ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

MARCY 27, 2016

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
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Simon Kipiti
Deacon: Renato (Rey) Arellano
Deacon: Albert Bothe
Deacon: Don Burns
Deacon: Charles Plant
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari
Pastoral Council:
Tom Ruck	 rucktg@gmail.com
Finance Council:
Bob Ladd 	 robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
Deacon:
Charles Plant
Deacon:
Don Burns
Deacon:
Albert Bothe
Deacon:
Renato (Rey) Arellano
deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
don@donburns.com
stlaurencedeacon@aol.com
Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Simon Kipiti	 skipiti@stlaurence.org
Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Jaison Thomas,	MSFS	 jaisonthomas@stlaurence.org
Pastor:
Fr. Drew Wood

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3100 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-9812
MISSIO N
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
Abril 9 - En La Capilla
Segundo y cuarto sábado de cada mes a las 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 OFFICE & COURT YARD
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 Nia Sepe 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. Inquiries 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.

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.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
March 20 Collection $ 68,875
Registered Households 7,275
Envelopes Used 896
Loose Checks 246
2nd Collection-Social Concerns $ 14,902

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 154,942
Participants 882

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 171,338
Amount Pledged $ 260,887
Participants 654

FAITH DIRECT
inspiring secure giving
The Lord is risen! As Christ’s disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish’s many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Laurence Catholic Church by using safe and efficient electronic donations through Faith Direct. You may sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code TX460 or mail in an enrollment form from the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES
3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-265-5774
Director Religious Education: Laura Stephens lstephens@stlaurence.org
Religious Education Registrar: Ruba Kaiser rkaiser@stlaurence.org
Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato jfrato@stlaurence.org
Children’s Faith Formation: Joan Hastreiter jhastreiter@stlaurence.org
Youth Ministry: Kris Frank kfrank@stlaurence.org
Sara Sahlezghi ssahlezghi@stlaurence.org
Eric Painter epainter@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 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

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-9812
Parish Financial Information

Registered Households
Envelopes Used
Loose Checks
2nd Collection-Social Concerns
Monthly Offertory
Participants
Parish Goal
Amount Paid
Amount Pledged
Participants
Our church code TX460 or mail in an enrollment form from the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE & COURT YARD
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 Nia Sepe 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. Inquiries 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.

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.

FAITH DIRECT
inspiring secure giving
The Lord is risen! As Christ’s disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish’s many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Laurence Catholic Church by using safe and efficient electronic donations through Faith Direct. You may sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code TX460 or mail in an enrollment form from the parish office.
The victorious **ALLELUIA** of Easter is the triumph of the cross. It’s the realization that life doesn’t have to be free of troubles in order to be full of **JOY**.

When we’re sincere about following Christ, if we truly want to grow in faith, we do whatever he does, united to his ministry of helping others grow in their eternal relationship with God. In this, we face the cross again and again. There is no gain in salvation without the pain of sacrificial love.

Our cross is a soft word that we speak when someone else is angry and we feel like shouting. Our cross is a hand outstretched to comfort the afflicted when it’s inconvenient and we feel like withdrawing. Our cross is a good deed that we do to those who treat us unjustly and we feel like retaliating. And our resurrection is the joy that comes from knowing that we have made a difference in the lives of others for the sake of God’s kingdom.

Love that’s given when it’s difficult is a suffering love, a passionate love, a salvific love, i.e., it benefits the eternal lives of others. Then, our sacrifices have a value of endless worth. This is so much better than a self-serving, easy life. It’s eternally better! Easter Sunday Mass is the celebration of rising with Jesus into glorious victory over evil.

Questions for Personal Reflection:
What sacrifices are you suffering from right now? Write Jesus a love letter that connects your pain to his pain on the cross, then rest quietly with him as if you were sharing his tomb with him. When you’re ready to rise from your chair, celebrate that God appreciates all you have done for his kingdom; this is your resurrection!

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:
Describe the time when a bad experience turned into something good. What did you learn from it about God or faith? How do you know that you’re an Easter Christian?
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:


PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN

Please pray for the following servicemen and women and their families:

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 Barnett, 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, US 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
Ssgt. 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. Brendan 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
Capt. Michael Thesing, USMC
Sgt. Bryce Whitley, US Army

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Baptisms
Gregory Rahim, Jr., Symbol Mbawuikie, Tomas Quevedo, Lilliam Traister, Maren Traister, Adalyn Pang, Ethan Willis, Harvey Brack, Caroline Madden
Funerals
Betty Wronka, mother of Katie Coppedde
Mary Jo Sieda, mother of Carl & Philip Sieda

MASS INTENTIONS

March 26 – April 3

Saturday, Mar 26
8:30 pm Crispin Sangalang (D)

Sunday, Mar 27
7:00 am Shirley Nora (D)
9:00 am Mike Werner (D)
9:15 am Fr. Drew Wood (I)
11:00 am Rosa Nairapill (D)
11:15 am Alex Herrera (D)
1:00 pm Jude Nwaokoli (B)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

Monday, Mar 28
7:30 am Bahi Okupa-Hines & Family (I)
12:00 pm Mario De Castro Verde (D)

Tuesday, Mar 29
7:30 am John Orcutt (D)
12:00 pm Bennie Sikorski (D)

Wednesday, Mar 30
7:30 am Fr. Jaison & Fr. Simon (I)
6:30 pm Werner J. Seitz (I)

Thursday, Mar 31
7:30 am James Vaughn (D)
12:00 pm Liia Atas (D)

Friday, Apr 1
8:15 am Wesley Murray (D)
12:00 pm Edward Foelker (D)

Saturday, Apr 2
8:30 pm Raymond Simonseau (D)
5:00 pm Ann-Marie Landa (D)

Sunday, Apr 3
7:30 am Dorothy Stefans (D)
9:00 am Frank Boneno (D)
11:00 am Paula Bellen (D)
12:45 pm Jane & Vincent Bossley (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

WEDDING PREPARATION

Next classes: APRIL 4 & JUNE 6
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: APRIL 2 & MAY 14
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 Bennet), Margaret Uche, Dennis Henderson

PRAY FOR INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON

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

Arturo, Sergio & Eustolia Gonzalez, Mary Stockhausen, Linda Munguia, Juana & Blanca Lucio, Carolina Campos, Bob Ahmad, James Wehagen, Metcalf family, Tatiana Sobey, Jesus Martinez & family, Christian Perez, Makayla Mendez, Isabel, Cristal, Izzak, Autino, Patricia LaFleur, 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.
APR 4: Ennie Hickman at COR Worship Night

Our next COR Worship Night is Monday, April 4, from 7:00-8:30pm, at the Ave Maria Center and everyone is invited for 90 minutes of praise, teaching & adoration, open to people of all ages, free of charge. Ennie Hickman (one of our speakers from Heart of Worship) returns to St. Laurence to offer a talk on “Because He Lives” at this COR Worship Night; Danielle Noonan will lead us in great praise music. Come for some Easter joy! It costs nothing and there’s no need to RSVP.

APR 11: Christopher West at St. Laurence

Best-selling Catholic author, cultural commentator, and theologian Christopher West is coming to St. Laurence on Monday, April 11, to speak on “God, Sex and the Meaning of Life”. Presented as part of our Adult Faith Speaker Series and based on Saint John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, this event will begin at 7:00pm, in Marian Hall in the new Ave Maria Center. Entrance is $20 at the door, or just $15 if you register by April 8, online at www.stlaurence.org/christopherwest. See the flyer on page 9 of this bulletin and contact Justin Frato for more information at jfrato@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774.

APR 14: Discern for SLCS School Board

Interested in being a member of the St. Laurence School Board? Plan to attend an information night on Thursday, April 14, 7:00pm, in the School Dining Hall. A day of Discernment will be held Saturday, April 16, beginning with Mass in the church at 8:30am. Open to parishioners whether or not they have children attending the school, the following persons may not be considered as candidates for School Board: 1) spouses or siblings of current School Board members; 2) employees of the School or parish or their spouses, children, or siblings; 3) PTO officers or spouses; and 4) board members or professional educators of another school or school system. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Hurtado at Michael_Hurtado@bmc.com.

APR 17: Annual KC Scholarship Contest

The Reverend John T. Weyer Knights of Columbus Council 11343 is offering FOUR scholarships to the students of our parish. You do not have to be enrolled in Catholic school at this time to qualify, but must be a member of the parish. TWO $1,000 scholarships will be awarded to 8th grade students who will attend a Catholic high school in the area for the first time in the fall of 2016. Also, TWO $2,000 scholarships will go to graduating high school seniors entering college for the first time in the summer or fall of 2016. Get the details & application at www.kofc11343.org. The deadline is Sunday, April 17; winners announced in late May. More info: Nathan Raun (nathan.raun@gmail.com).

FOR YOU: Our new Parish Library

Have you visited the new Parish Library at the Ave Maria Center? What are you waiting for? Stop by, apply for a library card, and look through our wide assortment of movies, CDs, and DVDs for the whole family. More items are being added every day! Plus, exciting things are in the works, like a Summer Reading Program for both kids and adults. For all the details, see www.stlaurence.org/parish-library, or please stop by. The Library is open whenever the Ave Maria Center is open and you can generally find Susan Mule, our Library Coordinator, there every Monday-Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm.
For Adults

He Is Risen!

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

SPEAKER SERIES presents:
Christopher West

GOD, SEX and the MEANING OF LIFE

Monday, April 11
7:00-9:00 pm
Marian Hall

What if our desires are more important than our thoughts? Join bestselling author Christopher West as he explores the ancient but forgotten truth that our deepest desires of body and soul are meant to lead us to the infinite, to God. Desire: discover why as human’s we feel this universal “ache” for something more. Design: learn what the very design of our bodies as male and female tells us about God. Destiny: find out how we are created for bliss and why our hearts know this somehow. Cost: $15 online thru April 8, or $20 at the door.

REGISTER AND INFO:
www.stlaurence.org/christopherwest

Christopher West is a Catholic author and speaker, best known for his work on Pope John Paul II’s series of audience addresses entitled Theology of the Body. West has been delivering lectures since 1997, mostly on topics such as Christian anthropology, the Creed, morality, sacraments, marriage, sexuality, and family life. He is one of the main educators in the Theology of the Body Institute.

Easter Joy!

Welcome our newest Catholics!

The following people were fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil:

Angela Aleman, Alex Anekwe, Johira Bolden, Tanya Carlson, Ada Castro, Daniel Crespo, Emilie Efendy, Savannah Garza, Robert Gillis, Kaela Gisser, Huan Huynh, Anita Kavarthapu, Stacey Landry, Quinee Liu, Marcus Peirson, Gregory Rahim, Gregory Rahim Jr, Valentina Rahim

What a joy to have them in our faith community!

Been Away?

We Welcome You Back!

“Come and See” is a spiritual renewal program for those who feel alienated, estranged or distant from the Church, or for those who want a more genuine experience of Catholic community.

Come and See starts April 4
6 Mondays, 7:15-9:00 pm
Ave Maria Center, St Anne Room

Contact Art & Marilyn Ramponi for more info:
832-945-2110, artmarilyn2@att.net
Children’s Faith Formation

Happy Easter! NO PRESCHOOL CCE
(See you again on Sunday, April 3)

ELEMENARY CCE THIS WEEK

The Paschal Mystery
The Paschal Mystery is Jesus’ passing over from death to a new and glorified life. Because of Jesus’ sacrifice, we hold up the promise of everlasting life with God. As a family, discuss ways in which you can express your gratitude to Jesus, the Son, for His Sacrifice… and to God, the Father, for His Plan for our Salvation and Reconciliation with Him.

Vacation Bible School
June 6-10
Ave Maria Center

We have had an overwhelming response for VBS 2016!
Most grade levels are full with very limited availability remaining for incoming Kindergarten and 1st grade students. Youth volunteer positions are also very limited and any new applicants will only be taken on a wait-listed basis.
Questions? Contact Monica Doucet at mdoucet@stlaurence.org or Joan Hastreiter at jhastreiter@stlaurence.org or stop by the Ave Maria Center to inquire and/or register.

www.stlaurence.org/vacation-bible-school

WCP SUMMER CAMP
Open to children age 6 months - entering 5th grade
REGISTRATION DATES:
APR 6: St. Laurence Parishioners (9:30am-noon)
APR 20: Community (9:30am-noon)
See www.stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD
APRIL 11-14
Music Monday - Taco Tuesday - Family Picnics

2016-17 REGISTRATION
Contact Peggy Finch at 281-313-0329 or stop by the Ave Maria Center to learn more about this early childhood program.

St. Laurence Catholic School

www.stlaurence.org/school

SLCS will be closed Easter Monday, Mar 28. See you on Tuesday!

Happy Easter from your parish school!

Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate
Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen
Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing
Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty
Christ is Risen indeed from the dead,
the first of the sleepers,
Glory and power are his forever and ever.

St. Hippolytus (AD 190-236)

Vacation Bible School
June 6-10
Ave Maria Center

Vacation Bible School
June 6-10
Ave Maria Center

We have had an overwhelming response for VBS 2016!
Most grade levels are full with very limited availability remaining for incoming Kindergarten and 1st grade students. Youth volunteer positions are also very limited and any new applicants will only be taken on a wait-listed basis.
Questions? Contact Monica Doucet at mdoucet@stlaurence.org or Joan Hastreiter at jhastreiter@stlaurence.org or stop by the Ave Maria Center to inquire and/or register.

www.stlaurence.org/vacation-bible-school

Discern for SLCS School Board
Please attend an information night on Thursday, April 14, at 7:00pm, in the School Dining Hall to learn what is involved in serving on the school board. A day of Discernment will be held Saturday, April 16, beginning with Mass in the church at 8:30am. Please contact Michael Hurtado at Michael_Hurtado@bmc.com with questions.

Welcome, Neophytes!
A HUGE Saints welcome to our newly baptized and confirmed members of our parish! May God bless you and your families this Easter season, and may you always treasure the fruits of our faith!

“I WANT MY SLCS” 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.

Follow us on...

Follow us and witness the amazing things happening in our school!

Website www.edline.net/pages/slcs
Facebook www.facebook.com/stlaurencess
Twitter www.twitter.com/StLaurencess
Instagram www.instagram.com/stlaurencess
Pinterest www.pinterest.com/stlaurencess
YouTube www.youtube.com/user/SLCSSaints/videos
Saints TV www.youtube.com/user/SLCSAV/feed
In today’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter boldly offers his testimony to the risen Christ. He shared with the crowds what he himself witnessed: Jesus’ friendship, healing and forgiveness. Peter proclaims a resurrected life that brings hope. The Christian life is, indeed, a resurrected life. It is new life, one of truth, inner joy and genuine fulfillment. God has transformed our lives for all eternity, and that transformation is what it means to be a Christian. Do you know the resurrected life? Have you genuinely experienced it? Good stewards have, and in their joy, they are committed, like Peter, to offering their own witness. It is time to rejoice. Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!

The Church evangelizes and is herself evangelized through the beauty of the liturgy, which is both a celebration of the task of evangelization and the source of her renewed self-giving.

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium

STEWARDS AMONG US

Jack Krueger

21-year-old Jack Krueger has been a member of our parish his whole life. In fact, his parents, Robin & Gary, helped to found St. Laurence 30 years ago! After attending the University of North Florida, Jack returned to Sugar Land, excited to give back to the parish in which he grew up. Talk about full circle... 3 days a week you can find him volunteering in the Weekday Children’s Program, the same pre-school he attended when he was little; he helped with music at Vacation Bible School, which he loved as a child; and you can spot him in the church each Sunday serving as an Usher and Greeter at the Life Teen Mass, the same Mass that meant so much to him when he was a teen. Jack says, “The St. Laurence Parish has always been a big part of my life. I enjoy being a part of all things at Mass; it helps me meet people and be a part of our St. Laurence community.” But he’s not stopping there. He has his sights set on the next ministry he wants to be a part of, adding, “I hope one day to sing in the LIFE TEEN Choir!”

Catechism Corner

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

Q. Why should we adore God?

A. Every person who understands that he is God’s creature will humbly recognize the Almighty and adore him. Christian adoration, however, sees not only the greatness, omnipotence, and holiness of God. It also kneels before the divine Love that became man in Jesus Christ. Someone who really adores God kneels down before him or prostrates himself on the ground. This gives expression to the truth about the relation between man and God: He is great and we are little. At the same time, man is never greater than when he freely and devoutly kneels down before God. The unbeliever who is seeking God and is beginning to pray can find God in this way. God, who knows us through and through, knows what we need. Nevertheless, God wants us to ask, to turn to him in times of need, to cry out, implore, lament, call upon him, indeed, even to struggle with him in prayer.

Dig Deeper: Read CCC sections 2644-2651 for more on this subject. This answer is reprinted from YOUCAT question 485.

ASK PAULA

Q. How many Masses can I offer a year?

A. UH! Mass intentions are like a full time job for me, just saying. Anyway, here’s the deal: You can offer 3 Masses TOTAL. People come in asking, “Can I have one more?” NO, sorry, 3 means 3. If I let you do more, then I have to let everyone, right? But wait, we do have an alternative Mass offering for you! For just $3, you can offer a Mass at St. Mary’s Seminary. The good part is, this Mass will be celebrated once a month for a YEAR. Such a deal! The money collected for these Masses is given to the seminarians. You know, spending money, so you are helping them out, too. You’ll also get a nice card explaining all this, which you can mail to family/friends that you’re offering the Mass for. Come by the office and see me and I’ll show you the cards we have. Happy Easter!

Paula Sava has been our Parish Receptionist for over 19 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call or email her at psava@stlaurence.org.
Join best-selling author **Christopher West** as he explores the ancient but forgotten truth that our deepest desires of body and soul are meant to lead us to the infinite, to God.

**DESIRE**

Discover why as human beings we feel this universal “ache” for something more.

**DESIGN**

Learn what the very design of our bodies as male and female tells us about God.

**DESTINY**

Find out how we are created for bliss and why our hearts know this somehow.

**MONDAY APRIL 11, 2016**

**7-9 P.M.**

**TICKETS:** $15 THROUGH APRIL 8

$20 AT DOOR

**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH - AVE MARIA CENTER**

MARIAN HALL  3103 SWEETWATER BLVD., SUGAR LAND, TX

MORE INFORMATION/REGISTRATION: WWW.STLAURENCE.ORG/CHRISTOPHERWEST
DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION
JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Jesus told St. Faustina: I desire the Feast of Mercy be a shelter for all souls, especially poor sinners. On that day I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.

Good Friday, March 25, 2016 - 12:00noon In the Church
Divine Mercy Devotion and Stations of the Cross

Novena in the Chapel

Saturday, March 26
Do Privately

EASTER SUNDAY, March 27
7:00PM - Divine Mercy Reflection

Monday, March 28
7:00PM - Fr. Roy Oggero

Tuesday, March 29
8:30PM - Fr. Chacko Puthumayil

Wednesday, March 30
7:00PM - Deacon Charles Plant

Thursday, March 31
7:00PM - Fr. Simon Kipiti

Friday, April 1
7:00PM - Divine Mercy Reflection

Saturday, April 2
7:00PM - Deacon Rey Arellano

SOLEMN DIVINE MERCY FEAST DAY DEVOTION
APRIL 3, 2016
FR. DREW WOOD & DEACON CHARLES PLANT

IN THE CHURCH Starting @ 2:30PM

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION
Novena / Chaplet / Music / Reflection
He has risen!

Inactive Catholics You’re Invited Home!

Join us for evenings of dialogue to:
Come and SEE how you can renew your relationship with the Catholic Church
Come and VOICE your feelings and needs
Come and LEARN about current Catholic thought

No matter how long you have been away, for whatever reason, you are always welcome.

“COME AND SEE” is an outreach program for those who feel alienated, estranged or distant from the church or for those who want a more genuine experience of Catholic community.

Join us for a special six-week program held on Monday evenings, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2016 from 7:15-9:00 p.m. in the Ave Maria Center, St. Anne Room. The evening is facilitated by a team of parishioners in a safe, confidential, small group sharing environment.

For more information go to www.stlawrence.org/comeandsee
Or contact: Art or Marilyn Ramponi at 832-945-2110, artmarilyn2@att.net.
JOIN OTHER ST. LAURENCE FAMILIES IN CELEBRATING

Divine Mercy Sunday
Family Night

We will put the Corporal Works of Mercy into action with some fun and games, have an Easter egg hunt, pray the chaplet of Divine Mercy, and build our own Divine Mercy Sundaes for dessert!

FRIDAY, APRIL 1
6:30-8:00 PM

GUARDIAN ANGELS HALL IN THE AVE MARIA CENTER

ITALIAN FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED.
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE.
RSVP: WWW.STLAURENCE.ORG/FAMILY-NIGHTS
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MELISSA CALCOTE AT MCALCOTE@STLAURENCE.ORG
**INNER EDGE**

**Ministry** that helps young people with life’s most challenging years. Edge Nights take place Wednesday evenings from September-April in the school gym. All 6th-8th graders are invited and encouraged to attend. Questions? Interested in helping out? Contact Eric Painter at epainter@stlaurence.org.

**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.

**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!

**LIFE TEEN**
Life Teen is for any teen currently in high school. This ministry is St. Laurence’s main outreach to 9th - 12th graders. Through teaching and social events we hope to build up the kingdom of God one teen at a time. For info, contact Kris Frank at kfrank@stlaurence.org.

**THIS SEMESTER IN LIFE TEEN**
April 3 - April 10 - April 17 - April 24

**You Oughta Know**
A new series on Catholic Apologetics begins April 3rd

---

**REGISTER 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. Scholarships are now available. Contact Kris or Sara for more info.

---

**CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation at St. Laurence is part of Youth Ministry and Religious Education. We bring teens closer to Christ through this Sacrament of the Church. Contact Sara Sahlezghi at ssahlezghi@stlaurence.org. Confirmation is open to 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.

---

**PEACE TO YOU!**

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR EASTER**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Easter!**

Jesus Christ is risen!

Love has triumphed over hatred, life has conquered death, light has dispelled the darkness!

Out of love for us, Jesus Christ stripped himself of his divine glory, emptied himself, took on the form of a slave and humbled himself even to death, death on a cross. For this reason God exalted him and made him Lord of the universe. Jesus is Lord!

By his death and resurrection, Jesus shows everyone the way to life and happiness: this way is humility, which involves humiliation. This is the path which leads to glory. Only those who humble themselves can go towards the ‘things that are above’, towards God (Col 3:1-4). The proud look ‘down from above’; the humble look ‘up from below’.

On Easter morning, alerted by the women, Peter and John ran to the tomb. They found it open and empty. Then they drew near and ‘bent down’ in order to enter it. To enter into the mystery, we need to ‘bend down’, to abase ourselves. Only those who abase themselves understand the glorification of Jesus and are able to follow him on his way.

The world proposes that we put ourselves forward at all costs, that we compete, that we prevail… But Christians, by the grace of Christ, dead and risen, are the seeds of another humanity, in which we seek to live in service to one another, not to be arrogant, but rather respectful and ready to help.

This is not weakness, but true strength! Those who bear within them God’s power, his love and his justice, do not need to employ violence; they speak and act with the power of truth, beauty and love.

From the risen Lord we ask today the grace not to succumb to the pride which fuels violence and war, but to have the humble courage of pardon and peace. We ask Jesus, the Victor over death, to lighten the sufferings of our many brothers and sisters who are persecuted for his name, and of all those who suffer injustice as a result of ongoing conflicts and violence. There are so many of them!

May the marginalized, the imprisoned, the poor and the migrants who are so often rejected, maltreated and discarded, the sick and the suffering, children, especially those who are victims of violence; all who today are mourning, and all men and women of goodwill, hear the consoling and healing voice of the Lord Jesus: ‘Peace to you!’ (Lk 24:36). ‘Fear not, for I am risen and I shall always be with you.’

Excerpt from Pope Francis I Message for Easter (4/5/2015)
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

What We NEED

- 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

10,152 MEALS ON THEIR WAY TO BURKINA FASO!
On March 12, over 60 St. Laurence parishioners gathered for a meal packaging event presented by CRS Helping Hands and Stop Hunger Now. As we packaged the meals, there was music playing and a happy energy in the room. Participants cheered as a gong was sounded as each threshold of another 1,000 meals was crossed. Thank you so much for helping us send food, love and hope to our brothers and sisters in the West African country of Burkina Faso.

Respect Life News

Baby Boy Clothes Needed Now
The Gabriel Project is in need of new or gently used baby boy clothes, size 0-6 months. Please consider helping a mother-to-be in need and drop your donations in the SCM bin in the narthex or the parish or Social Concerns office. Mark bags Gabriel Project.

Spiritual Adoption: Seven Months!
As the baby continues to grow, it is getting more crowded in the uterus and the baby's movements are smaller. He or she may have turned to be head downward. Fat is being deposited under the baby's skin to help keep him or her warm after birth. The baby is about 14 inches long and weighs over 2 pounds! Please continue to pray that mom and dad are making good plans to either parent themselves or to provide their child with a stable and loving home through adoption.

Help for Unplanned Pregnancy
If anyone you know has a problem with an unplanned pregnancy, let them know that they can call the Option Line -800-712-HELP (4357) and talk to someone who cares, 24/7. (Spanish speakers available.) They will also be referred to their nearest pregnancy help center.

SUPPORT SOCIAL CONCERNS WITH AMAZON SMILE

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Laurence Social Concerns.
Bookmark the link http://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0157777 and support us every time you shop! Thanks for your help.

HELP THE FORT BEND HABITAT RESTORE

Donations of furniture, ceiling fans, light fixtures and appliances are welcomed and needed at the Fort Bend Restore located in Stafford. Every donation helps toward providing adequate housing for those in need. Call 281-403-0708 ext. 301 to schedule a pickup. For more information and donation guidelines, visit www.fortbendhabitat.org/restore/restore-donation-guidelines.
BUILD A HABITAT HOUSE
Our Habitat for Humanity ministry is building the 11th house for a deserving family in need. Join the team next Saturday! 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? Sign up for a Saturday with Lawrence Perreau at lperreau@comcast.net.

LEARN SPANISH FOR YOUR MINISTRY WORK
Sign up for free (beginning, intermediate and advanced) Spanish classes this summer, offered through our Learn Spanish Ministry. Classes will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm and are open to priests, deacons, religious, missionaries and those active in parish ministries. Classes will be June 9-August 4. For more info, to register or to volunteer as a teacher, contact Adriana Gutierrez, Learn Spanish Ministry Coordinator at 281-265-5419 or LearnSpanishMinistry@gmail.com.

ENSÉNE ESPAÑOL ESTE VERANO
¡Clases de Español este verano! Necesitamos voluntarios que hablen español como lengua materna, para enseñar español para niveles principiante, intermedio y avanzado. Estas clases se ofrecen a voluntarios de diferentes ministerios de la iglesia, incluyendo sacerdotes, diáconos, ministros, religiosos y misioneros. Las clases serán de Junio 9 - Agosto 4, lunes y jueves de 7:00-8:30 pm. Para más información contactar a Adriana Gutierrez, Coordinadora de Learn Spanish Ministry, 281-265-5419 o LearnSpanishMinistry@gmail.com. Please join our Awareness Fundraiser – First Annual Walk-Run to Overcome at 8:00am on Saturday, April 9, at the Sugar Land Memorial Park. Go to www.orahouston.com to register to walk, run or volunteer for this event that will educate the community and open doors to talk about brain disorders that affect 1 in 4 Americans. There are several volunteer spots open!

Join the NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) support group on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00pm in the Social Concerns Workroom. If you care for someone with mental illness, you can gain support and learn of resources that are available to help our loved ones and ourselves. The NAMI Spanish Support Group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. A Chinese Support Group is also available. There are no charges for the services. Contact Ken or Pat Sunner at 281-265-1554 or psunner1@comcast.net.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Volunteers are needed to call weekend BINGO at Sugar Land Health Care Center in old Sugar Land. This is a GREAT family or small group service opportunity. For more info or to volunteer, please contact Janet Roberts at jrob3207@comcast.net.

Around the Archdiocese

APR 2: IN-SIGHT RETREAT FOR YOUNG WOMEN
High school girls are invited to an InSight Retreat on Saturday, April 2, from 8:30am-5:00pm at the Dominican Sisters of Mary Immaculate (5250 Gasmer, Houston). This retreat gives girls the opportunity to visit a convent, interact with Sisters from several congregations, pray together, build friendships, learn about religious life and ask questions. Registration and permission slips are available at www.houstonvocations.com/insight.

APR 9: PORTUGUESE SEMINAR ON HOLY SPIRIT
The Portuguese speaking Catholic community of Houston will gather at St. Laurence for a one-day retreat on Saturday, April 9, from 7:30am-7:30pm, at the Ave Maria Center. Invite your Portuguese-speaking friends to register at www.orahouston.com under the tab Seminário de Vida no Espírito Santo. For more information about this group or the April 9 seminar, please call Carminha (281-779-9562) or Jose Octavio (281-777-9305).

APRIL 21-24: WOMENS JOURNEY TO DAMASCUS
The Journey to Damascus is an ecumenical 3-day weekend retreat held at Circle Lake Retreat Center in Pinehurst, TX. The weekend is meant to equip, inspire and challenge you on your faith journey. It is a Catholic-based retreat, open to all Christian faiths. A few openings are still available for the next Women’s Retreat, the weekend of April 21-24. The retreat starts at 5:30pm Thursday evening until 2:00pm on Sunday. The cost is $180, which includes room & board, wonderful meals and a life-changing retreat experience. If needed, you may ask about the possibility of a partial scholarship. For more information or to sign up, please contact Cokey Clark at 281-652-6973 or cokeyclark@gmail.com.

APRIL 22: CHAMBER SINGERS IN CONCERT
Experience the power of choral music in a program entitled, How Can WE Keep From Singing? on Friday, April 22, at 7:30pm, at Grace Presbyterian Church (10221 Ella Lee Lane, Houston). This free concert features a variety of choirs from around the city, including the Houston Cecilia Chamber Choir, Paul Revere Middle School Choir, Grace Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir, and our own St. Laurence Chamber Singers! The evening includes music by Monteverdi, Beethoven, John Rutter, Eleanor Daley, Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, Moses Hogan and more. Each choir will perform a solo segment, then combine for a mass choral performance of 100 singers! For info, call Grace Presbyterian Church at 713-781-7615.

APR 23: EXPERIENCE THE SHROUD OF TURIN
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Daughters invites everyone to Shroud Encounter, an unforgettable big screen experience about the ancient Jewish linen cloth believed by many to be the burial cloth of Jesus. Explore the mystery of the Shroud of Turin on Saturday, April 23, at 7:00pm at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 12627 W. Belfort Ave, Sugar Land. A life-size replica of the Shroud will be on display. Russ Breault, the presenter, is founder of the Shroud of Turin Education Project and has appeared on History, Discovery, CBS and Good Morning America. Tickets are $10 (free to 18 and under), available at the parish office. For more info, contact the St. Thomas Aquinas church office at 281-240-6721.
REDDING EDUCATION  
@ St. Laurence Catholic Church

There is no time like NOW to build a foundation for life-long faith!

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Each year over 1,300 children and youth enroll in St. Laurence’s yearly Religious Education (RE) programs for three year old to twelfth grade. Yearly religious education provides age appropriate instruction to engage the children in their faith while partnering with parents in forming disciples of Jesus Christ. This formation journey leads up to, through and after the celebration of our children’s sacraments as it is the foundation upon which their faith grows. Since there is never a graduation from learning about the faith, St. Laurence also has a dynamic Adult Faith Formation program that offers a variety of formation opportunities for adults.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Registration for 2016-17 RE programs begins the week of April 3rd. Currently enrolled families will receive their families registration packet during RE programs beginning that week. Families new to RE can stop by the Ave Maria Center to register their child/youth for the formation year that will begin in September. Deadline for registration is August 15 to allow time to process before the session starts. Forms received after that date will be put on a waitlist until processed.

Volunteers who share the faith with the children as catechist or core members are the most valuable resource of RE programs. Without dedicated volunteers, we could not serve so dynamically the large numbers in their faith journey. Our classes are limited by the number of volunteers that come forward so please understand they we NEED YOU to volunteer! What a way to offer a small gift back to God by forming the next generation in our precious Catholic Faith.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
❖ April 3 - registration begins this week for 2016-17
❖ August 15 - deadline for registration

Yearly Religious Education opportunities includes:

- PreK 3-Kinder CCE on Sunday am
- Elementary CCE on Tues. or Wed. pm
- Middle School EDGE on Wed pm
- High School (Life Teen) on Sun pm

For more information, please call the Religious Education staff at 281-265-5774.
Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.

SOCRAT PREPARATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahlezghi</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
<td>Mary Visser</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
<td>281-980-8090</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.C.T.S. Retreat</td>
<td>Dcn. Don Burns</td>
<td>281-734-8715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Faith Formation</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edge (Middle School)</td>
<td>Eric Painter</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary CCE</td>
<td>Joan Hasterreiter</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Faith</td>
<td>Joan Hasterreiter</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Teen (High School)</td>
<td>Kris Frank</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Family Planning</td>
<td>Jacob/Jillian Counts</td>
<td>281-300-3704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish School (SLCS)</td>
<td>Debra Haney</td>
<td>281-980-0500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish School Board</td>
<td>Michael Hurtado</td>
<td>281-635-0926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish School PTO</td>
<td>Kristin Holy</td>
<td>281-491-8236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Monica Doucet</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocations Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekday Children’s Program</td>
<td>Becky Wilkinson</td>
<td>281-313-0329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cath Men Called to Be Saints</td>
<td>Jim Kij</td>
<td>281-253-4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Club for Girls</td>
<td>Monica Hager</td>
<td>281-240-7672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemplative Prayer</td>
<td>Elaine Smith</td>
<td>281-499-6660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (AM)</td>
<td>Sally Flowers</td>
<td>281-265-8360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (PM)</td>
<td>Patti Kallemeyn</td>
<td>281-438-0696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearts of Jesus &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Margie Calo</td>
<td>281-980-4711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay Apostle Prayer</td>
<td>Kay Quenan</td>
<td>281-265-3238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Carmelita Kussad</td>
<td>713-922-2446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s Bible Studies</td>
<td>Steve Ebwank</td>
<td>281-980-5575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>Joseph Ellankil</td>
<td>832-282-3032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary</td>
<td>Sunny Tom</td>
<td>832-620-7417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Christian Comm</td>
<td>Genoveva Duque</td>
<td>281-980-1014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday AM Bible Study</td>
<td>Regina Johnson</td>
<td>281-403-1792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoration</td>
<td>Janice Swoboda</td>
<td>281-980-8481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Linen Care</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>Joy Smith</td>
<td>281-265-0839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Environment</td>
<td>Michele Holbrooke</td>
<td>281-265-8425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Liturgy of the Word</td>
<td>Susan Chaote</td>
<td>281-682-3389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Ministers</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
<td>713-855-2399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liturgical Ministers</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Hospitality</td>
<td>Hal Mechler</td>
<td>281-543-9876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Kiotz</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridges to Life</td>
<td>Dana Cutbirth</td>
<td>281-343-1417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correctional Ministry</td>
<td>Dcn. Al Bothe</td>
<td>713-582-3870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dcn. Charles Plant</td>
<td>281-300-3059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funeral Receptions</td>
<td>Sue Kulha</td>
<td>281-265-8332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Steve Pendell</td>
<td>281-253-7088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn English Ministry</td>
<td>Wendy Moore</td>
<td>713-208-5169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn Spanish Ministry</td>
<td>Adriana Gutierrez</td>
<td>713-269-2851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals That Heal</td>
<td>MaryAnne Talab</td>
<td>281-438-2381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
<td>Cordell St. Cyr</td>
<td>832-449-3759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Tim Beverick</td>
<td>281-265-1533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect Life</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
<td>281-265-7749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Rides &amp; More</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
<td>281-980-1449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Concerns</td>
<td>Pennie DeGroot</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society St. John DeMatha</td>
<td>Deacon Al Bothe</td>
<td>713-582-3870</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annuilments</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bereavement Ministries:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grief Support Group</td>
<td>Sandy Barber</td>
<td>281-633-9090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grieving Families</td>
<td>Agnes Fernandes</td>
<td>281-933-3721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
<td>281-980-1449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
<td>832-945-2245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Lori Knowles</td>
<td>281-261-5738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lorrie Kehoe</td>
<td>281-980-2431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Janie Picou</td>
<td>832-860-3398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAMI</td>
<td>Pat Sumner</td>
<td>281-265-1554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
<td>Ambrose Graham</td>
<td>713-865-3729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Come &amp; See</td>
<td>Art &amp; Marilyn Ramponi</td>
<td>832-945-2110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipleship Council</td>
<td>Marc Sherman</td>
<td>713-962-0617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelization Committee</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
<td>281-265-7749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>Bob Ladd</td>
<td>281-980-3246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Peace University</td>
<td>Jason Davalos</td>
<td>832-876-9824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
<td>713-855-2399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Ministry</td>
<td>Eva Fernandez</td>
<td>832-633-5640</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Catholic Community</td>
<td>Esther Iredia</td>
<td>832-661-2945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bazaar</td>
<td>Tom Barry</td>
<td>281-545-4112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Les Fuchs</td>
<td>832-360-3104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scout Troop 828</td>
<td>Craig Popp</td>
<td>281-731-6140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scout Pack 1828</td>
<td>Danny Kliebert</td>
<td>225-614-3148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Daughters</td>
<td>Pam White</td>
<td>281-265-3070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council of Catholic Women</td>
<td>Mary Ann Brenner</td>
<td>713-306-6410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filipino Community</td>
<td>Fe Vicerria</td>
<td>713-248-1164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Ministry</td>
<td>Francisco Rojas-Ayala</td>
<td>281-690-3374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Gary Arrington</td>
<td>713-882-9567</td>
</tr>
<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 Gawlak</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>
JOIN US IN COSTA RICA!
Medical Mission to Grano de Oro, Costa Rica
April 16-23, 2016
We have 31 missionaries signed up to go to Costa Rica, but need the following to complete our team: 1 physician, 2 dentists, 2 dental hygienists, 1 RN, 1 physical therapist and 3 general aides. Please prayerfully consider if you might be called to go on this mission which brings hope and healing to the indigenous Cabecars, the poor and forgotten people of Costa Rica. Can’t go? Please donate to make this trip possible! Make checks to MMDM and drop in the collection basket or bring to the parish office. Contact Cordell St. Cyr for more info at 281-794-9094 or cordells@mmdmusa.org. Thank you for your kind generosity!

Make an ACTS Retreat!
JUNE 9-12: St. Laurence Men’s ACTS Retreat
All men 21 and over, regardless of religious affiliation, are welcome to attend the next St. Laurence Men’s ACTS Retreat. The retreat begins Thursday, June 9, with check-in at St. Laurence at 5:00pm, and ends Sunday, June 12, after a luncheon following the 11:00am Mass at St. Laurence. This weekend retreat gives you the chance to spend time with God, focus on your faith and cultivate friendships.
Go to www.stlaurence.org/mens-acts-retreat for all the info and to register. Space is limited and this retreat is filling up quickly. Got a question? Please contact Larry Stryk (832-520-4044), Greg Cordova (832-457-3011) or Mick Coady (314-565-1949).

JULY 21-24: St. Laurence Women’s ACTS Retreat
Save the date and register in May! An ACTS retreat is a gender-specific, 4-day retreat beginning on Thursday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon, designed to strengthen your Catholic faith and community by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The retreat is staffed and run by laypeople. Women, prayerfully consider deepening your faith by attending this retreat. Contact Beth Kugler (sheba_rufus@yahoo.com), Jane Haulser (savannahrose22@msn.com), or Susan Herrington (sherrington14@gmail.com).

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.

Need Spiritual Direction?
Is your heart restless? Are you experiencing a longing to grow closer to God? Are you experiencing life’s transitions and feeling like God is distant? Spiritual directors are available at St. Laurence to walk with you on your spiritual journey in the process of coming home to your deepest self and discovering God in the midst of daily living. If you would like to receive this gift of spiritual direction or if you have questions regarding this ministry, contact Anne Marie Daniel at 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org.

MONDAYS: Prayer & Praise Group
12:45-2:30pm in the Oratory of the Rosary
You’re invited to gather with others in praise and worship of God every Monday afternoon in the Oratory of the Rosary, located in the new Ave Maria Center. We will pray the Rosary, worship God through music and reflect on God’s Word and spiritual writings. We also pray with each other and intercede for the needs of our Church, our community, families, and all who are in need of prayer. Please contact Anne Marie Daniel at adaniel@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774 with questions regarding this new group.

MAR 31: CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP
Caregivers experience a roller coaster of physical, emotional, and financial ups and downs when caring for a loved one with special needs, and the stress often impacts the health of caregivers. Join the Caregivers Support Group for a practical, applied discussion about maintaining healthy interpersonal boundaries while caregiving. Anne Marie Daniel, an insightful spiritual director and licensed professional counselor, will facilitate this conversation this Thursday, March 31 at 7:00pm in the St. Francis Room. Our group serves those caring for a loved one of any age with special needs, including autism, cerebral palsy, dementia, Down syndrome, etc. Please contact Lori Knowles (knowlesls5@gmail.com) or Lorrie Kehoe (jklksl@aol.com) for more information.
**Adoration in the Chapel**

We at St. Laurence pray that all may know the true presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and be graced with the holy desire to spend time with our God in adoration. Please prayerfully consider the hours listed that we are in need of committed adorers and subs. Call Janice Swoboda at 281-980-8481 or 832-816-4660.

There is no scheduled adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Holy Week until 8am on Tuesday, March 29.

**ADORERS STILL NEEDED FOR THESE HOURS:**
- Monday 1am-2am; Monday 12pm-1pm; Tuesday 11pm-12am

---

**St. Laurence Correctional Ministry**

The St. Laurence Correctional Ministry has more than 30 volunteers, most of whom are fellow parishioners, plus clergy from St. Laurence and other parishes. Together, we provide RCIA classes for offenders who want to learn about and come into our Catholic Faith. We also provide Mass and Confession twice monthly, and when a priest is not available, we provide a Communion Service. Through the Society of St. John DeMatha, we provide structured courses in social values, peer relationships, skills for successful living, and substance use. All of these activities are viewed as positive markers by the Parole Review Board. If interested in this important ministry work, contact Joe Guarisco (713-504-7910) or Bob McNees (281-494-6075). Must be 18 years and older with no criminal charges pending. Go to [www.tdcj.state.tx.us](http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us) and click on “Volunteer with the TDCI”.

---

**APRIL 4: JOY Club for Senior Parishioners**

The JOY Club invites other senior members of the parish (50+) to join them at their next meeting on Monday April 4, from 11:00am-1:00pm, in Marian Hall. Sergeant Eric Pino, from the Sugar Land Police Department Crime Prevention unit will be on hand to speak on what to do in the situation of an Active Shooter. Join us for our monthly get-togethers featuring interesting speakers. Bring a brown bag lunch and we’ll provide the drinks. Contact Anne Higgins for info at nannyhiggs@gmail.com and 832-755-5597.

---

**Consoling the Heart of Jesus this April**

Try this beautiful, yet practical path into the Heart of Jesus, especially suited for men and women who are living busy, demanding lives. Fr. Michael Gaitley, author of *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*, guides a 10-week Ignatian retreat combined with the wisdom of St. Faustina. 2 SESSIONS: Thursday Mornings (April 14-June 16, 10:00-11:30am) and Monday Evenings (April 11-June 20, 6:30-8:00pm). Contact Paul Cranley (pecranley@hotmail.com, 979-236-5906) or Anne Marie Daniel (adaniel@stlaurence.org, 281-265-5774,) for information and to sign up.

---

**Ministry News**

**DIVORCE CARE**

DivorceCare meets each Wednesday 7:00-9:00pm in the St. Francis Room. This week we will focus on forgiveness, the MOST important topic we cover! Learn to free yourself from the effects of carrying the burden of un-forgiveness. For more info, please contact Janie at 832-860-3398 and [jpdivorcecare@aol.com](mailto:jpdivorcecare@aol.com).

**APRIL 7: Cancer Support Group Meeting**

The Cancer Support Group will meet on Thursday, April 7, at 10:00am in the St. Clare Room to hear cancer survivor Theresa Buede on nutrition and living cancer-free. If you’re a survivor or a caregiver, this group is for you! Call Angela Rankin at [832-945-2245](tel:832-945-2245). If you have cancer, don’t deal with it by yourself. Share your journey with others and find out you’re not alone.

**HOPE (Helping Our Pain Ease) begins April 7**

This structured series helps adults grieve successfully through the four tasks of grieving (utilized by the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved, Inc.) Consider attending if you have lost a loved one, either recently or in the past. Led by a hospice-trained facilitator, the group meets on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. To register, call Annette (281-980-1449) or Kathy (281-468-0738).

**MAY 6: In the Heart of the Home**

Join other Catholic moms who home school for a casual evening of support, sharing, and refreshments. “In the Heart of the Home” will be offered on Friday, May 6, 6:30-8:00pm in the parish hall. If you have a friend who is thinking of educating children at home, please invite her. We will do a small craft to honor Our Lady for the month of May. There is no cost to attend. For more info, please contact Melissa Calcote at mcalcote@stlaurence.org.

**St. Laurence Adult Singles Group**

The St. Laurence Adult Singles Group serves adults of all ages who are widowed, divorced, separated or never married. For more event info, email us at stlaurancesingles@gmail.com.

**Fri, 4/1 @ 6:00PM – Dinner at Red Oak Grill.** Let’s have some Mediterranean food at the Missouri City location of Red Oak Grill, at 5011 Hwy 6, just past Dulles at Colonial Lakes Drive.

**Calling Moms with Tots!**

Are you a mom who is home with your young child(ren) ages infant to pre-K on Monday mornings? Please join the Moms & Tots ministry for our weekly Play and Pray Group! We plan a variety of activities for our children as we support and encourage you in your vocation as a mother. Please contact Chrissy Campbell for more information at chrissyannecampbell@gmail.com or 310-926-7085.
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. THESA 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.