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

FIRST SATURDAY MASS
Feb 1 — In the Church
7:45am - Meditation & Rosary
8:30am - Mass

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
Jan 25 — 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) 989-1655

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
A voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” - Mt 3:17

3100 Sweetwater Blvd. | Sugar Land, Texas 77479 | 281-980-9812 | www.stlaurence.org
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, DeaconCharles@outlook.com
Deacon: Tom Ruck, truck@stlaurence.org
Parish Administrator: Tony Oltremari, toltemari@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

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
RCIA/Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato, jfrato@stlaurence.org
Young Adult Coordinator: Lucia Jackson, ljackson@stlaurence.org
Children's Faith Formation: Joan Hastreiter, jhastreiter@stlaurence.org
Youth Ministry: Christine Dunn, cdunn@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: Nick Noe, nick.noe@outlook.com
Finance Council: Bob Ladd, robert.ladd@haynesboone.com
Discipleship Council: Julie Borque, borquej@yahoo.com

OUR MISSION:
“...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

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.

PARISH SCHOOL & CHAPEL
St. Laurence Catholic School provides strong academics in a Christian environment to 720 students enrolled in PreK1 through Grade 8. Office Hours: Monday-Friday are 8:00am-4:00pm.

Adjacent to the school is the Chapel of the Divine Mercy which offers Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and serves as the site for smaller liturgies.

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
**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**Pray:** Thank You, Lord Jesus, for revealing to us our Father’s love when we are obedient and humble. Amen.

**Baptized into ministry**

Today we celebrate the “initiation rite” that launched Jesus’ public ministry. We, too, have experienced this same Baptism: Our first Sacrament of Initiation immersed us into the life of Christ. The other two Initiation Sacraments — Confirmation and Communion — confirm this holy life and empower us to live it in union with Christ. Thus says the Lord God about you: “Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my Spirit....” (see the reading from Isaiah).

What is this Spirit doing in you that is pleasing to the Father? How is this Spirit serving the kingdom of God through you? Are you giving this Spirit the freedom to continue Christ’s ministry in today’s world?

All Christians have been baptized into the ministry of Christ, but it’s the hardships we endure and the passions we feel that initiate us into our own particular areas of ministry. For example, children of chronically or terminally ill parents often grow up to become doctors and nurses, and many who escape and recover from abuses often become ministers of healing for other victims, and workers who suffer from unjust employers often start their own businesses and create jobs where the staff is treated the way Christ should be treated.

Whatever we feel passionate about, we have received this energy from the Passion of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism.

Then, if we celebrate Mass consciously, paying attention to the true meaning of the Eucharist, our calling to ministry is renewed in the Sacrament of Communion, because Christ who is the Eucharist reunites us to his ministry. Thus, we can change the world, just as Christ did, one day at a time.

For this, you have been chosen by the Father. Whatever you are doing because of this calling, our Father is very pleased with you!

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What is the Holy Spirit doing in you that’s pleasing to the Father? What will you do to give this Spirit the freedom to continue Christ’s ministry in your world — in your home, your workplace, your parish, your community — wherever you live, work and play?

**Questions for Community Faith Sharing:**

Choose one line from Isaiah’s scripture and explain how this describes your life in Christ. Take turns sharing on this until all verses have been covered.

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In Our Prayers...

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**


**PRAY FOR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN**

CW2 Brett Aderhold, US Army, AV
SPC Nicholas Ambrocik, US Army
PVT Michael Baird, US Army
SA Matthew Baird, US Navy
P.O. S Debra Barnette, US Navy
CPL Trevor Bello, USMC
PFC John Blair, US Army
LCpl Gordon Briggs, USMC
SPC Jordan Briggs, US Army
MAJ Michael Carroll, USMC
LT. C. Jason Chacon, USMC
Lt Matthew Chesney, US Navy
MAJ. Christopher Coffman, US Air Force
Maj. Patrick Coffman, USMC
Lt Col Day, US Navy
CPT Andrew DeSplinter, US Army
SGT Nicholas Dockum, US Army
Maj. Brandon Driscoll, USMC
Maj. James Dunphy, USMC
CPT Michael Eberhardt, USMC
CPT Stacey Eberhardt, US Army Reserve
Derek Farias, US Navy
Capt. Matthew Fenelon, USMC
CPT Michelle Thibeau, US Army
CPT Will Thibeau, US Army
LCpl Aaron Fox, USMC
PVT Jahneil Xavier George, US Army
SFC Philip Graham, US Army
LCpl Eric Gurnell, USMC
CPT Spencer Henry, US Army
PVT Liam Hill, US Army
Daniel Hines, US Navy
SSG Matthew Hollobaugh, US Army Reserve
EM4 James Locus, US Navy
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 Army
CPT Michelle Ray, USMC
CPT Santiago Ramirez, US Army
Sgt. Barbara L. Rangel, USMC
SGT Jonathan Slussner, US Air Force
LT Kevin Stransky, US Navy
CTM3 Nicholas Stuhlman, US Navy
Maj. Michael Theising, USMC
ILT Kevin Wheeler, US Army
SGT Bryce Whitley, US Army
PO3 Troy Yelverton, US Navy
2LT Copeland Zaubrecher, US Army
2LT Kazia Zaubrecher, US Army

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN RELIGIOUS FORMATION**

Adrian Annicchiarico, Collin Brown, Leah Burrhus, Tim Cullen, Billy Dodd, Chad Henry, Christopher Meyer, Sister M. Philomena (Krystle Cagandahan), Margaret Uche

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, JAN 11**
5:00pm – Billie Cretini (D)

**SUNDAY, JAN 12**
7:15am – Lawrence Revelet (D)
9:00am – Flowers Family (I)
11:00am – Ed Sabrsula (D)
12:45pm – Orlando Quirch (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

**MONDAY, JAN 13**
7:30am – Ninetta Clericuzio (D)
12:00pm – Doug Roberts (D)

**TUESDAY, JAN 14**
7:30am – Norma Ralph (D)
12:00pm – Jaclyn Smolik (I)

**WEDNESDAY, JAN 15**
7:30am – Vicente Simeon (D)
6:30pm – Harold Kielhofner (D)

**THURSDAY, JAN 16**
7:30am – Ashan & Dillip Weerasinghe (D)
12:00pm – Barbara Nohr (D)

**FRIDAY, JAN 17**
8:15am – Esteoesta Family (I)
12:00pm – Ricci Martin (D)

**SATURDAY, JAN 18**
8:30am – Oscar Fermin (D)
5:00pm – Clara & Joseph Dwyer (D)

**SUNDAY, JAN 19**
7:15am – Sam & Laura Carso (D)
9:00am – Mrs. Roseline Njigha (D)
11:00am – Flowers Family (I)
12:45pm – Lucy & Ernest Slevin (D)
5:00pm – St. Laurence Parishioners

(D) Death
(I) Intention
(A) Anniversary

Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for... Isabella Flores, Adrian Zaldivar, Johnny Sanchez, Sonia Aguilar, Cole & Kristina Flores, Erika Foster, Jessica Forbes, Eli Rojas, Kristin Funderburg, Alyssa Smith, Michael McNutt Family, Broherton Family, Hoser Family, Cardenas Family, Saenz Family, Silva Family, Barrera Family, James Gentry, Michael Wade, Emilio Banda & Family, Florentino Oneyda Vaquez & Family, Tommy Dooley, George, Chelsea, and Carson, Corbin & Addison, Hope, Eva, Michael, Abigail, Arriola. Society of St. John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program and all the people of Jester 3. (12/30/19).
**AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE**

**FEB 1: PRIEST TALENT SHOW & FUNDRAISER**
See the hidden talents of our priests revealed at the annual Priest Talent Show, a fundraiser for Regina Caeli, on Saturday, February 1, 6:30pm, at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church in Katy. In addition to great entertainment, there is dinner and auctions with guest emcee, Tim Staples from Catholic Answers. Regina Caeli is a homeschool resource center in the Catholic tradition. Tickets to the event may be purchased at rcahybrid.org. Whether or not you attend the fundraiser, please purchase a raffle ticket to win a $500 gift card. Tickets will be sold here on the plaza after all Masses today. Get one ticket for $10, three for $20 or ten for $50.

**FEB 15: SAVE THE DATE FOR VALENTINE’S DATE NIGHT!**
This event will give you the opportunity to get closer to one another, to laugh, eat, learn, renew your vows and dance! This year we will have a wonderful guest speaker: His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston. This event will take place on February 15, 2020 at Hilton Houston Westchase. Cost per couple is $165/$85 per person. For more information and for registration, please contact mroman@archgh.org

**FEB 21-23: RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT**
The Office of Pro-Life Activities will offer the next Rachel’s Vineyard retreat of post-abortion healing on the weekend of February 21-23, 2020. All inquiries and registrations are strictly confidential. To register or for more information, please contact the Office of Pro-Life Activities at 713-741-8728 or 713-440-3443 or email at jkfritsch@archgh.org.

**MAR 19-22: IGNATIAN SILENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADSULTS**
A 4-day silent retreat for college age students and young adults will be offered at the Villa de Matel in Houston March 19-22. Join in silence with others your age for an opportunity to discern the voice of God and meet one-on-one with a spiritual director. Arrive at 6:30pm on Thursday, 3/19, and depart at 1:00pm on Sunday, 3/22. The total cost of the retreat, including meals, boarding and spiritual direction, is $110 for college students and $170 for young adults. Go to houstonvocations.com/event/ignatian-silent-retreat for more info and to register.

**AUG 3-13: EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. SANTY**
Join Fr. Santy Kurian on an 11-day pilgrimage, August 3-13, 2020, to Switzerland, Austria and Germany, including the famous Oberammergau Passion Play. The cost is $4,090 per person which includes round trip air transportation from Houston, first class hotels, double occupancy, 2 meals/day, daily Mass, tickets to attend the Passion Play, airport taxes, fuel surcharges, and tips to guides and drivers. Only a few spots remain! Visit inspirationaltoursinc.com and contact Inspirational Tours to get more info and a brochure at 713-961-2785, nicole@inspirationaltoursinc.com.

**PARISH CELEBRATIONS**

**BAPTISMS**
Charlotte Ruth Kisner, Cameron Rose Allen, Mason Michael Allen

**FUNERAL**
Amy Visser, daughter of Mary Visser
Helen Suter, mother of Paul and Phil Suter

**FAITH DIRECT ONLINE GIVING**

We are thankful for all the generous monetary gifts that you provide to our parish Offertory and special collections. If you are not already doing so, we encourage you to consider using our secure electronic giving program, Faith Direct. Faith Direct will automatically process any offertory or second collections donation of your choosing. This is much easier and convenient for you and makes the accounting more accurate and efficient for us. **Signing up is easy! Visit faith.direct/TX460**

Whatever method you use to support our parish financially, thank you! It is never too late to start giving and no gift is too small.
ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES
Come Discover how you can #BeASaint with us!
Saturday, January 25, 2020, 3:00pm

Celebrating nearly 30 years of excellence, St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the whole Christian person in body, mind, and spirit through the trinity of parent, child, and educator.

SLAURENCESCHOOL.ORG

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

STLAURENCESCHOOL.ORG

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
WELCOME BACK!
JAN 12: PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY
JAN 14 & 15: ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK
How do God’s commands guide my life?

We begin our third Unit in CCE this year by considering How Does Jesus Christ Teach us to Live a Moral Life? This week, we explore the Essential Question of how God’s commandments, or rules, protect and guide our lives. God’s law establishes a separate and unique identity for His people and establishes the bar for a standard of absolute righteousness. In our humanity, we are not able to meet those standards by ourselves, revealing a deep need for His grace in our lives. Through our reliance upon Jesus Christ, we ultimately gain salvation. With the culmination of God’s commands in Jesus’ teachings, we come to understand what should guide our moral life – i.e. loving God above all others and loving others as ourselves. As a family, discuss how Jesus’ Greatest Commandment calls us to not only love God, but others as well.

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FROM CRIB THROUGH 5 YEARS

OUR MISSION:
St. Laurence Weekday Children’s Program is an early childhood ministry of St. Laurence Parish. We believe that children are the heart of the Kingdom of God. Together with family and community we are called to support children’s spiritual and human growth and development.

20 YEARS
CELEBRATING CHILDREN • FAMILY • PARISH

Accepting New Student applications through February 14. To apply on-line go to web-link above, or stop by the program office located in the St. Laurence Ave Maria Center. Program Tours are each Wednesday morning at 10:00am.

Celebrating nearly 30 years of excellence, St. Laurence Catholic School is committed to challenging and engaging academics, quality athletics and arts programs, a strong faith foundation.

We serve students from Pre-K through 8th grade, with 97% of students being accepted into their first choice high school. Our students gave more than 4,950 hours serving their community last year and they excel as servant leaders who strive to make a difference.

RSVP: https://stlaurenceschool.org/open-house

JOIN THE SAINTS FAMILY!
The SLCS Before and After School Care (BASC) program is looking for college students and adults who enjoy working with children and are interested in working before and after school hours for the 2019-2020 school year. BASC staff supervises students during homework and playtime. If you are interested in applying for a position, please email your resume to Betsy Brown at bbrown@stlaurence.org and apply at www.choosecatholicschool.org/employment-opportunities

St. Laurence School is also looking for part-time coaches to begin in January 2020 for our middle school sports program. We need softball and track coaches for spring seasons. There is also an opening for a cheerleading coach for the 2020-2021 school year. Please email bbrown@stlaurence.org if you are interested in coaching.
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

FAITH & FAMILY FOCUS

Schedule a regular time each week for family fun.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

@ St. Laurence Young Adults
www.stlaurence.org/ya
Contact: Young Adult Coordinator
Lucia Jackson, ljackson@stlaurence.org

JANUARY 2020

12 LIFE NIGHT
19 NO LIFE NIGHT (WKND RETREAT)
26 LIFE NIGHT & CONFIRMATION LIFE NIGHT

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY
Join us in fellowship and prayer. Registration must be complete in order to attend each event. All forms and information can be found online at stlaurence.org/edge. Questions? Email Mo Bass, mbass@stlaurence.org

JANUARY 2020

15 EDGE NIGHT
22 EDGE NIGHT
24 EDGE SOCIAL // 7-9PM // YOUTH HALL
29 EDGE NIGHT

HIGH SCHOOL LIFE TEEN PROGRAM
For more information online, stlaurence.org/lifeteen
Follow us on Instagram @stlaurencelt

JANUARY 2020

12 LIFE NIGHT
19 NO LIFE NIGHT (WKND RETREAT)
26 LIFE NIGHT & CONFIRMATION LIFE NIGHT

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Go to stlaurence.org/confirmation for information or contact Daniel Glaze, dglaze@stlaurence.org

FEB 8: MARRIED COUPLES
VALENTINE’S DAY SOCIAL
Save the Date: Saturday, Feb 8, at the Ave Maria Center, join other married couples for a night of fun. If needed, childcare will be available so you can socialize kid free! Please see website for more details and a link to the childcare sign up.

A main course and soft drinks will be provided but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Don’t miss out on this night out with other couples in the parish.
FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY
Mondays, starting Jan 13, 6:30-8:30pm, Ave Maria Center, Rm. 200 & 202
Dave Ramey’s 7 Baby Steps, in conjunction with FPU, is a money management plan where you learn to take control of your money. For more info: stlaurence.org/financial-peace-university.

SACRED SUNDAY ON MONDAY
Mondays, starting Jan 6, 10:30-11:30 am, St Anne Rm.
Share the prior Mass experience each Monday as we ponder and reflect upon Sunday’s reading and homily. Contact: Bernadette Peters at bernadettetepeters@mac.com.

RE-MEMBERING CHURCH
Mondays, starting Jan 13, 7-9 pm St Joseph Room
Re-membering Church is a process of healing and reconciliation for inactive Catholics. Contact: Deacon Tom Ruck at truck@stlaurence.org or stlaurence.org/remembering.

MOM’S GIFT GROUP
Wednesdays, Starting Jan 29, 9:15-11:00 am, Marian Hall B
GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) is a group book study for moms who are seeking a deeper faith, a holier family, and the support of other moms. Contact: Rachelle Dooley, dooley1987@outlook.com.

THAT MAN IS YOU
Wednesdays, starting on Jan 22, 5:30-7:00 pm Marian Hall
The program Vision of Man Fully Alive continues. Roger Peters at rogerwpeters@me.com or stlaurence.org/tmiy.

CATHOLIC MEN CALLED TO BE SAINTS
Thursdays, starting Jan 2, 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

WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY
Thursdays, starting Jan 16, 1-2:30pm, AMC Rm 200
“Becoming Women of The Word” Sarah Christmyer pairs the stories of key Old Testament women with stories of women she has known to show us how we can hear God, say yes to his call, and share him with the world. Purchase books on Amazon. Register at stlaurence.org/womensbookstudy.

If you have other question please contact Justin Frato at jfrato@stlaurence.org
Do you feel as if something is **missing** in your life?
Are you **searching** for greater meaning?
Do you feel disconnected from God?
**Know this:** God is seeking you!

**Celebrate a New Beginning!**

**RE-MEMBERING Church**

**MONDAY EVENINGS:**

Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb 3, 10, 17, 2020

7-9 pm
Ave Maria Center
St Joseph Room

**Been Away? Miss you!** There is no better time than the present to return and we are here to help. RE-MEMBERING Church is a process of healing and reconciliation for inactive Catholics. Join us for evenings of dialogue to: renew your relationship with the Catholic Church and St Laurence Community, voice your feeling and needs, and learn about current Catholic teachings.

You’re invited to a 6-week program held on Monday evenings. The evening is facilitated by a team of parishioners in a safe, confidential, small group sharing environment.

For more information contact Deacon Tom Ruck at truck@stlaurence.org or visit stlaurence.org/remembe
Living as Disciples

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: ST. LAURENCE WEEKDAY CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

Choosing an early childhood program for your child is an important decision for a family. Whether for a few days a week or full-time child care, families want a high quality early childhood program. St. Laurence Weekday Children’s Program specializes in children ages Infant – Pre-kindergarten.

For 20 years WCP has been providing exceptional care and education for the youngest children of our parish and assists in laying a foundation for a child’s eventual awakening to faith. Within an atmosphere of love and security children will learn to trust and come to feel the love of God.

Childhood is a unique and valuable stage of life. The WCP staff is dedicated to providing a safe, healthy, nurturing environment for the children in our care. We are committed to support children’s development while respecting the uniqueness of each child. Our program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, meeting standards in 10 areas based on the latest research on the education and development of young children.

Families are most important in their child’s development and we strive to support them in their role as “domestic church.” The program intentionally plans events for families to get to know each other and to feel welcome as part of the parish community.

Come for a tour of Weekday Children’s Program any Wednesday at 10:00am or meet with staff & parents at the Hospitality Desk after Mass!

STEWARDS AMONG US

MARIA GARCIA-LEAÑO

Maria and her husband Mauricio moved from Colombia to Texas in 2001. In 2015, they made Sugar Land their home and joined St. Laurence. Today, Maria leads the Challenge Club for Girls and she enjoys being a part of the Social Concerns and Altar Linen ministries. Here’s her story: “When we moved to Sugar Land, I was looking for a group for my daughters to help them meet new friends and I found Challenge Club in the bulletin. We went to the first meeting and it was a wonderful experience! They had fun and felt welcome. Very soon I found myself more involved in the club because I saw that my daughters enjoyed the Challenge meetings and I saw how their faith grew, especially their relationship with Jesus. Also, I felt at home since the beginning and I met great ladies that became my friends. Being involved has helped me a lot to grow in my faith and in my leadership skills and I have met wonderful girls, ladies and the consecrated ladies from Regnum Christi, who give support to the Challenge Club. St. Laurence offers many opportunities to grow in your faith and has many ministries if you want to serve and help our community. Get involved! There will be always something for you and your family. We have always felt welcome and we have met many wonderful people.”

Ask Paula

Q. Are parishioners allowed to bring food and drinks into the church?

A. Here’s my thoughts on this. If you have a baby, you are probably going to need a bottle and maybe some cheerios, right? But if you have an older child, I think they can go an hour without a snack. If they can’t, maybe you should sit in the Calming Room (the old cry room) where a child eating won’t distract the people around you, just sayin. Don’t get me wrong, I love kids, but I think the eating at Mass is a little out of control. Onto drinks, I have seen people going to the daily noon Mass with Starbucks and Whataburger drinks. I’m not making this up. Where you gonna put that empty cup? Before you get mad at me, I know some people have to take pills at a certain time and need water. If so, a bottle of water is fine. But let’s keep our church crumb free, thanks!

Paula Savo has been our Parish Receptionist for 22 years and knows the practical answers to (practically) everything. Call 281-980-9812 or email her at psavo@stlaurence.org.
Saturdays, February 29, 2020

Rays of Enlightenment
A LENTEN DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

Speakers

MONICA ASHOUR
Founder of Theology of the Body Evangelization Team (TOBET), author & national speaker, with two masters degrees in Theological Studies and Humanities from the University of Dallas.

FR. CHRISTOPHER PLANT
Pastor at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church in Katy, Texas with a Masters of Divinity from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas.

Schedule:

- Mass: 8:30am
- Doors Open: 9:00am
- Opening Prayer: 9:15am
- Divine Mercy Chaplet: 3:00pm
- Confessions: 4:00pm
- Mass: 5:00pm

ON-LINE REGISTRATION BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2020
STLAURENCE.ORG/RAYS-OF-ENLIGHTENMENT

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH, Ave Maria Parish Life Center
3103 Sweetwater Blvd., Sugar Land TX., 77479

NO CHILDREN UNDER 16
NO CHARGE
SEATING IS LIMITED
In *Becoming Women of the Word*, Sarah Christmyer highlights the spiritual legacy of women in the Old Testament. Their world was vastly different from ours, yet they faced the same questions we do: when we can't feel God's presence, where do we find help? When our world is collapsing, where is God? Why should we trust him? *How* can we trust him? Christmyer simply and clearly draws from the lives of these women important principles that help us to trust—even as we struggle with doubt.

**This book reflects on the lives of Old Testament women, Eve, Sarah, Miriam, Ruth, Esther, Hannah, and Judith, who said yes to God’s call and found their place in his plan of salvation. Just as God has used them as part of his plan, he can use us.**

Books can be purchased on Amazon
For more information and to register go to stlaurence.org/womensbookstudy

3103 Sweetwater Blvd. | Sugar Land, TX  77479
Wednesday, January 22, the 47th anniversary of Roe V Wade, is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Demonstrate your gratitude to God for the precious gift of human life by attending the 6:30pm Mass in the church, then see the movie “Unplanned” immediately following in the parish hall. “Unplanned” is the inspiring true story of Abby Johnson, a spokesperson and clinic director for Planned Parenthood who, after witnessing an abortion, became one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America. (Note: This film has been given the movie rating "R" and is not recommended for young children or teenagers.) Pizza will be served and donations are accepted. Visit stlaurence.org/unplanned or call Marie McCoy at 281-265-7749 for more information.

JAN 25: SANTO NIÑO MASS & RECEPTION

Celebrate the traditional Filipino feast of Santo Niño on Saturday, January 25, at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Sugar Land. Rosary begins in the church at 9:15am, with a procession at 10:00am and Mass at 11:00am. All are invited to the reception in the Community Center immediately following Mass. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to wear red to this special liturgy. Also, please bring along your statue of the Santo Niño to participate in the procession. For more details, contact Margie Calo at 713-498-7359.

JAN 22: GIVE THANKS FOR HUMAN LIFE WITH MASS & MOVIE

WHAT SHE SAW CHANGED EVERYTHING
UNPLANNED

Archdiocesan guidelines suggest that Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion be retrained and recommissioned in their parish every 3 years. Retraining for existing Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be held on Saturday, February 8, 8:30am-11:30am, at the Ave Maria Center. All those currently serving the parish in this role are expected to attend this special session, which will be led by Fr. Drew, Deacon Dennis Henderson and Deacon Tom Ruck. The session is free and a light breakfast will be served. Go to stlaurence.org/emhc-retraining, no later than Monday, February 3, to register. Questions? Contact Rosemary Mascarenhas at rmascarenhas@stlaurence.org.

FEB 29: RAYS OF ENLIGHTENMENT CONFERENCE

The Divine Mercy Ministry invites everyone to Rays of Enlightenment at the Ave Maria Center on Saturday, February 29, 9:00am to 4:00pm. This annual conference includes dynamic speakers, Praise & Worship music, prayer ministry, Mass, Confessions and Adoration. The theme is “Jesus –The Image of the Invisible God” featuring Monica Ashour, author, national speaker and founder of TOBET. She holds two Masters degrees from University of Dallas in Theological Studies and Humanities. Monica has given talks at the International Symposium in Rome, and Fr. Christopher Plant, Pastor of St. Bartholomew, will be giving a talk on Divine Mercy and the Sacramental Life of the Church. There is no cost to attend, but advanced registration is required due to limited seating. Register now at stlaurence.org/rays-of-enlightenment.

ON THE PLAZA THIS WEEKEND

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SUPER BOWL
SMOKED BRISKETS

Order online through January 22
stlaurence.org/kc-store
PICK-UP SUNDAY FEB 2
8:30am - 11:30am

FREE THROW CONTEST
REGISTRATION
stlaurence.org/free-throw-comp

REGINA CAELI ACADEMY
$10 raffle ticket to win $500 prize

MASS TIME CHANGE
SAT, JANUARY 25 ONLY
The 8:30am Mass will begin at 8:00am to accommodate the Scott Hahn event
The USCCB has declared January “Poverty Awareness Month.”

Attending to the needs of persons in poverty is a grateful response to the unmerited gift of love that God first gives to each person—a gift which we are required to then share with others. Sharing God’s love includes offering spiritual care for those in need, providing help to meet immediate needs, and working together to eliminate the causes of poverty. (USCCB)

Did you know that nearly 1 in 5 children in the U.S. live below the poverty line? The poverty rate for children (under 18) in Fort Bend County is 11%. One child that is hungry and without economic security is too many. Due to your generosity, the Social Concerns Ministry is able to help children in need in several different ways. For example, we provide weekly food assistance to help feed the children (and their families) at Fort Bend Family Promise, after-school snacks for Bethel Ministry, and casseroles, baked goods and non-perishable and fresh produce for the youth at Park’s Youth Ranch. We provide clothing, 800+ pairs of shoes, school supplies and hundreds of Christmas gifts to children who are referred to us by local churches, our sister parish, Queen of Peace, and Fort Bend County community partners.
**RESPECT LIFE NEWS**

**ROSARY FOR THE PREBORN**
Please join members of the Respect Life ministry and the Knights of Columbus TODAY after the 11:00 Mass, in the rosary garden outside the Ave Maria Center. In case of bad weather, we pray inside in the oratory.

**WHITE CROSSES ON THE LAWN**
Approximately 400 white crosses will be on the lawn from Jan 18 to 25, representing the approximately 2500 babies killed each day in our country by abortion and the unknown number killed by the morning after pill, IUDs, and birth control pills. Thousands of children also die every day in the process of In Vitro Fertilization.

**January 22 is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.**
- 3:00 pm: Pro-life rosary at the white crosses along Austin Parkway.
- 6:30 pm: Special Mass for Respect Life
- 7:15 pm: Pizza and Movie: Unplanned – the story of Abby Johnson, a Planned Parenthood clinic director who became pro-life.

**RALLY FOR LIFE**
The Texas Rally for Life will be held Saturday January 25, 2020, in Austin. Hear inspiring speakers and be a part of a big pro-life crowd! Board the bus sponsored by the Knights at 6:45 am. and be home by about 7 pm. Cost is only $10! See the St. Laurence web site for more details and links for the sign-up and to donate to help cover the cost. Please register early! Seating is limited and other parishes are invited to join us.

9 Days for Life Novena: Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, Tuesday, January 21 – Wednesday, January 29. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at www.9daysforlife.com!

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**VOLUNTEER AT TRINI’S MARKET AT MGCC**
Volunteers are needed to work in the food pantry at Mamie George Community Center on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-4pm.

Volunteers will need to fill out an application online, attend an orientation, and pass a background check before they can begin volunteering. For more information, please contact Dottie Bateman at dbateman@catholiccharities.org.

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ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

"Surrender to God and He will do everything for you"

MAKE A DATE WITH GOD
The first commandment is to love God. What better way to love God than to spend time with Him in the chapel. There are almost 35 hours available to be near God. Please check online at stlaurence.org/adoration for needed hours or pickup a card at the chapel. Contact Fran Magelssen at adoration@stlaurence.org or 281-224-6122.

God is waiting for you every day from 5:00am to 9:00pm — just drop in.
A code is provided to committed adorers to access the chapel 24 hrs a day.

URGENT: Need for an adorer on Saturdays, 4am to 5am (all except the 1st Saturday)
Please call or check the website for days.
There are almost 35 hours available to be near God

CONTEMPLATE & MEDITATE
When we relax and are still, God speaks to us. Consider these two weekly prayer groups that practice contemplative prayer styles to help us to “be still and know that I am God.”
The Contemplative Prayer Group meets Wednesday morning, 9:30am-12:00pm, in Corpus Christi Room (contact Elaine Smith, 281-499-6660) and the Christian Meditation Prayer Group meets Thursday evening, 6:30-7:30pm, in St. Anne Room (contact Patrick King, 713-444-6014).

MINISTERIO HISPANO
JAN 25: 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) 989-1655. Recibir anuncios mandando correo a mhsstlaurence@gmail.com.

JAN 17: LOVING SENIORS MEETING
LOVING SENIORS, A ministry that welcomes seniors with mobility issues and/or early dementia, to grow in fellowship with others who share similar challenges, enjoy activities that promote their well-being, engage in service projects to benefit others, and to provide free time for their loved ones/caregivers.
Contact us for an initial meeting! Julie Koeppen, 713-320-7498, mjkoeppen@comcast.net or Fe Vicerra, 713-248-1164, bertandfevicerra@yahoo.com

VOCATIONS NEWS
"ALIVE" HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS RETREAT 2020
February 15, 2020, 9:30am – 4:30pm
Explore your vocations and come fully Alive in Christ — A day for High School Girls! Build friendship and community, meet Sisters and other Consecrated Women, meet other High School Girls, and pray together! To register, go to https://event.me/DnPeZ.
Cost is $20, Scholarships are available. The event will be held at the home of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, 22730 Lain Road, Spring, TX 77379. More information, contact us at 713-652-8239 or vocations@archgh.org

MAR 19-22: IGNATIAN SILENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS
A 4-day silent retreat for college age students and young adults will be offered at the Villa de Matel in Houston March 19-22. Join in silence with others your age for an opportunity discern the voice of God and meet one-on-one with a spiritual director. Arrive at 6:30pm on Thursday, 3/19, and depart at 1:00pm on Sunday, 3/22.
The total cost of the retreat, including meals, boarding and spiritual direction, is $110 for college students and $170 for young adults.
Go to houstonvocations.com/event/ignatian-silent-retreat for more info and to register.

BRING COMMUNION TO THE SICK
Did you know that we have a large team of volunteer Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who visit those who are unable to come to Mass to receive Communion? Members of the Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound ministry visit, take Communion and pray with homebound parishioners, residents of nearby assisted living centers, and hospital patients at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. If you’re curious about this ministry and want to learn more, please call Ambrose Graham at 713-865-3729. Training is provided.
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.

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**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.

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**ST. LAURENCE ADULT SINGLES MINISTRY**

The St. Laurence Singles Ministry serves adults of all ages who are widowed, divorced, separated or never married. We gather together in spiritual and social activities in a safe and friendly environment to develop friendships and have fun! We also occasionally do service projects to help our Parish. For questions or more info email: st.laurencessingles@gmail.com or stlaurence.org/adultsingles

**JAN 28: LUNCH BUNCH, 11:30AM**

The lunch bunch meets for lunch on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Email slsbookandlunch@yahoo.com to see which local restaurant they are meeting at this month.

**FEB 2: MASS AND BRUNCH, 9:00 AM**

Join Adult Singles on the first Sunday of every month for the 9:00am Mass at St. Laurence Church. They sit in the elevated seats by the choir. After Mass, they will go to brunch at a nearby restaurant. Email St.LaurenceSingles@gmail.com to see which restaurant we are meeting at this month.

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**JOY CLUB FOR SENIORS**

J.O.Y. stands for Just Older Youth, welcoming all people age 55-and-up to join them for fun and informative activities, plus their monthly brown bag meetings on the first Monday each month (11am-1pm in Marian Hall). Whether you are married, single, divorced or widowed, come meet up with old friends and plan to make new ones. Here is a quick list of upcoming meetings. For more information, please contact Anne Higgins at nannyhiggs@gmail.com or 832-755-5597.

**Jan 21 (TUESDAY): Noon Mass & Lunch**

**Feb 3 (MONDAY): Brown Bag Lunch with Author Gwen Thorn**

**Feb 17 (MONDAY): Game Day Outing at Quail Valley City Center (10am)**

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**YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY**

**JAN 15: YOUNG ADULT WOMEN’S GROUP**

This group is open to all women 18 to 39 years old. They will gather for fellowship, have discussion in both small and large groups and grow together while reading *The Genesee Diary* by Henri Nouwen.

For further information please visit the website. To RSVP email Lucia Jackson, ljackson@stlaurence.org.

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FAMILY NIGHT

WHEN
Friday, January 24, 2020
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

WHERE
Ave Maria Center
Let’s start the new year with a fun family favorite. Family Bingo Night!

A MAIN DISH AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE.

Contact Melissa Calcote for more information at mcalcote@stlaurence.org

RSVP at https://stlaurence.org/family-events BY JANUARY 22
### SACRAMENT PREPARATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Barb Roy</td>
<td>281-265-5774 x5371</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Teens)</td>
<td>Daniel Glaze</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation (Adults)</td>
<td>Mary Visser</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Reconciliation</td>
<td>Melissa Calcote</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marriage Preparation</td>
<td>Rosemary Mascarenhas</td>
<td>281-980-9812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Sponsor Couples</td>
<td>Sharon &amp; John Harry</td>
<td>281-980-8090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCIA (Becoming Catholic)</td>
<td>Justin Frato</td>
<td>281-265-5774</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Bridges to Life: Dana Cubirth | 832-689-4010
- Correctional Ministry: Deacon Charles Plant | 281-300-3059
- Funeral Receptions: Carol Giardina | 281-703-8615
- Habitat for Humanity: Steve Pendell | 281-253-7088
- Learn English Ministry: Wendy Moore | 713-208-5169
- Learn Spanish Ministry: Adriana Gutierrez | 713-269-2851
- Meals That Heal: Julianne Salverson | 530-306-1895
- Medical Missionaries: Maria Jacobson | 713-582-8424

### FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

- A.C.T.S. Retreat: Paul Fontenot | 281-725-0794
- Adult Faith Formation: Justin Frato | 281-265-5774
- EDGE (Middle School): Maureen Bass | 281-265-5774
- Elementary CCE: Joan Hstreiter | 281-265-5774
- Preschool CCE: Cindy Martin | 281-265-5774
- Family Faith: Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
- Life Teen (High School): Christine Dunn | 281-265-5774
- Natural Family Planning: Jacob/Jillian Counts | 281-300-3704
- Parish Library: Susan Mulé | 281-265-5774
- Parish School (SLCS): Suzanne Barto | 281-980-0500
- Parish School Board: Lionel Martin | 281-277-3066
- Parish School PTO: Jennifer Reyes | 817-845-7627
- Life Teen (High School): Christine Dunn | 281-265-5774
- Preschool CCE: Cindy Martin | 281-265-5774
- Family Faith: Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
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- Parish School Board: Lionel Martin | 281-277-3066
- Parish School PTO: Jennifer Reyes | 817-845-7627
- Play & Pray: Elizabeth Hernandez | 281-265-5774
- Vacation Bible School: Joan Hstreiter | 281-265-5774
- Vocations Committee: Nia Sepe | 281-980-9812
- Weekday Children's Prog.: Becky Wilkinson | 281-313-0329

### PRAYER GROUPS & SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

- Challenge Club for Girls: Maria Garcia Leano | 979-549-2683
- Christian Meditation: Patrick King | 713-444-6014
- Contemplative Prayer: Elaine Smith | 281-499-6660
- Divine Mercy (AM): Sally Flowers | 281-265-8360
- Divine Mercy (PM): Suzan Bryan | 713-816-5859
- Hearts of Jesus & Mary: Margie Calo | 281-980-4711
- Lay Apostle Prayer: Kay Quenan | 713-826-4939
- Legion of Mary: Bridget Nwaokobia | 216-212-8329
- Men Called to Be Saints: Jim Kj | 281-253-4800
- Men's Bible Studies: Steve Ewbank | 281-703-3873
- St. Anthony of Padua: Joseph Elanduk | 832-282-3032
- Small Christian Comm: Genoveva Duque | 281-980-1014
- That Man is You: Roger Peters | 713-857-8386
- Tuesday AM Bible Study: Kay Quenan | 713-826-4939

### MINISTRIES OF PASTORAL SUPPORT

- Annuations: Anne Marie Daniel | 281-265-5774
- Bereavement Ministries: Sandy Barber | 832-451-9117
- Grief Support Group: Agnes Fernandes | 281-933-3721
- H.O.P.E.: Annette Bisanz | 281-980-1449
- Cancer Support: Bonita Bell | 281-468-8641
- Caregivers Support Group: Lori Knowles | 281-261-5738
- DivorceCare: Jane Jewell | 713-775-7172
- Loving Seniors: Janie Picou | 832-860-3398
- NAMI: Julie Koeppe | 713-320-7948
- Pastoral Care for Sick: Ambrose Graham | 713-865-3729
- Spiritual Direction: Anne Marie Daniel | 281-265-5774
- Unbound Prayer Ministry: Rita McCarthy | 561-699-5800

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

- Adoration: Fran Magelssen | 281-224-6122
- Altar Linen Care: Julie Rodriguez | 281-980-9812
- Altar Servers: Win & Erin Vahlkamp | 713-614-4235
- Art & Environment: Catherine Short | 713-628-3949
- Extraordinary Ministers: Tom Ruck | 713-855-2399
- Greeters: Kristin Holy | 281-799-8317
- Music Ministry: Rosemary Mascarenhas | 281-980-9812
- Usurers: Mary Thompson | 281-980-9812
- Nick Noe | 281-202-8183

### COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE

- Discipleship Council: Julie Borque | 281-265-8353
- Finance Council: Bob Ladd | 281-980-3246
- Financial Peace University: Sunny Tom | 832-620-7417
- Pastoral Council: Marta Alves | 713-569-3679
- New Evangelization Ministry: Mary Visser | 281-265-5774
- Re-membering Church: Jeannine Salverson | 832-600-3704
- Funerals: Dr. Kevin Klotz | 281-980-9812

Abby Johnson was a Planned Parenthood clinic director. But what she saw — and what she learned from her superiors — changed her and brought her out to the other side of the fence.

"A true story of love, hope and redemption" National Review

"...creatively tells a personal and painful true story." A. F.

"This movie forced us to see something we were completely unaware of..." J. S.

"...not judgmental at all" "...points to hope and healing" V. M.

"Be prepared to challenge what you have been told..." D. F.

"...take your teens and young adults." D.C.

"Please do not believe the mainstream media’s hypercritical reviews..." E. C.

**Wednesday, January 22, 2020**

Wednesday, January 22, the 47th anniversary of Roe v Wade, is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Demonstrate your gratitude to God for the precious gift of human life by attending the 6:30pm Mass in the church, then see the movie “Unplanned” immediately following in the parish hall. “Unplanned” is the inspiring true story of Abby Johnson, a spokesperson and clinic director for Planned Parenthood who, after witnessing an abortion, become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America. (Note: This film has been given the movie rating "R" and is not recommended for young children or teenagers.) Pizza will be served and donations are appreciated.

**RSVP at stlaurence.org/unplanned**

*Call Marie McCoy at 281-265-7749 or email mariemccoyprc@gmail.com for more information.*
Hannah Financial Solutions
Timothy W. Hannah, CFP
Certified Financial Planner
Parishioner
281-240-1956
www.hannahfinancialsolutions.com

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  In Fort Bend & Harris Counties
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• Lower Contractor Prices Increase Your Investment Profit Margins

WE TAKE THE MANAGEMENT PAIN OUT OF RENTAL OWNERSHIP
SO YOU CAN FOCUS ON ACQUIRING MORE ASSETS.

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HOUSTON, TX 77007
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