



ST. LAURENCE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

SAINTS NEWSLETTER 3.5.25

JOIN US FOR HERITAGE DAY AND MASS ON MARCH 21st!



Let's come together and celebrate the many different cultures represented at our school!

Our Heritage Mass will be at 8:15 a.m.!

Join us for a parade and cultural tables in the gym afterwards!

We invite you to proudly showcase your heritage by wearing traditional outfits or accessories representing your cultural background.

IMPORTANT DATES

3/5	Ash Wednesday - No Mass - Service at school - Wear Official Uniforms
3/6	4th Grade Music Program - 7:00 p.m. - Gym
3/7	Mass led by 8C End of the 3rd Quarter Parish Fish Fry by the Knights of Columbus - 5:00-8:00 p.m.- Dine-in or take-out - Parish Hall Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m. - Church
3/8-3/16	HAPPY SPRING BREAK!
3/17	Q4 begins St. Patrick's Day - Students may wear green tops with uniform bottoms
3/18	Leo's Club Meeting - 7:15 a.m. - Gym Advisory School Council Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Lenten Confessions 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the church
3/19	Jeans/Spirit Day - Spirit shirt with jeans Feast of St. Joseph Booster Club Pop-up Store School-Wide Oratoricals
3/20	SHS Induction - 7:15 a.m. - Gym SLCS Prayer Group -8:00 a.m. - Dining Hall Middle School Trinity Talks via ZOOM 7th/8th 8:15 a.m. and 5th/6th at 9:00 a.m. (link provided)
3/21	Heritage Mass and Celebration

	Report Cards available on FACTS Parish Fish Fry by the Knights of Columbus - 5:00-8:00 p.m.- Dine-in or take-out - Parish Hall Stations of the Cross - 7:00 p.m. - Church
3/25	Spring Sports Picture Day Tuesday Tours for Prospective Families
3/26	Jeans/Spirit Day - Spirit shirt with jeans 3rd Quarter Samaritan Breakfast Author Presentation - 1st-4th Grade EARLY DISMISSAL 12:00/12:15 PM Spring Conference Day - PM

[FIND COMPLETE CALENDAR ON FACTS](#)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Saints Families,

What a busy, but wonderful weekend we had this past weekend. SLCS hosted the Archdiocesan Librarian meeting all day Friday, students competed against many of our fellow Catholic schools at the annual Academic Decathlon on Saturday, (see below for the exciting results) and Sunday, our middle school choir did a fabulous job singing at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. On top of all that, many school families, staff and Leos attended and assisted with the beautiful parish Heart of Worship event. Here are recordings of the great speakers <https://www.stlaurence.org/how>

Today marks the beginning of Lent and the students were able to receive ashes at school during a short prayer service this morning. We briefly discussed the significance of the next 40 days in preparing our hearts for the sacrifice Jesus made on our behalf. In Saints Families yesterday, the students created Alleluia posters, which were collected and symbolically "buried" today, until they could be displayed around the school at Easter.

In keeping with the meaning behind Lent and preparing our hearts to reflect and improve, I am reminded of Fr. Drew's words about the family unit and keeping our children safe from distractions. Lent is the perfect time to reflect and prioritize this message. With all that we are facing today to pull us apart and the temptations our children are facing, I felt it was a good time to remind everyone of a simple tool created by our parish that supports this effort.

In the wise words of Fr. Drew: *"All parents must create a kind of moat around their home. Every effort will be made to keep evil outside: anger, rage, abuse, active addictions, and the dark side of modern technology. Within the home, the parents will nurture gentleness, affection, active listening, prayer, humor, fun, diligence, study, and some measure of solitude and meditation. Families will safeguard against the compulsion to over-commitment and will strive to say 'no' while saying 'yes' always to God."*

If you are looking for a way to shore up your family, make it stronger, and put God first, I urge you to look at the 10 Tenets in this simple booklet and together, let's really try to make a difference this Lent. [family | St Laurence Catholic Church | Sugar Land, TX](#)

For those that asked, you can also find Dr. Collier's great talk on technology below in the Smart Families section.

Have a very blessed rest of the week ahead!

Suzanne Barto M.Ed.

Principal



COUNSELOR'S CORNER



As mentioned in last week's parent newsletter, our Friendly theme for February was "Know Your Limit." For this unit, students learned the importance of setting healthy boundaries, maintaining them, and respecting the boundaries of others. In line with this, we would like to emphasize the importance of teaching our children to resist peer pressure. As they get older and rely more and more on their friends for companionship and advice, we want our

children to be mindful of how their peers influence their overall behavior and be able to say no specifically in this area. Please take the time to see the handout below, entitled "Peer Pressure", for parenting tips on this important topic. We've also included our previous parent newsletters from the previous two weeks, as well as a newsletter on "Impulse Control" (which obviously relates to the topic of maintaining boundaries in a healthy way).

[Peer Pressure](#)

[Connect Through Conversation \(English\)](#)

[Connect Through Conversation \(Español\)](#)

[Know Your Limit \(English\)](#)

As always, please feel free to contact your school counselors for any reason:

[Scott Osborn \(Pre-K thru 4th Grade\)](#)

[Nicole Chelly \(5th-8th Grades\)](#)



FRIENDSHIP AND HUGS MAKE EVERYTHING BETTER!

About a month ago, Mrs. Chelly won a hamster Squishmallow in a claw machine. She brought him to school for her counseling office and held him in the hallway during her morning duty. All the kids immediately wanted to hug him, and three adorable little ones decided to name him "Chicken Nuggie." They started asking her every day where Chicken Nuggie was, so last Friday, she brought him downstairs for morning duty and kicked off "Chicken Nuggie Fridays." Mrs. Chelly was amazed by how many kids—big and small—needed a Chicken Nuggie hug!



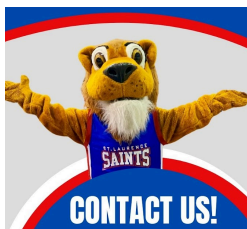
SMART FAMILIES



Last week, St. Laurence hosted a presentation by therapist and author, Dr. Crystal Collier. Sponsored by Smart Families, her presentation covered important info on the developing brain of children and how technology affects it. Please click [HERE](#) for a free video of Dr. Collier speaking on this same topic.



SAINTS NEWS



SPREAD THE WORD!

St. Laurence Catholic School is now accepting applications for 1st and 2nd Grade for 2025-2026! Invite prospective families to start the application process and discover the gift of a Catholic education for their child or grandchild. Questions? Contact Christina Stanton at admissions@stlaurence.org!

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 4TH GRADE MUSICAL PROGRAM!

Hey, Cool Cats and Chicks! On Thursday, March 6th, at 7:00 p.m. in the gym, the 4th Grade Music Class will take you back to the 50's with their musical program, "Rock Around the 50's." You'll hear music from Bill Haley and the Comets, Elvis Presley, Richie Valens, and many more stars of the 1950's! So put on your bobby sox and slick back your hair for a fun night of music!

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES- REGISTER NOW!

Our next After School Enrichment session runs from March 31 – May 12. See your course flier [HERE](#) for details & course descriptions. All payments should be made payable to SLCS and returned to the front office. Classes fill quickly...first come, first served!

AUTHOR JEFF EISENBAUM AND HIS "ZANYTOWN" BOOKS

Author Jeff Eisenbaum will present his “Zanytown” books to SLCS students in 1st-4th grade on Wednesday, March 26. Books are available for purchase online at [HERE](#) through March 24. Use promo code SLCS25 for a 25% discount. Books will be distributed at school on the day of the presentation. Please include your child’s homeroom teacher and personalization details in the “notes” section when ordering. See flyer [HERE!](#)



STEPS FOR STUDENTS THANK YOU!

Thanks to the generous support of our Saints community, over \$18,000 was raised to support SLCS through the 2025 Steps for Students event!

It is with heartfelt thanks that we announce the winners of the ECC, Elementary, and Middle School fundraising competitions – the first place winners will get to SLIME Mrs. Hernandez, Mr. Maklary, and Mr. Hernandez following Spring Break!

- **ECC:** Gaby V.
- **Elementary:** Ezra J. and Micah J. (tied!)
- **Middle School:** Remy H.

This year, we had 15 students who raised \$300 or more and were able to SPIN THE PRIZE WHEEL! See students spin the prize wheel:

[ECC](#)

[2ND & 3RD GRADE](#)

[4TH & 5TH](#)



ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!

There's nothing quite like your school yearbook. Secure your copy of this limited-edition collection filled with memories and stories from the year. Prices increase after April 4th—order today at [Jostens](#). Remember to save your confirmation email receipt.



SHARE YOUR SLCS MOMENTS

Please join the fun! Add all your SLCS photos for March [HERE](#). Your pictures could be in our yearbook and publications. They will be part of SLCS memories.

***The album will be removed on April 1st!**



A NOTE FROM THE CLINIC



As you may be aware, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has reported an outbreak of measles in Texas; you may read the full alert [here](#). With the health and safety of our community in mind, we are providing you with the following information about measles and how to prevent infection. [Read HERE!](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state the best way to protect against measles is with the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. MMR is safe and effective. Two doses of MMR vaccine are about 97% effective at preventing measles; one dose is about 93% effective.

Every student enrolled in a Catholic School in the state of Texas is required to be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the Immunization schedule adopted by the Texas Department of State Health Services.



STUDENT SHOUT-OUT

ACADEMIC DECATHLON



Congratulations to our incredible Saints team who competed last Saturday at the National Catholic Academic Junior High Decathlon at St. Anne Catholic School! Representing SLCS among 15 teams from Houston and San Antonio, our students took on a full day of rigorous subject tests, a Logic Quiz, and the intense Super Quiz with 50 challenging questions across five academic themes.

Let's celebrate our **Saints Team's** success: 🏆 **2ND PLACE OVERALL!**

Here are the team members and their achievements:

- 🏆 1st Place in Individual Fine Arts - Cheng L.
- 🏆 1st Place in Individual Math - Luca M.
- 🏆 2nd Place in Individual Science - Nathan N.
- 🏆 3rd Place in Super Quiz - SLCS Super Quiz Team
- 🏆 3rd Place in Current Individual Events - Jonas M.
- 🏆 3rd Place in Individual Religion - Simon Nguyen

Students gave it their all, and their hard work and determination truly shined! We couldn't be prouder of their outstanding accomplishments!

NOMINATE A DESERVING STUDENT!

Do you have or know a student who deserves a shout-out? Every week, we will highlight a student to recognize their spirit of service, accomplishments, hard work, and dedication! Nominate a student for consideration [HERE!](#)



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO

WEEKLY REMINDERS



BOX TOPS

Support our school with Box Tops!
Read how [HERE!](#)



PRAYER GROUP

3rd Thursday of the month
8:15 a.m. - Dining Hall

Park and Pray

Each Thursday after morning carpool
around the St. Laurence statue



HELP WITH LUNCH DUTY

-ECC [HERE](#)
-Elementary [HERE](#)

Do you have a special prayer request? Need prayers? Send your request [HERE](#).



EVENTS

JOIN US FOR PTO'S MOTHER-SON "POP IN" EVENT, A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER!



Mothers and sons are invited to start off their evening at this event with a keepsake picture and treats. Timeslots are available Saturday, April 5, from 5 to 6:30 pm in the SLCS parking lot. Please RSVP [HERE!](#)

To make this a memorable mother-son evening, grab dinner at a Spirit Night restaurant: (proceeds benefiting SLCS PTO)

[Corelli's](#)

[Double Dave's](#)

[Los Gallitos](#)



AUCTION NEWS

ANNUAL GALA AND AUCTION- Prom Night!

The 2025 Auction & Gala will be held at St. Laurence Catholic School on April 26, 2025 – Prom Night! The evening promises to be filled with twinkling lights, celestial cocktails, and astronomical excitement! Immerse yourself in the magic of a starlit night while supporting the mission of SLCS.

The annual Auction & Gala is our school's largest annual fundraiser, directly supporting the operational expenses of SLCS. These funds allow us to provide outstanding academic programs, vital school and teacher resources, opportunities for professional development, important facility improvements, school security, and more. We hope you will join us!



Click [HERE](#) to read the 3.25.25 Gala Newsletter!

Tickets and Tables to our 2025 Auction + Gala are [available for purchase!](#)
Buy your table by March 17th in order to be listed on the invitation!



CIRCLE OF SAINTS



CIRCLE OF SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

DE LACHICA FAMILY

We love to give back to SLCS because a Catholic education is one of the biggest blessings we received as children. We want to do everything we can to help SLCS continue to be the amazing school it is and has been for 30 years. We hope that it can also be an attainable school for others despite their financial means.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are so grateful for our 2024-2025 Community Partners!
Our thanks to these amazing businesses who are graciously supporting
St. Laurence Catholic School!



SPORTS

SOFTBALL

The Saints softball team defeated St. John Paul II last week with a great display of offense and solid defense. The Saints dropped a tough game to St. Cecilia with many players out sick for the game! The Saints take on St. Ambrose, a perennial GHCAA power, today at St. Ambrose. The Saints final game before the break will be at St. Thomas More on Thursday. Come out and support the Saints!

- 3/5 - Wednesday - Varsity away at St. Ambrose - 4:30 p.m.
- 3/6 - Thursday - Varsity at St. Thomas More - 4:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

The Saints Varsity baseball team defeated St. Vincent DePaul on Monday in a close one run victory, 7-6. Way to go, Saints! The Saints host St. John Paul II today and then are off for Spring Break next week. They will play SVDP again after the break on Wednesday, March 19th at home.

- 3/5 - Wednesday Varsity Home vs. St. John Paul II - 4:30 p.m.

TRACK

The Saints track team had their first meet rained out but they continue to practice hard and prepare for the GHCAA season. The first meet is now scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd. Watch the newsletter for details. GHCAA Track Meets:

- 3/22 - Saturday at Barnett Stadium - 8:00 AM
- 3/29 - Saturday at Barnett Stadium - 8:00 AM
- 4/5 - Saturday at Barnett Stadium - 8:00 AM
- 4/12 - Saturday - TBA
- 4/26 - Saturday - TBA

[BASEBALL CALENDAR](#)

[SOFTBALL CALENDAR](#)



BOOSTER CLUB

USEFUL LINKS



[MEMBERSHIP/SIGNAGE](#)

[PARENT STORE HERE!](#)

[BOOSTER STORE](#)

YEARBOOK AND PUBLICATIONS NEED YOUR ATHLETICS PICTURES!

Please upload your pictures using the links below!

<u>Basketball - Boys</u>	<u>Baseball</u>	<u>Cross Country</u>	<u>Soccer</u>	<u>Track</u>	<u>Tennis</u>
<u>Basketball - Girls</u>	<u>Cheerleading</u>	<u>Football</u>	<u>Softball</u>	<u>Volleyball</u>	



8TH GRADE NEWS

KC'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus are excited to announce the return of our annual scholarship essay contest for 8th grade students! They will be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to 8th graders who will be attending any of the Houston area Catholic high schools in the fall of 2025. Scholarship applications will be available [on their website](#) starting Sunday, March 2nd. Deadline to submit entries is Sunday, March 30th. Winners will be announced by the end of May.

- [8th GRADE IMPORTANT DATES](#)



USEFUL LINKS



[CAFETERIA
PAGE](#)



[MOMS OF TWEEN
DAUGHTERS](#)



[NEWSLETTER
ARCHIVE](#)



[TECHNOLOGY
TIPS](#)



[KSTL TV
ARCHIVE](#)



PARISH NEWS

FOR YOUR LENT

There's so much great content available to make Lent truly transformative. Check out these resources, perfect for your family or a small study group. And [download the Lenten Calendar](#) from the US Bishops.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Pray the [Stations of the Cross](#) in the church at 7pm every Friday in Lent. Arrive at 6:30pm to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. Booklets are provided, open to all ages.

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE [HERE!](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS



STRAKE JESUIT SEVENTH GRADE CAMPUS TOURS - SIGN UP NOW!

Explore Strake Jesuit's 52-acre campus and discover if it's the right fit for you—sign up for a spring tour [HERE!!](#)

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.*

VISION STATEMENT

*Making a Difference:
Faith, Academics, Service*

Saints Newsletter is published weekly by St. Laurence Catholic School.

Do you have a special article you wish to submit to this newsletter?

You are welcome to submit information about the birth of new children or any other ideas you might like to see in this newsletter.

Contact Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org.

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