Bishop Glen John Provost

Father Lozano to lead Hispanic Ministry

LAKE CHARLES - Even at age 73 it is the first thing you notice about Father Arturo Lozano – his energy and his seeming innate ability to get things done, even on

Father Lozano, a Jesuit, had hardly been appointed to his new post as Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Lake Charles before being handed his first assignment. The job was providing logistics for participants in the Guadalupean Torch Run on November 10-11 as they made their way from Mexico City to New York. Providing a place to stay, food to eat, set up the special Mass at St. Henry and getting local runners to take part in the relay which honored Our Lady of Guadalupe was taken care of with aplomb.

"From my beginning as Director of Hispanic Ministry in Lafayette in 1999 in just a small office, my motto has been "let's get organized," Father Lozano said.

As he begins his new job in a familiar ministry here in the Diocese of Lake Charles, Father Lozano is doing just that. He currently shares an

Rev. Arturo Lozano, S.J.

office at St. Henry Church with the Very Rev. Daniel Torres.

He is much further along here than he was when he started in Lafayette. There he literally started from scratch. "I didn't have an office, didn't have a desk, didn't have a computer, didn't have books or bookshelves," Father Lozano said. Here he has a shared office and many of the accoutrements of his ministry.

Besides office, secretary and books, Father Lozano sees communication as another basic need.

leads to good comprehension, good comprehension avoids tension and if you avoid tension you have the possibility of finding harmony and unity, and in the long run a fruitful apostolate."

He is developing a survey for his constituency so that he can be "well informed of who they are, how many they are, where they are, what are the needs that they perceive in their community, and what are the talents they can offer as service for the community.'

While Father Lozano noted he is ready to do everything needed, he "won't do anything alone. I am going to rely on the survey to provide a solid figure of how many Hispanic Catholics there are in the diocese, what are their capacities, what are their needs, and what will be the priorities from which I have to select."

Born in Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico in 1935, he entered he Society of Jesus in 1953. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Jesuits on Sept. 23, 1967 in

With the Shepherds and Magi, Rejoice!

Dearly Beloved of the Diocese of Lake Charles,

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled" (Luke 2:1). With those momentous words, St. Luke begins his account of the immediate circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. What strikes me and has struck so many over the years is the definite time dimension of those words.

St. Luke wants to make very clear that Jesus is an historical figure. He is born at a particular time and place. Augustus is Caesar, Quirinius is governor (Luke 2:2), Bethlehem is the town in Judea, and a census brings about the movement to the location. We are not dealing with myth or legend. This is not make-believe. St. Luke seems to be saying, "Check the facts."

Into this history, the world's history, time and place, the Lord of History is born. About this the Letter to the Hebrews speaks: "In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he spoke to us through a son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the

We are invited to a personal relationship with Jesus. When we have a personal relationship with Jesus, we want to come to know Him better. Christmas helps us to do this. Christmas introduces us to His mother, Mary. It introduces us to Joseph, John the Baptist, Zechariah and Elizabeth, the shepherds, and the magi. Each tells us his or her story and how that story

Lord Jesus quickly come and be reborn in us.

relates to Jesus Christ. The Gospels and our worship will speak of Jesus. We will bring what we hear and celebrate into our homes. We will join around our Christmas trees and our dining room ta-

bles, and everything we do from gift giving to special meals will speak of Jesus. It was a great blessing for me to celebrate Mass for the prisoners at the Calcasieu Correctional Center on Thanksgiving Day. I will return there to celebrate Mass on Christmas morning and go to C. Paul Phelps Correctional Center near DeQuincy to celebrate Mass on New Year's Day. The prisoners attend Mass with such love and prayerful devotion. They are thankful for what God does for them. Along with my visit for Masses with the people of Cameron Parish on December 6 and 7, I saw many who had suffered and were still suffering. In their hearts, as well as ours, was a longing for Our Lord. May the

I would ask you to do something more. Do not forget the homebound, the sick, and those in nursing or retirement facilities. Many of them have no family. No one will visit some of them on Christmas Day or over the holidays. For them Christmas is one of the loneliest times of year. Out of the love you have for Christ, make time to visit them. A simple visit, a simple gift, will mean a great deal to them

I extend my blessings to you and your families for Christmas and the Season that lasts through the New Year. May Jesus, born of a virgin, in time and place, continue to make His presence known to you.

Merry Christmas!

+Glen John Provost Bishop of Lake Charles

Massive postcard campaign aimed at members of Congress

Diocese of Lake Charles is joining dioceses across the to provide members of Congress with their voices of objection regarding the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) and to let them know the need to "retain laws against federal funding and promotion of abortion.' A massive campaign to

send postcards to all members of Congress has been endorsed by the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, with the leadership of its chairman, Justin Cardinal Rigali. Here in the Diocese of Lake Charles that effort is being coordinated through the Office of Pro-Life and its director, Kathy Owen, to the prolife directors in each parish of the Diocese. Postcards will be distributed in mid-January, 2009 in the parishes and available for signing the weekend of January 24-25. For information about the postcard campaign and how you can participate, contact your parish pro-life director or Owen at the Office of Pro-Life, 337-439-7400.

Bishop Glen John Provost has sent a special message to the people of the Diocese detailing the urgency of the situation and how they can help.

"The work for pro-life is the responsibility of everyone but particularly us as Catholics who consistently preach a Gospel of Life, Bishop Provost said. The Bishop noted that the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bish-Francis Cardinal George of Chicago, reminded everyone of this fact in a statement, which was unanimously endorsed by all the bishops of the country at their November meeting in Baltimore.

"One serious threat facing us is what is called the Freedom of Choice Act or FOCA, Bishop Provost continued. "Cardinal George outlined a number of consequences adverse to life which would occur if FOCA, as it is presently proposed, becomes law."

Those consequences as Cardinal George's statement "include removing any 'interference' to abortion at will; depriving the states of the freedom to enact regulations on the abortion industry; outlawing parental notification and informed consent precautions; deregulating abortion clinics; abrogating the Hyde Amendment that restricts federal funding for abortions; compromising the consciences of doctors, nurses, and health care workers

whose personal convictions do not permit them to cooperate in the killing of unborn children; and threatening Catholic health care institutions and Catholic Chari-

Cardinal George's statement was printed in the Dec. 5 edition of the Catholic Calendar, the page published every two weeks by the Diocese in the American Press, the Beauregard Daily News, the Jennings Daily News, and the Cameron Pilot. That edition of the page and the Cardinal's statement is now available for download from the diocesan website - lcdio-

Also of concern are Executive Orders, which the new President may sign, in the early days of his presidency.

"The possibility exists that a new Congress and a new Administration could eliminate what few pro-life protections remain

place," Bishop Provost said. In his letter to the people Bishop Provost asked for their help. "The threat is serious," he said. "I firmly believe that failure to voice an objection and concern would be morally delinquent. I ask also for your prayers in support of life."

Father Mancuso honored as community advocate

LAKE CHARLES - The Rev. Henry Mancuso, Secretary for the Ministry of Pastoral Services of the Diocese of Lake Charles, and pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, recently was honored with the National Family Week Advocacy Award at sored Family & Youth.

Father Mancuso received the honor in recognition of

Abrazando Cristo Mission trip set July 4-12

LAKE CHARLES -- The 2009 Abrazando Cristo Mission Trip to Nicaragua will be July 4-12, according to the Rev. Daniel Torres.

Cost of the trip is \$1,600.00, which will cover all air and ground transportation, meals, lodging, tips, taxes, retreat, and two mission shirts. Only 25 spaces are available.

For an information packet/registration form please contact Fr. Torres at 337-439-7400, Ext. 215. \$250.00 non-refundable deposit is due by Jan. 15th to secure a seat.

his service as a community activist and advocate for those who have no voice; speaking out and taking ac-



Reverend Henry Mancuso received the National Family Week Advocacy Award.

tion on their behalf at the local, state, and national levels. Father Mancuso, in addition to ministering to the spiritual needs of his parishioners at Sacred Heart, has established Project Build a Future, which works to build affordable housing, allowing people to enjoy home ownership while at the same time serving as a source of community pride in revitalizing the neighborhood around Sacred Heart Church.

In his position as Secretary for Pastoral Services, Father Mancuso is working to strengthen and grow the local Catholic Charities organization to better serve those in need in Southwest Louisiana. In addition, Father Mancuso is a founding member and driving force in the Lake Area Ministerial Alliance, and serves as chairperson of the Mayor's Leadership Team for Community and Race Relations.

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24 through Jan. 2 and reopen at 8:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5. The next Catholic Calendar will be published on January 16, 2009. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Did you know...

Three parishes in what is now the Diocese of Lake Charles were established in 1955. All were overseen by priests of the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette. The first to be founded was St. Peter the Apostle Church in Hackberry on April 29 while St.

John Bosco in Westlake was established on June 24. Those were formed under the episcopacy of The Most Reverend Jules B. Jeanmard. On Nov. 1, The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder established the parish of Our Lady of LaSalette in DeQuincy.

Bishop Glen John Provost has his office in the Chancery Building on Iris Street. Other locations housed the Episcopal Offices in the early years of the Diocese. Do you know those locations? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar.

Mass Schedule for Christmas in the Diocese of Lake Charles

St. John Vianney (7120 Hwy. 14 E.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Day)

Big Lake St. Mary of the Lake at St. Patrick Chapel $(469\ Hwy.\ 27,\ Sweetlake)$ 4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

Cameron Our Lady Star of the Sea at St. Patrick Chapel $(469\ Hwy.\ 27,\ Sweetlake)$ 4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

Carlyss St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (4822 Carlyss Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve): 8:00 a.m. (Day) Creole

 $Sacred\ Heart\ of\ Jesus\ at\ St.\ Patrick\ Chapel$ $(469\ Hwy.\ 27,\ Sweetlake)$ 4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day) **DeQuincy**

Our Lady of LaSalette, (203 S. Grand Ave.) 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) DeRidder St. Joseph (1125 Blankenship Dr.)

6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Elizabeth St. Frances of Rome Chapel (204 Poplar St.) 8:00 a.m. (Day)

Elton St. Joseph (Washington St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day) St. Paul (1100 St. Mary St.) 7:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day) **Fenton**

St. Charles Borromeo (804 Third Ave.)

7:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:45 a.m., 2:00 p.m. Extraordinary Form (Day) **Grand Chenier** St. Eugene at St. Patrick Chapel

(469 Hwy. 27, Sweetlake) 4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day) Hackberry St. Peter the Apostle (1210 Main St.)

6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Iowa St. Raphael (211 Thompson Ave.)

12:00 Midnight (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day) St. Peter Claver Chapel (503 Second Street) 5:30 p.m. (Eve) **J**ennings

Immaculate Conception (705 S. Lake Arthur Ave.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. (Day) Our Lady Help of Christians (710 N. State St.) 4:00 p.m. (Church & St. Mary Center), 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day) Our Lady of Perpetual Help (920 S. Broadway) 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:30 a.m. (Day)

Kinder
St. Philip Neri (607 Fourth Ave.)
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Lacassine

St. John the Evangelist Chapel (306 Ann St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. (Day) Lake Arthur Our Lady of the Lake (203 Commercial Ave.)

12:00 Midnight (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Day) Lake Charles Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets)

4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day) Christ the King (7680 Gulf Hwy.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day) Immaculate Heart of Mary (2031 Opelousas St.)

4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Day) Our Lady of Good Counsel (221 Aqua Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Our Lady Queen of Heaven (3939 Lake St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Day)

Sacred Heart of Jesus (1102 Mill St.) 4:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

St. Henry (1021 Eighth Ave.) 4:45 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Spanish) (Eve) 8:00 a.m. (Day) St. Margaret of Scotland (2500 Enterprise Blvd.)

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day) St. Martin de Porres (5326 Elliott Rd.) 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day) St. Patrick Hospital Chapel (524 S. Ryan St.)

9:00 a.m. (Day) LeBleu Settlement St. Joseph Chapel (2110 Claude Hebert Road) 4:00 p.m. (Eve)

Moss Bluff St. Theodore (785 Sam Houston Jones Pkwy.) 4:30 p.m. 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Sacred Heart of Jesus (1208 E. 7th Ave.)

7:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day) Oberlin

St. Joan of Arc (112 S. Seventh St.) 5:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Ragley St. Pius X Chapel (16816 Hwy 171)

5:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day) Raymond

St. Lawrence (5505 Pine Island Hwy.) 5:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., (Day) Sulphur

Our Lady of Prompt Succor (1109 Cypress St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

Immaculate Conception (2700 Maplewood Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day) Our Lady of LaSalette (602 N. Claiborne St.)

4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

Sweetlake $St.\ Patrick\ Chapel\ (469\ Hwy.\ 27,\ Sweetlake)$ 4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

Vinton St. Joseph (1502 Industrial St.)

4:00 PM, 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day) **Welsh** Our Lady of Seven Dolors (209 N. Adams St.) 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day) St. Joseph (310 N. Sarah St.) 8:30 a.m. (Day)

Westlake St. John Bosco (1301 Sampson St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

(This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles.)