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
Monday–Thursday after morning Mass

ROSARY
Friday 6:30am

FIRST FRIDAY MASS
November 4 — In the Chapel
7:00pm - Rosary & Confessions
7:30pm - Mass

FIRST SATURDAY MASS
November 5 — In the Church
7:45am - Meditation & Rosary
8:30am - Mass

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
Noviembre 12 — 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

WE ARE A MISSIONARY CHURCH
WITNESSES OF MERCY

World Mission Sunday
Domingo Mundial de las Misiones
Mercy Changes the World
La Misericordia Cambia el Mundo

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
La Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe

OCTOBER 23, 2016

3100 Sweetwater Blvd. | Sugar Land, Texas 77479 | 281-980-9812 | www.stlaurence.org
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
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 Bothe, 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
Parish Life & 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 Parkway, Sugar Land, TX 77479
281-980-0500
Principal: Suzanne Barto, sbarto@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

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.
MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS
FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2016
Missionary Church, Witness of Mercy (Excerpt)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which the Church is celebrating, casts a distinct light on World Mission Sunday 2016: it invites us to consider the missio ad gentes as a great, immense work of mercy, both spiritual and material. On this World Mission Sunday, all of us are invited to "go out" as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring the message of God’s tenderness and compassion to the entire human family. By virtue of the missionary mandate, the Church cares for those who do not know the Gospel, because she wants everyone to be saved and to experience the Lord’s love. She “is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel,” and to proclaim mercy in every corner of the world, reaching every person, young or old.

Mercy finds its most noble and complete expression in the Incarnate Word. Jesus reveals the face of the Father who is rich in mercy; he “speaks of [mercy] and explains it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all he himself makes it incarnate and personifies it” (John Paul II, Dives in Misericordia, 2). When we welcome and follow Jesus by means of the Gospel and sacraments, we can, with the help of the Holy Spirit, become merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful; we can learn to love as he loves us and make of our lives a free gift, a sign of his goodness. The Church, in the midst of humanity, is first of all the community that lives by the mercy of Christ: she senses his gaze and feels he has chosen her with his merciful love. It is through this love that the Church discovers its mandate, lives it and makes it known to all peoples through a respectful dialogue with every culture and religious belief.

In many places evangelization begins with education, to which missionary work dedicates much time and effort, like the merciful vine-dresser of the Gospel, patiently waiting for fruit after years of slow cultivation; in this way they bring forth a new people able to evangelize, who will take the Gospel to those places where it otherwise would not have been thought possible… The Church can also be defined as "mother" for those who will one day have faith in Christ. I hope, therefore, that the holy people of God will continue to exercise this maternal service of mercy, which helps those who do not yet know the Lord to encounter and love him. Faith is God’s gift and not the result of proselytizing; rather it grows thanks to the faith and charity of evangelizers who witness to Christ. As they travel through the streets of the world, the disciples of Jesus need to have a love without limits, the same measure of love that our Lord has for all people. We proclaim the most beautiful and greatest gifts that he has given us: his life and his love.

This Jubilee year marks the 90th anniversary of World Missionary Day… It is appropriate then to recall the wise instructions of my Predecessors who ordered that to this Society be destined all the offerings collected in every diocese, parish, religious community, association and ecclesial movement throughout the world for the care of Christian communities in need and for supporting the proclamation of the Gospel even to the ends of the earth. Let us not close our hearts within our own particular concerns, but let us open them to all of humanity.

FRANCIS


The LORD is a God of justice... he hears the cry of the oppressed.
Sirach 35:15-16

O Lord, the news has brought attention to sexual harassment, exploitation, and assault by those with greater physical or social power. Please heal those who suffer and feel shame for something not their fault. May those who treat others as objects to be used, repent and receive your mercy. And please, Lord, help all people treat each other with respect for their human dignity and reverence for your creation.

Jesus, we trust in you. . Amen. †
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 OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS FORMATION**

Marc Fryer, Brother Peter Francis (Brian Kelsch), Chad Henry, Bryan Williams, Sister M. 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

**PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN**

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
Spc David Ambrociok, US Army
Pvt Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O. 5 Debra Barnette, US Navy
LCpl Trevor Bello, USMC
PFC John Blair, US Army
Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
Staff Sgt. Jason Chacon, USMC
Lt Matthew Chesney, US Navy
Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Capt. Patrick Coffman, USMC

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, OCT 22**
5:00pm – Eileen Ziegenfus (D)

**SUNDAY, OCT 23**
7:30am – Douglas Van Horn (D)
9:00am – Alex Sakulich (D)
11:00am – Jose Estrella (D)
12:45pm – Luis Haget (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

**MONDAY, OCT 24**
7:30am – Sauriamma Galla (D)
12:00pm – Dave Harvie (D)

**TUESDAY, OCT 25**
7:30am – Thomas Figsoski (D)
12:00pm – Frank Reina (D)

**WEDS, OCT 26**
7:30am – Mary Font (D)
6:30pm – Alex Herrera (D)

**THURSDAY, OCT 27**
7:30am – Rev. Thomas Yuen (D)
12:00pm – Paul Kardosh (D)

**FRIDAY, OCT 28**
8:15am – Bill Hilberth (D)
12:00pm – Chomy Milende (D)

**SATURDAY, OCT 29**
8:30pm - Lauriana Ortiz (I)
5:00pm – John Shandorf (D)

**SUNDAY, OCT 30**
7:30am – Alfeo Pereira (D)
9:00am – Dolores & Stanley Swaintek (D)
11:00am – Mary Kurian (D)
12:45pm – Than Pham (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

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AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

OCT 29: HOUSTON CATHOLIC WOMEN’S CONFERENCE
All ladies are invited to register today for the Houston Catholic Women’s Conference to be held on Saturday, October 29, 9am-4pm, at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Church in Houston. The conference will include Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, music and dynamic speakers, including Sally Robb, who spoke at Heart of Worship a few years ago. The theme for the conference is “Evangelization: Finding our Words.” Seating is limited, so register in advance. Tickets are $75 per person (includes lunch). Register and get more information at www.HoustonCWC.com.

OCT 30: CELEBRATE PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY!
Next Sunday, October 30, is a day set aside to celebrate and extend our thanks and prayers to the priests who serve our Archdiocese in so many ways. We invite you to give the priests you know and love a simple thank you on this day, or offer a spiritual bouquet (the offering of rosaries, masses or Holy Hours). To print out a card or for more ideas and suggestions, please go to www.priestsunday.org. Please pray for vocations and for priests on Priesthood Sunday.

OCT 30: SACRED HEART FALL ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR
The KC Council #7445 is hosting a Fall Arts & Crafts Fair and Family Festival on Sunday, October 30, from 10am-3pm at Sacred Heart in Richmond. Activities include great shopping, plus delicious barbeque and concessions. Admission is $2 per adult and free for children 10 and under. Family activities include inflatables, face painting, and more! Proceeds from the event will be donated to Lunches of Love. Get more info at kc7445craftshow@gmail.com.

NOV 2: ANNUAL ECUMENICAL LECTURE & RECEPTION
The 9th Annual Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Lecture will be offered on Wednesday, November 2, at 6:00pm at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 625 Nottingham Oaks Trail, in Houston. This lecture series was established in honor of the Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston-Houston, who continues to be recognized for fostering ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. This year, Dr. Gil Bailie presents Reviving a Hollow and Spiritually Toxic Culture. The event will be in the Activity Center Dining Room, free and open to the public.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
October 16 Collection $ 48,706
Registered Households 7,391
Envelopes Used 704
Loose Checks 176

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 163,240
Participants 886

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 404,778
Amount Pledged $ 444,061
Participants 1,056

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!

ANNUAL REPORT
All registered parishioners should have received in the mail a copy of the 2016 Annual Pastoral Report. Open it and read the good news!
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY

ELEMENTARY CCE
The People of God & All Saints
Jesus spoke of his work as “building the Kingdom of God.” Together with the Holy Spirit, the Church, or the People of God, work to prepare for the coming of God’s Kingdom by continuing the works of mercy and justice that Jesus began and bringing about hope in our world. How are you as a family called upon to help bring about the Kingdom of God on earth?

We will begin CCE this week with a brief All Saints Prayer Service in the Guardian Angels Hall. Also, please remember that our CCE Service projects END this week. Be sure to send your donations with your child to class. Not sure what to bring? Check out the Fall Service Project flyers on the Elementary CCE webpage.

HOME STUDY FAMILIES
Reminder, the Home Study Parent Enrichment & Homework Checkpoint is TOMORROW, Monday, October 24, 7:00-8:00pm in Marian Hall. We begin with a guest speaker, followed by small group discussion and checkout procedure to review work completed to date. This requirement applies to families of all students in grades 1-12 who are registered for the CCE Home Study program. Children welcome, but attendance is mandatory for the parents.

THIS IS RED RIBBON WEEK!
This week we will join forces with schools around our nation to raise awareness of the need to be drug free. As our Holy Father has brought families into the limelight, this is the perfect time to lead and support our nation's families and communities in nurturing the full potential of healthy, drug free youth. Please join us in prayer for our parish youth. More information on this campaign can be found at www.redribbon.org.

OCT 31: SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT
Calling all golfers… professional or amateur! The 21st Annual St. Laurence Golf Tournament is a scramble format that is fun for all! Registration forms are now at the Hospitality Desk for this annual event presented by Solvay on Monday, October 31, at Sweetwater Country Club. Like our plaid bag collection, this day assists families that require unexpected financial assistance. Be sure to pick up the registration form so you can enjoy the beautiful weather and support our parish school. Please contact the school’s front office at 281-980-0500. Thank you!

NOV 11: SPICE LUNCHEON
Come to the annual Special People in Catholic Education (SPICE) Luncheon and Silent Auction on Friday, November 11, at 11:30am in the Parish Hall. It is a luncheon you will not want to miss! Charlene Katra will be the guest speaker, with catering by Pappas BBQ and auction items featuring Disneyland and our very own Houston Texans. Tickets are $60 and reservations may be made through the Advancement Office at 281-980-0500.

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.
EDGE is 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, 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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS EDGE NIGHT
700-815pm at the Ave Maria Center
This Wednesday, OCT 26, in Marian Hall
All middle school youth are invited and encouraged to join us. If you haven't registered yet, you can find the forms online or at the Ave Maria Center.

LIFE TEEN
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.

NO LIFE TEEN TONIGHT!
Enjoy the Parish Bazaar and catch us next Sunday, 10/23 630-815pm Ave Maria Center
The fall semester is "I Am", a series on Jesus, where we will take a look at the character, motives and interactions of Jesus.

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS
TUESDAYS, 600-730pm Youth Hall
Discipleship Groups offer teens an opportunity to dig even deeper. Open to all high school students.

LEGACY
2ND/4TH TUESDAYS, 800-900pm Youth Hall
Open to Juniors and Seniors.

What are “D-Groups”?
Discipleship Groups are small, grade-specific community faith groups. Join us for free food, community and faith sharing. These groups run on bible studies which work hand-in-hand with our other youth ministry programs to help teens better understand their Catholic faith.

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.

ENGAGED CHURCH

How’s it going?

How are you doing on your PASTOR’S CHALLENGE? As part of our parish’s current focus on ways to LEARN and grow in our faith, Fr. Drew challenged every member of the parish:

In October, read one of the four Gospels in a thoughtful, attentive, discerning way.

Our ENTIRE PARISH is united in this challenge! It's something we can do on our own, with our spouse, as a family, or with friends or small group.

Some great ideas...

Here are a couple of ideas that were shared with us at engagedchurch@stlaurence.org. Or look for the “We Are Listening” Box on the Hospitality Desk in the narthex of the church and submit your ideas that way!

Harry and I were married on September 24. The next day we went to Mass and accepted Fr. Drew’s bible challenge. We have been reading the gospel of Luke together, out loud, daily. What a great way to start our married life together and get in the habit of sharing prayer time. Thank you Fr. Drew. Maria & Harry Buzek

We chose the Gospel of John, simply because of his name! We read aloud and then use a reference book to discuss. Our conversation is interesting and has led us to research further. Angela & John Rankin
**For Adults**

God, be merciful to me, a sinner!

Luke 18:13

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**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 (1st Monday, November 7)**
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

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Weekly)**
9:00-11:45am, Marian Hall, Contact: Joe Kanusky | 281-265-4084

**WEDNESDAY**

**That Man Is You**
5:30-7:00am Marian Hall
Contact: Steve Ewbank | 281-980-5575 | ewbanksix@gmail.com

**Contemplative Prayer**
9:30am-12:00 pm Corpus Christi Room
Contact: Elaine Smith | 281-499-6660 | emchabert@comcast.net

**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

**Divine Mercy Cenacle**
9:00am-12:00pm, St Francis Room
Contact: Sally Flowers | sallyjoflowers@comcast.net

**Thursday Bible Study**
1:00-2:00pm, St Anne Room or 7:15-8:30pm AMC Room 205
Contact: Julie Evett | jevett@comcast.net

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**Catholics Care.**

**Catholics Vote.**

We vote because we are citizens. But we vote conscientiously because we are people of faith. Our consciences are formed through studying Scripture and the teachings of the Church, examination of the facts, and prayerful reflection. Below are guidelines from the USCCB:

Here are some issues to consider. Look in this space for more issues next week.

Here are a couple ways to respect the dignity of each person, focus on the common good, and form our consciences:

1. Be true to the teachings of the Church. Read Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, teachings from the Holy See, and the statements of our bishops. We need to be sure that our reasoning & judgments are well-grounded in our faith.

2. Remain in contact with our representatives in local, state, and federal government. Our responsibility to form our consciences leads to an obligation to be active citizens. We communicate regularly with our leaders.

2016-2017 AFF SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Deacon Larry Vaclavik

Thursday, November 3, 2016
7-9 pm
Ave Maria Center
Marian Hall A

Join Deacon Larry Vaclavik, deacon at St. Theresa’s in Houston and Adjunct Lecturer at the University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Theology, for an exploration of what the bishops of the United States teach about faithful citizenship, conscience formation and voting. In this challenging election year with so many issues – terrorism, security, immigration, wages, jobs, gun violence – it is important for Catholics to consider how the Gospel intersects with our social, political and economic life and responsibilities. In no time in our history have we been so challenged to elevate our discourse on matters of freedom and conscience. Whatever our political inclination, we are called to, prayer, study, dialogue, debate and discernment before we vote for office holders and propositions.

For more information:
www.stlaurence.org/speakerseries
Or contact Justin Frato at 281-265-5774
jfrato@stlaurence.org
There is an interesting twist we find in today’s gospel when we hear Jesus’ parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector praying in the temple. The Pharisee is “praying to himself.” It doesn’t mean he was praying silently. It seems to mean something a lot more troubling, that he is praying to himself; that God is not his prayer’s intended audience. The words of the Pharisee are very much centered on himself: he makes claims about his character. He highlights his own admirable activities. Good stewards of their prayer lives know that a prayer of praise and thanksgiving should focus on the goodness of God. Do our prayers of thanksgiving always stay focused on God’s unfathomable, immeasurable goodness and generosity?

www.catholicstewardship.org

STEWARDS AMONG US

SUSAN MULÉ

I have been in the parish since September 2005, when we washed up here as a result of Hurricane Katrina. My main ministry is the Parish Library. I am also involved in the new homeschool ministry and becoming involved in the St. Paul Street Evangelization ministry. My husband passed away just as my daughter was “fledging the nest” and after being a homeschool mom and caretaker, I suddenly found myself with nothing to do. As I pondered God’s plan for me and realized that as a widow I was going to need to return to the workforce, the position for the Library Coordinator opened up. I have grown in so many ways since taking on this responsibility. I have always had a strong faith, but I believe it has grown even stronger. Being on the St. Laurence campus each day has made it possible for me to attend daily Mass and to spend more time with our Lord in Adoration. I like to think that the library has grown too! I have so many exciting ideas for our Parish Library, as I see it as a ministry not only to the individual parishioners, but to the other ministries of the parish. I want to find more ways to help each individual ministry by providing materials and support in every way possible.

The first setting in which faith enlightens the human city is the family.

Pope Francis
June 29, 2013

Ask Paula

Q. Who are the bazaar winners?

A. Sorry but if you are asking, it’s not you. Just saying. Anyway, the 1st place winner of the car is Marcia & Michael Engelking. CONGRATS! 2nd place, a $1500 gift card, is Lisa Schram. 3rd place, a $1000 gift card, is Judy Pavlicek. The 4th place winner is Johnette Rosenbaum, she won $500 gift card. And the 5th place winner, of a $250 gift card is Delia Crescini. What?! I know her! We sit near each other at 7:30am Mass on Sundays. Congratulations to everyone who won. And to all of us who lost, there’s always next year, right? Hey, if the people who lost the key to their Toyota car, or a nice necklace, are reading this... call me at the church office. I have your stuff.

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for almost 20 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call 281-980-9812 or email her at psavo@stlaurence.org.
A new beginning ...

Bereavement Retreat

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016
9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
St. Laurence Parish Hall

Retreat Facilitator Dr. Tim VanDuivendyk author of “The Unwanted Gift of Grief”

All are invited to attend a Bereavement Retreat on Saturday, October 29th, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This retreat is for all who are grieving the death of loved ones, recent or from many years ago.

REGISTER BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 24TH.

Contact: Anne Marie Daniel
St. Laurence Catholic Church
281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org

Bring a photo or small memento of your loved one to the retreat.
Fr. Dave Pivonka returns to St. Laurence to invite parishioners of all ages into a more profound life giving relationship with the Holy Spirit. This is a relationship marked by the love of God which breathes life into our daily existence that will take us on the greatest adventure imaginable — a journey to the very Heart of God.

TWO SESSIONS IN THE CHURCH 9:30-10:30am or 7:00-8:00pm

Monday November 14th — God’s Greatest Gift
This session will deal with an introduction to the Holy Spirit.

Tuesday November 15th — An Encounter
This session will move to having an experience of the Holy Spirit and raising everyone’s awareness of how the Holy Spirit wants to be active in our lives.

Tuesday ONLY, November 15th — Children’s Mission Track
During the Tuesday evening session ONLY, a special track will be offered for students in Kinder through 5th grade in the Ave Maria Center. Pre-registration at www.stlaurence.org/parishmission is required for this children’s session. Middle school and High School students are encouraged to attend the main Mission sessions!

For more information, please contact Laura Stephens at: lstephens@stlaurence.org

In preparation for the Parish Mission, join us in praying the Novena to the Holy Spirit beginning November 7. For the Novena and more information, go to www.stlaurence.org/parishmission.

“THE LOVE OF GOD HAS BEEN POURED OUT INTO OUR HEARTS THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO US.”
— Romans 5:5

www.stlaurence.org/parishmission
FAITHFUL CATHOLICS & AMERICAN CITIZENS

Forming Consciences

The bishops of the United States have issued a statement on the importance of bringing the values of our faith to the decisions made in our public life. In their statement, Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, the bishops call for "a different kind of political engagement: one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and the vulnerable" (no. 14). As you prepare for the upcoming election, please consider how the values of your faith can help you make your decisions. For more, visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

OCT 29: A RETREAT FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE

A Bereavement Retreat will be offered at St. Laurence for those who grieve the death of loved ones, whether the loss is recent or from many years ago, on Saturday, October 29, 9:00am-3:00pm, in the parish hall. The retreat will be facilitated by Dr. Tim VanDuiwendsyk, Vice President of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care for Memorial Hermann Hospital and author of “The Unwanted Gift of Grief”. Please plan to bring a photo or small memento of your loved one to the retreat. For more information and to register, please contact Anne Marie Daniel at 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org.

FR. DREW’S CHALLENGE TO READ A GOSPEL

Don’t forget Fr. Drew’s challenge to everyone in the parish to read one of the four Gospels in its entirety during the month of October. And share your stories about doing this with us! Send an email to engagedchurch@stlaurence.org or drop a note or question or suggestion in the “We Are Listening” box on the Hospitality Desk. Take Father up on his challenge and grow in your faith and grow in relationship with Jesus.

RIGHT NOW: OFFERTORY RENEWAL APPEAL

Please prayerfully consider an increase in your support of the parish during this current Offertory Renewal Appeal. All parishioners should have received a letter in the mail from Fr. Drew which outlines his request for everyone in the parish to participate in the financial responsibility for this large parish family. No gift is too small. Please look for the Commitment Card in the mail and take a moment to consider, complete and turn in your card. Also, if you are not currently using Faith Direct for electronic giving, please look into it at www.faithdirect.net and use our church code (TX460). Thank you for your generous support of St. Laurence!

WHAT A GREAT PARISH BAZAAR!

The weather was spectacular and the crowds were huge at the Bazaar, which made its comeback on the property of the new Ave Maria Center last weekend. BIG THANKS to the Bazaar Co-Chairs who provided the leadership that made last weekend’s bazaar such a success! Pictured with Fr. Drew: Arnie Jimenez, Anne Lootens, Les Fuchs, Tom Barry, Michele Dyogi & Al Garcia

And the raffle winners are…

Marcia & Michael Engelling
Mini Cooper Convertible
Lisa Schram
$1500 gift card
Judy Pavlcek
$1000 gift card
Johnette Rosenbaum
$500 gift card
Delia Crescini
$250 gift card

PRAY THE ROSARY

The Month of October

In honor of our Blessed Mother, the Legion of Mary will lead the prayer of the Rosary before the Noon Mass throughout the month of October. Gather in the church at 11:30am each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. And join Fr. Drew each Friday at 6:30am in the church, for Friday Morning Rosary.
**Serving Others**

**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 2,200 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, please go to www.stlaurence.org/social-concerns

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 8, in honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. Fr. Jaison blessed over 100 animals (including a lamb)! Because of your generous donations, we were able to donate over 50 bags and 150 cans of cat and dog food for the homeless animals at the Sugar Land Animal Center and Fort Bend Animal Services.

**NAMI FORT BEND**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is a grassroots organization whose mission is to improve the lives of those affected by mental illness. Come to the General Meeting on the 1st Thursday of each month. Support Groups (English) are on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, Spanish Support Group is the 3rd Tuesday each month and Chinese Support Group is the last Sunday each month. For info, contact Pat or Ken Sumner at 281-265-1554, psumner1@comcast.net, or visit our parish website.

**BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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

**AMAZON SMILE & SUPPORT SCM**

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon automatically donates 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Laurence Social Concerns. Please bookmark this link and support us every time you shop: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0157777

**GOT COSTUMES?**

We are collecting new and gently used non-scary Halloween costumes for a Fall Festival for the children at Bethel Ministries. Please mark your donations “Bethel” and drop them into the big Social Concerns rolling bin (located in the church narthex) or bring to the parish or SCM offices. We will be collecting children’s costumes through October 24.
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
- Gently used Christmas gift bags, tissue paper, gift boxes, and small jewelry boxes for WISH UPON A STAR
- wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and crutches for the MEDICAL MISSION patients in Laredo

SHARE GOD’S BOUNTY

Share God’s Bounty volunteer sign-ups will be available online starting Monday, October 31. Pick up meal tags on the plaza after Mass on Oct 29/30 and Nov 5/6. Share God’s Bounty is our annual Thanksgiving meal drive, providing Thanksgiving meals and items to restock the pantries of more than 800 families throughout Fort Bend County. We are getting a jumpstart on our Restock the Pantry packs with a pre-SGB collection! Items needed: canned pasta, canned soup, 1 lb. package rice, 1 lb. package beans, peanut butter, jelly (plastic containers only), cereal/breakfast bars and cereal. All donations should be new and unexpired and may be dropped in the Social Concerns rolling bin in the church narthex or in the parish or SCM offices.

RESPECT FOR LIFE

PRAYER CAN PREVENT ABORTION

40 Days for Life prayer vigils have saved over 11,800 babies! The president of 40 Days for Life, Shawn Carney, will be speaking at a rally outside Planned Parenthood, 4600 Gulf Freeway in Houston, on Sunday, October 30, at 7:00pm. Join Christian Voices for Life on Monday Oct 31, when we will provide prayer volunteers to cover the day from 6:30am to 6:30pm. Sign up via SignUp Genius by searching for the sign-up created by ChristianVoicesforLifeFB@gmail.com. Individuals can sign up for other days by contacting Theresa Camara at Theresa@houstoncoalition.com and 713-395-1330.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION: 2 MONTHS!

Your spiritually adopted baby has implanted itself in mother’s womb and has grown to 10,000 times its original size! The foundations of the brain, spinal cord, and nervous system are forming, and the heart is beating regularly. The baby has his or her own circulatory system and may have a different blood type than mom. During the next month, your baby is most vulnerable to being aborted. Pray that the Lord of Life might move the heart of the mother to give her child the most precious gift of life.

GET A FREE RESPECT LIFE BUMPER STICKER

Bumper stickers that support life, with messages such as Pregnant? You have options are available from Marie McCoy at 281-610-3986.
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 adoration@stlaurence.org or 281-980-8481 or 832-816-4660 for more information.

**WEDNESDAYS: DIVORCE-CARE**

Offered every Wednesday from 7:00-9:00pm

If you have been suffering from the effects of divorce or separation, come receive help in rebuilding your life, focused on God’s love for you. DivorceCare meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm in the St. Francis Room of the new Ave Maria Center. For more information, please contact Janie at 832-860-3398 or jpdivorcecare@aol.com.

**NOV 3: CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**

The Cancer Support Group welcomes representatives from the St. Laurence Caregivers Support at their next meeting on Thursday, November 3, 10:00-11:30am, in the St. Clare Meeting Room. Lori Knowles and Jane Jewell will introduce us to their group and its function to learn more about the significant role of caregivers. If you are a cancer patients, survivor or caregiver, please check out our group. For more info, please call Angela Rankin at 832-945-2245.

**Joy Club for Seniors**

The J.O.Y. Club (stands for Just Older Youth) is for parishioners 55-and-up. The group meets at the Ave Maria Center on the 1st Monday of the month, plus other activities as planned. For info, contact Anne Higgins at 832-755-5597, nannyhiggs@gmail.com.

**NOV 7 — Brown bag lunch from 11am-1pm. John & Angela Rankin will give a presentation on their recent visit to Lourdes, France. Bring a small 1-oz. container and for the possibility of receiving the healing Lourdes water.**

**NOV 22 — Join the group in thanksgiving for Noon Mass. We’ll meet and sit together in the church, then go to lunch somewhere fun, before all your family and friends arrive for the Thanksgiving holiday!**

**NOV 10: Catholic Daughters Bunco**

Fall weather has arrived, which means it’s time for the Catholic Daughters’ annual Potluck Dinner & Bunco Meeting. All ladies of the parish are welcome at this popular event, to get to know the Catholic Daughters and meet some new friends! Plan to join them in the parish hall on Thursday, November 10, at 6:00pm. All are welcomed to visit or become a part of this wonderful group. Please bring your favorite covered dish and $5 to this special November meeting. For info about the Catholic Daughters, please contact Lucia Dziadul at 713-416-4926.
NEW AT THE PARISH LIBRARY

STOP BY FOR A VISIT AT THE AVE MARIA CENTER

The Parish Library has a number of new items and programs! Try Toddler Story Time on Tuesdays at 10am for children 3-and-under. We read stories, sing songs, color and sometimes do an easy craft. If you have not yet been to the new library at the Ave Maria Center, please come and take a look! If you filled out a library card application, be sure to pick up your card the next time you are in the Ave Maria Center. If you have borrowed books and not returned them, please remember to return them as soon as possible. Although our library does not charge fines for overdue books, we really would appreciate if parishioners would honor the due dates, so that everyone can enjoy all that our library has to offer. For more information, contact Susan Mulé at 281-265-5774.

OCT 27: COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The Council of Catholic Women, Western Deanery, extends a welcome to women to join them for their first meeting of the 2016-2017 year at St. Michael the Archangel parish in Needville on Thursday, October 27, at 6:30pm. They will start with a light dinner and at 7:00pm Justin Frato, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator for St. Laurence will speak on “Called to Holiness: Sainthood within Reach,” followed by a short business meeting to discuss and set the year’s activities. For additional information, please contact Ginny Kazmierczak at 281-242-8764 or vkaz@comcast.net.

NEW MINISTRY: DIVORCE CARE FOR KIDS

Divorce Care for Kids (DC4Ks) is a new children’s ministry forming at St. Laurence. We are beginning the process to discern facilitators. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Ron Martinez at rmartinez@stlaurence.org. The next planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov 3, at 6:00pm at the Ave Maria Center.

DID YOU TAKE PHOTOS AT THE BAZAAR?

Okay, so maybe you didn’t win the Mini Cooper in the parish bazaar raffle, but maybe you captured some winning shots while you were having fun at the Bazaar! Do you have some great Parish Bazaar pictures to share with us? Email them to Ron Martinez at rmartinez@stlaurence.org or share them on social media: Twitter: @stlaurence_cc | Instagram: stlaurenceparish | Facebook: St Laurence Catholic Church.

NOV 4-6: MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Fall is a beautiful season full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like autumn because it’s a weekend full of fresh air, new beginnings and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage and family. It’s a great time to rekindle communication and enjoy a weekend away. The dates for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is November 4-6. Contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 for more information or register online at www.houstonme.org.

NOV 10: ANNULMENT INFO SESSION

An information session on the Annulment Process will be offered on Thursday November 10, from 7:00-8:30pm, in the St. Joseph Meeting Room of the Ave Maria Center. All who are interested in learning more about this process are invited to attend and no advance registration is required. For additional details, please contact Anne Marie Daniel at adaniel@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774.

“BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW”

Join a ministry or group and allow Jesus to make something new in you!
Party with our Heavenly Family

With All Saints’ Day celebrated on the 1st of this month, we will take this Family Night to learn about the saints as we play games together. These special friends of God teach us ways we can be a living saint today in our own lives!

Friday, November 11

6:30 pm Hamburger Dinner

7-8 pm Saintly Games

Guardian Angels Hall in the Ave Maria Center

Please RSVP by November 9 at www.stlaurence.org/family-nights

Hamburgers will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.
### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

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<td>Rose Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahlezhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
<td>Mary Visser</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Theresa Rawls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</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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<tr>
<td>Correctional Ministry</td>
<td>Deacon Charles Plant</td>
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<td>Funeral Receptions</td>
<td>Carol Giardina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Steve Pendell</td>
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<tr>
<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>Joan O’Daniel</td>
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<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
<td>Herb Appel</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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<td>Senior Rides &amp; More</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</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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### FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

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<td>A.C.T.S. Retreat</td>
<td>Dcn. Don Burns</td>
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<td>Adult Faith Formation</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
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<tr>
<td>COR Worship Nights</td>
<td>Danielle Noonan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edge (Middle School)</td>
<td>Eric Painter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary CCE</td>
<td>Joan Hasterreit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Faith</td>
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<td>Life Teen (High School)</td>
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<td>Natural Family Planning</td>
<td>Jacob/Jillian Counts</td>
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<td>Parish School (SLCS)</td>
<td>Suzanne Barto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish School Board</td>
<td>David Wells</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish School PTO</td>
<td>Kristin Holy</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCIA</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Cindy Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocations Committee</td>
<td>Fr. Simon Kipti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekday Children’s Prog.</td>
<td>Becky Wilkinson</td>
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### PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

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<td>Catholic Men</td>
<td>Jim Kij</td>
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<tr>
<td>Challenge Club for Girls</td>
<td>Monica Hager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemplative Prayer</td>
<td>Elaine Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (AM)</td>
<td>Sally Flowers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divine Mercy (PM)</td>
<td>Patti Kallemeyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearts of Jesus &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Margie Calo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lay Apostle Prayer</td>
<td>Kay Quenan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Mary</td>
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<td>Men’s Bible Studies</td>
<td>Steve Ewbank</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>Joseph Ellanikl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Christian Comm</td>
<td>Sunny Tom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday AM Bible Study</td>
<td>Grisely DeCaro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regina Johnson</td>
<td>281-403-1792</td>
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### MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

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<td>Annulments</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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<td>Bereavement Ministries:</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grief Support Group</td>
<td>Sandy Barber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grieving Families</td>
<td>Agnes Fernandez</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
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<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
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<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Loni Knowles</td>
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<tr>
<td>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Jane Jewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAMI</td>
<td>Pat Sumner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
<td>Ambrose Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spiritual Direction</td>
<td>Anne Marie Daniel</td>
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Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.