

ST. LAURENCE
SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK

OCTOBER 19th, 2016**YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL SPICE LUNCHEON!**

Please make plans to join us for our Annual SPICE Luncheon on November 11th at 11:30a.m. in the Parish Hall. This year's luncheon is sure to touch not only the SPICE students within our school but our entire community. We are proud to feature Charleen Katra as the featured speaker from the Chancery of Galveston Houston and our very own Ms. Bonno will be performing with our students! All guests will be treated to an amazing morning featuring a catered lunch by Pappas BBQ and fabulous silent auction with something for everyone from Disneyland to local sporting event to special visits from Santa Claus to the lucky winner's house!!! Please contact Suzanne Byrne in the Advancement Office to purchase tickets. \$60 each or table sponsorships are available as well.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK****MEET OUR NEWEST FACULTY MEMBER AND BAND DIRECTOR, MR. JESUS PACHECO!**

I'm from Spain, 'Jerez de la Frontera' to be exact. I graduated on Percussion Performance in 2010 from Sevilla Conservatory of Music and I have been playing in bands and orchestras and conducting ensembles for more than 15 years now. I started to play percussion in Band, after several years of piano. Percussion (timpani, xylophone, drums in general...) is my calling and passion. I've always been a 'Band Kid' and I toured the world with many orchestras visiting Germany, France, Italy, Morocco, Russia, and China. I consider Band to be such a powerful ensemble, capable of playing any kind of music, so versatile and so expressive at the same time.

I moved to Houston almost 5 years ago to marry my dear wife Cecilia Duarte. She was born and raised in

Chihuahua, Mexico. She is also a musician, Mezzo-Soprano, and she sings all around town with different companies such as Houston Grand Opera, HGOco, Opera in the Heights, etc. We've worked (performed, really) together many times in different projects with local companies like Bach Society, Ars Lyrica, Mercury... We love our jobs and we love Houston and its variety of cultures and food. Last year God blessed us when our first daughter, Julia, came to this world. She has changed our lives in the most wonderful way.

Besides being your new Band Director, I will continue working at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory as the Assistant Band Director, where I work alongside Mr. Ben Ware, the Head Band Director. This will be my fourth year there. Mr. Ware and I are very active musicians and educators, so we try to bring to the classroom as much from the professional world as possible. We've also built a big leadership program that has helped the band tremendously in the past few years, making it grow in numbers, spirit, and musical level.

Being part of St. Laurence Catholic School is a true blessing. Everyone from students to staff have been so welcoming and so very helpful. I am truly thankful for being here and I'm looking forward to the rest of this year with SLCS Band.



Click on the picture to watch Mr. Pacheco and the Band in Action!

God Bless,

Mrs. Barto

IMPORTANT DATES

10/20	Living Rosary by 4 th Grade 8:30 a.m. in the gym. 8 th Grade Girls visit IWA /Boys visit STH
10/21	All School Mass Led by Leos
10/22	PTO Hoops & Dogs First Reconciliation retreat 1-4pm
10/24	Red Ribbon Week starts Pep Rally
10/25	School Board Meeting 8 th Grade visits Pope John XXII
10/26	Jean/Spirit Day ECC Carnival SAA Open House for 8 th Graders 7:00 p.m. PTO Prayer Group 8:15 am St. Joseph Room
10/27	STUCO Meeting MS Month of the Young Adolescent Event



SCHOOL BOARD CONNECTS





MEET OUR SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY CHRISTINA HINOJOSA

Being called to serve on the SLCS School Board has been one of my most treasured privileges. I lived in the Houston area for two years before I moved to Sugar Land and stepped in to the warmth of home that is St. Laurence. I was born in to and raised in the Catholic faith. While growing up, our families, friends, and neighbors always encouraged my peers and me to take an active role in our church community and most importantly, they modeled how to be active, caring parishioners. I believe that it is this foundation, coupled with my enthusiasm for growing and nurturing young hearts, which equips me to serve SLCS in the way that it deserves.

I spent my childhood in a small town and though I attended public school, I was fortunate enough to receive a Catholic pre-school education. My older nephews & nieces have attended the same Catholic school in my hometown as is my youngest nephew, Nicholas, pictured with me. Receiving an education in the same environment in which your faith is nurtured is a priceless privilege not afforded to most students, so I feel blessed that the Lord has positioned me to serve such a precious group of children, families, educators, and administrators.

During the discernment process, we were asked to articulate how we could positively impact SLCS and its School Board. My answer was easy to identify: I have a passion for the well-being of children because they are gifts and we are entrusted to create the best environment possible for them. Even though I do not yet have children of my own (I trust that God will bless me in the future), I believe that our greatest role as adults is to raise and care for children so that each of them can learn about their world and become exactly the person that our glorious Lord calls them to be. I am honored to serve on the School Board for the next few years and I am eager to learn, help, and further advance SLCS in to the bright, healthy, faith-filled future that awaits our children.



BAZAAR THANK YOU!

- ❖ Thank you to our awesome PTO bazaar booth chairs.
- ❖ Thank you to Kelly Otero for chairing the cotton candy booth - lots of hard work but really "sweet".
- ❖ Thank you to Meg Thorburn for chairing the snow cone booth. It was quite busy in the heat!
- ❖ Thank you to all the school parents that volunteered and covered all the work shifts. It was a very successful bazaar.

HOOPS & DOGS

Our annual father/son event, Hoops & Dogs, catered by James Coney Island, is Saturday, October 22 from 6:00-8:00. Please RSVP to PTOPrograms@gmail.com. And, if you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Crystal Helcel at cfh102198@gmail.com or Melanie Bilodeau at Melanie.bilodeau@barilla.com.

PTO FUNDRAISER

Steps for Students is replacing Yankee Candle as the PTO fundraiser this year. We are kicking it off early with a **“Wear a Halloween Shirt (must be appropriate for school) to School”** on October 31st, if you register by October 28th, Conference Day. All registrations both snoozers and walkers will receive a T-shirt. Unlike Yankee Candle almost 100% of the money comes back to St. Laurence. Which will be used to pay for Family Rosary, Family Movie Night, Hoops and Dogs, Father Daughter Dance and much, much more. Please go to <http://steps4students.org> and register. See the flyer [HERE](#) for all the incentives for this fundraiser.

PTO PRAYER GROUP

October is the month of the rosary! Please join us for our monthly PTO Prayer Group session followed by the rosary. Our next prayer meeting is 10/26 at 8:15 in the St Joseph room - Ave Maria Center. It's a wonderful way to start your day, praying for our school, staff and teachers, our families and our precious children! Since this is the prayer group meeting before the election, let's pray strongly for our nation! We pray that you can join us! Little ones are always welcomed.



NEWS

LAGNIAPPE! EXTEND YOUR LEARNING! REGISTRATION PROCESS HAS CHANGED!

SLCS offers a variety of mini-courses after school in different areas interests for our students. Our next session of Lagniappe will begin October 31st! Click [HERE](#) for the list of awesome courses and for online registration!

1. Please fill out this online registration form.
2. Please send a check to the school front office for \$120/course with the name of the courses in the Memo line.
3. Please note a minimum/maximum number of students is required to have classes.
4. Online Registration and check must be received by **October 28, 2016**.

YOU ARE INVITED TO WITNESS A LIVING ROSARY

The Fourth Grade Class invites you to join us in praying the Rosary as the class presents a Living Rosary honoring Mary, The Lady of the Rosary, on Thursday, October 20th at 8:30 A.M. in the gym.

FAMILY DIRECTORY

Our preliminary Family Directory is now posted on Edline! Please review your family's information and if you have changes, email Mrs. Marie Brown, mbrown@stlaurence.org.

RED RIBBON WEEK

Red Ribbon Week is a way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against drugs. SLCS will celebrate Red Ribbon Week with a kick off pep rally on Monday, Oct. 24th at 2:15! The Student Council has designated a special theme to each day of the week to promote making healthy choices and maintaining a drug free lifestyle.

Read the plan for the week [HERE!](#)

FALL CONFERENCE DAY...FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

Fall Conference Day will be here before you know it... ECC and Elementary parents were able to sign up for a conference time on Parent Information Night in August. If you have not done so, we ask that you call the front office at the school to see what appointment times are still available. These conferences are held in the child's classroom, are led by the student, and last for 15 minutes.

Middle School conferences for grades 5th through 8th will be held in the gym on Friday, October 28th from 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Teachers will be having lunch from 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., at which time they will not be available for conferences. There is no need to sign up for a conference time for middle school students. Simply come to the gym at a time that is convenient for you. Read more [HERE!](#)

JOIN US FOR FESTIVE FUN AND SUPPORT SLCS AT OUR AUTUMN BOOK FAIR!

We are so excited about our Book Fair! Buy some great books and help support SLCS! Here is the schedule:

Monday, Oct. 24 Thursday, October 27th, 2016 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 28 Fall Conference Day 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Get your books, holiday gifts, and more! Win a \$25.00 gift card

See the Teacher's Wish List Binder and give the gift of lifelong learning and literacy.
Thank you! We look forward to your support. See you at the book fair!

SLCS FIRST QUARTER ACCELERATED READER UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

Click [HERE!](#)

8th GRADE CALENDAR

Wow! Can you believe our kids are 8th graders? Many of our kids have been at SLCS for 11 years! This was the last class to have attended PreK 3. Well, needless to say this is an exciting year for our kids with a lot of activities and events. We need your help to make this a great year for them. Because there are so many events, we wanted to give you an 8th grade at a glance calendar [HERE!](#)



GOLF TOURNAMENT IN 12 DAYS!

Have you procrastinated on registering? **YOU ARE NOT TOO LATE!** Regular registration ends this Friday, October 21. We can continue to accept late registrants through Thursday, October 27th. The registration fee for individual golfers is \$225. Click [HERE](#) for the Sponsor/Player Registration form.

All golfers receive an amazing goodie bag (thank you Tykes to Teens and Allergy & Asthma) at check in. Golfers registering by Friday, October 21st, will receive their Under Armour Dri-Fit golf shirt in their goodie bags. Those registering after Friday, October 21st, will receive their shirts in November.

Can't golf? *We still need your help!* We are accepting cash donations and Visa, MasterCard, and American Express gift cards in any denomination. These donations help defray the cost of the tournament. *We would love to have more hole sponsors too!* With this \$325 donation, your business logo, your family name, or your kids' names are prominently displayed at one of the Sweetwater golf course holes. Beverage Cart sponsorships (\$500 donation) are also available.

IMPORTANT GUESTS MAKE CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR ALL A PRIORITY!

You are invited to attend our annual Special People in Catholic Education (SPICE) Luncheon and Silent Auction on November 11, 2016 at 11:30 in the Parish Hall. We are honored to welcome Charlene Katra, Associate Director from the Archdiocese of Galveston Houston. It is a luncheon you will not want to miss with catering by Pappas BBQ and auction items, featuring a Disneyland trip and memorabilia celebrating our very own Houston Texans. Tickets are \$60 and reservations may be made through the Advancement Office at 281-980-0500.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR 25th ANNIVERSARY!

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 day at the school with food trucks, activities and reminiscing! 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 281.980.0500.



ALUMNI NEWS

Once a Saint, Always a Saint

SAINTS' SCOOP

Preparation is underway for our next edition of the Saints' Scoop. We want to know what our Saints been up to since leaving SLCS. Please send any information you might have on any alum to our Advancement Office [HERE!](#) Please be sure to include the graduation year in your description. Thank you!



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

FOOTBALL

Come and cheer on the Football Saints as they play for the GHCAA Championship today at 6:00 p.m. at Strake Jesuit High School. The Saints will try to avenge an early season loss against St. Anthony of Padua to defend their GHCAA Championship. Be sure to wear your Spirit shirt!

CROSS COUNTRY

St. Laurence will host the GHCAA Cross Country Championship at Sugar Land Memorial Park on Friday, October 21st. Races will begin at 4:30 p.m. Good luck to all the Saints runners competing on Friday.

VOLLEYBALL

The Varsity Volleyball team is the #1 seed for the GHCAA playoffs. St. Laurence will host St. Anne of Houston on Monday, October 24th at 4:30 PM to begin the defense of their GHCAA Championship. Come and cheer on the girls and let's make it a Blue Out to show our Saints Spirit!

BASKETBALL

Basketball open gyms continue this week. Check the Edline Athletic homepage calendar for times. Tryouts will begin on Monday, October 24th. The schedule will be posted on Edline. All students trying out for basketball should be registered on the athletic website at stlaurenceathletics.org and must turn in a completed physical form to the office. The athletic fee payment can be made online when you register or send a check to the school office.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OUR SAINTS TEAMS!

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



PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU!!!

The Bazaar Committee would like to send a **HUGE THANK YOU** to our St. Laurence School community for stepping up and volunteering in all aspects of the bazaar this past weekend. We couldn't have had a successful bazaar without you!! Mark your calendars now for next year's Bazaar – we are always the third weekend in October!! If you have any feedback from this year or suggestions for next year, please email Al Garcia at globalnatgas@yahoo.com or Michele Dyogi at Michele.dyogi@rehabcare.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

INVITATION FROM ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL! OPEN HOUSE! Find more information [HERE!](#)

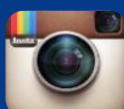
2016-2017 AFF SPEAKER SERIES

Join Deacon Larry Vaclavik, deacon at St. Theresa's in Houston and Adjunct Lecturer at the University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Theology, for an exploration of what the bishops of the United States teach about faithful citizenship, conscience formation and voting. For more information, click [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.

CONNECT WITH US!



St. Laurence Catholic School

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