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
Liturgy: Theresa Rawls
Facilities: Deanna Ennis
Social Concerns: Pennie DeGroot
Communications: Sharon Ehrenkranz

Religious Education: Laura Stephens
Religious Education Registrar: Ruba Kaiser
Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato
Children’s Faith Formation: Joan Hastreiter
Youth Ministry: Kris Frank
Sara Sahlezghi
Eric Painter

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL  3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479  281-980-0500
Principal: Debra Haney
Registrar: Marie Brown

WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM  3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479  281-313-0329
Director: Becky Wilkinson

PARISH LEADERSHIP COUNCILS  281-980-9812
Pastoral Council: Tom Ruck
Finance Council: Bob Ladd
Discipleship Council: Marc Sherman

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEKLLY OFFERTORY
April 3 Collection  $ 53,328
Registered Households  7,275
Envelopes Used  795
Loose Checks  198

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory  $ 154,942
Participants  882

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal  $ 495,000
Amount Paid  $ 205,696
Amount Pledged  $ 296,787
Participants  727

Our church code TX460 or mail in an enrollment form from the parish office.

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 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.
Good News Reflection
Third Sunday of Easter
April 10, 2016

The nature of our calling

Whenever I read this Sunday's Gospel story, I have to wonder, how did Jesus catch the fish he was barbecuing when the disciples came ashore? Did he have a net, too? Did he buy it in town with the bread? If so, didn’t anyone recognize him? Or maybe the fish just jumped out of the water onto the fire! And maybe he turned stone into bread, like Satan had once tempted him to do.

Reflect back upon the miracle of the multiplication of loaves and fish. Same foods: bread and fish. Same miracle! It does not matter how little we have or even whether we have anything at all. God the Creator has an infinite supply and is able to produce an abundance of everything. It’s never based on what we have; it’s always based on the love he has for us.

What he wants from us is the willingness to do the work of sharing what God provides. In the miracle of feeding the crowd, the disciples were asked to distribute the multiplied food. In the miracle of the huge catch of fish, the disciples were asked to "bring some of the fish you caught" and add it to the meal that Jesus was already cooking.

Afterward, Peter was asked to share the love he had for Jesus with the "sheep". From where does love come? Peter didn’t love anybody by his own efforts; none of us do. Peter was created with God’s love already in him, as we all were, for we were made in the image of God who is love.

Peter’s calling was to share the abundance of God’s love, so that the kingdom of God could continue to spread throughout the earth. What is God asking you to do? The answer does not lie in what you have, but in what you are willing to do with what God already has.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

What work for the kingdom of God (the parish, a friend, a community program) have you felt a desire to do, but haven’t yet done, because your net feels empty? Assume that Jesus is asking you to do it; what action can you take this week that will toss your net over the other side of the boat?

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:

Are you doing everything you feel called by God to do? Share with your community a frustrated calling, i.e., an unsuccessful or un-begun vocation. What does God have that you don’t have that could turn the dream into reality? Exchange ideas on how to avail yourself of God’s abundance.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, April 10
(#1069 IN YOUR GATHER BOOK)
First Reading ACTS 5:27-32, 40B-41
Second Reading REV 5:11-14
Gospel JN 21:1-19

Monday
First Reading ACTS 6:8-15
Gospel JN 6:22-29

Tuesday
First Reading ACTS 7:51—8:1A
Gospel JN 6:30-35

Wednesday
First Reading ACTS 8:1B-8
Gospel JN 6:35-40

Thursday
First Reading ACTS 8:26-40
Gospel JN 6:44-51

Friday
First Reading ACTS 9:1-20
Gospel JN 6:52-59

Saturday
First Reading ACTS 9:31-42
Gospel JN 6:60-69

SUNDAY, April 17
First Reading ACTS 13:14, 43-52
Second Reading REV 7:9, 14B-17
Gospel JN 10:27-30

PRAYING THE NEWS

April 10, 2016

Even though there were so many,
the net was not torn.
John 21:11

O Lord, the news speaks ever louder
of exclusion, of competition for
limited resources and jobs, of people
allowed in or kept outside borders and
communities. Our human minds focus
on limits and what we think is possible.
But you ask us to be open to mercy and
faith. You ask us to trust your promise
that if we seek to do your will, you will
give us the means to accomplish it.
Jesus, help us trust in you.
Amen. †
PRAY FOR INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON
Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for...

Cristian Perez, Makayla Mendez, Gonzalez family, Munguia family, Stockhausen family, Maria Almaraz, Carlos & Ortiz Espedez, James Wehagen & family, Jesus Martinez & family, Bob Ahmad, Eva Metcalf, 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.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Baptisms
Alexander King, Parker Randlett, Madison Morgan, Oluchi Okaye, Lukas Hochhalter, Jacob Kwan, Caleb Kim, Nolan Gardner, Jackson Dodd

Funerals
Carmen de Guzman, mother of Fe Tabalada
Victoria Canlas, mother of Larry Canlas
Susan Mendoza, aunt of Veronyka Gonzalez

Pray for Servicemen and Women

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrocks, US Army
Pvt Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O. 5 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, USMC
Capt. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
2ndLt Michael Eberhardt, US Army
Capt. Stacey Eberhardt, US Army
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Felonel, USMC
Pvt Jahnville 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
Sgt. Bryce Whitley, US Army

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) Margaret Uche, Dennis Henderson

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Apr 9
5:00 pm Esperanza Sanchez (D)

Sunday, Apr 10
7:30 am Salvador Rosario (D)
9:00 am Edmie Gonzalez Rosalino (D)
11:00 am Patti Kelly (D)
12:45 pm Agnes Galati (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

Monday, Apr 11
7:30 am Kelly Suter (D)
12:00 pm Norman Ralph (D)

Tuesday, Apr 12
7:30 am Oanh Tu Vann (D)
12:00 pm Gregory Alguiza (D)

Wednesday, Apr 13
7:30 am Emgila Martinez (D)
6:30 pm Pete Cangelosi (D)

Thursday, Apr 14
7:30 am Alfonso M. Castro (D)
12:00 pm Joseph W. Ette (D)

Friday, Apr 15
8:15 am Sang Song (D)
12:00 pm Pete Cangelosi (D)

Saturday, Apr 16
8:30 pm DeGuzman Family (D)
5:00 pm Carol Siwierka (D)

Sunday, Apr 17
7:30 am James Vaughan (D)
9:00 am Christopher Hughes (D)
11:00 am Tony Yasilli (D)
12:45 pm Susana Obikwelu (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

TODAY’s ANNOUNCEMENTS

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:


WEDDING PREPARATION

Next class: 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 class: 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.

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.
**APR 11: Christopher West at St. Laurence**

Best-selling Catholic author, cultural commentator, and theologian Christopher West is coming to St. Laurence this 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 to the event is $20 at the door. Get more information at www.stlaurence.org/christopherwest or contact Justin Frato at jfrato@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774.

**MEN: Sign up for the 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. For all the info and to register, go to www.stlaurence.org/mens-acts-retreat. 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).

**APR 17: Annual KC Scholarship Contest DUE!**

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).

**MAY 14: Come, Holy Spirit, Come!**

Come to a life-changing Growth in the Holy Spirit Seminar on Saturday, May 14, from 9:00am-5:00pm, in Marian Hall B. Dynamic speakers, including Fr. Drew, Fr. Paulissen, Fr. Salen, Barbara Mackie and Sherry Burns, will talk on the Holy Spirit, the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit, growing in the Spirit and how the Holy Spirit has influenced their lives. The seminar will end with a powerful healing service. This is a **free event with lunch provided**, sponsored by the Hearts of Jesus & Mary Prayer Group and the Filipino Community of St. Laurence. For more info or to register in advance, call Deacon Rey (713-854-8804), Margie Calo (281-980-4711), Fe Vicerra (713-248-1164), Teddy Bentulan (281-529-5338).

**THIS WEEK: Consoling the Heart of Jesus**

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)**. For information and to sign up, contact Paul Cranley (pecranley@hotmail.com, 979-236-5906) or Anne Marie Daniel (adaniel@stlaurence.org, 281-265-5774).
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 Ewbanks
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com

Lay Apostle Prayer Group  (First Monday, May 2)
10:30am-12:00pm, St. Anne Room 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 Ewbanks
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com

Tuesday Bible Study  (Weekly)
9:15-11:45am, Marian Hall, Contact: Regina Johnson 281-403-1792
April 12: Last Class

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)
9:00am/12:00pm, St Clare Room
Contact: Sally Flowers 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 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 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'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

Couples Game Night
“Couples that play together, Stay together”
Saturday, April 16, 6:30-9:30pm, Marian Hall
$40 per couple
Join us for a date night competing against other couples in various games. Burgers, beer & opportunities to win prizes!

Rediscover your Church!
“COME AND SEE”
Monday, April 11: Prayer and Relationship with God
7:15-9:00pm
Ave Maria Center, St Anne Room
Contact Art & Marilyn Ramponi for more info: 832-945-2110, artmarilyn2@att.net

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible
8 Tuesdays: 7:30-9:00pm Ave Maria Center
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and June 14, 21, 28
If you would like a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, join us for this study in 8 engaging sessions (half-hour Jeff Cavins video presentation followed by group discussions). Online registration only. Cost for materials is $17.95, plus shipping and handling. Get more info from Justin Frato.

Register and pay at stlaurence.org/biblestudies.
Children’s Faith Formation

PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!

ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK

Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

Jesus taught us to think of God as our loving Father and showed us his trust in God the Father through his obedience to Him and how he prayed. From the beginning of the Church, Christians have prayed as Jesus did and call this prayer the Lord’s Prayer or the Our Father. This prayer is shared by Christians throughout the world and when we pray it we tell God that He is the center of our lives and that we trust Him above everything and everyone else. As a family, discuss ways this week that you can show your trust and obedience to God.

OPEN NOW: 2016-2017 CCE Registration

Registration for the upcoming CCE program year (starting in September) is now open. Register early, as many classes fill up fast! A registration packet was sent home with the youngest child of each family currently in CCE. If you are new to the CCE program, please register online or pick up information at the AMC.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

APRIL 11-14:
Music Monday – Taco Tuesday – Family Picnics!

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

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.

For Children

St. Laurence Catholic School
www.stlaurence.org/school

SLCS celebrates the Week of the Young Child
The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration to focus public attention on the specific needs of young children and to recognize the programs and services that meet those needs. The NAEYC first established the Week of the Young Child in 1971, recognizing that the early childhood years (birth through age 8) are the foundation for children’s success in school and later life. SLCS has activities to support and celebrate our “Youngest Learners” all week! Join us!

“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.

Discern for SLCS School Board
Interested in being a member of the SLCS School Board? Come to an information night this Thursday, April 14, at 7:00pm, in the school Dining Hall. Discernment will be held Saturday, April 16, beginning with Mass at 8:30am. Please note, the following persons may not be considered as candidates for the School Board: 1) spouses or siblings of 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 feel free to contact Michael Hurtado at Michael_Hurtado@bmc.com.

Follow us and witness the amazing things happening in our school!
Website www.edoline.net/pages/slcs
Facebook www.facebook.com/stlaurencecs
Twitter www.twitter.com/StLaurence_1992
Instagram www.instagram.com/stlaurencecs
Pinterest www.pinterest.com/stlaurencecs
YouTube www.youtube.com/user/SLCSSaints/videos
Saints TV www.youtube.com/user/SLCSAV/feed

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.
In today’s Gospel we hear of that mysterious meeting Jesus’ disciples had with him on the shore of the Lake of Tiberius. Jesus invited them to have breakfast with him. He took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. None of the disciples were bold enough to ask: “Who are you?” They realized it was the risen Lord. Those who practice good stewardship of their life of faith are touched by joy and moved by deep awe when encountering Christ in the celebration of the Eucharist. How do you experience the mysterious presence of Jesus in the Eucharist? Do you recognize his presence? Do you hear the Lord’s invitation to draw nearer? Do you experience a closeness, or a reserve? A familiarity, or a distance?

**Stewards Among Us**

**Susan Kelly-Zapata**

Susan says, “If you had asked me five years ago if I’d ever be so involved or even interested in doing the things that I’m doing now, I probably would have laughed. I found myself at a time in my life where I had a lot of time on my hands and I decided that I should put that time to good use. The church that I was going to near my house in Houston is an older parish that doesn’t have many ministries and I had been to St. Laurence for a wedding or two, so I looked at the website and I had been to St. Laurence for a very interesting and jump in. I’ve learned that it truly is better to give than to receive and it helps me appreciate the many, many blessings I have been given.”

**Catechism Corner**

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

**Q.** Is globalization exclusively a matter of politics and economics?

**A.** There used to be the idea of a division of labor: economics should be concerned about increasing wealth, and politics should be concerned about distributing it justly. In the age of globalization, however, profits are obtained globally, while politics to a great extent is still limited within national boundaries. Therefore, what is needed today is not just the strengthening of transnational political institutions, but also the initiatives of individuals and social groups that are active economically in the poorer regions of the world, not primarily for the sake of profit, but rather out of a spirit of solidarity and love. The market and the State are necessary, but so is a strong civil society. In a market, products and services are exchanged for goods having the same value. In many regions of this world, however, the people are so poor that they cannot offer anything in exchange and therefore continue to be left behind. So there is a need for economic initiatives that are defined, not by the logic of exchange, but rather by the logic of the unconditional gift (Pope Benedict XVI, CIV).

**Dig Deeper:** Read CCC sections 2443-2446 for more on this subject. This answer is reprinted from YOUCAT question 447.

**ASK PAULA**

**Q.** I would like to see Fr. Drew. Can you make me an appointment?

**A.** NO, I can’t. All the priests make their own appointments. Here’s another good one: Would it be possible for me to see Fr. Drew just for two minutes? People, it’s NEVER just two minutes, right? Sometimes parishioners call wanting to talk to a priest, but really they need to talk to one of us. For example, you don’t need to talk to Fr. Drew if you want your baby baptized or if you are getting married. The gals in the office take care of this (they like when I call them gals). If you want your house or car blessed, confession or just some personal matter, then YES, you would want to speak to one of the priests. So when you call the office, if you’re not sure, give us just a little info and we can help you. Just sayin.

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.
ST. LAURENCE ADULT FAITH FORMATION SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS:

GOD, SEX AND THE MEANING OF LIFE

WHAT IF OUR DESIRES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN WE THOUGHT?

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
St Laurence Marriage Enrichment

“Couples that play together, Stay together”

Couples Game Night

Saturday, April 16
6:30-9:30 pm
Marian Hall A & B
$40.00 per couple

Join us for a date night competing against other couples in various games. Not only will there burgers and beer, but also opportunities to win prizes!

Register and pay online at stlaurence.org/datenight
**Peter Ran to the Tomb**

**EASTER 2016 HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**

What thoughts crossed Peter’s mind and stirred his heart as he ran to the tomb? The Gospel tells us that the eleven, including Peter, had not believed the testimony of the women, their Easter proclamation. Quite the contrary, “these words seemed to them an idle tale” (v. 11). Thus there was doubt in Peter’s heart, together with many other worries: sadness at the death of the beloved Master and disillusionment for having denied him three times during his Passion.

There is, however, something which signals a change in him: after listening to the women and refusing to believe them, “Peter rose” (v. 12). He did not remain sedentary, in thought; he did not stay at home as the others did. He did not succumb to the somber atmosphere of those days, nor was he overwhelmed by his doubts. He was not consumed by remorse, fear or the continuous gossip that leads nowhere. **He was looking for Jesus, not himself.** He preferred the path of encounter and trust. And so, he got up, just as he was, and ran towards the tomb from where he would return “amazed” (v. 12). This marked the beginning of Peter’s resurrection, the resurrection of his heart. **Without giving in to sadness or darkness, he made room for hope:** he allowed the light of God to enter into his heart, without smothering it.

We, like Peter and the women, cannot discover life by being sad, bereft of hope. Let us not stay imprisoned within ourselves, but let us break open our sealed tombs to the Lord – each of us knows what they are – so that he may enter and grant us life. Let us give him the stones of our rancor and the boulders of our past, those heavy burdens of our weaknesses and falls. Christ wants to come and take us by the hand to bring us out of our anguish. **This is the first stone to be moved aside this night:** the lack of hope which imprisons us within ourselves. May the Lord free us from this trap, from being Christians without hope, who live as if the Lord were not risen, as if our problems were the center of our lives.

The Lord is alive and wants to be sought among the living. After having found him, each person is sent out by him to announce the Easter message, to awaken and resurrect hope in hearts burdened by sadness, in those who struggle to find meaning in life. This is so necessary today. However, we must not proclaim ourselves. Rather, as joyful servants of hope, **we must announce the Risen One by our lives and by our love;** otherwise we will be only an international organization full of followers and good rules, yet incapable of offering the hope for which the world longs.

Dear brothers and sisters, **Christ is risen! And we have the possibility of opening our hearts and receiving his gift of hope.** Let us open our hearts to hope and go forth. May the memory of his works and his words be the bright star which directs our steps in the ways of faith towards that Easter that will have no end.

---

Excerpt from Pope Francis I Homily on Easter Vigil (3/26/2016)
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

Meet Our Adopted Refugee Families

Each year, our parish adopts two refugee families, arranged through Catholic Charities. Meet the Mola and Aldoujan families, our adopted families this year! Through the generosity of your donations to the Giving Tree, we assist these families for one year, providing some of their most basic needs (housewares, linens, rent, utilities, etc). Additionally, SLCS 4th graders team up with Social Concerns to help feed the spirit of the children of these adopted families. In March, the Mola and Aldoujan families visited SLCS where they were interviewed by the 4th graders about their hopes, dreams and wishes for their new life in the U.S. To help make some of those dreams come true, the 4th graders performed chores to earn the money to purchase gifts. The Mola and Aldoujan families then returned to SLCS for a celebration where they were presented the “gifts to feed their spirits.” The families were so thankful for the love shown to them by the students. The children shared time playing on the playground and eating ice cream together. Special thanks to Suzanne Byrne, Adrianna Gutierrez, Rachel Leaman and 4th grade teachers Lily Feagan, Lori Perkins & Brianne Nelson for making this special event possible in our parish.

NAMI MEETINGS AT ST. LAURENCE

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. For more information, please contact Ken or Pat Sumner at 281-265-1554 or psumner1@comcast.net.
Respect Life News

It’s Baby Bottle time!

Honor your mother with a gift to PRMC! Baby bottles will be offered TODAY and next weekend as a fundraiser for our local Pregnancy Resource Medical Center. Please take a bottle home, and fill it with a donation to PRMC (coins, bills or a check). Donations returned by April 25 may be made in honor of a mother. PRMC will send a card, in time for Mother’s Day, letting her know that a donation was made in her honor. PRMC supports the sanctity of life by offering information, emotional support, and practical help to women tempted by abortion.

PRMC Vision Hours: The Pregnancy Resource Medical Center in Rosenberg (2918 Ave I) offers regular “Vision Hours” as a way to inform people about their work to help women with the choice for life. Tour the center, meet staff members, hear great client stories. You will NOT be asked for a donation. Call the Center at 281-232-2375 to learn more!

JOIN OUR HABITAT TEAM!

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 Lawerence Perreau at lperreau@comcast.net.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?
NEED SERVICE HOURS?
Visit the Social Concerns page on the parish website: www.stlaurence.org/volunteer-service-opportunities

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.

ENSEÑE 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.

Around the Archdiocese

LIBANGA: CATHOLIC CONGOLESE COMMUNITY

Congoleses Catholics and others interested in building community are invited to join Libanga. Members share a desire to strengthen connections within the Congolese community while integrating into American society, celebrate and promote their homeland’s culture, and live the joy of the Gospel. The organization has an immediate need for a volunteer to start a Children’s Choir and another to coordinate fundraising activities and special projects. Longer range, Libanga hopes to build a school and provide crisis assistance to single mothers, abandoned children and rape victims. For more information, please visit www.libangacch.com or contact Fr. Simon Kipiti at skipiti@stlaurence.org.

APRIL 21-24: WOMEN’S 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 23-24: ST. THERESA ANNUAL BAZAAR

Plan to attend St. Theresa’s Annual Bazaar the weekend of April 23-24, located right here in Sugar Land! Activities include 10 prize drawings, silent auction, live auction, huge garage sale, over 50 booths including food booths, Czech kolaches, cake walk, cotton candy, music, entertainment, vendors, children’s area with lots of games and toys to win, train rides, rock wall and much more! The hours are 6-11pm on Saturday and 11am-7pm on Sunday. Get all the details at www.sugarlandbazaar.com.

APRIL 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. Bellfort 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.

MAY 31-JUNE 5: PASSION PLAY PILGRIMAGE

A group of parishioners will head to Branson, MO, and Eureka Springs, AR, May 31-June 5, to see live shows and exhibits of our faith. This unique travel package includes the Great Passion Play, Holy Land Tour, Parable of the Potter, Bible Museum, Christ of the Ozark, Sacred Arts Center and much more. Contact Margie Calo at 281-980-4711 or diomargo77@gmail.com for all of the information about this pilgrimage to nearby Missouri & Arkansas.
### Sacrament Preparation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</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 Sahlezghi</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
<td>Mary Visser</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<td>First Reconciliation</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
<td>281-980-8090</td>
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### Faith Formation & Education

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<thead>
<tr>
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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>Small Christian Comm</td>
<td>Genoveva Duque</td>
<td>281-980-1014</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>Vocations Committee</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 PTO</td>
<td>Kristin Holy</td>
<td>281-491-8236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Crockett</td>
<td>713-857-5504</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Monica Doucet</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendie Wilkinson Annual</td>
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<tr>
<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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### Prayer Groups & Small Christian Communities

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<tr>
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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 Apostle Prayer</td>
<td>Kay Quenan</td>
<td>281-265-3238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Carmelita Kussado</td>
<td>713-922-2446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men's Bible Studies</td>
<td>Steve Ewbank</td>
<td>281-980-5575</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>Joseph Ellankil</td>
<td>832-282-3032</td>
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### Liturgical Ministries

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<th>Ministry</th>
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<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>Claire Gregory</td>
<td>713-628-3949</td>
</tr>
<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 Mecher</td>
<td>281-543-9876</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</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 Pendell</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. Cyl</td>
<td>832-449-3759</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Tim Beverick</td>
<td>281-265-1533</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect Life</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
<td>281-265-7749</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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<td>Society St. John DeMatha</td>
<td>Deacon Al Bothe</td>
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### Ministries of Pastoral Support

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Annuilments</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bereavement Ministries</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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<tr>
<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
<td>281-980-1449</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
<td>832-945-2245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Lori 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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<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
<td>Ambrose Graham</td>
<td>713-865-3729</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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### Evangelization, Stewardship & Leadership

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<th>Ministry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<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>
<td>281-265-7749</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>Bob Ladd</td>
<td>281-980-3246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Peace University</td>
<td>Jason Davalos</td>
<td>832-876-9824</td>
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<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome Ministry</td>
<td>Eva Fernandez</td>
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### Community & Parish Life

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<th>Ministry</th>
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<tbody>
<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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<tr>
<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<td>Filipino Community</td>
<td>Fe Vicerra</td>
<td>713-248-1164</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic Ministry</td>
<td>Francisco Rojas-Ayala</td>
<td>281-690-3374</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Gary Arrington</td>
<td>713-882-9567</td>
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<td>Ladies Guild</td>
<td>Joan O’Daniel</td>
<td>281-788-5430</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moms &amp; Tots</td>
<td>Chrissy Campbell</td>
<td>310-926-7085</td>
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<td>St. Laurence Singles</td>
<td>Kathy Gawlik</td>
<td>281-980-2677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors (JOY Club)</td>
<td>Pennie DeGroot</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
<td>281-330-0565</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Adult Group</td>
<td>Steve Washer</td>
<td>585-410-4467</td>
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Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.
April 21: JOY Club Holy Door Pilgrimage
The JOY Club invites other senior members of the parish (50+) to join them for Noon Mass at St. Laurence on Tuesday, April 19. After Mass, they will head to nearby St. Theresa for another pilgrimage to the Door of Mercy, designated by Cardinal DiNardo for this Year of Mercy. Then they’ll get lunch at a place TBD. Bring a friend! Contact Anne Higgins for information at nannyhiggs@gmail.com, 832-755-5597.

ADORERS STILL NEEDED FOR THESE HOURS:
Monday 1am-2am and Monday 2pm-3pm

April 21: Harvesting Our Tears
Coping with the sudden or tragic death of a loved one can be very difficult. Survivors are often overwhelmed by the grief that follows this unexpected death, complicating the grieving process. Connect with others in the Grieving Families Support Group, for those grieving the death of loved ones through murder, suicide, accident or any sudden death. The group meets on the 3rd Thursday each month from 1:00-2:30pm, in the St. Francis Room. Join us for the next meeting on April 21, as we continue with Harvesting Our Tears, a program recommended by our Archdiocese. For info, contact Agnes Fernandes: 281-933-3721, agnesffernandes@gmail.com.

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. Contact Anne Marie Daniel at adaniel@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774 with questions regarding this new group.

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 Ministry serves adults of all ages who are widowed, divorced, separated or never married. For more event info, email us at stlaurencesingles@gmail.com.

WED, 4/13 @ 6:00PM – Book Club Dinner at Café Goo Goo Yen. Read Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee and be ready to discuss it!
SAT, 4/23 @ 6:00PM – Dinner at Ragan Cajun. Let’s get some yummy Cajun food and hopefully enjoy some nice weather on their patio, located near Hwy 59 and Hwy 6.
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.