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Annual Catholic Schools Week Mass celebrated

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, presided over the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, which was celebrated by the

Very Reverend Daniel Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese and pastor of St. Henry Catholic Church. Bishop Provost was the Homilist and remained after the Liturgy, speaking and listening to the

Eighth grade students from the Catholic schools in the Diocese along with the senior class of St. Louis Catholic High School were present. The St. Louis Choir sang before the Mass and music was provided during the liturgy by the St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School Choir. Teachers, principals and staff members from each school also at-

Clergy concelebrating included Rev. Msgr. Jace Eskind, Cathedral; Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois, St. Theodore, Moss Bluff; Rev. Archimandrite Hebert May, Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Welsh; Rev. Charles McMillin, Our Lady Help of Christians, Jennings; Rev. Nathan Long, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Lake Charles; Rev. Msgr. Ronald Groth, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lake Charles; Rev. Marcus Johnson, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lake Charles. Rev. Ruben Buller and Rev. Scott Conner were the masters of ceremonies while Deacon Edward Lavine served at the al-

The eight Catholic schools in the Diocese are Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Sacred Heart/ Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School, St. Louis Catholic High School, all in Lake Charles; Our Lady's School, Sulphur; Our Lady Immaculate

Catholic School, Jennings; and St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School Bishop Provost related his remarks to-

ward the day's Gospel reading from St. Matthew, Chapter 5 in which Jesus uses two images to convey his teachings - salt and

"They are two essential symbols, not just ordinary symbols, and we could say much about them," Bishop Provost said. "But, one thing is certain – salt and light transform.

"If we doubt that for one moment, that salt can transform – all we need do is taste cooking from another region and know that we are missing something," the Bishop continued. "I marvel at the way just a little salt can transform an ordinary dish into something really tasty. Taste something without salt and then something with it and you will know what I'm talking about.'

The Bishop also pointed out how light can be transformative as well.

"The next time the electricity goes off and darkness descends and surrounds us, we will reach for what – we will reach for the nearest addition to the everyday people of Washington who use the train for normal transporta-

"There were thousands upon thousands filling the Metro around the Capitol Mall"

who are its most vulnerable victims - and that can be you - manifest the slightest disagreement with its principals. Its most vulnerable victims are the young. So, to see a large group of young people - and there were

Death' to take.

a lot - on their way to protest the killing of innocent life in abortion is just too much for a proponent for the 'Culture of

"Our response can never be anger, we must always be the salt of the earth and the light of the world," the Bishop continued. "Why is this? Because of what I said earlier and what Jesus says in the Gospel – we transform – just as salt and light do. We transform by accepting responsibility - very important - for what we are as followers of Jesus Christ.

"It is not just a bunch of tissue - but only salt and light can point that out to an unbelieving world," he continued. "Accepting responsibility for being salt and light means we connect with the teachings of Jesus Christ and what gifts God has given us to respond to those teachings. Each and every one of you - especially because you attend a Catholic school - have great responsi-

"We are here to celebrate Catholic Schools and we marvel at the work they do at educating the young. Catholic schools are at their best when they are preserving the innocence of the young, because innocence makes it possible for us to connect with Jesus Christ. Only the innocent in spirit of the Beatitudes can remain open to what God is really calling them to be. What is that? I would say we are called to be free. Go over the Beatitudes when you have a chance - blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are those who mourn, blessed are

those who show mercy, blessed are those who are meek, blessed are those who pursue justice. What do they all have in common? They are free! This freedom is not freedom to do what we want, it is

a freedom to do what we must. "Freedom to do what we must requires a maturity rooted in knowing ourselves very well and what it is that God wants of us. The mission of the Catholic school is to foster an environment where salt and light can never lose flavor or be concealed. For this the Catholic school needs to be connected to Jesus Christ and to the Church that He established as His Body. If it is not, then it ceases to be a conveyor of salt and light. For this conveyance, the Catholic school accepts its mission and takes responsibility to speak the truth, a truth that seasons life and sheds are the salt of the earth, you are the light of



Bishop Glen John Provost sits in front of the altar and answers the question of one of the Catholic school students who attended the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass held in the Cathedral. Following the Liturgy, Bishop Provost remained to interact with the youth.

match or flashlight to show us the way.

'Salt and light transform! Salt – taste. Light - our vision. One can change the ordinary into the extraordinary. With salt and light, one gives sight and the other gives

He noted that the Gospel was taken from the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus, speaking to his Disciples, challenges them to be instruments for transformation through the Beatitudes.

Bishop also spoke of his recent journey to Washington, DC for the National March for Life where hundreds of thousands of people young and old – marched for the cause of the unborn. He relayed a story from a priest friend about an experience one of the young people had at the same event several years before. The Washington subway system, known as the Metro, was very crowded with pilgrims to the city for the March for Life in

Bishop Provost said. "And, in all the pushing and shoving a well-dressed lady in a business suit turned to the young people and said, 'why don't you people get a life, it's just a bunch of tissue anyway.

The priest related to Bishop Provost that the young people did not know how exactly to respond. "They were all shocked because they had never encountered this, never met the brutal fact of life of what many believe is the 'Culture of Death.

"The 'Culture of Death' surrounds us whether we like it or not and it wants us to believe that this is all there is," Bishop Provost said. "It doesn't care whom it destroys and that the material world is all there is and all that we should be concerned about. For the most part, the 'Culture of Death' remains hidden. It prefers to be concealed unlight. To the Catholic student Jesus says, 'you der the surface but it does come to the surface in all its intense ferocity when those



Rachel Livingston



Bailey Castille



Noah LeJeune

Non-public School Students of the Year announced

LAKE CHARLES - The 2011 Non-Public School Students of the Year for the district of the Diocese of Lake Charles have been announced by Mrs. Kimberlee Gazzolo, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese. Nine schools, including schools of the Diocese as well as Bethel Christian School in Jennings and Hamilton Christian Academy in Lake Charles, nominated students for the competition.

Winners were Rachel Livingston, St. Louis Catholic High School, twelfth grade; Bailey Castille, Hamilton Christian Academy, eighth grade; and Noah LeJeune,

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School.

Other fifth grade nomifrom the various schools taking part in the competition were: fifth grade, Cole Pharris, Our Lady's Catholic School, Sulphur; Lindsey Hall, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, Charles; Melania Grantham, St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School, Moss Bluff; Kaylee Herpin, Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, Jennings; Devin Istre, Bethel Christian School; Damoroin Gallien, Sacred Heart-St. Katharine Drexel Catholic,

Eighth grade nominees were Crosby Qui, Saint Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School; Steven Mere, Our Lady's School, Jennings; Elizabeth Joseph, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School; Noah Meche, Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School; Toni Romero, Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School; and Alexis Stokes, Sacred Heart-St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School.

The only other twelfth grade nominee was Megan Duhon, Bethel Christian Academy.

the world." A Message from the Superintendent

Mrs. Kimberlee Gazzolo M.A.

Catholic schools have a longstanding tradition of providing families with excellence in academics, rooted in Gospel values. As Superintendent of Catholic schools in the Lake Charles Diocese, I am honored to witness that excellence on a daily basis. As we incorporate the Louisiana state standards and national core standards to our curriculum, technology is an integral part of our classrooms. Rather than just attending a "computer class", technology is woven into the daily teach-

ing and learning that occurs. Many classrooms in the Diocese are equipped with Promethean boards, digital projectors and document cameras. This equipment, along with Internet access, allows for interactive learning among students. Computer labs offer a combination of desktop computers and laptops for student use. Recently, several schools have implemented the use of iPod Touches to enhance daily instructional activities at the Pre-K through 3rd grade levels. Students regularly utilize programs such as Accelerated Math. Accelerated Reader, Star Math and Brain Pop as part of their curriculum. Diocesan wide programs such as World Book Online and Ebsco Host provide students with research

capabilities both in the

classroom and at home.

Many of our parents take advantage of our web-based grading programs which allow them to monitor their child's progress, view homework and class notes and check grades throughout the year. Web based lesson planning software allows teachers to concisely plan lessons, integrating them with Louisiana State Standards, and provides immediate administrator feedback.

A recent addition, the purchase of Peer Connection, allows teachers within the Diocese to network and have access to a multitude of research based articles, videos and instructional practices. This form of collaboration not only enhances our planned professional development, but allows for discussion among the elementary and secondary levels.

Year after year, our elementary students above the national average on standardized testing. Likewise, our high school

students boast scores on both the ACT and Advanced Placement tests that are above the state of Louisiana averages and the national average! The combination of superior academics, athletic opportunities, and extracurricular activities provide a first rate education to a diverse student population. However, the uniqueness of our schools rests in the teaching of gospel values and the emphasis on educating the whole child. The partnership that occurs between parents, teachers and students ensures that Catholic education is indeed a "gift for life". I would invite each current Catholic school family to bring a family to your school for a visit. Registration for new families begins March 28, 2011. Share the gift of Catholic education with your friends and neighbors. Together, we can make our future strong.

Did you know...

Monsignor Joseph Bourque was ordained on June 4, 1955 while Reverend T. L. Herlong was ordained on June 18, 1958, the two longest serving priests of the Diocese of Lake Charles, during the papacy of Pope Pius XII, who reigned from March 2, 1939 until his death on October 9, 1958. While both are retired they are still very active in a variety of ministries.

The 120th anniversary of establishment of a parish of the Diocese will be celebrated in December of this year. Do you know which parish and can you name the founding pastor as well as the current pastor? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

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Lake Charles.

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Ministry 337-439-7400

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost Bishop of Lake Charles

February 18, 2011

Catholic school teachers' service lauded

annual Catechetical Conference, sponsored by the Office of Religious Education of the Diocese of Lake Charles, was held recently at St. Louis Catholic High School. Gloria Reinhardt Majerus, a regional Catechetical Consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division, will be the keynote speaker both days. Her talk will be "Do As I Have Done."

The Friday session was an in-service for faculty and staff of the Catholic schools of the Diocese while the Saturday session was geared toward all adults wishing to grow in their faith, specifically parish and school catechists, adult education catechists, youth ministers and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Evangelization team members. More than 500 attended the conference.

There were breakout sessions on a variety of specific topics each day, according to Denise Donahoe, Director of the Office of Religious Education

Before the Friday keynote address, principals and in the eight Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles who had five or more years of service in Catholic education were recognized. Those in-

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, Lake Charles: Dinah Bradford, 14; Amanda Brinkman, 9; Mary Bushnell 6; Stephanie DuRousseau, 5; Larry Eagle, 6; Anita Falcon, 7; Tenia Fuselier, 13; Maria Galan, 12; Maria Harless, 13; Kim Ieyoub, 16; Chris Jones, 13; Danielle Koenig 8; Dean-Kolde, 9; Veronica Lafanette, 11; JoLynn Marcantel, 23; Holly McElwee, 5; Paula McLean, 9; Christy Papania-Jones, 14; Jill Peavy, 7; Jennifer Postell, 6; Leanne Schwartzenburg, 8; Phyllis Steech, 31; Rose Viau, 20; Vicky White, 32; and Kimberly Wilson, 6.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, Jennings: Becky Dugas, 15; Erin Fontenot, 12; Julia LeBlanc, 17; Bridget Luntsford,10; Stacy Myers, 11; Kris Reed, 14; Melissa Seilhan, 9; and Sherrion Sonnier, 9.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven of Heaven Catholic School, Lake Charles: Dawn Courville, 13; Christie Jarreau, 8; Jackie Bohdan, 32; Diane Jackson, 25; Kelly Babineaux, 19; Donna Barger, 20; Tammy Bebee, 7; Patsy Beverung, 28; Lisa Billodeau, 11; Susan Blue, 11; Heather Broussard. Michelle

Bishop Glen John Provost, bottom right, along with Father Nathan Long are shown

with the group of pilgrims from the Diocese of Lake Charles at the National March

for Life held on Monday, Jan. 24, in Washington, DC. The group from the Diocese

was made up of 27 adults and teens from Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic

Church in Lake Charles, St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff and St. Joan

of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin. "The trip was extremely grace-filled," said

David Dawson, who organized the event. "Everyone who went received something

very real and very specific to their needs. God's presence was tangible. The teens

were challenged to give themselves, along with their discomforts and inconve-

niences, as a sacrifice to God, just like any other pilgrimage, and God responded as

Bishop Provost to celebrate Memorial Mass

Mass, scheduled for noon on

Friday, March 4, will take

place in Our Lady Help of

Christians Catholic Church.

Lafayette is a direct descen-

dant of the Marquis de

The Count Gilbert de Pusy

Michelle Cutrera, 8; Doug Dietz, 19; Sarah Edens, 7; Fink, 13; Fontenot, 30; Brenda Foshee, 17; Sharon Hearn, 38; Connie Houssiere, 10; Sandy Hudson, 35; Lisa Jakel, 9; Cathy King, 10; Lee Lanier, 5; Jessica LeBato, 7;Marguerite LeDoux, 29; Patti McIver, 12; Diane Oden, 11; Mary Phelps, 19; Jane Piraro, 34; Susan Piatt, 16; Nicole Posch, 11; Colette Tanner, 5; and JoAnn Wallwork, 8.

Catholic School, **Sulphur:** Manny Charleen Dronet. 10; Godeaux, 24; Natalie Malone, 7; Jimmy Newman, 8; Tracy Richard, 8; Maribel Tostado, 5; Stefanie Viator, 7; and Trevor Donnelly, 6.

Heart/St Sacred Katharine Drexel Catholic School, Lake Charles: Phyllis Kittling, 17; Jo Collins, 9; Tawauna Johnson, 9; Sybil Jean, 20; Bridgett Williams, 18; Willa Golden, 7; Gerald Valerie, 8; and Dr. Kathleen Bellow, 6.

St. Louis Catholic High School, Lake Charles: Robbie Austin 7; Vicki Bennett, 6; Amy Breaux, 21; Geneva Breaux, 7; Dee Butts, 27; Wayne Cespiva, 9; Monica Core, 10; Jeanne Delahoussaye, 16; Kevin Driscoll, 13; Barbara Dupont, 14: Kim Foreman, 12; Tanya France, 15; Kristal Franklin, 17; Jennifer Guillory, 34; Debbie Herpin, 22; Mike Johns, 10; Tommy Johns, 5; Tony Johnson, 16: James Kirkendall, 9: Pam Leblanc, 33; Melanie Lejeune, 7; Sharon Monteaux, 9; Jason Oertling, 16; Luke Pousson, 5; Rosalind Savant, 32; Linda Gail Shumaker, 5; Nancy Sickmann, 17; Casey Vincent, 11; Emily Williams, 6; Jeanne Williams, 25; and Charles Zebley, 34.

St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School, Moss Bluff: Angela Guillory, 5; Debra Hogan, 16; Janet Lowery, 6; Mona Snatic, 6; Rene'e Soileau, 10; Stephen Starr, 6; and Jennifer Bellon, 7.

Presentations on St. John's Gospel slated for March

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will continue his presentations on the Gospel of St. John on Tuesday, March. 1 at the Women's Luncheon to be held in the Lake Charles Civic Center and on Friday, March 4, at the Men's Prayer Breakfast in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception offices. He will complete the discussion on the 13th through 17th chapters of St.

Women are asked to send a check in the amount of \$10, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles to Ms Esther Gallardo, 612 Alamo Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 to register and include a stamped-self addressed envelope. The cutoff date for the March luncheon is

Men should call 337-439-7400 to register for the breakfast.



St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Lake Charles: Kayla Booth, 6; Cecile Maes, 6; Pam Torres, 7; Brenda Dufrene, 8; Debbie Ferguson, 9; Alice Adams, 10; Denise Caraway, 11; Judy Reeves, 11; Pam Soileau, 13; Gwen Brignac, 16; Monica Guidry, 17; Elaine Greenman, 18; Clare Blackwell, 22; Suzanne Navarro, 22; Pam Williamson, 22; Sherry Lyons, 28; Pam Rusnak, 30; Paula Hanks, 31; and Claire

John's Gospel.

The men's breakfast begins at 7 a.m. following Bishop Provost's celebration of First Friday Mass in the Cathedral starting at 6:30

Thursday, Feb. 24.



Rev. Juan Alers



Deaths of Father Alers, Father Revel announced

of Lake Charles have died, Rev. Juan Alers, a former pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Oakdale, and Rev. Peter Revel, who served as administrator of St. John Bosco Church Father Alers, a native of Puerto Rico, died Tuesday, Feb. 1, at his residence. Very Rev. Daniel Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese, was the celebrant of the Mass of Christian

LAKE CHARLES - Two priests who served in the Diocese

Burial Friday, Feb. 4, in Sacred Heart Church. Burial followed in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Father Revel died in Sri Lanka on Thursday, Jan. 27. The

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. Cajetan's Church in Welihena and he was interred in the parish cemetery.

Catholic Schools Notes

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School

OLQH School Alumni Fanfare Weekend . Friday, April 8 – OLQH Golf Classic, Saturday, April 9 – "Heavenly Fun Run for Others" and Saturday evening "Garden Gala", Sunday, April 10 – OLQH Family Mass & Brunch More information forthcoming!

Our Lady's Catholic School

Our Lady's School has chosen Mrs. Nicole Trahan, a member of the faculty for two years, as "Teacher of the Year, 2010-2011". The faculty and staff congratulate Mrs. Nicole Trahan in this achievement, and add our best wishes for her

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School Immaculate Conception Cathedral School registration in-

2011-2012 school year is available. New families are invit-

ed to tour the Cathedral School and receive registration packets. New Family registration is Monday, March 28. For more information, contact Susan Percle at 433-3497 or sper-

Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School

St. Margaret Catholic School ended Catholic Schools Week with a special Mass honoring our Distinguished Graduate, Pamela Fontenot Seal, who was given a certificate and pin and thanked for her support of SMCS and Catholic schools. Following Mass students and faculty enjoyed a school-wide BINGO and lunch.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School

Father Whitney Miller was presented the Distinguished Graduate Award while a Certificate of Commendation was given to Mrs. Delores Armentor following the school Mass. It is our honor to recognize them for their service to our school and the Church. The Dinner/Auction's Black & White Night will be Saturday, Feb. 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings Grand Marais Ballroom.

St. Louis Catholic High School

St. Louis Catholic High School is hosting a "Legacy Day" for the students and faculty on Friday, March 11. As part of St. Louis Catholic's 40th anniversary, presenters from SLCHS predecessor schools, Sacred Heart, St. Charles Academy and Landry Memorial will share their insights about the history and key values, both spiritual and educational, that were instilled in their respective Christian formation years.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School Thank you to all the parents, parishioners, supporters

and students of Holy Family Catholic School for making the annual auction a success, with over \$37,000 raised. HFCS will host its Second Annual Knights Run March 5 at the Lake Charles Civic Center. Register at www.imathlete.com (search Knights Run) or call 855-9465. Registration is \$20. Sacred Heart/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School

Sacred Heart SKD Catholic School will join the Sacred Heart Alumni Organization and the local chapter of the Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni in honoring St. Katharine Drexel at 8:30 a.m. Mass on Friday, March 4 in Sacred Heart Church. Through the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, Saint Katharine Drexel supported Black Catholic education across the U.S. The African American community and the universal Church continue to be blessed by her generosity! St. Katharine Drexel, pray for us!

Irasama de Pusy Lafayette Lafayette, who was instru-Members of the Sons and and her two children, killed mental in the cause of Amer-Daughters of the American in a tragic automobile acciican independence and a Revolution and the public dent in Paris, France. The prominent member of the are invited to attend. Diocesan Briefs

March schedule at Saint Charles Center

He always does by outdoing us in generosity!"

John

JENNINGS - The Most

Provost, Bishop of Lake

Charles, will be the cele-

brant of a Memorial Mass on

the 30th day anniversary of

the funeral of the Countess

Glen

LAKE CHARLES - A number of events are scheduled for the month of March at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff.

Two events are Tuesday, March 1 - the Spiritual Book Club and America's Future - each from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A Handful of Ashes: Our Call to Lenten Grace will be

"Male Spirituality: Tools for the Spirit, Tools for the Shed"

will be Thursday, March 10. A Spiritual Directors Day of Prayer is Saturday, March 12

and on Fridays during Lent (March 11, 25 and April 1, 8, 15) the Center will host the Stations of the Cross at 1:30 p.m. **Private Directed Retreats** are available from Tuesday,

March 22 through Wednesday, March 30 and a weekend Introduction to the Directed Retreat will be Friday, March 25 through Sunday, March 27.

For information or to register for any of these programs call 337-855-1232

Forty Hours Devotion schedule

LAKE CHARLES - Forty Hours Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and the religious life in the Diocese of Lake Charles will take place at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Maplewood Monday, Feb. 21 through Friday, Feb. 25 Beginning the following week and into March, Adoration

will be hosted by churches in the Eastern Deanery.

From February 28-March 4 Adoration will be in St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. There will be no Forty Hours Devotion during the week of

Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings will host Adoration on March 14-19 – Monday, 7 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 6 a.m. to noon and 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and Friday 7 a.m. to noon

Institute for Black Catholic Studies in July

Sons of the American Revo-

ber of the National Chap-

lains' Committee for the

Sons of the American Revo-

Bishop Provost is a mem-

lution in France.

lution.

NEW ORLEANS -- The Institute for Black Catholic Studies is a school of ministry for clergy, religious and laypersons working in the Black community and Roman Catholic Church that convenes each summer at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans. The 2011 session is scheduled for

For more information, check the website at www.xula.edu/ibcs or call (504)520-7961.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

LAKE CHARLES -- World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be celebrated in each of the three Deaneries of the Diocese of Lake Charles on Sunday, May 15 with Masses at Our Lady of Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Welsh at 8 a.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Lake Charles at 11 a.m.; and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Maplewood at 11a.m.

Abbey Fest set March 26

ST. BENEDICT - St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College will sponsor the 11th annual Abbey Youth Festival on Saturday, March 26, which will have as its theme "ever Ancient ever New".

On line registration ends at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 11 and late or on-site registration is \$35 per person. Late registration does not include a t-shirt. Registration is also accepted by calling 985-867-2233. On-site registration is accepted, but pre-registration is appreciated.

For registration information go to http://abbeyyouthfest.com/reg. Vocation Drawing Contest slated

LAKE CHARLES -Student in grades second through

twelfth in Catholic schools and in church parish CCD programs in Southwest Louisiana are invited to take part in a Vocation Drawing Contest in preparation for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, May 15.

The drawing should be on an 8.5 by 11 inch sheet of white

poster board and turned into the Office of the Vicar General, Father Daniel Torres, at 414 Iris Street by 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 2. Each drawing is to be placed unfolded into a large envelope. The outside of the envelope must have printed the name of the artist, the artist's age and grade level, parish church, and the name of the school. The envelope should be

designated as being for the Vocation Drawing Contest. First prize is \$200; second \$100 and third \$50. The first place drawing will be reproduced on prayer cards and in the Diocese on World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

For more information contact your church coordinator of religious education or the school religion coordinator.

Cathedral Altar Society trip to New Orleans

LAKE CHARLES - The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Altar Society is sponsoring a trip to New Orleans on Wednesday, April 6, leaving from the Cathedral following a 6 a.m. Mass and returning in the evening.

Cost is \$125 with a \$50 non-refundable registration deposit. The remaining \$75 is due by March 26.

For reservations call Rita Stutes at 439-2878 or Joanna Viccellio at 474-0203.

All checks should be sent to Janet Stoma, 2110 Barbe Court, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

Pre-K registration continues at SH/SKD

LAKE CHARLES -- The Sacred Heart/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School Pre-Kindergarten program is in its second year of operation under the Non-Public School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD) operating through the Governor's Office. Open enrollment for the next school year continues through April 30.

The NSECD program provides scholarships for four-yearold children of families meeting Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) eligibility guidelines. All eligible children must be four years of age by September 30.

For more information, call the School Office at 337-436-3588 or check the Parent Information tab on the NSEDC website at www.prekla.org to download the student application.