



St. Lawrence

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We are a Catholic School family dedicated to nurturing and celebrating a love for Jesus Christ and educating the whole child with academic excellence.


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Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

Happy Easter! I hope everyone enjoyed spring break and celebrating the resurrection of our Lord.

Our 8th graders and parents had a wonderful time in D.C. Although it rained the entire time, the students had so much fun and we were able to see all the things we had planned.

After two years, it was wonderful to see so many of our families at the Gala. It was a lot of fun! Thank you for your generosity. As mentioned at the Gala, money raised will go toward renovating our school. A big thank you to our Gala Committee for all their hard work in making this event so special.

The calendar for next school year has been set. The first day of school is August 29 and 'Meet the Teacher' is August 25. The entire calendar will be available the second week of May.

We are winding down the year, but there are still many upcoming activities. Please mark your calendars:

- **STAR Testing** - Students started taking their third and final STAR Assessment for this school year. We will send the results home once all testing is completed.
- **Book Fair** - Today marks the start of our last book fair of the school year. This is a great chance to stock up on great summer reads to keep your students learning throughout the summer.
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** - Next week May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation week. I am treating staff to a special Cinco de Mayo lunch. Please tell your child's teacher/s how much you appreciate them.
- **Dress Down Week** is next week for those who purchased it for their students.
- **May Crowning** - We will celebrate our Mother Mary at the May 4 all school mass by having a May Crowning for her.

- **Earth Week** - We have moved Earth Week to the week of May 9 because April is too cold. Students will have several special activities planned to include planting flowers and cleaning the school and parish grounds.
- **Field Day** is May 24.
- **Middle School Recognition** is May 25 at 2 p.m.
- **Elementary awards** is June 1.
- **Open House** - We are planning an informal Open House to show our new middle school building on June 2 from 6-8 pm.

As you can see, there is a lot going on. Those are some of the highlights, but more details of each event will be sent out as they approach.

Lastly, please pray for our second graders who will be making their First Holy Communion this weekend. And check out our Teacher Spotlight on our wonderful second grade teachers who have prepared them for this most important sacrament. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. DiMercurio

MR. BARKER'S BULLETIN

Happy Easter! "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Welcome back! We are in the home stretch with approximately six weeks remaining in the school year.



We were very pleased with Ben Tracy, the Safe Social Network speaker we hosted this week talking about the dangers and proper uses of social media. We were hoping for a better turnout during the parent presentation because Mr. Tracy educated parents on so many of the dangers on social media that they simply aren't aware of.

He shared that many of our own students talked to him after his presentation and shared some of the issues they are experiencing online including bullying, anxiety and other common negative experiences. Our school and students are not immune to these dangers. It was both scary and heart-breaking to hear some of the statistics and stories he shared. He even shared his own personal story of getting fired from a political position for inappropriate tweets he made while in *high school*. Our children today have digital footprints that will follow them into adulthood. Please visit his Parent Resources (<https://safesocialnetwork.com/parentresources>) to find out how you can help protect your children.

One of Mr. Tracy's recommendations was to wait as long as possible before letting your children get access online. To that end, we rolled out a program called '*Wait Until 8th*' where parents sign a pledge to hold off on purchasing a smartphone for their children until 8th grade. This program is a wonderful way for parents to band together against the pressure to purchase smartphones. If you haven't already signed up, we strongly encourage you to do so. As we learned in the presentation, it is paramount that parents can never be too fastidious in monitoring their children's internet and social media activities. While many of our older students already have smartphones, this is a tremendous opportunity for our elementary students to alleviate that pressure as they get older. Many of our 8th grade parents have expressed how they wish this program was around when their children were younger. Please take advantage of this gift and sign the pledge today!

<https://waituntil8th.formtitan.com/WaitUntil8th-Pledge-Form#/>

Congratulations to all our 2nd graders who will be making their first Holy Communion on Saturday, April 30! Don't miss the opportunity to have them receive their second Holy Communion the very next day, Sunday May 1. Second Grade will be hosting Mass on Wednesday, May 4, in which they will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time with the school community. We will also have May

Crowing, as May is the month of our Blessed Mother Mary.

God Bless!

Mr. Barker

DATES & DEADLINES

April 29 - May 5 - Scholastic BOGO Book Fair

April 30 - 2nd grade First Holy Communion Masses

May 5 - Book Fair ends

May 6 - 1st Grade Mother's Day Tea

May 12 - Talent Show (6 p.m. for families in gym)

May 16-20 - 6th grade camp

May 24 - Field Day

May 24 - M-F Full day preschool; T/TH preschool - Last day of school

May 25 - Nursery MWF AM & PM; Preschool MWF PM & full day - Last day of school

May 27 - NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day Weekend)

May 30 - NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day Weekend)

June 2 - 8th Grade last day of school

June 3 - Kindergarten last day of school

June 3 - 8th Grade graduation

June 5 - Middle School Open House

June 9 - Last day of school; no PM pusses

July 18-22 - Vacation Bible School

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD NEWS



STRATEGIC PLANNING

The St. Lawrence Strategic Planning committee rolled out a new program for St. Lawrence families this week called *Wait Until 8th*.

Wait Until 8th is a pledge parents take to delay the purchase of smartphones for their children until at least 8th grade. Check out the Good Morning America video below to learn more.



CATHOLIC CULTURE

*O Mary! We crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May!*

Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day is May 13.

Smartphones and social media are potentially dangerous and can lead to cyberbullying, social anxiety, depression and exposure to content that is not developmentally appropriate.

Join other St. Lawrence parents and take the pledge by clicking the link below. Make sure you choose '*St. Lawrence Catholic School*' as your school. Once complete, email your name and your student's name and grade to Claudia Tapia (ctapia1240@gmail.com) to be put in touch with other St. Lawrence parents from your child's grade.

Wait Until 8th Pledge

Good Morning America Video

FATIMA FACTS

* From May 13th - October 13th, 1917, Mary appeared six times to 3 shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal;

* Mary requested:

- daily recitation of The Rosary
- daily sacrifices for the conversion of sinners
- participation in the First Saturday Devotion

* Mary said that war is a punishment for sin. She asked that Russia be consecrated to her Immaculate Heart. If not, "Russia will spread her errors throughout the world";

* The sun danced in the sky and fell out of orbit on October 13 to show the 70,000+ people the authenticity of this apparition.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA, PRAY FOR US!



PARISH NEWS

K of C Science Fun Day

Save the Date - August 5, 2022, 10 a.m.

K-4th Graders

K of C Picnic Grounds

The Knights of Columbus are excited to host a Science Day at the K of C Picnic Grounds on Friday August 5, 2022, at 10 a.m.

We're planning fun, hands-on activities that explore chemistry, fossils, electricity, the air and atmosphere and much more.

The day will include lunch and a fun finale around 2 p.m. There will also be opportunities for service hours. Look for the SignupGenius to register your students in the May newsletter.





Exodus Youth Group News

Check out the upcoming Youth Group events below:

- April 29 - Junior High Youth Group in room 111.
- May 13 - **'Called To Serve'** meeting from 6-9 p.m. in the Social Hall. This is open to all 8th-12th graders that are interested in volunteering with younger children. This is a requirement to volunteer at VBS.
- May 15 - **World Youth Day 2023** informational meeting from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. WYD will be taking place in Lisbon, Portugal, and is designed for anyone ages 16-35. Please come to this meeting or talk to Jack Novak if you are interested.
- Summer Bible Study: If you are interested in doing a summer Bible study, please sign up using this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48ABA72EA2FCC61-bible> or talk to Jack Novak. This is for all 6th-12th graders.

Future Youth Group Meetings: I am looking to find out the best time to meet for youth group. Please fill out the survey at the link below and let me know your thoughts. Thank you!

Contact Youth Minister Jack Novak with questions at jnovak@stlawrenceparish.com.

[Youth Group Survey](#)



CRE News

VBS 2022

"Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness!" will be held on July 18-22, 2022 with Family Night on Wednesday. **Registration closes June 10.**

Catechists needed – Email Lisa Rajnicek at lrajnicek@stlawrenceparish.com.

Summer Sacrament Classes

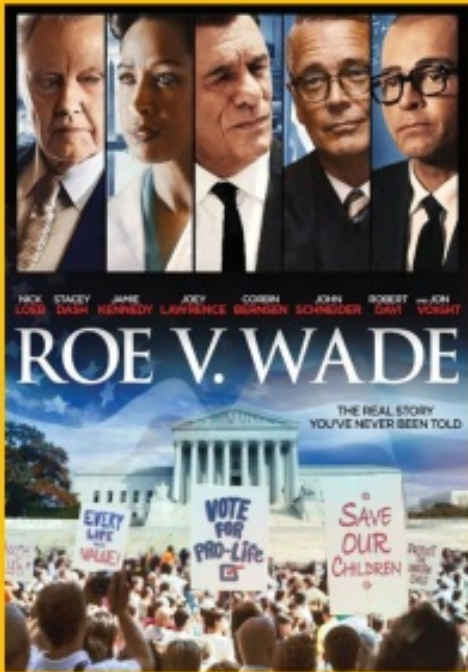
1. High School & Adult Confirmation
2. Adult Baptism or Adult First Communion
3. Catechist Formation/Certification

Please contact Lisa Rajnicek in the CRE Office at 586-731-5072 x245 or at CRE@stlawrenceparish.com.

First Communion April 30, 2022

We pray for 145 candidates this year:

Lord Jesus, bless and nurture our children with your most holy body and blood that they may grow with the gift of faith, that they will see God's hand in all their work and play with the gift of hope, that they will know your Holy Spirit's guidance keeping them safe with the gift of love, that they will offer your love and mercy to all they meet, Amen.



The Profoundly ProLife Group presents free movie night featuring:

Roe V. Wade

Friday April 29 at 7 p.m.
St. Lawrence Social Hall

This is the shocking true story that exposes the lies, deceit, and fabrications of statistics and narratives that were used in the most controversial Supreme Court decision in U.S. history, as related by Dr. Bernard Nathanson, a notorious atheist and abortionist turned prolife.

Refreshments and prizes available. Adults only. For more info contact profoundlyprolife@gmail.com or Sharon Gill at 586-254-9481

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month we celebrate our second grade teachers, Mrs. Chapp, Mrs. Chea, Mrs. Guenther and Mrs. Kolarik. Our second grade teachers have the utmost important job of preparing our students to receive the precious body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's meet this wonderful team below and give thanks for our second grade teachers!

Mrs. Chapp



This is Mrs. Chapp's second year teaching at St. Lawrence and 15th year teaching total. She graduated from Oakland University with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Teaching Reading and Language Arts.

She has been married to her husband George for 16 years and they have two sons: Sebastian, 12, and Nathan, 8, who both attend St. Lawrence. They also have 2 rescue dogs, Rosie and Luna.

In her free time, Mrs. Chapp loves to travel and spend a lot of time up north in the summer. Her family also likes to go camping. At home, she loves to read and plant flowers in her garden and spending time outdoors when the weather is warm.

Favorite Saint: St. Agatha

Advice/words to live by: Progress over perfection!

Mrs. Chea



This is Mrs. Chea's 21st year teaching at St. Lawrence. She has a bachelor of science degree from Western Michigan University and a master's degree in the Art of Teaching from Saginaw Valley State University.

Watching her students grow in their faith and witnessing them celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time are the highlights of her school year!

Mrs. Chea lives in Royal Oak with her husband and children, Charlotte and Gabriel. When Mrs. Chea is not in her classroom, you might find her shopping, reading, traveling, or spending time with family and friends.

Favorite Saint: My favorite saint is St. Francis of Assisi because he had a great love for everything God made, including animals.

Advice: My advice is to Love. When we act with love, we follow God's commandments and grow closer to Him.

Mrs. Guenther

Mrs. Guenther has been teaching at St. Lawrence for 24 years. She received her bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and master's degree from Saginaw Valley State University.

She's been married to her husband, Dave, for almost 28 years and has a daughter, Amanda (24) and son, Dylan (21). Amanda is majoring in Elementary Education at Oakland University and will be student teaching next January and Dylan is a new car salesman at a Chevy dealer in Royal Oak. They also have an adorable Malshi (maltese/shitzu) dog named Toby. His job is barking at anyone who approaches their porch!



In her free time, Mrs. Guenther loves reading, taking walks and spending time with family.

Favorite Saint: St. Anthony

Advice/words to live by: Believe you can and you're halfway there!

Ms. Kolarik



This is Mrs. Kolarik's fifth year at St. Lawrence, but her first year teaching second grade. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Oakland University, and a Master's in Teaching Special Education from Saginaw Valley State University.

Mrs. Kolarik has been married to her husband Ben for 26 years. Together they have two boys, Andrew (20) and Alex (18). In her spare time, Mrs. Kolarik likes to read, travel, and spend time with her family.

Favorite Saint: Saint Anthony because he always helps me find what I am looking for.

Favorite Quote: The world is filled with nice people. If you can't find one, be one.

SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES

Apple Fest Chairs Needed



Dear St. Lawrence Parents,

In working with the Apple Fest Chairs, it has been brought to my attention that we are in need of many area supervisors/chairs.

Because families are graduating their final STL student or moving, we have lost past chairs. Without these positions being filled, we will not be able to have Apple Fest.

The Apple Fest has been a yearly tradition at St. Lawrence for many years. It's an awesome time for families to get to know each other and students to have fun with new and old friends. Please consider volunteering to serve the St. Lawrence Community.

Below are the areas in need. If you are interested in supervising /chairing an area or have any questions, please let me know.

- *Food Serving Tent*
- *Entertainment Chair*
- *Hospitality Set-Up and Festival*
- *Kitchen Prep Co-Chair*
- *Pub Co-Chair*
- *Ride Bracelets*
- *Clean-Up*
- *Parking*
- *Recruitment*
- *Food Ordering*
- *Supply Ordering*
- *Logistics Planning*
- *Equipment Repair and Maintenance*
- *Facility Manager*
- *Equipment Tear Down*
- *Transportation*

Mrs. DiMercurio



Athletics



Thank you to Jennifer Messer, our St.

Registration for CYO 2022 Football (3rd-8th grade) is still open!

Registration for Fall 2022 Cheer, Soccer, and Volleyball will go live in the coming weeks.

CYO Athletics is open to any children who are members of the St. Lawrence Parish and the surrounding supporting parishes in our community.

To register and for more information, please visit www.mightymustangs.com and click on the Register Now button. Register early! We will need to inform CYO how many teams we will be sponsoring. For additional questions, please contact Jill Tocco at jilltocco@comcast.net

Lawrence Hero who was the highest bidder for the "No School Day: May 26, 2022" in our live auction.

The Messer Family has generously bought an entire day off of school for all of our St. Lawrence students and staff.

Start your Memorial Day weekend one day sooner, thanks to the Messer family!

Rosary Group / Divine Mercy Chaplet Fridays



Every Friday, St. Lawrence parents are encouraged to attend Rosary Group and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The rosary group starts at 8:45 a.m. and meets in the front left section of the church near the Divine Mercy picture.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is held outside the social hall doors starting at 3:25 p.m. before dismissal.

This is something Fr. Roman has long asked for from our parents. *Please give our Lord 20 minutes of your time after drop-off or before pick-up to pray with other school parents for the safety and well-being of our St. Lawrence students and school.*

School Blues Sale

School Blues is having their annual Pre-Season Sale May 3rd - June 11th. Receive 20% off all merchandise.

Check out the latest St. Lawrence collection at the link below.

[School Blues](#)



586.739.8875 - Store
586.739.1855 - Fax

49968 Van Dyke
Shelby Township, MI 48317

PRE-SEASON SALE

All In Stock Items
20% OFF

Sale Runs May 3rd - June 11th

STORE HOURS:

September thru December

Closed Sunday & Monday

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

PEAK SEASON: July thru August

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Wednesday 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Closed Sunday & Monday - orders accepted online or fax 24 hours

OFF SEASON: January thru June

Tuesday, Thursday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Closed Friday, Sunday & Monday

Closed for Holidays: May 28-30, July 1-5, and Sept. 3rd.

For an appointment please call Judy at (586) 242-6390

VISIT OUR NEW
& IMPROVED
WEBSITE

www.schoolbluesuniforms.com

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Curbside pickup is now available!

Call when you arrive and your bag will
be brought to your car.

Appointments available! Call Judy at
(586) 242-6390.