



Footnotes

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC PARISH

July 2023

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Play, Prayer, Crafts, Learning, Sharing, Fun!



A MESSAGE FROM FR. STEVE

JOYFUL SPIRITUAL TIMES AND ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

by Fr. Steven T. Williams

There has been a lot of activity in the parish this Summer. Our youth, in particular, have had a good summer with lots of activities. Our young people are now preparing to go back to school. We keep them, their parents and teachers in our prayers.

It is time for our RCIA program to begin. Please think of anyone who you would like to invite to become Catholic. Invite them! It is a wonderful program. Contact Barry Little in the parish office for more information.

Welcome to our new priest, Fr. Martin. Please introduce yourself and make him feel welcome at St. Lawrence.



THANK YOU MOMS AND DADS!

Many thanks to all who participated in our Father's and Mother's Day event honoring parents.

For mothers, children were encouraged to complete the sentence: My mom is the BEST because _____. Answers included:

"She is the best cook ever in the whole world."

"She prays for me."

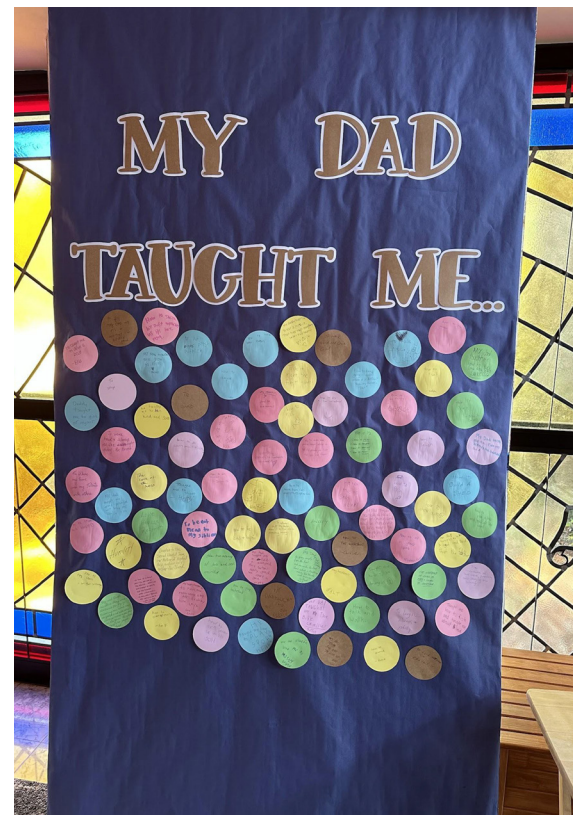
"My mom is the best because she loves me and that's all I need."

For fathers, children were encouraged to complete this sentence: My dad taught me _____. Answers included:

"Daddy taught me to give of myself."

"To be not mean to my siblings."

"He taught me to be kind and good."



OUR NEW SEMINARIAN: RUBEN CASTANEDA



My name is Ruben Castañeda, 23 years old. I am the second to last child of eight amazing siblings; five sisters and three brothers. I was born and raised in Guatemala, blessed to have lovable and supportive parents. When I was fourteen years old, I decided to move to the U.S. with the objective to support and help my family. As I got here on March 5th, 2015, I attended Tallassee High School. My education experience in school was challenging and beautiful at the same time. It was challenging because it was a different language, culture, and so on. The beauty of it is that I was able to be part of the culture and meet new great people that helped me grow to be the person I am. I eventually graduated with honors in 2019.

After graduation, I started working in remodeling construction. Meanwhile, I was actively serving at my parish, St. Vincent de Paul. Despite the work, I made time to serve the community. As time progresses, serving the Church brings me transcendental peace that fulfills my essence. One

day when the Lord called me for the first time, I was in my Holy Hour, reading the gospel of Matthew 9:36-37. I could not hide from the calling of our Lord Jesus when He said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;..." I did nothing but surrender my whole being to Him. He opened the doors and guided me to the right place. Thank God I got accepted as a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Mobile in 2020. Three years later, here I am, excited to finish my third year at Saint Joseph Abbey Seminary College. The sparks of peace of serving God's people still flow through my soul, and hence, when I heard that I was coming to St. Lawrence Parish, I got excited about such a mission.

St. Lawrence parishioners, I am grateful for being here and thankful for your warm welcome. I look forward to meeting everyone and serving you in whatever I can. It is fair to pray and hope for a beautiful and fruitful summer. Dios les Bendiga y Viva Cristo Rey.



THANK YOU FR. AUGUSTY, FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR

PARISHIONERS OFFER THANKS AT FAREWELL RECEPTION



We had a lovely farewell reception for Fr. Augusty as he departed St. Lawrence after a wonderful year of ministry. Fr. Augusty offered his time, prayers, and love of the Lord to our parish. Thank you Fr. Augusty! We offer prayers of thanksgiving for his time here and pray also for his new parish, St. John's in Magnolia Springs.



Parishioners didn't mind waiting to say farewell to Fr. Augusty.



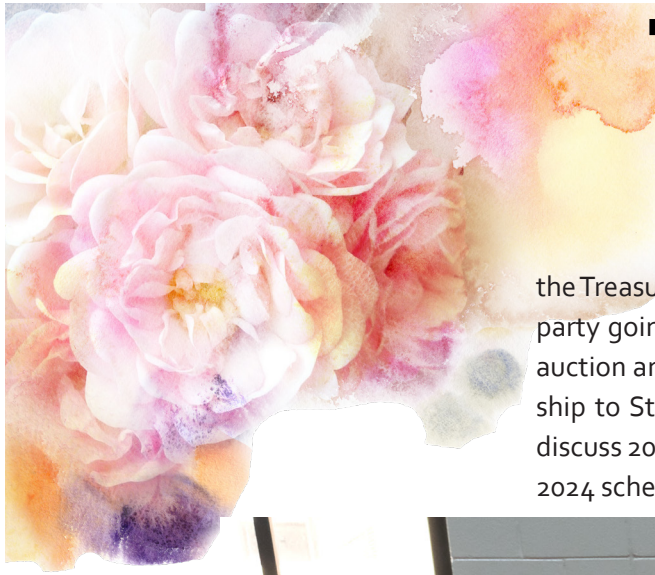
Even little parishioners wanted a moment with Fr. Augusty.



Sacristan Drew Donovan with Fr. Augusty.



It was a good opportunity to thank Fr. Augusty for his service to the parish.



TREASURES

MONTHLY GATHERING ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE

We had a most fabulous Treasure's Charity Card Party & Luncheon to close out the Treasures 2023 season. It was a fun and festive time for all, and the chicken salad kept the party going all day. Many people enjoyed not only the cards and games but also the silent auction and split-the-pot! We raised just over \$6,500 dollars for our charity cause, a scholarship to St. Michael Catholic High School. The Treasures board will meet in July/August to discuss 2024 plans. Reach out to a board member if you have any suggestions or ideas for our 2024 schedule. Thank you to all who came out and supported. See you next year!



LEFT: It took a few minutes to look at all of the beautiful silent auction items before placing bids. TOP: It was a good opportunity to visit and laugh with one another. ABOVE: Participants enjoyed each other's pleasant company before playing cards.

FIRST COMMUNION 2023

TWENTY-THREE YOUNG PARISHIONERS RECEIVE SACRAMENT

St. Lawrence was overjoyed to celebrate the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 7th. It was a joyful time for the first communicants, their families, and our entire parish as their preparation came to a close and they received the Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Please pray for these young people and their families that their lives be filled with faith in the Lord's presence and that they always know His great love for them.



St. Lawrence Catholic Church First Communion + May 7th, 2023

Front Row: Zackary Buskirk, Charlotte Michael, Georgi Henry, Brian Smith, Luke Morgan, Addi Napiontek, Liliana Gersonde
Second Row: Everett Maxwell, Beckham Niemeyer, Beau Walker, Leo Westbrook, Finn Henry, Finn Mason, Mrs. Susan Williams
Third Row: Michelle Wells, Aiden Ghassemi, Quin Carpenter, Louis Westbrook, Carter Neeley, Joseph Thetford, Paisley Morgan
Back Row: Mrs. Carol Bell, Nicholas Wells, George Koenemann, Fr. Steve Williams, Joe Westbrook, Alden Maxwell, Lisette Menger





A LETTER TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023!

Dear Graduating Seniors of St. Lawrence,
 Congratulations to all of you from the St. Lawrence staff! We are so excited for your future, and are grateful for our time walking with you as you've grown into young adults. We can't wait to see where the Lord takes you.

While graduating from high school may feel like an ending, the truth is, you are just beginning. Everything you've experienced up to now has prepared you for what comes next - growing on your own, in a new way. Maybe you're going straight into work, or attending trade school, or heading off to college. Whatever it is, you are entering a very new season of your life, and that can seem confusing and exciting and maybe a little bit scary. But through all these changes, through wherever God is leading you, all that you have learned in our parish remains true: you are unconditionally, completely, and deeply loved by God, and the church needs who you are.

Over the years you've been poured into - through Mass, the sacraments, VBS, CREW, EDGE, Life Teen, and parish life. You have been learning what it looks like to live a life with Christ in His Church. Now it's time to really put that into practice. Remember the importance of prayer, seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and allow your faith to lead you to the life God has planned for you: one of purpose, fulfillment and joy.

All of us at St. Lawrence will continue to be here for you, offering our prayers, support and love. Stay close to God, keep attending Mass and seek out the Catholic communities around you. A beautiful thing about our faith is its universality. Jesus is always desiring to be close to you. Wherever you go, the Church is welcoming you home.

Keeping you close in prayer,
 St. Lawrence Staff and Ministers



TRADD MCDANIEL
 St. Michael Catholic High School



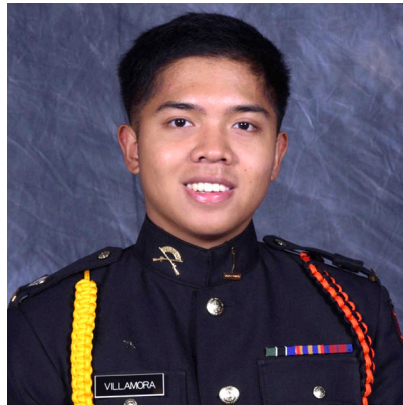
PORTER SAVARESE
 Fairhope High School



ELLA CARR
 McGill-Toolen Catholic HS



MARY ELIZABETH ROH
 St. Michael Catholic HS



NATHAN VILLAMORA
 Marion Military Institute



TIZIRI BOURICHE
 Fairhope High School



VINCENT TILLMAN
 McGill-Toolen Catholic HS



BOE MORRIS
 St. Michael Catholic HS



EMMA BUSS
 St. Michael Catholic HS



JOSH MURPHY
 St. Michael Catholic HS



MORGAN BLACKINTON
 St. Michael Catholic HS



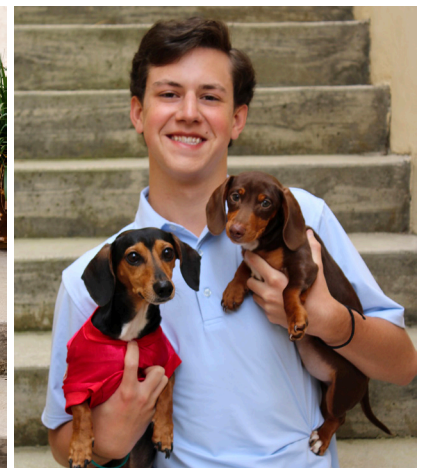
DAPHNE GILLIAM
Daphne High School



TYLER CELLA
St. Michael Catholic HS



MARGUERITE COWLES
St. Michael Catholic HS



LOUIS GERALD IV
Fairhope High School



JOSHUA KURZ
St. Michael Catholic HS



SAM MURRAY
St. Michael Catholic HS



LUCY LALISÁN
St. Michael Catholic HS



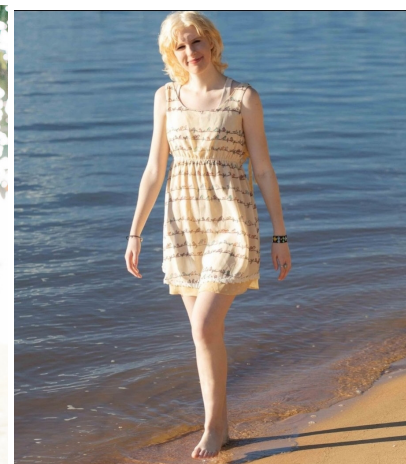
ALLYSON LEON
Fairhope High School



AVA COCKE
St. Michael Catholic HS



DELANEY HART
Fairhope High School



BRIDGET ADKINSON
Fairhope High School



LIBBI MELENDEZ
Bayside Academy



CHARLIE WILSON
Fairhope High School



MARY BROWN
St. Michael Catholic HS



TOMMI FAHY
Fairhope High School



WILLIAM NEUMANN
UMS-Wright High School

DIVINE MERCY FUN FEST

Thank you to all who participated in The Divine Mercy Fun Fest. It was a beautiful day to celebrate our Lord's infinite love and mercy for us! Moe's BBQ provided such wonderful lunch with Kona Ice as a special treat! We thank The Gawlee's for performing their beautiful music and creating such a fun environment! God be praised for His Goodness on His feast of Divine Mercy. May we always remember: Jesus, I Trust in You.



Divine Mercy Fun Fest was a great opportunity for fellowship, fun, and food!



Samuel and Miriam Sylvester had a great time on the bouncy slide.



Fr. Steve spends quality time with Steve & Reid Murray, Alexander & Benjamin Maurer, and Bennett Sawyer.



Colleen Stankoski and Viktoria Cryar treated themselves to Kona Ice!



This fun table of folks included Jan & Terry Hilyer and Tim & Jackie Simmonds.

Our Parish, Our Faith, Our Sacraments

Baptisms

HENRY GEORGE HOWARD
SON OF WILLIAM AND JESSICA HOWARD

AVILA GRACE PIPPIN
DAUGHTER OF CORY AND JESSICA PIPPIN

MARCOS ORDONEZ JR.
SON OF MARCOS SR. AND KASSONDRA ORDONEZ

ARTHUR JAMES DEVINE
SON OF JOSEPH AND MOLLY DEVINE

THOMAS POTTER BUSSEY
SON OF FREDERICK AND DELACY BUSSEY

SEBASTIAN LUKE RUTZ AND MARIGOLD ISOBEL RUTZ
SON AND DAUGHTER OF BRANTLEY AND MALLORY RUTZ

HOLLINS MARGARET HALE
DAUGHTER OF HUNTER AND BLAKELY HALE

BENNIE ANDREW KLEINSCHRODT
DAUGHTER OF PAUL AND ASHLEY KLEINSCHRODT

DAVID JAY CHALMERS
SON OF JAY AND CARRIE CHALMERS

Deaths

Sharon Batchellor Ratliff

Mary Sue Maloney

Barbara LeBlanc

New Parishioners

OCTAVIO AND MARIARITA FERMIN

DON AND CATHY GREEN

JIM AND CASIE PETRIK

CHRISTIAN AND CHRISTINA BOND

LEO AND DIANNE WILLIAMS

BENJAMIN AND KAYLA CHIDO

CHAD AND MARISSA SIMPSON

JESSE LEBLANC II

JOSEPH AND ASHLEY GABURRI

VBS WINS AT MONTE CARLO NIGHT

A REALLY FUN NIGHT FOR A REALLY GOOD CAUSE



We had great time at Monte Carlo Night! The food was delicious, the company was wonderful and it was a good night of fun in support of VBS! Sr. Mary Samuel and Sr. Agnes Paulina even tried their hand at the game tables! Thank you to all who have supported Vacation Bible School through sponsorships, donations, participation in the auction, raffle and Monte Carlo Night!





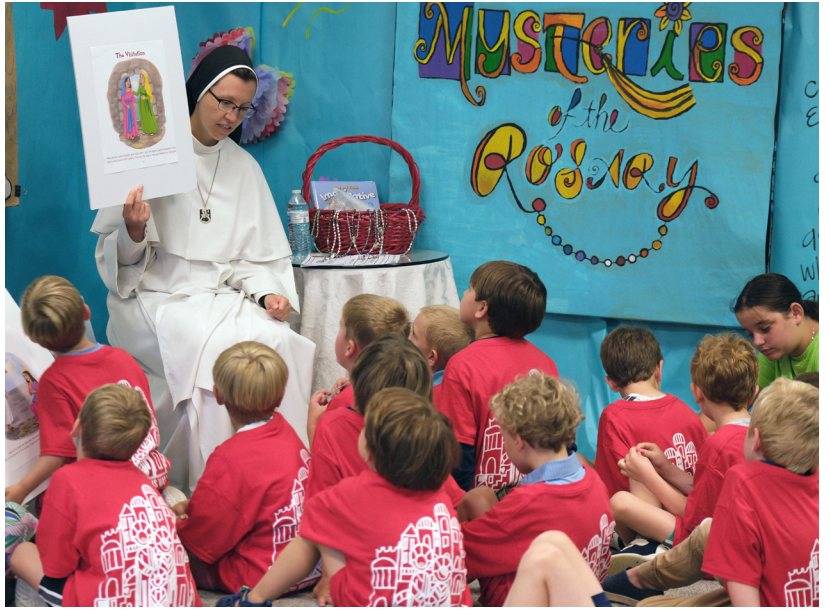
NAZARETH: WHERE JESUS WAS A KID

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023 WAS AN AMAZING TIME!

What an amazing VBS we had! We were blessed to have the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, wonderful volunteers and a great skit team! The children learned so much about the life of Jesus as a child in Nazareth, the Holy Family and many saints. We are looking forward to VBS 2024 and following Jesus to Galilee!



SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS 2024:
June 10th - June 14th!



St. Lawrence Catholic Church Footnotes
370 S. Section Street
Fairhope, AL 36532

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THE MIRACLE OF LIFE



Dr. William Life OB-GYN

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Miracle of Life Pro-Life Dinner

Doors Open at 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm, Speaker 7:00

Bring your family and friends (7th graders & up) St. Lawrence Gym

