His Mercy Endures Forever
2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND

Christ calls us to reach those who are sick or in need, to bless them, serve them, and show them mercy. The thousands of people served by the ministries of our Archdiocese need your compassion and generosity. Your gift to the DSF enables us to reach out to people across the archdiocese through more than 60 programs. If you haven’t already done so, please pray about your commitment and donate online at [www.archgh.org/dsf](http://www.archgh.org/dsf).

Also, donation envelopes are located at the Hospitality Desk. If everyone gives something, we will easily meet our parish goal of $480,000. Thank you!
Mary’s Month

By Anne Marie Daniel

I recall as a teenager attending the St. Joseph’s Convent High School in St. George’s, Grenada, where many of my schoolmates and I looked forward to the month of May. It was a very special time for us, during which we participated in praying the Rosary daily, singing hymns to Our Blessed Mother, May processions and May crowning celebrations. This practice of honoring Mary during the month of May has been recommended by several popes including Pius XII, Paul VI, and Saint John Paul II.

We are often asked the question, “Why do we honor Mary?” We honor Mary because she is the Mother of Jesus and He gave her to us to be our mother. She loves us as a mother loves her children and we love her as our mother. She continues to show us how much she loves us through her many apparitions in various parts of the world. She constantly exhorts us to “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5).

On May 13, 1916, Our Lady appeared to three children, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, in Fatima, Portugal. She appeared to them monthly until October that year when 70,000 people were gathered and witnessed a miracle of the sun during her apparition to the children. This apparition has been accepted by the Church as authentic and has become one of the most important Catholic pilgrimage sites. Our Lady referred to herself as The Lady of The Rosary and asked the children to pray the Rosary daily. There have been many other apparitions of Our Blessed Mother in many areas of the world, and one common feature is that Our Lady seeks only to draw us closer to God. She asks us to pray, pray, pray. She asks to pray the Rosary.

Many popes have encouraged praying the Rosary. Pope Pius XI said, “The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin... If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors.”

So this May, let us honor Our Blessed Mother in a special way. Our new Ave Maria Parish Life Center has been dedicated to Our Lady and we are blessed with a beautiful Rosary Garden. We invite all to pray the Rosary in this beautiful space either individually or with your friends. You will certainly make Our Lady happy.

Ave María!

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“If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary.” Pope Pius XI

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, May 1
(#1078 IN YOUR GATHER BOOK)
First Reading ACTS 15:1-2, 22-29
Second Reading REV 21:10-14, 22-23
Gospel JN 14:23-29

Monday
First Reading ACTS 16:11-15
Gospel JN 15:26—16:4A

Tuesday
First Reading 1 COR 15:1-8
Gospel JN 14:6-14

Wednesday
First Reading ACTS 17:15, 22-18:1
Gospel JN 16:12-15

Thursday
First Reading ACTS 18:1-8
Gospel JN 16:16-20

Friday
First Reading ACTS 18:9-18
Gospel JN 16:20-23

Saturday
First Reading ACTS 18:23-28
Gospel JN 16:23B-28

SUNDAY, May 8 – ASCENSION
First Reading ACTS 1:1-11
Second Reading EPH 1:17-23
Gospel LK 24:46-53

PRAYING THE NEWS

May 1, 2016

...my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
John 14:27

O Lord, the flooding in Houston, earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan – these and other events bring fear, uncertainty and sadness. Still, your peace can be ours if we believe in you and your love for us. Please hold close all those who are troubled or afraid today. Help us place our trust in you – the source of true peace.

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


PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Baptisms
Reiner Simichon, Saviana Curiel, Marco Curiel, Ava Chiobi, Beckett Tillman, Lorelei Tillman, Lucas James, James Mentari, Emma Mentari

Weddings
Desire Mutia & Carlos Rodriguez

Funerals
Frank Reina, father of Cathy Hines & Mary Jo James
Lucille Moorman, mother of Tom Moorman

Pray for Servicemen and Women

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrock, US Army
 Pvt Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O.O. 5 Debra Barnette, US Navy
LCpl Trevor Belko, USMC
PFC John Blair, US Army
 Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
Staff Sgt. Jaron Chacon, USMC
Lt Matthew Chesney, US Navy
 Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Capt. Patrick Coffman, USMC
LTG Colin Day, US Navy
1Lt Ande 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 Felonel, USMC
Pvt Jalheen 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
SPO 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, US Army
Cpl Kevin McGinnis, USMC
Capt. Brendan McPartland, USMC
1stLt Todd Miller, US Army
Capt. Alexander Morningstar, US Army
CB, Richard Pinard, US Army
LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
Sgt. Santiago Ramirez, US Army
2ndLt Taylor Rammrath, US Army
Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SRA Jonathan Slusser, US Air Force
ENS Kevin Stransky, US Navy
LCpl Daniel Thesing, USMC
Capt. Michael Thesing, USMC
Sgt. Bryce Whiteley, US Army

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. If you are interested in a homebound Mass, please call the parish office at 281-980-9812. You are welcome to attend our fortnightly homebound Mass at 10:30 am on Saturdays at 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 30 – May 8

Saturday, Apr 30
5:00 pm Agnes Galati (D)

Sunday, May 1
7:30 am Romeo Calo (I)
9:00 am Robert E. Kempker, III (D)
11:00 am L.J. Reaux (D)
12:45 pm James Richard Mora (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

Monday, May 2
7:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Okuelegbe (D)
12:00 pm Paul LaSaint, Jr. (D)

Tuesday, May 3
7:30 am Alfredo Lonzuza (D)
12:00 pm Sara Alcala (D)

Wednesday, May 4
7:30 am Iiris Bello (D)
6:30 pm Napoleon & Feliciana Estepa (D)

Thursday, May 5
7:30 am Leliana Cachero (I)
12:00 pm Sara Alcala (D)

Friday, May 6
8:15 am Lorenzo Lopez (D)
12:00 pm Catherine & Cyprian Miranda (D)

Saturday, May 7
8:30 pm Kate Large (D)
10:00 am Aley John (D)
5:00 pm Jose Dejesus (D)

Sunday, May 8
7:30 am Agnes Galati (D)
9:00 am Vivian Jordan (D)
11:00 am Dieudonne Yongoueth (D)
12:45 pm Adorocion Argao (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

Pray for Our Parishioners in Religious Formation

Marc Fryer, Br. Peter Francis (Brian Kelsch), Chad Henry, Bryan Williams, Sr. Philomena (Krystle Cagadanahan), Sr. Rachel (Gosda), Sr. Daniela (Megan Bennett)
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:

Autumn Still, Rosa Ortiz, Cristian Perez, Makayla Mendez, Rogelio Hernandez, James Wehagen & family, Kenneth Tuttle & family, Adrian Zaldivar, Gonzalez family, Stockhausen family, Munguia family, Patricia LaFleur, Deacon Al Botte, the Society of St John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3.

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

Sunday, May 1

KINGDOM CARE

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

PASTORAL CARE TO SICK & HOMEBOUND

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

WEDDING PREPARATION

Next 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.
Catholic Daughters Spring Bake Sale

The St. Laurence Catholic Daughters are on the plaza TODAY for their annual Spring Bake Sale! What a great way to provide fresh home-baked desserts and breakfast breads for you and your family, or store them for First Communion and Mother’s Day celebrations the following weekend. Look for them after the Vigil Mass on Saturday and on Sunday morning, until they sell out. All funds raised support the Catholic Daughters in their many charities and works of mercy.

COR Worship Night on Monday

Our next COR Worship Night is TOMORROW, Monday, May 2, from 7:00-8:30pm, at the Ave Maria Center and everyone is invited for 90 minutes of pure praise, teaching & adoration. It’s like a mini-morsel of Heart of Worship! We will hear a brief teaching from Brittany Barraza and Danielle Noonan will lead the music. Open to people of all ages, free of charge, and no need to RSVP. Just come and join others in praising God!

May 5: National Day of Prayer

People from faith communities all over Sugar Land will gather on Sugar Land’s Town Square this Thursday, May 5, at 12:00 noon for the 65th annual National Day of Prayer. The theme for 2016 is “Wake Up America,” emphasizing the need to return to God in reverence. Our own Youth Minister Kris Frank will serve as one of the prayer leaders at this ecumenical prayer event. Plan to join him on Town Square to spend your lunch hour in prayer... and invite someone to join you!

MAY 14: Mary, Universal Mother

The Hispanic Ministry and Legion of Mary invite all members of St. Laurence to Mary, Universal Mother, a multicultural event on Saturday May 14, from 1:00-4:00pm in Guardian Angels Hall. This special annual event begins with the Children’s Living Rosary in 5 languages and exhibit of the various Marian Advocations from countries around the world. Hear presentations, celebrate the universality of our devotion to the Blessed Mother, make friends and enjoy refreshments at this free event. For more info, contact Vicky Hu: 281-236-3634, illimanihu1@yahoo.com.

MAY 14: Growth in the Holy Spirit Seminar

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).

Parish Baby Shower

Tag line after Masses TODAY
Pick up a tag for the St. Laurence Gabriel Project. Your gifts will be displayed at the Parish Baby Shower on Sunday, May 22, and donated to mothers in crisis pregnancies.

Men’s ACTS Retreat

JUNE 9-12, 2016
Want a stronger connection with other guys in the parish? Spend time with God, focus on your faith and cultivate friendships at this ACTS weekend retreat. REGISTER NOW! www.stlaurence.org/mens-acts-retreat

Mother’s Day Carnation Sale

Sunday, May 8
7:30, 9:00 & 11:00am Masses
Buy a carnation for $1/each and show her you love her. Benefits the Gabriel Project to support moms in crisis pregnancies.
For Adults

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

MONDAY

Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
7:30-9:00pm, St Francis Rm, Contact: Steve Ewbank
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com

Lay Apostle Prayer Group (First Monday, 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

Come and See
7:15-9:00pm, Ave Maria Center, St. Anne Room
Contact: Art & Marilyn Ramponi, 832-945-2110
May 2: Explanation and Walk-through the Mass (in the Church)

TUESDAY

Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
6:30-7:30am, St Francis Rm, Contact: Steve Ewbank
281-980-5575, stevee@pcdltd.com

NEW - Tuesday Evening Bible Study (Weekly)
7:30-9:00pm Marian Hall, Contact: Joe Kanusky 281-265-4084
Begins this week. REGISTER NOW!

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 Hall
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, veronicacareinoso62@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:
Barbara Elliott

STREET SAINTS:
Renewing America’s Cities through the Works of Mercy
Monday, May 9
7:00-9:00 pm
Marian Hall

We are called to reveal the mercy of the Father to this hurting world through the Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy. Join Barbara Elliott as she shares the inspirational stories of those around America who are living out this call by serving “the least ones” in our society.

Barbara J. Elliott is the founder of the Center for Cultural Renewal, a resource center for faith-based organizations working to renew the cities of America, and founder of WorkFaith Connection. Barbara is currently a professor in the Honors College of Houston Baptist University and is the author of several books.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study
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. INFO: Joe Kanusky, jkanusky@aol.com. Register and pay at stlaurence.org/biblestudies

Marriage Enrichment
“Beloved” Series RETURNS
Weds evenings: May 18–June 29, 6:30-9:00pm, Marian Hall

Join couples in strengthening your marriage through a 6-week series, Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage. Enjoy getting to know other couples over dinner, followed by a dynamic video presentation, small group discussion, and one-on-one time as a couple. Choose one of two tracks to attend following dinner: Beloved Part I: The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage (understanding theological foundations of marriage) or Beloved Part II: Living Marriage (focuses on practical life skills needed in marriage). Bring a dish to share with eight others.

Cost: $40 per new couple, $20 returning couple
Register and pay online at stlaurence.org/beloved by May 23 to reserve your spot!

LAY APOSTLE PRAYER GROUP
Monday, May 2, 10:30am-12:00pm, St Anne or 7:00-8:30pm, Rm 205
For more info, contact Kay Quenan at 281-265-3238
Children’s Faith Formation
PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!

ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK
Pentecost
This week, we will begin our LAST CCE SESSION with a devotional to our Blessed Mother, called a May Crowning. After the Risen Lord ascended to his Father in Heaven, his disciples gathered in a house in Jerusalem. There, on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, a great wind filled the room bringing the disciples joy and then courage to share their faith in Christ with others. At Pentecost, we are reminded of the gift of the Holy Spirit we received in Baptism and how the Holy Spirit lives within us and helps us to live out our Baptismal call. As a family, discuss which gifts of the Holy Spirit you each uniquely possess and how you use those to glorify 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.

SUMMER CHALLENGE
Faith formation is not limited to the school year! Be intentional about bringing our Catholic Faith into your summertime fun. For ideas, check out the Summertime links on the Elementary CCE page of the parish website.

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

Farewell, Mrs. Haney!
Thursday, June 2: 8:15am Mass in the Church
Reception immediately following in Parish Hall
Debra Haney has served as our school principal for 10 years, and this July, she becomes Associate Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston! Plan to attend a special Mass in the church at 8:15am on Thursday, June 2, then come to the parish hall for cookies & lemonade, and wish Mrs. Haney well as she goes on to serve more of God’s children throughout the archdiocese. All are welcome!

May 10-12: NEHS Christian Book Drive
Attention all book lovers! Do you want to pass on your love of reading to the young members of our community? Headed up by SLCS alumna Kylee Smith, our National Elementary Honor Society will sponsor a Christian book drive to stock a small library in the Ave Maria Center for children to enjoy. Please consider donating new or gently used children’s Christian books during our drive which will be held May 10-12. Thank you for your support!

May 20: Candle Lighting Tradition
Please join us at our All School Mass on Friday, May 20, as our Class of 2016 graduates pass the light of leadership to the 7th graders. It is a long-standing SLCS tradition that is sure to bring a tear to your eye as we say goodbye to our 8th grade class. Mass begins at 8:15am.

Auction Thank You!
We thank all our school and parish families who helped to make our Auction Gala a success! St. Laurence Catholic School is truly blessed with parents and parishioners who believe in and support Catholic education for our children. Your support breathes life into the many wonderful programs and opportunities we are able to provide for our students. We are very grateful for the blessing of this parish.

Coach Middle School sports!
St. Laurence Catholic School is looking for adults interested in coaching middle school sports. We are looking for help with volleyball, soccer, cheerleading, basketball and tennis. If you have a background in coaching and would like to help students learn new skills, please contact Betsy Brown at bbrown@stlaurence.org or Glen Fucik at gfucik@stlaurence.org.

WCP SUMMER CAMP
Open to children age 6 months - entering 5th grade
“Experience Different Cultures”
Session 1: June 13-June 17 Pack Your Bags
Session 2: June 20-July 1 Hola, Mexico
Session 3: July 11-July 22 Aloha, Hawaii
Session 4: July 25-August 5 Ni Hao, China
REGISTRATION INFO:
See www.stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR
Contact Peggy Finch at 281-313-0329 or stop by the Ave Maria Center to learn more about this early childhood program.
Live to Glorify God!
Mary is the Model of Christian Discipleship
Sr. Jolly Joseph, Providence College

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother” (Jn 19:26-27). At the foot of the cross, Mary, the mother of Jesus is given as mother to every single human being. Mary is the mother of all mankind. The New Testament traces Mary as a woman of limitless faith, obedience and humility who followed Jesus in a perfect way. Her heart was always centered on Jesus. She is the humble handmaid of God who surrendered herself completely into the hands of God. Without thinking of her fate, Mary said ‘yes’ to God.

Thus, she became an example for those who wish to bear witness to Christ.

STEWARDS AMONG US
Hal Mechler

Hal and his wife Katie joined St Laurence in 1989, when they moved to Sugar Land to work for Imperial Sugar Company. Twenty-seven years later, their 3 kids are now adults – and their 5 grandchildren are growing up in the parish. Hal shares his gifts of leadership and organization with St. Laurence by heading up our Mass Hospitality Ministry, the team of people who serve as Ushers and Greeters at Mass. “The value of service to the parish and wider community is something I learned from my parents growing up,” Hal says. “It’s a life lesson I hope I’m passing on to my children and grandchildren, a lesson taught not by words, but by actions.” Not only can you find Hal in action at Sunday Mass, but he likes to help out on Saturdays at the Habitat for Humanity build site and he supports many of the Social Concerns drives. His favorite? “The annual Share God’s Bounty program each Thanksgiving, because I get to play ‘traffic cop’ in the parking lot, greeting and interacting with the families who are directly benefiting from the program.”

Catechism Corner

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

Q.
How can my everyday routine be a school of prayer?

A.
Everything that happens, every encounter can become the occasion for a prayer. For the more deeply we live in union with God, the deeper we understand the world around us. Someone who already seeks union with Jesus in the morning can be a blessing to the people he meets, even his opponents and enemies. Over the course of the day he casts all his cares on the Lord. He has more peace within himself and radiates it. He makes his judgments and decisions by asking himself how Jesus would act at that moment. He overcomes fear by staying close to God. In desperate situations he is not without support. He carries the peace of heaven within him and thereby brings it into the world. He is full of gratitude and joy for the beautiful things, but also endures the difficult things that he encounters. This attentiveness to God is possible even at work.

Dig Deeper: Read CCC sections 2664-2669 for more on this subject. This answer is reprinted from YOUCAT question 494.

ASK PAULA

Q.
Why do deacons preach at mass sometimes instead of a priest?

A.
Our deacons are ordained to the sacrament of Holy Orders and have faculties to preach. We need to make good use of their ordination, right? Deacons assist the priest at Mass and you guys know we have many Masses here, so our guys can really use the help. They also administer the sacrament of Baptism, witness and bless marriages, officiate at funerals and burial services, and preside at Communion services, like the ones we have coming up in May when our priests are in Galveston for a conference. (Like how I just slipped that in?) You know, it takes about 6 YEARS to become a deacon. WOW. I told Dennis Henderson who will be ordained a deacon on January 14, 2017, that he could have gone to medical school instead. 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.
Would you like to spend some time outdoors in reflection as you pray the Rosary? Then visit the Rosary Garden at St. Laurence Ave Maria Center. The Rosary Garden is a place for us to pray the Rosary as we reflect on the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is open to all for individual or group prayer.

“The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you’ll be amazed at the results.” - St. Josemaria Escriva
Spirituality and Healing Series

Signs and Symptoms of Mental Health Conditions
Thursday May 5, 7:00pm to 8:30pm
St. Laurence Ave Maria Center
Presenter: Pat Sumner, NAMI

Mental Health conditions can take a toll on the lives of those who experience them as well as those who care for them. Join us for this informative session focusing on the signs and symptoms of Mental Health Conditions.

Nutrition and Spirituality: Restoring a Healthy Body Rhythm
Thursday June 2, 7:00pm to 8:30pm
St. Laurence Ave Maria Center
Presenter: Laura Laine, a spiritual director, registered dietitian and owner of Sophia Grace Center for Nutrition

When we hear the word nutrition, our mind immediately thinks of food and eating. But what really nourishes? This talk is about rediscovering the Sacred Rhythm-Holy Order that nourishes, keeping us healthy and balanced. Jesus gave us the example of how to live in a human body. Through the example of Jesus, this talk will address how to re-order our lives around ritual and rhythm, and begin the path to restoring health and nutrition in body, mind, and spirit.

For further information and to register contact Anne Marie Daniel at 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org
**What is EDGE?** It’s way more than effective catechesis. It’s Catholic Middle School Youth 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.

**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!

**Lead Teens Closer to Christ**
Be a part of something big. Be a part of the team that helps disciple and lead middle and high school youth closer to Christ.
If you would like to be a part of this ministry for the upcoming academic year, please call Eric, Kris or Sara at 281-265-5774.

**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**
**TONIGHT - April 24**
**You Oughta Know**
A series on Catholic Apologetics began April 3 – check it out!

**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.
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

Respect Life News

TAG LINE TODAY for Baby Gift Items
Pick up a tag after Mass today for a baby gift item to be donated to the St. Laurence Gabriel Project to help moms in crisis pregnancies, and to the Gabriel Project at sister parishes. Your donated items will be displayed at the 9th Annual Parish Baby Shower on May 22. Please drop off your donation in the parish office (marked “Parish Baby Shower”) or in the marked bin in the church narthex. **We are in need of big items as well as small items, so please grab a tag.** Contact Barbara Pane for more information at 281-734-7413 or barbara@panefamily.com.

The Hollow Men: Male Grief & Trauma Following Abortion
Most discussion of abortion focuses on the baby and the mother. But every baby also has a father. The father of the baby has no legal right to be involved in the abortion decision, married or not. While some fathers pressure or encourage the mother to abort, others encourage abortion by simply not offering their full support. Others may oppose the abortion, or be unaware of it until after the fact. Some are trying to please their partners by supporting “whatever they decide”, but they are in fact abandoning their partner to make the decision alone, and showing a lack of care as to whether their child lives or dies. Male responses to a partner’s abortion include grief, guilt, depression, anxiety, feelings of helplessness, anger, and relationship problems. One study found that 4 of 10 men experienced chronic post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms, occurring on average 15 years after the abortion. Copies of this brochure are available at the Hospitality Desk or via a link on the St. Laurence Respect Life page of the parish website.

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 psummer1@comcast.net.

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.

For more information about these and other ways to serve others, please check the parish website at www.stlaurence.org/social-concerns.

Today’s Parish News

TODAY, MAY 1: May Day Celebration
Join Fort Bend Family Promise for a May Day Celebration filled with family fun at their new Day Center, located at 4645 Cartwright Road, in Missouri City. The event is free and open to the public. Families are invited to drop by between 2:00 and 5:00pm on Sunday, May 1st, to enjoy games, crafts, music, Maypole dancing and delicious treats. Family Promise is a non-profit that mobilizes churches in Fort Bend County to provide shelter, meals and comprehensive support to families experiencing homelessness.

Link to the St. Laurence Respect Life page of the parish website.

Visit the Respect Life page of the parish website.
GIVING is better than receiving!

That’s what Juliette Van Dijk learned when she decided to give gifts to homeless teens to celebrate her 12th birthday. “My parents asked me what I wanted for my birthday and I couldn’t think of anything! I thought about it and most kids would be able to name something that they wanted, but would not be able to have it. So, I decided to ask my friends to bring gifts for the kids at Park’s Youth Ranch rather than to bring gifts for me. I told them to bring things for the Points Store such as baseball hats, candy, nail polish and body wash sets. My friends brought so much stuff! They told me that it really felt good to buy things for other teens that are going through a tough time. My sister, Lisa (pictured right) celebrated her birthday in the same way 2 years ago and she inspired me to do the same.”

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

SPRING CLEANING? Donate to Local Charities
Give directly to a resale center and you will always know what charity your donation is benefitting. Local charitable resale centers such as Pennywise (Fort Bend County Women’s Center), St. Vincent DePaul, Tri-City Churches Resale and Second Mile Mission depend on these donations to fund charities and benefit those in need right here in our own community. Consider donating your gently used clothing, furniture, toys, tools, kitchenware and miscellaneous household items by dropping them off directly at one of their collection and resale centers. Many can send a truck to pick up at your home, as well! Call the Social Concerns Office at 281-980-9812 for contact information. Your donations to local charities make a huge difference! Got damaged, broken or stained items not suitable for resale? These may get a second life, too, through an expanded recycling program through the City of Sugar Land. Check the City’s website for more details.

MAY 6-8: ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN
St. Michael the Archangel Organization invites all Catholics to pray at least one rosary May 6th through 8th, for the intention of an end to the surgical and non-surgical killing of pre-born children. Please contact Marie McCoy at mariemccoyprc@gmail.com or 281-265-7749 to pledge rosaries. She will register the total number for the parish with St. Michael the Archangel Organization.

MAY 7: MEDICAL ETHICS CONFERENCE
Catholic health care professionals often face very difficult ethical dilemmas. To address these challenges, the St. John Paul II Foundation will hold its first Converging Roads Conference in Houston on Saturday, May 7. Renowned experts in medicine and ethics will present on the theme of Human Dignity at the End of Life. CMEs and CNEs are available. The base fee for this full-day conference is $55 (scholarships available for medical and nursing students). For info and to register: www.convergingroads.com

MAY 14: FUNDRAISER FOR POOR IN NICARAGUA
The Houston Chapter of the John Paul II Technical Institute is holding its Bella Notte Dinner & Silent Auction Fundraiser at St. Theresa in Memorial Park on Saturday, May 14, 7:00-11:30pm. The event will feature entertainment, raffle, auction and a 3-course dinner and hors d’oeuvres by Candelaris Restaurant. The mission of the Institute is to give impoverished and destitute children & youth in Nicaragua the opportunity to build a future through education. Tickets are $50 per person. Contact Brenda Maymi-Luna for info and tickets at 281-658-1634 / bmaymiluna@cs.com.

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.

A round the Archdiocese
**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**SUGAR LAND, TEXAS**  
**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**May 1, 2016**

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**Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.**

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### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahlezzghi</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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<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation</td>
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<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
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### FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

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<tbody>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunny Tom</td>
<td>832-620-7417</td>
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<tr>
<td>of the Word</td>
<td>Claire Gregory</td>
<td>281-208-2715</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekday Children's Program</td>
<td>Becky Wilkinson</td>
<td>281-980-0329</td>
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### PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Name</th>
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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>
</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 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 Ebanks</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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<td>Small Christian Comm</td>
<td>Genoveva Duque</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday AM Bible Study</td>
<td>Regina Johnson</td>
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### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

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<th>Ministry</th>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Children's Liturgy of the Word</td>
<td>Susan Choate</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>
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<tr>
<td>Mass Hospitality</td>
<td>Hal Mechler</td>
<td>281-543-9876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Klotz</td>
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### SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<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></td>
<td>Dcn. Charles Plant</td>
<td>281-300-3059</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funeral Receptions</td>
<td>Sue Kulha</td>
<td>281-265-6332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Steve Pontell</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>713-263-2851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals That Heal</td>
<td>MaryAnne Talab</td>
<td>281-438-2381</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
<td>Cordell St. Cyr</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>
</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>
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<tr>
<td>Social Concerns</td>
<td>Pennie DeGroot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Society St. John DeMatha</td>
<td>Deacon Al Bothe</td>
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### MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annuulments</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>
</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>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Janie Picou</td>
<td>832-860-3398</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>
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### EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

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<thead>
<tr>
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<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>
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### COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<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>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>
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<tr>
<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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>Anne Higgins</td>
<td>832-755-5597</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
<td>281-330-0565</td>
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<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
<td>281-313-3625</td>
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<td>Young Adult Group</td>
<td>Steve Washer</td>
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### FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

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<td>Faith &amp; Finance</td>
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<td>LifeTeen</td>
<td>Luisa Kehoe</td>
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<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Tim Beverick</td>
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<td>Prayer Group</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**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.

**ADORERS STILL NEEDED FOR THESE HOURS:**
Monday 1am-2am and Tuesday 4am-5am

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**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. Contact Anne Marie Daniel at 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org.

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**MAY 12: Join the Catholic Daughters**

Ladies of St. Laurence, we would love to have you join us at our next meeting of Catholic Daughters, Thursday, May 12, at 6:30pm, in the parish hall. There is food and fellowship at 6:30pm, followed by our meeting at 7:00pm. If you have considered joining a ministry at St. Laurence to serve our parish, our community, and each other, you are so welcome to be a part of our amazing group of women. Contact Pam White for more info at 281-265-3070.

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**Learn Spanish for your ministry work**

Sign up for free (beginning, intermediate and advanced) Spanish classes this summer, offered through the St. Laurence Learn Spanish Ministry. Classes will be held on **Monday and Thursday evenings** (7:00-8:30pm) and open to priests, deacons, religious, missionaries and anyone active in parish ministries. **Classes begin June 9, and run through August 4.** For more info, to register or to volunteer as a teacher, contact Adriana Gutierrez at 281-265-5419 or LearnSpanishMinistry@gmail.com.

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**July 21-24: Women’s ACTS Retreat**

An ACTS retreat is designed to strengthen your Catholic faith and community by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The retreat is staffed and run by lay people. Please prayerfully consider deepening your faith by attending this retreat. **REGISTRATION TO OPEN IN MID-MAY!** For more information, please contact Susan Herrington at 832-656-4477 or sherrington14@gmail.com, or visit the St. Laurence website at www.stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat.

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**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.

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**FOR SENIORS: St. Laurence J.O.Y Club**

**MAY 2 (Mon) GAMES DAY!** Join us at our monthly JOY Club meeting from 11:00am-1:00pm, at the Ave Maria Center. Bring a sack lunch, your favorite game and some dimes. Drinks and desserts will be provided. Come have fun! Call Anne Higgins at 832-755-5597 for more information.

**MAY 10 (Tue) MASS & LUNCH.** The intention for this Mass is for the members of JOY Club. Sit with us at Mass, then let’s go out to lunch afterwards.

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**Special Needs Faith Formation**

Our parish embraces all children and is blessed to offer faith formation (CCE) and Sacrament preparation classes dedicated especially to those students who have learning and/or developmental differences or needs. If you have a child who may benefit from such a program – or if you have a passion for working with children challenged by learning differences – please contact Joan Hastreiter or Melissa Calcote at 281-265-5774.

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**Signs and Symptoms of Mental Health Conditions**

**Thursday, May 5, 7:00-8:30pm Ave Maria Center**

Presenter: Pat Sumner, NAMI

Join us for this informative session focusing on the signs and symptoms of mental health conditions.

**Nutrition & Spirituality: Restoring a Healthy Body Rhythm**

**Thursday, June 2, 7:00-8:30pm Ave Maria Center**

Presenter: Laura Laine, Sophia Grace Center for Nutrition

This talk is about rediscovering the Sacred Rhythm/Holy Order that nourishes, keeping us healthy and balanced.

INFO: Anne Marie Daniel, 281-265-5774, adaniel@stlaurence.org

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**MAY 5: CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Are you a cancer patient, survivor or caregiver? Come to the next meeting of the Cancer Support Group on **Thursday, May 5, from 10:00-11:30am** in the St. Clare Room. We will make Mother’s Day cards for patients at Sugar Land Health Center – all art supplies are provided to bring a smile to those moms who cannot be in their homes on this special day. Also, we’ll plan our June BBQ, our last event before a summer break. Call Angela Rankin for more info at 832-945-2245.
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.