SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 7:15am, 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
Healing Mass: 1st Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm

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
October 5 — In the Chapel
7:00pm - Rosary & Confessions
7:30pm - Mass

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

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
September 22 — 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

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them,
"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,
take up his cross, and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever
loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it.

—MK 8:34-35
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. Truong Son Nguyen, tnguyen@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Renato (Rey) Arellano, deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe, abothe@comcast.net
Deacon: Don Burns, don@donburns.com
Deacon: Dennis Henderson, dhenderson@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Charles Plant, stlaurencedeacon@aol.com
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari, toltremari@stlaurence.org
Liturgy: Rosemary Mascarenhas, rmaskarenhas@stlaurence.org
Facilities: Sheila Stulak, sstulak@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: Christine Dunn, cdunn@stlaurence.org
Religious Education Registrar: Ruba Kaiser, rkaiser@stlaurence.org
Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato, jfrato@stlaurence.org
Young Adult Ministry: Michaela Barta, mbarta@stlaurence.org
Children’s Faith Formation: Joan Hastedreiter, jhastedreiter@stlaurence.org
Youth Ministry: Eric Painter, epainter@stlaurence.org
Maureen Bass, mbass@stlaurence.org
Daniel Glaze, dglaze@stlaurence.org

St. Laurence Catholic School
2630 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land, TX 77479
281-980-0500
Principal: Suzanne Barto, sbarto@stlaurence.org
Registrar: Suzanne Byrne, sbyrne@stlaurence.org

Weekday Children’s Program
3103 Sweetwater Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77479
281-313-0329
Director: Becky Wilkinson, bwilkinson@stlaurence.org
Registrar: Christine Novia, cnovia@stlaurence.org

Parish Leadership Councils
281-980-9812
Pastoral Council: Roger Peters, rogerwpeters@me.com
Finance Council: Bob Ladd, robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
Discipleship Council: Shawn Kelly, shawn_kelly@oxy.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 8am-9pm; Friday 8am-4pm; Saturdays 8:30am-Noon (scheduled events only). 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.

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.

Parish School & Chapel
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.

Bulletin Submissions
Announcements must be submitted via email at least 12 days before the Sunday of the publication. Ron Martinez, Communications Coordinator rmartinez@stlaurence.org
**READINGs FOR THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>First Reading</th>
<th>Second Reading</th>
<th>Gospel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 16</td>
<td>IS 50:5-9A</td>
<td>JAS 2:14-18</td>
<td>MK 8:27-35</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY 17</td>
<td>1 COR 11:17-26, 33</td>
<td></td>
<td>LK 7:1-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 18</td>
<td>1 COR 12:12-14, 27-31A</td>
<td></td>
<td>LK 7:11-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 20</td>
<td>1 COR 15:1-11</td>
<td></td>
<td>LK 7:36-50</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATURDAY 22</td>
<td>1 COR 15:35-37, 42-49</td>
<td></td>
<td>LK 8:4-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY 23</td>
<td>WIS 2:12, 17-20</td>
<td>JAS 3:16-4:3</td>
<td>MK 9:30-37</td>
</tr>
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**FAITH THAT WORKS**

This Sunday's second reading defines the doctrine of faith and works.

Works without faith, no matter how good the works are, don't get us into heaven. Some of us try to earn our way into God's heart by serving in church activities, saying all the "right" prayers, and so on. This idea comes from our childhood when we learned: "If I'm good enough, Mom and Dad will reward me" and "If I do well in school, the teacher will give me a gold star" or smiley face or whatever it is they paste on homework today.

The problem is, we can never be good enough for heaven. This is why Jesus came to earth and took our sins to the cross.

Faith without works isn't going to get us into heaven, either. Here's why:

Faith in Jesus starts with believing that, in his love for us, he died for us and rose again so that we'll have eternal life. This is what opens the door to heaven. However, to walk through that door, we have to follow Jesus. This requires doing more than believing in his death and resurrection; we also believe in his life — how he lived his life. Following Jesus affects our lifestyles and our day-to-day behavior. How Christ-like is it?

The proof that we truly do have faith is evidenced in the good works that we do. Faith in Jesus means we love him so much that we love all those whom he loves, which is EVERYone regardless of whether they deserve it or not.

And faith in Jesus means we trust him so much that we do whatever he tells us — imitating him in all of our activities, adopting his attitudes, and responding to his calling to serve as priests, religious, and lay ministers, even when it seems risky or illogical.

Thus, when Jesus says to us in the Gospel reading, "Who do you say that I am?" we answer that he is our Savior who takes us to heaven, and he is our Lord who teaches us how to live, and he is our Lover who empowers us to love others even when it becomes a cross to bear.

**QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

Is Jesus Christ truly your Lord and Savior? Do you believe that he suffered and died on your behalf so that you could reach heaven? Are you doing good works because you adore him so much that you want to go where he goes and do what he does and serve as his hands and feet and voice wherever he leads you?

**QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNITY FAITH SHARING:**

How does your life convey to others that Jesus is your Lord and Savior? If you wore no Christian jewelry and spoke no words, how would you tell others who Jesus is?


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**PRAYING THE NEWS | SEPTEMBER 16, 2018**

"If... one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,' but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it?"

**JAMES 2: 15-16**

Lord, thank you for those who act to help. Like the police officer who pumped an extra $20 of gas into a widow's car, the waitresses who learned sign language to wish a child happy birthday, and the banker who picked up college tuition for a high school class. Please help us each to do good where we can. Amen. †
In Our Prayers...

PRAY FOR THE PRAYERS


PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN

CWV 2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
SPC David Ambroick, US Army
PVT Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
PO 5 Debra Barnette, US Navy
CPL Trevor Bello, USAF
PFC John Blair, US Army
LCpl Gordon Briggs, USMC
SPC Jordan Briggs, US Army
Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
MSGT. Jason Chacon, USMC
Lt. Matthew Chesney, US Navy
Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Maj. Patrick Coffman, USMC
Lt. Colvin Day, US Navy
CPT Andrew DeSplinter, US Army
SGT Nicholas Dockum, US Army
CPT Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
ILT Michael Eberhardt, US Army
CPT Stacey Eberhardt, US Army Reserve
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Eneon, USMC
CPT Michelle Thibeau, US Army
CPT Will Thibeau, US Army
PFC Aaron Fox, USMC
CPT Rahnie Xavier George, US Army
SFC Philip Graham, US Army
CPT Spencer Henry, US Army
PVT Liam Hill, US Army
Daniel Hines, US Navy
SSG Matthew Hollobaugh, US Army Reserve
SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
EM4 James Locus, US Navy
SGT Philip Loera, US Army
PFC John Lundgren, US Army
Ann Joseph Marcellus, USAF
SGT William Marcellus, USMC
TSGT David March, Texas Air National Guard
Capt. Brendan McPartland, USMC
Major Alexander Morningstar, US Army
CB, Richard Pinard, US Navy
LCpl Byrom Ray Ramirez, USMC
SGT Santiago Ramirez, US Army
ILT Taylor Rammrath, US Army
Sgt. Barbara Rangel, USMC
SSgt Jonathan Slusser, US Air Force
LT Kevin Stransky, US Navy
CTM3 Nicholas Stuhlman, US Navy
Maj. Michael Theising, USMC
ILT Kevin Wheeler, US Army
SGT Bryce Whiteley, US Army
AM Troy Yelverton, US Navy

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPT 15
5:00pm – Anthony Pavlik (D)

SUNDAY, SEPT 16
7:15am – Clara & Vincent P. Poslusny (D)
9:00am – Salvador Rosario (D)
11:00am – Paula Jean Tillman (D)
12:45pm – Zandra Lozada (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, SEPT 17
7:30am – Steve Murphy (D)
12:00pm – Children’s Liturgy Ministry (I)

TUESDAY, SEPT 18
7:30am – Katherine Jancha (D)
12:00pm – Chris Anthaune (D)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 19
7:30am – Thanksgiving (I)
6:30pm – Yolanda Llogostero (D)

THURSDAY, SEPT 20
7:30am – Raul Lopez (D)
12:00pm – Vito Seccheri (D)

FRIDAY, SEPT 21
8:15am – Josephine Medrano (D)
12:00pm – Shayne Lukosi (I)

SATURDAY, SEPT 22
8:30am – Tien Dao (D)
5:00pm – Benito Leus (D)

SUNDAY, SEPT 23
7:15am – Felix Bellen (D)
9:00am – Doan Demonia Daniel (D)
11:00am – Kevin McGinnis (D)
12:45pm – Oscar Moncada, Sr. (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Collin Brown, 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),
Christopher Meyer, Tom Ruck, Tim Cullen, Margaret Uche

PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON

Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for… Isabella Flores, Adrian Zaldizar, Johnny Sanchez, Sonia Aguilar, Jessica Ayala, Elizabeth Rojas, Lizette Trevino, Keith Cameron Family, Michael John Simon, Sierra Family, Torres Family, Hammond Family, Seceal Sierra, Ronald Bussey & Family, Frank & Nora Serrano & Family, Rober & Robbie Sanchez, Puente Family, Cortez Family, Keith & Linda Cameron, Bob Ahmad, Tommy Dooley, Chelsea George, Denise Joslyn Family, Gonzalez Family, Mungua Family, Stockhausen Family, Florentino-Oneyda Vasquez & Family, James Brotherton. Society of St. John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3. (8/27/18)
CHRIStian RENEWAl CENTER CHRISTMAS Market
Vendor Registration for the Spirit of Christmas Market at the Christian Renewal Center (CRC) is currently underway. The Market is held annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving from 9am – 4pm. Register your booth now for only $60 because the rate increases soon. Registration & more information available at www.retrecentercrc.org or by calling Kathy Carpenter at 281-337-1312, ext. 18.

Sext 18: LOVING EMBRACE INFERTILITY Support Group
Loving Embrace is a Catholic educational and peer-to-peer support group for couples who are enduring the pain and suffering of infertility. The group provides support for coping with infertility and explores resources, methods, and options that are morally faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church. For more information, please email infertilitysupporthoustont@gmail.com. Loving Embrace’s next meetup will be September 18, 2018 at Fadi’s Mediterranean Grill in Meyerland, 6:30-8pm, both spouses are welcome.

St. John XXIII College preparatory nights
Middle School families, you are invited to the St. John XXIII College Preparatory Middle School Nights to enjoy the start of our exciting volleyball season! Head to our campus on Thursday, September 20 at St. John XXIII Competition Gym to enjoy Junior Varsity at 4:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. and Varsity at 6:30 p.m. Guests will receive a “Future Lion” wrist band and Concession stand coupon. For questions, contact the St. John XXIII Admissions Department at admissions@sj23lions.org.

OCT 6: CHANT Masterclass at ust
A special one-day Chant Masterclass will be offered at the University of St. Thomas on Saturday, October 6. The class begins at 8:30am and closes with a chant Vigil Mass at 5:00pm in the beautiful Chapel of St. Basil. Special option is to attend Friday evening and become part of the schola. Tuition is $50 (includes lunch and materials). For details and to register, go to chantschool.org/sls18t or call Lowell Davis at 281-855-2358.

Register now: A Cardinal’s Christmas
Make this Christmas season extra special for your family by attending A Cardinal’s Christmas with His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, benefiting the Children and Family Services of Catholic Charities, on Saturday, December 8, at River Oaks Country Club. Now in its 10th year, this cherished family tradition includes a luncheon, Christmas treats, and Christmas story read by the Cardinal. Registration is open now. Go to catholiccharities.org/a-cardinals-christmas and contact Naibi Rivera at NRivera@CatholicCharities.org or 713-874-6629, for additional information.

Faith Direct online giving
With the arrival of autumn, please consider joining with hundreds of your fellow parishioners to use Faith Direct, our parish’s electronic giving program, to make your contributions that support our parish. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but Faith Direct’s eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week--no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass. It’s easy for you and very efficient for our parish staff. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: TX460 Whatever method you chose to make your gifts to our parish and its many ministries; cash, checks or through Faith Direct, thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

2nd Collection Today
Kerala India Flood Relief

Parish Financial Information — Weekly Offertory

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<th>SeptemBer 9 CoLleCtion</th>
<th>$51,144</th>
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<td>Registered Households</td>
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<td>Loose Checks</td>
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<th>2nd CoLLeCtion Catholic Uниv/ust</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2018 Parish Goal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Amount Paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Amount Pledged</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>925</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**SEPT 16: PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!**
Attention All CCE Home Study Families: Be sure to make arrangements to attend our Home Study Kick-off TOMORROW, Monday, September 17th from 7:00-8:00 pm in the AMC Marian Hall. Registered Home Study students and their parents will have an opportunity to pick up their materials for the school year, hear about program updates and also meet with other Home Study families and students.

**SEPT 18/19: Elementary CCE THIS WEEK**
The Bible: The Word of God
We are off to a great start with our Catechist Meet & Greet this past week. It was great to meet all of the parents and to see the children back. Welcome as well to our new families! We pray that you find this year a beautiful journey for your families as we partner together in the formation of your children. This coming week, we will learn about how God reveals Himself to us through His Word, the Bible, which inspired by the Holy Spirit was written by God’s people. This is one way in which God speaks to us. Be sure to get out your family Bible this week. Open it together and as a family read a favorite Scripture passage together. Discuss why the passage has special meaning for your family.

**MONDAYS: CALLING ALL MOMS WITH TOTS!**
Are you a mom who is the primary caregiver for your young child(ren) ages infant to pre-K? Join the Moms & Tots Ministry! On Monday mornings, we gather for our weekly play group. We plan a variety of activities from parks and splash pads to mass and reconciliation opportunities! We support and encourage you in your vocation as a mother while sharing our faith with our kids and serving the community. Our 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! Please contact us for more information at stlaurence.momsandtots@gmail.com or call (956) 802-8084.

**LET THE CHILDREN COME**
Weekday Program welcomed 275 children for the 2018-19 Academic Year.

Parent Mixer Friday, Sept. 21
Fair Day Holiday, Friday Sept. 28
stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

**ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**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.

STLAURENCESSCHOOL.ORG

**WHY CHOOSE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS?**
Why choose St. Laurence Catholic School?
We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children!

** WHY CHOOSE ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL?**
We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children!

**WE LOVE OUR GRANDPARENTS!**
St. Laurence Catholic School is celebrating Grandparents’ Day on Friday, September 28. We would love to share what our kids are doing with their grandparents or special friends! We have early dismissal at 12:00 pm. Invite your grandparents to lunch to Los Tios or Skeeters for our Spirit Day!

**NOV 12: SLCS GOLF TOURNAMENT**
Please join us on November 12, as Solvay presents the 23rd Annual St. Laurence Catholic School Golf Tournament at Sweetwater Country Club! There are various opportunities to participate from sponsorships, foursomes, individual players and raffle donations. Please contact Kelly Goff at 281.980.0500 or kgoff@stlaurence.org to reserve your participation level now.
CONFIRMATION

Confirmation at St. Laurence is part of the Youth Ministry and Religious Education. 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 one year prior to beginning the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, to ensure they have been catechized and are prepared for the journey to Confirmation. Eligible youth who attend Catholic schools, public schools or are home-schooled should register for both Life Teen and Sacramental Preparation. Go to stlaurence.org/confirmation for registration information. Contact Daniel Glaze at dglaze@stlaurence.org for more information.

SEPT 16: LIFE TEEN KICK-OFF!
Life Teen is back starting this Sunday, September 16, from 6:30-8:15pm at the Ave Maria Center. Join us for food, fun, and a chance to meet with your small group. We can’t wait to see you there! Join us next week, September 23, for Life Night as we dive into our series on prayer.

SEPT 18: DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS START
6:00-7:30pm. Youth Hall.
All high school youth are invited to join us every Tuesday starting this Tuesday, September 18, from 6:00-7:30pm in the Youth Hall. Discipleship Groups are a small group Bible Study along with food and community. No need to register, come whenever you’re able to!

LEGACY - STARTS SEPT. 25!
2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month. 8-9pm. Youth Hall.
All confirmed teens are invited to join us for Legacy, a leadership development program for high school teens. Our first Legacy night will be September 25, from 8-9pm in the Youth Hall. If you’re an upperclassmen and want to grow in your faith, deepen your leadership skills, and lead others closer to Christ, we’d love for you to join us.

SEPT 19: EDGE NIGHT, Ave Maria Center, Marian Hall. For more information or to register your middle school child, visit stlaurence.org/edge.

HELP NEEDED!
Edge Core Team: We are in need of adults who are willing to answer the call to lead our middle school youth into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Edge is only successful because of those who are willing to share their time and talents. If you’re interested in helping CORE team, please contact Maureen (Mo) Bass at mbass@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774.

FIAT LUX

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
@ St. Laurence Young Adults
www.stlaurence.org/ya

Main Events
Contact person: Michaela Bartas, Young Adult Coordinator, mbartas@stlaurence.org

• SEPT 26: Fall 2018 Young Adult Bible Study: Wisdom
We live in a time of confusion, over-stimulation and moral relativism. How do we discern our priorities? Right from wrong? Life is often more gray than it is black and white. As young adults, we have an incredible need for wisdom. Wisdom can come through experience or the Holy Spirit, but it cannot be “taught.” And its source is found in God Himself. Join us as we study and seek to understand how to live in goodness and truth, with hearts open to receive that gift that Solomon calls, Lady Wisdom. What do I need? Just your bible! 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month // Open to young adults in 20s and 30s // 7:30-9p @ St. Clare room, Ave Maria Center Sessions: Sept 26, Oct 10, Oct 24, Nov 14, Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12

• Monthly Social- 1st Wednesday // location varies

Blessed Is She WILD Retreat
October 12-13! Hosted at St. Laurence!. Register here: blessedisshe.net The Blessed is She Wild Retreat is all about unleashing God’s Spirit in the lives of women. Come and find freedom, learn to live in freedom, and give freedom to other women. With Michelle Benzinger, Ike Ndolo, Danielle Noonan, Katie Hartfiel, Sr. Maria Guadalupe, OP, and Beth Davis. We are expecting 300 women from all over Texas and the Southwest. All women ages 18+ are welcome to attend.

OCT 27: WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG SINGLES, DATING & ENGAGED
A one-day conference will be offered for young adult singles, dating and engaged couples on “The Gift of Sex - Discovering Love with Clarity” at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church on Saturday, October 27, 9:00am-3:00pm. Presented by the Emmaus School of Love and supported by the Archdiocesan Office of Family Life Ministry and Young Adult and Campus Ministry, the conference will feature Deacon Kingsley Nwoko, STL, as facilitator. A $10 donation is requested for the full-day conference and lunch. Go to www.eschooloflove.org for more info and to register.
CATHOLIC MEN CALLED TO BE SAINTS
Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 am
Guardian Angel Hall
Contact: Jim Kij | 281-253-4800
jimkij@comcast.net

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Mondays, 7:30-9:00pm, or
Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15am
St Francis Room,
Contact: Steve Ewbank,
281-703-3873 | ewbanksix@gmail.com

THAT MAN IS YOU
Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00 am,
Marian Hall
Contact: Roger Peters at
rogerwpeters@me.com | stlaurence.org/tmiy

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
Tuesdays, 9:00-11:45 am,
Marian Hall A
Contact: Joe at jkanusky@aol.com
Sept 18: Wisdom in Decision Making

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY
1-2:00 pm, St Anne, or
7:15-8:30 pm Ave Maria Room 205
Contact: Julie Evett, jevett@comcast.net

RETURN OF SACRED SUNDAY ON MONDAY
Want to hold onto the Mass Experience a little longer?
Begins Monday, Sept 24
10:30—11:30, Ave Maria Center, St Anne Room
Each Sunday at the start of Mass Fr. Drew reminds us that the most important hour of the week is Sunday Mass. Why is Mass the most important hour of the week? Because the Mass is sacred! You are invited to join a group that will revisit the table of the Lord by re-reading the sacred scriptures from the Sunday Mass, share in small groups, reflect and journal. Each session will close with various styles of contemplative prayer to discover where God is leading us. For more information or to join, contact Bernadette Peters at bernadettepeters@mac.com.

MOM'S GIFT GROUP
Begins Wednesday, Sept 26
9:15-11:00 am
Ave Maria Center
Marian Hall B
GIFT is a group book study for moms who are seeking a deeper faith, a holier family, and the support of other moms. This semester we will read “Heaven Starts Now, Becoming a Saint Day by Day” by Fr. John Riccardo. With the help of Fr. Riccardo, come dive into the Scriptures so that you can apply them to your daily lives. He will address the obstacles we all face in becoming mature disciples. For more info: contact Rachelle Dooley at rdooley1987@outlook.com.
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The last few months have been very difficult in the life of the Church. With the confirmed sexual abuse of minors and seminarians by then Cardinal Theodore McCarrick and his removal from the College of Cardinals, as well as the publication of a detailed report of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy in six dioceses of the State of Pennsylvania, a genuine state of moral and spiritual crisis in the Catholic Church in the United States has hit us all with great force. Following these news reports, I have received many letters and it is clear our people have been scandalized by this grave wound, especially as it has deeply hurt so many innocent little ones, the abused and the survivors. I know you are suffering and have been filled with anger and rage. I share your anger and rage. You likely have many questions, which have only been expanded in light of the recently published letter of Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the former papal nuncio to the United States. As I shared in my statement as President of United States Catholic Conference of Bishops on August 27, 2018, “The questions raised deserve answers that are conclusive and based on evidence. Without those answers, innocent men may be tainted by false accusation and the guilty may be left to repeat sins of the past.”

In 2002 the problems were mostly related to the priests who abused; in 2018 the problems are more focused on the responsibility or lack thereof of the bishops and on their failures of moral leadership. The Body of Christ has been lacerated and bishops did not care for the wounded.

Our archdiocese acted promptly in response to the Dallas Charter and we must continue and strengthen our response. The bishops must become more accountable and in a way that is clear. As President I have been working these past weeks with bishops, consultants, clergy and laity, to be prepared for the USCCB’s Administrative Committee meeting this month with a series of proposals, practical steps and prayer and repentance to bring to the whole body of Bishops in November. I hope you will pray for all of us in this endeavor. The issues involved are delicate but we must do this well and call all to accountability.

I realize that in spite of the progress made since 2002 that we, the bishops of the United States, have failed you. We can and must do better. In the meanwhile, the Holy Father has asked us all to open our eyes and our hearts to all those suffering. We will follow his wise counsel both practically in action and contemplatively in prayer.

I conclude these words to you with the words with which I closed my August 27 statement: “The more she is buffeted by storms, the more I am reminded that the Church’s firm foundation is Jesus Christ. The failures of men cannot diminish the light of the Gospel. Lord, by the help of your mercy, show us the way to salvation.”

With blessings in the Lord, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston
Living as Disciples

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: PLAY & PRAY

Play & Pray is the new childcare ministry at St. Laurence, replacing Kingdom Care. We are excited to offer faith-based care to the littlest members of our parish. We believe that when you welcome the children, you welcome the whole family. While in Play & Pray, you will find children working on crafts, reading stories, singing songs, saying prayers, and playing with friends. It is never too early to begin teaching our children the beauty of our Catholic faith, and while parents grow in faith, their children can as well.

We currently offer care for the 9:00am and 11:00am Sunday Masses, as well as for many other parish events. We welcome children 12 months to 3 years old for Mass, and 12 months to 12 years old for all other events.

We have moved to our new location in the Ave Maria Center. Registration is open and available online at stlaurence.org/play-pray. On our website you will also find childcare opportunities for several other events including ARISE Nights, Mom’s Gift, Spanish Bible Study, Baptism classes, and much more!

COORDINATOR: Elizabeth Hernandez | ehernandez@st laurence.org | 281-265-5774 (ext. 5381)
Stop by the Hospitality Desk after Mass to meet our team and learn more about Play & Pray!

Q. Where is the Lost & Found if I left something in the church?
A. People, I have written about this already, but I’ll do it one more time. If you left something in the church or chapel, it will (or should be) turned into the church office. FYI, sometimes things don’t get turned in, just saying. Anyway, you would be surprised at the stuff we have in the Lost & Found in the church office. We have car keys (I wonder how they got home from Mass, right?) and lots of umbrellas, books…and enough eyeglasses that I can open up my own business!! If you lost something over at the Ave Maria Center, they have their own Lost & Found. You should check out both if you left something behind, just saying.

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for 21 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call 281-980-9812 or email her at psavo@stlaurence.org.

STEWARDS AMONG US

BARB ROY

Our family joined St. Laurence in the midst of the church expansion in 2006, and I immediately felt the sense of community. (I am forever in debt to the gentleman who gave up his seat in the gym for me & my boys – one on each knee – almost weekly.) When my boys were younger, we did Social Concerns projects and I volunteered with Boy Scouts and Elementary CCE. I helped with CCE because I wanted my children to see the importance and value of volunteering. It takes a lot to run the religious education department for such a large parish and volunteers make it run successfully. As my sons got older, I looked for a part-time job and was lucky enough to find a position as the Adult Faith Formation Administrative Assistant at St. Laurence. Working with RCIA shows me how important it is to nurture your own spiritual development. My skill set keeps expanding and the more I learn, the more I want to know! The great advantage of a large parish is that there truly is something for everyone. Signing up for the eblast is the easiest way to keep up with what is going on and who needs help. Sometimes I see something in the bulletin and forget to write it on my calendar, but then on Wednesday, I get this great little reminder on my phone. Thank you, eblast!
EMBODIED

An Introduction to Theology of the Body

THREE WEEKS | TWO LOCATION OPTIONS | $20

SOUTH HOUSTON
ST. LAURENCE CHURCH | 7-9PM
SEPTEMBER 20
SEPTEMBER 27
OCTOBER 4

NORTH HOUSTON
ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH | 7-9PM
OCTOBER 11
OCTOBER 18
OCTOBER 25

HEAD TO WWW.STLAURENCE.ORG/EMBODIED TO REGISTER

“The body, and it alone, is capable of making visible what is invisible, the spiritual and the divine.”
St. John Paul II
You are invited

Women’s ACTS Retreat
October 4-7, 2018

“Let the children come to me... for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”
—Mark 10:14

Registration is OPEN for both Women's & Men's ACTS Retreats at stlaurence.org/acts-retreat

Adoration – the call by, acceptance of, and response to God
Community – the love and caring of each other
Theology – the study of God through scripture and the Catholic Faith
Service – to God and his people
An ACTS retreat allows you to focus on your faith and its application in daily life, to build purpose in your prayer life, to increase your presence at the liturgy, and to cultivate friendships with others who share our faith.

Spiritual direction will be provided throughout the retreat.

You can register on-line for both Women and Men’s retreat at stlaurence.org/acts-retreat

For any questions please contact:

**Women’s Retreat Director:**
Maria Jacobson (713) 582-8424; mjacobson1984@yahoo.com
**October 4-7, 2018**

**Men’s Retreat Director:**
Greg Cordova (832) 457-3011; gregcordova@yahoo.com
**November 29-December 2, 2018**

"Attending the retreat and working with the ACTS community helps me learn from my fellow men: challenges they face, practical examples of what works, discernment of faith, etc. I still stumble every day, but I now have a stronger drive to serve others and to work to be a more joyful person.”
—Bobby McGoldrick

"Attending an ACTS retreat brought me into a group of faith filled women seeking to know and love their Father more fully by serving Him in their families and community. Love and goodness abound within ACTS and your life will never be the same.”
—Susan Kelly-Zapata

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**TODAY: ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD VICTIMS IN KERALA, INDIA**

The home state of Fr. Jaison and Fr. Santy, Kerala, India, has suffered catastrophic floods. Next week, Fr. Drew is asking for a special second collection to provide relief to the millions of people who are in need of immediate aid. Thousands of families are displaced due to unrelenting rain and landslides. More than 35 dams in Kerala had to be opened, which only furthered the flood damage. At this writing, more than 450 deaths have been reported. Despite the government declining international aid, Fr. Jaison’s order, the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, is organizing relief efforts, opening shelters and providing much-needed basic needs. 100% of donations through MSFS will be directed to the people who are suffering. Go to stlaurence.org/kerala-relief for more information. Thank you for your generous support and for your prayers.

**SEPT 17: CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIRS BEGIN**

On Monday, September 17, the St. Laurence Children’s & Youth Choirs begin rehearsal. If you’ve got a singer in the house, invite him or her to consider singing in the choir! Kids in Grades 2-4 meet from 4:30-5:30pm, and Grades 5-8 meet from 5:45-6:45pm. To kick off the new season, Director Mary Thompson asks that parents and children come to the Ave Maria Center and meet in Marian Hall. For more information, please contact Mary at 281-980-9812, mthompson@stlaurence.org.

**OCT 7: GET YOUR FAMILY’S FLU SHOTS**

Support the Medical Mission and get your family’s flu shots! The clinic will be held in the Corpus Christi Room from 8:00am to 1:00pm on Sunday, October 7. Flu shots will be given by volunteer pharmacists, doctors and nurses. Regular flu shots are $30, flu mist is $40 and the "over 65" vaccine is $60. Payment by cash or checks only (payable to MMDM). All proceeds support the upcoming Medical Mission to Laredo. NOTE: MMDM is accepting donations of wheelchairs, walkers, canes and crutches for the Laredo mission. More info at stlaurence.org/medicalmissionaries or contact Maria Jacobson at mjacobson1984@yahoo.com.

**OCT 13: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

The annual BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS at St. Laurence will take place on Saturday, October 13, on the Parish Hall lawn. The blessing will begin promptly at 9:30 am with Fr. Truong Son presiding. Don’t miss this opportunity to have your pet blessed! Your pet will receive a “blessed bandana”, a St. Francis medal and treat. Please bring a bag of Hill’s Science Diet (dog, puppy, cat or kitten formulas) or Fancy Feast cat food or any brand canned dog food to be donated to the City of Sugar Land Animal Center. St. Francis, pray for us!

**OCT 27: HEALING MINISTRY WORKSHOP**

The Hearts of Jesus & Mary Prayer Group is hosting a Healing Ministry Workshop on Saturday, October 27, 8:30am-4:00pm, in the parish hall. This workshop will be led by Steve and Tim Kroeger and includes presentations, prayer, song and lunch. Ideal for anyone interested in starting or joining a healing ministry, those already involved in healing ministry, plus anyone feeling the call to pray by laying on of hands. Encounter the Holy Spirit more powerfully and be equipped to effectively minister physical healing in the name of Jesus Christ. The event is free, but you must register by October 20 at stlaurence.org/hearts-of-jesus-and-mary. For more info, please contact Deacon Rey Arellano at 713-854-8804 or Marie Calo at 281-980-4711.

**SAVE THE DATE! PARISH BAZAAR OCTOBER 20-21**

Sponsorships available and lots of ways to get involved stlaurence.org/parish-bazaar

**PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. JAISON GREECE & ITALY MAY 15-27, 2019**

Athens, Ephesus, Corinth, Crete, Santorini, Assisi, Orvieto, Siena, Rome INFO: Anne Marie Daniel, 281-265-5774

**ON THE PLAZA THIS WEEKEND**

**A.C.T.S. RETREATS REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR BOTH WOMEN’S & MEN’S RETREATS. stlaurence.org/acts-retreat**

**CUB SCOUT PACK 1828 POPCORN FUNDRAISER**

**ROSARY RALLY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 12:00 NOON**

Corner of Sweetwater/Austin Pkwy in front of the Ave Maria Center Join in this annual national event to pray the rosary for our country
BLAIRD'S mersons 

Serving Others

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

BOOK DRIVE

The Texas Young Lawyers Association is having a book drive to facilitate the availability of books in areas frequented by children in courthouses across the State of Texas. Their goal is to promote literacy, provide meaningful activity during a potential time of stress, and allow continued access to books even after a child’s visit has concluded. Pre-K through high school books are needed. Please mark your donation “Book Drive” and drop in the SCM bin in the narthex or the SCM office.

CAKES WANTED!

Social Concerns is once again sponsoring the Cake Walk at the Parish Bazaar on October 20/21. We will need LOTS of cakes and volunteers to run the Cake Walk. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com. Click on the search icon near the upper right corner of the page. Enter the following information in the “SEARCH BY THE SIGN UP CREATOR'S EMAIL”: socialconcerns@stlaurence.org. Enter the authentication code. Once in, sign up to bring a cake or work a 2-hour shift. Please read all instructions carefully. Adult volunteers must be VIRTUS trained. Thanks so much for your help! Contact pdegroot@stlaurence.org if you have any questions.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MINISTRY UPDATE

The core mission of the St. Laurence Habitat for Humanity ministry is to raise money and provide volunteer labor for the construction of new homes for people currently living in substandard housing. Our ministry has built 13 homes in the past 12 years.

However, last year, we chose to forgo the building of a new house so that we could help people who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey. In the three months after Harvey hit, we mucked and gutted 25 homes, helping those unfortunate souls to at least get to a stable place. Since then, we have shifted into a rebuilding mode. We have helped rebuild 11 flood-damaged homes since December. We have spent almost 5000 hours on this effort in the past year and the need is still ongoing. There are many neighborhoods that flooded last year where residents are still not back in their homes. If you drive through those neighborhoods, they look normal from the outside but on the inside, nobody is home. We will continue to help these folks out as long as the need is there. Please pray for them and, if you are so called, come and join us.

In the meantime, we are getting back to our base mission, which is to build new houses. Starting in October, we will begin our fundraising activities with the faith and knowledge that the 7500 families of St. Laurence will support the $70,000 price tag for a new house. The black bag collection on October 27 and 28 will be dedicated to the Habitat build and will be the beginning of the campaign. Then, starting in February, we will begin construction on a new house in Richmond. By June, a deserving family will have a new home, sponsored by the St. Laurence parish!

Please consider using your time, talent and treasure to contribute to this ministry! For more information, please contact Steve Pondell at spondell@comcast.net or 281-253-7088.
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 ISAIAH 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
- **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
- **Paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, disinfectant spray cleaners** for PEOPLE IN CRISIS.
**Ministry News**

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**ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL**

The first commandment is to love God. What better way to love God than to spend time with Him in the chapel? The Archdiocese guidelines for Eucharistic Exposition require that 2 or 3 persons be present at all times. We are adding a second adorer whenever only one is currently in place. **Are you that second person?**

**URGENT Need for adorers at these times:**

47 Hours Need a 2nd Adorer!

Please check online: [stlaurence.org/adoration](http://stlaurence.org/adoration) or pick up a card at the back of the church for a list of days and times available and prayerfully consider the hours listed where we need committed adorers. Contact Fran Magelssen at adoration@stlaurence.org 281-224-6122

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**JOY CLUB FOR SENIORS**

You are invited to join the **JOY Club**.

The J.O.Y. Club (Just Older Youth) is a parish group for people 55-and-up. The group meets on the first Monday of each month, from 11:00am-1:00pm, for a social activity or program at the Ave Maria Center. Join us at these upcoming events and contact Anne Higgins at nannyhiggs@gmail.com, 832-755-5597.

**MON 9/17** 11am to 1pm, **DOWNSIZING YOUR LIFE**, in the AMC. Brown bag lunch

**MON 10/1** 11am to 1pm, attorney Margie Connolly, **SENIOR LEGAL MATTERS**, in the AMC, Brown bag lunch

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**SEPT 20: LADIES GUILD KICKS OFF NEW YEAR**

Ladies, put away those straw hats and bathing suits, and head to the parish hall to join the Ladies Guild of St. Laurence for their first meeting of a new year! Enjoy delicious Italian food from Carrabba’s, meet the new Board and hear about exciting events planned for the year. But mainly we will share—share stories, share food, share wine and share prayer! Registration for the year is $30, and if you register at the September meeting, your meal is free! (Meal only is $10.) Also, please bring coffee and coffee supplies (sweeteners, creamer, filters) to donate to Angela House. Invite a friend to join you and we’ll see you there! More info, contact President Tina Dougherty, tinadougherty95@gmail.com.

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**OCT 27: BEREAVEMENT RETREAT**

All are invited to attend a Free Bereavement Retreat on Saturday October 27, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the St. Laurence Ave Maria Center. This retreat is for all who are grieving the death of loved ones, recent or from the past, and is facilitated by the St. Laurence Bereavement Ministries. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided. To Register: Please Contact Anne Marie Daniel, St. Laurence Catholic Church 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org

**Bring a photo or small memento of your loved one to the retreat**

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**SEPT 21: TEACHINGS ON THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Deacon Rey will continue teachings on the Holy Spirit and His gifts Friday **Sept 21 (3rd Fri)**. Meetings in the Chapel of the Divine Mercy starts at 7:00pm. For questions call Deacon Rey at 713-854-8804 or Margie Calo at 281-980-4711.

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**SEPT 19: DIVORCECARE AT ST. LAURENCE**

*Find help and healing for the hurt of separation and divorce*

DivorceCare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. Don’t go through separation or divorce alone. The group is led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. You’ll gain access to valuable DivorceCare resources to help you deal with the pain of the past and look forward to rebuilding your life. They meet on Wednesday evenings, 7:00pm-9:00pm, in the St. Francis room in the Ave Maria Center. If interested, contact Janie Picou at jpdivorcecare@aol.com or 832-860-3398. More info: www.stlaurence.org/divorcecare

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**FALL SESSION 2018 TOPICS**

**Sept 19** The Road to Healing Finding Help

**Sept 26** Facing My Anger

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**OCT II: ELEMENTARY GIRLS AND BOYS CLUB**

New Start Date - St. Laurence Little Flowers and Blue Knights Club welcomes all children in grades K-5 to our monthly meetings to make crafts, learn about virtues & saints and play games. Our first meeting will be on Thursday, October 11th from 4:45-5:45 pm in the Ave Maria Center. We meet on the second Thursday of each month. Please bring $15 to register at the front desk. Questions? sugarlandlittleflowers@gmail.com
Coping with the sudden or tragic death of a loved one can be very difficult. Survivors are often overwhelmed by the grief that follows and this may complicate the grieving process. Connecting with others who are also grieving the sudden death of loved ones can facilitate the healing process. This support group meets on the 3rd Thursday each month, 1:00-2:30pm, in the Francis Room. The next meeting, on September 20, will feature a DVD (Grieving the Sudden Death of a Loved One) followed by discussion. Please contact Agnes Fernandes at 281-933-3721, agnesffernandes@gmail.com.

An Introduction to Theology of the Body
Sept. 20, Sept. 27 & Oct. 4, 7:00-9:00pm
Marian Hall at the Ave Maria Center
Our human bodies are not simply biological, they are theological. All are invited to sign up for this 3-week crash course on St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body to gain greater understanding of Scripture and of our relationship with God and one another. Taught by Eric Painter and Michaela Barta, the class starts on September 20, 7:00-9:00pm. Register now: $20 covers the cost of workbook, materials and refreshments. www.stlaurence.org/embodied

An evening of prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, group sharing, and dinner with Vocations Director, Fr. Richard McNeillie and other priests from the Archdiocese. This dinner is for high school boys ages 14-18. If you are interested in knowing more about the seminary and a vocation to priestly life, please contact Fr. Truong Son at 281-980-9812 or tnguyen@stlaurence.org

High school girls (ages 15 to 18) interested in or curious about religious life are invited to the Myriam Dinner—An Evening with Bishop Sheltz and Sisters, on Friday, October 19, 6:00-9:30pm, at the Villa de Matel, 6510 Lawndale Street in Houston. This special event includes prayer, dinner and an opportunity for sharing with others interested in religious vocations. The event is free, but seating is limited and you must register in advance (by Oct 10) at houstonvocations.com/myriam-dinner.

The Cancer Support Group is for all cancer patients and survivors, their caregivers and friends and meets the first Thursday of the month. We listen and learn from professionals and each other as we share our journeys and find hope and strength through prayer. Guest presenter at our October 4 meeting will be Ashley Rieger from Methodist Hospital Sugar Land. She will be presenting Life in Motion — a creative movement program designed to improve balance, coordination, agility and enhance social and emotional health. Please wear comfortable clothing to join in this gentle interactive program. All are welcome. For more information please call Mariann Licato 281-778-6356

Please join us on Mondays from 1:00 PM to 2:30pm, at the Ave Maria Center, Oratory of the Rosary, as we gather to praise and worship God. We pray the Rosary, worship God through music and reflect on God’s Word and spiritual writings. We also pray with each other and intercede for the needs of our church, our community, families, and all who are in need of prayer. During our time of reflection we will focus on the life of St. Catherine of Siena. If you have questions regarding this ministry contact Anne Marie Daniel at 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org.

To be near God is my Happiness
2018-2019
Experience lasting happiness and joy — serve in a ministry
Scriptural Answers to 88 Common Questions about Catholic Beliefs and Practices

Third Semester
Mondays, starting September 17, 2018
7:00-9:00 pm
Guardian Angel Hall

Have you ever been asked any of these questions by your friends and had no idea what to say?

Now you can be ready with an answer through our new apologetics Bible study course! Our team of knowledgeable presenters will teach on over eighty topics based in the “New Catholic Answer Bible” on common questions people have about the Catholic Faith over the course of four semesters. Through presentations, reading, and small group discussion, you will learn how to explain the Church’s teachings with logic and love.

Cost for third semester:
$40.00 if new participant (includes New Catholic Answer Bible)
$5.00 returning participant

Registration is required at stlaurence.org/apologetics

Presenters:
Marta Alves, Bob Bethancourt, Justin Frato, Deacon Dennis Henderson, Cindy Kral, Tom Ruck

For more information contact Justin Frato at 281-265-5774 or jfrato@stlaurence.org

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