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
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, lsteppens@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@ihear4media.com

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.
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Helping one family at a time

The Habitat for Humanity ministry is one of the 80+ ministries at St. Laurence. We are part of the Social Concerns Ministry and our charge is helping one family at a time improve their lot in life. When we have finished our work, the new homeowner can stop worrying about their housing situation and focus on learning and growing together as a family. We are now ready to start the home-building program for our 12th family. The ministry operates under the auspices of the Fort Bend Habitat for Humanity chapter. Our ministry’s role is to raise funds to pay for the building of the house and to supply volunteers to perform the actual build. Today, we begin the fundraising part of our ministry.

Last July, our ministry dedicated its 11th house in Richmond. The homeowner was on hand as her new 3-bedroom home was built, which will house herself, her two young children and an upcoming new baby (she was pregnant!). To reach this point, she needed to put in 300 hours of sweat equity. It was a joy to watch her help to build her own house each Saturday, whether it was pounding nails during framing day, hanging siding as we closed in the building, or painting the bedroom. Now she has a no-interest mortgage through H4H and is a regular homeowner.

During the build process, we had a chance to work alongside many St. Laurence parishioners out there doing God’s work. Additional parishioners came out at noon to provide delicious lunches to the volunteers. In addition to our regular build days, we had two special days this past year: one day with volunteers from the Fort Bend Interfaith Community and another with volunteers from our Knights of Columbus chapter. This build was another effort from the entire village.

During the next few weeks, the Habitat ministry is asking St. Laurence parishioners to prayerfully consider funding an 12th house, to be built starting after the new year. The cost to sponsor a build is $70,000, an amount that our parish has generously funded for our past homes. Contributions of all sizes are welcome and appreciated. Some parishioners will give $100, $1000, or even more. This week, the black bag collection is designated for Habitat. Please consider a donation today. You can also drop a check in the collection basket in coming weeks, or mail it to the parish office. Checks should be made out to St. Laurence Parish, with Habitat for Humanity noted in the memo line.

If you would like to pay by credit card or if your company has a matching gift program, please contact Steve Pondell at 281-253-7088 for further directions.

Thank you, St. Laurence parishioners, on behalf of the eleven families already making a better life for themselves in a new home.

Steve Pondell, St. Laurence Habitat for Humanity Coordinator

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

OCT / NOV

SUNDAY 30 (#1184 in your Gather book)
First Reading WIS 11:22-12:2
Second Reading 2 THES 1:11-2:2
Gospel LK 19:1-10

MONDAY 31
First Reading PHIL 2:1-4
Gospel LK 14:12-14

TUESDAY 1
First Reading RV 7:2-4, 9-14
Second Reading 1 JN 3:1-3
Gospel MT 5:1-12A

WEDNESDAY 2
First Reading WIS 3:1-9
Second Reading ROM 5:5-11
Gospel JN 6:37-40

THURSDAY 3
First Reading PHIL 3:3-8A
Gospel LK 15:1-10

FRIDAY 4
First Reading PHIL 3:17—4:1
Gospel LK 16:1-8

SATURDAY 5
First Reading PHIL 4:10-19
Gospel LK 16:9-15

SUNDAY 6
First Reading 2 MC 7:1-2, 9-14
Second Reading 2 THES 2:16-3:5
Gospel LK 20:27-38

PRAYING THE NEWS | OCTOBER 30, 2016

And how could a thing remain, unless you willed it; or be preserved, had it not been called forth by you? Wisdom 11:25

Dear God, we thank you for our nation, which you have blessed and preserved thus far. May all our citizens vote in the upcoming election by following consciences inspired by you. Please grant that animosity and division created by these campaigns will fade and that our democracy will endure with new vigor. May we never take this gift for granted. Jesus, we trust in you. . Amen. †
PRAY FOR THE SICK

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


PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON

Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Pray for:

Teresa Ruiz, Miko Cerone, Eva Molina, Isabella Flores, Jessica Ayala, Liz Trevino, Ana Calautti, Allegria family, Pete Saenz family, Robert Salazar, Robert Burgess family, Shane Tuttle & family, Becky & Steve Carney, Pounds family, Marcos Arriola & family, Serrano family, Mosqueda family, Mary Portillo, Bea Rodriguez, Jose Diaz, Gonzalez family, Muguna family, Stockhausen family, Thomas Sobey, John Rodriguez, Lucio Lina, Silvio Luca, Patricia Lafleur, Paul Ramirez, Angelic Marie Ramirez, Jocelin Ramirez, Roland Bergara, Robert Crenshaw, Chaplain Tom Lowe, Deacon Al Bothe, the Society of St John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3.

PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN

CV2 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
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
LTJG Colin Day, US Navy
1stLt Andrew DeSplinter, US Army
Sgt. Nicholas Dekum, US Army
Capt. Brandon Drescoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
2ndLt Michael Eberhards, US Army
Capt. Stacey Eberhards, US Army
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
Pvt. Jahnile 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, US Army
SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
Joseph Kingerkis, US Navy
EM4 James Locus, US Navy
PFC Philip Loera, US Army
PFC John Lundgren, US Army
Maj. 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
QMSN Bryce Prochazka, USNavy
LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
Sgt. Santiago Ramirez, US Army
1stLt Taylor Ramrath, US Army
Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SSgt Jonathan Susser, US Air Force
LTJG Kevin Stransky, US Navy
CTM3 Nicholas Stuhlman, US Navy
Cpl Daniel Thesing, USMC
Maj. Michael Thesing, USMC
1stLt Kevin Wheeler, US Army
Sgt. Bryce Whitley, US Army
AM Troy Yelvelton, US Navy
PVT Adrian Zaldivar, USMC

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCT 29
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 – Thanh Pham (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, OCT 31
7:30am – Mary L. Haas (D)
12:00pm – Antonio & Arthur Gonzales (D)
5:00pm – Andy Baker (D)

TUESDAY, NOV 1
8:15am – Kevin Hinguillo (D)
12:00pm – Josephine & Darryl Gaylord (D)
6:30pm – Kevin Reinartz (D)

WEDS, NOV 2
7:30am – Jorge & Jorgie Lucenio (D)
6:30pm – Loretta Ctvrtlik (D)

THURSDAY, NOV 3
7:30am – Pam Warren (D)
12:00pm – Rudy Garza (D)

FRIDAY, NOV 4
8:15am – Pam Warren (D)
12:00pm – Sampaguita Simeon (D)

SATURDAY, NOV 5
8:30pm - Sylvester & Faustina Pinto (D)
5:00pm – Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY, NOV 6
7:30am – Miriam Amerau (D)
9:00am – Kevin Hinguillo (D)
11:00am – Edmond Atallah (D)
12:45pm – Mario & Ermentina Forcada (I)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

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
AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

TODAY: CELEBRATE PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY!

Today is a special 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.priestsonday.org. Please pray for our priests and pray for vocations to the priesthood in a special way today!

NOV 2: ANNUAL ECOUMENICAL 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.

NOV 5: 2ND ANNUAL CRIMSON & GOLD RUN

Register now for the 2nd Annual Crimson and Gold 10K, 5K, and Kids K! Visit www.runcrimsonandgold.com to register for the race on Saturday, November 5. Runners, walkers, and strollers are all welcome! All proceeds benefit St. John XXIII College Preparatory tuition assistance program.

NOV 12: ARCHDIOCESAN DISABILITY CONFERENCE

Anyone who has a heart for disability ministry, including clergy, catechists, principals, teachers, pastoral & social justice ministers, families, friends and care providers of children and adults with disabilities, are invited to “In God’s Image” Disability Conference on Saturday, November 12, 8:00am - 4:00pm at University of St. Thomas Jerabeck Center, 4000 Mt. Vernon, in Houston. The cost to attend is $30 (includes lunch). Register by October 31 at archgh.cvent.com/InGodsImage2016.

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
October 23 Collection $ 53,253
Registered Households 7,391
Envelopes Used 710
Loose Checks 197
2nd Collection: Propagation of Faith $ 16,866

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 163,240
Participants 886

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 411,654
Amount Pledged $ 445,612
Participants 1,059

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 classes DEC 13 and JAN 12

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: NOVEMBER 12

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 CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

FUNERALS
Kathy Gloster, mother of Logan Gloster
Jeff Clary, husband of Gerry Burkman

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
Diego Adams

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

NO ELEMENTARY CCE CLASS THIS WEEK

Elementary CCE classes will NOT be held this week (Nov 1 and Nov 2) due to All Saints Day. Attend Mass together as a family and we will see you back in class next week!

MONDAY MORNINGS: MOMS & TOTS

Are you a mom who is home with young child(ren) ages infant to pre-K on Monday mornings? Consider joining Moms & Tots. The meetings are casual, and kids and moms get a chance to make new friends and grow closer to Christ. Come every week or just when you can! Contact the group for more info at stlaurence.momsandtots@gmail.com or call Chrissy Campbell at 310-926-7085.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Offered during the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses

Children grades K-4 are invited to follow faith sharers on designated Sundays for Children’s Liturgy of the Word to hear the readings in language they can better understand. For more info, please call Susan Choate (281-682-3389) or Claire Gregory (281-208-2715).

St. Laurence Catholic School

www.stlaurence.org/school

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, NOV 2, 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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS EDGE NIGHT
700-815pm at the Ave Maria Center
This Wednesday, NOV 2, 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 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.

LIFE TEEN TONIGHT!
SUNDAY, 10/30  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
TUESDAY, 11/1  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

Confimation 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.

Keep Learning & Growing

Throughout the month of October, Fr. Drew united our parish in reading one of the four Gospels in a thoughtful, attentive and discerning way.

Keep reading! As Matthew Kelly says in his book Rediscover Catholicism: St. Jerome once wrote, ‘Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.’ The great tragedy in the modern environment is people know more about their favorite music group or sports players then they do about Jesus. Get to know Jesus. Read the Gospels. Read it slowly and reflect on the meaning. Allow the words to penetrate your heart. Allow the words of the gospels erode your personal prejudices, to wash away your narrow mindedness, to banish your judgmental tendencies. Allow the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, alive and present in the Gospels, to sink their roots deeply into your life.

Coming up this week:

TUESDAY, 11/1 @ 9:00am in Marian Hall
Tuesday Morning Bible Study
Study of Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom

WEDNESDAY, 11/2 @ 5:30am in Marian Hall
That Man Is You
Session 8: Laying a Foundation for the Future

THURSDAY, 11/3 @ 7:00pm in Marian Hall
Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship
Featuring Deacon Larry Vaclavik

St. Laurence Catholic Church | PG 7
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

Nov 1: Kingdom Borders Expand

**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

WWW.STLAURENCE.ORG/AFF  
facebook.com/groups/stlaurenceadultfaith

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**SPEAKER SERIES THIS WEEK**

**Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship**  
Deacon Larry Vaclavik

**THIS THURSDAY, November 3**  
7-9 pm, in Marian Hall, Ave Maria Center

Join Deacon Larry Vaclavik, deacon at St. Theresa 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.

**DISCOVER WHAT SAINT WANTS TO BE YOUR FRIEND**

What's the greatest part about being friends with the saints? It reminds us that the saints were normal people just like us. While we all have our unique story, everyone can find a saint that has walked a path similar to our own. So, if you don't have one already, go to facebook.com/groups/stlaurenceadultfaith to take the quiz to find your new Saint friend!
Prayer to Mary, the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States

Most Holy Trinity: Our Father in Heaven, who chose Mary as the fairest of your daughters; Holy Spirit, who chose Mary as your Spouse; God the Son, who chose Mary as your Mother, in union with Mary we adore your majesty and acknowledge your supreme, eternal dominion and authority.

Most Holy Trinity, we put the United States of America into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she may present the country to you. Through her we wish to thank you for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage.

Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the Catholic Church in America. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our president and on all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy, born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the precious gift of many religious vocations. Through the intercession of our Mother, have mercy on the sick, the tempted, sinners – on all who are in need.

Mary, Immaculate Virgin, our Mother, Patroness of our land, we praise you and honor you and give ourselves to you. Protect us from every harm. Pray for us, that acting always according to your will and the will of your divine Son, we may live and die pleasing to God. Amen.

Mosaic of the Immaculate Conception © Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Used with permission.
The Gospel story of Jesus’ encounter with Zacchaeus makes for an ideal stewardship reflection. So does today’s first reading from the Book of Wisdom. Good stewards have faith in, and give thanks for, an almighty and powerful God who transcends the universe, but who gives personal attention to every human being. God loves his creation, his people. He lives in them, and through his Holy Spirit, instills a fundamental goodness in them. Good stewards recognize this movement of the Spirit as a gift, and make efforts to cultivate this gift and grow in their faith. Take time this week to stop and look around you, be aware of God’s awe-inspiring creation, and give thanks for God’s loving care and concern for each of us.

www.catholicstewardship.org

STEWARDS AMONG US

RICK & ANN CANDEA

Rick and Ann Candea recall the fun they had as new parishioners 22 years ago. “Does anyone remember the Ladies Guild New Year’s Eve parties, casino parties, Pumpkin Patch and Dinner Theatre?” They got involved from the very start and when their daughter Christiana arrived, Rick assisted at Weekday Children’s Program and Ann at VBS and SLCS. They even made Share God’s Bounty and Wish Upon A Star a part of their family’s holiday tradition: Rick took on traffic duty outside while Christiana & Ann packed Thanksgiving dinner boxes inside. As their daughter grew, so did Rick & Ann’s roles, teaching on the Family Faith and Life Teen teams. “Our involvement at St. Laurence has been the foundation of our family life. It is our spiritual and community home and the anchor for our lives. Serving in any ministry strengthens us with God’s love and connects us to each other. Then, we can share that love with others when we’re not at St. Laurence.” Christiana has gone on to join the high school youth ministry team at St. Elizabeth’s in Lubbock where she is a freshman at Texas Tech, but you can still find Rick and Ann teaching, serving and helping right here at St. Laurence!

Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live for ever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.

Pope Francis
July 17, 2013

Ask Paula

Q. Are All Saints and All Souls holy days of obligation?

A. Good question! Only All Saints Day, November 1, is a holy day of obligation. The Mass times for All Saints Day are 8:15am, noon (that’s 12:00pm, for people who call and want to know what time the Noon Mass is) and 6:30pm. ALL Masses are in the church. There is also a Vigil Mass on October 31 (Halloween) at 5:00pm, early enough so it won’t interfere with trick or treaters, just saying. (Remember, Social Concerns would like your leftover candy after you’ve had enough; they’ll use it for some projects they have coming up.) November 2 is All Souls - and how about November 3, my birthday? NOT holy days, just saying.

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.
The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Part I of II: Our Call as Catholic Citizens

This brief document is Part I of a summary of the US bishops’ reflection, Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, which complements the teaching of bishops in dioceses and states.

“If indeed ‘the just ordering of society and of the state is a central responsibility of politics,’ the Church ‘cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice.’” 1 So writes Pope Francis, quoting Pope Benedict XVI.

Our nation faces many political challenges that demand well-informed moral choices:

- The ongoing destruction of a million innocent human lives each year by abortion
- Physician-assisted suicide
- The redefinition of marriage
- The excessive consumption of material goods and the destruction of natural resources, harming the environment as well as the poor
- Deadly attacks on Christians and other religious minorities throughout the world
- Efforts to narrow the definition and exercise of religious freedom
- Economic policies that fail to prioritize the needs of poor people, at home and abroad
- A broken immigration system and a worldwide refugee crisis
- Wars, terror, and violence that threaten every aspect of human life and dignity.

As Catholics, we are part of a community with profound teachings that help us consider challenges in public life, contribute to greater justice and peace for all people, and evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates’ promises and actions in light of the Gospel in order to help build a better world.

Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?

The Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ’s commandment to “love one another” (Jn 13:34).

The US Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to proclaim and live out their faith without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should recognize and protect the Church’s right and responsibility to participate in society without abandoning its moral convictions. Our nation’s tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions into public life. The Catholic community brings to political dialogue a consistent moral framework and broad experience serving those in need.

Who in the Church Should Participate in Political Life?

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to any political party or interest group. In today’s environment, Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and few candidates fully share our comprehensive commitment to human life and dignity. This should not discourage us. On the contrary, it makes our obligation to act all the more urgent. Catholic lay women and men need to act on the Church’s moral principles and become more involved: running for office, working within political parties, and communicating concerns to elected officials. Even those who cannot vote should raise their voices on matters that affect their lives and the common good. Faithful citizenship is an ongoing responsibility, not just an election year duty.

How Can Catholic Social Teaching Help Guide Our Participation?

In the words of Pope Francis, “progress in building a people in peace, justice and fraternity depends on four principles related to constant tensions present in every social reality. These derive from the pillars of the Church’s social doctrine, which serve as ‘primary and fundamental parameters of reference for interpreting and evaluating social phenomena.’” 2 The four principles include the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity. Taken together, these principles provide a moral framework for Catholic engagement in advancing what we have called a “consistent ethic of life” (Living the Gospel of Life, no. 22).

Rightly understood, this ethic does not treat all issues as morally equivalent; nor does it reduce Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God.

Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates’ positions on issues and should consider candidates’ integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens “to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest” (USCCB, Living the Gospel of Life, no. 33). The following summary of the four principles highlights several themes of Catholic social teaching for special consideration: these include human rights and responsibilities, respect for work and the rights of workers, care for God’s creation, and the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.

The Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred because every person is created in the image and likeness of God. There is a rich and multifaceted Catholic teaching on human dignity summarized in the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church. Every human being “must always be understood in his irrepeable and inviolable uniqueness . . . This entails above all the requirement not only of simple respect on the part of others, especially political and social institutions and their leaders with regard to every man and woman on the earth, but even more, this means that the primary commitment of each person towards others, and particularly of these same institutions, must be for the promotion and integral development of the person” (no. 131). The Compendium continues, “It is necessary to consider every neighbor without exception
as another self, taking into account first of all his life and the means necessary for living it with dignity’ (Gaudium et Spes, no. 27). Every political, economic, social, scientific and cultural program must be inspired by the awareness of the primacy of each human being over society.95

Subsidiarity
It is impossible to promote the dignity of the person without showing concern for the family, groups, associations, and local realities—in short, for those economic, social, cultural, recreational, professional, and political communities to which people spontaneously give life and which make it possible for them to achieve effective social growth.6 The family, based on marriage between a man and a woman, is the fundamental unit of society. This sanctuary for the creation and nurturing of children must not be redefined, undermined, or neglected. Supporting families should be a priority for economic and social policies. How our society is organized—in economics and politics, in law and public policy—affects the well-being of individuals and of society. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate in shaping society to promote the well-being of individuals and the common good.

The principle of subsidiarity reminds us that larger institutions in society should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local institutions; yet larger institutions have essential responsibilities when the more local institutions cannot adequately protect human dignity, meet human needs, and advance the common good.7

The Common Good
The common good is comprised of “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfilment more fully and more easily.”68 Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, a right to religious freedom, and a right to have access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to ourselves, to our families, and to the larger society.

The common good must serve people, not the other way around. An economic system must serve the dignity of the human person and the common good by respecting the dignity of work and protecting the rights of workers. Economic justice calls for decent work at fair, living wages, a broad and fair legalization program with a path to citizenship for immigrant workers, and the opportunity for all people to work together for the common good through their work, ownership, enterprise, investment, participation in unions, and other forms of economic activity. Workers also have responsibilities—to provide a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay, to treat employers and coworkers with respect, and to carry out their work in ways that contribute to the common good. Workers, employers, and unions should not only advance their own interests but also work together to advance economic justice and the well-being of all.

We have a duty to care for God’s creation, which Pope Francis refers to in Laudato Si’ as “our common home.”99 We are all called to be careful stewards of God’s creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future. Pope Francis, consistent with St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI (World Day of Peace Message, 1990 and 2010), has lifted up pollution, climate change, lack of access to clean water, and the loss of biodiversity as particular challenges. Pope Francis speaks of an “ecological debt” (no. 51) owed by wealthier nations to developing nations. And he calls all of us to an “ecological conversion” (no. 219), by which “the effects of [our] encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in [our] relationship with the world around [us]”.10 Indeed, this concern with “natural ecology” is an indispensable part of the broader “human ecology,” which encompasses not only material but moral and social dimensions as well.

Solidarity
Solidarity is “a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to . . . the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.” It is found in “a commitment to the good of one’s neighbor with the readiness, in the Gospel sense, to ‘lose oneself’ for the sake of the other instead of exploiting him, and to ‘serve him’ instead of oppressing him for one’s own advantage.”90

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Our Catholic commitment to solidarity requires that we pursue justice, eliminate racism, end human trafficking, respect human rights, seek peace, and avoid the use of force except as a necessary last resort.

In a special way, our solidarity must find expression in the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us—the unborn, those dealing with disabilities or terminal illness, the poor, and the marginalized.

Conclusion
In light of Catholic teaching, the bishops vigorously repeat their call for a renewed politics that focuses on moral principles, the promotion of human life and dignity, and the pursuit of the common good. Political participation in this spirit reflects not only the social teaching of our Church but the best traditions of our nation.

Notes
1 Evangelii Gaudium, no. 183.
2 This specific list of issues is taken from the Introductory Note to Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, 2015. For a fuller consideration, see the second document in this series, “The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: Part II: Making Moral Choices and Applying Our Principles” (2016), and the full statement of the bishops’ Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, 2015.
3 Evangelii Gaudium, no. 221.
4 These principles are drawn from a rich tradition more fully described in the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005), no. 160. For more information on these principles, see Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, 2016, nos. 40ff.
5 Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 132. This summary represents only a few highlights from the fuller treatment of the human person in the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church. For the fuller treatment, see especially nos. 124-159 where many other important aspects of human dignity are treated.
6 Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 185.
7 Centesimus Annus, no. 48; Dignitatis Humanae, nos. 4-6.
8 Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 164
9 Laudato Si’, no. 77.
10 Laudato Si’, nos. 219 and 217.
11 Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 193. (See Mt 10:40-42, 20:25; Mk 10:42-45; Lk 22:25-27)

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**HALLOWEEN, ALL SAINTS, ALL SOULS**

Together, Halloween, All Saints Day and All Souls Day illustrate the Communion of Saints. We, the Church on earth, pray for the souls in Purgatory (All Souls Day) and we rejoice with the saints in heaven and ask for their intercession (All Saints Day). Help make the connection with your kids by attending Mass together on All Saints Day, then sign up for the **St. Laurence Family Night on Friday, Nov 11**. Kids dress as their favorite Saint, enjoy a potluck and meet other young families. Get more details and RSVP at www.stlaurence.org/family-nights. Also, you can encourage your kids to share their leftover Halloween candy with others less fortunate. Head over to the Social Concerns Office and unload the treats into the **Halloween Candy Depository**! The candy will be packaged into over hundreds of treat bags for children in need. **Happy Halloween!**

**FAITHFUL CATHOLICS & AMERICAN CITIZENS**

Troubled and confused this election year? Come hear Deacon Larry Vaclavik, from St. Theresa in Houston, speak this **Thursday, November 3, at 7:00pm in Marian Hall** on the subject of “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.” As part of our popular Adult Faith Speaker Series, this session is free, provided by the parish to help adults learn and **continue to grow in faith**. For more information, please contact Justin Frato at 281-265-5774.

**LOVING SUPPORT FOR OUR MEDICAL MISSION**

This Saturday, November 5, our Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy depart to serve the poor in Laredo, Texas. Please pray for the 50 missionaries, including 13 who are new to the team this year, who will treat 1,200+ people in 5 days in 3 locations: Laredo, Zapata, El Cenizo. Not only do these missionaries take vacation time from work to serve, but they pay their own way. For those of us who remain behind, we can support our medical missions with a financial donation of any size (donate online at www.stlaurence.org/medical-missionaries) and please keep them and the people they serve in your prayers this week.

**NOV 14-15: FR. DAVE PIVONKA RETURNS!**

St. Laurence welcomes back Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, to lead our Parish Mission on **Monday and Tuesday, November 14-15**. All parishioners of any age are encouraged to attend the Mission, which will be offered in one-hour sessions twice a day: **9:30-10:30am** and repeated at **7:00-8:00pm**. All sessions are free, open to everyone and held in the church. Over these two days, Fr. Dave will focus on God, the Holy Spirit, inspired by a term the ancient Celts used to describe the Holy Spirit: **Wild Goose**. God’s Spirit is power and blows not merely like a gentle breeze but at times like a raging wind. Our first instinct is to get it under control, but like a wild goose, it’s hard to control. So, “let the goose loose” and come to the Parish Mission! Get more info at www.stlaurence.org/parishmission.

**ALL SAINTS DAY**

**A Holy Day of Obligation**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 31**

5:00 pm

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

8:15 am

12:00 noon

6:30 pm

**All Masses in the Church**

**KC’S SMOKING GOOD TURKEYS**

**Today on the Plaza**

Order a delicious 12-14 lb. turkey, smoked by the Knights of Columbus and ready for your Thanksgiving table for $40. NEW! Look for the Lawn Nativity Set on display on the plaza. The KCs are selling these for $150 (value=$180). Limited to just 50 pre-orders, so get one today!

**TIME TO SHARE GOD’S BOUNTY**

**Thanksgiving Meal Drive**

Each year, our parish provides a full Thanksgiving dinner, plus stuff to stock the pantries of 800+ families in need. Pick a tag from the line today to participate!

**MAKE AN INCREASE**

Thanks for your generosity! If you haven’t returned your Commitment Card for the Offertory Renewal Appeal, please do so now. No gift is too small. Also, get more info about electronic giving at www.faithdirect.net (use church code TX460). Questions? Please contact Tony Oltremari at 281-980-9812.
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

SHARING YOUR GIFTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

We are so blessed to serve our parish and community through the Social Concerns Ministry. We are inspired and touched each and every day by your overwhelming generosity. One of the primary goals of SCM is to give parishioners an opportunity to serve those in need by donating time, monetary support and gifts in kind (goods or services). In all, there are over 30 ministries and support groups that are a part of the SCM family. Another 20+ agencies are supported by your donations.

Two of our largest projects/drives are just around the corner: the Share God’s Bounty Thanksgiving food drive and the Wish Upon A Star Christmas gift program.

Share God’s Bounty provides over 700 meals to families in need throughout the Fort Bend area, plus another 100 to our sister parish, Queen of Peace in Houston. The “turkey tags” will be available on the plaza after all Masses this weekend, along with information on how to sign-up for the 200 volunteer positions.

Wish Upon A Star provides approximately 2,000 Christmas gifts to children, adults and the elderly in need throughout our area. In some cases, this will be the only gift this person receives. The Wish Upon A Star tags will be on the plaza Nov 19-20.

As you take a Share God’s Bounty or Wish Upon A Star tag, please know that there is a very real family or person that will be the recipient of your generosity. By returning your donation at the appointed time, that person will be guaranteed a meal or gift. The recipients of the meals and gifts provided by St. Laurence are so grateful for the generosity of the parish. When you share your gifts, you touch a life!

May God bless you all this holiday season!

Pennie, Melanie & Monica—Social Concerns Ministry Office

HELP OUR TROOPS THIS HOLIDAY

The St. Laurence Military Ministry is collecting snack size packages of nuts, sunflower seeds, dried fruit, beef jerky, energy bars and Power Bars Protein Plus bars. It will be cold in some of the locations, so hot cocoa mix, instant coffee packets, tea bags, individual sugar & powdered creamer packets are appreciated. Please mark MILITARY and drop off in the SCM bin by November 30. Thank you!
**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

**ON THE PLAZA TODAY!**

Let's all get together and...

**SHARE GOD’S BOUNTY!**

Share God’s Bounty is our annual Thanksgiving meal drive, providing a holiday meal and extra items to restock the pantries for more than 700 families throughout Fort Bend County and another 100 meals for our sister parish, Queen of Peace. Pick up a tag this weekend to provide a complete holiday meal for a family in need. Want to help distribute meals on Saturday, November 19th? Signups are on Sign Up Genius starting October 31. Volunteer spots go quickly, so sign up early. Please contact Pennie DeGroot in the Social Concerns Ministry office at 281-980-9812 with questions.

**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, TODAY Sunday, Oct 30, at 7pm. 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.

**NOV 5: PRAYER AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD**

Christian Voices for Life sponsors prayer at Planned Parenthood at 4600 Gulf Freeway on the 1st Saturday of each month, from 10 am to 12 noon. Please join us. Parking is available right on Gulfcrest, where we stand to pray. Contact Marie McCoy at Marie@ChristianVoicesforLife.org or 281-265-7749.

**PRMC VISION HOURS**

The Pregnancy Resource Medical Center in Rosenberg (2918 Ave I) offers regular Vision Hours to inform guests about their work to help women with the choice for life. See the center, meet staff members, hear great client stories. You will NOT be asked for a donation. Vision Hours will be offered at your convenience. Call the center at 281-232-2375 to arrange.

**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.

**HALLOWEEN CANDY DEPOSITORY**

Happy Halloween!

Once again, Social Concerns will happily collect leftover Halloween candy that we use for several projects, including Share God’s Bounty. Please drop off your donations in the “Halloween Candy Depository” in the Social Concerns Office, in the parish office, or look for the SCM collection bin (large rolling cart in the church narthex). Please mark your bag: SCM.

Thank you!
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!

**COPING WITH GRIEF THRU HOLIDAYS**

Offered November 15 and December 13, 6:30-8:30pm

Holidays are times to gather with family and friends. If you have suffered the loss of a loved one, the holidays can be filled with sorrow and grief, making you feel as though everyone has joy but you. Join the Grief Support Ministry for a special 2-hour holiday focused session on Tuesday, November 15, or Tuesday December 13, at 6:30pm, in the St. Clare Room. Videos of grief counseling specialists will provide tools/suggestions for dealing with expectations of family and friends during these most difficult times, plus opportunities to share. All are welcome and the sessions are free. For more information and to register, please contact Sandy Barber at 281-633-9090, help2grieve@hotmail.com.

**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 welcome 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.
**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. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this frequently misunderstood process is 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.

**NOV 17: SHOP ‘TIL YOU DROP**

Get a jump start on your holiday shopping at the Annual Ladies Guild Shop ’Til You Drop on Thursday, Nov 17, 6:00-9:00pm. Held in the new Ave Maria Center, it will be bigger and better than ever with even more vendors. Look for jewelry, home décor, Christmas and gift items, food, services, and much more! Admission is free and beverages are provided by the Ladies Guild, so invite a friend and enjoy the evening! This event is a fundraiser which benefits local charities and parish ministries supported by the Ladies Guild. For all the details, please visit www.stlaurence.org/shop-til-you-drop or call Ladies Guild President Tina Dougherty at 713-859-6861.

**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.

**THANKS FROM THE BAZAAR TEAM!**

BEHOLD, the Bazaar is back and because of you it was a huge success! The Bazaar Committee would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who attended. We hope you had a chance to enjoy all the new aspects, as well as the old favorites.

Fr. Drew, Fr. Jaison and Fr. Simon, we thank you immensely for the opportunity to serve this wonderful parish in this way. To see the community come together for a couple of days to put on this event is magnificent and something we look forward to each year.

We’d like to extend a MASSIVE thank you to the Parish Staff, especially Deanna Ennis, for guiding us along the way and working the Bazaar to make it all happen; Sharon Ehrenkranz for publicizing the Bazaar and helping with ideas for new events this year; Pat Martin and Ann Candea for all the work behind the scenes; Tony Oltremari for helping to secure the necessary items for the Bazaar to take place; Bobby, Ruth, Veronica, Rip, Armando and Joe for all the help in setting up, picking up, and everything in between!

Thank you to the Bazaar Food Chairs, Belinda Maldonado, Suzanne Garcia and Chris Koeppen for spending months planning and making sure all the different food booths had all the supplies they needed. (Matt & Julie Koeppen, thank you, too, for all you did at the Bazaar!)

Thank you to the Bazaar Activity Chair Elizabeth Espinosa who designed our logo this year, repainted the Fishing Pond and Bean Bag Toss and organized volunteers and great prizes for each booth.

Thank you to our Volunteer Chair Joy Eckelkamp for organizing all of the many volunteers that we had and made sure that every booth, inflatable and everything in between had a volunteer working at each and every shift. Thanks to Cara Turner for putting together the Art Gallery for everyone to enjoy and visit the new Ave Maria Center. Glen Fontenot did a great job putting together the new Hot Spot this year for teens. Michelle McGinnis and Hal Mechler were wonderful to run both of our ticket booths for the entire bazaar. Thank you to Alicia Jimenez for making Bingo a success again this year and coming up with new ideas to make fun games!

Mandy Boudreaux, thank you for working on our sponsorships and thank you gifts for our sponsors. Thanks again to our generous sponsors for underwriting the cost of this big event.

To the Knights of Columbus, who helped us with setup and take down of all the booths, tables and chairs every year, and the Boy Scouts who help with setup and trash pickup; we are extremely appreciative. To the LEOs who helped throughout both days in any capacity that we needed, we really are very thankful for your help.

One group of people that we absolutely could not have the Bazaar without are all the many volunteers! We thank you with all of our hearts and look forward to future Bazaars. We hope that you all enjoyed the time you gave and ask that if you are able to help next year, please do so! If you have friends or family looking for ways to be involved, share with them the opportunity that the Bazaar gives.

With gratitude, the 2016 Bazaar Chairs: Tom Barry, Les Fuchs, Michele Dyogi, Al Garcia, Anne Lootens & Arnie Jimenez

**“BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW”**

Join a ministry or group and allow Jesus to make something new in you!
ST. LAURENCE PARISH MISSION
November 14-15, 2016

Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, Presents

THE WILD GOOSE

Discover why the ancient Celts called the Holy Spirit a wild goose. Turn the goose loose in your life!

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
### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
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<td>Rose Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Sara Sahleghi</td>
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<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
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<td>First Reconciliation</td>
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<td>Marriage Sponsor</td>
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### MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

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<td>Grief Support Group</td>
<td>Sandy Barber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grieving Families</td>
<td>Agnes Fernandes</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.O.P.E.</td>
<td>Annette Bisanz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer Support</td>
<td>Angela Rankin</td>
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<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Lori Knowles</td>
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<td>DivorceCare</td>
<td>Janie Picou</td>
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<td>NAMI</td>
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<td>Pastoral Care for Sick</td>
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### PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

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<tr>
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<td>Divine Mercy (AM)</td>
<td>Sally Flowers</td>
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<td>Divine Mercy (PM)</td>
<td>Patti Kallemeyn</td>
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<td>Hearts of Jesus &amp; Mary</td>
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### SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

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<td>Learn English Ministry</td>
<td>Wendy Moore</td>
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<td>Learn Spanish Ministry</td>
<td>Adriana Gutierrez</td>
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<td>Meals That Heal</td>
<td>Joan O’Daniel</td>
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<td>Medical Missionaries</td>
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<td>Ministry of St. Joseph</td>
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### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

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<td>Art &amp; Environment</td>
<td>Michele Holbrooke</td>
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<td>Catherine Short</td>
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<td>Extraordinary Ministers</td>
<td>Susan Choaet</td>
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<td>Liturgical Ministers</td>
<td>Claire Gregory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mass Hospitality</td>
<td>Susan Davis</td>
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<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Helen Mecher</td>
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<td>Music Ministry</td>
<td>Mary Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Kevin Klotz</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
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### EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

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<td>Marc Sherman</td>
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<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>Bob Ladd</td>
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<td>Financial Peace University</td>
<td>Jason Davalos</td>
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<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>Tom Ruck</td>
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<td>St. Paul Street Evangelization</td>
<td>Marta Alves</td>
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### COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE

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<td>Bazaar</td>
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<td>Boy Scout Troop 828</td>
<td>Craig Popp</td>
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<td>Cub Scout Pack 1828</td>
<td>Danny Klebert</td>
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<td>Catholic Daughters</td>
<td>Lucia Dzaduli</td>
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<td>Council of Cath Women</td>
<td>Ginny Kazmierczak</td>
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<td>Family Ministry</td>
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<td>Francisco Rojas-Ayala</td>
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<td>Knights of Columbus</td>
<td>Joe Chirco</td>
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<td>St. Laurence Singles</td>
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<td>Seniors (JOY Club)</td>
<td>Anne Higgins</td>
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<td>Vietnamese Group</td>
<td>Amy Le</td>
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<td>Women of the Cloth</td>
<td>Margie Koenig</td>
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<td>Michaela Barta</td>
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Find more information about all our parish groups and ministries at www.stlaurence.org.