

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

JANUARY 18, 2017

ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS



We are very excited and honored to be celebrating 25 years as an Archdiocesan School!

We would like to invite you to our **Anniversary Open House!** It will be a fun family day at the school with scavenger hunts, photo booth, food trucks, reminiscing and fellowship!

Saturday, January 28, 2017

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

PTO Family Mass

5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

Celebrated by

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo,
Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

And concelebrated by

Fr. Drew Wood, St. Laurence Catholic Church Pastor and
Fr. Jaison Thomas, St. Laurence Catholic Church Parochial Vicar.

Here's your chance to support the 25th Anniversary and the Annual Fund!

All at one time!

Join in the Drive for 25 by clicking

[HERE!](#)

PayPal



This online giving day is the perfect way to support your school as every gift makes a difference and support the yearlong efforts of the annual fund! Thank you for making SLCS your priority for charitable giving. Your support is creating the Catholics of tomorrow!

DRIVE FOR 25

1.25.17

25 HOUR ONLINE GIVING DAY & STUDENT QUARTER DRIVE

SHARE YOUR QUARTERS AND DONATIONS!

to help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary on January 25, 2017, our 100th day of school!

It will be a day that you won't want to miss!



ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2630 Austin Parkway Sugar Land, TX. 77479 281.980.0500



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Thank you all for your patience this morning with the weather and a delayed start! Please know that safety is our priority and if you ever feel it is too dangerous to be on the road, then stay home! We take

the FBISD and other public school decisions into consideration, but it is not automatic that we match. They are much larger and are greatly affected by bus schedules. This morning, we did not count any tardies and will excuse students who could not make it in due to the weather. Today was a good reminder to make sure all your contact information is accurate. I apologize to those that received a text with information from another school along with our alert. Evidently, that was due to a glitch in the system we use and unless you live in Detroit, it didn't pertain to you. Stay tuned for any updates as there is a lot more rain expected and things could change quickly. ☺

Dear Families,

Happy MLK, Jr. week! I hope everyone enjoyed an extra day off on Monday! I truly appreciate all the great ideas and feedback many of you have sent regarding the upcoming construction on Sweetwater. I anticipate it will be rough at first, but eventually we will adjust and things will run smoothly. We are still working on securing a police officer in order to assist with the flow of traffic in and out of the north driveway in the morning. I will ask for your patience since the officer will probably be sending everyone out of the parking lot in the same direction. You may have to backtrack a little as you are leaving our complex, but you can easily work your way back via Lexington or Austin Parkway. We appreciate those of you that have set up new carpools so that there are less cars entering the parking lot. We also ask that you not making any arrangements such as meeting your child somewhere else or having them walk when you do not live within close proximity to the school. The sidewalk along Sweetwater and the intersection with Austin Parkway will be greatly impacted by the construction, so we want to maintain a safe ratio of students to staff members. Keep in mind that Colony Bend Elementary across the street will also be affected by this project. They are currently making adjustments to their arrival and dismissal patterns as well. The latest estimated date for the parking lot to be blocked at Sweetwater is Jan. 30th, so at this time, we will begin practicing in-house by opening doors and allowing students in the building at 7:30 a.m. (for both campuses). We do ask for your help with the following in order to speed up the process:

1. Pull all the way to the front of the line or station before stopping to let your child out. Watch volunteers.
2. Please have your child/children ready to exit the car when you stop. We don't have time to wake them, put away breakfast, gather backpacks, put on coats, etc.
3. If your older child can safely open the door and exit the car without waiting for a staff member or volunteer, please have them to do so once you are safely stopped. (not ECC children)
4. Display your carpool number prominently in the window for afternoon carpool. We all lose valuable time if we have to signal you to find it and hold it up. Ask for a new number now if you need it.
5. ECC carpool families will be receiving a new number in a different color to display in your window to help sort cars and make sure you get in the correct line.
6. Drive ALL the way to the last turn-a-round spot at Sweetwater (DO NOT CUT THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE PARKING LOT) We can often fit several more cars in line if cars do not turn early.
7. Please do not park in line before 7:30 a.m. or before 2:30 p.m. You may NOT leave your car unattended in line to go to the Chapel or into the school. If you are leaving your car, you must pull in a parking place. We will be contacting you if this happens as parishioners & staff need to be able to come and go.
8. Do not make last minute changes to your child's carpool arrangement. Be consistent. We cannot hold up the entire line because of miscommunication. You will have to drive around and start over in line if we have to remove your child from BASC, or change carpools.
9. Lastly, please be patient for the safety of our children. Bring a rosary, music, a book or whatever keeps you calm and happy!! Remember, no cell phones once carpool has started.
10. If you think you have some great ideas or can help, then feel free to volunteer. We would love the extra help and many hands make light work!

God Bless,

Mrs. Barto

IMPORTANT DATES

1/19	Quiz Bowl
1/20	All School Mass Led by 7B School-wide Geography Bee Archdiocesan Science Fair WCP Open House for Prospective Parents 10:00 a.m.

1/21	Ministry Leaders Prayer Breakfast Plaid Bag Collection - Sign up HERE
1/22	Reception for our new Deacon Dennis Henderson Plaid Bag Collection - Sign up HERE
1/23	Lagniappe starts! Courses HERE Sign up HERE
1/24	School Board Meeting
1/25	Jean/Spirit Day PTO Prayer Group Quarter Drive for our 25 th
1/26	STUCO Meeting
1/27	All School Mass Led by 3C Vocations Speakers Day 3 rd -8 th Grades 9:30-11:30 a.m.
1/28	25 th Anniversary Open House Celebration 2:00-4:00 p.m. PTO Family Mass 5:00 p.m.
1/29	Catholic Schools Week



CONNECT WITH US!

Hello Parents! We are working on our 3-5 year Strategic Plan. This is one of the many things your School Board is responsible for. We value your input regarding the future direction of our school. We want to have as many people involved in this process as possible. Please take the time to answer a couple of questions [HERE!](#)

PLAID BAG COLLECTION-WE NEED YOUR HELP

The second collection at all St. Laurence Masses 1/21 and 1/22 will benefit the Financial Assistance Program for our School. We need your family's help with the "plaid bag" collection this weekend; the money collected will be used to help families who have experienced substantial, life-changing events (e.g., death in the family, medical crises, or job loss) that impacts their ability to continue their child/children's education at SLCS. Here are some ways you can be of help:

- Please have your SLCS students **wear their "official" (Mass day) school uniform to Mass this weekend.** Seeing our children in uniform really helps our parish community to embrace the school and this cause. Students who attend Mass in their official uniform will have a **"free dress"** day (please remember to follow free dress policy as specified in the school handbook) on Monday, 1/23/17.
- Volunteers as Greeter, Gift Bearers or Plaid bag collectors! Sign up [HERE!](#)



JOIN THE PTO PRAYER GROUP

Please join the PTO Prayer Group for the first prayer meeting of 2017! What a wonderful way to kick off this new year, praying for our faculty, staff, children, and families! Wednesday, January 25th at 8:15 a.m. at the Ave Maria Center. Drop your children at school and join us for fellowship and prayer time!

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

Daddies get your dancing shoes ready for our annual PTO Daughter/Daughter Dance. This year's dance will be held on Saturday, February 4th from 7-9pm and be themed A Night in Paris! If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Aleini Lacombe at Aleini_Lacombe@yahoo.com or Tressy Garcia at tressyp@gmail.com.



NEWS

RETURNING FAMILY REGISTRATION

Returning families, as always, have priority registration. We have decided this year to allow for online re-enrollment, as well as online applications for new students. At this time, we are finalizing the lengthy and detailed process that will allow you to enter everything electronically! Our target date for this is February 1, 2017. More information will be coming soon so thank you for your patience.

INFORMATIONAL COFFEE FOR WCP OR PROSPECTIVE ECC PARENTS

St. Laurence Catholic School will host an informational coffee in the Ave Maria Parish Life Center, Guardian Angel Hall, on Friday, January 20th at 10:00 a.m. for WCP parents or those interested particularly in PreK or Kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year. We hope to see you there!

NEXT LAGNIAPPE STARTS NEXT WEEK!

Next session runs from January 30 – March 10. See your course flyer for details & course descriptions [HERE!](#) Registration is online [HERE](#). All payments should be to SLCS and returned to the teacher hosting these awesome classes. They fill up quickly so first come, first serve!

CLASSROOM GEOGRAPHY BEE

Next week, classroom Geography Bee winners will participate in School Wide Geography Bee. We are consistently amazed at how much our students know about their world and the way our different countries work together for global awareness. Good luck!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK KICK-OFF

We are so pleased to be able to come together in worship on January 28th for our PTO Family Mass with our school community at the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass. Calendar [HERE!](#)

OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

We will offer an Open House for all Prospective Parents at the school on Thursday, February 2nd from 6-7:30 p.m. Share the invitation with your family and friends!

JOIN US FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL SLCS FAMILY RETREAT!

Join us for the 4th Annual SLCS Family Retreat! Enjoy spending quality time with your family the weekend of March 31st, 2017. The retreat brings SLCS families together to share community, fun, and practical wisdom, as we endeavor together to foster the domestic church in our homes. The retreat facility holds approximately 30 families, so space is limited to a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will be available through Friday, March 10th. Click [HERE](#) to print the registration form. Contact Debra Haney [HERE](#) with questions.

STEPS FOR STUDENTS - JOIN OVER 12,500 RUNNERS SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

This year Steps for Students is the only PTO fundraiser. That means 100% of the money donated will go to funding fun PTO events like movie nights, PTO rosary, father/daughter dance, hoops and dogs, middle school dances, teacher wish lists and much, much more. All incentives will be completed on the week of February 21, 2017. See the attached incentive flyer [HERE](#) for details.

All money raised/donated (less fees) comes back directly to SLCS!!! Make sure to click on St. Laurence to make sure the funds go to our school and to click on the name of the child to get the donation counted for their incentives.

You can donate or register by January 31, 2017, at [STEPS FOR STUDENTS!](#) See who's already signed up and who's created fundraising pages! You can create a page too!

Our top fundraisers as of 1-18-2017 are [Anna Bergman](#), [Abigail Bergman](#), [James Wyble](#), [Zoey Crawford](#), [Abigail Thomas](#)! We hope to see your name here next week!

STEPS FOR STUDENTS 5K RUN/WALK

SAVE THE DATE
Feb 18th 2017 is going to be a **SUPER DAY** in Houston

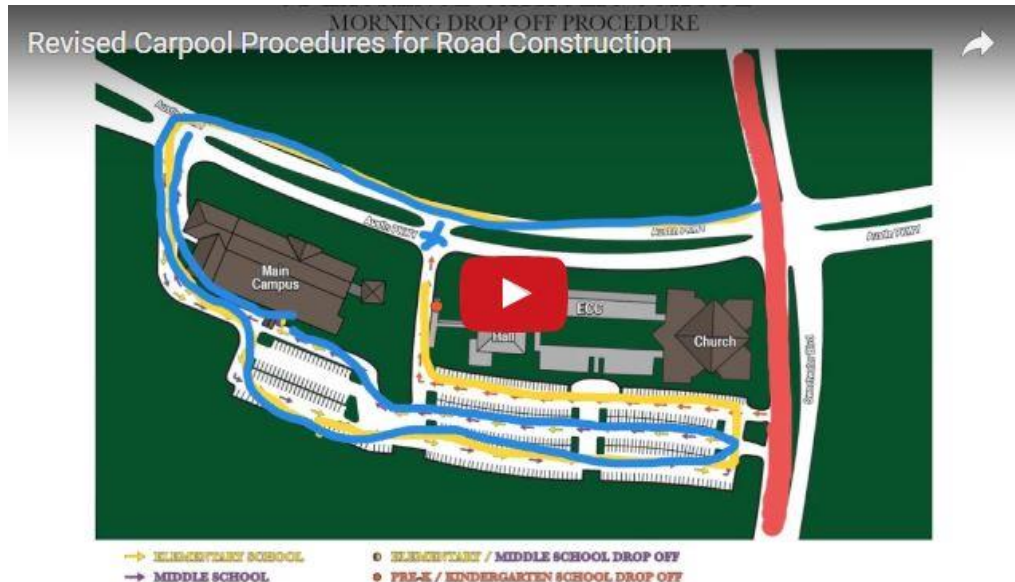
Hope to see your name here next week!

CONGRATS TO OUR TOP TEAM MEMBERS THIS WEEK!

5 Abigail Thomas
4 Zoey Crawford
3 James Wyble
2 Abigail Bergman
1 Anna Bergman

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF \$20,000 TO SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

REMINDER ABOUT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES BEGINNING JANUARY 30th



This is an important reminder regarding arrival and dismissal procedures beginning in January 30! Please click on the picture or [HERE](#) to watch the procedures!

Please practice your new route over the break if necessary and make arrangements with families that live near you so that we will all be ready once this construction occurs. Thank you for your patience as we work together to facilitate a workable solution to this temporary inconvenience.

IT'S FLU SEASON! HELP ECC AND MAIN CAMPUS KEEP ROOMS SANITIZED!

ECC and Main Campus rooms are in need of Clorox wipes! Please send a container of Clorox Wipes to **ECC** and/or **Main Campus** to be used to wipe down desk and door handles. It truly helps contain the spread of germs! THANK YOU!

SCHOOL CHOICE RALLY

On January 24, 2017 the School Choice Rally will take place at the capitol in Austin! You are invited to attend and represent the largest private school organization in the state of Texas. See the flyer from the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops (TCCB) [HERE](#)!



We are back with some more trivia that just might help you on Saturday, January 28th! Mark your calendars to join in the fun from 2-4 p.m.

1. Our sports teams are doing amazing things. Did you know we used to have a golf team?
2. Prior to our current building's existence, Middle School had temporary buildings set up between the driveway and the parish hall.
3. PTO is very involved with our community. They provide Family Movie Nights, Rosary and Dinner, Father and Daughter dance, classroom Valentine's parties, support the auction and golf tournament and organized staff appreciations!
4. SLCS was named an Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School by the US Department of Education in 2005 and again in 2014.
5. Our talented Middle School Band is under the direction of Mr. Pacheco. We allow our students to try out for the band in 5th grade. Beginning in 6th grade they can start performing. Our band has most recently competed in the Houston Symphonic Band contest and received the Superior Performance award.



SLCS 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & AUCTION SUPERBOWL BONANZA!!!

WE HAVE 2 SUPERBOWL TICKETS TO AUCTION OFF!!!

Bidding will begin SOON and will be open *for a limited time!* Proceeds go to St. Laurence Catholic School in celebration of the 25th Anniversary Gala & Auction

More details forthcoming! Like our new St. Laurence Catholic School Auction FB page, check SLCS weekly newsletter and website, parish bulletin and listen to school and Mass announcements to stay up to date with the latest information and find out when bidding will go LIVE!!!! Questions contact Rachel Leaman [713-299-3278](tel:713-299-3278)



ST. LAURENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL AUCTION HAS IT'S OWN FACEBOOK PAGE!

Like us, follow us, and share us [HERE](#) with your friends and family so you all can stay up to date with "All Things Auction"! As auction nears we will post sponsors, live, big board and silent packages for you to preview, and will be posting pictures from the VIP party and events leading up to the big night...."New York Nights...Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence!" We can't wait to celebrate with you!

GREAT 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.



CALLING ALL ALUMNI BASKETBALL PLAYERS!

We are looking to have a little fun during our 25th anniversary celebration and need you for our alumni vs current player basketball scrimmage! Come reminisce about the good old days, catch up with old friends, visit your beloved SLCS and see what is happening at your alma mater. Contact Coach Fucik or the Advancement office if you are interested in joining in the festivities on Saturday, January 28th at 2 – 4 pm. Scrimmage to begin about 2:30 pm.

Please share with your former classmates, your parents, and your siblings! The event will be family friendly and will include food trucks, a scavenger hunt, tours, and other great activities.



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

BASKETBALL

The boys teams, C, JV and Varsity, play at St. Francis de Sales today and all 3 girls teams will play at St. Francis de Sales on Thursday. The teams are coming to the end of the conference season. Look for information on playoff games beginning Monday, January 30th.

BLUE OUT GAMES ON MONDAY, JANUARY 23RD

The girls and boys varsity teams will host non-conference games against Salem Lutheran from Tomball on Monday, January 23rd to get ready for the upcoming playoffs! All fans should wear BLUE spirit shirts to show support for the Saints. Eighth grade students may stay after school to watch the games. The girls will play at 4:30 and the boys at 5:30 PM. Concessions will be available.

SPRING SPORTS TRACK

The parent meeting for all parents with a child interested in participating on the track team this spring will be on Tuesday, January 31st at 6:30 PM in the dining hall. Please register your child on the athletic website stlaurenceathletics.org

SOFTBALL

There will be preseason clinics for girls interested in trying softball next week. The clinics will be held at the Sugar Land Softball fields on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 23,25,26, from 4:00-6:00 PM.

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



PARISH NEWS

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!

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!

