



Catholic

Diocese seeking applicants for Religious Education assistant director position

LAKE CHARLES – The Diocese of Lake Charles is now accepting applications for the position of Assistant Director of Religious Education.

The successful applicant must be a practicing Catholic with a Master's degree in Theology or, alternatively, Religious Education or Pastoral Theology with experience in Catechesis and Religious Education. Other qualifications include: public speaking, ability to organize and coordinate events and meetings, computer literacy, and familiarity with key mag-

isterial documents on catechesis.

Interested applicants should contact the Office of Religious Education Search Committee by e-mail at nathan.long@lcdioocese.org or by telephone at 337-439-7400, Extension 308. The deadline for submission of applications is Thursday, March 1.

The resignation of Ms. Denise Donahoe as director became effective on Tuesday, Jan. 31 and Father Nathan Long took over as interim director on Wednesday, Feb. 1.

In accepting Ms. Donahoe's resignation Bishop

Glen John Provost said, "The Diocese appreciates Ms. Donahoe's faithful and effective service to the Church. She has been a dedicated and industrious director for a very important ministry, supervising the education of our youth in the Faith."

In making the interim appointment, Bishop Provost stated that he was fully confident in Father Long's ability to bring to this office the direction and leadership needed to further the education of our young people in the Catholic faith.

Space still available for Bishop's pilgrimage to "Shrines of France"

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will lead a 10-day diocesan pilgrimage to the "Shrines of France" from Monday, Oct. 29 through Wednesday, Nov. 7 and seats on the journey are filling up.

Pilgrims will visit religious sites of great importance to the Faith, including Lyon, Ars, Paray-le-Monial, Chartres, Mont-St. Michel, Normandy, Lisieux, Paris, and Lourdes. Daily mass will be celebrated.

An informational bro-

chure and registration requirements may be obtained by calling Father Ruben Buller at 337-439-7400, Ext. 217. The full package price is \$3,195 plus \$600 in departure taxes and fuel surcharge. The brochure may also be printed out from the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles at http://live.lcdioocese.org/images/stories/pdfs/dio_of_lake_charles-buller-france-e.pdf.

Bishop Provost noted that this journey is not simply

a pilgrimage or trip, which happens to be led by a priest. It is a diocesan pilgrimage led by the Bishop.

"I see this diocesan pilgrimage as an act of thanksgiving, particularly to Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette, for the many graces received in the Diocese of Lake Charles through their intercession," Bishop Provost said. "It offers the pilgrims a tour of the holiest and most beautiful sites in Catholic France."

Run with the Nuns benefitting CHRISTUS St. Patrick March 17

LAKE CHARLES -- The Second Annual Run with the Nuns Motorcycle Ride and Charity Event to benefit Wellness Services at CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital is Saturday, March 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will also celebrate the 104th anniversary of the Hospital.

L'Auberge Casino Resort is the presenting sponsor with the CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital Foundation. The 65-mile motorcycle ride through

Southwest Louisiana will start at Touloulou's, located Beachside at L'Auberge Casino Resort.

At 8 a.m., the Rice and Gravy cook-off competition begins at Touloulou's with the bikers arriving at 9 a.m. for pickup of registration packets and lineup. At 9:45 a.m., a blessing of the bikers and event medals will take place with the ride beginning at 10 a.m. The Rice and Gravy cook-off will continue.

Upon their return, at about 12:30 p.m., the bikers will sample and vote for their favorite rice and gravy entry. There will be public tastings for \$5.

Lunch for the bikers is included with their registration and lunch will be available to purchase at Touloulou's for non-registered attendees.

A raffle and door prizes will take place at 1:30 p.m. followed by music at Touloulou's.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, Feb. 29. Pre-registered riders receive an event t-shirt, medal, rice and gravy cook-off ballot and lunch.

Visit www.stpatrickfoundation.org for more information on Run with the Nuns 2012.

Jazz Brunch set June 10 at LC Country Club

LAKE CHARLES -- The 2012 Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana Jazz Brunch will be held at the Lake Charles Country Club on Sunday, June 10. Doors open at 12:30 pm.

Tickets are \$50 per person. Food, entertainment, and the opportunity to bid on auction items are included with the price of admission. In addition, the 2012 recipients of the "Caritas" and "St. Peter Claver" awards will be announced.

For ticket information, call Catholic Charities of SWLA at 337-439-7436.

Abbey Youth Fest Saturday, March 10

ST. BENEDICT, La. – St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College will sponsor Abbey Youth Fest 2012 on Saturday, March 10 on the Abbey grounds.

The event is a full day of contemporary Catholic music, inspiring keynote speakers, and the celebration of the Mass. At sunset, the participants united with the Benedictines in Vespers, the Evening Prayer of the

Church, and end the night with candlelight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Throughout the festival, all will have the opportunity for personal prayer in an outdoor chapel, confession with visiting priests, and tours of St. Joseph Abbey.

For additional information and pictures from previous festivals, go to www.AbbeyYouthFest.com and find out more on Facebook.

Bishop Provost celebrates annual Mass for Peace

LAKE CHARLES -- The Annual Mass for Peace in the Diocese was held on Epiphany, January 8, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, presiding.

Attending were members of the Knightly Orders including the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, and members Bernard and Dolores Beaco; Joe and Janet Stoma; Clarence and Geneva Prudhomme; Fred and Lauretta Fluit; Charles and Joanna Vicellio; Ina Delahoussaye; Vera Abraham; Marie Davidson; Keith DeSonier; and Paul Reed. Also in attendance, representing the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St.

John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, The Order of Malta, was John Halloran.

The Mass for Peace is held each year to pray for peace all over the world but particularly in the Holy Land.

Did you know...

Bishop Howard Hubbard will celebrate 35 years as Bishop of Albany, New York in March. He is the longest serving bishop in the United States. Not far behind, though, is Bishop Matthew Clark, who has shepherded the Diocese of Rochester, New York, since June 1979. Bishop Hubbard will be 75 years old in October 2013 while Bishop Clark celebrates his 75th birthday in July of 2012. Both were ordained priests for the Diocese of Albany.

As of January 19, there were nine canonically vacant sees in the U.S. - that is with no seated Bishop. Three of those are Archdioceses. Can you name them? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.



The Office of Pro Life of the Diocese brought a group of 24 people to Baton Rouge to participate in the Louisiana March Life on Saturday, Jan. 24. The walk went from the Old State Capitol to the New Capitol Building, where a number of presentations were made. Speakers included Bishop Dominic Carmon, auxiliary bishop emeritus of the Archdiocese of New Orleans; Benjamin Clapper, Executive Director of Louisiana Right to Life Federation; Pastor Fred Luter, first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention; U.S. Senator David Vitter; Marcia Schexnider; State Senator Sharon Broome and others.



Several hundred men, women and children took part in the annual Prayer for Life in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday, Jan. 18, remembering the more than 54 million babies killed by virtue of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Roe v Wade, which legalized abortion in the United States. The recitation of the Rosary preceded the Liturgy of the Word.



Many of the more than 50 men and women who attended the National March for Life in Washington, DC, attended the Prayer for Life service. Here they receive the Episcopal Blessing of Bishop Glen John Provost for their journey. The group bused to Washington, leaving on Jan. 19 and returning on Jan. 24.



Following the Prayer for Life in the Cathedral, Bishop Provost led the crowd on a candle-lit march to the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse for the Rally for Life, which featured a variety of speakers.

Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

February 3, 2012

Msgr. DeBlanc's life honored with plaque

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/996-msgr-deblanc-memorialized-on-plaque.html>)

LAKE CHARLES - A bronze plaque honoring Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc, the long-time beloved pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church who died July 2006 and is interred on the church grounds, was blessed and dedicated in a ceremony at Villa Maria Retirement Center.

The program followed the

noon Mass in the architectural award-winning church of which Msgr. DeBlanc oversaw construction. The site of the plaque at Villa Maria honors Msgr. DeBlanc's lifelong idea of making sure the needs of parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Heaven were cared for from "cradle to grave".

Msgr. DeBlanc, born to L.C. and Eugenie Lacour DeBlanc, earned a master's degree in psychology and a doctor's degree in sociology from the Catholic University

of America and completed graduate courses at the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium. He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws from Loyola University of the South.

Ordained in 1938 for the Diocese of Lafayette, he began a priesthood of total devotion to God's people. His first assignment was Associate Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Ville Platte, where he was elected "Citizen of the Year" for the Ville Platte community, and soon after to the post of State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus. He was appointed Chaplain-Pastor of Our Lady of Wisdom Student Center at the University of Southwestern Louisiana from 1945 to 1955 and began the formation of the Junior Newman Clubs in the public schools of the diocese. In 1952, he was made a Domestic Prelate with the title, Right Reverend Monsignor.



Msgr. James Gaddy, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, blesses the bronze plaque dedicated to the life and ministry of Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc, P.A., which is attached to the wall outside the entry to Villa Maria Retirement Center. The facility is considered by many to be one of the crowning accomplishments of Msgr. DeBlanc's wish to care for his parishioners of the church community from "cradle to grave."



Ruben Villarreal receives the book of Sacred Scripture from Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio during Villarreal's institution as a Reader, another step toward ordination to the priesthood. (Brian Buettner-PNAC PHOTO)

Ruben Villarreal instituted to Ministry of Reader

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/vocations/1008-ruben-villarreal-instituted-as-reader.html>)

ROME - Ruben Villarreal Jr. of the Diocese of Lake Charles, in his first year of theological studies, was among 66 seminarians instituted to the Ministry of Reader during the celebration of the Eucharist in Immaculate Conception Chapel of the Pontifical North American College. Villarreal is a parishioner of St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Raymond.

The Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop of the

Military Services, USA and an alumnus of the College, celebrated the Mass and instituted the new readers. Other concelebrants of the Mass were the American bishops present in Rome for their ad limina visits with His Holiness Benedict XVI, including His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC, and His Excellency Cardinal-elect Edwin O'Brien, Pro-Grandmaster of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and former rector of the Pontifical North American College.

Catholic Schools Notes

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School
Immaculate Conception Cathedral School will hold its Open House on Wednesday, Feb. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration packets for the 2012-2013 school year will be available and guided tours will be provided throughout the day. New Family Registration begins on Monday, March 26.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School
OLI celebrated Catholic Schools Week with several activities to recognize the fact that Catholic schools add value to the community, vocations, families, students, and ultimately the nation. The Distinguished Graduate Award was presented to Mrs. Flo McNally, a Certificate of Commendation to Mrs. Darla Bertrand, and the Distinguished Teacher Award to Mrs. Bridget Luntsford. The annual Dinner and Auction will be Saturday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings Grand Marais Ballroom. Call 824-1743 to purchase tickets.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School
The OLQH School Alumni Fanfare Weekend will begin on Thursday, March 15 at 5:30 p.m. with "Family Bingo and Jambalaya" in the Family Life Center. On Friday, March 16, the "OLQH Golf Classic" will take place at the Lake Charles Country Club. The "Heavenly Run for Others" is Saturday, March 17 with registration from 6:30-7:30 a.m. and the race starting at 8 a.m. Later, the "Garden Gala" is set at the home of Bruce and Cathy Thompson from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and \$45 per couple. The OLQH Family Mass and Church Brunch closes the weekend starting at 11 a.m. on Sunday, March 18, with the brunch following Mass in the Family Life Center Activity Room. Brunch tickets are \$10 per family.

Our Lady's Catholic School
Our Lady's School's Annual Open House is Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 6 p.m. The school offers grades Pre-K 3 through Eighth. Call the office at 527-7828 for more information or visit www.olcs.org.

Sacred Heart of Jesus/ St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School
Registration packets are available for all who are inter-

ested in attending Sacred Heart/SKD School. The Black History program is Tuesday, Feb. 7 and the school will also celebrate Louisiana Day on Friday, Feb. 17.

St. Louis Catholic High School
Registration for continuing students goes through Friday, Feb. 10. Forms for continuing students will be mailed to each family. Once forms are updated, signed, and returned to the school office, then St. Louis will forward a list to pastors for signature for tuition subsidy. The Incoming Freshmen High School Placement test is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 11. Testing will take place in the school cafeteria (enter through Bank Street front entrance) from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please bring No. 2 pencils to testing.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School
The Chocolate Covered Strawberry Fundraiser will be Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 8 a.m. until noon. Cost is \$16 a dozen and will be boxed for gift giving, with pick up in the Enrichment Center. There is a \$2 delivery charge, though orders of 10 or more will have free delivery. Orders and money are due by Monday, Feb. 6. Contact the school office at 855-9465 for more information. The school will hold an Open House on Tuesday, March 6 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tours will be offered and registration packets will be available.

Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School
Catholic Schools Week was celebrated Sunday, Jan. 29 through Friday, Feb. 3. The theme for the week was: *Faith, Academics, Service*. The students participated in essay and drawing contest, enjoyed special guests serving lunch in the cafeteria, and a visit from Harvey Rabbit and Friends. The eighth graders participated in the Mass at the Cathedral followed by a day of fun at St. Louis on Tuesday, Jan. 31. The entire school participated in a *Wear 1 Share 1* project. The students were allowed to wear a crazy pair of socks in exchange for donating a pair of socks for residents of Landmark nursing home.

Diocesan Briefs.....

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, continues in churches of the Eastern Deanery.

Immaculate Conception in Sulphur, Monday through Friday, Feb. 6-10; Our Lady of LaSalette in Sulphur, Monday through Friday, Feb. 13-17; and Our Lady of LaSalette in DeQuincy, Monday through Friday, Feb. 20-24.

Please contact the individual church for specific times of adoration.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

LAKE CHARLES - The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held Friday through Sunday, July 27-29 at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

Anyone who needs to experience healing from guilt, depression, regret, and other emotions after abortion, this retreat is the place they can go. Those who attend a Rachel's Vineyard retreat will experience the mercy and compassion of God in a non-judgmental, safe environment.

For information, call Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail rachels.vineyard@lcdioocese.org.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

LAKE CHARLES - Father Nathan Long will make a presentation on the Gospel of St. Matthew at the Women's Prayer Luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 7, in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Women should send a check for \$10, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Ms. Esther Gallardo, 612 Alamo Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 and include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Bishop Glen John Provost will speak at the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Friday, Feb. 10 in Ave Maria Hall, following the celebration of Mass in the Cathedral. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

Special Needs Mass

LAKE CHARLES - A Mass for Individuals with Special Needs and their Families and Friends is set for Sunday, Feb. 12 at 11 a.m. in St. Louis Catholic High School. Rev. Whitney Miller will be the celebrant.

Diocesan Youth Conference

LAFAYETTE - The 2012 Diocesan Youth Conference - *Nothing is Impossible* - is Friday through Sunday, Feb. 17-19 at the Lafayette Hilton Hotel.

The annual conference is sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles and is designed for high school teens and young adults.

Information may be obtained by calling Youth Ministry at 337-439-7400, Ext. 301 or e-mail youth.ministry@lcdioocese.org.

Coping Program to begin

MOSS BLUFF - The Coping Program, for widowed, separated, or divorced persons, will begin at St. Theodore Catholic Church, 785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway, on Monday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m., and continue each Monday for six weeks at the same time.

For more information, call Veronica at 337-328-7233 or Sarah at 337-451-6213.

Institute for Black Catholic Studies slated

NEW ORLEANS - Early registration for this summer's Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University has begun. The school of ministry is for clergy, religious, and lay-

persons working in the Black community and the Catholic Church.

Session dates are June 22 through July 14. The Masters Program offers a three-week course of Pastoral Theological Studies. Certificate and Enrichment courses are held in three one-week modules. The early registration continues until March 15.

More information, including the scholarship application deadline, can be found at www.xula.edu/ibcs or by calling 504-520-7961.

Bereavement Support Group at Cathedral

LAKE CHARLES - Sr. Jeannette Touchet is leading a Bereavement Support Group, which began Monday, Jan. 30 and continues on subsequent Mondays - Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 5 and 12. Sessions begin at 5:30 p.m. in Ave Maria Hall of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral at 935 Bilbo Street. Call 337-436-7251 for more information.

Book donations being sought

LAKE CHARLES - The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is seeking book donations for its Fifth Annual Book Sale. The 2012 Book Sale continues the tradition begun by Temple Sinai, which Good Shepherd adopted in 2008. All proceeds will again go to 13 local charities, including Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana and Abraham's Tent. Over the last four years, proceeds of approximately \$35,000 were donated locally. Donations of used or new books, DVD movies and audio books on CD are requested. No encyclopedias or textbooks, please. Empty copy paper boxes with lids are also needed for storing books. Drop off boxes, available 24 hours a day, seven days, are located at the side entrance drive-thru of Good Shepherd, 715 Kirkman Street.

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