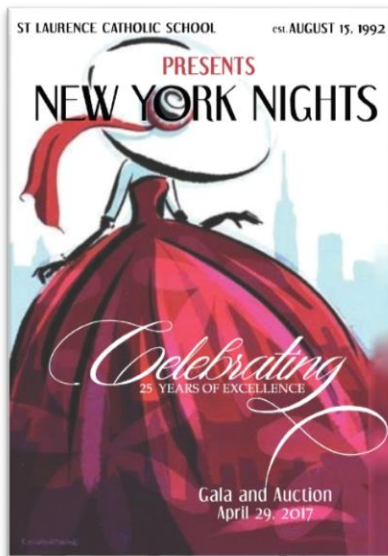


ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK**MARCH 1, 2017**

AUCTION 2017 NEW YORK NIGHTS...CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
FAMILY DONATIONS! TIMES A TICKIN'!



All family donations are due this Friday to receive proper recognition in the catalog. We need 100% participation from all our families to make this 25th Anniversary Celebration a HUGE success! Please let us know how we can count on you this year.

- Do you have extra gift cards or certificates at home for nail salons, massages haircuts, coffee or local restaurants? We can pair them with other items for FABULOUS silent packages!!
- What about Aggie, Longhorn, Texan, Astro or Ivy League tickets, memorabilia or goodies? Any of these great items can become big board items!
- Can't think of anything? Let us do the shopping for you! Cash donations are always accepted and the easiest way for you to check off your list and get involved.

Still have questions, contact Jennifer Dye today!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Parents,

As today is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, I thought I would share some ideas of things to do during this season that help prepare our hearts for Easter. Talk to your child about, not only by giving something up, but “taking something on” that makes a difference in the lives of others. There are so many opportunities to share our gifts or fill our spiritual needs. Probably, the best place to start is with your parish. Whether you are a member of St. Laurence or another church, the [Sunday bulletin](#) is full of ideas [HERE](#). Last week, I highlighted the many ways that our school ensures that service is at the forefront of our mission. As a Catholic School, we look to the Works of Mercy for inspiration. If you are not familiar with them, please learn more about Corporal Works of Mercy [HERE](#) and Spiritual Works of Mercy [HERE](#)!

Whatever touches your heart, from helping to build a home for those in need, attending Friday morning rosary, listening to a speaker on adult faith formation, to praying for the unborn or sending in coupons for the military, you can find something extra to “take on” this Lent. I am so thrilled to see some of our families and students doing these types of things outside of school and attempting to become disciples of Christ. That is a true testament to you as parents in modeling what we are called to do and allowing your child these opportunities. I realize that this can be taking a risk and may involve stepping out of your comfort zone, but you may never quite know where God is calling you without surrendering and being open to His plan. If you attended Heart of Worship this past weekend, that was a common

theme! For those that attended, it was beautiful to witness our middle school students serving that day and participating at Adoration and Mass.

If you are looking for simple ideas for your child, promoting random acts of kindness would be a great start. Here is a little video that I found inspirational [HERE](#) .

It can provide some good conversations with your child and illustrates how one kind act can have huge implications. We seem to be bombarded with negativity nowadays and don't always think about what other people may be going through. Empathy is so important and even our youngest students can be a light to others in this way.

Along this theme, perhaps you have been looking for different ways to volunteer or try something new here at the school. We are always so blessed with parents that dedicate their time, talent & treasure to helping us keep things running smoothly! I know this is a busy time of year and sometimes it probably feels like we are always asking for things, but we always have areas in which we could use your help! Opening car doors in the morning and assisting in the dining hall for lunch on the main campus are two places where we are really struggling. There are many other areas and events coming up as well if those don't fit into your schedule. Many of our parent organizations are looking for new volunteers and leaders for the 2017-2018 school year. We will not turn you down! ☺

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for your patience and positive response to our new carpool routine. I especially appreciate the parents taking down numbers and sorting cars in the afternoon. Their hard work and input have made a huge difference. The overall response has been so positive and the changes have gone smoothly thanks to us all working together. I also enjoy all the waves as you drive by in the morning. It reminds me of how truly blessed we are as a school community.

God Bless,

Suzanne Barta

IMPORTANT DATES

3/3	All School Mass Led by 1C Magician Performance for Steps for Students Incentive
3/4	New Student Screening
3/7	Leo Officers Meeting PTO Meeting Finance Committee Meeting
3/8	Jean/Spirit Day 4 th Grade Service Project Money and Pictures Due
3/9	NEHS Meeting NJHS Meeting Lunches of Love Service Project 1 st and 2 nd Grade Musical Program
3/10	PTO Family Rosary All School Mass Led by 3A End of 3 rd Quarter



SCHOOL BOARD CONNECTS



ARE YOU INTERESTED ON SERVING 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. (below)

SAVE THE DATES!

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



A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO



INCENTIVES REMINDER-STEPS FOR STUDENTS

Friday, March 3rd

- Due to the wonderful participation this year, **ALL** students will be attending the performance by Monty the Magician! Thank you for the awesome support of the PTO and the school.



NEWS

CELEBRATING
OUR HERITAGE

Heritage Week
March 20-24

We will be celebrating the many different cultures represented at SLCS!

- Special Culture Lessons in our different Auxiliary Classes!
- Share about your culture (by parents or students) on Heritage Day, Thursday, March 23rd!
- *Students are welcome to decorate a multicultural paper doll at home and bring it to school to share or create a Culture Box for Show-and-Tell! (Optional, **NOT** required).
- *If interested in visiting your child's class as a guest speaker to share about your heritage, please contact your child's teacher for time availability!
- Learn interesting facts about the different cultures represented in our school on our Social Media pages!
- Answer our Heritage Survey! We would love to learn about the different countries represented in our school and invite you to be part of future Home-School Connection opportunities!

Questions? Contact Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org

SLCS HERITAGE WEEK – MARCH 20-24

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- Share about your culture (by parents or students) on Heritage Day, Thursday, March 23rd!
 - ✓ Students are welcomed to decorate a multicultural paper doll at home and bring it to school to share or create a Culture Box for Show-and-Tell! (Optional, **NOT** required).
 - ✓ If interested in visiting your child's class as a guest speaker, to share about your heritage, please contact your child's teacher for time availability!
- 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 Connection opportunities **HERE!**

Questions?

Contact Adriana Gutierrez at agutierrez@stlaurence.org

Click on the picture to read the flyer!

LUNCHES OF LOVE

SLCS is proud to announce our Lenten service project: Lunches of Love! Our Pre-K and 7th graders will play a significant role as they will pack the donated items on March 9th. Our goal is to provide 400 lunch sacks to Lunches of Love, a non-profit organization that is committed to helping end childhood hunger in Rosenberg-Richmond by providing a free nutritious sack lunch during extended school holidays and weekends. For more information on Lunches of Love, please visit their website at www.lunchesoflove.net. Please consider joining us this Lenten season by donating the appropriate grade level item(s) by March 6th! We are so blessed at SLCS, and we have an opportunity to make a difference in our own community. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile project!! Click **HERE** for more information!

COME SEE THE BROADWAY STARS OF THE FUTURE!

Please join us on Thursday, March 9th as our 1st and 2nd graders present their annual Spring show! Our students have been preparing for the big night and would love to share their talents with you. See you in the gym at 7:00 p.m. for a fun-filled show!

READ ACROSS AMERICA! A BIG THANK YOU TO CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS!

March 8th is Read Across America Day and a special day for our ECC friends! Catholic Daughters will be here reading to the children for Read Across America. What an amazing treat! Thank you, Catholic Daughters for visiting our ECC Campus and reading to our little ones!

HELPING HANDS! SECOND GRADE CARD SALES

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.

JOIN US FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL SLCS FAMILY RETREAT! FINDING JESUS IN THE JOURNEY!

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. For more information visit our website: <https://stlaurenceschool.org/family-retreat>

MORNING DROP-OFF REMINDER

Please do not drop students off in carpool in the morning before 7:30 or prior to any adults/staff members arriving outside to open car doors! We had approximately 50 students waiting outside the school recently with no adults present. Their parents had left! This is not a safe situation.

ANNUAL VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE

Friday, March 3rd at 4:00 PM

Sponsored by Student Council

The 8th grade girls volleyball team will take on the 8th grade boys football players in this annual Volleyball Challenge sponsored by the St. Laurence Student Council. ONLY 7th and 8th grade students may stay after school and attend without a parent. **All students are welcome to come and cheer but MUST be accompanied by an adult if they are 6th grade or younger.** Refreshments will be available for purchase. All 7th and 8th students must be picked up by 5:00 p.m. at the front door of school if not with a parent. Come and cheer on your favorite team!

MEAL TRAIN FOR MRS. 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>



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.

CALLING ALL UNDERWRITERS!!

This year's underwriting opportunities were sent home two weeks ago and we are excited about the response thus far. Click here to visit our website for more information. March 3rd is the deadline to ensure proper recognition in the

catalog, so do not delay! We are so grateful for everyone who contributes to the success of this night. This is a community event like none other, so don't miss your chance to make a difference. Questions? Contact Suzanne Byrne

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 County 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

SOFTBALL The girls opened with an impressive 12-5 win over St. Cecelia. The next day they had to travel to Galveston where they lost to a tough Holy Family Team. Monday the Saints were back to winning with an 11-6 victory over St. Francis Episcopal. The girls have a busy upcoming schedule with 4 games in 9 days. They will play St. Francis de Sales at home on March 7th at 4:30 PM.

BASEBALL The varsity baseball team opened with a close one run loss to St. Cecilia. The Saints bounced back to win their next two games defeating St. Augustine and Western Academy. The boys will take on St. John Paul II at home on March 8th at 4:15 PM.

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



PARISH NEWS

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE [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

MATH OPPORTUNITY THROUGH REDWOOD PREP! COURSES ARE TAUGHT AT STRAKE!

Upcoming Math+ course through Redwood Prep! This Spring's course will focus on the topic of Infinity. The six session course will be taught at Strake Jesuit on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. starting on Tuesday, March 21st and ending on April 25th. Families can sign-up at www.RedwoodPrep.com.

MISSION STATEMENT

CONNECT WITH US!



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.

