MARCH 1, 2020 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Laurence CATHOLIC CHURCH

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo — Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

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
Mar 6 — *In the Church (During Lent)*
8:00pm - Mass

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

MISA EN ESPAÑOL
Mar 14 & 28 — *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

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

Parish Contacts

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, 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

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

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:

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

PARISH OFFICE & COURTYARD

The parish office provides services including pastoral care, liturgical planning, business, communications, & administrative support, and social concerns & social justice support. The parish hall and meeting rooms are available through reservation by calling Nia Sepe at 281-980-9812. Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-9:00pm; Friday 8:00am-6:00pm; and Saturday 8:30am-12:00noon.

AVE MARIA PARISH LIFE CENTER

The Ave Maria Parish Life Center is located across the street from the church and is the site for all religious education classes, programs and offices. Inquiries and drop-ins are welcome during office hours: Monday through Thursday 8am-9pm; Friday 8am-4pm; Saturdays 8:30am-Noon (scheduled events only). The Weekday Children's Program is offered for infants through pre-school aged children. During the school year, WCP hours Monday-Friday are 8:00am-3:00pm.

PARISH SCHOOL & CHAPEL

St. Laurence Catholic School provides strong academics in a Christian environment to 720 students enrolled in PreK4 through Grade 8. Office Hours: Monday-Friday are 8:00am-4:00pm.

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

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

Good News Reflection

Pray: Dear Lord, I want to die to everything that prevents Your plans of love from being fulfilled in me. Strengthen my soul for this battle. **Amen.**

WHAT VICTORY DO YOU NEED THIS LENT?

How do you deal with temptation? That's the personal challenge given to us by the Word of God on the first Sunday of Lent. And so we begin our journey with Jesus, traveling to the holiest place we can reach at this point in our lives.

This Lent is like no other Lent. Last year, you had different needs, different areas of growth, different levels of insight and understanding. Much has happened since then, and all of it is a preparation for what the Lord is going to do in your life right now.

What victory do you need this year? What needs to be resurrected? To get there, Jesus will lead you through the cross of penance and self-denial, into his tomb, and out into God's light where his love provides healing and new life.

During Lent — and every time we make sacrifices and connect our sufferings to the Passion of Christ — we follow Jesus to the cross and to resurrection. This involves seeing our own crosses in a new light, for the Calvary Road is the only way to reach the victories that we yearn to experience.

If we want Easter to be more than just a holiday of colored eggs, chocolate bunnies and big dinners, we have to make Lent more than just 40 days of enduring an annoying, obligatory sacrifice, eating meatless pizza on Fridays, and going to an occasional extra event at church.

If we want to experience the power of resurrection, we have to experience the power of mourning and repenting from our sins. In other words, we have to experience the powerlessness of death — the death of our selfishness, the death of our worldliness, the death of our behaviors that are not like Christ's.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

What can you do this week to die to self? For example, think of a good deed you can do that's the opposite of what your selfishness wants you to do. How will this spiritual exercise make it easier to resist sin?

QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNITY FAITH SHARING:

1. *In the story from Genesis, what did Adam and Eve need to die to (let go of, put aside, or reject) in order to resist the Original Sin? Why didn't they?*
2. *In the reading from Romans, we hear about the abundant grace and the gift of justification that Jesus provided to each of us when he died on the cross. How does this grace and justification give us life? In other words, how does God help us to resist sin?*
3. *Looking at the Gospel passage, what did Jesus have to die to in the desert so that he could say no to temptation?*

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MARCH

SUNDAY 1	**(#1016 in your Gather Book)**		
	First Sunday of Lent		
	First Reading	GN 2:7-9; 3:1-7	
	Second Reading	ROM 5:12-19	
	Gospel	MT 4:1-11	
MONDAY 2	First Reading	LV 19:1-2, 11-18	
	Gospel	MT 25:31-46	
TUESDAY 3	First Reading	IS 55:10-11	
	Gospel	MT 6:7-15	
WEDNESDAY 4	First Reading	JON 3:1-10	
	Gospel	LK 11:29-32	
THURSDAY 5	First Reading	EST C:12, 14-16, 23-25	
	Gospel	MT 7:7-12	
FRIDAY 6	First Reading	EZ 18:21-28	
	Gospel	MT 5:20-26	
SATURDAY 7	First Reading	DT 26:16-19	
	Gospel	MT 5:43-48	
SUNDAY 8	**Second Sunday of Lent**		
	First Reading	GN 12:1-4A	
	Second Reading	2 TM 1:8B-10	
	Gospel	MT 17:1-9	

PRAYING THE NEWS | MARCH 1, 2020

"Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned."

PSALM 51

O Lord, we enter the season of Lent crying out for your mercy. Our world is rife with destruction, conflict, corruption, inequality, intolerance and self-indulgence. Grant us the humility to name our sins and the courage to seek reconciliation with you and all those we have hurt.

Jesus, we trust in you. Amen. ✞

In Our Prayers...

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for these members of our parish family and all our loved ones listed in the Book of the Sick: Elia Acuna, Stephanie Alford, Aaron Smith Ambeau, Clara Ayala, Linda Babin, Eden Bantigue, Kathy Bell, Deacon Al Bothe, Don Braden, Eduardo Caballero, Christine Carter, Sharon Carroll, Jun Castro, Bobby Castillo, Jesse Calderon, Michelle Collins, John Cummings, Cindy Cummings, Ruby Davis, Anthony DiMare, Lupita de la Rosa, Julie Donati, Rene Phillip Dartez, Judith Dupre, Ashley Durand, Evelyn Dyogi, Agnes Fagnant, Amelia Flores, Enrique Flores, Maggie Flores, Marina Flores, Robb Flynn, Cynthia Forgas, Lupe Fraga, Alicia Garcia, Patricia Garmon, Delia Genova, Beth Gloff, Jessica Gunter, Martha Harbin, Glenn Haller, Angelina Hernandez, Ramon Hernandez, Ursula Henry, Anne Higgins, Jim Hofmann, Rose Holbrooke, James Hrebenar, Shanthy Jayaprakash, Regina Johnson, Paul Joseph, Brian Judice, John Judice, Helen Kaiser, Sylvia Kauffman, Edwin Klaiber, Wade Kisner, Christine Kingerski, Cindy Kral, Charles Kramer, Donna La Magna, Alex Mendiola, Tony Miscio, Mary Lavine, Chris Larkins, Mike Lojo, Mary Luckette, Daymond Mayhall, Beverly Marcellus, Russ Marcellus, David McGinnis, Tony Miscio, Anna Mathew, Marina Monroy, Jim Murray, Patrick Navidad, Paul Vung Nguyen, Christine Novia, Patrick Novia, Justino Ramos, Fr. Roy Oggero, Robert O'Neil, Sandra Ortiz, Kathy Oujesky, Meena Outlaw, Charles Pierson, Lisa Pierson, Lauren Popeney, Rose Marie Prevott, Scott Rando, Angela Rankin, Frances Revelt, Melanie Robb, Rodolfo Rodriguez, Provi Sabido, Maureen Saenz, Kathleen Schroeder, Rebecca Schlosser, Scotty Scott, Joan Sherman, June Sherman, Felicia Smith, Nigel Smith, Sandy Smith, Steve Spaulding, Justin Stout, Adrianne Sturgis, Eugene Theobald, JD Tyler, Ben J. Verdina, Doris Wagoner, Kylie Ward, Monica Williams, Irene Wenglar, Gary Wilson.

PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THOSE IN PRISON

Following are the prayer intentions of people visited by our Correctional Ministry. Please pray for... Isabella Flores, Adrian Zaldivar, Johnny Sanchez, Sonia Aguilar, Eli Rojas, Kristin Funderburg, Jessica Forbes, Erika Foster, Alyssa Smith, Cole & Kristina Flores, Frank Turcios & Family, Florentino Diana Vasquez & Family, Emilio Banda & Family, Michael T. Wade, James Gentry, Hope, Damion, Arriola, *Society of St. John de Matha, the men in the Terrell Prison RCIA program, Kolbe Retreat and all the people of Jester 3. (2/17/2020).*

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. 5 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*
LTC. Jason Chacon, *USMC*
Lt Matthew Chesney, *US Navy*
Maj. Christopher Coffman, *US Air Force*
Maj. Patrick Coffman, *USMC*
Lt Colin Day, *US Navy*
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*
SPEC Nathan J. Hoelker, *US Army*
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*
Amn 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*
SSgt Jonathan Slusser, *US Air Force*
LT Kevin Stransky, *US Navy*
CTM3 Nicholas Stuhlman, *US Navy*
Maj. Michael Thesing, *USMC*
1LT 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, FEB 29
5:00pm Augustine Mathew (D)

SUNDAY, MAR 1
7:15am Joseph & Eleanor Slusser (D)
9:00am Brother Knights (D)
11:00am Emeka C-Yumeh (D)
12:45pm Teresita Saenz (D)
5:00pm St. Laurence Parishioners

MONDAY, MAR 2
7:30am The John Duruiheoma Family (I)
12:00pm Taylor Preston (D)

TUESDAY, MAR 3
7:30am Eric Naranjo (D)
12:00pm Jim & Patricia Irwin (D)

WEDNESDAY, MAR 4
7:30am Sarah Koreth (I)
6:30pm Pete Cangelosi (D)

THURSDAY, MAR 5
7:30am Mariaelena Hernandez (I)
12:00pm Kim Vonan (D)

FRIDAY, MAR 6
8:15am The Marinas Family (I)
12:00pm Justice Maranda (D)

SATURDAY, MAR 7
8:30am Shawn Abraham (I)
5:00pm John & Josie Elvey (D)

SUNDAY, MAR 8
7:15am Maizi Hamlet
9:00am Mylinh Vo (I)
11:00am Mike Miscio (D)
12:45pm Orlando Quirch (D)
5:00pm St. Laurence Parishioners

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

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

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

MAR 7: THERESIAN DAY OF PRAYER

Women in Support of Women... Reaching Out with Gospel Values

Have you regretted making a poor decision? Does it take you forever to make up your mind? Vanessa Callaway, Christian inspirational speaker, has developed eight guiding principles to help us bring the Love of Christ, the Word of God, into each and every decision we make. Event takes place: Mar 7, 8:30am - 2:30pm, St.Theresa Catholic Church in Sugar Land. Cost $20.00 includes lunch. Contact Martha for information: 281-788-3318

MAR 13-15: FATHER-SON RETREAT AT THE PINES CATHOLIC CAMP

The Pines Catholic Camp, located in Big Sandy (east of Dallas), is planning an incredible weekend retreat March 13-15, to restore and strengthen the critical relationship between sons and their fathers. There will be opportunities for worship, conversations, laughs, confessions, and even some work projects around camp, all focused on building and working together, undistracted. Open to young men in 8th grade through college-age and their fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers or male father figures. The cost is $160 per person, which includes lodging, food, activities, campfires, Mass & Adoration. Register and get more info at thepines.org/events.

MAR 21: MEN'S CONFERENCE AT ST. BARTS

An all-day conference for Catholic men will be offered at St. Bartholomew in Katy on Saturday, March 21, 8:00am-5:00pm. Join other men to be inspired, formed and empowered to live out God's view on masculinity. Six dynamic speakers will focus on such topics as fatherhood, addictions, leadership and the work-life-faith balance. A $25 registration fee includes lunch. Get details and register online at st-bart.org/adult-formation.

MAR 30: REGINA CAELI HOMESCHOOL SPRING TOUR

The Regina Caeli Homeschool Resource Center invites everyone to a Spring Touring Event on Monday, March 30, 10:00am, at 4640 Richmond Foster Road in Richmond. Expect an information session, group tour, classroom observation and Q&A. Children welcome! RSVP to vragusa@rcahybrid.org or 832-779-7282. Regina Caeli provides a classical, university style hybrid education in the Catholic tradition. PreK3-12th grade students attend classes two days a week and homeschool on the remaining days. Do you love to teach? Qualified tutors for Elementary and High School classes are now being hired. INFO: rcahybrid.org

PARTICIPATE: 2020 CENSUS THIS MONTH

In mid-March, homes across the country will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you can respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. The results of this once-a-decade count determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives, are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts, and allocate funding where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and other services for families, older adults, and children. For more information please visit 2020census.gov.

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

**not licensed by the state*

WEDDING PREPARATION

Next Classes: March 9

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 Classes: March 21

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

Allison Marie Anderson, Davis Paul Baxmann, Kennedy Grace Buckler, Finnegan Timothy Watson

FUNERAL

Andrew Silvia, *son of Stephanie Silvia*

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION — WEEKLY OFFERTORY

FEB 23 COLLECTIONS	$47,676
Registered Households	7,501
Envelopes Used	648
Loose Checks	175
2ND COLLECTION *Social Concerns Ministry*	$13,353
ONLINE GIVING	
Monthly Offertory	$198,895
Participants	1,093
DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND	
2020 Parish Goal	**$495,000**
2019 Parish Goal	$495,000
2019 Parish Paid	$459,195
2019 Amount Pledged	$461,199
2019 Participants	915

FAITH DIRECT ONLINE GIVING

Our parish relies on the support of everyone in our parish family to help us further our mission. We are blessed that there is an easy way for all of us to recommit ourselves to supporting St. Laurence Catholic Church through eGiving.

Enrolling in online giving will simplify your monthly budgeting while also providing St. Laurence Catholic Church with consistent, reliable support for our parish family. If you haven't signed up yet, don't worry, it's easy to get started! **Visit faith.direct/TX460.**

Did you know that St. Laurence Catholic Church pays a small fee for all gifts made using credit cards? Faith Direct is now offering a way St. Laurence Catholic Church families to give a little bit extra each month to offset these processing costs. We ask you to please prayerfully consider adding this 2.5% processing offset to your regular offering so that our parish can receive the full amount of your gifts each month. If you manage your giving online, you can log into your Faith Direct account and check the box on the page where you can update your payment information. You can also contact Faith Direct's customer service team to make the change for you.

Whatever method you choose to contribute, eGiving, cash, check or stocks; thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

Family, Children & Youth Ministry

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

MAR 1: PRESCHOOL CCE MEETS TODAY!
No Preschool CCE March 8 & 15 due to Spring Break!

MAR 3 & 4: ELEMENTARY CCE THIS WEEK
Lent

Our class lessons this coming week will explore the meaning of the Liturgical Season of Lent to us as Catholic Christians. Lent is a time to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As a family, spent some time this week to reflect upon what you hope to get out of Lent this year and come up with a plan to do so.

Lenten Challenge: As a family, go to the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Lenten resources for families at https://www.crsricebowl.org/families. Choose an activity to do together such as preparing a meatless recipe to share for dinner.

VBS, Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

Save the Dates! Vacation Bible School returns to the Ave Maria Center this summer, with *Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through* from JUNE 8- 12. Registration for adult volunteers and their children/youth has begun in the AMC. **Youth Volunteer registration (grades 6-12) will begin on Monday, Mar 16** in the AMC for all youth volunteers whose parents are not also volunteering in the program, until all available positions are filled. Youth will need to commit to serving the entire week of VBS in order to be placed. For additional information and updates, please visit stlaurence.org/vacation-bible-school.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Join the adventure of a lifetime with other St. Laurence families through our Family Ministry. Your family is invited to our themed events and evenings that include sharing a meal, playing games, doing crafts, completing fun challenges, and other adventures all centered around spiritual lessons and growth. Make your family's spiritual life an adventure!

Contact Melissa Calcote, First Sacraments & Family Coordinator, 281-265-5774, mcalcotestlaurence.org

WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

stlaurence.org/weekday-childrens-program

QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FROM CRIB THROUGH 5 YEARS

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.***

20 YEARS

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
We Are Called

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

HAPPY HERITAGE MONTH FROM ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

During March, we are celebrating and learning about the many different cultures we have represented at our school! We are blessed! ¡Somos bendecidos! Siamo Benedetti!

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL AUCTION "AN EVENING IN THE SAINTS GARDEN"

St. Laurence Catholic School is excited to present its annual dinner and auction gala "The Saints Garden." This spectacular event will take place on April 25, at the Marriott Town Square. The gala benefits St. Laurence Catholic School, which educates students from PreK through 8th grade. St. Laurence Catholic School provides students with an education focused on Christian values, strong academics, social skills, and community service. Contact the Advancement office at advancement @stlaurence.org or call 281-980-0500 for sponsorship or ticket information.

WORK AT ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Laurence Catholic School is accepting applications periodic on-call substitute teachers in 1st -8th grades and substitute teaching assistants for Kindergarten. Applicants must complete Safe Environment Training. For more information, please call the St. Laurence Catholic School office at 281-980-0500. Learn more about our school at www.stlaurenceschool.org.

LIFE TEEN
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

MARCH

01 LIFE NIGHT: VOCATIONS: IT'S A RELATIONSHIP, IDENTITY, AND A MISSION WITH FR. RICHARD MCNEILLIE

08 NO LIFE TEEN/CONFIRMATION - SPRING BREAK

15 LIFE TEEN: CIRCLE OF GRACE

HIGH SCHOOL LIFE TEEN PROGRAM

For more information online, **stlaurence.org/lifeteen**
Follow us on Instagram **@stlaurenceIt**

All teens and their families are invited and encouraged to join us for our 5:00pm Life Teen Mass in the Church. Youth are invited to join our youth ministers and your friends in the first three pews!

EDGE
Catholic Middle School Ministry

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

MARCH

04 OPEN GYM NIGHT // SCHOOL GYM

11 NO EDGE // SPRING BREAK

18 EDGE NIGHT

25 EDGE NIGHT

CONFIRMATION

For those youth who do not attend Catholic School who are in the year of prior preparation (usually 9th grade) just a reminder that the attendance policy is to attend 70% of the Life Nights for the year (14 of 20 sessions) in order to be ready and eligible to progress to the Confirmation preparation process next fall.

TONIGHT, Mar 1: *Morality and Relationships by Fr. Drew*
Mar 29: *Power: Holy Spirit in the Life of Discipleship by Julie Borque*
Apr 26: *My Purpose by Brian Henritze (review aspects of the Confirmation Liturgy and Being Sent Forth as Disciples of Christ)*

Upcoming deadlines are as follows:

- The Saint Biography is due on March 29.
- Make-up work for those who missed Confirmation Night #4 held on January 26 is due on March 29.
- The three service project reflections are due on April 26.

Info: stlaurence.org/confirmation or contact Cindy Martin, Interim Confirmation Coordinator, cindymartin@stlaurence.org.

FAITH & FAMILY FOCUS

Try this for Lent: Give up complaining, focus on gratitude.

Young Adults
ST. LAURENCE

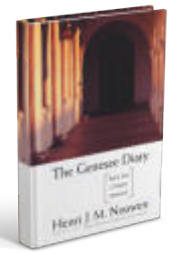
@ St. Laurence Young Adults
www.stlaurence.org/ya
Contact: Young Adult Coordinator
Lucia Jackson, ljackson@stlaurence.org

LENTEN STUDY GROUP

March 3, 17 & April 7 Ave Maria Center, 7-9pm.
Join other Young Adults for a discussion of C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. Know thy enemy through the letters of a senior demon teaching how to tempt the human soul. As we enter into Lent, we can both identify our temptations and arm ourselves for spiritual warfare with God's love and mercy through Scripture and tradition. Learn how to walk with Jesus through temptation together. The lead for these evenings is Ray Bacalla. For more information contact him directly at: bacallarf@yahoo.com.

YOUNG ADULT WOMEN'S GROUP

March 4 & 18, April 1, Ave Maria Center, 7-9pm.



This group is open to all women 18 to 39 years old. We will gather for fellowship, have discussion in both small and large groups and grow together while reading at home, *The Genessee Diary* by Henri Nouwen before each meeting.

To RSVP via email Lucia Jackson, ljackson@stlaurence.org. You can join us anytime and reading the book is not a requirement to attend. We will still have discussion and great fellowship.

For Adults

St Laurence Catholic Church

Adult FAITH formation

Informing and Transforming Disciples

STLAURENCE.ORG/AFF

FEATURED PROGRAMS

SACRED SUNDAY ON MONDAY
Mondays, 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 bernadettepeters@mac.com.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
Tuesday, March 3, 9:00-11:45am, Marian Hall A
"The Death of the Messiah: Jesus Carries His Cross, Is Crucified and Dies"
For more information contact Kay Quenan at kquenan@me.com.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15am, or Mondays, 7:30-9:00pm, St Francis Room
Monday evenings will study "The Letters of St. James" from Ignatius Study Bible." Tuesday mornings examine the readings for the next Sunday's Mass. Contact: Steve Ewbank, 281-703-3873, ewbanksix@gmail.com.

THAT MAN IS YOU
Wednesdays, 5:30-7:00 am Marian Hall
The program *Vision of Man Fully Alive* continues featuring a variety of dynamic speakers. Roger Peters at rogerwpeters@me.com or stlaurence.org/tmiy.

MOM'S GIFT GROUP
Wednesdays, 9:15-11:00 am, Marian Hall B
Join other moms at GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) and read and share Danielle Bean's book "You are Enough: What Women of the Bible Teach You about Your Mission and Worth." Contact: Rachelle Dooley, rdooley1987@outlook.com.

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

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY
Thursdays, 1-2:00pm, St Anne, or 7:15-8:30pm, AMC Room 205
FORMED: Lectio Peter with Dr. Tim Gray. For more info: Julie Evett at jevett@comcast.net

The Rite of Sending and Election At the 9:00am Mass

This weekend 14 catechumens and 18 candidates will celebrate this important milestone in the journey toward reception and full initiation into the Catholic Church. The Rite of Election for the catechumens will be celebrated at 3:00pm by Bishop George A. Sheltz at St Helen Catholic Church, Pearland. Those already baptized will celebrate the Call to Continuing Conversion at the same liturgy. Please pray for these men, women, youth and children during this period of Purification and Enlightenment.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

JOIN US FOR A DIVINE MERCY RETREAT

33 Days to Merciful Love

Mondays, Mar 2, 16, 23, 30, Apr 6, 6:30-8 pm,
Rm. 201 of Ave Maria Center
OR
Thursdays, 5, 19, 26, Apr 2, 16, 10-11:30 am, Corpus Christi Room in Church Courtyard Area

Journey into the heart of St. Therese of Lisieux's Little Way with the **33 Days to Merciful Love** group retreat. This 5-week retreat includes workbooks, group discussion, and talks on DVD by renowned speaker and author Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC.

Cost: $30 Registration and info at **stlaurence.org/mercifullove**

THURSDAYS, MARCH 19 – MAY 21, 2020 | 7:00– 9:00PM
ST. FRANCIS MEETING ROOM

The sealing of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation into the Catholic Church. Once each year,

Adult Confirmation Preparation is offered for Catholics

- Who are at least 18 years of age and graduated from High School
- Already baptized and received first Eucharist
- Are actively practicing their faith
- If married, marriage must be sacramental in the Catholic Church

The sessions meet on 9 consecutive Thursday evenings, concluding with the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Register at www.stlaurence/adultconfirmation. Complete the information form and email to Mary Visser at mvisser@stlaurence.org.

Discernment interviews are **required prior to the first session**. You will need to provide a recently issued copy of your baptismal certificate dated within the last 6 months. Please call the church that you were baptized at and ask them to "re-issue" your baptismal certificate. You will be contacted after we receive your form for an interview.

Adult Confirmation
St. Laurence Catholic Church

Living as Disciples

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is a lay apostle group. Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, members serve Christ Our Lord through our baptismal promises. We currently have two presidiums at St. Laurence: Our Lady of Mercy and Our Lady of Sorrows.

Our devotion to Mary impels us to serve Christ by visiting the sick, leading prayer services at nursing facilities, praying the rosary in congregation, and through evangelization. Every other week, we bring the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to homes for family prayer and meditation. Each Presidium meets weekly in the Corpus Christi Room located in the church courtyard. Our Lady of Sorrows meets Tuesday afternoons (1:00-2:30pm) and Our Lady of Mercy meets Tuesday evenings (7:00-8:30pm).

Our membership continues to grow, and our parish now has two opportunities to participate in this ministry. Join the presidium that is most accommodating to your schedule! Also, there are two levels of membership, Active and Auxiliary. Auxiliary members support the Legion by undertaking a service of prayer for Active members. We pray and request that you consider joining our prayerful group as a part of the Legion of Mary at St. Laurence. Please visit stlaurence.org/legion-of-mary or contact Bridget Nwaokobia (briege98@yahoo.com) and Rosamar Martinez (1rosamar@gmail.com) for more information.

Meet with members of the Legion of Mary at the Hospitality Desk after Mass today!

INTENTIONAL FAMILIES

NOE FAMILY
STEVE & TAMMY

Steve and I joined the parish when we moved to Sugar Land in 1991. It took many years for me to get my priorities right, especially when I was working and my kids were young. I had to step back and make some changes in my way of thinking and my life. I had to surrender the control I thought I had. It is difficult trying to raise a faith-filled family in our world... the worldly messages are so strong for kids. The opinions of their friends ring louder than most of the things adults say. It is challenging to live counter-culturally, but I think it is easier for adults than for the teens, as they are still grappling to figure out who they are and what sort of plan God might have for them. The foundation of your family has to be Jesus. When you start this way, you are best set for success. Start praying together as a couple if you don't already. It may be awkward at first, but it will bear great fruit. Mass with young kids is hard, but do it anyway. Once I got my own personal priorities right, I wanted my kids to think that church was our home away from home. I still think this is a good philosophy. There is strength in community. You need the companionship of other young families trying to live out our faith. Honestly, our parish has formed our family... we are who we are as a result of God's grace and St. Laurence!

In all we do ... ... evangelize

@PONTIFEX

We received life not to bury it, but to put it into play; not to keep it, but to give it. Whoever is with Jesus knows that the secret to possessing life is to give it.

— Pope Francis
February 21, 2020
TweetDeck

Ask Paula

Q.

What happened to the Stewards Among Us in the bulletin?

A.

It's over, but don't worry, we had over 500 amazing stewards (me included) that we wrote about, *just sayin.* Anyway, now Fr. Drew wants us to focus on forming intentional families so we are changing the column to family stories, not individuals. Look, it's not the PERFECT FAMILIES column… *or else mine would have been the first one, right?* (Just kidding.) So, as you know, the space for this new column is not that big, so when your family is asked, just share something that has worked in your family that helped you guys grow closer to each other and to God. Here's the thing... don't over-think it. Just tell us something your family does together. *I think it should be called Unintentional Families, just sayin.*

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.

Women's ACTS Retreat

Thursday, May 7 - Sunday, May 10

"Lord, let Your Mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You"

—PSALM 33:22

What is an ACTS retreat?

A parish-based event which offers parishioners an opportunity to experience the love of Jesus Christ. ACTS Retreats are given by parishioners for parishioners, but is not limited to only parishioners or Catholics. Any woman 21 or older that would like to grow in her faith journey is invited by the St. Laurence ACTS community to attend the 2020 retreat. While utilizing prayer, music, service, and teaching, the ACTS Retreat meets people where they are in their spiritual journey and invites them to experience God in a manner that is both personal and communal with the women of this fantastic faith community.

Register online at
stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat

Register today! There are only 36 spaces available for this retreat! Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to spend time with Jesus.

"ACTS restored my idea of what it means to be in community, particularly what it means to have sisterhood in the body of Christ. The world has such a different measure of sisterhood, so often tied up with judgement and competition. In my experience the ACTS retreat was a place to let go of those things and to be loved for who I really am."
—Sonya Purdy

"The ACTS retreat gave me the spiritual insight to convert to the Catholic faith at age 76. I have never been happier."
—Johanna Powell

What is ACTS?

The four pillars of the ACTS apostolate are:

- **Adoration:** A response to God's love through prayer and worship
- **Community:** Participating in the One Body of Christ as Church
- **Theology:** Deepening our relationship with God in order to better fulfill His will
- **Service:** Answering the call to discipleship by following the model He gave us

Where is the retreat held?
Mother of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Houston. Transportation is provided.

St. Laurence Catholic Church
ACTS

If you have questions, please Contact
Retreat Director: Leigh Easter
832-768-5074
Email leigheaster@gmail.com

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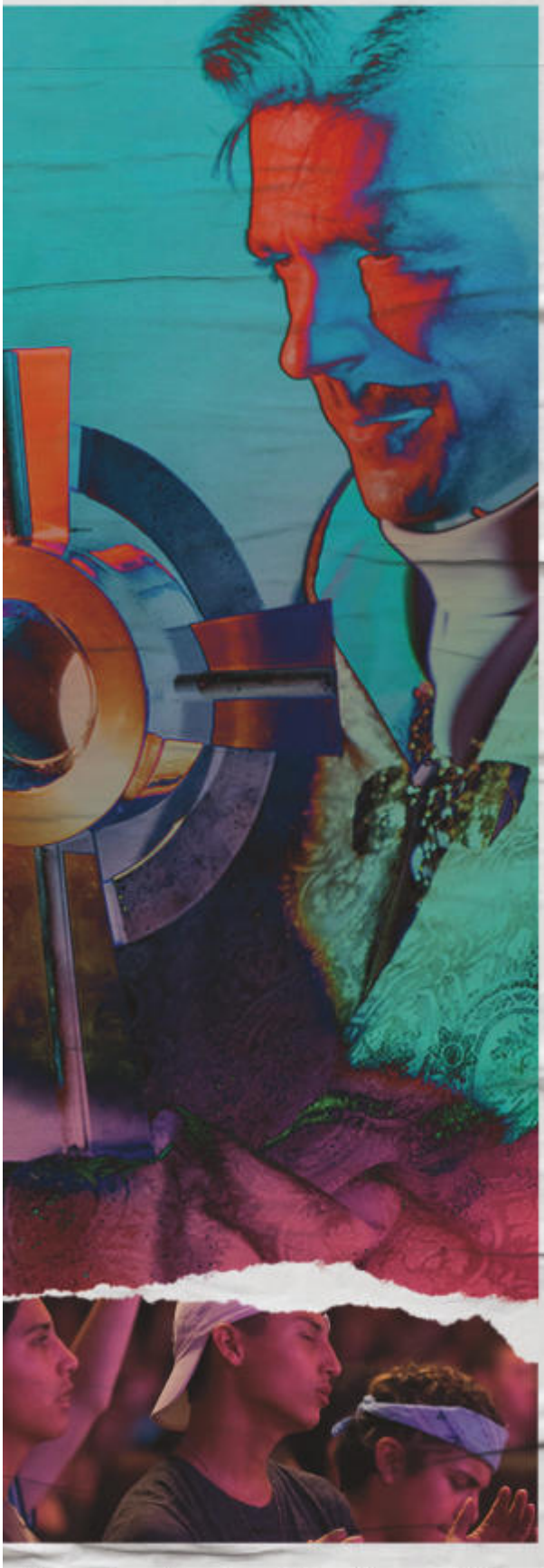


STEUBENVILLE **LONESTAR**

Sins?
Doubts?
Questions?

You're not alone.

Regardless of what your faith-life or life-struggles look like, you have a place in the Church and a seat at a Life Teen Steubenville Conference.

This weekend is going to be one of the best of the summer and it will get even better if you join us.

More Information & Registration Link
stlaurence.org/steubenville-youth-conference

Steubenville LoneStar
June 19-21, 2020
Irving, TX

LONESTAR

ARCHDIOCESAN GUIDELINES FOR LENT

Following are the guidelines of Lenten observance for the faithful in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston:

- Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence.
- Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Fasting binds all persons who have completed their 18th birthday through those who have completed their 59th year, unless prevented by poor health. On days of fast, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's own needs. Eating between meals is not allowed although fluids may be taken.

Abstinence binds all persons who have completed their 14th birthday, unless prevented by poor health. On days of abstinence during Lent, the consumption of meat of mammals or fowl is not allowed. The Church strongly encourages the observance of Friday abstinence throughout the year, but failure to do so is not regarded as sinful.

Lent is a penitential season and as such religious practice such as daily Mass, reception of the Sacrament of Penance, the devotion of the Stations of the Cross, works of charity and justice, and acts of self-denial are highly encouraged.

MAR 4-6: FAST FROM ELECTRONIC ENTERTAINMENT

Fr. Drew has asked for every member of St. Laurence to fast from electronic entertainment (TV, social media, video games, etc) for three days this week: **Wednesday, March 4, through Friday, March 6.** Young and old can participate in this parishwide Lenten Common Penance which will quiet our homes and encourage more meaningful time with God and one another. Be intentional, St. Laurence! After your 3-day fast, go to **stlaurence.org/common-penance** to share what your experience was like.

BANNS: RITE OF INSTITUTION AS CANDIDATE FOR PATRICK KINNICK

It is herewith announced that PATRICK KINNICK, a candidate for the order of deacon, will be instituted into the ministry of candidate on February 22, 2020, at a Mass to be celebrated by Bishop George Sheltz. If any persons knows of a serious reason why this candidate should not be called to this ministry, please notify Deacon George Silva, Director of Formation, Office of the Permanent Diaconate, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, at 713-686-4345, george.silva@smseminary.com. Please keep Patrick in your prayers as he is instituted in to the ministry of candidate. This announcement is in compliance with Canon 1051:2 of the Code of Canon Law.

MAR 31: KC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

Each year, the Knights of Columbus award TWO $1000 scholarships to 8th grade students from our parish who will be attending any of the Houston area Catholic high schools for the first time in the fall of 2020. (You do not have to be attending a Catholic school now to apply, just be a member of the parish.) Additionally, TWO $2000 scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors who are also members of St. Laurence entering college for the first time in the summer or fall of 2020. Go to **stlaurence.org/kc-scholarship** to access the scholarship application. Applications are due Tuesday, March 31, and winners will be announced in May 2020. Any further questions, please contact Al Fonseca (cougarred91@sbcglobal.net) or Tom Barry (tom@thebarrybunch.us).

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

MONDAY, MARCH 16

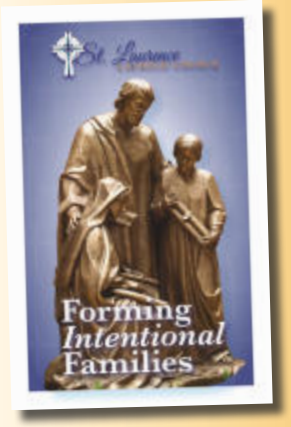
IN THE CHURCH, 6:30PM

18 priests available to hear confessions, plus reading from scripture, music, and time for personal reflection.

LENTEN COMMON PENNANCE

MARCH 4-6

Fast from electronic entertainment for 3 days



FORMING INTENTIONAL FAMILIES BOOK

PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE HOSPITALITY DESK

ON THE PLAZA THIS WEEKEND

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

The Giving Tree

2ND COLLECTION

March 1, 2020
Black & Indian Missions

Social Concerns

THE GIVING TREE TAGLINE ON THE PLAZA TODAY

The Giving Tree, our Lenten Service Project, kicks off this weekend. The Giving Tree restocks the shelves of the Social Concerns workroom with much needed household items. These items include everything from soap to pots and pans to gift cards and are used referred to us through Catholic Charities, Refugee Resettlement, as well as parish and community families in need.

Giving Tree e-tags are available online. Go to our sign-up page at www.signupgenius.com. Hit the search button. Enter our email address socialconcerns@stlaurence.org. Enter the authentication code. Once in, click on the Giving Tree e-tag and sign up.

OUR DAILY BREAD MINISTRY

A very special thank you to the wonderful Our Daily Bread Ministry volunteers. This cheerful and fun group shows up bright and early every Monday to pack bread (provided by Panera Bread & Whole Foods) for hungry families in Fort Bend County. Often, they stay and help us with extra projects such as Cuddle Kits (pictured) or Rice & Beans. We are so grateful for the many years they have shared their gifts of time and talent with SCM!

MAR 11: LENTEN SERVICE

Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works. The Social Concern Ministry will offer service opportunities ONE DAY ONLY on Wednesday, March 11th in the parish hall, 9:30am – 12:00 pm. Service opportunities include: Rice & Beans packing, care packages for first responders, Easter eggs and cards for MGCC & SLHCC, poster decorating for Hope For Three, and lunches for The Lord's Kitchen in Rosenberg. Space is limited, so pre-registration will be required. **Registration is open now.**

Register via Sign Up Genius: www.signupgenius.com, click on the ***search icon*** near the upper right corner of the page. Enter SocialConcerns@stlaurence.org in the "SEARCH BY THE SIGN UP CREATOR'S EMAIL". This will bring up a listing of all the available volunteer opportunities. Contact pdegroot@stlaurence.org with questions.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

BROCHURE OF THE MONTH:
ROE V. WADE - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

In 1973, the Supreme Court decided that the right of privacy (not mentioned in the text of the Constitution) was "broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy." Together with the companion decision, Doe v. Bolton, the court ruled that states could not prohibit abortion in the first two trimesters. States could prohibit late term abortion, but must allow it when necessary to preserve the mother's life or health, interpreting health to include "all factors— …emotional, psychological… relevant to the well-being of the patient." Hence abortion was legalized up until birth for virtually any reason, a national policy more extreme than the law of any state. (A demographer, Judith Blake, had concluded, after studying public opinion against legalized abortion, that a Supreme Court decision striking down state laws would be "the only road to rapid change." Even legal experts who favor legalized abortion agree that Roe is bad law. But when a 1992 decision reaffirmed the right to abortion before viability, three justices upheld Roe only because it had been in place for many years and many people had come to rely on the availability of abortion. They actually stated that the belief that a prior case was wrongly decided was not enough reason to overrule it!

Roe has been used not only to allow over 60 million abortions, traumatizing millions of women - and men - who struggle for many years to find peace and healing, but also to justify assisted suicide, the protection of handicapped newborns from lethal neglect, and to demand legal recognition of same-sex marriage. In May 2018, a Marist poll showed that 51% of women said abortion should never be permitted (9%) or permitted only in the cases of rape, incest, and to save the woman's life (42%).

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
Prayer outside abortion facilities is powerful. Christian Voices for Life is sponsoring prayer on Mondays and Thursdays in Lent from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm in Sharpstown, outside a building where an ob-gyn performs abortions in his office. Prayer at Planned Parenthood on the Gulf Freeway will be sponsored Friday, March 20, from 6:30 am to 6:30 pm. Links to the sign-ups can be found at www.stlaurence.org/respect-life. Contact Marie McCoy at 281-265-7749 with questions.

MAR 6-8: PROJECT RACHEL
Healing for women suffering after abortion: Project Rachel, the confidential and compassionate outreach to women and men who have had an abortion or been involved in an abortion decision, will be offered in Spanish on March 6 – 8, 2020. Please contact Julie at 713-741-8728.

MAR 23: "PIERCED BY SORROW" - Miscarriage and Infant Loss Healing Retreat at St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church, Spring, TX. Space is limited. Register by calling the Office of Pro-Life Activities at 713-741-8728.

ROSARY FOR THE PREBORN: Please join us next Sunday, Mar 8, after the 11:00 Mass to pray a rosary for greater respect for life in the womb. We will meet at the Rosary Garden outside the Ave Maria Center.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WEEKLY

MONDAYS: Our Daily Bread 9:30am, SCM Workroom

WEDNESDAYS: Coupons for a Cause 1:00pm, SCM Workroom

OTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Bingo: Call weekend Bingo games for nursing home residents at Sugar Land Health Care Center

Child Advocates Snack Bags: Monthly assembly of 100+ snack bags for children

Fresh Food Delivery: Twice a month, purchase and deliver fresh food to St. John Fisher food pantry

Learn English Ministry: Teach English to non-English-speaking adults; no teaching or foreign language experience necessary

Lunches of Love: Decorate lunch bags; over 4,000 brown bag meals provided each day (during extended school holidays & weekends) to Fort Bend County children in need

Loving Creations: Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month in the SCM Workroom, 10:00am-Noon, to provide handcrafted items for adults and children hospital patients

Village Program: Matches parish families with families that struggle each month to make ends meet

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THESE AND OTHER GREAT WAYS TO SERVE OTHERS, GO TO
stlaurence.org/social-concerns

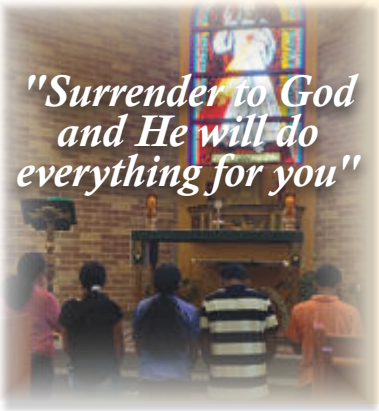
WHAT WE NEED

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/gently used children's books & small fleece blankets for CHILDREN IN SHELTERS
- Sunday Coupon inserts for COUPONS FOR A CAUSE program; drop off in parish office or the Hospitality Desk in the church
- Paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, disinfectant spray cleaners for PEOPLE IN CRISIS.

Ministry News

ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL



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 30 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 Fridays, from 2am to 3am and Saturdays (1st, 3rd, 5th only) from 6pm to 7pm

Please call or check the website for days.
There are almost 30 hours available to be near God

MAR 19: NEW HOPE GRIEF GROUP BEGINS

A new HOPE (Helping Our Pain Ease) group will start on Thursday, March 19, 6:30-8:30pm. This 7-week structured series is designed to help adults grieve successfully by accomplishing the four tasks of grieving also utilized by the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved, Inc. Consider attending if you have lost a loved one due to a sudden, tragic death or from a long term illness, either recently or in the past. Led by a hospice-trained facilitator, the group meets on seven Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm. For more info and to register, contact Kathy Heinemann at kathyheinemann50@gmail.com, 281-468-0738.

MAR 5: CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

St. Laurence Cancer Support Ministry will meet Thursday March 5, 10-11:30am, in the St. Clare Room at the Ave Maria Center. All cancer patients and survivors, their caregivers and friends, and anyone else interested to our monthly meetings is invited. Our March speaker will be an oncologist social worker from MD Anderson. She will explain their department's role in helping support cancer patients and their families before, during and after treatment. Please call Mariann Licato for more information at 281-778-6356

MAY 7-10: WOMENS ACTS RETREAT

Come away for the weekend to spend time with the Lord, nourish your soul, and get to know your St. Laurence sisters in Christ. Arrive at the Ave Maria Center at 5:00pm on Thursday May 7; transportation to and from the retreat center is provided. The retreat concludes on Sunday with lunch with your family and ACTS Community after the 11:00am Mass at St. Laurence. To register, go to stlaurence.org/womens-acts-retreat. If you have questions, please contact Retreat Director Leigh Easter at 832-768-5074, leigheaster@gmail.com.

MAR 4: DIVORCECARE

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 jpdivorcecare@aol.com or 832-860-3398. More info: **www.stlaurence.org/divorcecare**

Topics for this Spring Session - You can begin anytime

- March 4 *Facing My Depression*
- March 11 *Facing My Loneliness*
- March 18 *What Does the Owner's Manual Say? Biblical References to Divorce*
- March 25 *New Relationships*

MAR 3: ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PRAYER GROUP

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH SPECIAL CELEBRATION

MASS & NOVENA — IN THE CHURCH

6:30pm - Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet

7:00pm - Mass (followed by Novena to St. Anthony of Padua)

THANK YOU FROM MEDICAL MISSION TEAM

Dear fellow St. Laurence parishioners, thank you from the Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy! We are indeed a mission parish and your outpouring of support for the work we are doing in Costa Rica is truly humbling. We are so grateful for your very generous donations and we thank you for your support of the recent Mission Appeal. Please know that we thank God for each of you.

INTERESTED IN A NEW SUPPORT GROUP?

A parishioner has offered to start a support group for people with Parkinson's Disease. If such a group was to be held at St. Laurence, would you be interested? What if the group was expanded to include people with other mobility-compromising diseases, such as Multiple Sclerosis and Muscular Dystrophy? Support groups offer a way for people who share a particular struggle to meet regularly for mutual support, community, prayer and to share ideas and coping strategies. If you have interest in participating, please contact Sharon Ehrenkranz at sehrenkranz@stlaurence.org.

VOCATIONS NEWS

ST. LAURENCE ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
In the Divine Mercy Chapel

The Vocations Committee invites all to attend this special hour of adoration for vocations each month, praying before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for the protection of all our priests. Every first Monday of the month, 7:00-8:00pm. In the Divine Mercy Chapel

Come once or come each first Monday of the month! Prayers read aloud, recitation of the rosary, and time for quiet reflection. ALL ARE WELCOME. Questions: Email Vocations Coordinator, Nia Sepe at nsepe@stlaurence.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.

MAR 7: VIETNAMESE LENTEN RETREAT

A very special Lenten retreat will be offered in the Vietnamese language this Saturday, March 7, 10:00am-4:00pm, in the parish hall. Fr. Dinh Thanh Tu will lead the retreat on the topic "Lord, Give Us the Gift of Listening." The retreat is free, includes lunch, confessions in Vietnamese, and is open to everyone. Please register in advance with Amy Le, 281-330-0565, amyhongle@yahoo.com.

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.

Mar 2: (Monday) *A Lenten Reflection* presented by Fr. Jaison and Mary Thompson, in the Ave Maria Center, 11am to 1pm. Bring your brown bag lunch.

Mar 24: (Tuesday) Noon Mass and lunch off campus

MINISTERIO HISPANO

MAR 14 & 28: 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 Martinez Tel (281) 989-1655. 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.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
6:30pm | Liturgy of the Hours
7:00pm | Stations of the Cross
Meet in the church each Friday during Lent to meditate upon the Passion, the suffering and death of Jesus on the Cross. All ages are welcome and booklets are provided.

KC FISH FRYS
5:00-8:00pm | In the Parish Hall |
$12 for adults and $5 for children
Best fried fish dinner – plus grilled fish and fish tacos! Each Friday during Lent, our Knights of Columbus prepare fish dinners with all the trimmings. Watch for Crawfish Night, Friday, April 13.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
Monday, March 16 | 6:30pm in the Church
18 priests available to hear confessions, plus reading from scripture, music, and time for personal reflection.

DISCIPLES ON THE JOURNEY
6-week Lenten program for small groups
No charge for booklets, while supplies last
Gather your friends or family members to really dig into the Sunday scripture readings. Info: Mary Visser, mvisser@stlaurence.org

SACRED SUNDAY ON MONDAY
Mondays | 10:30-11:30am | Ave Maria Center
Meets each Monday to reflect and share what you heard the previous day at Sunday Mass. Get even more out of Mass by joining them any Monday! Contact Bernadette Peters, at bernadettepeters@mac.com.

THE GIVING TREE
March 1 and 8 | Tag line after Mass
Our Social Concerns Ministry sponsors the Giving Tree, an annual drive for donations of common household items to assist refugee families and others who come to us in need. Take a tag to donate such items as paper towels, laundry detergent, new bed sheets and blankets.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
Pray for life on Mondays and Thursdays in Lent, from 8:30am - 1:30pm outside a building where an ob-gyn performs abortions in his office. Info: stlaurence.org/respect-life, Marie McCoy, 281-265-7749.

PRAY THE ROSARY
Before noon Mass during Lent
Fridays 6:30am | Every Friday, all year long
Mondays 1:00pm | Prayer & Praise in the AMC Oratory
2nd Sundays 12:15pm | Pray for Life in Rosary Garden

VIETNAMESE LENTEN RETREAT
Saturday, March 7 | 10:00am-4:00pm | Parish Hall
Join the Vietnamese community for this annual bilingual Lenten Retreat. This year's theme is *Lord Give Us the Gift of Listening.* Includes lunch, free and open to everyone. Register: Amy Le, 281-330-0565, amyhongle@yahoo.com.

THIS WEEK
Fast from all electronic entertainment (TV, Social Media, Video Games, etc.)
WED MAR 4 \\ THUR MAR 5 \\ FRI MAR 6

For more Lenten resources, go to **stlaurence.org/lenten-season**

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Baptism	Barb Roy | 281-265-5774 x5371
Confirmation (Teens)	Cindy Martin | 281-265-5774
Confirmation (Adults)	Mary Visser | 281-265-5774
First Holy Communion	Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
First Reconciliation	Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
Marriage Preparation	Rosemary Mascarenhas | 281-980-9812
Marriage Sponsor Couples	Sharon & John Harry | 281-980-8090
RCIA (Becoming Catholic)	Justin Frato | 281-265-5774

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 Hastreiter | 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
	Mary Phillippi | 832-647-0642
Play & Pray	Elizabeth Hernandez | 281-265-5774
Vacation Bible School	Joan Hastreiter | 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
	Rosamar Martinez | 361-701-0367
Men Called to Be Saints	Jim Kij | 281-253-4800
Men's Bible Studies	Steve Ewbank | 281-703-3873
St. Anthony of Padua	Joseph Ellankil | 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

Annulments	Anne Marie Daniel | 281-265-5774
Bereavement Ministries:	
Grief Support Group	Sandy Barber | 832-451-9117
Grieving Families	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
	Jane Jewell | 713-775-7172
DivorceCare	Janie Picou | 832-860-3398
Embracing Special Needs	Cindy Martin | 281-265-5774
Loving Seniors	Julie Koeppen | 713-320-7498
	Fe Vicerra | 713-248-1164
NAMI	Pat Sumner | 281-265-1554
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

SOCIAL CONCERNS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Bridges to Life	Dana Cutbirth | 832-689-4010
Correctional Ministry	Deacon Charles Plant | 281-300-3059
Funeral Receptions	Carol Giardina | 281-703-8615
Habitat for Humanity	Steve Pondell | 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
	Janice Holley | 281-639-8833
Respect Life	Marie McCoy | 281-265-7749
Senior Rides & More	Debbie Posso | 281-980-1449
Social Concerns	Pennie DeGroot | 281-980-9812
Society St. John DeMatha	Deacon Al Bothe | 713-582-3870

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Adoration	Fran Magelssen | 281-224-6122
Altar Linen Care	Betty Holub | 281-980-9812
Altar Servers	Win & Erinn Vahlkamp| 713-614-4235
Art & Environment	Catherine Short | 713-628-3949
Extraordinary Ministers	Deacon Tom Ruck | 713-855-2399
Greeters	Kristin Holy | 281-799-8317
Liturgical Ministers	Rosemary Mascarenhas | 281-980-9812
Music Ministry	Mary Thompson | 281-980-9812
	Dr. Kevin Klotz | 281-980-9812
Ushers	Hal Mechler | 281-543-9876

EVANGELIZATION, STEWARDSHIP & LEADERSHIP

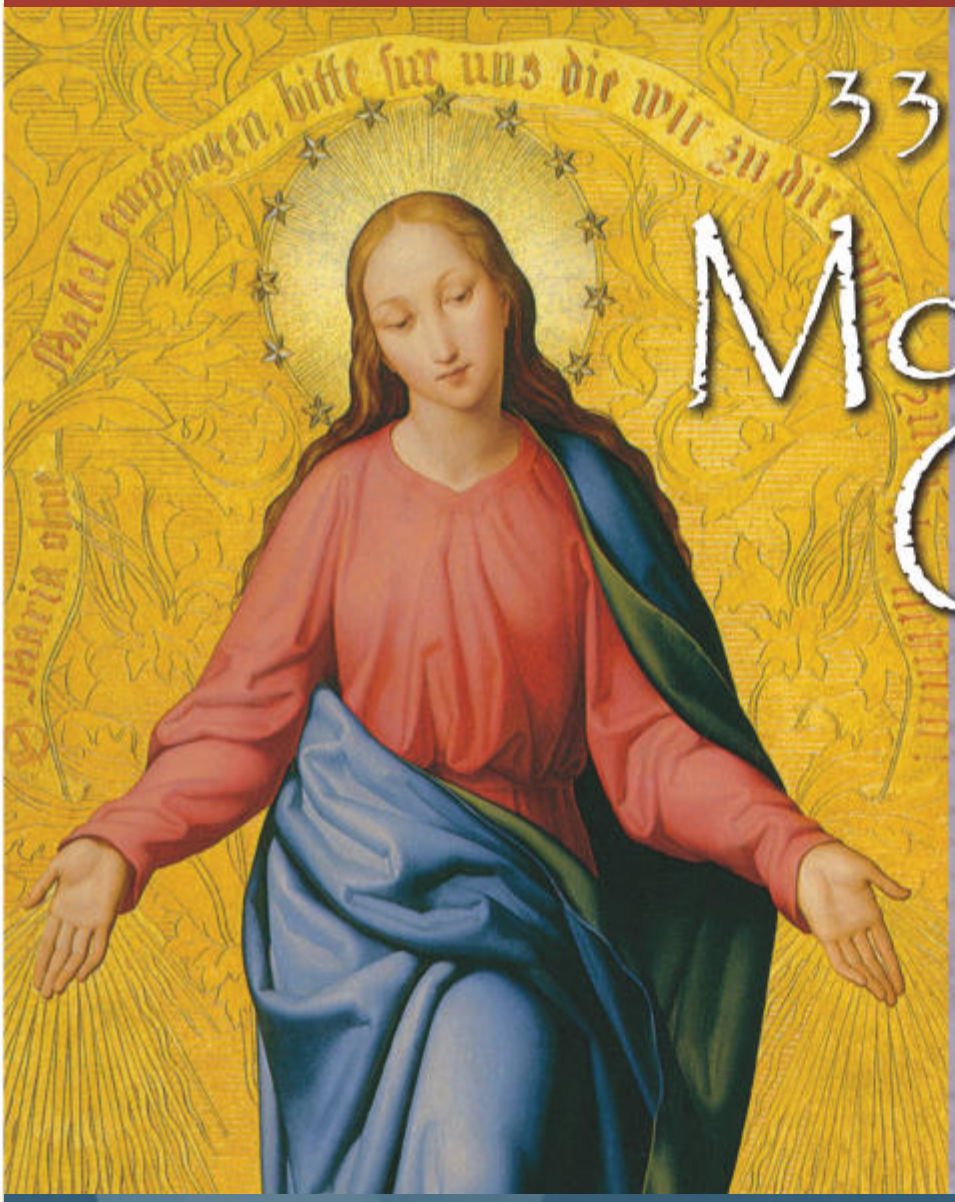
Discipleship Council	Julie Borque | 281-265-8353
Finance Council	Bob Ladd | 281-980-3246
Financial Peace University	Sunny Tom | 832-620-7417
Pastoral Council	Nick Noe | 281-202-8183
New Evangelization Ministry	Marta Alves | 713-569-3679
Re-membering Church	Deacon Tom Ruck | 713-855-2399

COMMUNITY & PARISH LIFE

African Catholic Comm	Esther Iredia | 832-661-2945
Bazaar	Mike Turner | 979-229-0991
	Les Fuchs | 832-360-3104
Boy Scout Troop 828	Adan Deroche | 281-229-1590
Cub Scout Pack 1828	Kevin White | 512-568-7630
Catholic Daughters	Pam White | 281-265-3070
Council of Cath Women	Ginny Kazmierczak | 713-305-9845
Family Ministry	Melissa Calcote | 281-265-5774
Filipino Community	Teddy Bentulan | 832-278-9045
Hispanic Ministry	Francisco Rojas-Ayala | 281-690-3374
Indian Subcontinent	Ralph Mendonca | 713-360-8093
Knights of Columbus	J.D. Gutierrez | 832-490-7574
Ladies Guild	Sharon Gonzales | 713-819-1887
Moms & Tots	Amy Curiel | 281-685-6920
St. Laurence Singles	Ivan Cardenas | 713-899-1415
Seniors (JOY Club)	Anne Higgins | 832-755-5597
Vietnamese Community	Vinnie Nguyen | 832-723-5822
Women of the Cloth	Joanne Friday | 281-565-3848
Young Adults Group	Lucia Jackson | 281-265-5774

Find More Information About All Our Parish Groups & Ministries at **stlaurence.org.**

JOIN US FOR A MARIAN RETREAT



33 Days to Morning Glory Small-Group Retreat

Join us for a 6-week small-group retreat in preparation for Marian Consecration. This retreat is based on the popular book by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, *33 Days to Morning Glory.*

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Thursdays: April 2, 16, 23, 30 and May 14, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Ave Maria Center

Tuesdays: April 7, 14, 21, 28, and May 5, 12, 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the Ave Maria Center

To register contact Anne Marie Daniel 281-265-5774 or adaniel@stlaurence.org

Information online: stlaurence.org/33-days-to-morning-glory

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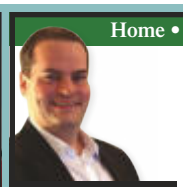

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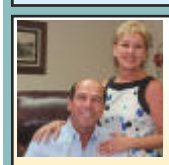
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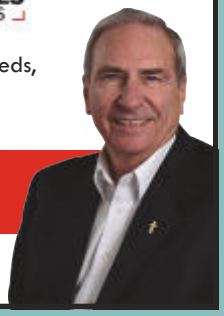

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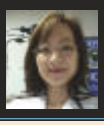

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