level.

Please call for availability. Youth volunteer registration will begin TOMORROW, Monday, March 7, for all youth grades 6 and up.

Questions? Contact Monica Doucet at mdoucet@stlaurence.org or Joan Hastreiter at jhastreiter@stlaurence.org

[www.stlaurence.org/vacation-bible-school](http://www.stlaurence.org/vacation-bible-school)

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**St. Laurence Catholic School**

*www.stlaurence.org/school*

**March 10 – “Bound for Broadway”**

Join us this Thursday, March 10, for the 1st and 2nd grade Spring Show, “Bound for Broadway!” Come to the gym at 7:00pm for a fun-filled hour and see tomorrow’s Broadway stars!

**March 11 – PTO Rosary & Refreshments**

The SLCS PTO invites everyone to come to the parish hall following Friday Morning Rosary at 6:30am this Friday, March 11. Light refreshments will be served to honor Fr. Drew the day before his 70th birthday! What an awesome birthday present it would be if the church was filled for the Friday Rosary!

“I WANT MY SLCS” – 24th Auction & Dinner

SLCS is excited to present their 24th annual dinner and auction on Saturday, April 23, at the Sugar Land Marriott Town Square. The theme for this year’s fundraising event is “I Want My SLCS!” and will benefit St. Laurence Catholic School, which educates students from four years of age through 8th grade. Please contact the Advancement Office of the school at 281-980-0500 for more information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

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Follow us on...

*www.edline.net/pages/slcs*

*www.facebook.com/stlaurencecs*

*www.twitter.com/StLaurence_1992*

*www.instagram.com/stlaurencecs*

*www.pinterest.com/stlaurencecs*

*www.youtube.com/user/SLCSSaints/videos*

*www.youtube.com/user/SLCSAV/feed*

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**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

As a pastoral instrument of the Church, St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the whole Christian person in body, mind, and spirit through the trinity of parent, child, and educator.
Live to Glorify God!
Meditation for the 4th Sunday of Lent
www.catholicstewardship.org

Today we hear one of the most beloved stories in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus’ parable of the Prodigal Son. Reconciliation is a prominent theme. Seeing the younger son returning to him, the son who left the family and squandered his inheritance, the compassionate father runs to embrace him. Jesus offers us a vision of a loving God who is merciful and forgiving, welcoming us back when we remorsefully return to him. When was a time that I left God’s presence through my own sinfulness? Did I humbly and sorrowfully repent of my actions? How am I using this time of Lent to humbly atone for my sins? Will I eagerly celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation in the next few weeks to experience God’s loving embrace and forgiveness?

Only love is capable of overcoming difficulties. Love is a festival. Love is joy. Love is to keep moving forward.
Pope Francis, September 2015

Catechism Corner

Answers to your questions from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Q. Can God do anything?
A. "For God nothing is impossible" (see Luke 1:37). He is almighty.

Anyone who calls on God in need believes that he is all-powerful. God created the world out of nothing. He is the Lord of history. He guides all things and can do everything. How he uses his omnipotence is of course a mystery. Not infrequently people ask, Where was God then? Through the prophet Isaiah he tells us, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways" (Is 55:8). Often God’s omnipotence is displayed in a situation where men no longer expect anything from it. The powerlessness of Good Friday was the prerequisite for the Resurrection.

Dig Deeper: Read CCC sections 261-278 for more on this subject. This answer is reprinted from YOUCAT question 40.

STEWARDS AMONG US

Lorena Fawcett

Lorena’s motto is “Smile, be grateful, and enjoy the simple things of life.” Born and raised in Colombia, she earned an MBA in International Business and made St. Laurence her home in 2000. Ten years later, she married her husband Ronald after meeting him through the Sugar Land Fire Department Academy. Together, they serve Fort Bend County through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC).

Here at the parish, her desire to serve others is evident in her work through Social Concerns, the Medical Mission, Learn English & Learn Spanish Ministries, and the 12:45 Mass Hospitality team. Lorena says, “I am very grateful to the Lord for allowing me to be an instrument of His love and compassion. I feel that the Lord’s love and mercy have strengthened me in many ways, and I have seen how our Lord Jesus Christ has moved people and things around me.” She also likes how culturally diverse our parish is and encourages people of all backgrounds to be a part of it, saying, “Count your blessings and share it!”

ASK PAULA

Q. I was at Mass and a sacristan asked me to move into the middle of the pew!
A. Ah, you were probably sitting in a handicapped seat. Truth be told, this did happen to me once. See the blue plaque in my picture? It’s marked ‘Yield seat to handicapped’ – pretty self-explanatory, just saying. You guys know I’m always writing about everyone who HAS to sit at the end of a pew, right? But if a sacristan asks you to move over, it’s for a good reason. They are employees of St. Laurence and they are here to help everyone, so please cut them some slack, just move. Plus, you wouldn’t want them to tell FD on you, would you?? In a couple of weeks, we will be replacing some of the old handicap signs with new ones, so next time you go to Mass, look where you are sitting, right?

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for over 19 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call or email her at psavo@stlaurence.org.
Family Fun on St. Patrick’s Day

Thursday, March 17
6:30-8:00 pm
Guardian Angels Hall at the Ave Maria Center

Join other St. Lawrence families for a fun evening celebrating the feast day of St. Patrick! Sandwiches and cookies will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

Please bring one empty shoebox for your family.

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Calcote at mcalcote@stlaurence.org.

RSVP by March 15 at www.stlaurence.org/family-nights
JUBILEE YEAR:
Remember the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

Fr. Jacek P. Mazur
Sunday, March 13, 2016, 7 pm
St. Laurence Catholic Church

During the Holy Year of Mercy, we are invited to join Father Mazur as he shares with us the importance of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy in our faith journey. The works of mercy are centered in the heart of Jesus, as revealed to St. Faustina. Pope Francis reminds us that “the works of mercy are how Christians are to concretely carry out the spirit of mercy.”

Fr. Jacek P. Mazur was born and raised in St. Faustina’s homeland, Poland. He has had a great devotion to Divine Mercy since childhood and came to the USA in 2000. Father is a graduate of Ss. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Michigan with a degree of Master of Divinity. He is a priest of the Diocese of Buffalo, New York and presently serves as pastor of St Mary’s and Divine Mercy Parishes in Niagara Falls, NY. He is a co-host of “Divine Mercy in my Soul” radio show on The Station of the Cross Catholic Radio, and also spreads the message of God’s Mercy with talks and retreats in his diocese and across the country.
**CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation is for sophomores and juniors in high school. Teens who do not attend Catholic School should attend Life Nights (HS religious education) for at least a year prior to beginning preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, to ensure they have been catechized and are prepared for the journey to Confirmation.

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**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2016**

“I desire mercy, and not sacrifice” (Mt 9:13)

The mystery of divine mercy is revealed in the history of the covenant between God and his people Israel. God shows himself ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat his people with deep tenderness and compassion, especially at those tragic moments when infidelity ruptures the bond of the covenant, which then needs to be ratified more firmly in justice and truth. Here is a true love story, in which God plays the role of the betrayed father and husband, while Israel plays the unfaithful child and bride. These domestic images – as in the case of Hosea (Hos 1-2) – show to what extent God wishes to bind himself to his people.

This love story culminates in the incarnation of God’s Son. In Christ, the Father pours forth his boundless mercy even to making him “mercy incarnate” (Misericordiae Vultus, 8). As a man, Jesus of Nazareth is a true son of Israel; he embodies that perfect hearing required of every Jew by the Shema, which today too is the heart of God’s covenant with Israel: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might” (Dt 6:4-5). As the Son of God, he is the Bridegroom who does everything to win over the love of his bride, to whom he is bound by an unconditional love which becomes visible in the eternal wedding feast.

This is the very heart of the apostolic kerygma, in which divine mercy holds a central and fundamental place. It is “the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ who died and rose from the dead” (Evangelii Gaudium, 36), that first proclamation which “we must hear again and again in different ways, the one which we must announce one way or another throughout the process of catechesis, at every level and moment.” Mercy “expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe” (Misericordiae Vultus, 21), thus restoring his relationship with him. In Jesus crucified, God shows his desire to draw near to sinners, however far they may have strayed from him. In this way he hopes to soften the hardened heart of his Bride.

Let us not waste this season of Lent, so favorable a time for conversion! We ask this through the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, who, encountering the greatness of God’s mercy freely bestowed upon her, was the first to acknowledge her lowliness (Lk 1:48) and to call herself the Lord’s humble servant (Lk 1:38).

Excerpt from Pope Francis I Message for Lent 2016

www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/lent

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**REGISTRATION NOW**

Steubenville

Over 200 teens from our parish will go to this annual conference in Alexandria, Louisiana, June 24-26. Go to www.stlaurence.org/steubenville-south for all the details and to register. Open to all rising 9-12th graders.

Covecrest

Join us July 25-30 in Tiger, Georgia, for one of the best weeks of your life. Contact Kris or Sara for more info.

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**JULY 18-23: Camp Hidden Lake**

Edge will be joining hundreds of other middle school youth from around the country for an unforgettable week-long Catholic camp experience, July 18-23. Spots are limited. Please head to www.stlaurence.org/camphiddenlake for more info.

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**Open Youth Room & Bible Study**

Our brand new Youth Room is open every Thursday 4-6pm for all middle school youth! We eat, play games, and end with a Bible Study. Open to all, feel free to bring a friend!
Serve Others

WEEKLY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
MONDAYS: Our Daily Bread 9:30am, SCM Workroom

WEDNESDAYS: Coupons for a Cause 1:00pm, SCM Workroom

OTHER GREAT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
Bingo Call weekend Bingo games for nursing home residents at Sugar Land Health Care Center
Birthday Celebrations Organize bi-monthly birthday/holiday celebrations at Sugar Land Health Care Center
Caring Creations Meets first 3 Fridays each month to create crafts to donate to Mamie George & other Fort Bend agencies
Child Advocates Snack Bags Monthly assembly of 100+ snack bags for children
Fresh Food Delivery Twice a month, purchase and deliver fresh food St. John Fisher food pantry
Learn English Ministry Teach English to non-English-speaking adults; no teaching or foreign language experience necessary
Lunches of Love Decorate lunch bags; over 1,000 brown bag meals provided each week to children in Richmond-Rosenberg
Village Program Matches parish families with families that struggle each month to make ends meet

For more info about these and other great ways to serve others, go to www.stlaurence.org/social-concerns

You can help our many ministries in a variety of ways, but the simplest is through donations! Easier yet, you may have many of these items at home. Items may be dropped off at the parish office or in the SCM Donation bin in the church.

➢ men’s clothing for residents of ROSARY HOUSE, a halfway house for ex-prisoners: new underwear and gently used and new long & short sleeve shirts, pants, socks, shoes and jackets. There are 18 to 20 residents at the home.
➢ baby wipes, mini-toothpastes, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, mini Gold Bond foot powder for the MILITARY & HOMELESS
➢ new white crew socks, new white t-shirts (size large), pop-top tuna/meat, individual peanut butters, granola bars for the HOMELESS
➢ birthday party gifts of new/unused toys, $10-$20 gift cards (fast food, Wal-Mart, Target) Birthday in a Bag Ministry, new or very gently used small children’s books, and small fleece blankets (Nighttime Cuddle Kits) for CHILDREN IN SHELTERS
➢ Sunday Coupon inserts for COUPONS FOR A CAUSE program; drop off in parish office or the Hospitality Desk in the church

What We NEED

TEAMWORK – IT’S A BEAUTIFUL THING!
Thanks to Cub Scout Pack 18 who collected and donated over 400 food items for our special Lenten service project at Fort Bend Family Promise. Thanks, too, to our awesome St. Laurence student volunteers who worked alongside the residents to build and stock the shelves! What an inspiration to see 3 different groups working together to support such a great cause!

LENTEN SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works. The Social Concern Ministry is offering service opportunities in the Social Concerns Workroom and out in our community. Space is limited, pre-registration required.

Tues, MAR 8, 4:00-5:00pm Easter cards for seniors at SLHC
Tues, MAR 15, 4:00-5:00pm Easter eggs for Bethel children

Register via Sign Up Genius: www.signupgenius.com, click on Find a Sign-Up, then type in SocialConcerns@stlaurence.org. This will bring up a list of all available service opportunities. Please contact Pennie DeGroot with questions at pdegroot@stlaurence.org.

Respect Life Brochure of the Month
Advance Medical Directives: Planning for Your Future
“Human life is good and to be protected. All medical decisions ought to reflect this core belief.” However, in each set of circumstances, we need to judge whether a given treatment will provide real benefit to the patient, without causing harm or other burdens that are out of proportion to the good being done. The safest option is to appoint a health care agent who understands and shares our Catholic values. A living will simply lists treatment options that the patient wishes to accept or reject. It can never predict all the possible problems or treatment options, and may be misinterpreted by medical providers. Reasonable steps should always be taken to preserve life and treatment should never be withheld or administered with the intention of ending the life of the person. Cutting a person’s life short before their time deprives them of unknown opportunities for God’s grace to work.
Weekly Lenten Challenge
The Social Concerns Ministry invites you to incorporate SOCIAL JUSTICE into your Lenten practices with small personal changes based on Catholic Social Teaching.

Week 4: Solidarity
We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers and sisters keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that if you want peace, work for justice. The Gospel calls us to be peacekeepers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

Personal Actions:
1. Seek out opportunities to know people of other races, cultures and religions. Watch the bulletin for information about an upcoming interfaith service project this spring.
2. Pray the Rosary for economic & social justice, peace and harmony.
3. Volunteer to teach English to immigrants from all over the world with the Learn English Ministry. Contact Wendy Moore at learnenglishministry.slc@gmail.com for more information.
4. Choose to support companies that defend human life, treat workers fairly, protect creation, and respect other basic moral values at home and abroad.
5. Share your unique talents and skills for the common good and the service of others. When we labor with honesty, serve those in need, work for justice and contribute to charity, we use our talents to show our love—and God’s love—for our brothers and sisters.
6. Purchase fair trade products and stand in solidarity with the poor, respecting their right to dignified work. Shop at Ten Thousand Villages in Houston or visit at www.tenthousandvillages.com.
7. Please support the CRS collection today, which funds the core mission of CRS and five other Catholic agencies that give aid to struggling, poor, and underrepresented families at home and abroad.

THANKS for your gifts to the Giving Tree!

Over 1,000 Giving Tree tags were taken and we are well on our way to restocking our workroom shelves! Items are due TODAY, and may be dropped in the Social Concerns donation bins in the church narthex, at the parish office or Social Concerns Ministry office. Didn’t pick up a tag, but still want to help? We are always in need of laundry detergent, cleaning products, body wash, shampoo, baby diapers (larger sizes) and $25 gift cards to Walmart, Kroger, HEB or Walgreens.

Around the Archdiocese

MISA DE CUARESMA DEL DOMINGO DE PASIÓN
En honor de los abuelitos de nuestra comunidad y de todos los parroquianos que en esta Cuaresma han sido bendecidos con la cruz de la enfermedad, la persecución o el martirio en Venezuela y en el Mundo entero... Sábado 12 de Marzo @ 6:30pm, Misa oficiada por el Rev. Padre Rafael Dávila. Confesiones en español a partir de las 5:15 pm. Iglesia St. Faustina (Hubenak Elementary School, 11344 Rancho Bello Pkwy, Richmond). Por favor contactar a mbaddourpaez@hotmail.com, www.parroquiavirtualvenezolana.org.

MAR 6: ST. THOMAS ROUND UP
Everyone is invited to attend Round-Up, a day of games, food and community, on Sunday, March 6, from noon to 6:00pm at St. Thomas High School, 4500 Memorial Drive. Don’t forget to buy a raffle ticket to win a 2015 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck! Tickets are just $5 each and all proceeds go to support the St. Thomas Tuition Assistance Fund. For more info, visit www.sths.org.

MAR 6: STRAKE JESUIT SPRING FLING
Strake Jesuit will present the 45th Annual Spring Fling on Sunday, March 6, from noon to 6:00pm, on the school grounds at 8900 Bellaire Blvd. Open to the public, Spring Fling is a smorgasbord of food and fun for all ages in a carnival-like atmosphere. Come rain or shine! Proceeds from Spring Fling support financial aid. Last year, this fun event raised $288,000, making it possible for 1,119 young men to attend Strake Jesuit with financial assistance. For more, call 713-490-8160 or visit www.strakejesuit.org.

MAR 10: DISCOVER THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED
Discover the Road Less Traveled is a monthly discernment gathering at St. Mary’s Seminary for single young adult men ages 18+, offered every second Thursday of the month from September to May. Join priests and seminarians for fellowship, prayer, music, dinner and talks about the discernment for priesthood and religious life. The next one is March 10, from 6:30-9:00pm. Interested? Please go to www.houstonvocations.com/discover for info and to register.

MAR 12: VOCATION EXPO AT ST. MARY SEMINARY
All Catechists, Youth Ministers, Campus Ministers, parents, parish vocation committees, Serrans, and other Catholics concerned about vocation awareness are invited to the Vocation Expo at St. Mary Seminary on Saturday, March 12, 8:30am-2:30pm. This is a day of reflection and discussion about vocational call – how we have been called and how we help others in their call. Cardinal DiNardo will be the keynote speaker for a day of inspiring talks, prayer time, and group discussions. The cost (includes lunch) is just $5 per person and the deadline to register is March 7, at www.houstonvocations.com/vocation-expo.
**SACRAMENT PREPARATION**

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<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahalezhi</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
<td>Mary Visser</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
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<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
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**FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION**

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<tr>
<td>Tuesday AM Bible Study</td>
<td>Regina Johnson</td>
<td>281-403-1792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunny Tom</td>
<td>832-620-7417</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekday Children’s Program</td>
<td>Becky Wilkinson</td>
<td>281-313-0329</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<td>Parish School PTO</td>
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<td>Family Faith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Teen (High School)</td>
<td>Kris Frank</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Family Planning</td>
<td>Jacob/Jillian Counts</td>
<td>281-300-3704</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish School (SLCS)</td>
<td>Debra Haney</td>
<td>281-980-0500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish School Board</td>
<td>Michael Hurtado</td>
<td>281-635-0926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish School</td>
<td>Kristin Holy</td>
<td>281-491-8236</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Crockett</td>
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**PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES**

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<tr>
<td>Cath Men Called to Be Saints</td>
<td>Jim Kij</td>
<td>281-253-4800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Challenge Club for Girls</td>
<td>Monica Hager</td>
<td>281-240-7672</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemplative Prayer</td>
<td>Elaine Smith</td>
<td>281-499-6660</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (AM)</td>
<td>Sally Flowers</td>
<td>281-265-8360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (PM)</td>
<td>Patti Kallemyen</td>
<td>281-438-0696</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearts of Jesus &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Margie Calo</td>
<td>281-980-4711</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lay Apostles Prayer</td>
<td>Kay Quenan</td>
<td>281-265-3238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Carmelitta Kussad</td>
<td>713-922-2446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Bible Studies</td>
<td>Steve Ebwbank</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>Joseph Ellankil</td>
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**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

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<tr>
<td>Adoration</td>
<td>Janice Swoboda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Linen Care</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>Joy Smith</td>
<td>281-265-0839</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Environment</td>
<td>Michele Holbrooke</td>
<td>281-265-8425</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Liturgy of the Word</td>
<td>Claire Gregory</td>
<td>281-208-2715</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Ministers</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
<td>713-855-2399</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liturgical Ministers</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass Hospitality</td>
<td>Hal Mechler</td>
<td>281-543-9876</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kevin Klotz</td>
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**SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

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<tr>
<td>Bridges to Life</td>
<td>Dana Cutbirth</td>
<td>281-343-1417</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correctional Ministry</td>
<td>Dcn. Al Bothe</td>
<td>713-582-3870</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funeral Receptions</td>
<td>Sue Kulha</td>
<td>281-265-8332</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Steve Pondell</td>
<td>281-253-7088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn English Ministry</td>
<td>Wendy Moore</td>
<td>713-208-5169</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn Spanish Ministry</td>
<td>Adriana Gutierrez</td>
<td>713-269-2851</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals That Heal</td>
<td>MaryAnne Talab</td>
<td>281-438-2381</td>
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<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
<td>Cordell St. Cyr</td>
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<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Tim Beverick</td>
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<td>Respect Life</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Rides &amp; More</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Concerns</td>
<td>Pennie DeGroot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Society St. John DeMatha</td>
<td>Deacon Al Bothe</td>
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**MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT**

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<tr>
<td>Annullments</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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<td>Bereavement Ministries:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grief Support Group</td>
<td>Sandy Barber</td>
<td>281-633-9090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grieving Families</td>
<td>Agnes Fernandes</td>
<td>281-933-3721</td>
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<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
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<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
<td>832-945-2245</td>
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<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Lorrie Knowles</td>
<td>281-261-5738</td>
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<td>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Janie Picou</td>
<td>832-860-3398</td>
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<td>NAM</td>
<td>Pat Sumner</td>
<td>281-265-1554</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
<td>Ambrose Graham</td>
<td>713-865-3729</td>
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<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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**EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP**

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<td>Come &amp; See</td>
<td>Art &amp; Marilyn Ramponi</td>
<td>832-945-2110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discipleship Council</td>
<td>Marc Sherman</td>
<td>713-962-0617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evangelization Committee</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
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<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>Bob Ladd</td>
<td>281-980-3246</td>
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<td>Financial Peace University</td>
<td>Jason Davalos</td>
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<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
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<td>Welcome Ministry</td>
<td>Eva Fernandez</td>
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**COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE**

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<tr>
<td>African Catholic Community</td>
<td>Esther Iredia</td>
<td>832-661-2945</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bazaar</td>
<td>Tom Barry</td>
<td>281-545-4112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boy Scout Troop 828</td>
<td>Craig Popp</td>
<td>281-731-6140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cub Scout Pack 1828</td>
<td>Danny Kliebert</td>
<td>225-614-3148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Daughters</td>
<td>Pam White</td>
<td>281-265-3070</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council of Catholic Women</td>
<td>Mary Ann Brenner</td>
<td>713-306-6410</td>
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<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<td>Francisco Rojas-Ayala</td>
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<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Gary Arrington</td>
<td>713-882-9567</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies Guild</td>
<td>Joan O’Daniel</td>
<td>281-788-5430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moms &amp; Tots</td>
<td>Chrissy Campbell</td>
<td>310-926-7085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Laurence Singles</td>
<td>Kathy Gawlik</td>
<td>281-980-2677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors (JOY Club)</td>
<td>Pennie DeGroot</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
<td>281-330-0565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
<td>281-313-3625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult Group</td>
<td>Steve Washer</td>
<td>585-410-4467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ministry News

The ME25 Parish Survey results are in! Visit www.stlaurence.org/get-engaged to see the full report

Why does being “engaged” even matter?

Gallup studies show that those who are deeply connected to our parish (engaged) are likely people who serve in the community. In fact, folks who are actively disengaged in the church provide no community service, while those who are engaged or who are on the way to engagement, give between 1 and 2.5 hours per week in community service.

Peregrinación Polonia y la Divina Misericordia

Los miembros del Ministerio Hispano viajaran a Polonia/Praga y quieren invitarte. Visitaremos todos los sitios y santuarios asociados con la Divina Misericordia, St. Faustina y St. Juan Pablo II. 10 días, de Septiembre 18 al 28. $3200 incluye vuelos, hotel, comidas, transporte y más. Para información favor de comunicarte con Mayela Chapman al chapmmr@entouch.net, 281-630-9460.

BUILD A HABITAT HOUSE

Our Habitat for Humanity ministry has kicked off its 11th build! Join the team over the next few Saturdays to build a home for a deserving family in Richmond. You don’t need tools or experience, just be at least 16 years old and eager to work. Call Steve Pondell at 281-253-7088 or go to www.stlaurence.org/habitat-for-humanity.

Want to help feed the hungry volunteer workers one Saturday? You or your ministry can sign up for a Saturday with Lawerence Perreau at lperreau@comcast.net.

THE BIG COMEBACK: ST. LAURENCE BAZAAR

OCTOBER 15-16, 2016

YES! We will have a Bazaar this fall! Who wants to help?

It takes hundreds of volunteers to make our parish bazaar a success and we need you! Check www.stlaurence.org/parish-bazaar for the most up-to-date news and contact Bazaar Chairs Tom Barry (281-545-4112) or Les Fuchs (832-360-3104) for more information.

If you have been suffering from the effects of divorce or separation, come receive help in rebuilding your life, focused on God’s love for you. DivorceCare meets on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-9:00pm, in the St. Francis Room at the Ave Maria Center. Contact Janie at 832-860-3398 or jpdivorcecare@aol.com for info.
ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS  
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT  
March 6, 2016

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY
December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, passing through a Holy Door is part of the pilgrimage that all Catholics are encouraged to make, whether during a trip to Rome or a trip to the cathedrals or specially designated churches in their own dioceses. These pilgrimages come with special graces, and they allow each of us to share in the many blessings of the Holy Year.

Eight Catholic churches in the Archdiocese will serve as pilgrimage sites during the Holy Year of Mercy:

ST. MARY CATHEDRAL BASILICA  
2011 Church St., Galveston, 77550  (409)762-9646

CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART  
1111 St. Joseph Pkwy., Houston, 77002  (713)659-1561

ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
15500 El Camino Real, Houston, 77062  (281)486-0337

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
2405 Navigation Blvd., Houston 77003  (713)222-0203

OUR LADY OF LAVANG CATHOLIC CHURCH  
12320 Old Foltin Rd., Houston, 77086  (281)999-1672

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
5100 Dabney St., Houston, 77026  (713)672-7773

ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH  
7810 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, 77379  (281)370-3401

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH - SUGAR LAND  
705 St. Theresa Blvd., Sugar Land, 77498  (281)494-1156

For visiting information, please contact these parishes directly.

Pope Francis’ Prayer  
for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: “If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.