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 4:00pm–4:45pm
Wednesday 5:30pm–6:20pm
Monday–Thursday after
morning Mass

ROSARY
Friday 6:30am

FIRST FRIDAY MASS
January 6 — In the Chapel
7:00pm - Rosary & Confessions
7:30pm - Mass

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

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
Enero 9 — 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
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
Deacon: Renato (Rey) Arellano, deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe, deaconal@ssjd.org
Deacon: Don Burns, don@donburns.com
Deacon: Charles Plant, stlaurence@stlaurence.org
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari, tol@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, lste@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, ruckt@comcast.com
Finance Council: Bob Ladd, robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
Discipleship Council: Marc Sherman, MarcSherman@theheartmedia.com

PARISH OFFICE & COURTYARD

The parish office provides services including pastoral care, liturgical planning, business, communications, and 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.
Homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Patroness of the Americas

December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, marks the day when, in 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared in Mexico to a 57-year old peasant named Juan Diego. According to the earliest reliable account of the story, Juan Diego was walking near what is now Mexico City (Tepeyac Hill) when he came upon an apparition of a “maid” whom he soon came to recognize as the Virgin Mary.

In trying to convince the archbishop of what he had seen, Juan Diego eventually was asked for a sign to prove what he had seen. Upon returning to Mary and sharing this with her, Juan Diego was instructed to climb to the top of the hill to gather flowers to bring back to the bishop. Reaching the crest of the hill, Juan Diego found Castilian roses, which were neither in season nor native to the region.

The Blessed Mother arranged the flowers herself in Juan’s tilma (a burlap cloak) and instructed him to open the cloak only upon return to the bishop. When Juan Diego arrived back at the bishop’s residence and opened his cloak, the flowers fell to the floor and left on the surface of the tilma was the image that’s come to be known as “Our Lady of Guadalupe”.

The fact that the Virgin Mother spoke to Juan Diego in his native language and appeared to be wearing the dress of an Aztec princess sparked 9 million conversions to the Catholic faith in just under seven years. The shrine that was subsequently built on the spot, where the original tilma can still be seen, remains one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in the world.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!

Celebrate at St. Laurence!  
Monday, December 12, 2016  

Morning:  
5:30AM Rosary (bilingual)  
6:00AM Traditional song, Las Mananitas (Mariachi music)  
7:00AM Process to parish hall for Mexican breakfast (bread & chocolate)  

Evening:  
6:15PM Traditional Matachines dance (Children’s Dance)  
6:30PM Holy Mass (bilingual) with Fr. Miguel Obregon, celebrant  
7:30PM Process to school gym for fellowship & musical program

You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm… James 5:8

O Lord, it is often hard, but necessary, to be patient. During this transition of government, help our leaders, current and future, display the patience and wisdom that will bring forth good for all people. Help us remain firm of heart and, if need be, actively support or respectfully challenge proposed decisions or legislation, according to your loving will. We wait for you Lord, the precious fruit of Advent. Come Lord Jesus come! 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 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 Dockum, US Army
Capt. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
2ndLt Michael Eberhardt, US Army
Capt. Stacey Eberhardt, USMC
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
Pvt Jahnville Xavier George, US Army
Sgt. Philip Graham, US Army
1stLt Spencer Henry, US Army
PVT Liam Hill, US Army
Daniel Hines, US Navy
SSgt. Matthew Hollobaugh, US Army Reserve
1LT Michelle Horstman, US Army
SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
Joseph Kingerski, US Navy
EM4 James Locus, US Navy
PFC Philip Loera, US Army
PFC John Lundgren, US Army
Amn Joseph Marcellus, USAF
LCpl William Marcellus, USMC
LTSGT David March, Texas Air National Guard
Capt. Brendan McPartland, USMC
1stLt Todd Miller, US Army
Capt. Alexander Morningson, US Army
CB, Richard Pinard, US Navy
QM2N Bryce Prochazka, USNavy
LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
Sgt. Santiago Ramirez, US Army
1stLt Taylor Rammrath, US Army
Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SSgt Jonathan Slusser, 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 Yelverton, US Navy
PVT Adrian Zaldizar, USMC

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DEC 10
5:00pm – Cooter Larrieu (D)

SUNDAY, DEC 11
7:30am – Sr. Catherine Manning, OSB (D)
9:00am – Eugenio Rios (D)
11:00am – Charles Donovan (D)
12:45pm – Rosa Recupero (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, DEC 12
7:30am – Jane & Santan D’Souza (D)
12:00pm – Thomas Flowers (D)

TUESDAY, DEC 13
7:30am – Varughese Koreth (D)
12:00pm – Thomas Flowers (D)

WEDS, DEC 14
7:30am – Kevin McGinnis (D)
6:30pm – Communion Service

THURSDAY, DEC 15
7:30am – Ken Anderson (D)
12:00pm – Eric Argao (D)

FRIDAY, DEC 16
8:15am – Rose Uwajeh (D)
12:00pm – Anita D’Souza (I)

SATURDAY, DEC 17
8:30am – Rueben Doria (D)
5:00pm – Buddy Podraza (D)

SUNDAY, DEC 18
7:30am – Doretha Jackson (D)
9:00am – Thu King (D)
11:00am – Randy Newcomer, Sr. (D)
12:45pm – Patricia Mora (D)
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 Cagadahan), Sister Daniela (Megan Bennett), Sister Rachel Marie of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus & Mary (Rachel Gosda), Collin Brown, Christopher Meyer, Margaret Uche, Dennis Henderson
BAPTISM PREPARATION
Next classes: JAN 14 and FEB 11
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.

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.

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.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

BAPTISMS
Nixon Acorda, Tahlia Oolut, Evan Rausa, August Hotzel, Zda Allwell, Pablo Hernandez, Amanze Kyle Ekwem, Malik Samuels, Margaret Copeland, Malaya Wall, Adaline Saenz

FUNERALS
Lola Woodard, mother of Linda Casey

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
December 4 Collection $ 71,843
Registered Households 7,391
Envelopes Used 834
Loose Checks 188

AUTOMATED GIVING
Monthly Offertory $ 178,410
Participants 912

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND
2016 Parish Goal $ 495,000
Amount Paid $ 437,485
Amount Pledged $ 453,974
Participants 1,075

Diocesan Services Fund
His Mercy Endures Forever
We are still just $57,000 short of our parish goal of $495,000. If you haven’t yet pledged or contributed to the Diocesan Services Fund, please do so before year-end. Your gift to the DSF enables us to reach people across the archdiocese through more than 60 programs. Pick up a donation envelope at the Hospitality Desk or go to www.archgh.org/dsf to donate today!

THANK YOU!

ELECTRONIC GIVING
www.stlaurence.org/contribute-to-our-parish

In this season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ’s birth. Why not help our parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting the Church in this way, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don’t forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Thank you for your generous support!
CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!

ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK

**Jesus, the Son of God & Christmas**

The Church names the mystery of the Son of God becoming man the **Incarnation**. The word incarnation means “putting on flesh.” This word names our belief that the Son of God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, became fully human without giving up being fully God. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. Discuss with your families the deeper meaning of God becoming man, and what that means for Jesus’ relationship with each of us. Give thanksgiving for this amazing gift with your continued Advent preparations in anticipation of the celebration of Christmas.

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**Children’s Liturgy of the Word TODAY! SUNDAY, DEC 11**

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).

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**CHILDREN LEARNING & SERVING AT WCP**

The Weekday Children’s Program helped to fill pantry packs for the Share God’s Bounty Thanksgiving meal drive by collecting and sorting over **400 cans of soup and pasta**. Social Concerns says thank you for your service!

Find the **WCP Calendar** on the parish website: [www.stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program](http://www.stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program)

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**SLCS MISSION STATEMENT**

As a pastoral instrument of the Church, St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the whole Christian person in body, mind, and spirit through the trinity of parent, child, and educator.
EDGE is 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 IS EDGE NIGHT**

**JAN 11: 7:00-8:15pm, Edge in Marian Hall**

All middle school youth are invited and encouraged to join us. We are on Christmas break but will return for the Spring semester on Wednesday, January 11.

**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.

**LIFE TEEN ON SUNDAY NIGHTS**

**JAN 8 6:30-8:15pm Ave Maria Center**

Current focus is “The Summit” a series on the Mass. Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass changes everything!

**DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS**

**TUESDAYS 6:00-7:30pm Youth Hall**

Discipleship Groups offer teens an opportunity to dig even deeper. Open to all high school students.

**LEGACY**

**2ND/4TH TUESDAYS, 8:00-9:00pm Youth Hall**

Open to Juniors and Seniors.

**THE WKND RETREAT**

**JAN 13-16, 2017**

**$175**

All high schoolers invited Contact Kris Frank

**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.

**BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW**

*Rev 21:5*

**A reflection from the artist, Sonya Purdy**

I really struggled with the theme “Behold I Make All Things New.” My initial thoughts were, well I know He makes things new, but how? I know it in my head, but not my heart. I could see patterns of behavior in our family and extended family, in myself. Patterns of sin, that we all have. I asked God, how do you break this pattern? How can you make any of this new? My heart was heavy.

I was looking at a picture of my brother and his new baby girl and it hit me! We are made new by His gaze of love. Just like a father with a new baby, He gazes on us with such love. If we only allow ourselves to be in His presence. In His presence, in prayer and through His amazing gift of Himself in the Blessed Sacrament.

Babies and all signs of new things are reminders of His deep love for us. When we welcome them, we share in this "gaze" of love. I wanted to convey this through the painting. The circle is symbolic of the Blessed Sacrament. The mass of colors are symbolic of the beautiful mess that is this life.

All things can work together for good for those who love God. So let Him gaze upon you in love; He will transform your heart.

Sonya Purdy is a parishioner and artist. You can reach her at texanpurdys@gmail.com.
NEW Classes Starting Soon
Attend a Preview Session
This Wednesday, Dec 14
7-8 pm, AMC St. Clare

Welcome Home
COME & SEE!
Jan 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 13 from 7:15-9:00pm
Ave Maria Center, St. Anne Room
Do you know someone who has drifted away from the Church? Come and See is a program for them to rediscover, ask questions, and learn all they need know to make a decision to return to our welcoming church. You are invited to experience love and acceptance by coming back home to the Catholic Church. For info, contact Art & Marilyn Ramponi at 832-945-2110 or artmarilyn2@att.net.

A PROGRAM FOR COUPLES
Mondays: Jan 16, 23, 30, Feb 16, 13, 20, 27, Mar 4
7:00-9:00pm, Ave Maria Center, Guardian Angel Hall
The Choice Wine: 7 Steps to a Superabundant Marriage is a pathway to authentic marital happiness. Couples will learn how to virtually divorce-proof their marriage, experience the superabundant love and mercy of God, and realize a foretaste of Paradise in their marriages and families. This is a multimedia, interactive program. Couples are asked to bring a dessert to share. It will conclude on Saturday March 4, with a Couples Retreat from 9:00am - 3:00pm. Cost is $50 per couple, which covers the materials cost. For more information and to register, please go to stlaurence.org/choice-wine.

For Adults
THIS WEEK IN ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

Lay Apostle Prayer Group (2nd Monday, January 9)
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 15, 2016—Jan 3, 2017: No meetings due to holidays

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 | sallyoflowers@comcast.net

Thursday Bible Study (No December, starts again Jan 12)
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
TIME TO PREPARE for the New Year

A Live Seminar with Jeff Cavins

January 6 - 7, 2017
St. Laurence Catholic Church
Ave Maria Parish Life Center – Marian Hall
3103 Sweetwater Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77479

Friday Night January 6, 2017
Join us for a FREE Talk:
Living The Life You Don’t Have Time For
Check-in: 6:00 pm
Talk: 7-8:30 pm
Refreshments and book-signing reception with Jeff Cavins following the talk.

Saturday January 7, 2017
Walking Toward Eternity Seminar
Registration: 8 am
Seminar: 9 am - 3 pm
Light Breakfast and Lunch Included.

Saturday Seminar Registration Cost:
$50 per person, $75 for immediate family up to 4.
Registration includes seminar materials.

Online registration at stlaurence.org/jeffcavins

As Catholics our Faith is meant to be put into practice. Christianity is more than a set of beliefs; it’s a way of life. Walking Toward Eternity is a powerful seminar that will help you to put your faith into practice, draw you closer to Christ, and challenge you to make real and lasting changes in your life, changes that will help you to become the person you hope to be. Jeff Cavins is the creator of The Great Adventure Catholic Bible Study Program and director of the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute.

Ascension products will be available for purchase.
LIVE TO GLORIFY GOD!
Stewardship Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent

Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty.
Mother Teresa

From the loneliness of his prison cell John the Baptist asks of Jesus: “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” The weeks before Christmas offer much to be joyous about, celebrating with family and friends, the glitter of seasonal decorations, the excitement of gift giving and receiving. But in our midst there are the lonely and neglected, the poor, the hospitalized, the wayward, the shut-ins. There are those seemingly without hope. To whom should they look? Discipleship in the Lord includes being good stewards of others. Are there those in our family, our neighborhood, our community to whom we can reach out to show them a sign of Christ’s presence in their midst?

www.catholicstewardship.org

STEWARDS AMONG US

PAUL & GRICELLE FONSECA

Paul & Gricelle Fonseca moved here from Puerto Rico 7 years ago with their two sons. Right away, Gricelle met a neighbor and developed new friends in the St. Laurence Hispanic Ministry. She saw how they were involved with the Church in some way and was inspired to serve in the Spanish Golden Age program. When Paul’s company went through a major restructuring 10 months ago, he lost his job and began his own journey of discipleship. After months of seeking work and struggling with his faith, Gricelle found a job and Paul began to focus more on his own “spiritual purpose”. He used this time to get involved in his sons’ school, joined a Small Christian Community and That Man Is You, and is coordinating teen volunteers for Our Lady of Guadalupe. Paul invites everyone to the Mass tomorrow. “Come on, participate and show your devotion! You will put yourself in St. Juan Diego’s boots and feel his heart when he encounters our Blessed Mother.” And he adds, “¡Oh! You want to know more? God’s mercy manifested again. I found a new job.”

You can't speak of poverty without having experience with the poor.

Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ (1907-1991)

Ask Paula

Q. When are the Wish Upon a Star gifts due?

A. Well, if you are reading this you and still have not brought your gift in, you missed the date. They were due back on Dec 8th. We are still missing some gifts, so PLEASE bring them in as soon as you can! Don’t wait ‘til after Christmas, like some people do. Do you want YOUR Christmas present after Christmas? Just saying. Let me just tell you guys that we were short 100 Thanksgiving meals for Share God’s Bounty. Yes, 100 meals! Do you have any idea how hard it is to get 100 turkeys?! I think Social Concerns ended up getting gift cards for families to buy their own meals. Okay, so now that I have made you guys feel bad, please bring in your Wish Upon A Star gift. Let me just say that everyone on staff at St. Laurence appreciates all that our parishioners do. This is just me venting… RIGHT?

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for 20 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call 281-980-9812 or email her at psavo@stlaurence.org.
Called to Action
Matthew 11:2-11

We meet John the Baptist again, but this time he is in prison. Imagine his feelings and thoughts: “What has this all been about?” Having awaited the Messiah with much anticipation, Jesus does not meet the expectations of those of his day.

John sends his disciples to ask, “Are you the one who is to come?” and Jesus gives a startling answer. He tells of an unexpected worldview, and he is very different from what they anticipated (a messiah who would make them a powerful and prosperous nation with victory over their enemies). Rather than answering their question with a yes or no, Jesus points them to what is taking place because of his ministry: “The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.”

We often think of the Incarnation as the birth of Jesus. It is that, but Jesus’ words here tell us that the Incarnation is primarily about his ministry — Jesus’ identity is revealed through what he does. We are called to be Jesus’ followers. It’s not just about telling people that we are his followers but also having our actions speak so people will have no doubt.

The Work of Christmas
When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry
To release the prisoner
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace among brothers
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

POINTS TO PONDER
What are the signs of Christ’s presence in the world today? What are the signs of Jesus’ presence in my life?
Has God ever come into my life in some way that I didn’t expect or immediately recognize?
How do I feed the hungry, set captives free, open the eyes and ears of the oppressed, and protect the needy and helpless?
ADVENT FEAST DAYS

December 12 is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe: On December 9, 1531, Mary appeared to a poor, 57-year-old Aztec Indian convert named Juan Diego. Mary left a marvelous portrait of herself on his mantle. This miraculous image has proved to be ageless and is kept in the shrine built in her honor, the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. In 1910 Our Lady of Guadalupe was declared Patroness of Latin America, and in 1945 Pope Pius XII declared her to be the Patroness of all the Americas.

FAMILY TIME

December 17 begins a “season within a season.” During the last seven days of Advent, the Church prays the O Antiphons. Based on the prophecies of Isaiah (heard in the hymn, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”), the O Antiphons praise the Messiah with a different title each day: Wisdom, Ruler of the House of Israel, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Rising Dawn, King of the Nations, and Emmanuel. In Latin the initials of the titles make an acrostic which, when read backward, means “Tomorrow I will be there.” During these days, sing “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” at dinner and learn about the O Antiphons by visiting www.osv.com for more information.

3 Ways to Practice Advent Joy

Today is Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday; yet, there are people around us who are sad. Do a random act of kindness to bring joy to someone today.

Join a celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe with one of the Hispanic parishes in your diocese. Continue to learn about the Church’s vision of comprehensive immigration reform (for example, visit www.justiceforimmigrants.org).

A custom in the monasteries of old found monks providing treats during the O Antiphon days. The gardener might share his finest fruits when they prayed: “O Root of Jesse...” “The wine steward might unlock the best wine for “O Key of David...” Give a simple gift — related to the titles of one of the O Antiphons — to someone who is not expecting one from you.

Catechism CONNECTION

“Christ’s whole life is a mystery of redemption. Redemption comes to us ... throughout Christ’s entire life: ... in his Incarnation ... in his hidden life ... in his word ... in his healings ... and in his Resurrection.”

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 517

Advent Prayer

God of Compassion, let my life not just be about words. Strengthen in me your grace and compassion so that I may be Jesus’ disciple, a disciple of action, making peace, sharing the Good News, and reverencing all life.
DEC 16: YOU ARE INVITED TO SIMBANG GABI

Everyone is invited to “Simbang Gabi” (Filipino for “Night Mass”) THIS FRIDAY, December 16, at 6:30pm in the church. The evening begins with traditional carols and Mass, with a reception and entertainment in the School Gym. Simbang Gabi is a devotional nine-day series of Masses in the Philippines practiced by Catholics in anticipation of Christmas. Organized by the Filipino Community of St. Laurence, please contact Fe Vicerra for info at 713-248-1164, bertandfevicerra@yahoo.com.

NOW HIRING: FACILITIES DIRECTOR

We are accepting applications for the Facilities Director position, to replace Deanna Ennis, who will become Associate Director, Construction and Preventive Maintenance for the Archdiocese. Our parish Facilities Director supervises and oversees all aspects of construction, maintenance, and safety of the parish, school buildings and grounds. Previous experience in facility operation, 2+ years supervisory experience in related field and safety certification preferred; basic mechanical knowledge and good interpersonal communication skills, time management and organizational skills. Bachelor degree preferred. Email cover letter and resume to Tony Oltremari at toltremari@stlaurence.org with “Facilities Director” in the subject line.

YEAR END GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH

As the end of 2016 nears please prayerfully consider making a financial gift before December 31, to gain an additional tax deduction from the IRS:

Offertory – As our parish continues to grow so do our expenses. No gift is too small and every gift is important.

Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) – This important program touches lives all over our archdiocese in ways that could never be addressed by one parish alone. Our parish and our parishioners receive many benefits from the DSF.

Christmas Flowers – Make a donation to the Christmas Flower Fund which allows for our church to be decorated so beautifully during the Christmas season. Give your gift in memory of or in honor of a loved one.

12/12: HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE INFO SESSION

All are invited to join Fr. Jaison on an 11-day Holy Land Pilgrimage June 2-12, 2017. Come to an information session on Monday, Dec 12, at 7:00pm, in Guardian Angel Hall for a brochure and to learn details about this first-class trip to major sites in the Holy Land. Inspirational Tours has made this pilgrimage a fundraiser for the Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy, so your involvement will benefit our medical missions as well! Contact Maria Jacobson at 713-582-8424 or mjacobson1984@yahoo.com, or call Inspirational Tours at 713-961-2785 or visit www.inspirationaltoursinc.com.

REGISTER NOW

HEART OF WORSHIP

Saturday, February 25, 2017

Featuring Deacon Alex Jones, Roland Millare & Brother Peter Francis

www.stlaurence.org/how

2ND COLLECTION

TODAY: Retired Religious

In support of over 33,000 Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests past age 70, for care and long-term retirement needs

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Saturday, Dec 24

4:00pm

6:30pm

9:00pm

12:00am Midnight Mass

(Arrive at 11:30 p.m. for Lessons & Carols)

In the Church

4:15pm

At the Ave Maria Center

Christmas Day – Sunday, Dec 25

8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm

In the Church

Solemnity of Mary - Sunday, Jan 1

(Regular Sunday Mass Schedule)

Sat 5:00pm Vigil

Sun 7:30, 9:00, 11:00am, and 12:45, 5:00pm

In the Church

12/12: HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE INFO SESSION

All are invited to join Fr. Jaison on an 11-day Holy Land Pilgrimage June 2-12, 2017. Come to an information session on Monday, Dec 12, at 7:00pm, in Guardian Angel Hall for a brochure and to learn details about this first-class trip to major sites in the Holy Land. Inspirational Tours has made this pilgrimage a fundraiser for the Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy, so your involvement will benefit our medical missions as well! Contact Maria Jacobson at 713-582-8424 or mjacobson1984@yahoo.com, or call Inspirational Tours at 713-961-2785 or visit www.inspirationaltoursinc.com.
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

IN THANKSGIVING (PART 3)

It takes so many volunteers to accomplish all that we do in the Social Concerns Ministry. There are so many behind the scenes volunteers who so generously give their time and make our job so much easier! Here is Part 3 of our callout to all of these volunteers, with BIG THANKS from Pennie, Melanie and Monica in SCM...

Thank you to the volunteers with the Correctional Ministry, led by Deacon Al Bothe & Deacon Charles Plant who bring Christ in Word and in Eucharist into jails and prisons. Another arm of this ministry is Bridges to Life, coordinated by Dana Cutbirth. BTL is a 14-week program that meets once a week in small groups with extreme confidentiality. The groups consist of offenders, victims of crime, and trained facilitators.

Our Coupons for a Cause group spends several hours each week searching for the very best grocery deals, clipping the coupons and shopping. Last year, they spent $15,733 to purchase over $30,000 worth of groceries for individuals in need, Park’s Youth Ranch and Fort Bend Family Promise. These ladies know how to shop!

The 3-person Day Old Bread group, headed up by Greg Arrell delivers baked goodies every Saturday to Fort Bend Women’s Center, Fort Bend Garden apartments and St. John Fisher.

Thank you to Janet Roberts and Asumta Affonso for everything you do to make the lives of the residents of Sugar Land Health Care Center brighter! Janet coordinates weekend Bingo and Asumta coordinates birthday & holiday celebrations. And thank you to the many volunteers that help with the Bingo and parties!

Twice a month volunteers shop for fresh food items and deliver to the St. John Fisher food pantry in Richmond through our Fresh Food Program. Thank you to the many volunteers that take time to help those in need at SJF!

Thank you to Steve Pondell and team for the work they do coordinating the St. Laurence build for Habitat for Humanity! Thousands of hours are clocked each year by volunteers as they build a home for a family in need. Funding is needed for build #12!

The Learn English Ministry, coordinated by Wendy Moore and Scott Magelssen, teaches functional English to more than 100 people from all over the globe! In the month of September, 678 volunteer hours were logged at St. Laurence & St. Theresa.

During the summer months, you can find Adriana Gutierrez hard at work 2 nights a week with members of the Learn Spanish Ministry teaching free Spanish classes to clergy, ministers, missionaries and all who serve the Church.

Be a part of Social Concerns! There is a special way for you to serve. Contact Melanie in the Social Concerns office at mhartshorn@stlaurence.org or 281-980-9812.
**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.
- mini/trial sizes shampoo, men’s deodorant, soap, lotion, toothpaste & toothbrush for MILITARY, HOMELESS, REFUGEES
- 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
- Paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, disinfectant spray cleaners for PEOPLE IN CRISIS.

**A HEART TO HELP OTHERS**

With a desire to help the Social Concerns Ministry in some way, Felicity Frato sold cute little jars of homemade hot chocolate mix and handmade earrings at the recent Shop ‘Til You Drop event sponsored by Ladies Guild. Felicity made $48 that night and donated the entire amount to SCM. She then donated the remaining jars of hot chocolate to the Wish Upon A Star program. Thank you, Felicity for your kindness and for your heart to help those in need!

**COORDINATOR NEEDED: ELDERLY BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

SCM is in search of a passionate and energetic individual, dedicated Small Christian Community or a group to coordinate the birthday and holiday parties for the elderly residents at Sugar Land Health Care Center in Sugar Land. This coordinator is responsible for coordinating a party every other month (Friday at 2:30pm) for all the residents who have had a birthday, including serving cupcakes or cookies. Please contact Pennie DeGroot at pdegroot@stlaurence.org for more information. And THANK YOU to Asumta Affonso for her dedication and for the love she has shown the seniors at SLHC over the past year!

**LEARN ENGLISH MINISTRY TEACHERS NEEDED**

Find out how rewarding it is to teach English to immigrants from all over the world. We need volunteer teachers to teach adults to improve their English, thereby helping them to get better jobs, parent their English-speaking children and become US citizens, to name just a few benefits. No experience is needed; we will train you and provide teaching materials. Contact Wendy Moore, learnenglishministry.slc@gmail.com.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

**DEC 28: FEAST OF HOLY INNOCENTS**

After the birth of Jesus, Herod killed innocent babies in Bethlehem. Today innocent children are killed by abortion. We invite you to join the Helpers of God’s Precious Infants in a peaceful, prayerful, Mass and Rosary on Wednesday, December 28, the Feast of the Holy Innocents. The Mass for Life will be at 12:10pm at Holy Rosary Catholic Church (3617 Milam, Houston) followed by Rosary at Houston Women’s (4820 San Jacinto), the busiest abortion clinic in Houston. Parking available along Caroline Street.

**PRAY FOR WOMEN & BABIES IN CHINA**

Please pray for women and babies in China, where forced abortion and forced sterilization are still happening. Baby girls are particularly in danger of selective abortion or abandonment. See www.WomensRightsWithoutFrontiers.org for more information. Reggie Littlejohn, founder and president of WRWF, was named one of the Top 10 People of 2013 by Inside the Vatican magazine.

**SUPPORT AFTER A MISCARRIAGE**

If you have suffered the loss of a child through miscarriage, please stop by the parish office to receive a memory bracelet to remember your child, plus a prayer card and contact info if you wish to speak to others who have suffered such a loss. For more info, contact Marie McCoy at 281-265-7749.

**WISH UPON A STAR Christmas Gift Drive**

THANK YOU for your continued and overwhelming support of the Wish Upon A Star drive. Due to your generosity and kindness, we were able to provide over 2,000 Christmas gifts to those in need throughout our community. Thanks to Frances Conway and her team of volunteers for time spent sorting, wrapping and boxing the gifts. Thanks to David & Rebecca Wells with Victory Packaging for donating boxes to pack the gifts!

**SUPPORT SOCIAL CONCERNS WITH AMAZON SMILE**

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

**THANK YOU** for your continued and overwhelming support of the Wish Upon A Star drive. Due to your generosity and kindness, we were able to provide over 2,000 Christmas gifts to those in need throughout our community. Thanks to Frances Conway and her team of volunteers for time spent sorting, wrapping and boxing the gifts. Thanks to David & Rebecca Wells with Victory Packaging for donating boxes to pack the gifts!
ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

We at St. Laurence pray that all may know the true presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and be graced with the holy desire to spend time with our God in adoration. Please prayerfully consider the hours listed that we are in need of committed adorers and substitutes. Contact Denise MacDougall or Fran Magelssen at adoration@stlaurence.org or 281-224-6122(Fran) or 281-235-8008(Denise). NOTE: There is no scheduled adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Christmas break from 2pm Friday, Dec 16 until 8am Monday, Jan 2.

MEDICAL MISSION REPORT & THANKS

On the recent Laredo mission trip, we ministered to 1,333 patients in just under 5 days (not including all the people seen by the spiritual team). Our spiritual team of four worked the longest hours, starting with the Rosary and Liturgy of the Hours for the missionaries at 6:00am and ending at 9:30pm with an evening healing Mass each day. Our dental team of 4 dentists from Sugar Land (plus 2 Laredo dentists and 2 hygienists) saw 430 patients and managed 1,025 procedures. Our vision team, with the help of one optometrist, who was there 1-1/2 days, saw 709 patients. We had an amazing 8 doctors and 6 nurses that went with us and came from as far as Florida. We took numerous donations of medical supplies, walkers, crutches, and wheelchairs, which were all used.

Overall, the bonds and friendships formed are unforgettable. To the people of Laredo, we thank you for welcoming us and allowing us to touch your lives! To all the medical professionals, we thank you and pray that God will bless you for sharing your talents. And to all the missionaries and donors of MMDM you are "good and faithful servants"!

May God Bless you! - Maria Jacobson, MMDM

COPING WITH GRIEF THRU HOLIDAYS

TUESDAY, DEC 13: St. Clare Room (AMC) 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 this special holiday focused session. 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 session is free. For more info and to register, contact Sandy Barber at 281-633-9090, help2grieve@hotmail.com.

ST. LAURENCE SINGLES IN DECEMBER

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

WED, 12/14 @ 6:00PM—Book Club Dinner at Cafe Goo Goo Yen. For December, read one or all of the six Dickens Christmas short stories and bring a wrapped book that you enjoyed for a book exchange!

SUN, 12/18 @ 9:00AM—Mass at St. Laurence and Brunch at Otto’s BBQ in the Fountains. Look for us in the elevated seats by the choir for Mass.

TUE, 12/27 @ 7:00PM—Planning meeting at Kathy’s house. Address will be given to those who RSVP. Come give your suggestions on what you would like to do!
Couples, want to give each other something really special this Christmas? How about a gift filled with Romance and Excitement? That’s just the beginning of what you will receive on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Some upcoming dates are February 17-19 and March 24-26. Register early to reserve a spot. Go to www.houstonme.org for more information and to register online. Or contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 with questions.

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

FEB 10-12: Love and Be Loved
A Women’s Retreat at the Cenacle Retreat House, Houston

God loves us, creates us, and wants to share life with us forever. During this retreat in contemplative silence, we will grow deeper in our relationship with God through prayerful reflections on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. St. Laurence Spiritual Directors will facilitate this silent retreat at the Cenacle, from 7pm Friday, Feb 10 – 1:30pm Sunday, Feb 12. The Cenacle Retreat House is located at 420 N Kirkwood Rd., Houston. For more information and to register for this retreat, contact the Cenacle at 281-497-3131 or register online at www.cenacleretreathouse.org. Minimum Offering is $195. Consider this as a great Christmas gift for a loved one. Spots go quickly!

GIVE THE GIFT OF A RETREAT

GIVE THE GIFT OF A RETREAT

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

JAN 12: HOPE GRIEF PROGRAM STARTS

HOPE (Helping Our Pain Ease) is a 7-week structured series designed to help adults grieve successfully by accomplishing the 4 tasks of grieving also utilized by the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved. Consider attending if you have lost a loved one due to a sudden, tragic death or from a long term illness, either recently or in the past. Led by a hospice-trained facilitator, the group meets 6:30-8:30pm on Thursdays. The next one begins January 12. To register, call Annette Bisanz 281-980-1449 or Kathy Heinemann 281-468-0738.

JAN 12: HOPE GRIEF PROGRAM STARTS

PRAY WITH THE LEGION OF MARY

This Advent, the Legion of Mary invites parishioners to join them to pray the Rosary before the daily Noon Mass, each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Gather in the church at 11:30am. The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church whose purpose is to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members. For more information, please contact Carmelita Kussad at cskussad@hotmail.com or call 713-922-2446.

JAN 9—Join the JOY Club on the 2nd Monday in January to FLOAT INTO THE NEW YEAR from 11am-1pm. Bring a sack lunch and we’ll play games, with root beer floats or black cows for all!

JOY CLUB FOR SENIORS

JOY CLUB FOR SENIORS

“BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW”

Join a ministry or group and allow Jesus to make something new in you!

THE ST. LAURENCE LADIES GUILD CONTINUES THEIR “TRAIL” THEME FOR THE YEAR WITH A “JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT TRAIL” THIS MONTH.

DEC 15: LADIES GUILD CHRISTMAS

The St. Laurence Ladies Guild continues their “trail” theme for the year with a “Joyful and Triumphant Trail” this month. Come enjoy the spirit of the holiday season and experience Christmas joy at the next Ladies Guild meeting, THIS THURSDAY, December 15, at 6:30pm in the parish hall. Share some “holy, jolly” times during the traditional gift exchange, plus other festive activities planned for the evening. In addition to a Christmas-themed, wrapped gift ($15 value), please bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share. Beverages, as always, are provided. If you have a question about the gift exchange or Ladies Guild, please contact President Tina Dougherty at tinadougherty95@gmail.com or call her at 713-859-6861.

DEC 15: LADIES GUILD CHRISTMAS
How is Your Spiritual Health?

When I am **spiritually healthy**, nothing bothers me, but when I am not, even the smallest things drive me crazy. Wouldn’t you like to carry within you a joy that cannot be extinguished by anything that happens? Are you willing to work for it? The most dominant quality among spiritually healthy Catholics is a daily routine of prayer.

Mathew Kelly, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*

So, how is your spiritual health?

Our parish is participating in a nationwide Spiritual Needs Survey. Over the next few weeks, will you take a moment to share your perspective? Your answers will help us to identify what makes you feel spiritually healthy, plus what we as a parish can do to improve and better meet your needs.

THE SURVEY CAN BE FOUND HERE:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/spiritualneeds

Survey available now through Jan 31. In February, we will share the results of the survey and use this information to influence future decision making on programs, retreats, liturgies and ministries.

**Consider this...**

Once upon a time there were three frogs sitting on a lily pad. Two of the frogs decided to jump off. **How many frogs are left?**

**Answer:** Three. Deciding to do something is not the same as doing it. Thanks for taking the survey!

Available now through Jan 31

What are you waiting for?

You can still make this your best Advent ever! Make a special effort to prepare your heart for the coming of Christ this Christmas. Here are just a few great resources, with more information and links available at www.stlaurence.org/advent:

**FORMED Advent Study:** Experience the joy of the true meaning of Christmas at FORMED.org (use parish code 012fc)

**DYNAMIC CATHOLIC Best Advent Ever:** A free email program to help prepare for Christmas at www.dynamiccatholic.com

**JOY IS ON THE WAY:** A Day by Day with Pope Francis, which provides helpful insights along with a prayerful practice or meditative musing.

**JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT:** Reflections on the lectionary readings by Art Zannoni, an award-winning freelance writer, scripture scholar, teacher, and theologian.
Caregivers Support Group
Cancer Support
Spiritual Direction
Pastoral Care for Sick
Marriage Preparation
Marriage Sponsor
Couples

FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

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Justin Frato | 281-265-5774
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Danielle Noonan | 832-754-0567
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Eric Painter | 281-265-5774
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Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
Life Teen (High School)
Kris Frank | 281-265-5774
Natural Family Planning
Jacob/Jillian Counts | 281-300-3704
Parish School (SLCS)
Suzanne Barto | 281-980-0500
Parish School Board
David Wells | 810-599-9896
Parish School PTO
Kristin Holy | 281-491-8236
RCIA
Justin Frato | 281-265-5774
Vacation Bible School
Cindy Martin | 281-265-5774
Vocations Committee
| 281-980-9812
Weekday Children's Prog.
Becky Wilkinson | 281-313-0329

PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

Catholic Men
Jim Kij | 281-253-4800
Challenge Club for Girls
Monica Hager | 281-240-7672
Contemplative Prayer
Elaine Smith | 281-499-6660
Divine Mercy (AM)
Sally Flowers | 281-265-8360
Divine Mercy (PM)
Patti Kallemeyn | 281-438-0696
Hearts of Jesus & Mary
Margie Calo | 281-980-4711
Lay Apostle Prayer
Kay Quenan | 281-265-3238
Legion of Mary
Carmelita Kussad | 713-922-2446
Men's Bible Studies
Steve Ebank | 281-703-3873
St. Anthony of Padua
Joseph Ellankil | 832-282-3032
Small Christian Comm
Genoveva Duque | 281-980-1014
Tuesday AM Bible Study
Regina Johnson | 281-403-1792

MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

Annulments
Anne Marie Daniel | 281-265-5774
Bereavement Ministries:
Grief Support Group
Sandy Barber | 281-633-9090
Grieving Families
Agnes Fernandes | 281-933-3721
H.O.P.E.
Annette Bisanz | 281-980-1449
Cancer Support
Angela Rankin | 832-945-2245
Caregivers Support Group
Lori Knowles | 281-261-5738
DivorceCare
Janie Picuo | 832-860-3398
NAMI
Pat Sumner | 281-265-1554
P.A.C.T. (Parenting Group)
Steve Brown | 832-471-6131
Pastoral Care for Sick
Ambrose Graham | 713-865-3729
Spiritual Direction
Anne Marie Daniel | 281-265-5774

Counsels of Prudery
Jane Jewell | 713-775-7172
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