

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

NOVEMBER 30, 2016

CHECK OUT OUR STUDENT SINGERS PERFORMING AT THE SPICE LUNCHEON IN THE LATEST CATHOLIC HERALD!!



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN SUGAR LAND

The day before the "Human Dignity: Created in God's Image," conference, St. Laurence Catholic School in Sugar Land held their annual luncheon for the school's program Special People in Catholic Education (SPICE) where some of the students had the opportunity to sing to attendees. An all-inclusive academic program to support the education of children with special needs in their community, SPICE offers students with special needs the appropriate resources, accommodations and modifications to ensure their needs are met in an inclusive environment to the Catholic faith.

We strive to be as inclusive as possible given the resources available to educate the diversified learner.

Our SPICE or Special People in Catholic Education Program offers students with special needs the appropriate resources, accommodations, and modifications in an inclusive and Catholic environment.

St. Laurence Catholic School is leading the way and we are very proud of our SPICE Program!

To learn more about SPICE, visit <http://stlaurenceschool.org/spice>



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



O COME O COME EMMANUEL

Dear St. Laurence Community,



I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving week and enjoyed lots of good food, rest and quality family time! I know that I am thankful for the many blessings bestowed on my own family and the entire community of SLCS. As we enter the month of December and head towards Christmas, I would like to remind everyone that we are currently in the season of Advent. I mentioned to the students at our last Friday Mass before the break, that we often tend to overlook Thanksgiving and this is even more true of Advent. Please keep this in mind as there are so many things our children can learn from this beautiful time of waiting and preparation for the birth of our Savior. We cannot possibly block out all the signs and sounds of Christmas,

since this seems to start as early as October, but it is important not to overlook the important message of Advent. This weekend, the St. Laurence Parish Bulletin [HERE](#) was filled with ideas in order to help families focus on preparing for the coming of Christ from a penance service and guest speakers to a family night with fellowship and Advent crafts. As your child's first teacher, I urge you to resist the temptation to focus solely on the more secular Christmas activities like Santa and "Elf on the Shelf", in which your child is the recipient of something and concentrate on ways for them to "be a gift to others". One great idea I saw recently was to fill a box each day of Advent with a non-perishable item to donate. This is a beautiful take on an Advent calendar and you can check the Social Concerns section of the bulletin for ideas of needed things to collect.

Just imagine how much our young students can learn from practicing the virtue of patience and having to wait for something so special. We read every day about how children are more anxious than ever these days. It is speculated that a lot of this is due to a barrage of constant and immediate feedback via social media and much higher expectations at a younger age. There is currently a movement that even requires children to choose career paths or tracks for college while they are still in elementary and/or middle school!! We are always in a hurry to get somewhere or get ahead. Patience is a virtue that is not often valued these days but can yield lifelong rewards.

As a visible sign of the season, students are encouraged to wear the colors of Advent (purple & pink) in their accessories (socks, hair bows, etc.) along with jeans and spirit shirts the next three Wednesdays.

Please enjoy Bishop Robert Barron's daily Advent Reflections module available in the bottom right corner of our website – www.stlaurenceschool.org as well and thank you for joining with us in preparing our hearts and minds for this beautiful season!

Happy Advent!

Mrs. Barta

IMPORTANT DATES

12/1	STUCO Meeting
12/2	All School Mass Led by 4C
12/6	St. Nicholas Day Leo Officers Meeting MS Christmas Program Finance Committee Meeting
12/7	Jean/Spirit Day
12/8	NJHS Meeting NEHS Meeting All School Mass- Feast of the Immaculate Conception Wear your official uniform
12/9	All School Mass – Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration
CHRISTMAS MUSICALS	
12/6	Middle School Choir and 5th Grade Music Classes 7:00 p.m. School Gym
12/14	ECC Christmas Program 8:30 -10:00 a.m. Parish Hall
12/14	Band Concert 7:00 p.m. School Gym



SCHOOL BOARD CONNECTS



Take a **Stroll Down Memory Lane!**

2002-2003
SCHOOL BOARD

2002-2003 ST. LAURENCE SCHOOL BOARD



(Seated) Kathy Rohde, Greg Schockling, President; Father Drew Wood, Julie Ewbank, Steve Trevino. (Standing) Susie Murray, Craig Popp, Isaac Aparicio, Craig Foresman, Dianne Terry



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO



2002-2003 PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD



(Seated) Anne Marie Cervenka, Hilary Cowley, Annette Bain, President; Wendy Bihm, Molly Wolfe (Standing) Ellen Goodrich, Michelle Archer, Judy Janik, Joan McMichael, Rogena Sauter, Deb Hernandez (Not Pictured) Jill Kolbeck, Gerri Brown, Veronica Felix, Michelle Holbrooke, Lisa Mason, Phylis Alameddin

Take a **Stroll Down Memory Lane!**

2002-2003
PTO BOARD



NEWS

SPIRIT NIGHT

Pepperoni's is hosting our Spirit Night to help ease some of your holiday stress! Just mention SLCS when you order online, by phone or in person at their Sienna, First Colony or Riverstone locations, and they will graciously donate a portion of their sales to our Booster Club!

SPELLING BEE WINNERS!

Congratulations to the winners for the classroom and school wide spelling bees. [HERE](#) is a complete list of our classroom winners. Our winners from our School-Wide Spelling Bee are:

3rd-5th Grade Bee

1st Place- Eshaan Mani
2nd Place- Megan Rodrigues
3rd Place- Emma Sjodin

6th-8th Grade Bee

1st Place- Ireland Ga-an
2nd Place- Arielle Caranto
3rd Place- Lynley Pace

YOU ARE INVITED!

The Middle School Choir and 5th Grade Music Classes under the direction of Ms. Johanna Bonno invite you to our Middle School Christmas Program on Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00pm in the school gym. The Choir will begin with a short concert of Christmas favorites followed by the 5th grade students performing play productions of "The Christmas Chronicles" and "Miracle at Midnight." Join us as the students share in the true meaning of Christmas!

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

SLCS is grateful for the support in which we have received for the Annual Fund. Our mini directories are headed home to those that gave a gift to the fund in today's red folders! If you have not pledged or contributed, there is still time, as the annual fund is a yearlong campaign!!! Check to see if you need additional tax deductions for 2016, and make SLCS your charity of choice...join us in supporting OUR students! If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Byrne in the Advancement Office.

A GREAT WAY TO HELP MR. STONE! LOCAL BLOOD DRIVE!

Many of you know Richard Stone, our longtime Band Director. He is currently traveling to MD Anderson each day for blood and platelet transfusions as he battles cancer. One thing that we can all do to help him and MD Anderson is to donate blood and platelets. Donations are down from their usual levels at this time. If you are willing and able to help, please consider making a blood and/or platelet donation. Mr. Maklary is organizing a local blood drive that will be coming to St. Laurence on Saturday, January 7th. Click [HERE](#) to let them know you are coming! Thank you in advance!

SHARE PICTURES FOR OUR YEARBOOK USING THE BALFOUR APP!

Our Yearbook photographers can't be everywhere! If you've got great photos of school events, or you and your friends just having fun, please share them with us. The more photos you share, the better our yearbook will be for everyone! Download the Balfour App and share them from your cell phone. Our project number is #720467. Questions? Contact Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO PAYFORIT.NET LOGINS

We are enhancing the security of PayForIt.net. On November 28, there will be a new login screen on the home page. *ALL usernames will be changed to email addresses.* Parents will see a message on the login page prompting them to use their email address instead of their username. If you have any issues with this process, instructions will be available to download under the "Login Instructions" tab.



1.28.17 2:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE! WE NEED YOU HERE!

We are so blessed to be celebrating 25 years as a parish school! Please mark your calendars for our Mass & Celebration on **January 28, 2017!** It will be a fun family day at the school with scavenger hunts, photo booth, food trucks, reminiscing and fellowship! We will conclude our day with Mass with the Cardinal and our very own Father Drew! If you would like to assist in making this a day to remember, please contact the Advancement Office at advancement@stlaurence.org or 281.980.0500.

DRIVE FOR 25!

Save your quarters and make plans to participate in our Drive for 25, January 25, 2017 in honor of our 25th anniversary on the 100th day of school!!! We will have a student quarter drive to assist a local school and a 25 hour online giving day! Stay tune for more details but until then save those quarters!



FABULOUS AUCTION OPPORTUNITY

For the first time in our 25 year history you have the opportunity to support your auction with sponsorships that will directly defer the expenses of this fabulous event and give you a tax write off in 2016! Don't delay! Click [HERE](#) to see what is still available. Please note sponsorships are separate from underwriting. Sponsorships are a great way to advertise your business and help the school at the same time. Underwriting information will be sent home to all families in January. Questions? Contact one of the 2017 Auction Chairs.



ARE YOU AN ALUMNI?

We would like to invite you to be included in our next edition of the Saints' Scoop. We want to know what our Saints been up to! Please share any information you might have on any alum [HERE!](#) Please be sure to include the graduation year in your description. Please send your questions or pictures to Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org. Thank you!



SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to the boys and girls varsity basketball teams. Both teams won the Championship at the Fort Bend Christian Turkey Shoot-out Thanksgiving Tournament. Congratulations also to the C Team boys. They finished second at the St. Thomas More Tournament.

Girls basketball resumed league play on Tuesday night. The C Team had a one point loss but continues to show improvement. Both JV and Varsity had big wins over St. Francis de Sales. The Varsity won 47-16 to go to 5-1 in the league.

Boys basketball will play St. Francis de Sales today, Wednesday, at the Strake Jesuit High School gym. There will be 3 games, C Team at 5:00 PM, JV at 6:00 PM and Varsity at 7:00 PM.

BOOSTER CLUB SPIRIT STORE! Find the Booster Club forms [HERE!](#)



WANT TO CONTINUE LEARNING ABOUT YOUR FAITH WITH OTHER ADULTS?

Our Adult Faith Formation team has some amazing opportunities for our parents. Click [HERE](#) for the upcoming opportunities and speakers. There is truly something for everyone!



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

ST. AGNES/STRAKE JESUIT MIXED CHORUS

The St. Agnes/Strake Jesuit Mixed Chorus will present their signature event of the year, "Messiah" on Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10, both starting at 7:30 p.m. There is no better way to get into the Christmas spirit and start off your holiday season! The First Act includes Christmas Holiday music and a festive rendition of the 12 days of Christmas. The Second Act features Handel's "Messiah" concluding in the traditional fashion with a joyous "Hallelujah" chorus. This highly entertaining event will leave you with goose bumps and includes feature performances by singers from our All State, Regional and Performance Choirs.

The concert is held at the Strake Jesuit Parsley Center beginning at 7:30 pm and lasts approximately two hours. Doors will open at 7:00 pm. Please plan to arrive early as late seating will not be allowed. Patrons who arrive after 7:30 pm will be escorted to the back row until the intermission. Out of respect for our performers and in consideration of those around you, "Messiah" is not recommended for children under 5. Tickets can be purchased at: st-agnes.org/tickets

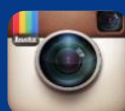
CLEMENTS HIGH SCHOOL CHEER CLINIC

Kids ages 5 thru 6th grade welcome to attend Clements Cheer Clinic. Learn proper stretching and jumping techniques, as well as a cheer and dance routine. Saturday, December 3rd from 9:30 AM -12:30 PM. Check-in begins at 9:00 & parent show-offs begin at 12:30 p.m. Clements High School Girls' Gym. ** For all details, contacts, and registration information, please visit our website at www.chscheerclinic.weebly.com

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.

CONNECT WITH US!



St. Laurence Catholic School

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