FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Woman Caught in Adultery

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

John 8:7

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

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

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
April 13 & 27: 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

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
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: Rey Arellano, deacon.rey@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Albert Bothe, deaconal@ssjd.org
Deacon: Don Burns, don@donburns.com
Deacon: Dennis Henderson, dhenderson@stlaurence.org
Deacon: Charles Plant, stlaurence.deacon@aol.com
Deacon: Tom Ruck, truck@stlaurence.org
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari, toltremari@stlaurence.org
Liturgy: Rosemary Mascarenhas, rmascarenhas@stlaurence.org
Facilities: Sheila Stulak, sstulak@stlaurence.org
Social Concerns: Pennie DeGroot, pdegroot@stlaurence.org
Parish Life/Communications: Sharon Ehrenkranz, sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org

OUR MISSION:
We the people of St. Laurence Catholic Church are centered in the love of Christ and live to glorify God in all we do.

PARISH OFFICE & 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.
**PALM SUNDAY**  
Saturday, April 13  
5:00pm

**Sunday, April 14**  
7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm and 5:00pm  
Procession of Palms at Saturday 5:00pm Mass  
RCIA Candidates confirmed Sunday 1:00pm Mass

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
April 18

Liturgy of the Hours  
7:30am (in the chapel)

**MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**  
7:00pm

Bilingual Prayer Vigil (in the chapel)  
Midnight to 6:00am Good Friday

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
April 19

Liturgy of the Hours  
8:15am (in the chapel)

Divine Mercy Devotion & Stations of the Cross  
12:00 noon

**SOLEMN GOOD FRIDAY LITURGIES**  
3:00pm (wear RED)  
7:00pm (wear RED)

**EASTER VIGIL**  
Saturday, April 20

Liturgy of the Hours  
8:30am (in the chapel)

**Easter Vigil Mass**  
8:30pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
April 21

7:00am, 9:00am, 9:15am*, 11:00am, 11:15am*, 1:00pm & 5:00pm  
* Mass at the Ave Maria Parish Life Center

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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**APRIL**

**SUNDAY**

Fifth Sunday of Lent  
First Reading IS 43:16-21  
Second Reading PHIL 3:8-14  
Gospel JN 8:1-11

**MONDAY**

First Reading DN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
Gospel JN 8:21-30

**TUESDAY**

First Reading NM 21:4-9  
Gospel JN 5:1-16

**WEDNESDAY**

First Reading DN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
Gospel JN 8:21-30

**THURSDAY**

First Reading GN 17:3-9  
Gospel JN 8:51-59

**FRIDAY**

First Reading JER 20:10-13  
Gospel JN 10:31-42

**SATURDAY**

First Reading EZ 37:21-28  
Gospel JN 11:45-56

**SUNDAY**

Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion  
First Reading IS 50:4-7  
Second Reading PHIL 2:6-11  

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**PRAYING THE NEWS | APRIL 7, 2019**

“...the LORD, who opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters...”

**ISAIAH 43:16**

O Lord, we pray for those suffering the devastation in Africa from Cyclone Idai and the widespread flooding in the Midwest. Open a way to help and hope for these, and anyone feeling overwhelmed in any way. May they be assured by your presence, and those around them, that they are not alone. May your church be a blessing to them in this time of trial.

Jesus, we trust in you. Amen. †
**In Our Prayers...**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**


**PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN**

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
SPC David Ambrook, US Army
PVT Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O. S Debra Barnett, US Navy
CPL Trevor Bello, USMC
PFC John Blair, US Army
LCpl Gordon Briggs, USMC
SPC Jordan Briggs, US Army
Maj. Michael Carroll, USMC
LTC. Jason Chacon, USMC
Lt. Matthew Chesney, US Navy
Maj. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Maj. Patrick Coffman, USMC
CPT Andrew DeSplinter, US Army
SGT Nicholas Dockum, US Army
Maj. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
CPT Michael Eberhardt, US Army
CPT Stacey Eberhardt, US Army Reserve
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
CPT Michelle Thibeau, US Army
CPT Will Thibeau, US Army
PFC Aaron Fox, USMC
PVT Jahneil 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
SN Lucas Kennedy, US Navy
SPC Joshua Keenan, US Army
EM4 James Locus, US Army
SSG Philip Loera, US Army
PFC John Lundgren, US Army
ILT Anthony Marich, US Army
Ann Joseph Marcellus, USAF
TSgt David March, Texas Air National Guard
Capt. Brendan McPartland, USMC
Major Alexander Morningstar, US Army
CB, Richard Pinard, US Navy
LCpl Byron Ray Ramirez, USMC
SGT Santiago Ramirez, US Army
CAPT Taylor Rammrath, US Army
Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SGt Jonathan Slusser, US Air Force
LT Kevin Stransky, US Navy
CTM3 Nicholas Stuhlman, US Navy
Maj. Michael Thesing, USMC
ILT Kevin Wheeler, US Army
SGT Bryce Whitley, US Army
PO3 Troy Yelverton, US Navy
2LT Copeland Zaunbrecher, US Army
2LT Kazia Zaunbrecher, US Army

**MASS INTENTIONS**

SATURDAY, APR 6
5:00pm – Felix Thomas (D)

SUNDAY, APR 7
7:15am – Agnes Kingserski (D)
9:00am – George Jobin (I)
11:00am – Ernesto Pitaogo (I)
12:45pm – Jesus Chao (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, APR 8
7:30am – Dennis Pickel (I)
12:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

TUESDAY, APR 9
7:30am – Remedios Llamado (D)
12:00pm – Carolina Gonzalez (D)

WEDNESDAY, APR 10
7:30am – Jose Contreras (I)
6:30pm – K. Cherian (I)

 THURSDAY, APR 11
7:30am – Kelly Suter (D)
12:00pm – Norman Ralph (D)

FRIDAY, APR 12
8:15am – Napoleon & Feliciana Estepa (D)
12:00pm – Oanh Tu Vann (D)

SATURDAY, APR 13
7:00am – Veronica & Lawrence Revell (D)
9:00am – Josef Schlosser (D)
11:00am – S. Lois Brown (D)
1:00pm – Armando & Marina Paredes (I)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

SUNDAY, APR 14
7:00am – Veronica & Lawrence Revell (D)
9:00am – Josef Schlosser (D)
11:00am – S. Lois Brown (D)
1:00pm – Armando & Marina Paredes (I)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS FORMATION**

Collin Brown, Chad Henry, Billy Dodd, 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, 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... Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for... Isabella Flores, Adrian Zaldivar, Johnny Sanchez, Sonia Aguilar, Erika Ayala, Kristin Funderburg, Jessica Ayala, Elizabeth Rojas, Cole & Christina Flores, James Ayala, Adam Amaro & Family, Tommy Dooley, Chelsea George Family, Denise Joslyn Family, Jeffrey & Laura Arrington & Families, Florentino- Oneyda Vaquez & Family, Jason Kelly, Hector & Breanda Olivas, Damon Buckley, Michael J. Simon, James A. Brown, Grace Audry Brown, Lydia Massie, Gary Garza, Chaplain Jimmy Fitzgerald, Jackie Fitzgerald, St. Faustina, Fr. Dat, Rhiannon, McHaney, Melody Pierson. Society of St. John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3. (3/25/19).
PLEASE DONATE: CHRISTIAN RENEWAL CENTER RENOVATIONS
The Christian Renewal Center in Dickinson is under renovation and needs help to reach their goal of renovating 10 rooms this year. Any size donation is appreciated and will help to create a better retreat experience on their holy grounds. Donations are being received at retreatcentercrc.org, or feel free to stop by the CRC anytime, Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:30pm. Contact Kathy Carpenter at KathyCarpenter@retreatcentercrc.org with questions and visit the website often to see the funds grow. Thank you for your support.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS
Commit to strengthening your marriage this Lent. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends. The next 2 weekends are May 17-19 or June 21-23. Contact Brian & Tina Little at 281-773-4014 for more information. Or go on-line to www.houstonme.org.

APR 7-9: ST. ANGELA MERICI LENTEN MISSION
St. Angela Merici extends an invitation to join them for their upcoming Lenten Mission featuring Catholic evangelist and speaker, Joe McClane. The theme for the mission is “The Radical Choice: In Pursuit of Sanctity Over Success” and will be held on Monday and Tuesday, April 8-9, with talks given each day, at 10:00am and 6:30pm. On Sunday, April 7, a special talk for Youth will be given at 6:30pm. A light reception will be offered after the evening talks. St. Angela Merici is located at 9009 Sienna Ranch Road in Missouri City. Find more info at stamericigh.com/parish-lenten-mission.

APR 9-10: THE ORIGINAL IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY FILM
St. Theresa in Sugar Land is hosting a screening of a documentary on The Original Image of Divine Mercy, both in English and Spanish. The films will be shown in the Community Center at 6:30pm on Tuesday, April 9 (English), at 6:30pm on Wednesday, April 10 (Spanish). The director of the film, Daniel DiSilva, will make a special appearance, offering a Q & A segment. The Original Image of Divine Mercy film merchandise will be available for purchase. See the trailer at divinemercyfilm.com and call Laura for more info at 281-748-6642.

MAY 10-11: GIVE MOM A WOMEN’S SPA RETREAT
The Christian Renewal Center in Dickinson is offering a Women’s Spa Retreat on Friday and Saturday of Mother’s Day Weekend, May 10-11. Register early for this spiritually rejuvenating weekend away for mothers, daughters, sisters and friends. The retreat will be facilitated by Kim Brown (featured on EWTN, Ave Maria and Relevant Radio) and includes spa services on Friday afternoon (2:30-5:30pm), dinner at 6:00pm, and the retreat all day Saturday, concluding with Mass Saturday evening. Get details and register at retreatcentercrc.org.

PLAY & PRAY*
Childcare is provided in a safe, loving, and Catholic environment to young children while their parents/guardians attend Mass and other parish programs. Register in advance with Elizabeth Hernandez, at stlaurence.org/play-pray or ehernandez@stlaurence.org

WEDDING PREPARATION
Next Class: May 20
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 Rosemary Mascarenhas at rmascarenhas@stlaurence.org.

BAPTISM PREPARATION
Next Class: May 11
The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sundays each month. As an alternative, the 1st Saturday is offered in January, April, July and October. To schedule a Baptism or register for the required parent preparation class, please contact Barb Roy at broy@stlaurence.org or 281-265-5774 x5371.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS
BAPTISMS
Collin Joseph Bell, Catherine Christine Dolence, Kamila Grace George, Isaiah Gregory Gonzalez, Lacey Leigh Locus, Michelle Elizabeth Shrum

FAITH DIRECT ONLINE GIVING
Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help St. Laurence Catholic Church by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent! Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide the church with consistent support and simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. Join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season! Signing up is easy! Visit faithdirect.net and use our church code: TX460. Whatever method you chose to give... your generosity is appreciated!

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION — WEEKLY OFFERTORY

| MAR 31 COLLECTION | $60,974 |
| Registered Households | 7,709 |
| Envelopes Used | 709 |
| Loose Checks | 177 |
| 2ND COLLECTION | $12,314 |
| Catholic Relief Services |

ONLINE GIVING

| Monthly Offertory | $208,185 |
| Participants | 1,079 |

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND (Activity thru 4/1/2019)

| 2019 Parish Goal | $495,000 |
| Total Amount Paid | $183,181 |
| Total Amount Pledged | $257,311 |
| Participants | 529 |

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

APR 7: PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!

APR 9 & 10: ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK
Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week is the pinnacle of our faith year as Catholic Christians, from the pageantry of Palm Sunday to the pain and despair of Good Friday to the ultimate joy of Easter Sunday. In class this week, we will explore Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection and what the events of Holy Week teach us in terms of God’s infinite Love and Christ’s ultimate sacrifice. As a family, discuss this week the importance of Jesus’ sacrificial act to each of us as his followers.

LENTEN CHALLENGE: As a family, attend the weekly Rosary this Friday morning at 6:30 a.m. in the church together or come to pray the Stations of the Cross at 7pm after attending the parish Fish Fry.

Please note that registration for the upcoming year (which will begin in mid-September) has begun and is now open to all families. For information about the CCE program, please visit sl Laurence.org/registration to print out a Family Registration packet, or pick one up in the AMC. Don’t forget to register early, as classes for certain days and times tend to fill up fast!

WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FROM CRIB THROUGH 5 YEARS

stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

FUN DATES

Jelly Belly Show, April 17 & 18, 10:00am

Good Friday & Easter Monday Holidays, April 19 & 22

Spring Family Day, Sunday, April 28, 2pm-4pm

Week of the Young Child, Apr. 29-May 3 Shop our Book Fair

Family Picnics, May 2 and May 3

WCP Advisory Board Discernment, Monday, Apr. 29, 7pm

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.

STLAURENCEschool.org

THANK YOU, MR. BOBBY

SLCS Fifth grader, Elisa, wrote her UST Essay on our wonderful maintenance man, Mr. Bobby Castillo. She spoke about his wonderful leadership qualities and how well he takes care of the grounds and the students. Well done Elisa, and many thanks to Mr. Bobby and ALL of our maintenance staff that help make SLCS and St Laurence Parish he phenomenal place it is!

SERVE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD

Did you know that several board members will have fulfilled their term limit of three years at the end of this school year? We are seeking new members! We are open to all parents and community members that are committed to SLCS, but especially have a need for those of you that specialize in the areas of law, construction/facilities, commercial real estate, finance, technology or security. If you are interested, please contact our Principal, Suzanne Barto at sbarto@stlaurence.org and join us for the School Board Information Night!

School Board Information Night – April 11
Discernment Day - April 13
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. Go to stlaurence.org/confirmation for information or contact Daniel Glaze, dglaze@stlaurence.org

APR 28: Eight Service Hours Due
MAY 11: June 5 & 17, 2019 - Exit Interviews

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT SERVICE DAY
Service Project with Young Adults: Come and be the “hands and feet of Christ” with hundreds of young adults ages 18-39 at the Archdiocesan Young Adult Day of service, prayer and fellowship on Saturday, April 13. Teams will help serve those in need, the sick, the poor, the hungry, homeless, prisoners and immigrants. The day begins with 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Dominic Chancery followed by teams serving all over the city until 3:00 p.m. FREE event, online registrations required by April 8 at www.archgh.org/yacm

APRIL 10: EDGE NIGHT
Edge Nights are held on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:15pm at the Ave Maria Center Marian Hall unless otherwise noted. Info: stlaurence.org/edge

GLOW IN THE DARK LOCK-IN
Friday, May 10 at 9pm (until 7am)
$45 per teen
For current 6-8th graders

ST. LAURENCE JR HIGH CAMP
July 15-19 (10am - 5pm)
Games, Service Projects, Sacraments and Splashtown
$250 per teen
For those entering 6-8th grade

CAMP WILD SKY IN MEDIA, TX
August 5-10
Fun, Faith, Fellowship and Sacraments
Deadline to register is APRIL 1
$750 per teen
For those entering 6-8th grade

For details and to register, please go to stlaurence.org/edge or contact coordinator Mo Bass at mbass@stlaurence.org, 281-265-5774.
**Adult Faith Formation**

**CATHOLIC MEN CALLED TO BE SAINTS**
Thursdays, Apr 11-Jun 27, 2019, 5:30-7:30 am, Guardian Angel Hall
Come together with other men and learn about spiritual and practical ideas. Contact: Jim Kij, 281-253-4800, jimkij@comcast.net.

**MEN’S BIBLE STUDY**
Mondays, Apr 8-Jun 24, 6:15-7:15 am, St Francis

**SACRED SUNDAY ON MONDAY**
Mondays, Feb 4-May 20, 10:30-11:30 am, St Anne Room
Share the prior Mass experience each Monday as we ponder and reflect upon Sunday’s reading and homily. Contact: Bernadette Peters at bernadetepeters@mac.com.

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**
Apr 9, 9:00 –11:45 am, Marian Hall
Last Class, and luncheon
Contact Kay Quenan at kquenan@me.com

**THAT MAN IS YOU**
Wednesdays, Apr 10-May 1, 5:30-7:00 am Marian Hall
“Revelation of the Father”. Contact: Roger Peters at rogerwpeters@me.com or stlaurence.org/tmiy

**THURSDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY**
Apr 11, 1-2:00 pm, St Anne, or 7:15-8:30 pm Ave Maria Room 205
“No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ’s Passion” by Dr. Sri.
Contact: Julie Evett, jevett@comcast.net

**RCIA AWARENESS**

**Scrutinies – The Heart of Lent**
**SUNDAY, April 7 at the 9:00am Mass**

As part of the Elect’s final preparation they will continue to celebrate the Scrutinies today on the 5th Sunday of Lent. The third scrutiny is summed up in the message of life and death, hope and despair. The central theme of our faith is that Jesus is our life and resurrection. We are reminded of the pain of death of loved ones faced by people all over the world everyday. In the story of Lazarus, we see the powerful revelation of who Jesus is from his absolute control over life and death. It is Jesus who transforms death into life; brings hope in the midst of despair; and joy out of grief. Like Mary and Martha we believe that Jesus is the resurrection and source of life to anyone who believes in him. This liturgy celebrates the God of life, who in Jesus Christ conquers death that we may have life.

*(Insights based on a blog by Msgr. John S. Mbinda)*

*Please continue to pray for the children, women and men in our RCIA process who have been called to the Easter sacraments. May they be strengthened, along with our candidates, by the Holy Spirit as they move forward in their relationship with Christ and his Church.*

**Adult Confirmation**

**Thursdays, April 11 – Jun 6, 2019**
7:00– 9:00pm
St Francis Meeting Room

**Still time to register for Adult Confirmation!** Preparation is offered for Catholics who are at least 18 years of age, graduated from high school, already baptized, received first Eucharist, are actively practicing their faith, and if married, marriage must be sacramental in the Catholic Church. An updated (within 6 months) baptismal record is required. The sessions meet on 8 consecutive Thursday evenings, concluding with the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. For more information:

Mary Visser at mvisser@stlaurence.org, 281-265-5774
We are wives and mothers, business women and nurses, teachers and scout leaders, room moms and coaches—not to mention the daily cook, cleaning lady and chauffeur. So often we spin our wheels and exhaust our spirit as we try to be Superwoman. Who are you? What is your true identity? Discover how you can live in the joy and freedom of being “God’s Masterpiece”—amidst the laundry and dirty dishes of ordinary life. **Reclaim your identity as a daughter of the Royal King!**

**Cost:** $15.00 per person. To register and pay go to [stlaurence.org/womensbreakfast](http://stlaurence.org/womensbreakfast)

**Breakfast provided by La Madeleine**

**Childcare Available**

Advanced registration required at stlaurence.org/play-pray

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**Monday, April 8, 2019**

9-11:30 am, Marian Hall

Patty Schneier

*St Laurence Catholic Church Women’s Prayer Breakfast*

*Reclaim your identity as a daughter of the Royal King!*
Steph and I joined the parish in January 2015. We are so fortunate to have completed full careers for Chase and Shell, respectively, and wanted to use our free time wisely. Our love of sacred music, and an invitation from a fellow parishioner, brought us first to the 11am Choir with Mary Thompson. We have been blessed by the challenging music and the liturgies we’ve participated in. Also, at our previous parish of 30+ years, St. Justin Martyr, we were both active in the ACTS Community and have participated in retreats and supporting activities here at St. Laurence. These two “communities” (plus nursing home and hospital ministries) have connected us with so many kind and spirit-filled people, who share our love of the Lord. Participating in these various ministries really allows a very large parish like St. Laurence to feel like a more intimate family. Steph and I have both learned to trust the promptings of the Holy Spirit, even if it stretches us into areas where we’re not comfortable, like new music, leading the rosary, or praying in the hospital with complete strangers. 

Our love of sacred music, and an invitation from a fellow parishioner, brought us first to the 11am Choir with Mary Thompson. We have been blessed by the challenging music and the liturgies we’ve participated in. Also, at our previous parish of 30+ years, St. Justin Martyr, we were both active in the ACTS Community and have participated in retreats and supporting activities here at St. Laurence. These two “communities” (plus nursing home and hospital ministries) have connected us with so many kind and spirit-filled people, who share our love of the Lord. Participating in these various ministries really allows a very large parish like St. Laurence to feel like a more intimate family. Steph and I have both learned to trust the promptings of the Holy Spirit, even if it stretches us into areas where we’re not comfortable, like new music, leading the rosary, or praying in the hospital with complete strangers. At our Parish Mission, Fr. Creedon said it best: “Each of us is uniquely created for a specific ministry – and if we don’t do it – it won’t get done.” So, match your God-given talent, with your life’s experiences and current life’s circumstances and see if God doesn’t have something just waiting for you.

Pope St. John Paul II called for a “new evangelization” to reach our own Church members, and the unchurched in our communities. It is the laity who need to reach out to their friends and neighbors who do not go to any church, who either walked away when they were younger, or perhaps have never been told the good news of God’s great love for us. The New Evangelization Ministry exists not only to do evangelizing work ourselves, but to encourage and equip ALL parishioners to share the Gospel with those around them who need to hear that message. We offer evangelization training classes, we go to Oyster Creek Park to offer prayer and information on the Catholic faith, and we welcome new parishioners with a friendly phone call. Interested in joining this ministry? Please contact coordinator Marta Alves at alvesm@att.net, 713-569-3679.

Meet with members of the New Evangelization Ministry at the Hospitality Desk after Mass today!

**STEWARDS AMONG US**

**GLEN & STEPHANIE GUIDRY**

We have been blessed by the challenging music and the liturgies we’ve participated in. Also, at our previous parish of 30+ years, St. Justin Martyr, we were both active in the ACTS Community and have participated in retreats and supporting activities here at St. Laurence. These two “communities” (plus nursing home and hospital ministries) have connected us with so many kind and spirit-filled people, who share our love of the Lord. Participating in these various ministries really allows a very large parish like St. Laurence to feel like a more intimate family. Steph and I have both learned to trust the promptings of the Holy Spirit, even if it stretches us into areas where we’re not comfortable, like new music, leading the rosary, or praying in the hospital with complete strangers. At our Parish Mission, Fr. Creedon said it best: “Each of us is uniquely created for a specific ministry – and if we don’t do it – it won’t get done.” So, match your God-given talent, with your life’s experiences and current life’s circumstances and see if God doesn’t have something just waiting for you.

*Q.* How do we know what page the readings are on in the Gather book?

*A.* You can wait until the beginning of Mass, when someone from the choir announces what priest is saying Mass and what deacon is helping, and then they finally say it’s the 5th Sunday in Lent. Then you flip through the book, ‘cause the readings are listed in order. Or you can do what I do and open the bulletin to page 3, and under the Readings for the Week list (under Sunday) is the actual number in the Gather book. *Easy right?* The only thing you’ll need to know is what year we are in, A, B or C. I’ll make it easy on you… we are in C. Hey, if you use the Gather books, you don’t have to bring your little Sunday Missals that most people leave behind! Just sayin’.

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Pope Francis March 30, 2019

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Ask Paula

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PG 10 | ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH
“GOD, I REALLY DON’T HAVE TIME FOR THIS”

Life is hectic! It's difficult to find time for quiet, reflective, meditative prayer...but we need it desperately. Without prayer, we will die spiritually. In this energetic, “down-to-earth” talk, Patty shares ways to incorporate prayer into your everyday life—in the midst of family obligation, jobs, and chaotic schedules. Discover how you can transform your prayer life—no matter how young, no matter how old, no matter how busy you are! NO more excuses: Find the prayer life your soul has been searching for!

Praise and worship led by
Mary Thompson

Childcare Available
Advance registration required at stlaurence.org/play-pray

For more info: STLAURENCE.ORG/ARISE | St Laurence Catholic Church, 3100 Sweetwater Blvd. Sugar Land, TX 77479
You are invited

Women’s ACTS Retreat
Thursday, May 9 - Sunday, May 12

Registration is OPEN Online for Women's ACTS Retreat
stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat

"God will wipe away every tear from their eyes”.
—REV 7:17

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 the Women’s retreat at stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat

For any questions please contact:

Women's Retreat Director:
Lydia Linares, 832-687-3394, jeremiah177@protonmail.com

"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
GUIDELINES FOR HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED

Recently, there has been an increase in people panhandling on our property between Sunday Masses. Please do NOT give out cash, no matter how much your heart is moved to help. Rather, please donate to our Social Concerns Ministry and allow the trained members of our staff to assess and assist those in need. If you notice people approaching parishioners for donations anywhere on our campus, please alert a Sacristan or a member of parish staff. They will direct them to the resources we have available. Today’s second collection is for the Social Concerns People in Crisis fund. Thank you for your generosity.

PATTY SCHNEIER AT ST. LAURENCE

Patty Schneier is a sought-after Catholic speaker featured on numerous Catholic Radio shows and through Lighthouse Catholic Media. Her new book, Love Letters from Mom on What Matters Most, is a compilation of personal letters written to her three children as they mature into adulthood and venture out on their own. Without preaching or scolding, she candidly discusses the joys of living a faith-filled life, what it means to be a Catholic in the world today, and why it matters. On Monday, April 8, Patty will be at St. Laurence to present at the Women’s Prayer Breakfast (9:00-11:30am) reminding women of their true identity as “God’s masterpiece”. Later that night, she will be the featured speaker at Arise Night (6:30-8:00pm) on the importance of and strategies for incorporating prayer into even our busiest days. Don’t miss this dynamic speaker! Register in advance for the Prayer Breakfast and for childcare. DETAILS: stlaurence.org/womensbreakfast and stlaurence.org/arise

RECEIVE THE MESSAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

The message of Divine Mercy is that God loves us. He asks us to trust in Him and allow His mercy to flow through us to others. Participate in this devotion to grow in discipleship and live a life of mercy to others, as Christ is merciful to you. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to join in these upcoming Divine Mercy events at our parish, leading to the Sunday of Divine Mercy on April 28, the 2nd Sunday of Easter.

APR 12: Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross, 7:00pm, in the church

APR 19: Good Friday Divine Devotion & Stations of the Cross, 12:00noon

APR 21-27: Divine Mercy Novena & Presentations, evenings, in the chapel

APR 28: Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration, 2:30pm, in the church

Get details at stlaurence.org/divine-mercy or contact Sally Flowers, sallyjoflowers@comcast.net, 281-265-8360.

REGISTER NOW FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration is open now for religious education classes for the 2019-2020 school year. Registration is required for all programs from age 3 through high school, including Sacrament Preparation classes. No matter the age of your children or where they are in their faith formation, we invite you to commit today to helping them grow as disciples of Christ. Please go to stlaurence.org/registration for information and forms. The deadline to register is August 1, but don’t wait! Classes do fill up quickly and the number of classes offered is limited to the number of volunteer catechists available to help. Teaching or assisting in religious education classes is a wonderful way to get involved in the life of this big parish! No experience is necessary, training & materials are provided, and you’ll be a visible model of service for your children. Please stop by the Ave Maria Center to learn more or call 281-265-5774.

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The building of our 13th house will soon be underway. Now is the time to sign up if you or your ministry would like to provide lunch for the hungry workers. The lunches are so appreciated by the volunteers, as well as the prospective owners, who also participate in the build throughout the construction period. Monetary donations are also welcome. It takes approximately $110.00 to feed everyone. For more information and to reserve your date, please contact Lawerance Perreau at 832-525-8717 or lperreau@comcast.net.

NAMI Greater Houston offers on-going support groups for family members of those diagnosed with mental health conditions. By sharing your experiences in a safe and confidential setting, you gain hope and develop supportive relationships. No registration is required. This free, 90-minute group allows your voice to be heard and provides an opportunity for your personal needs to be met. It encourages empathy, productive discussion and a sense of community. You’ll benefit from other’s experiences, discover your inner strength and learn how to identify local resources and how to use them.

Please join us at one of our support meetings. All meetings are held at United Way, 12300 Parc Crest, Stafford, TX 77487.

Support Group (English) 2nd & 4th Thurs each month
Support Group (Spanish) 3rd Tuesday each month
Support Group (Chinese) Last Sunday each month

For more information, call Pat Sumner at 281-384-3156 or psumner1@comcas
RESPECT LIFE NEWS

RESPECT LIFE BROCHURE OF THE MONTH:
Love, Sex and Sterilization

Caring for young children can be exhausting, and many couples are tempted to say “Enough – no more.” But decisions made during a difficult time are not always the best decisions. Our capacity to conceive is a participation in the creative work of God himself. Married couples are called to be open to love, and to maintain the unity of the love-making and life-giving aspects of sex. Contraception or sterilization means that we are no longer giving ourselves totally to our spouse – we hold back our fertility. True married love is total, faithful – and fruitful.

That doesn’t mean everyone must have 6 or 10 kids – natural family planning can be used to limit ourselves to the number of children we feel God is calling us to have. NFP can be difficult to practice, but it also tends to strengthen marriages – divorces among NFP couples are extremely rare. If God calls us to marriage and children, he will give us the grace we need to fulfill His plans for us. Can we trust in Him and His plan for us?

This brochure is available at the Hospitality Desk, and links to the document are available: stlaurence.org/brochure-of-the-month

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER FOR THE PREGNANCY RESOURCE MEDICAL CENTER

Baby Bottle time is here! Please help PRMC to be there to help women with the choice for life. Take a bottle home, fill it with a donation (loose change, bills, or a check) and bring it back to church. You can make the donation in honor of your mother for Mother’s Day! Just return the bottle by May 1 with the necessary information, and PRMC will send a card in time for Mother’s Day. The pregnancy center is currently working on adding testing for sexually transmitted infections to their services, which will help us reach women before they are pregnant, and become better known as a resource in the community.

ROSARY FOR THE PREBORN AND THEIR MOTHERS:
Please join us next week after the 11:00 Mass in the Rosary Garden at the Ave Maria Center. In case of bad weather, we will meet inside in the oratory.

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 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 white crew socks, new white t-shirts (size large), pop-top tuna/meat, individual peanut butters, granola bars for the HOMELESS

• 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.
How would you like to experience in a special way the power and the charismatic gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT? If so, attend the Gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT Workshop, in celebration of the coming Pentecost. This is a hands-on presentation of the charismatic gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT (1 Cor. 12:7-11): the gifts of tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy, word of knowledge, word of wisdom, discernment, faith, healing and miracles. Our prayers and expectations are that the HOLY SPIRIT will impart to us or stir in us these gifts that we can use to minister to others. Fr. Drew Wood, our pastor and Fr. Mark Goring, director of the Catholic Charismatic Center, are our main speakers. The Workshop will culminate with a powerful healing service. Free, open to all and lunch is provided. To register, go to stlaurence.org/holy-spirit-workshop. Walk-ins not allowed. For more information call Deacon Rey Arellano (713-854-8804).

Please check online: stlaurence.org/adoration or pick up a card on the table in the chapel foyer for a list of days and times available and prayerfully consider the hours listed Contact Fran Magelssen at adoration@stlaurence.org 281-224-6122

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The first commandment is to love God. What better way to love God than to spend time with Him in the chapel? The Archdiocesan 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 A SECOND ADORER FOR THESE TWO TIMES:
Sunday 10am to 11am and Sunday noon to 1pm.
Second adorers also needed for 35 other times.

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKSHOP

Saturday, June 1, 9:00am-4:30pm, Ave Maria Center

How would you like to experience in a special way the power and the charismatic gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT? If so, attend the Gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT Workshop, in celebration of the coming Pentecost. This is a hands-on presentation of the charismatic gifts of the HOLY SPIRIT (1 Cor. 12:7-11): the gifts of tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy, word of knowledge, word of wisdom, discernment, faith, healing and miracles. Our prayers and expectations are that the HOLY SPIRIT will impart to us or stir in us these gifts that we can use to minister to others. Fr. Drew Wood, our pastor and Fr. Mark Goring, director of the Catholic Charismatic Center, are our main speakers. The Workshop will culminate with a powerful healing service. Free, open to all and lunch is provided.

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APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

In April, we recognize the gifts of persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), and show how our faith leads us to create communities where all are welcome.

Everybody Belongs…

In Baptism, we become equal in dignity as necessary members of the Body of Christ. Because everybody belongs, we provide support and accommodations so that all may worship, grow in faith and celebrate the sacraments. Such access is a baptismal right of every Catholic, including persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Info on Autism Spectrum Disorders

• It is a developmental disability related to varying differences in brain development
• Learning abilities can range from extremely gifted to very challenging
• It will often significantly affect a person’s communication, behavior and social skills
• Rates continue to rise; currently estimated at 1 in 59 births
• Some persons are nonverbal
• Autism is 5 times more common in boys
• Persons with autism are most likely in every community, including faith communities

St. Laurence Ministry with Persons with Disabilities
Cindy Martin, disabilitiesministry@stlaurence.org, www.stlaurence.org/specialneeds

MINISTRY WITH PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Looking for a way to get involved? The mission of Ladies Guild is to “serve, not be served,” so it’s a great way to have fun, meet other women and sign up for easy ways to help the parish. Their next meeting is Thursday, April 25, at 6:30pm, in the parish hall, when they will feature a guest speaker on beauty who will demonstrate how to create homemade beauty care items. Dinner is served; please bring an appetizer, side or dessert to share, plus a donation of laundry detergent for Angela House. For more info, contact President Tina Dougherty, tinadougherty95@gmail.com.

APR 25: LADIES GUILD MEETING

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.

APRIL 24 Wednesday, visit to the gardens and lunch.
Legion of Mary

Holy Hour of Reparation on the 4th Thursday of each month.
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 prayer and service. Meets once a week for prayer and discussion on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:00pm, in the Corpus Christi Rm. CONTACT: Maria Argao, 281-221-8228, rmargao1954@gmail.com

April 10: DivorceCare Meeting

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. They meet on Wednesday evenings, 7:00pm-9:00pm, in the St. Francis room in the AMC. If interested, contact Janie Picou at jpd divorcecare@aol.com or 832-860-3398. More info: www.stlaurence.org/divorcecare

- April 10 - Reconciliation
- April 24 - Moving On, Growing Closer to God

DivorceCare

Please consider praying, in a special way, for priests during Lent. As you can imagine, this is one of the busiest times of year for your priests. Please join in this Novena for our priests for the 9 days prior to the Institution of the Priesthood on Holy Thursday, April 18 by praying this prayer daily for those 9 days, April 10-18!

O Mary, Mother of Jesus, you were with Jesus at the beginning of His life and mission. You stood beside Jesus when He was lifted on the cross and gave His life for all. We ask you now to be with our priests, who give themselves in service to God’s people. Intercede for them that they may grow in holiness; proclaim God’s word with courage; celebrate the sacraments with joy; and be among God’s people as Jesus, the Good Shepard, was. We offer this prayer to God the Father, through your intercession, in the name of your Son, Jesus, and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Divine Mercy Cenacle

Study the Diary of St. Faustina, Holy Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Morning and evening options available

AM – Every Thursday, 10:00-11:30am, St. Francis Room – CONTACT: Sally Flowers | 281-265-8360 | sallyjoflowers@comcast.net

PM – Every other Wednesday, 7:30-9:00pm, Corpus Christi Room CONTACT: Suzan Bryan | 713-816-5859 | suzan.bryan@comcast.net

Ministerio Hispano

April 13 & 27: Misa en Español En la Capilla. Segundo y cuarto sábado de cada mes a las 7:00pm. Confesiones en Español antes de la misa de 6:00 a 6:45 pm. Comunión a los enfermos, Irma Martínez Tel 281-313-2833. Recibir anuncios mandando correo a mhstlaurence@gmail.com.

Who We Are

We the people of St. Laurence Catholic Church are centered in the love of Christ and live to glorify God in all we do.

How we carry out our Mission

At St. Laurence Catholic Church, we respond to Jesus who calls us to love God and our neighbor. As a member of this faith community, I strive to:

LOVE by showing respect, mercy and compassion to all
CONNECT with others in a meaningful way
GROW closer to God through prayer, Sunday Mass and the Sacraments
LEARN about my Faith and share it with others

Filled with the Holy Spirit, I will be a grateful and supportive member of the Body of Christ.
Family Faith is not only a great way to grow in faith as a family, it is a religious education program that is a hybrid of CCE and Home Study for students PreK3-12th grades. Play and Pray is available for children 12-36 months.

Family Faith is a program in which families also enjoy the community of other St. Laurence families in a setting where learning about our faith is the focus.

We meet one Sunday a month at the Ave Maria Center for a Family Session and grade level classes along with a class for adults. During the month, families work together on family and class homework. The work at home is turned in at the next month’s session.

Adult members are required to have current Safe Environment training because each will be required to volunteer in some capacity.
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For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com  St. Laurence Catholic Church, Sugar Land, TX  E 4C 05-0673
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