

ST. LAURENCE SAINTS

NOVEMBER 29th, 2017



KENDRA SCOTT CARES IS TONIGHT!

Kendra Scott is hosting an event today at their Sugar Land location, in support of SLCS and SPICE, from 6-8:00 p.m. Make plans to enjoy an evening with friends while shopping the latest styles for everyone on your Christmas list. Refreshments will be served. For those that can't make it into the store to shop, but want to support SPICE, you can call the store at 832-532-8521 today and place a phone order or order by emailing / dropping off a completed Kendra Scott Sugar Land Order Form [HERE](#). They offer free shipping!

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!

IMPORTANT DATES

11/29	Jean/Spirit Day Kendra Scott Cares event benefitting SPICE 6-8 p.m.
12/1	All Saints Mass Led by 7A First Reconciliation Assessments
12/3	First Sunday of Advent
12/2-12/3	2nd Collection at Mass for Tuition Assistance
12/4	Road construction is finally complete! Sweetwater/Williams Trace and the intersection at Austin Parkway will be opened this day! Thank you for all your patience during this project. Parish Penance Service 6:30 p.m.
12/5	Leos Officers Meeting MS Christmas Program
12/6	Jean/Spirit Meeting-purple accessories for Advent SHS Meeting St. Nicholas Day Saints Families 1:45 p.m. Spirit Store Sales
12/7	STUCO 1st Grade Service Project "Rice and Beans"
12/8	All School Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception Led by 8A
12/12	Leos Meeting PTO Board Event School Board Meeting
12/13	Jean/Spirit Day

12/14	Picture Retake Day NEHS Meeting NJHS Meeting PTO Prayer Group - Ave Maria center St. Joseph Room
12/15	All School Mass Led by Spanish Classes/Clubs Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration 7th and 8th Grade Exams
CHRISTMAS MUSICALS	
12/5	Middle School Choir and 5th Grade Music Classes 7:00 p.m. School Gym
12/19	Band Concert
12/20	ECC Christmas Program 8:30 -10:00 a.m. Parish Hall 8:30-9:00 PK 9:15-9:45 Kindergarten



Dear Parents,

This weekend begins the Advent Season, which is a beautiful time to reflect and get ready for the wonder of Christmas. St. Laurence Parish hosts a large Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. next Monday, December 4th. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one important way to prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus. There are signs all around us now celebrating His birth and excitement is definitely in the air. I told the students just before Thanksgiving that we often rush through the beautiful holiday of Thanksgiving in order to get to Christmas and the same can be said of Advent. In borrowing from Advent Gospel Reflections by Bishop Barron, Mark 13:33-37, we are urged to “be alert as we await the coming of the Lord.” Advent is called the “season of waiting and in our waiting, we pray, we educate ourselves in our faith, we participate in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and perform the works of mercy while becoming people of love.” Those are some wonderful examples of how we can ready ourselves for this important event in our liturgical year.

As a visible sign of this season, I’d like to continue the tradition we started last year of students wearing the colors of the Advent season on Wednesdays for Spirit Day. This is certainly not a requirement, but your child is welcome to wear **purple accessories, such as socks, jewelry or hair bows along with their jeans on Wednesdays before the holiday break as an outward sign of our Catholic identity.**

Mrs. Barto



PARKER UNIFORMS SURVEY
WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

Parents, we need your opinion regarding Parker Uniforms; in particular, how you would rate your satisfaction this year with regards to receiving orders and the quality of the items. Please send your responses by Friday of this week! To give your input, find the survey [HERE!](#)



SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS FOR OUR PRINCIPALS [HERE!](#)
We know you have some!
Our Principals will be on Facebook Live once a quarter! Stay Tuned!



DO YOU KNOW WHERE IN THE SCHOOL YOU CAN FIND THIS BULLETIN BOARD?



SUBMIT YOUR ANSWERS HERE!

We'll share the answers
in next week's newsletter!

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S QUESTIONS

- ★ Mrs. Tricia Tumbleson is a huge Astros fan - growing up her dream was to be the first female Astro and she loves reading, camping and going to the beach.
- ★ Mrs. Marie Brown always loved to read and words. When she was in elementary school she would type lists of "Books I Have Read" along with lists of synonyms, homonyms, and antonyms



NEWS

GOOD NEWS-SOFTWARE UPDATE FOR YOUR SAMIS CATERING ACCOUNT!

Parents we have corrected the situation with PayFort. You may now use your same login information at payfort.net to see your child/ren(s) activity and to check balances. Since this is a new system you will only be able to view activity beginning Monday the 27th of November. At this time you can now re-activate your auto replenish. If you need help setting up a new account or have further questions, please contact alootens@stlaurence.org. We appreciate your patience.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY FEEDBACK NEEDED

We have had the online directory through RenWeb available to our families for several weeks now. In order to save trees and money, we are contemplating not providing a printed version this year. As part of the trinity, we value your opinion if you feel strongly one way or the other about receiving a hard copy. Every year we recycle quite a few but since this was an incentive for Annual Fund, we would like to know how important it is to you. Please email mbrown@stlaurence.org or jmaklary@stlaurence.org if you feel strongly about receiving one. Otherwise, you should be able to find all the information you need online through RenWeb. Thank you!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Semester Exams are coming up soon! NOW is the time to start preparing for fall semester exams. Seventh and eighth grade students will be taking exams beginning Friday, December 15th through Tuesday, December 19th. Students will be given study guides for the exam one week prior to the administration of the exam/s. The schedule is as follows:



Friday, December 15th

- 8:10-9:30 Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 9:40-10:40 7th grade Social Studies; 8th grade Math
- 10:50-11:50 8th grade Social Studies

Monday, December 18th

- 8:15-9:15 7th grade English; 8th grade English
- 9:25-10:25 8th grade Science

Tuesday, December 19th

- 8:15-9:15 7th grade Religion; 8th grade Literature
- 9:25-10:25 8th grade Religion

GEOGRAPHY BEE

Students in grades 4-8 will be participating in Classroom Geography Bees on January 9-12, 2018, when they return from the Christmas Break. Winners at the classroom level will go on to compete in the school-wide Geography Bee on Friday, January 19, 2018. If your child is interested in study material in preparation for the Bee, you may download the app at NATGEOBEE.ORG. The latest study guide *How to Ace the National Geographic Bee: Official Study Guide, 5th Edition* is available for purchase online at shopng.com/geobee. Students may also study with the family using **Amazon's Alexa by activating the skill Geo Quiz**. Please see the sheet of study information [HERE](#). These are many of the offerings to help prepare for the Bees that certainly would give students an advantage in the competition.

CALL FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL Happy Holidays from St. Laurence Catholic School! As we close out the fall semester and move into the spring semester, 7th graders are busy working on their annual Science Fair projects. We are recruiting judges for our fair on Wednesday, January 10 and would like to invite engineers, geologists, health care experts, and community members with a background in science to consider serving on our judging panel. Parents and family members of current 6th and 7th graders are not eligible to judge. Please contact Mrs. Alexander salexander@stlaurence.org if you are interested in serving on our judging panel and are up-to-date on VIRTUS. Thank you for your support of our Middle School Science program.

Judges Needed for the Science Fair



RENWEB TIPS AND HELP

Ongoing RenWeb tips and help can be found on the school's website under the RenWeb menu. Please continue to check this page for more help tips and updates [HERE!](#)



CHRISTMAS CARDS! DECEMBER 4th IS THE LAST DAY TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!



Last few days! Shop Minted to support St. Laurence Catholic School. Use our unique promo code, FUNDRAISESTLAURENCE for 15% off Minted's holiday cards & gifts through December 4th (*11:59 pm PST) — and Minted donates 15% of sales from these orders back to us! Hurry, this offer is about to expire!



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET INVOLVED?

We need your help covering lunch duty on the main campus. We need 2 volunteers per day to help the students during lunch opening lunch items, providing supplies, cleaning up. Your help would be greatly appreciated! You can sign up [HERE!](#) Questions? Please contact Mary Esther Phillippi [HERE!](#)

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

- **DO YOU SHOP AT KROGER?**

Help Us Earn Free Money While You Shop! Read more [HERE!](#)

- **SAVE YOUR BOX TOP AND TYSON PROJECT LABELS!**

If you have BOX TOPS or Tyson labels, please drop them by the school office and we will put them to good use. You can find more information and prizes [HERE!](#) Print the calendar [HERE!](#)



COUNSELORS' CORNER

EATING DISORDER AWARENESS

Mrs. Markum and Mrs. Schurman recently attended a presentation on Helping Students with Eating Disorders. They felt the information was important for parent awareness. The presenters, Dr. Chelsea MacCaughelty and Dr. Theresa Fassihi, are eating disorder specialists. Here are some facts to share:

- Eating disorders impact women, men, teens and children from all walks of life.
- Eating disorder behaviors include binge eating, purging, laxative abuse, and fasting for weight loss.
- More than 30 million people in the U.S. will suffer from an eating disorder.
- Many people with eating disorders look healthy, but may be extremely ill.
- Families are not to blame, and can be a patients' and providers' best allies in treatment.
- Eating disorders are not choices, but serious biologically influenced illnesses.
- Eating disorders carry an increased risk for both suicide and medical complications.
- Genes and environment play important roles in the development of eating disorders.
- Full recovery from an eating disorder is possible. Early detection and intervention are important.

Some Warning Signs:

- Rapid weight loss/gain
- Dieting behavior
- Sudden decision to become a vegetarian
- Increased picky eating
- Frequently going to the restroom after meals
- Skipping meals
- Eating alone or in secret
- Decreased social interactions
- Intense fear of becoming fat
- Excessive exercise
- Extreme calorie counting or portion control
- Social media (some sights give teens information on how to get away with an eating disorder)

If you need more information on this topic, The National Eating Disorders Association has a parent toolkit and hotline number. <http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org> Helpline: 800-931-2237. To find out more about specialists in this area you can go to Houston Eating Disorder website: www.houstoneds.org. Also feel free to contact your child's counselor.



SAINTS SPORTS SCOOP

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

St. Laurence will be hosting the SLCS Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament from Thursday, November 30th through Saturday, December 2nd. The tournament will feature 16 sixth grade teams from around Houston. Eight boys teams will start with pool play on Thursday. Eight girls teams will play on Friday. On Saturday all teams will be seeded based on pool play and compete for the Championship trophies. Please come out and support our Saints teams and the athletic department. We can still use volunteers if you would like to help with concessions or scorekeeping.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The girls are ready to play after the Thanksgiving break. The JV and Varsity teams travel to St. Cecilia on Wednesday and then both teams will play in the Kinkaid Invitational on Friday and Saturday. The C Team will play in the SLCS Holiday Classic at St. Laurence on Friday and Saturday.

BOYS BASKETBALL

The boys will play 3 tough games in the next week. St. Laurence will host St. Francis de Sales on Wednesday, C Team at 4:30, JV at 5:15 and Varsity at 6:15 PM. On Friday the JV and Varsity will travel to St. Anne in Houston. All 3 teams will play at St. Vincent DePaul on December 6th. The Varsity will play in the St. Thomas High School Invitational on Thursday and Saturday. The C Team will play in the SLCS Holiday Classic on Thursday and Saturday at St. Laurence.



BOOSTER CLUB

BOOSTER CLUB SPIRIT STORE

Our SLCS booster club spirit store will be on Wednesday, December 6th. Please note that this is a different date than our normal spirit store dates due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday schedules. VIRTUS trained volunteers are most welcomed to assist with Spirit Store sales. **WE LOVE VOLUNTEERS!!**

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



PARISH NEWS

READ OUR CHURCH BULLETIN [HERE!](#)

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.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

ATTENTION 8TH GRADERS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES!

- **ST. AGNES:** Application deadline is December 15! [APPLY NOW!](#) Join us for a parent led tour [HERE!](#)
- **ST. THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL:** Sunday, January 7, 1:00 p.m.

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.*

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