

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 | TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. Lawrence
CATHOLIC CHURCH

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo — Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

WHAT DO YOU SEEK? THE SEARCH

DAILY MASSES IN THE CHURCH

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 12:00pm, Friday 8:30am
Saturday 8:00am, *Reconciliation following Noon Masses*
Wednesday 6:30pm – *Reconciliation at 5:30pm*

SUNDAY MASSES IN THE CHURCH

Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am, Sunday 11am,
Sunday 1pm, Sunday 5pm

A RECORDING OF THE SUNDAY MASS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE, SATURDAYS, 7PM AT STLAURENCE.ORG

3100 Sweetwater Blvd. | Sugar Land, Texas 77479 | 281-980-9812 | www.stlaurence.org

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

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: Betty Holub, bholub@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

Children's Faith Formation: Joan Hastreiter, jhastreiter@stlaurence.org

High School Youth Ministry: Mike Cleary, mcleary@stlaurence.org

Middle School Youth Ministry: Cindy Martin, cindymartin@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: Ban Haller, jhaller@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

THE SEARCH

WHAT ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR?

What is this journey in between the event we call “birth” and the one we call “death”? Is the journey taking you somewhere, or are you leading yourself to some kind of destination – a destination that could extend beyond your last breath? What do you want from your life during the in between? The questions are there. And, the answers are too.

If you are looking for answers to these questions, or know someone who is, we invite you to consider being part of The Search, a new program hosted online by St. Laurence. The Search leads people to the deepest questions of the human heart, exploring the meaning and purpose of life with a visually stunning and intellectually stimulating approach. Hosted by popular Catholic speaker Chris Stefanick, The Search guides viewers through a crescendo of seven episodes examining life and death, sorrow and happiness, and science and faith. Astrophysicists, psychologists, astronauts, neuroscientists, professors, athletes, artists, and the beauty of the cosmos all point to one big conclusion: Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

While you can view The Search anytime for free on FORMED, we invite you to participate in this unique opportunity to view this powerful series and discuss with others at St. Laurence on Zoom. This opportunity is truly unique because you can invite friends or family from all over the world to join you since it will be entirely online for free! In fact, we are issuing the “Who Are Your Five?” challenge as part of this program. We encourage everyone to invite five other people (from anywhere) to be part of this program. We look forward to seeing you and your “Five” as we begin this journey together!

October 1, 7-9 p.m. (runs for seven Thursday evenings)

Zoom link will be sent once you register

Register for free and find out more about The Search at stlaurence.org/thesearch

Don't have a free FORMED account? Create one now by going formed.org/signup and selecting **St. Laurence** as your parish.

Contact Mary Visser for more information at mvisser@stlaurence.org

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

20

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading IS 55:6-9
Second Reading PHIL 1:20C-24, 27A
Gospel MT 20:1-16A

MONDAY

21

First Reading EPH 4:1-7, 11-13
Gospel MT 9:9-13

TUESDAY

22

First Reading PRV 21:1-6, 10-13
Gospel LK 8:19-21

WEDNESDAY

23

First Reading PRV 30:5-9
Gospel LK 9:1-6

THURSDAY

24

First Reading ECCL 1:2-11
Gospel LK 9:7-9

FRIDAY

25

First Reading ECCL 3:1-11
Gospel LK 9:18-22

SATURDAY

26

First Reading ECCL 11:9—12:8
Gospel LK 9:43B-45

SUNDAY

27

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading EZ 18:25-28
Second Reading PHIL 2:1-11
Gospel MT 21:28-32

PRAYING THE NEWS | SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

“The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.”

PSALM 145:18

Dear Lord, we pray for those suffering from the historic wildfires out west, from Hurricane Laura and other disasters fueled by our warming planet. Please be with them in their sorrow and distress. Grant the relief most needed and surround them with love and hope. May we pray honestly and have minds open to recognize where we are tempted to ignore the truth. **Jesus, we trust in you. Amen.** ✠



FAMILY LIFE

It is incumbent upon husbands and wives, mothers and dads, and single parents to spend time in prayer, discernment, and dialogue about the kind of family they will be. Family and home does not automatically happen.

Fr. Drew Wood

FAITH & FAMILY FOCUS

Celebrate your child's baptismal anniversary. Light a candle, explain why you gave your child his/her name and affirm the goodness you see in that child..

TOGETHER IN HOLINESS

NEW DATE: November 7
10:30am – 6:00pm

St. JP2 Foundation - Houston

Outstanding marriage conference featuring Danielle Bean and other great speakers, plus Mass, Reconciliation and Adoration.

Virtual option available.

forlifeandfamily.org

FORMING INTENTIONAL FAMILIES

Need ideas for spending quality time together as a family?

Pick up a copy at the Hospitality Desk or go to stlaurence.org/family

FAMILY ROSARY VIA ZOOM

Every Friday at 8 pm

Pray the Rosary with other St. Laurence families

Contact Mark Coppedge, mcoppedge@chevron.com



FRIDAY MASS WITH SLCS

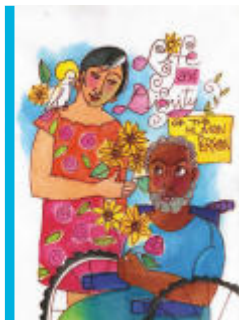
The opportunity for students and teachers to attend weekly Mass together is at the heart of what it means to be a Catholic School. Since SLCS opened last month, the school community was longing for the first "School Mass," however, some changes had to be made to ensure the safety of all. For now, only two grade levels may attend Mass at a time, to

allow for safe-distanced seating. Last Friday, 7th and 8th graders attended Mass together, enjoying a homily by Fr. Drew tailored to their specific age group and needs. Open to the whole parish community, the School Mass is celebrated each Friday morning at 8:15am, in the church. (Wearing masks, keeping a safe distance and 25% capacity required.)

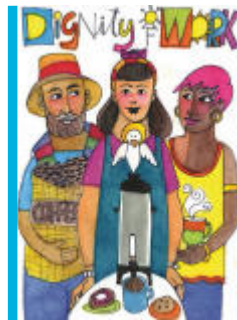
MENTOR OUR TEENS

Core Team members encourage and support small groups of middle-school students (Edge) and high school students (Life Teen and Confirmation) during their year of faith formation. Can you help? Please call 281-265-5774 to speak with Cindy Martin (cindymartin@stlaurence.org) or Mike Cleary (mcleary@stlaurence.org).

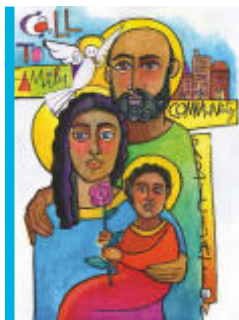
the seven themes of **CATHOLIC SOCIAL** **TEACHING** for children



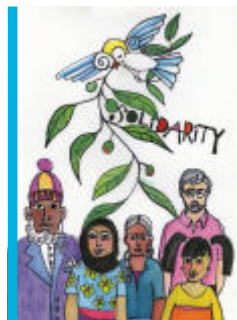
1
God made each person, so every life is important and should be protected.



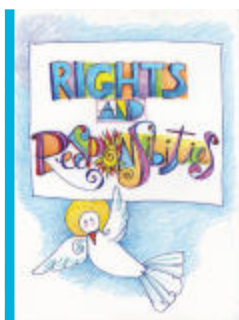
5
Work is important in God's plan for adults and their families, so jobs and pay should be fair.



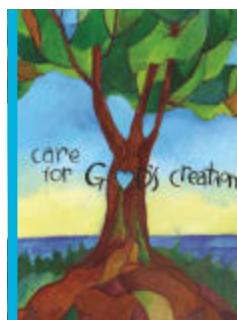
2
God made us to be part of communities, families and countries, so all people can share and help each other.



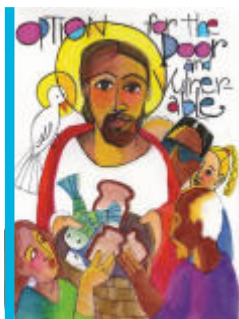
6
God made everyone, so we are all brothers and sisters in God's family wherever we live.



3
God wants us to help make sure everyone is safe and healthy and can have a good life.



7
The world was made by God, so we take care of all creation.



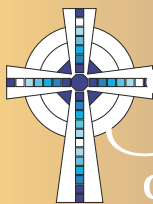
4
God wants us to help people who are poor, who don't have enough food, a safe place to live, or a community.



These themes are based on United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*.

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Photos courtesy of Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS.



St. Laurence
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH LIFE

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION – WEEKLY OFFERTORY

SEPT 13 COLLECTIONS	\$29,173
Envelopes Used	148
Loose Checks	58
SEPT 6 COLLECTIONS	\$25,825
Envelopes Used	140
Loose Checks	81
2nd Collection Catholic University of America/UST	\$4,741
AUG 30 COLLECTIONS	\$36,139
Envelopes Used	141
Loose Checks	95
2nd Collection St. Laurence Catholic School	\$2,674

ONLINE GIVING

Monthly Offertory July 2020	\$231,228
Participants	1,390

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND

2020 Parish Goal	\$495,000
Parish Paid (Activity thru 7/16/2020)	\$272,958
Amount Pledged	\$315,129
Participants	650



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Thank you for supporting St. Laurence!

Ask Paula



Q.

Is St. Laurence going to offer flu shots?

A.

Yes, the Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy are doing the Flu Shot Clinic on Sunday October 11, at the Ave Maria Center, from 8am to 1pm. Make sure you wear your mask, just like

you do to go anyplace else, *right?* Marian Hall is large enough to setup for social distancing, so don't worry about that. Wait, rumor has it that you can just drive up and get your flu shot in the car, too. Interesting fact, this year it's a *Get One, Give One* program, so your payment will cover your shot and also donate towards flu shots for patients in Laredo. *Me, I never get a flu shot*, but since this has been a crazy year I'll be getting one. Plus, I'm turning the BIG 60, so I think it's time. *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.



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.

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.

IMPORTANT TRAFFIC NOTICE

Effective immediately, the City of Sugar Land will post signs indicating traffic changes for the streets adjacent to St. Laurence: "No Turn" (during certain hours of the day) will be posted on Sweetwater at Stephens Grant and Austin Parkway at Stephens Grant. "No Parking" (during weekend Mass times) will be placed at the corner of Stephens Grant and Sweetwater. There will also be some reduced speed signs in Colony Park on the curved parts of Autumn Run Circle. These changes follow months of study and discussions with citizens. All are asked to observe and follow these regulations established by the City for the safety of everyone.

SEPT 25: KC DRIVE-THRU FOOD DRIVE

This Friday, September 25, from 4pm-6pm, the Knights of Columbus and Social Concerns will be under the belltower accepting donations for their drive-thru Food Drive. Your donations of non-perishable food items, such as cereal, soup, peanut butter, canned vegetables, tuna, crackers and juice boxes, will replenish the shelves of the Social Concerns Ministry to aid the families that come to us for assistance. Go to stlaurence.org/kc11343 to view the complete list of needed items. Thank you!

TODAY: MEDICAL MISSION TAG LINE

Some people go on mission to give, others go on mission by giving.
The Medical Missionaries of Divine Mercy are on the plaza today accepting donations monetary donations for the poor of Laredo. Due to the pandemic, MMDM's annual medical mission to Laredo is canceled. However, MMDM will still provide aid by sending flu shots and monetary donations to Bishop Tamayo and Catholic Charities of Laredo to serve those most in need in their communities. Donations large and small are appreciated. Please make checks payable to MMDM or donate online at stlaurence.org/medical-missionaries. Thank you!

WHEN THE BONES ARE GOOD

Life Teen kicks off the fall semester with "When the Bones Are Good," a series for high school students which explores what it means to be a "body-soul composite being." Discover why it's important to take care of the whole person – body, mind & soul – and not to try to prove or earn our value, but respect the value that God has already created us with. Students grades 9-12 are welcome to join the weekly Zoom meeting, September 20 thru October 11. Register: stlaurence.org/registration

GROW IN FAITH & KNOWLEDGE

Tuesday Morning Bible Study A study of The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy led by Thomas Smith will begin September 22. The group meets for 10 weeks each Tuesday morning, 9:30am – 12:00pm, for a video presentation and small group discussions. God has always sent prophets at critical times to call us back to our covenant relationship with Him. Examine who the prophets were, their role during their time, and the meaning of their messages for our own time. stlaurence.org/biblestudies

JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

If you are a man 18+ consider joining the Knights of Columbus.

Meet them and learn what's involved at one of their upcoming webinars via zoom.

Sept 24 & 28, 7:00pm

stlaurence.org/kc11343

FLU SHOT CLINIC

Sponsored by MMDM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

8am-1pm at AMC

\$30/regular flu vaccine

BUY ONE/GIVE ONE

Your flu vaccine also pays for the vaccine for a person in need in the Diocese of Laredo

ADORATION IN CHAPEL

Spend quiet time with Jesus in the Chapel of Divine Mercy.

Be a committed adorer! Go to

stlaurence.org/adoration

REGISTER TO VOTE BEFORE OCTOBER 5

Participate in public life and contribute to the common good

New to Fort Bend? Just turned 18?

Pick up a form at the Hospitality Desk or go to webservices.sos.state.tx.us/vrapp/index.asp

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

SEPT 23 – NOV 1

Mondays & Thursdays

Sign up for one hour of peaceful prayer outside an abortionist's office in Sharpstown
christianvoicesforlife.org/40-days-for-life

IN OUR PRAYERS...

PRAY FOR THE SICK

This column in the Sunday bulletin is a place that parishioners may ask for intercessory prayer in their time of sickness.

How it works:

- Call the parish office during business hours (281-980-9812)
- The sick person must be a parishioner of St. Laurence
- Request must come directly from the person (or a close family member, such as spouse or parent)
- Ask for your name to be added to the PRAY FOR THE SICK list
- Your name will appear on the list for 4 weeks
- Need prayer longer than 4 weeks? Simply call back and your name will be added for another 4 week period

Not a parishioner?

Ask for the name to be added to the Book of the Sick. Anyone in need of prayers for healing may have their name written in the Book of the Sick. These intentions are prayed for at every Mass. The Book of the Sick is located near the statue of St. Joseph in the church. You may write the name in the book yourself, or if you are not able to come to the church, we are happy to do it for you.

Almighty God, as we ask your help for our brothers and sisters who are ill, we ask you to help us to be healing people in our time and place. May your love touch others through us, and may we help all people to live in peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPT 19

5:00pm – Carol Siwierka (D)

SUNDAY, SEPT 20

9:00am – Pat & Sweeny Thompson (D)

1:00pm – Taylor Preston (D)

5:00pm – Parishioners of St. Laurence

MONDAY, SEPT 21

12:00pm – Oscar Moncada (I)

TUESDAY, SEPT 22

12:00pm – Raul Lopez (D)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 23

6:30pm – Lina Carrasco Infante (D)

THURSDAY, SEPT 24

12:00pm – Felix Bellen (D)

FRIDAY, SEPT 25

8:15am – Rita Hawthorne (I)

12:00pm – Roy Joe Moon (D)

SATURDAY, SEPT 26

8:00am – Dorothy Stefans (D)

5:00pm – Mr. & Mrs. Claro Reyes (I)

SUNDAY, SEPT 27

9:00am – Michael Sann (I)

11:00am – Margaret Seiter (D)

1:00pm – Maria Luisa Fernandez (D)

5:00pm – Parishioners of St. Laurence

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

WEDDING PREPARATION

The upcoming session is on:
September 28, 2020, 7:00pm. Please email Betty Holub, bholub@stlaurence.org for registration information. The standard preparation time for weddings is 9-12 months in advance of the desired date. All engaged couples must attend an information session.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, baptism formation classes held at the Ave Maria Center have been temporarily suspended and replaced with an Online model. We are continuing to use the Belonging program with Father Michael Schmitz from Ascension Press.

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

Sebastian Gudino, Luna Rodriguez, Zachary Waedemon, Thomas Wittneben

WEDDINGS

Gabrielle Framo and Freddy Galindo
Monica Ayala and Neyvin DeLeon

FUNERALS

Julie Jurica, mother of Janice Swoboda

Pray for our parishioners in Religious Formation

Deacon Chad Henry, Christopher Meyer, Collin Brown, Billy Dodd, Adrian Annicchiarico, Sister M. Philomena (Krystle Cagandahan), Sr. Maria Christi of the Holy Spirit (Leah Burrhus), Sr. Margaret Uche, Tim Cullen, Patrick Kinnick, Brandon Bain, Beau Guedry.

NOW HIRING: PART-TIME SACRISTAN

If you love the Mass and are looking for meaningful part-time work (4-10 hours per week), consider applying for the position of Sacristan. Sacristans work behind the scenes at our Sunday Masses and special liturgical events to make everything run smoothly. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a good working knowledge of the order and flow of liturgical services. If you are interested in applying, please send your resume to Betty Holub at bholub@stlaurence.org.



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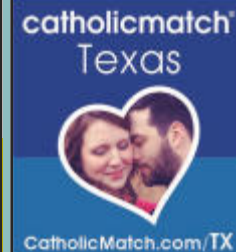
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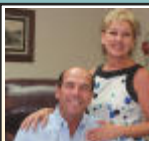
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