

ST. LAURENCE
SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK**SEPTEMBER 21, 2016****GRANDPARENTS DAY IS THIS FRIDAY!**

Grandparents Day is Friday, September 23rd.

Please RSVP to [PTO](#) if your grandparent or special friend will be able to attend and needs assistance.

Dismissal is at 11 a.m. following the programs and visits to the classroom!

Please be aware this day is especially for Grandparents and Special Friends.

Click [HERE](#) for the program of the day!

We are in need of volunteers for set up, take down, and to drive.

Please sign up to volunteer [HERE](#)!

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

Dear Parents,

This Friday, we celebrate the gift of our Grandparents at Mass followed by a performance/reception in the gym. This beautiful celebration takes a lot of hard work and preparation. I can't thank our two PTO Co-Chairs, Maria Jorissen and Megan Kliebert enough for the many hours they have put in along with many other parent volunteers and staff members who come together to make this an unforgettable event.

This Friday also is memorable day for our school in a sad way as we say goodbye to our wonderful band director of 18 years, Mr. Richard Stone. Mr. Stone began our award-winning band program in 1998 and is now leaving us to concentrate on his health. He will be entering the hospital at MD Anderson for chemotherapy in a couple of weeks along with a stem cell transplant due to a rare condition called myelofibrosis. According to Mr. Stone, he was blessed to find a perfect matching donor to exchange bone marrow and with God's grace, he will be cured! We will all be praying for this outcome and I know he would appreciate you thinking of him throughout this long process.

"I have enjoyed the friendships I have made at St. Laurence and I will miss you. It is a wonderful environment and I admire you and your faith."

Your friend in Christ,

Richard Stone



God Bless,

Mrs. Barto

IMPORTANT DATES

9/22	STUCO Meeting Box Top Prize Delivery for the winners!
9/23	All School Mass Led by PTO Grandparents' Day – Spirit Lunch at Skeeters and Los Tios Annual Fund Ends Early Dismissal 10:45/11 a.m.
9/26	A Walk Through Reconciliation 6:00 -7:00 p.m.
9/28	Jean/Spirit Day



SCHOOL BOARD CONNECTS



CONNECT WITH US!

Hello Parents! We are very excited to inform you that we are starting our new 3-5 year Strategic Plan. This is one of the many things your School Board is responsible for. We will be posting questions periodically in the newsletter and value your input regarding the future direction of our school. We want to have as many people involved in this process as possible.

To start we would like you to rate from 1 to 5 your satisfaction with the beginning of the year and the school's communication with you via the newsletters and social media.

Click [HERE](#) to rate!

Thank you so much!
Your School Board



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO



PTO BOX TOP WINNERS!

Below are the results from the first box top collection for the top 3. The prizes should be awarded (and/or observed) TOMORROW! The total box tops collected for the collection: 3180.

Class	Count	Prize
K2	449	Free shoe pass for students and free dress for teachers.
1A	337	Students receive a small spirit store item.
4A	295	Students receive a small spirit store item.

PTO FAMILY ROSARY & DINNER

The St. Laurence Catholic School PTO invites you to attend the Family Dinner and Rosary on October 7th, 2016. A delicious dinner by Lupe Tortilla, courtesy of the PTO will be served in the Parish Hall at 6:00 followed by a Rosary in the Church led by our school families. If your family would like to participate in this beautiful example of our Catholic Identity, please RSVP with the number of people attending to PTOPrograms@gmail.com by Friday, September 30, 2016.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER!

The PTO Prayer Group will meet next week Wednesday, September 28th at 8:15 in the Ave Marie Center, St. Joseph Room. Drop off your children, pick up a cup of coffee and join us as we pray for ALL of our needs! Little ones welcome!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

There are many different ways you can make a difference! Please review and select any programs that you would be willing to help make a success [HERE](#)! We are depending on your support!



ANNUAL FUND NEWS

EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE! ANNUAL FUND IS AT 40% OF OUR GOAL!

We are in the home stretch but we need **YOU** to meet our goal of 100% participation! Commitment Friday is this Friday and you can join our efforts by [DONATING ONLINE](#) or turning in your [REMITTANCE ENVELOPE](#). Each family that participates will receive the only printed version of our directory complete with emails; it is sure to be a hit! Click [HERE](#) to view the [INCENTIVE](#) flyer. We are at about 40% of our goal and a few of our classes are really close to receiving extra recess during this awesome weather! Let's go for it SLCS! A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who has already committed to our Annual Fund.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

[MATCHING GIFTS](#) to our Annual Fund is easier than you think! Last year we had 33 generous companies honor their employee's request to match their gift made to SLCS! That's like free money that benefits all 715 of our students! Let's increase that number this year. Check out the attached [FLYER](#) or contact your employer's human resource department to see if this is an option for you to double the impact of your gift. Thanks for supporting SLCS! Every gift truly makes a difference. Any questions contact [Suzanne Byrne](#) in our Advancement Office

MATCHING SHOUT OUT!

We want to take a second to thank our SHELL employees! Shell matched gifts to education 2:1 until for two weeks! We had any amazing response from our school families that work at SHELL. That triples the impacts on every gift for our students! Thank you for supporting SLCS!

REMEMBER: Commitment Day is September 23rd!



NEWS

**CONGRATULATIONS to St. Laurence Student Council 2016-2017
Student Council Representatives and Officers.
Click [HERE](#) to read the names of our representatives!**

WHY IS CARPOOL TAKING SO LONG-MY CHILD WILL BE LATE!

Parents, we need your help in order to ensure that everyone gets to school on time and safely in the building each morning. If you are dropping your child off on the main campus, here are some important things you should know.

1. No child may be dropped off prior to 7:30. There are no staff members on duty before 7:35, so you may not let your child out of the car and leave until that time.
2. Please do NOT cut the line short and turn in the parking lot prior to going all the way to Sweetwater, even if you are one of the first cars. I know it seems like it is not affecting the line but eventually it will back up. No one wants to be the first one to go all the way down if others will cut them off in the middle of the parking lot. You are also causing everyone at the end of carpool to be late.
3. We ask that you please turn right on Austin Parkway in the morning due to the backup with people turning left.
4. Lastly, please leave space and use the lines on the driveway to allow for volunteers and your child to exit the car safely. Please don't hug the curb.

Thank you so much for following these guidelines. This will really help us move the line along and get all the children in the building safely and on time!

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do you love to take photos? This could be your call to share your talents with our school! Participate at our school activities and support our school taking pictures for our yearbook! We need a few photographers to be part of the **Saints Yearbook Photographers Team!** If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Help Us Earn Free Money While You Shop. Every year this helps the St. Laurence PTO raise money for lots of fun things at our school: Family Movie Night, Hoops & Dogs, Father-Daughter Dance, Middle School Dances and much, much more. Please register or re-register your card using the directions [HERE!](#)



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

GRANDPARENTS' SPIRIT DAY!

Friday, September 23, anytime between 11am – 3pm! Let's keep the Grandparents' Day Celebration going in the true spirit of St. Laurence! Bring your Grandparents' Day flyer to Los Tios or Skeeters, and they will generously donate a portion of the supporter's bill to the school!

GET YOUR BOOSTER SHIRTS TODAY!

Find the Booster Club forms [HERE!](#)



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

DIVINE MERCY FILM FEST

As part of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, St. Laurence is offering two movies about the Divine Mercy! The first is **The Second Greatest Story Ever Told** this Saturday, September 24, from 10am-4pm, in Marian Hall. It includes a light lunch and discussion about the movie. Click [HERE](#) for more information. And next week, is the 2-hour documentary **The Original Image of Divine Mercy** on Wednesday (9/28) at noon, Thursday (9/29) at 7:00pm, plus a special showing just for teens on Tuesday (10/4). Popcorn & drinks provided. Hope to see you there!

PARISH BAZAAR

Behold, the Bazaar is BACK! The bazaar will be held October 15-16th at the Ave Maria Center. We will have a lot of the same great items you expect from the bazaar like the different food and activity booths as well as Bingo. We will also have a lot of NEW items like a new obstacle course for kids, a room with games for teenagers (though all are welcome) but most exciting of all, is the new Art Gallery. We are looking for YOU to submit a piece of art to showcase

in the Gallery during the bazaar. Please bring your original work to the Parish Office by September 30th. It should be representative of the parish theme, "Behold, I make all things new". It can be 4x6, 5x7, 8x10 or 11x14 in size. There are also MANY opportunities for volunteers. Please check the [BAZAAR WEBSITE](#) or go straight to [SIGNUP GENIUS](#) if you would like to help. We still need many Virtus trained volunteers to help supervise the bounce houses, rides and inflatable games. Be sure to check back often as more opportunities will be added. For further information, please contact Les Fuchs at 832-360-3104 or Tom Barry at 281-545-4112.

WANT TO CONTINUE LEARNING ABOUT YOUR FAITH WITH OTHER ADULTS?

Click [HERE](#) for the upcoming speakers in Adult Faith Formation. 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!



St. Laurence Catholic School

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