



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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SCHOOL NEWS

Principal's Corner

Dear parents,

Welcome back! It's hard to believe we've already been in school for five weeks, but we're off to a great start and have thankfully gotten into a rhythm with pick-up and drop-off procedures. I would like to remind everyone to please drive slowly through our parking lot as we are protecting precious lives. Also, please be kind to our staff who work hard to ensure that things go smoothly and that everyone follows the same rules.

STAR testing has begun and parents will receive STAR scores for the fall during "Parent Teacher Conferences."

We are back to all school masses on Wednesdays and saying the Divine Mercy chaplet before mass. This year, we are also expanding our First Friday rosary group to include an entire grade each month along with parents who wish to participate. Our first one will start on Oct. 6. See the Spiritual Corner for more information.

In addition, we have a few events and programs that I would like to highlight:

- **Fun Run - Oct. 6**
- **St VdP Fall Closet Blitz Donation Truck - Oct. 7-10** (see Parish News)
- **Blessing Bags Volunteer Opportunity - Oct. 14** (see Parish News)
- **Trunk or Treat - Oct. 22**
- **Rake-n-Run Volunteer Opportunity - Nov. 18** (see Parish News - Youth Group)

Please check out our new section in this newsletter by Assistant Principal Julie Tsatsos titled 'Assistant's Principles'. Each month she will highlight some of the important initiatives she is leading for our students.

In this month's Teacher's Spotlight, I share a little about myself to our St. Lawrence school community. While I know many of you, I look forward to meeting and welcoming our new school families.

Lastly, I want to encourage all of you to really go through the entire newsletter each month. While it is long, it includes a lot of good information on many of the activities

going on in our school and parish. The Divine Newsletter that you were receiving separately last year will now be included in this monthly newsletter. And of course, we will announce our Students of the Month here as well. Congratulations to our September recipients. Lots of great info below, so please check it out!

Have a blessed week!
Mrs. DiMercurio

ASSISTANT'S PRINCIPLES

Welcome to the new school year! I am so happy to have you back, and I want to welcome our new students and their families into the St. Lawrence family. For those who do not know me, let me introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Julie Tsatsos, and this is my 20th year at St. Lawrence. I have taught 1st and 2nd grade, served as the reading intervention specialist, and as the instructional coach. This summer I completed my master's degree in educational leadership to prepare myself for this new role as the assistant principal. I look forward to working closely with the principal, staff, parents, and students to create a safe, supportive learning environment for everyone.

As many of you know, to better prepare the teachers to meet the needs of your children, September is a month of assessment. We are in the middle of the first round of STAR testing, which is a standardized test that measures students' skills and knowledge in reading and math. Being a computer-based, adaptive test, the questions adjust to each student's performance, providing us with a more accurate assessment of each student's strengths and weaknesses. This means that parents and teachers get better feedback on how to help them improve. Don't look at it like a test; look at it more like a tool to help all of us be more successful together. Testing will conclude on October 6th.

There are some changes that you will notice as the year progresses. Last year we introduced the new MyView reading series for grades K-5, which is based on the Science of Reading. This year, we will incorporate the assessment tool that is integrated in this series. Some of you may be unfamiliar with the Science of Reading. Teachers will combine phonics and vocabulary with oral language, writing, and reading, helping students develop the skills they need to become proficient and confident readers.

Click here to learn more.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11dZfbj1qMQNjmTzWAd9uJsO0tCy2nwZ_/view?usp=sharing

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RVXe1zZPmkjxyMRLyKt2dVOfWZ0i4z1d/view?usp=sharing>

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents who attended the presentation by Jodee Blanco last Wednesday. A renowned speaker on bullying prevention, Jodee Blanco is the author of the New York Times bestseller "Please Stop Laughing at Me...", a memoir of her experiences as a victim of bullying. She has dedicated her life to helping schools create a culture of compassion and respect, where bullying is not tolerated. I hope you found her story and her insights powerful. I know the teachers and students learned much useful information on how to identify, prevent, and intervene in bullying situations. We take bullying very seriously at our school, and we are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all our students.

Finally, I want to inform you that we will be conducting uniform checks regularly. Please make sure that haircuts, skirt length, nail polish, socks for boys, and jewelry comply with school regulations. We expect you to dress appropriately and respectfully for the learning environment. Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to working with all of you. Let's make this a great year together!

Mrs. Tsatsos

DATES & DEADLINES

OCTOBER

1 Father Roman's Birthday!

FLU SHOTS for families after all Masses (bring ID & insurance card)

2 JR KN-8th Grades: PICTURE RETAKE & MAKE UP DAY (Information to follow by email)

NURSERY/PRESCHOOL: PICTURE DAY (Information to follow by email)

4 Children's Mass – 9:30 AM / Hosted by: Sorgi – 5th Grade

STAFF ONLY: Flu Shots 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM (PRC Room)

5 SOTM (Student of the Month) Breakfast 9:00 AM (Cafeteria)

6 FUN RUN

7 2nd Grade: First Reconciliation Family Retreat 9:30-11:30 AM (Church)

11 Children's Mass – 9:30 AM / Hosted by: Gjonaj – 5th Grade

8th Grade ALL School Fundraiser – Krispy Kreme Doughnut Orders/Money Due

13 KN: Field Trip to Westview Orchards (Parents provide transportation)

15 7th & 8th Grades: Confirmation Dedication 12:00 PM Mass (Church) Candidate with Sponsor or Parent

16 NO SCHOOL for Students – Staff Professional Development

6th Grade: Leave for Camp at YMCA Storer Camp

18 NO AM or NO PM Busses (Parents must provide transportation to and from school)

Children's Mass – 9:30 AM / Hosted by: Gould - 5th Grade

PTO Meeting – 6:00 PM Cafeteria B

19 1st Grade: Field Trip to Upland Hills Farm - Depart: 9:30 AM / Return: 1:30 PM

21 Prep Bowl 20

6th Grade: At YMCA Camp Storer RETURN

22 Festival of Ministries 10:00 AM Mass

TRUNK OR TREAT

25 Children's Mass – 9:30 AM / Hosted by: Girodat/Scheper - 5th Grade

5th Grade: Little Caesar Pizza Kit pick-up 2:00-5:00 PM (Social Hall)

27 AM Busses ONLY -NO PM Busses (Parents must pick-up students at dismissal)

STL Youth Ministry - Pumpkin Painting (bring pumpkin and entire family)

29 Enrollment for First Eucharist – Choose a Mass 10:00 AM or 12:00 PM (Church) 30

Catholic High School Night 6:00-7:15 PM (GYM)

31 ½ DAY of SCHOOL – Dismissal at 12:00 PM / HALLOWEEN! -AM Busses ONLY - NO PM Busses

SPIRITUAL CORNER

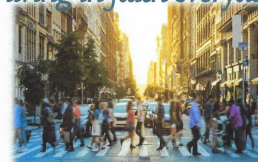


This year, we are expanding rosary group to include one grade each month on First Fridays. Parents and families are invited to pray the rosary with either Fr. Roman or Fr. Alex the first Friday of each month at 9:05 a.m. in the front pews of the Church and pray for our students and St. Lawrence school family.

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Adult Faith Formation presents

L.I.F.E.
living in faith everyday



Monthly series of talks from ordinary people living extraordinary lives as disciples of Christ.

"I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me." St. Paul

Schedule of Speakers

Sept 28	Fr. Patrick Gonyeau, Priest in Solidum, Corpus Christi
Oct 19	Sharon Gill, Pro Life Ministry, St. Lawrence
Nov 16	Faith Offman, Assoc. Dir. of Ministry, St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center
Jan 18	Mary Martin, Director, UTG at Work (Unleash the Gospel at Work)
Feb 15	Dr. Martin and Claudia Tapia, St. Lawrence Parishioners
Mar 21	Anthony Feola, Assoc. Dir., Discipleship Formation, Archdiocese of Detroit
Apr 25	Fr. Sahaya Arul Alex, Family Parochial Vicar, St. Lawrence
May 16	Jan Marl, Parish Nurse, St. Lawrence

Evening begins in the Church at 7pm. Hospitality to follow in the Social Hall.

Our first rosary will be on Friday, Oct. 6.
The participating grade's parents will
be notified next week.

PARISH NEWS



Knights of Columbus Calendar

St. Lawrence Knights of
Columbus Council #2950
continues to be present to the
community for works of service, charity and faith
formation. Please find our current schedule of
activities that we welcome everyone to
participate in.

Breakfasts in the St. Lawrence Cafeteria

- October 22, 2023
- November 12, 2023

Trivia Night

- Friday November 10, 2023 at St. Lawrence
– Tickets on sale now! \$30 per person,
teams of up to eight people.
- Contact Joe Lograsso at
lograsso@comcast.net for info, tickets.

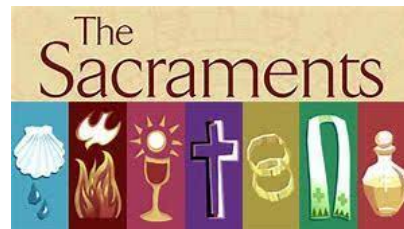
Poinsettias for Christmas

- Benefitting Coats for Kids Fund
- Pre-sales after all Masses on weekends of
November 18/19 and November 25/26,
delivery weekend of December 9/10

St. Pat's Party and Fundraiser

- Saturday March 16, 2024
- GET READY!

We are always looking for new members to the St.
Lawrence Knights of Columbus. Please consider
joining to have a great time as we serve the St.
Lawrence and local community!



CRE News

Children's Sacrament Preparation

1. Saturday, Oct 7 - 2nd grade Family Retreat
for Reconciliation candidates, 9:30-
11:30am in church
2. Sunday, Oct 15 - 7th & 8th grade
Dedication prayer, Noon Mass
3. Sunday, Oct 29 - 2nd grade Enrollment
Prayer for First Communion Candidates,
10:00am or Noon Mass (choose one mass
to attend)
4. RCIA classes for children/parents seeking
Baptism are held Tuesday evenings,
6:30pm. Contact Mrs. Rajnicek to
register CRE@stlawrenceparish.com

Adult Faith Formation

1. The Chosen Season 1 - First episode
Tuesday, Oct 17 at 7:00pm in the Social
Hall
2. L.I.F.E. Living in Faith Everyday - Thursday
Oct 19 at 7:00pm in church
3. Bible Study - Fulfilled, Discovering the
Scriptural Foundations of Catholicism.

Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings -
contact Mrs. Rajnicek to
register CRE@stlawrenceparish.com



Join our parish families as we come together to make 1,000 Blessing Bags for the homeless.

Where: St. Lawrence Catholic Church
44377 Utica Road 48317
When: Saturday, October 14
8:30am Arrival—9:00am Prayer Service
Sorting and Packing will begin immediately

Here are the ways you can participate!

Donate needed items and/or Volunteer to make the Blessing Bags

DONATE NEEDED ITEMS

There are two ways to donate needed items:

- Purchase any of the items below and bring to the parish office by Monday October 8th.
Travel size: toothpaste, shaving cream, deodorant, hand sanitizer
Individually packaged toothbrushes, Women's/Men's dark socks, Hand warmers, Granola bars
Combs, \$10 McDonald's gift cards, 8oz bottles of water, Chapstick
- Purchase any of the items on our Amazon wish list and they will be shipped directly to St. Lawrence. Scan the QR code to go directly to the wish list.



VOLUNTEER TO ASSEMBLE BLESSING BAGS

Sign up for assembling Blessing Bags on Saturday, October 14th by using the QR code for Signup Genius. Or contact Mary Kraus in the parish office to sign up.



St. Clement—St. Francis/St. Maximilian—St. Isidore—SS. John and Paul—
St. John Vianney—St. Kieran—St. Lawrence—St. Matthias—St. Therese of Lisieux

Blessing Bags Volunteer Opportunity Oct. 14

Saturday, Oct. 14 is Mercy in Action day. Join our parish families in making 1,000 Blessing Bags for the homeless.

St. Lawrence Church
Saturday, Oct. 14
8:30 a.m. - Arrival
9:00 a.m. - Prayer service, followed by sorting and packing of blessing bags

Donate needed items or sign up to volunteer. See QR codes in flyer to sign up.

Fall CLOSET BLITZ!

The St. Vincent de Paul truck will be here for donations on:

Saturday

October 7
4pm-6pm

Monday

October 9
3:15pm-4pm
6pm-8pm

Sunday

October 8
7:30am-1:30pm

Tuesday

October 10
3:15pm-4pm
6pm-8pm

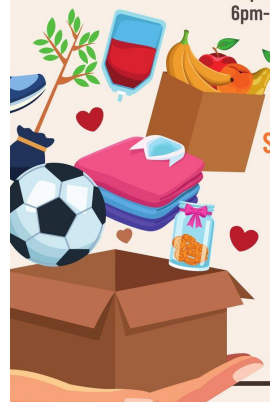
Volunteers Needed

Signup:

[STlyouthgroups.com/SVDP](https://stlyouthgroups.com/SVDP)

Questions directed to
Jack Novak:

586-731-5072 ext 244
jnovak@stlawrenceparish.com



Exodus Youth Group News

- **St. Vincent de Paul Closet Blitz** - Bring donations to school before pick up Oct. 9 and 10 from 3:15-4 p.m. See flyer above for details.
- **Youth Bible Study** starts Oct. 11
- **Youth Group Meeting** - Our first youth group meeting is Oct. 20 from 6:30-8 p.m.
- **Pumpkin Painting** - Come out for pumpkin painting with family and friends on Oct. 27. You supply the pumpkin and we'll supply the paint.
- **Rake-n-Run** - Saturday, Nov. 18 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Jack Novak if interested at jnovak@stlawrenceparish.com
- Check out other family night activities at stlyouthgroups.com/familynights

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month we celebrate our St. Lawrence Principal Mrs. Lisa DiMercurio and thank her for her dedication to upholding our mission of nurturing and celebrating a love for Jesus Christ and educating the whole child with academic excellence.

Mrs. DiMercurio



This is Mrs. DiMercurio's 20th year in education. She taught 3rd, 4th and 5th grade at St Paul on the Lake and has been an administrator for 15 years at St Lawrence. Mrs DiMercurio was the assistant principal at St. Lawrence for 9 years and has been principal for the last 6 years. She has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and science from Wayne State University and a master's degree in educational specialist and administration.

Mr. and Mrs. DiMercurio have been married for 35 years. They have four children and five grandchildren with a new grandchild expected in November. Mrs DiMercurio loves to cook, bake and camp. Most importantly, she loves being with her children and grandchildren.

Mrs DiMercurio has a very special place in her heart for the Lady of Fatima and saying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily.

She lives life with very specific direction - treat others as you want to be treated, and most importantly, trust in Jesus.

SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES



Athletics

2023-24 Winter Sports Registration for Girls' and Boys' CYO Basketball (5th-8th) and Winter CYO Cheer (4th-8th) is open and runs until Oct 8th.

Tryouts start the week of Nov 6th. Practice commitments will be 2-3 times per week with games on Saturdays. Practice schedules will be provided after tryouts and team selections have been made.

3-4th Grade Instructional Basketball registration will be sent out in Late November. The instructional basketball season games begin in January. Practices begin mid-December.

To register for Girls (5th-8th) Basketball, please use the following link:

<https://stlawrenceathletics.sportngin.com/.../form/155821708>

To register for Boys (5th-8th) Basketball, please use the following link:

<https://stlawrenceathletics.sportngin.com/.../form/296721349>

To register for Girls (4th-8th) Cheer, please use the following link:

<https://stlawrenceathletics.sportngin.com/.../form/885118914>

To be eligible to play St. Lawrence CYO sports, your child must be a student at St. Lawrence; be a St. Lawrence Parishioner attending religious education classes; or be a Parishioner attending religious education classes at one of the surrounding Catholic parishes.

***NOTE:** *The first round of registrations for basketball and cheer will end at midnight, Sunday, Oct. 8. After that, registrations will still be accepted, but the cost will **double**.*

****Failure to meet the requirements for volunteering during the Winter Sports season will result in a \$500 nonparticipation fee and a one-year ban on registration for your family.**

If anyone has any questions, please contact Jill Tocco at jilltocco@comcast.net or Matt Bultinck at matt_bultinck@yahoo.com



Accelerated Reader has begun! Students in grades 2-6 are eligible to participate in the program. After reading books, students take comprehension tests and earn points when mastery is achieved. Points can be redeemed for prizes. Tests can only be taken in school.

Each week, the top point earner in the school receives a bonus prize.

Search www.arbookfind.com for titles of books with accompanying Accelerated Reader tests. The school library has many of these titles. You can search our catalog at https://stl.follettdestiny.com/common/welcome.jsp?context=saas039_2103056.



Celebrate your "Child's Birthday" by donating to the St. Lawrence School Library.

Each month a note will be sent home as a reminder for the student whose birthday is coming up. To honor your child's birthday, we are kindly asking that you give a small monetary donation of your choice. This way we will be able to purchase books the Library needs.

The student's name will be posted on a recognition board outside the Library. The Library will also thank the student with a small token gift.

Thank you for your generous support and constant help in making the Library even better. We look forward to another wonderful year serving your children.



DIVINE NEWSLINE OCTOBER 2023

OUR MISSION

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

Holy Guardian Angels

On Monday, October 2, 2023, the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast Day of the Holy Guardian Angels.

This feast was first observed in the 16th century. In 1615, Pope Paul V added it to the Roman calendar.

As a silent and trustworthy advisor, our Guardian Angel stays by our side, trying to advise us for the best, to suggest the right path to follow, to obtain salvation, to deserve Paradise, and above all to be good people and always behave as good Catholic Christians.

According to Christian tradition, every one of us has a Guardian Angel, who accompanies us from the moment we're born until the moment of our death, and stays at our side at every moment of our life. The idea of a spirit, of a supernatural entity that follows and supervises every human being, was already present in other religions and in Greek philosophy. In the Old Testament, we can read that God is surrounded by a genuine court of heavenly figures who worship Him and perform actions in His name. Even in these ancient books, there are frequent references to angels sent by God as protectors of people and individuals, as well as messengers. In the Gospel, Jesus invites us to respect even the smallest and humble, in a reference to their angels, who watch over them from heaven and contemplate the face of God at every moment.

The Guardian Angel, therefore, is linked to anyone who lives within God's grace. The Fathers of the Church, like Tertullian, Saint Augustine, Saint Ambrose, Saint John Chrysostom, Saint Jerome and Saint Gregory of Nyssa, maintained that a Guardian Angel existed for each person, and although there was not yet a dogmatic formulation concerning this figure, already during the Council of Trent (1545 – 1563), it was stated that every human being had their own angel.

From the seventeenth century onwards, the spread of popular devotion increased and Pope Paul V added the festival of Guardian Angels to the calendar.



In sacred representations, and above all, in the images of popular devotion, Guardian Angels began to appear, and were usually depicted in the act of protecting children from harm. In fact, it is especially by children that we are encouraged to talk with our Guardian Angels, and to address our prayers to them. As we grow up, this blind trust, this unconditional love towards an invisible yet extraordinarily reassuring presence, fades. These Guardian Angels have always been and will continue to be near us.

Here are several fun facts and information about our Guardian Angel:

- 1) Guardian Angels exist and we all have one.
- 2) Angels have always existed and our Guardian Angel is not the spirit of a dead person.
- 3) Our Guardian Angel guides us on the pathway to Heaven and never abandons us.
- 4) Our Guardian Angel has no name.
- 5) Our Guardian Angel defends us with all his strength.
- 6) Our Guardian Angel is our personal messenger, charged with bringing our messages to God, and vice versa.

Information courtesy: Holyart.com



St. Lawrence
SKI CLUB

REGISTRATION IS OPEN THROUGH NOVEMBER 22ND

St. Lawrence will be sponsoring a 6-week ski club in 2024 at Pine Knob, each Wednesday evening beginning January 10th. Students and parents can ski at discounted rates, with available rentals and lessons for skiers who are learning the sport.

To learn more, or to get the registration link, email Angie Schuster at anschuster@gmail.com.

W E D N E S D A Y E V E N I N G S
FROM JANUARY 10TH UNTIL FEBRUARY 14TH
HILL OPENS AT 4:45PM AND CLOSSES AT 10PM

**PINE KNOB SKI RESORT
 7778 SASHABAW, CLARKSTON**



September SOTM Recipients

Congratulations to our September Student of the Month recipients!

Students will receive a free jeans day and breakfast with Mrs. DiMercurio and Mrs. Tsatsos on Thursday, Oct. 5. Parents of the recipients will receive an email with more information.

Kindergarten/Jr. K

Alice Bardhi
 Valentina Calagna
 Elenora Scheuer
 Henry Szubielski
 Elijah Vander Putten

Fourth Grade

Liana Alijelat
 Lourdes Jarbo
 Grace Kassab
 Ryder Kozak

First Grade

Mila Dababneh
 Elliana Eddy
 Onofrio Loconsole
 Jacob Rayes

Fifth Grade

Jonathan Alvarado
 Mason Kada
 Amelia Micakovic
 Millicent Winn

Second Grade

Annamarie Allos
 Adam Polath
 Jaxon Ries
 Olivia Walster

Sixth Grade

Joseph Artymovich
 Vincent Bates
 Gavin Hakim

Third Grade

Emma Bultinck
 Henry Essad
 Jack Gemellaro
 Emily McGrath

Seventh Grade

Angelina Eid
 Gianna Kizy
 Morgan Zacharevich

Eighth Grade

Amber Cucinello
 Anthony Fischione
 Mia Schlender