SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am,
11:00am, 12:45pm, 5:00pm

DAILY MASSES
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
7:30am, 12:00pm
Wednesday 7:30am, 6:30pm
Friday 8:15am, 12:00pm
Saturday 8:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday after morning Mass
Saturday 4:00pm–4:45pm
Wednesday 5:30pm–6:20pm
Friday 8:15am, 12:00pm
Saturday 8:30am

ROSARY
Friday 6:30am

FIRST FRIDAY MASS
August 5 — In the Chapel
7:00pm - Rosary & Confessions
7:30pm - Mass

FIRST SATURDAY MASS
August 6 — In the Church
7:45am - Meditation & Rosary
8:30am - Mass

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
Agosto 13 — 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 Martínez
Tel 281-313-2833

“Thank you and may your blessings be with you.” - St. Francis

“Whoever controls his mouth keeps his life; whoever guards his tongue guards his life.” - Prov 13:13

“You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” - Lk 12:40

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."

PARISH OFFICE & COURTYARD

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

AVE MARIA PARISH LIFE CENTER

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

PARISH SCHOOL & CHAPEL

St. Laurence Catholic School provides strong academics in a Christian environment to 720 students enrolled in PreK4 through Grade 8. Office Hours: Monday-Friday are 8:00am-4:00pm.
Adjacent to the school is the Chapel of the Divine Mercy which offers Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and serves as the site for smaller liturgies.
Good News Reflection
Sunday, August 7, 2016
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We’re told in this Sunday’s Gospel reading that God is “pleased” to give us his kingdom, which includes eternal life in heaven as well as all the benefits of his love and goodness here on earth. God does not withhold anything good from us. But do we avail ourselves of all he offers?

Jesus explains: If you value earthly treasures more than you treasure opportunities to share God’s love and blessings with others, your hands are full of nothing that will last. If your “money bags” are filled with worldly goals that push God out, or selfish plans that push others out, or ungodly relationships that push holiness out from your life, there isn’t much room for the wondrous and eternal gifts of God. “For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Anything not of God is detrimental to us and, in the end, pointless, because it does not unite us to God and we cannot take it to heaven. We need to trade it in for the inexhaustible treasures that come from God.

Jesus isn’t saying that we have to literally sell all of our worldly possessions in order to make room for divine treasures. What matters is our motive for having these things. Are they used for serving the kingdom of God or are they serving only earthly, temporary, selfish purposes?

Whatever enhances our union with God -- and only this -- is a treasure that we’ll enjoy for all of eternity.

Jesus warns us not to waste time being lazy about purging our lives of earthly treasures. We don’t know when the Master will come to take us away to the heavenly banquet of eternal union with God. Will we be ready? Not if we’re more interested in feeding our worldly desires.

This is why God, in his great mercy, provides Purgatory. Separation from earthly treasures (the purging) is painful when we prefer them over heavenly goods; Jesus describes this as the "beatings" that the Master’s servants get.

Why wait for that? Now is the time to prefer only the kingdom of God and build up our cache of gifts that no thief can reach nor moth destroy.

Questions for Personal Reflection:
If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do today to prepare? What attitudes, what goals, and what plans do you have that don’t assist the kingdom of God? What habits or addictions? Unloving behaviors? Unforgiveness and unresolved conflicts? Take these worthless treasures to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to clean them out of your life, with Christ’s help, so that you can make room for more heavenly treasures.

Questions for Community Faith Sharing:
Describe an earthly attachment you used to have and explain how God helped you let go of it. What divine treasure did you gain?

In Our Prayers...

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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


PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrocik, US Army
Pvt Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O. S Debra Barnette, US Navy
LCP Trevor Bello, USMC
PFC John Blair, US Army
Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
Staff Sgt. Jason Chacon, USMC
Lt Matthew Chesney, US Navy
Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Capt. Patrick Coffman, USMC
LTJG Colin Day, US Navy
1stLt Andrew DeSplinter, US Army
Sgt. Nicholas Dockum, US Army
Capt. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
2ndLt Michael Eberhardt, US Army
Capt. Stacey Eberhardt, US Army
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
Pvt. Jahnell Xavier George, US Army
SSgt. Philip Graham, US Army
1stLT Spencer Henry, US Army
PVT Liam Hill, US Army
Daniel Hines, US Navy
SSG Matthew Hollobaugh, US Army Reserve
1LT Michelle Horstman, USMC
SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
Joseph Kingserski, US Navy
EM4 James Locus, US Navy
PFC Philip Loera, US Army
PFC John Lundgren, US Army
Ann Joseph Marcellus, USAF
LCpl William Marcellus, USMC
Capt. Brendan McPartland, USMC
1stLt Todd Miller, US Army
Capt. Alexander Morningstar, US Army
CB, Richard Pinard, US Navy
LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
Capt. Santiago Ramirez, US Army
1stLt Taylor Rammrath, US Army
Capt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SRN Jonathan Slusser, US Air Force
LTJG Kevin Stranksy, US Navy
Cpl Daniel Thesing, USMC
Maj. Michael Thesing, USMC
1stLt Kevin Wheeler, US Army
Sgt. Bryce Whitley, US Army
AM Troy Yelverton, US Navy
PVT Adrian Zaldivar, USMC

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Marc Fryer, Brother Peter Francis (Brian Kelsch), Chad Henry, Bryan Williams, Sister Philomena (Krystle Cagandahan), Sister Daniela (Megan Bennett), Sister Rachel Marie of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus & Mary (Rachel Gosda), Collin Brown, Margaret Uche, Dennis Henderson

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
5:00pm – Fr. Cyriac K. (D)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7
7:30am – Neva & Jim Holzhauser, Sr. (D)
9:00am – Jorgie Lucenio (D)
11:00am – Laurine Helen Schuler (D)
12:45pm – Trang Doan (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, AUGUST 8
7:30am – Leanne Cachero (I)
12:00pm – Jason Thiesfeld (D)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9
7:30am – Mike Paulson (D)
12:00pm – George Herring (D)

WEDS, AUGUST 10
7:30am – Tom & Ruth Conroy (D)
6:30pm – Louise Anderson (D)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11
7:30am – Esperanza Peña (I)
12:00pm – Van Dijk family (I)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12
8:15am – Lu Moorman (D)
12:00pm – John Christopher Pena (D)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
8:30pm – Virginia Mercado (D)
5:00pm – Maria Gallagher (I)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14
7:30am – John Kittleson (I)
9:00am – Sara Lazou (D)
11:00am – Souriamma Galla (D)
12:45pm – Leora Bossley (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners
AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

SEPTEMBER 10: ANNUAL RUN/WALK FOR LIFE
The Houston Coalition for Life is sponsoring the 7th annual Run/Walk for Life on Saturday, September 10, from 8:00-11:00am, at All Saints Catholic Church in Houston. Take part in the 2-mile walk or 5K run and be a part of the action to raise awareness and funds for the protection of life and because #LivesDependOnUs. To get all the details and to register to participate, go to www.HoustonCoalition.com/events/runwalkforlife2016 or call 713-395-1330.

AUGUST 14: WEDDING ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE MASS
The Archdiocese joins with couples celebrating their 25th anniversary of their marriage at a special Anniversary Jubilee Mass celebrated by Cardinal DiNardo on Sunday, August 14, at 3:00pm at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Registration to participate in this celebration is open at www.familylifeministryhouston.org. Please register online and print your confirmation and bring it with you to the check-in table. Happy Anniversary!

OCTOBER 14-16: YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE
Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue… or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on Oct 14-16, call 713-529-6242, email retroviDJ@sbcglobal.net or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

AUGUST 28: HOUSTON CATHOLIC RADIO FAMILY DAY AT UST
Houston Catholic Radio (AM 1430) is throwing a party for their listeners, just to say thanks for being awesome. It’s free, family-oriented, centrally located, and conveniently timed on Sunday, August 28, 2:00-5:30pm, indoors at the University of St. Thomas. There will be free food, games, bounce houses, music, and prizes. All the details can be found online at GRNonline.com/FamilyFun. Or email tim@grnonline.com.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

BAPTISMS
Daniel Chiobi, Jennifer Del Mundo, Penelope Metz, Ryan Amador, Wyatt Kisner, Fendley Kisner, Cotton Hayes, Emily Freeman

WEDDINGS
Jennifer Nguyen & Joseph Manuel
Ana Black & Michael Veino

FUNERALS
Leila Rukab, mother of Albert Rukab
Corporal Kevin McGinnis, son of Joseph & Michelle McGinnis

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
July 31 Collection $ 56,823
Registered Households 7,275
Envelopes Used 752
Loose Checks 174
2nd Collection: Social Concerns $ 12,895

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 163,017
Participants 913

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 358,757
Amount Pledged $ 424,398
Participants 982

Diocesan Services Fund
His Mercy Endures Forever

Christ calls us to reach those who are sick or in need, to bless them, serve them, and show them mercy. Your gift to the DSF enables us to reach out to people across the archdiocese through more than 60 programs. Help us reach our parish goal of $495,000 with a pledge today. Donate online at www.archgh.org/dsf or pick up a donation envelope at the Hospitality Desk.

THANK YOU!

KINGDOM CARE
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.

WEDDING PREPARATION
Next class: AUGUST 8
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: AUGUST 13
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.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving since 2003
Thank you for being a part of our St. Laurence Catholic Church family. All that you do for our parish and community by sharing your God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure is appreciated. Your active participation in the life of our parish helps us to fulfill our vision and mission. Your generosity through Faith Direct helps to provide consistent resources to operate our parish and ministries. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code (TX460). Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

ELEMENTARY CCE

Registration deadline for religious education is AUG 15
www.stlaurence.org/registration

Register your family now. Available space is becoming limited for certain grade levels and session times. Elementary CCE classes begin September 13-14 and PreK/Kindergarten on Sunday, September 18.

Consider serving as a CCE catechist or assistant. No experience is necessary, just a desire to share your faith with our youngest church members. Training and materials provided. Contact Joan Hastreiter for Elementary and Monica Doucet for PreK at 281-265-5774, to learn about opportunities to get involved. This is an incredibly rewarding experience which you will never regret!

SUMMER FAITH CHALLENGE

Participate more fully in Mass as a family. Before Mass this week, go to the USCCB website at www.usccb.org and read the upcoming Scripture passages together so that they are familiar to you. You can also find reflections on the weekly Mass readings at www.acatholic.org. Discuss what these passages mean to each of you and to your life as a family. Adopt this practice as a weekly family activity all year long!

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

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!
We are so happy welcome back all our students this Friday for visiting day. Please join us praying for the success of the students, families, faculty and staff. We are so blessed to be a part of this parish community.

IMPORTANT DATES
August 12: Students return/visiting day
August 15-16: Early dismissal days
August 17: First full day of school

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers. We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months. We thank you for the time to enjoy family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives. Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith. We ask this in your name. Amen.

NOW HIRING AT SLCS
St. Laurence Catholic School is now hiring dependable, mature, and energetic adults (must be 18 years or older) who enjoy working with children for Before and After School Community (BASC) Program Staff and a BASC Shift Supervisor. The position includes supervising children, preparing snacks, and completing paper work as needed. VIRTUS training is required. Hours are 6:30-7:45am and 2:00-6:30pm, Monday- Friday. (Schedules will vary.) Shift Supervisor requires additional responsibilities. Interested candidates for these part-time job opportunities should send resumes to Lindsey Vainstein at lvainstein@stlaurence.org.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!
Visit www.stlaurenceschool.org and connect with us on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to stay engaged in our continued efforts to provide the best education possible for our students. Be sure to check the NEWS section of our website for updates and important school announcements!

SLCS 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.
EDGE is 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, September through April at the Ave Maria Center. All 6th-8th graders are invited and encouraged to attend. Interested in helping out? Contact Eric Painter at epainter@stlaurence.org.

BE A PART OF EDGE

Lead young people closer to Christ and sign up to be a Core member, to walk alongside our young people as they grow in their relationship with Christ. Contact Eric for more info at epainter@stlaurence.org.

Youth Ministry Parent Info Night on August 31
Save the date of 8/31, 7-8pm, and join us in the Youth Hall for an informational parent meeting. We'll introduce ourselves, explain what the year will look like, introduce our vision for youth ministry at St. Laurence, answer any questions you may have, and show you how you can help. See you there!

Get more at www.stlaurence.org/edge.

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

CONFRONTATION

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.

Calling Future Coogs!

Whether you’re a freshman or a transfer, starting out can be hard. Join us for a smooth transition to the University of Houston with the FRESH retreat at the Catholic Newman Center.

Saturday, August 27 10:00am-6:00pm
This day retreat will be filled with interactive games, food, dynamic talks and personal stories of transitioning and staying close to the Faith in college. You will also get the chance to meet other freshmen and transfer students, gain insight from current Catholic Coogs, and hang out with our director, Fr. John Paul, and campus minister Claire McMullin.

INFO: Claire McMullin at c.mcmullin2003@gmail.com or check out www.facebook.com/CatholicCoogs/find FRESH in the events.

Encounter Young Adult Conference

This conference is for Young Adults in their 20s & 30s to come together and enjoy three days of relaxation, worship and lifegiving Encounter with Jesus. It will be held at La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa, in Conroe, the weekend of Friday, SEPT 30 (all day) through Sunday, OCT 2. The cost is $219/person. Find out more about Encounter at www.encounterhouston.com and contact Young Adult Coordinator Michaela Barta at mbarta@stlaurence.org to register with the St. Laurence group.
Greg & Julie Alexander return to present…

Strong Catholic Marriage Workshop
Saturday August 27
9:00am-4:00pm
Ave Maria Center - Marian Hall

Join us for an all-day event where you and your spouse will learn how putting God at the center of your marriage can help you do the seemingly impossible. Cost per couple is $100, includes a light breakfast, lunch and materials.

REGISTER: www.stlaurence.org/marriageworkshop

TMIY

That Man Is You!

Join St Laurence men for an interactive men’s program that addresses the pressures and temptations that men face in our modern culture. TMIY seeks to form men who will be capable of transforming homes and society.

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS starting Sept 14
5:30-7:00 am
Ave Maria Center

Register: Steve Ewbank ewbanksix@gmail.com | 281-703-3873

Daily Challenge for Married Couples

Pope Francis’ Amoris Laetitia (Joy of Love) came out on April 8. How much have you read? Join AL Bootcamp, read a small bit from Chapter 4 (Love in Marriage) and ask you to do something related to it for your marriage every day!

“Love endures all things” (1 Cor 13:7).

Pope Francis: “In family life, we need to cultivate that strength of love which can help us fight every evil threatening it” (Amoris Laetitia, no. 119).

Today: What is an evil that is threatening your family today? This may be from within (resentment, exhaustion, sin) or without (technology, entertainment, financial hardship). How are you fighting it?

THIS WEEK IN ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Monday

Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
7:30-9:00pm, St Francis Room
Contact: Steve Ewbank | 281-703-3873 | ewbanksix@gmail.com

Lay Apostle Prayer Group (2nd Monday, September 12)
10:30am-12:00pm OR 7:00-8:30pm, St. Anne Room
Contact: Kay Quenan | 281-265-3238 | kquenan@icloud.com

Tuesday

Men’s Bible Study (Weekly)
6:15-7:15am, St Francis Room
Contact: Steve Ewbank | 281-703-3873 | ewbanksix@gmail.com

Wednesday

Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy (1st and 3rd Wednesdays)
7:30-9:00pm, Corpus Christi Room
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

Interested IN Becoming Catholic?

RCIA is for those who have never been baptized, those baptized in another Christian faith tradition interested in joining the Catholic Church, and Catholics who were baptized but have not celebrated all of their Sacraments. Please come to one of the following sessions to get your questions answered.

Inquiry Sessions: Sundays, August 21 & 28
10:30am in the Corpus Christi Room
Contact Justin Frato, 281-265-5774 / jfrato@stlaurence.org
More info: stlaurence.org/rcia

WWW.STLAURENCE.ORG/AFF
facebook.com/groups/stlaurenceadultfaith
Strong Catholic Marriage Workshop
Saturday, August 27, 2016
9:00 am- 4:00 pm
Ave Maria Center, Marian Hall

Presenters: Greg and Julie Alexander

The Alexander’s are returning to St Laurence!
Join us for an all-day event where you and your spouse will learn how putting God at the center of your marriage can help you do the seemingly impossible. Greg and Julie will draw from the Church’s teaching and their personal experience to help married couples grow in areas such as communication, healing, sexuality, and prayer.

Cost per couple: $100
Includes a light breakfast, lunch, and materials.
Register today at www.stlaurence.org/marriageworkshop. Registration deadline-Aug 24th

The founding of The Alexander House is Greg & Julie’s response to God in appreciation for having brought them through the crisis that they experienced in their marriage. When they hit “rock bottom”, they instinctively turned to their parish looking and searching for help and guidance. Fortunately the Holy Spirit intervened and a visiting priest took the time to listen and offer direction to them. They responded to his direction and were able to rebuild their marriage. Grateful to God for a second chance, they committed to help build better marriages in the Church and have been doing so for the past 16 years.
In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus concludes his teaching about those who are “faithful and prudent stewards” with that classic stewardship teaching: “Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.” Christian stewards recognize that God is the ultimate source of their gifts, talents, resources and aptitudes, and that God wants them to use these varied gifts in his service. This week might be a good time to reflect on our God-given gifts. Are we using those gifts to serve the Lord? If Christ came back to us unexpectedly tomorrow would we be able to give a full accounting of how we have exercised stewardship over these gifts?

www.catholicstewardship.org

STEWARDS AMONG US

CAROLE KANUSKY

In 1990, after 27 years of military life, Carole & Joe Kanusky moved to Sugar Land, joined St. Laurence, and signed up to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Ten years later, when she retired from a career in nursing, Carole looked forward to getting more involved in parish life and deepening her faith. She joined Tuesday Morning Bible Study, and later Tuesday Evening Bible Study, and today handles their weekly registration and serves as a small group facilitator. She joined Catholic Daughters of America after visiting with a friend at the Ministry Fair and learning more about the mission of this national group. Carole says, “I enjoy being of service and helping others (the nurse in me!) so I joined the Meals That Heal ministry as a way to help fellow parishioners in a time of need. As I volunteer, I feel I am answering the Lord’s call to serve others out of love for my neighbor.” In return, Carole has been blessed with friends who have offered prayers, cards and food, as she faces a recent health issue of her own. Carole encourages others to “be of service to others to move closer to Jesus and join one of the many educational programs to grow in your faith.”

It is through an unbroken chain of witnesses that we come to see the face of Jesus. But how is this possible? Persons always live in relationship. We come from others, we belong to others, and our lives are enlarged by our encounter with others. Even our own knowledge and self-awareness are relational; they are linked to others who have gone before us...

Pope Francis
June 29, 2013

Ask Paula

Q. What is the little house hanging outside the library in the Ave Maria Center?

A. It's the Ave Maria Little Library that one of our parishioners, Kylee Smith, started here. This will serve as her Girl Scout Gold Award project. Kylee, who graduated from St. Laurence School and is now a senior at St. Agnes, worked with the St. Laurence National Elementary Honors Society (Grades 4–6) to collect Christian books for children of all ages. This Little Library serves as a place where children can go and get a book, with the idea that they return it or DONATE ANOTHER book. Talk about paying it forward! There is no checkout policy. What a great way to share your favorite book with someone, just saying. Thank you, Kylee, for bringing this worthwhile program to St. Laurence.

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for over 19 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call or email her at psave@stlaurence.org.
FUN FOR FAMILIES

Family Olympics

Friday
August 12
6:30-8:00 pm
Guardian Angels Hall
Ave Maria Center

Pizza & Drinks provided.
Bring a favorite side dish or desert to share.

RSVP by
Wednesday, August 10
www.stlaurence.org/family-nights

Contact Melissa Calcote at mcalcote@stlaurence.org for more information.

Fun for the whole family!

6:30pm Gathering Prayer & Pizza Dinner

7:00pm Family Games
  Blindfolded Obstacle Course—Walk by Faith Not by Sight
  Discus Throw—As Far as the East is From the West
  Dress-up Relay—Clothed With Power from on High
  Three legged race—All One in the Body of Christ
  And MORE!

8:00pm Closing of the Games
If YOU hear His Voice, 
harden not YOUR hearts!

Each year over 1,700 children and youth participate in St. Laurence Religious Education programs in order to grow in their faith and to learn to love the Lord more each day. These children and youth depend on volunteers who take time out of their own day to share their faith by teaching faith formation classes. These dedicated volunteers know that time must be spent building a life beyond our earthly possessions. They are working on being rich in what matters to God—more disciples preparing to enter Heaven!!

God is calling, You are needed! Will you respond to His call?

We have the answers to your questions of “BUT I...”

⇒ don’t have all the answers — You are HIS tool to share so you don’t have to know everything! Grow with your class!
⇒ don’t have the time — It just takes a couple hours a week!!
⇒ don’t feel I can do it alone — We strive to pair volunteers up in a class!
⇒ don’t know what to do — We provide training, support and resources!

Okay, still not sure?

⇒ What’s the catch? — No catch, just a tremendous growth in your faith!!
⇒ What do I need? — A love for the Faith and a willingness to share it!!
⇒ Where do you need the help? — Honestly, help is needed at all grades levels from our * 3–5 years on Sunday am, *1st-5th graders on Tuesday and Wednesday pm, *6-8th graders on Wednesday pm or *9-12 graders on Sunday pm. We have a place for you to share the Faith!

MORE QUESTIONS??? READY TO SHARE????
Call the RE staff at 281-265-5774.
MEN: REGISTER NOW FOR THAT MAN IS YOU

Our families, our parish and our world need strong disciples of Jesus to serve as witnesses of His love and mercy. Recently, Cardinal DiNardo challenged the men of our parish to READ THE GOSPELS and grow in their faith. One way to connect with other men and grow in knowledge and awareness is by attending THAT MAN IS YOU, a 90-minute session offered early Wednesday mornings (5:30-7:00am) beginning September 14. Join other men of St. Laurence for breakfast and a focus on Scripture and leadership to become “a man after God’s own heart.” More information is available at www.stlaurence.org/tmiy. THAT MAN IS YOU is FREE and we ask that you register in advance. To register, please contact Steve Ewbank at ewbanksix@gmail.com or 281-703-3873.

HEAR CARDINAL DINARDO’S TALK: www.stlaurence.org.

NOW HIRING IN RELIGIOUS ED DEPARTMENT

St. Laurence Religious Education has two part-time positions open. All interested applicants are asked to submit a letter of application and resume to Laura Stephens, Director of Religious Education, at lstephens@stlaurence.org.

Part-time Adult Faith Administrative Assistant. Reporting to and working closely with the Adult Faith Formation Coordinator, this person will be responsible for assisting with administrative needs for RCIA and Adult Faith Formation programs, and assisting at the weekly Sunday RCIA classes throughout the school year. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic with great administrative experience, love for their faith, and has great attention to details. Preferred 2-3 years administrative experience with a preference for parish ministry.

Part-time Elementary Assistant Coordinator. Reporting to and working closely with the Elementary CCE Coordinator, this person will be responsible for coordinating the Sunday morning Preschool CCE classes, special needs faith formation programs, and Vacation Bible School as well as assist in the weekly CCE classes for Grades 1-5. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic with strong catechetical foundation and great interpersonal skills. Preferred training: Bachelor’s degree in Education or Theology, as well as certified training in Special Needs Education. Preferred experience: minimum of 3 years of experience in catechetical ministry either as a catechist or staff.

VIRTUS CLASSES

Anyone who serves at the parish, in our parish school or Weekday Childrens Program, working with or around children, must first be VIRTUS trained, to be in accordance with Archdiocesan policy. Go to www.virtus.org to register for classes offered throughout the archdiocese. Following are dates for classes scheduled here at St. Laurence. Questions? Please contact Tony Oltremari at 281-980-9812.

PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

Initial VIRTUS training - 3-hour course
Saturday, 8/13 (8:00-11:00am)
Saturday, 9/17 (8:00-11:00am)

KEEPING THE PROMISE ALIVE

Refresher after 5 years - 90-minute course
Tuesday, 8/16 (6:00-7:30pm)
Wednesday, 9/7 (6:00-7:30pm)
**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**EVERY WEEK AT ST. LAURENCE**

**MONDAYS:** Our Daily Bread 9:30am, SCM Workroom

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

**OTHER GREAT 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 Community Center and 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 4,100 brown bag meals provided each DAY during the summer months to children in Richmond-Rosenberg

**Village Program:** Matches parish families with families that struggle each month to make ends meet

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For more info about these and other great ways to serve others, please go to [www.stlaurence.org/social-concerns](http://www.stlaurence.org/social-concerns)

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**UP NEXT: USED SHOE DRIVE**

Do you have GENTLY used shoes that you no longer need? If so, drop them in one of the Social Concerns bins in the church narthex NEXT weekend only, **August 13-14**. The shoes are cleaned & refreshed by the Lawerance Perreau family (and friends) and shipped to Soles4Souls, a global social institution committed to fighting poverty through the collection and distribution of shoes. Your donations create sustainable jobs in developing nations and help people lift themselves and their families out of poverty!

**LAST CALL FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

This is the final week for donations of new school supplies! Find the complete wish list on the Social Concerns page of the parish website. Donations may be dropped off in the parish or Social Concerns offices or in the collection bin in the church narthex.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SHOE DONATIONS**

Thank you for supporting this year’s Back to School Shoe Drive! With your generous support, we provided 700+ pairs of new shoes for children in the Fort Bend area and another 150+ pairs to our sister parish, Queen of Peace and Hick’s Elementary School in Houston. God bless you!

**AUGUST 17: MISCARRIAGE MASS**

The loss of a child in the womb is a unique loss of a unique child. The **6:30pm Mass on Wednesday, August 17**, will be a special Mass to recognize that loss and bless those mothers who have lost children to miscarriage or stillbirth. Please spread the word and join us that evening.

**FABRIC NEEDED FOR HOPE BAGS**

We can use children’s themed fabric to make Hope Bags for the children served by our Medical Mission in Laredo. We also need volunteers to help sew and cut the bags. Drop by the SCM office between 8:30am and 4:30pm to pick up fabric. For more information, contact Monica at mhager@stlaurence.org.

**VOLUNTEER: MEALS ON WHEELS**

Volunteers are needed to deliver meals between 10:30am-1:30pm, Monday through Friday. Routes take about 90 minutes. There are flexible schedules for volunteers (once a week, every other week, once a month, etc). Meals are picked up in Sugar Land or Rosenberg. For more information or to fill out a volunteer application, visit [www.fortbendseniors.org](http://www.fortbendseniors.org) or email at volunteers@fortbendseniors.org or call at 281-633-7049.
**WHAT WE NEED**

You can help with these simple donations. Look around the house and see what you have to share and drop 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, jackets.
- baby wipes, mini-toothpastes, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, mini Gold Bond foot powder for 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), new/gently used children’s books & small fleece blankets 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
- Black pens, mints, business thank you cards, book marks, small packages tissues for the WORK-FAITH bootcamp students. WorkFaith Connection empowers disadvantaged job seekers to find and keep meaningful employment.

**FREE MONEY FOR SCM**

**KROGER REWARDS**

Beginning August 1, please RE-ENROLL in the Kroger Community Rewards Program by linking your Kroger card to the Social Concerns Ministry. We use these funds to purchase food for various local shelters and pantries by the SCM Coupons for a Cause shoppers who shop local grocery deals to save 50% or more, turning $1,500 into over $2,500 worth of groceries!

**HOW TO (RE)ENROLL:**

Go to [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com) or call 1-800-576-4377 and a Kroger representative will assist you.

Sign in, enter your email address and password and go to the red My Account tab at the top of the page. Click on Account Settings from the menu; under Community Rewards, click on the red Edit tab. Search for St. Laurence Catholic Church Social Concerns (or NPO #80854) and click on it and save.

After you enroll, check the bottom of one of your Kroger receipts to ensure that your enrollment was successful. Your receipt should say, At your request, Kroger is donating to St. Laurence Catholic Church Social Concerns. Thank you!

**CORRECTIONAL MINISTRY UPDATE**

With gratitude for the prayerful support of the parish, the Correctional Ministry serves 193 Catholics, plus offers RCIA and St. John de Matha classes to all offenders at the Jester 3 Prison.

- As part of the St. John de Matha program, volunteer ministers teach classes in four subject areas. To date, 112 men have completed the course in Social Values, 83 men in Peer Relationships, 106 in Skills for Successful Living, & 99 in Substance Use.
- Two offenders have successfully completed the RCIA Program; both men had previously been baptized in other Christian faiths, so their First Eucharist is currently being planned.
- Fr. Jaison has joined the Correctional Ministry team, which enables us to offer Reconciliation and Mass twice a month.
- New volunteer members of the Correctional Ministry are being trained, which will enable us more effectively serve even more men.

For more information about the Correctional Ministry and the St. John de Matha Society, please contact Deacon Al Bothe (713-582-3870) and Deacon Charles Plant (281-300-3050) to be a part of this important ministry work.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS SUMMER SERVICE**

Each Tuesday during the summer, Social Concerns offers service opportunities in the Social Concerns Workroom, unless noted otherwise. SPACE IS LIMITED and pre-registration is required.

**Aug 9 (1:30-3:30pm)**

Make cancer awareness ribbons for MDAnderson Children’s Cancer Hospital

**Aug 16 (9:00-11:00am)**

Bethel Ministries Project Smile
At 3015 5th St. in Stafford

Click on Find A Sign-Up, then type in socialconcerns@stlaurence.org.
This will bring up a listing of all the service opportunities that are available.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? NEED SERVICE HOURS?**

Visit the Social Concerns page on the parish website: [www.stlaurence.org/volunteer-service-opportunities](http://www.stlaurence.org/volunteer-service-opportunities)
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 substitutes. Contact Janice Swoboda at 281-980-8481, 832-816-4660 or adoration@stlaurence.org.

ADORERS STILL NEEDED FOR THESE HOURS:

- Monday 1am-2am
- Monday 2am-3am
- Wednesday 10pm-11pm
- Thursday 9pm-10pm
- Saturday 3pm-4pm

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH LIBRARY

Thank you for the many donations to the Parish Library! Our parish has been so generous that our librarian is unable to process all of the donations fast enough. So, for the time being, the library is unable to accept any more donations except religious/spiritual themed DVDs, hardback religious children’s picture books and religious themed novels for adults, children and teens. For more info, please contact Susan Mulé at 281-255-5774 or smule@stlaurence.org.

LADIES GUILD SHOP TILL YOU DROP

Attention vendors! We are now accepting vendor applications for the popular annual “Shop Till You Drop” event, organized by the St. Laurence Ladies Guild. This year’s event will be held on Thursday, November 17, from 6:00-9:00pm at the Ave Maria Parish Life Center. The monies raised each year go towards helping various organizations in our community and our parish. If you have a business and would like to purchase space in our event, please contact STUD Coordinator, Deb Hernandez, debhernandez31@gmail.com.

GO ON THE MEDICAL MISSION

The Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy is an organization that has brought medical, dental, vision, chiropractic and spiritual care to the poorest of poor in Mexico, Costa Rica and in our own state of Texas since 2001. A mission trip is planned for Laredo, Texas, November 5-12. The team is currently lining up medical professionals, support team, and translators to make this mission trip possible. Learn about MMDM at www.stlaurence.org/medical-missionaries and sign up to join the mission team! Additionally, the team relies on financial donations from the parish. So, if you cannot go on the mission, you can support it. To speak with someone about what it’s like to serve on a medical mission, please contact Maria Jacobson, 713-582-8424, or Herb Appel, 713-826-1017.

JOY CLUB FOR SENIORS

Lots of fun activities are planned for August with our J.O.Y. Club (stands for Just Older Youth). Learn all about it from Anne Higgins at nannyhiggs@gmail.com or 832-755-5597. This group welcomes anyone over the age of 50 who wishes to make a stronger parish connection.

- AUG 16—Meet for a delicious lunch at 11:30am on Tuesday, August 16, at Brandanis. Make some good friends over a great lunch! Please RSVP to Anne by August 11.

- SEPT 12—Due to Labor Day, we will meet on the 2nd Monday in September, 11:00am-1:00pm, at the Ave Maria Center. Bring an item for a potluck lunch and we'll welcome guests from St. Angela Merici and Brookdale to hear speaker Mike Zimmer from the Missouri City Police Department.

PG 16 | St. Laurence Catholic Church
**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP**

*Food, Fellowship, and Family Fun!*
Are you caring for a loved one with special needs? Bring the whole family and join the Caregivers Support Group for a potluck meal and fun, flexible, family-friendly games on **Tuesday, August 9th from 6:30-8:30pm**, in Marian Hall, at the Ave Maria Center. Drinks and a main dish will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Whether the loved one (of any age) you are caring for is coping with autism, cerebral palsy, dementia, Down Syndrome, or another diagnosis, you will find a warm welcome and supportive friendships with others who understand the joys and struggles of the caregiving journey. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Jane Jewell (ejcomp@aol.com, 281-265-9658) or Lori Knowles (knowlesml5@gmail.com, 281-261-5738).

**MONDAYS: PRAYER & PRAISE GROUP**

**12:45-2:30pm in the Oratory of the Rosary**
You’re invited to gather with others in praise and worship of God every Monday afternoon in the Oratory of the Rosary, located in the new Ave Maria Center. We will pray the Rosary, worship God through music and reflect on God’s Word and spiritual writings. We also pray with each other and intercede for the needs of our Church, our community, families, and all who are in need of prayer. Contact Anne Marie Daniel at adaniel@stlaurence.org or 281-922-2446, cskussad@hotmail.com.

**ST. LAURENCE SINGLES GROUP**

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

**WED, 8/10 @ 6:00PM** – Book Club Dinner at Café Goo Goo Yen. We’re reading *At the Water’s Edge* by Sara Gruen.

**FRI, 8/19 @ 6:00PM** – Berryhill’s Dinner. Let’s have some Mexican food at one of our favorite places! The restaurant is located near Hwy 59 and Sugar Creek.

**TUE, 8/23 @ 7:00PM** – Monthly Planning Meeting. We meet in the Trinity Room on the 4th Tuesday each month to plan the upcoming month’s activities. Join us!

**TUESDAYS: WOMEN OF THE CLOTH**

Join the Women of the Cloth on **Tuesday mornings** from 9:00am to noon in the St. Francis Room at the Ave Maria Center for fellowship, sewing, knitting, crocheting and crafting. Bring your talent and help us make wonderful things to sell or donate in support of Habitat for Humanity and other local charities. Donations of fabric, yarn and other supplies are always welcome! For more information, please call Eileen Scamardo (281-242-0183) or Margie Koenig (281-313-3625).

**TUESDAYS: LEGION OF MARY**

Personal sanctification by prayer and service is the goal of members of the Legion of Mary. Through cooperation with the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Virgin, members meet this objective by active participation in the Church’s evangelizing work. Active and Auxiliary memberships are available. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Corpus Christi Room. For info, please contact Carmelita Kussad at 713-922-2446, cskussad@hotmail.com.

**AUG 18: HELP FOR GRIEVING FAMILIES**

The Grieving Families Support Group is for those grieving the death of loved ones through any sudden death. The group now meets twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday, 1:00-2:30pm, in the St. Francis Room. Coping with the sudden or tragic death of a loved one can be very difficult. Survivors are often overwhelmed by the grief that follows this unexpected death, complicating the grieving process. The next meeting is August 18, with guest speaker Nancy Bednar. Nancy is active as a catechist and spiritual director at St. Martha in Kingwood, a wife and mother of three sons. She was raised in the Methodist Church, but became Catholic after the death of her oldest son. She enjoys sharing her journey of faith in hopes that it will encourage others in theirs. Note: We are using the book *Harvesting Our Tears*. For more information about this group, please contact Agnes Fernandes at 281-933-3721 or agnesfernandes@gmail.com.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR AUGUST 27-28**

**“CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES” WEEKEND**
In July 2013, John Drake, representing the Lingap Children’s Foundation, visited St. Laurence to share his compelling story of seeing the plight of abused, abandoned and neglected children in the Philippines.

Please join us in continuing to help his remarkable ministry with a “Place at the Table” sponsorship or by joining them in August 2017 on the “Kruise for Kids.” This unique fundraiser is an Avalon Waterways riverboat cruise, roundtrip, from Paris to Normandy on the Seine River.

Additionally, since their Board of Directors pays all administrative expenses, 100% of proceeds go to the benefit of the children.

Brian Borque, Parishioner
For further information, please contact
Brian and Julie Borque
“Place at the Table” Sponsors since 2013
832-685-8333

The “LCF” is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Please see their website at www.lingapcenter.org. You can enroll for a PATT sponsorship on-line.

Lives Saved

Jennalyn and Jennelyn

Lingap Family and Friends Fundraiser
“Kruise for the Kids”

We would love to have you join us on an exclusive Lingap-chartered European riverboat cruise in conjunction with Avalon Waterways. This cruise will take us round trip on the Seine River in France from Paris to Normandy.

August 19-26, 2017
Avalon Waterways - Tapestry II
**SACRAMENT PREPARATION**

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<td>Divine Mercy (AM)</td>
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<td>Divine Mercy (PM)</td>
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<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
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<td>Marc Sherman</td>
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<td>Evangelization Committee</td>
<td>Marie McCoy</td>
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<td>Bob Ladd</td>
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<td>Jason Davalos</td>
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<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
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**COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE**

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<td>Cub Scout Pack 1828</td>
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<td>Catholic Daughters</td>
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<td>Council of Cath Women</td>
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<td>Family Ministry</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Joe Chirco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies Guild</td>
<td>Tina Dougherty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moms &amp; Tots</td>
<td>Chrissy Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Laurence Singles</td>
<td>Kathy Gawlik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors (JOY Club)</td>
<td>Anne Higgins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Adult Group</td>
<td>Michaela Barta</td>
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Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.