

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

MARCH 22, 2017



SLCS
HERITAGE WEEK



SLCS HERITAGE WEEK MARCH 20-24

We are celebrating our heritage this week!

- Special culture lessons in our different auxiliary classes!
- Heritage Day, Thursday, March 23rd!
***Culture Dress Up Day! Please note that this day students and teachers are welcomed to wear something traditional from their culture if they wish!**
- *Share about your culture by parents and/or students.
- Heritage Week Presentation for all grade levels - Houston Flamenco Collective Music and Dance Presentation from Spain! Students will learn some Flamenco steps and DANCE! OLE!!
- Learn facts about the different cultures on our Social Media pages!
- Answer our CULTURE SURVEY, to learn about the countries represented at our school, and future Home-School Connections opportunities here: <https://goo.gl/forms/DxJF9sMVBtdZKOn03!>



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Families,

It's that time of year where we ask for your input via the SLCS Annual Family Survey. Please take the time to fill this out and submit it back to us online. It only takes a few minutes and your feedback helps us determine if we are communicating with you appropriately and where to concentrate our efforts in the coming year. Many of your comments from last year have already been incorporated into our new SLCS Strategic Plan, which will be shared with you at the end of this school year. Your current SLCS School Board has been working very hard to ensure that our school is headed in the right direction and is on track to fulfilling our mission.

The Strategic Plan is a living document with long-term goals and action steps that will outline our priorities in the next 5 years in the following categories:

- Leadership and Governance
- Catholic Identity
- Finance and Facilities

- Excellence in Education
- Enrollment and Marketing
- Student Life/Enrichment (this is a new category that we are very excited about as it entails input from our students)

The survey is one way that you can have a voice. It will be emailed to you early next week and we appreciate you sending it back to us on time. We are looking for a 100% return and if we get over 90%, the students will all be rewarded with a free dress day on Monday, April 10th!! We are looking forward to your input and pray that you have a wonderful rest of the week.

God Bless,

Suzanne Barto

IMPORTANT DATES	
3/23	HERITAGE DAY! Families, fill out your Heritage Survey HERE! 5 th Grade Service Project STUCO Meeting Middle School Free Dress for Good Behavior Day!!
3/24	All School Mass by NJHS 4 th Grade Service Project Celebration
3/25	First Communion Retreat 1-4 p.m.
3/27	IOWA Assesments Starts
3/29	Report Cards go home
3/30	STUCO Meeting
3/31	Family Retreat Weekend All School Mass Led by 5A HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MRS. BARTO! 🎂



SERVE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD!

Did you know that several board members will have fulfilled their term limit of three years at the end of this school year, so we will be actively seeking new members? The SLCS School Board serves as an advisory group to the school administration and is responsible for facilitating the 5 year Strategic Plan. We are seeking parents who are committed to the future success of our school and can dedicate the time to meet monthly after hours. School Board members also serve on committees and give input regarding finances, policies, public relations, faith development and outreach through board relations. If you are interested please click [HERE](#) and send us your information. We would be happy to contact you if you have questions or come to our Information Night.

SAVE THE DATES!

School Board Information Night – April 20 and Discernment Night - April 22



PTO BOARD

We are currently filling the 2017-2018 PTO Board and program chairs. If you are interested in being on the board and attend monthly meetings or would like to chair a program, please email Kristin Holy at ckholy@windstream.net. All are welcome! Many hands make light work!

LUNCH ROOM DUTY, WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!!

Parents we are in immediate need of lunch room volunteers. It is a great way to see your child and all their friends. It is also a great needed and appreciated role. If you are interested in even doing a day a month or more please email Crystal Helcel at cfh102198@gmail.com.



NEWS

NEXT LAGNIAPPE SOON!

Next session runs from April 10th – May 19th. See your course flyer for details & course descriptions [HERE!](#) All payments should be to SLCS and returned to the front desk. Classes fill up quickly so first come, first serve!

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO BUY YOUR HELPING HANDS CARDS

Second Grade children have been working on with prayer cards and packages to comfort and acknowledge individuals needing some form of care and/or attention. This program, called Heaven's Hands, is now on its second stage: selling prayer card kits to raise funds to support our sister school, Queen of Peace in Houston. Please see the proof sheet [HERE](#) to see what children's packages of "class cards" will look like! If you are interested, complete the form below designating the number of sets you would like to purchase for yourself or a loved one. These cards make great thank you notes for First Communion & Graduation and the perfect little Mother's Day gift for a special mom in your life. All orders will be delivered to you with envelopes via your child's backpacks.

ANNUAL SLCS FAMILY RETREAT

The ANNUAL SLCS FAMILY RETREAT is a great way to spend time during Lent strengthening your relationship with your children and bonding with other families. Come and spend some quality time praying together, listening to great speakers and enjoying the beautiful outdoors. There are activities planned for every age group. Families that have gone in the past have watched their children form strong friendships with other SLCS students across different grade levels. They look forward to this weekend every year!! There are only a few more spots left and you won't want to miss this wonderful opportunity. Click [HERE](#) to register! We hope to see you there!

MEAL TRAIN FOR MR. STONE

Mrs. Lootens is coordinating some meals for Mr. Stone while he is going through his treatment. She has set up a sign up genius for volunteers to bring them meals...please consider helping if you can! Click the link below for the dates and details: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0545AF22A20-meals>

CARPPOOL REQUEST-MORNING DROP-OFF AND AFTERNOON PICKUP REMINDERS



Please do not drop students off in carpool in the morning before 7:30 without an adult or park early in line, waiting for carpool prior to 2:30 in the afternoon! You are blocking other cars and interrupting the flow of carpool to the main campus. We will be contacting you about this and asking you to come in and pick up your child.

We have also been experiencing some dangerous situations in the afternoon with cars attempting to come in the exit lane of the North drive after carpool has started!! Once the cars are moving, you must stay at the end of the line and follow the entire route through the parking lot. I promise you will get there. Please do not attempt to drive around carpool B cars waiting in line to get to ECC or carpool A. We have tried to create a third lane at the far end of the parking lot to allow ECC parents to have a head start, but they are now blocking Carpool A and creating a huge back-up! Some of you are in such a hurry that you have come close to hitting our wonderful afternoon carpool volunteers!



COUNSELORS' CORNER

Counselor's Corner— Information on Upcoming Testing Reminder standardized will start on Monday, March 27th

- IOWA Assessments - These tests measure achievement in several content areas.
 - Given to students in grades 1 – 8
- CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) - This test measures students' learned reasoning abilities.
 - Given to students in grades 2, 4, and 6
- ACRE (Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education) published by the National Catholic Educational Association - This test assesses the knowledge of Catholic faith as well as opinions, beliefs and attitudes about the Catholic faith.
 - Given to students in grades 5 and 8

Testing Schedule:

Grades 1-4: March 27th -31st and April 3rd and 4th

Grades 5-8: March 27th- 30th; Grades 5, 6 and 8 will also test on April 3rd and 4th

Parents can help students prepare for testing by:

- Teachers will begin testing procedures after the morning bell rings. Testing will take place from 8:00-10:45 a.m. **BE ON TIME TO SCHOOL!**
- Making sure appointments are not scheduled on these dates.
- Making sure your student gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast each morning.
- Keeping your routine as normal as possible.
- Letting your child know that you have confidence that he or she will do his or her personal best on the tests.



AUCTION NEWS

RAFFLE TICKET TIME

Raffle tickets have been distributed! If you did not receive them, please stop by the front office so you can join in the fun! All raffle tickets turned in with either cash or a check made payable to St. Laurence Catholic School to the main office by Thursday, April 20th, will be eligible for the early bird drawing on April 21st and students will receive FREE SHOES on Wednesday, April 26th. Our early bird winner will get a SLCS goodie bag with an AMC gift card. New this year! We've modified the traditional raffle to two different drawings with five fabulous prizes! Don't miss this opportunity to support this year's auction. Questions? Contact Cecilia Garcia, Elizabeth Volmert or Catherine Yepson.

ANNIVERSARY ADS

Here's your chance to have a shout out in the auction catalog for your favorite SLCS Saint, teacher or graduate! Click [HERE](#) for advertising opportunities for the anniversary event on April 29th at Sweetwater Country Club. Anniversary ads are just \$25 for 50 characters and are a perfect way to support our biggest fundraiser of the year. Have questions? Contact kikile@comcast.net All ads are due by March 24, 2017

FOLLOW SLCS AUCTION FACEBOOK PAGE [HERE!](#)



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

BASEBALL

The Varsity baseball team defeated St. John Paul II before spring break to raise their record to 4-1. The boys will

play at St. Thomas More on Wednesday and at St. Cecilia on Friday.

SOFTBALL

The Varsity softball team had a convincing 14-5 win over St. Francis de Sales on March 9th. The girls are now 3-1 in league play and 4-1 overall. The Saints will host St. John Paul II on Wednesday and travel to St. Cecilia on Thursday.

TRACK

The track team will have the first meet of the season this Saturday, March 25th at Butler Stadium. The field events begin at 8:00 AM and the running events follow at 10:00 AM. The Saints will be the host school for this meet.

TENNIS

The tennis team will continue with league play on Saturday. Varsity, JV and C will all play matches.

Good Luck to all the Saints teams!

The (un)Official SLCS S-P-I-R-I-T Challenge is ON!!!!
Complete your task and show your SLCS Spirit! Read more [HERE!](#)

BOOSTER CLUB SPRING SPORTS GEAR

Needing to refresh your Blue Out Gear or want a new stadium seat, cushion or lawn chair for watching your kids participate in baseball, softball, tennis or track? Use this form [HERE](#) to order and purchase on/before next week Spirit Sale and we will have your gear ready to go home March 29th with your student!

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



PARISH NEWS

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE [HERE!](#)

ST LAURENCE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

The Reverend John T. Weyer Knights of Columbus Council 11343 is once again offering FOUR scholarships to the students of our parish. You do not have to be enrolled in Catholic school at this time to qualify, just a member of the parish. We will award TWO \$1,000 scholarships to eighth grade students of St. Laurence Parish who will attend ANY of the Catholic high schools in the area for the first time in the fall of 2017. We will also award TWO \$2,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are members of St. Laurence Parish entering college for the first time in the summer or fall of 2017. Scholarship applications will be available on our website www.kofc11343.org on Sunday, March 12th. A link to the applications will be posted on the home page. All instructions can be found on the application. The deadline for entry will be Sunday April 9th, and winners will be announced by the end of May. Any further questions, please contact Nathan Raun at nathan.raun@gmail.com.

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

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY PRESENTS: SHREK

MARCH 3-5TH

Falcon Theatre invites you to attend its spring production of Shrek! Performances will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday March 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Tickets can be purchased at the door or ahead of time [HERE!](#)

MISSION STATEMENT

As a pastoral instrument of the Church, St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the whole Christian person in

body, mind, and spirit through the trinity of parent, child, and educator.

