**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**PARISH OFFICE**
3100 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-9812

- Pastor: Fr. Drew Wood
- Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jaison Thomas, MSFS  jaisonthomas@stlaurence.org
- Parochial Vicar: Fr. Simon Kipiti  skipiti@stlaurence.org
- Deacon: Renato (Rey) Arellano  deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
- Deacon: Albert Botehe  deaconal@ssjd.org
- Deacon: Don Burns  don@donburns.com
- Deacon: Charles Plant  stlaurencedeacon@aol.com
- Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari  toltremari@stlaurence.org
- Liturgy: Theresa Rawls  trawls@stlaurence.org
- Facilities: Deanna Ennis  dennis@stlaurence.org
- Social Concerns: Pennie Degroot  pdegroot@stlaurence.org
- Communications: Sharon Ehrenkranz  sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES**
3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-265-5774

- Director Religious Education: Laura Stephens  lstephens@stlaurence.org
- Religious Education Registrar: Ruba Kaiser  rkaiser@stlaurence.org
- Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato  jfrato@stlaurence.org
- Children’s Faith Formation: Joan Hastreiter  jhastreiter@stlaurence.org
- Youth Ministry: Kris Frank  kfrank@stlaurence.org
- Sara Sahlezghi  ssahlezghi@stlaurence.org
- Eric Painter  epainter@stlaurence.org

**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
2630 Austin Pkwy, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-980-0500

- Principal: Debra Haney  dhaney@stlaurence.org
- Registrar: Marie Brown  mbrown@stlaurence.org

**WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM**
3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-313-0329

- Director: Becky Wilkinson  bwilkinson@stlaurence.org

**PARISH LEADERSHIP COUNCILS**
281-980-9812

- Pastoral Council: Tom Ruck  rucktg@gmail.com
- Finance Council: Bob Ladd  robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
- Discipleship Council: Marc Sherman  MarcSherman@iheartmedia.com

**PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### WEEKLY OFFERTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>May 1 Collection</td>
<td>$ 63,399</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered Households</td>
<td>7,275</td>
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<td>Envelopes Used</td>
<td>721</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loose Checks</td>
<td>216</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Collect: Mission Appeal</td>
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### AUTOMATED GIVING

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<td>Monthly Offertory</td>
<td>$ 174,215</td>
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<td>Participants</td>
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### DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND

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<td>2016 Parish Goal</td>
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<td>Amount Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount Pledged</td>
<td>$ 336,687</td>
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<td>Participants</td>
<td>792</td>
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**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**OUR MISSION**

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

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**FIRST FRIDAY MASS**

June 3 – *In the Chapel*

- 7:00 pm - Rosary & Confessions
- 7:30 pm - Mass

**FIRST SATURDAY MASS**

June 4 – *In the Church*

- 7:45 am - Meditation & Rosary
- 8:30 am - Mass

**MISA EN ESPAÑOL**

Mayo 14 - *En la Capilla*

Segundo y cuarto sábado de cada mes a las 7:00pm. Confesiones en Español antes de la misa de 6:00 a 6:45 pm.

Comunión a los enfermos, Irma Martinez
Tel 281-313-2833

**PARISH OFFICE & COURTYARD**

The parochial 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-Thurday 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.

**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

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.

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**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.

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!
Vessels of Grace

Happy Mother’s Day, to mothers and grandmothers – and to our mothers in faith, the Women of the Bible!

It is my pleasure to announce the 9th Annual St. Laurence Women’s Retreat, scheduled for September 16-18, 2016, at the Camp Allen Retreat Center in Navasota, TX. Last year’s participant evaluations overwhelmingly asked for a retreat about the Women of the Bible. The retreat team worked hard to develop a retreat on this theme and we have selected the title, Vessels of Grace.

Before each retreat planning meeting, the team has silent prayer in the Oratory of the Rosary at the Ave Maria Center. Praying before the beautiful mural of the Wedding Feast of Cana, one is drawn into the scene of a man pouring water into a vessel. At Jesus’ command, the water turns to wine. Webster’s dictionary defines vessel as a person into whom some quality (as grace) is infused; a child of light, a true child of the Lord. We are vessels, who when touched by the hand of Christ, become the best wine, grace filled, to be poured out and shared with the world!

We hold this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.

2 Corinthians 4: 7-10

The women of the bible are many, and their story is an integral part of salvation history. These women are vessels who carry love and grace. Additionally, they exemplify vessels who carry worries, responsibilities, and needs, just as women today. We watch them waiting patiently on God, using their voice and expressing opinions. We see them making contributions and setting boundaries. They demonstrate courage to go beyond society’s norms. They experience grief and sorrow, joy and triumph, hopelessness and despair, acceptance and rejection. They are misunderstood, judged, revered, and cast-out.

The story of these women is our story. We too are multi-faceted creations. As we walk in their footsteps, our story is illuminated in their story. We come to know our merciful and loving God who answers all our needs. Their faith-filled journeys give us hope and courage to move past our fears.

Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. St. Augustine, in a homily on this feast day, said (adapted): Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

Centered in the love of Christ, we the one though many, live to glorify God in all we do.

Please join us for this year’s Women’s Retreat and draw from the deep well of faith and courage as portrayed by the women of the bible. For we are all Vessels of Grace.

In Christ,
Laura Laine
Director, St. Laurence Women’s Retreat Team 2016

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, May 8 – ASCENSION
(#1079 IN YOUR GATHER BOOK)
First Reading ACTS 1:1-11
Second Reading EPH 1:17-23
Gospel LK 24:46-53

Monday
First Reading ACTS 19:1-8
Gospel JN 16:29-33

Tuesday
First Reading ACTS 20:17-27
Gospel JN 17:1-11A

Wednesday
First Reading ACTS 20:28-38
Gospel JN 17:11B-19

Thursday
First Reading ACTS 22:30; 23:6-11
Gospel JN 17:20-26

Friday
First Reading ACTS 25:13B-21
Gospel JN 21:15-19

Saturday
First Reading ACTS 1:15-17, 20-26
Gospel JN 15:9-17

SUNDAY, May 15 – PENTECOST
First Reading ACTS 2:1-11
Second Reading 1 COR 12:3B-7, 12-13
Gospel JN 20:19-23

PRAYING THE NEWS

May 8, 2016
...why are you standing there looking at the sky?
Acts 1:11

O Lord, this passage also reminds me, sadly, of mothers and children in the news who watch in fear, in the midst of aerial bombings of homes and hospitals. Perhaps, too, they search in hope of protection and provisions while in dire need of aid. As your followers, Lord, our call is not to look where you were, but where you are now – among us and in those most in need of help.

Jesus, we trust in you.
Amen. †
PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Baptisms
Elizabeth Maranan, Ethan Basanta, Katelyn Bucklew, Ava Esquivel, Alexandra Estrada, Nicole Estrada, Bradley Church

Funerals
Lanny Burkhalter, father of Chris Burkhalter
John Cutbirth, Jr., brother of Michael Cutbirth
Rita Hershin, mother of Paige Flint & Troy Betenbaugh

Pray for Servicemen and Women
CW2 Brett Anderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrocik, 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
Capt. Brandon Christoff, US Air Force
Capt. Patrick Coffman, USMC

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:


MASS INTENTIONS

May 7 – 15

Saturday, May 7
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 Adoracion Argao (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners

Monday, May 9
7:30 am William & Corazon Rosaleo (I)
12:00 pm Orlando Quirch (D)

Tuesday, May 10
7:30 am Communion Service
12:00 pm Parish Seniors (I)

Wednesday, May 11
7:30 am Mary Neil Henderson (D)
6:30 pm Communion Service

Thursday, May 12
7:30 am Al Hoelscher (D)
12:00 pm Luis Vazquez (D)

Friday, May 13
8:15 am St. Laurence Catholic School Board
12:00 pm Tam Esmersoy (D)

Saturday, May 14
8:30 pm Marie Grace Cugno (D)
10:00 am Carmelina Martinez Santesson (D)
5:00 pm Avi Miranda (D)

Sunday, May 15
7:30 am Anna & David Ermis (D)
9:00 am Henry Bath (D)
11:00 am Fossi Antoine (D)
12:45 pm Galo & Evangelista Elbit (D)
5:00 pm St. Laurence Parishioners
MAY 14: Mary, Universal Mother

The Hispanic Ministry and Legion of Mary invite everyone 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 five 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. INFO: Vicky Hu: 281-236-3634, illimanihu1@yahoo.com.

MAY 14: Growth in the Holy Spirit Seminar

The Growth in the Holy Spirit Seminar will be offered on Saturday, May 14, from 9:00am-5:00pm, in Marian Hall. Hear Fr. Drew, Fr. Paulissen, Fr. Salen, Barbara Mackie and Sherry Burns speak on the Holy Spirit and stay for the 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. INFO: Deacon Rey (713-854-8804), Margie Calo (281-980-4711), Fe Vicerra (713-248-1164), Teddy Bentulan (281-529-5338).

THANK YOU from Fr. Jaison

Dear St. Laurence Parish Family,

I am really excited by the way you all responded to the call for the second collection to support the construction of the La Feuillette seminary in Cameroon, Africa – a clear sign of your appreciation and your willingness to share with our mission and ministry. I really appreciate the love, the care and the concern you showered on Fr. Santy – and now on me – accepting me as one of your own. Fr. Drew, thank you for making this possible.

With the heart of gratitude I express my sincere thanks to all of you and promise my prayers, and the prayers of all MSFS Fathers and Brothers. Please keep us in your valuable prayers. May God bless you in abundance, and protect you, and keep you in His peace and joy. Fr. Jaison P. Thomas MSFS

JUNE 9-12: ACTS Retreat just for men

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 info and to register, go to www.stlaurence.org/mens-acts-retreat. HURRY! A few spaces are still available. Please contact Larry Stryk (832-520-4044), Greg Cordova (832-457-3011) or Mick Coady (314-565-1949) with any questions you may have.
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, June 6)*
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 Kalamteym, 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, 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:**

**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 that exists to provide disadvantaged job seekers with the skills and beliefs to gain employment to lead healthy, productive and spiritually rich lives. President George W. Bush awarded her the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights in 2001, recognizing her work with refugees and the poor. Barbara is a professor in the Honors College of HBU and is the author of several books including “Street Saints: Renewing America’s Cities.”

**Tuesday Evening Bible Study**

Tuesdays: 7:30-9:00pm Ave Maria Center
May 10, 17, 24, 31 and June 14, 21, 28

Not too late to sign up! 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**

Wed 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!
Children’s Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY CCE

Preschool and Elementary CCE classes are completed for the school year. Thank you to all of those families who committed to the faith formation of their children and brought them to class every week or faithfully home schooled throughout the year. We pray that their experiences, and yours, have strengthened your families and deepened your love for our Lord and the Catholic faith. Thank you also to our wonderful catechists, assistants and volunteers whose loving support made our year a great success.

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.

SHARE YOUR FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Consider volunteering as a Catechist! No experience is necessary, just a passion for your faith and a desire to share that with our youngest church members. Training and materials are provided. Don’t want to teach? We need you too! We have other opportunities for involvement during all CCE sessions. Please contact Joan Hastreiter at jhastreiter@stlaurence.org. This is a rewarding experience that you will never regret!

THIS WEEK: First Holy Communions

Please pray for:
Gerald Helcel, Jordan Priesmeyer, Chase Subora,
Timothy Tran, Isabella Cashiola, Samantha Luster,
Sophie Eskue, Julian Cortez...
and all 226 of our children who are making their First Communion this Easter Season!

WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

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.

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

A MOTHER’S DAY BLESSING

To our all our moms, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts & friends that are like mothers, we pray for you:

May God reward your generous love and sacrifices and fill each of your lives with countless blessings.

Happy Mother’s Day!!

Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates. Proverbs 31:31b

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!

Exciting Times!
Please join us at one or all of our upcoming, special events.
5/12    Choir Concert, 7:00pm
5/27    Kindergarten Celebration, 10:00am
5/27    8th Grade Graduation Ceremony, 6:00pm

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.

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.
Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of our Lord, a feast which, in part, celebrates the confidence he placed in his close followers to continue his ministry. In the Gospel reading Jesus reminds his followers of the purpose of his mission, and commissions them to continue his work by proclaiming his word and by living courageously that which they preached. He also promises them the Holy Spirit who he said would strengthen them for the task ahead. As stewards of Jesus’ life and ministry, a good question for us to reflect on this week might be this: Has Christ’s confidence in the quality of our own witness been well placed?

We need to be humble and realistic, acknowledging that at times the way we present our Christian beliefs and treat other people has helped contribute to today’s problematic situation.

Pope Francis, AMORIS LÆTITIA
April 2016

Catechism Corner

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

Q.
What is meant by the principle ‘labor before capital’?

A.
The Church has always taught “the principle of the priority of labor over capital” (Pope John Paul II, LE). Man owns money or capital as a thing. Labor, in contrast, is inseparable from the person who performs it. That is why the basic needs of laborers have priority over the interests of capital. The owners of capital and investors have legitimate interests, too, which must be protected. It is a serious injustice, however, when entrepreneurs and investors try to increase their own profits at the expense of the basic rights of their laborers and employees.

Dig Deeper: Read RERUM NOVARUM, the Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII for more on this subject. This answer is reprinted from YOUCAT question 445.

ASK PAULA

Q.
Was a pedestrian hit by a car leaving Mass??

A.
Got your attention now, right? No, no one was hit, BUT it was close (it wasn’t me either). Here’s what I found out… Someone pulled out of the Ave Marie Center looking at his/her (like how I’m not saying who it was) cell phone and almost hit a person walking by. Can you believe that?!? PEOPLE, just sit in your parked car and check your messages, or make a phone call, BEFORE driving. Isn’t that what we always tell our kids? Let’s practice what we preach, get it? Since I’m on a roll, some people need to slow down in the church parking lot also, and give cars a chance to get out. Some guy yelled at my son Corey when he was trying to leave Mass at Easter, because the guy was in such a hurry to park. Okay, I can let it go now…

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 Women’s Retreat - Sept. 16-18, 2016

September 16-18, 2016

Offering: $190

Check in opens Friday 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Retreat begins Friday 7 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

Camp Allen Retreat and Conference Center
11911 FM 362
Navasota, TX 77359

"We have this treasure in earthen vessels." (2 Cor 4:7)

Draw from the deep well of faith and courage as portrayed by the women of the Bible. As vessels of grace, their struggles, joys and dreams invite us to reflect on our own life journeys. Their stories become our stories.

Please register me for the St. Laurence Women’s Retreat

Vessels of Grace

September 16-18, 2016

Offering: $190

Payment options: 1. Full payment of $190 is encouraged with registration; this includes a $50 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit.
2. $50 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit to secure my place on the retreat, with a balance of $140 due August 1, 2016.
3. Registration fee after August 1, 2016 is $215. No refunds after this date due to our commitment to Camp Allen.

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to immediately inform St. Laurence if I must cancel so that another person may have the opportunity to attend.

Last Name (please print)                  First Name                      Preferred Name on Name Tag

Address

Street

City

State

Zip

Home Work or Cell

Email

(All Rooms are Double Occupancy) I want to share a room with:

Please check if needed: I am on the following medical diet: ____________________________ I need to be on the first floor (ADA) ____________________________

Date ______________________ Cash ________ Check No. ________ Amount of Check ________ Please make check payable to St. Laurence.

Drop off registration in Ave Maria Center beginning May 9, 2016.

Note: Registration is limited.
You are all invited to a

GROWTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT
SEMINAR

Saturday, May 14, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

St. Laurence Ave Maria Center
(Marian Hall B)
3103 Sweetwater Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77479

Main Speakers:
Rev. Drew Wood, Pastor, St. Laurence Catholic Church
Rev. Richard E. Paulissen, M.M., Retired
Rev. Enrique V. Salen, Hospital Catholic Chaplain
Sherry Burns, St. Laurence Catholic Church
Barbara Mackie, Director of Faith Formation, St. Hyacinth Church

All are welcome. This is a free event.

SPONSORS:
FCSL-Filipino Community of St. Laurence
Hearts of Jesus & Mary Prayer Group

MUSIC:
FCSL & PRAYER GROUP Choir
Ludy Hernandez - Piano

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL
Fe Vicerra - FCSL Chairperson - 713-248-1164 • Deacon Rey, 713-854-8804
Margie Calo - Prayer Group Leader - 281-980-4711
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.

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.

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.

Flood Relief

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are working together with our parishes to offer emergency relief and recovery for our neighbors in need who have been impacted by the recent flooding.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

- Basic needs assistance
- Clothing and furniture vouchers for SVDP Thrift Store
- Food pantry assistance
- Help in applying for benefits
- Counseling
- Case management to create a long-term recovery plan
- Referrals for other services: legal assistance, home repairs, clean up

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- **Cash donations**
  To give online, please go to www.svdphouston.org/donate or www.catholiccharities.org/donate

- **Volunteer**
  The needs are great and the workers are few. www.VolunteerHou.org

**Blessings, Graduates!**

Fr. Drew will be giving a special blessing to all graduating seniors at the Life Teen Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 15.
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

Respect Life News

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!
Happy Mother’s Day to ALL mothers – those who parented (including adoptive moms and foster moms) and those who made an adoption plan for their child! **Buy a carnation for $1 each** after all Sunday morning Masses to show her you love her. Proceeds will benefit the Gabriel Project.

You’re invited to a Baby Shower!
The Legion of Mary and Respect Life Ministry will host the 9th Annual Parish Baby Shower on Sunday, May 22, in the parish hall following the 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 Masses. It’s Coffee & Donuts Sunday with a twist! It will be a baby shower, with cake and all the donations of baby gifts to support moms in crisis pregnancies on display. Everyone is invited after the morning Masses for food, fellowship and to see all the baby items donated by our parish to support the Gabriel Project. If you took a tag, please label your donation and drop it off in the bins or at the parish office. If you didn’t get a chance to participate, we need gifts of all sizes! Contact Barbara Pane at barbarapanefamily.com.

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.

Fort Bend Family Promise May Day Celebration
**(RESCHEDULED to Sunday, May 15, due to rain)**
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 15, 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.
90 BOOKS DONATED BY CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS
To celebrate Read Across America Day, in honor of Dr. Seuss, the St. Laurence Catholic Daughters volunteered to read to the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes at SLCS and the Weekday Children’s Program. Additionally, the CDAs donated $100 toward books for Casa Juan Diego and the Fort Bend County Women’s Shelter. A total of 90 books will be distributed to these two charities through the St. Laurence Social Concerns Ministry.

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 re-sale? 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.

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

Hope Bags for the Homeless
Stop by the Social Concerns Office (Monday-Friday 8:30-4:00) and pick up some Hope Bags for the Homeless. Each bag contains a protein, a starch, fruit and water. Hope Bags are stitched by St. Laurence parishioners and all items in the bag are donated and assembled by parishioners. Now we need YOU to deliver them to people who are homeless! Each month, over 75 Hope Bags are given out to our brothers & sisters in Christ at their time of need.

Around the Archdiocese

TODAY: 10TH ANNUAL POLISH FESTIVAL
Our Lady of Czebesthowa Catholic Church, at 1731 Blalock Road in Houston is happy to present the 10th annual Polish Festival on their parish grounds this weekend, May 6-9. Enjoy live entertainment, traditional Polish food and beer, lots of fun activities for children, a raffle, silent auction and much more. Hours on Saturday are 10am-10pm, and on Sunday, 10am-6pm. For all the details about this fun festival, go to www.houstonpolishfestival.com.

MAY 14: MASS & ROSARY FOR LIFE
Helpers of God’s Precious Infants has organized a Mass & Rosary for the unborn on Saturday, May 14. It will begin with Mass at 8:00am at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 501 Tidwell, in Houston, then a Rosary For Life will follow at Aaron’s Ambulatory Clinic, 2505 N. Shepherd. Parking is available at Fiesta. If you cannot join us, please remember us and all individuals whose lives we touch that day in your prayers. INFO: Vicky Wynnott 832-875-5126 or (Spanish) Viola Griselda Mendoza-Morales 832-660-3924.

MAY 12: DISCOVER THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED
FOR MEN: A monthly discernment at St. Mary’s Seminary for single young adult men ages 18 and older. Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month from September to May. Join priests and seminarians for fellowship, prayer, music, dinner and talks about the discernment for priesthood and religious life from 6:30-9:00pm.

FOR WOMEN: A monthly discernment gathering for women ages 18 and older who are discerning a vocation to religious life. Meet in different convents around the Archdiocese every 2nd Thursday of the month from September to May. Program from 6:30-9:00pm includes supper, a brief presentation and time for sharing, followed by prayer. Sisters from several religious orders will be present.

INFO: www.houstonvocations.com/discover

NATIONAL ASSOC. OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS
We are blessed to have the 39th annual convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) right here in Houston this summer! If you would like to sing in the choir for the Convention Eucharist Mass, with Cardinal DiNardo presiding, please contact the director, our own Kevin Klotz, at 281-980-9812, kklotz@stlaurence.org. The Mass will be on Thursday, July 14, and auditions and rehearsals will be held at St. Dominic’s Chancery. For more information on the convention, please go to www.npm.org/2016/educationEvents/convention.

JULY: GO ON A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
Jesus “raised his hands and blessed them.” Jesus prayed for his disciples and us to know and believe the good news of the Gospel! Open your heart and allow God’s love to transform all areas of your life including your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are July 22-24, or July 29-31. Register early to reserve a spot at www.houstonme.org or contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 for more information.
### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

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<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahlezghi</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<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>
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<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
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### FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

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<td>A.C.T.S. Retreat</td>
<td>Dcn. Don Burns</td>
<td>281-734-8715</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Faith Formation</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
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<td>Edge (Middle School)</td>
<td>Eric Painter</td>
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<td>Elementary CCE</td>
<td>Joan Hasterreiter</td>
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<td>Family Faith</td>
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<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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<td>Parish School (SLCS)</td>
<td>Debra Haney</td>
<td>281-980-0500</td>
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<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>
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<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Monica Doucet</td>
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<td>Vocations Committee</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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### PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

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<tr>
<td>Cath Men Called to Be Saints</td>
<td>Jim Kij</td>
<td>281-253-4800</td>
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<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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<td>Hearts of Jesus &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Margie Calo</td>
<td>281-980-4711</td>
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<td>Lay Apostle Prayer</td>
<td>Kay Quenan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Carmelita Kussad</td>
<td>713-922-2446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Bible Studies</td>
<td>Steve Ebanks</td>
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<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>Joseph Ellankil</td>
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<td>Sunny Tom</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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<tr>
<td>Adoration</td>
<td>Janice Swoboda</td>
<td>281-980-8481</td>
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<td>Altar Linen Care</td>
<td>Rose Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>Joy Smith</td>
<td>281-265-0839</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art &amp; Environment</td>
<td>Michele Holbrooke</td>
<td>281-265-8425</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Catherine Short</td>
<td>713-628-3949</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Liturgy of the Word</td>
<td>Susan Choate</td>
<td>281-682-3389</td>
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<td>Claire Gregory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Ministers</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
<td>713-855-2399</td>
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<td>Liturgical Ministers</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
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<td>Mass Hospitality</td>
<td>Hal Mechler</td>
<td>281-543-9876</td>
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<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</td>
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<td>Kevin Klotz</td>
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### SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

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<td>Bridges to Life</td>
<td>Dana Cutbirth</td>
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<td>Correctional Ministry</td>
<td>Dcn. Al Bothe</td>
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<td>Dcn. Charles Plant</td>
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<td>Funeral Receptions</td>
<td>Sue Kulha</td>
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<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Steve Pondell</td>
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<td>Learn English Ministry</td>
<td>Wendy Moore</td>
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<td>Learn Spanish Ministry</td>
<td>Adriana Gutierrez</td>
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<td>Meals That Heal</td>
<td>MaryAnne Talab</td>
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<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
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<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
<td>Tim Beverick</td>
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<td>Respect Life</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Rides &amp; More</td>
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<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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<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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<td>Bereavement Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grief Support Group</td>
<td>Sandy Barber</td>
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<td>Grieving Families</td>
<td>Agnes Fernandes</td>
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<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
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<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
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<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Lorrie Knowles</td>
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<td>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Janie Picou</td>
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<td>NAMI</td>
<td>Pat Summer</td>
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<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
<td>Ambrose Graham</td>
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<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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### EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

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

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<tr>
<td>African Catholic Community</td>
<td>Esther Iredia</td>
<td>832-661-2945</td>
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<td>Bazaar</td>
<td>Tom Barry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Les Fuchs</td>
<td>832-360-3104</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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<td>Cub Scout Pack 1828</td>
<td>Danny Kliebert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council of Catholic Women</td>
<td>Mary Ann Brenner</td>
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<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<td>Filipino Community</td>
<td>Fe Vicerra</td>
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<td>Hispanic Ministry</td>
<td>Francisco Rojas-Ayala</td>
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<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Gary Arrington</td>
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<td>Ladies Guild</td>
<td>Joan O’Daniel</td>
<td>281-788-5430</td>
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<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>
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<td>Seniors (JOY Club)</td>
<td>Anne Higgins</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
<td>281-330-0565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
<td>281-313-3625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult Group</td>
<td>Steve Washer</td>
<td>585-410-4467</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**July 21-24: Women’s ACTS Retreat**
Looking for that special gift for Mother’s Day for someone you love? Treat your wife or mother to the St Laurence ACTS Women’s Retreat scheduled for July 21 - July 24, 2016. Registration starts May 21. INFO: Susan Herrington, sherrington14@gmail.com, 832-656-4477, or visit www.stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat.

**Ladies Guild: TOPPING OFF ANOTHER YEAR!**
Ladies, come to the final meeting of the year on Thursday, May 19, at 6:30pm in the parish hall, to reminisce this past Ladies Guild year of fun, fellowship, and service to others! It’s been sweet — so will this evening as we ‘Top Off the Night’ with ice cream desserts! Please bring a favorite ice cream topping to share or a dessert to be topped or paired with ice cream! We’ll enjoy this treat and relax with a game or two. Newcomers are welcome – see what Ladies Guild is all about and plan to be an active member when we start up again in the fall. INFO: Joanie O’Daniel at 281-788-5430.

**Spiritual Direction at St. Laurence**
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.

**Spirituality & Healing Series**

**Nutrition & Spirituality: Restoring a Healthy Body Rhythm**
Thursday, June 16, 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

**Endless Summer?**
Be a good steward of the extra time your summer schedule permits and find a way to connect to the parish by helping on a service project, serving at Mass or at an event, or joining a new parish ministry or group! www.stlaurence.org

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**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.

We will not have scheduled adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the Memorial Day holiday from 2 pm on Friday, May 27, until 8 am Tuesday, May 31.

ADORERS STILL NOTED FOR THESE HOURS:
Monday 1am-2am; Monday 11am-12pm; Tuesday 4am-5am

**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.

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 are 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.

**Library Cards**
Come and get it! If you’ve applied for a library card, it’s waiting for you at the Main Reception Desk at the Ave Maria Center. If you haven’t yet filled out an application or checked out our amazing library, stop by and take a look. The library is turning into a pretty exciting place to be! Coming in June: Story Time for Children and a new St. Laurence Parish Library Summer Reading Program! For more info, check the parish website or contact Susan Mulé at 281-255-5774 or smule@stlaurence.org.

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**Story Time for Children**
and

**Summer Reading Program**

**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 Hasterlter or Melissa Calcote at 281-265-5774.

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### 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST. MARY CATHEDRAL BASILICA</td>
<td>2011 Church St., Galveston, 77550</td>
<td>(409)762-9646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART</td>
<td>1111 St. Joseph Pkwy., Houston, 77002</td>
<td>(713)659-1561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH</td>
<td>15500 El Camino Real, Houston, 77062</td>
<td>(281)486-0337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CATHOLIC CHURCH</td>
<td>2405 Navigation Blvd., Houston 77003</td>
<td>(713)222-0203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUR LADY OF LAVANG CATHOLIC CHURCH</td>
<td>12320 Old Foltin Rd., Houston, 77086</td>
<td>(281)999-1672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH</td>
<td>5100 Dabney St., Houston, 77026</td>
<td>(713)672-7773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH</td>
<td>7810 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, 77379</td>
<td>(281)370-3401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH - SUGAR LAND</td>
<td>705 St. Theresa Blvd., Sugar Land, 77498</td>
<td>(281)494-1156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For visiting information, please contact these parishes directly.

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### 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.