



## A Good Friday Message from Bishop Provost

*"See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted."*  
Isaiah 52:13

For as long as I can remember, one of my favorite readings in Holy Week has been the passage from Isaiah read on Good Friday. It begins with this challenging verse, "See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted" (Isaiah 52:13). Every image in this reading, written so many centuries before, tells us about Jesus Christ on Good Friday. Jesus is indeed "raised high" on the cross of Calvary and becomes "greatly exalted" in this supreme redemptive act. All is so because He is a "servant."

How often did Jesus speak of himself as a servant? In the Gospel of St. Luke, Jesus will say, "I am among you as the one who serves" (Luke 22:27). The servant is the one who performs his task faithfully and well. Whatever his pay, he sees to his duties and even does more than is expected. And as the servant enters more deeply into his relationship with the master, what he does is done not from fear of punishment but from love of the one he serves. Eventually he will give his life for the master, for nothing is too good for the one whose happiness he seeks. This is the picture of the servant Jesus paints for us throughout the Gospels.

Following the third prediction of the Passion in the Gospel of St. Mark, Jesus will say these profoundly moving words inspired by Isaiah. "For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). This is the language of Isaiah in our first reading. "Through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear" (Isaiah 53:11). There is no redemption without sacrifice, without the emptying out of self, first by the Lord Jesus Christ, who must live the

life of a servant to the bitterest end and, most dreadful of all for us personally, leave us an example of what we must do. Is this not what Jesus says to Andrew and Philip when foretelling His passion! The entire passage is worth quoting:

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me (John 12:23-26).

I could cite many examples of where I have seen this sacrificial love lived out but one will suffice. Some thirty years ago, when I was a young priest, on Fridays we would visit the homebound. At Christmas the priests of the parish would visit all of them to hear confessions, bring Holy Communion, and anoint, if necessary. One home I will never forget. It was located in a poor neighborhood. The mother showed me into the room of her son, maybe 30 years of age. He was confined to his bed, paralyzed from an accident. He had been so for almost ten years, and he would never walk again. And there was his mother, who did everything for him. There were no sitters or nurses. She was his servant. This was her servant task, which she performed without a moment's regret, without reproach, and with the love that only a mother could give an afflicted son. If with the eyes of faith we have noticed, we have seen such scenes of love in our lives. These are not the glamorous people of glossy magazines. There will be no medals or awards given to them before they die. They are, for the most part, forgotten and pass from this world never to be remembered. Yet, they are

the Gospel lived out for us to see and touch. They are the servants, and the world is not worthy of them.

Such is the pathos of Jesus Christ. "[H]e was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth" (Isaiah 53:7). "[H]e had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood" (Isaiah 53:9). Yet, "a grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers" (Isaiah 53:9).

If we can identify Jesus with the Suffering Servant of Isaiah, then we can catch a glimpse of that to which Jesus calls us in imitation. The gift of self is the most profound gift that one can give. Jesus did this for us on the cross of Calvary, which we relive and touch every time we celebrate the Eucharistic sacrifice. As St. Paul will tell us, "[A]s often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes" (I Corinthians 11:26). It is the one and only perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Suffering Servant, whose redemptive act takes away the sins of the world. Make us your servants, Lord.

I extend to you and your families my blessings for a peaceful and joyous Easter!

+Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

## Day of Reflection prepares attendees for Congress XI

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1059-day-of-reflection-prepares-attendees-for-congress-xi.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost led the opening prayer and spoke to young African American students about the importance of religious vocations during the recent Day of Reflection in Preparation for the Black Catholic Congress XI to be held in July in Indianapolis, IN.

Deacon Edward Lavine presented a PowerPoint presentation dealing with the results of the 2011 National Black Catholic Survey, undertaken under the initiative of the National Black Catholic Congress and the University of Notre Dame Institute for Church Life and Office of the President.

Among other findings, the survey found that African-American Catholics are considered stronger in their faith than white Catholics; with 78 percent of Black Catholics reporting that their parish meets their spir-

itual needs compared to only 69 percent of white Catholics. Similarly, 76 percent of African-American Catholics say their parish meets their emotional needs, compared to 60 percent of white Catholics.

The complete results of the survey can be found at <http://www.nbccongress.org/special-report/2011-black-catholic-survey.asp>.

Those attending the Day of Reflection emphasized in a report to the National Black Catholic Congress office that diocesan leadership should be open to the reality that an appreciation of Black Catholic Culture is essential for Ministry in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Three key pastoral issues from our area that need attention were determined to be the promotion of Black vocations; emphasis on parental involvement when promoting Christian values and beliefs with youth, including talking strongly about vocations; and promoting racial integration in the Church.



Msgr. Ronald Groth, standing, pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, speaks to Catholic youth attending the Day of Reflection at St. Louis Catholic High School in preparation for National Black Catholic Congress XI as Bishop Glen John Provost, seated left, listens with the youth. Bishop Provost and Msgr. Groth spoke with the young people about the great need for more vocations among African American Catholics.

## Seafarers Ministry 50th Anniversary April 18

STELLA MARIS SEAFARER'S CENTER OF LAKE CHARLES



Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles will be the celebrant of the liturgy.

A rededication ceremony and open house will be held at the Stella Maris Seafarers' Center, 150 Marine Street immediately following the Mass, at 11:30 a.m. The open house, which features light refreshment, will continue through the remainder of the day, according to Deacon Patrick Lapoint.

## Collection for Holy Land set today

LAKE CHARLES – The annual worldwide collection for the Holy Land, which supports Christians there, is today, Good Friday, in the churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

In this annual appeal for the Catholic churches of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, the prefect of the Congregation for Oriental Churches noted that "every Christian finds himself at home in that city and in that land."

Each year the Church throughout the world takes up a collection on Good Friday for the support of the churches in the Holy Land. Leonardo Sandri, is "all the more necessary today, as we

share the Holy Father's pre-occupation for the people of those countries where hostilities and acts of violence continue, particularly Syria and the Holy Land."

In a land where Our Lord Jesus Christ chose to be born, where the ultimate loving sacrifice was made by his dying on the cross, and where his glorious resurrection took place...a desperate cry for help can be heard. For many centuries, the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem have been charged with the protection of Christians and care of our holy shrines, including the Tomb of Christ.

## Ten seminarians will be studying for priesthood

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has announced that 10 men will be in discernment and study for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles when the Fall school year begins.

Those 10 will include four new seminarians – Jay Alexius (Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church), Ryan Baca (St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church), Jacob Rigmaiden (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception), and Levi Thompson (St. Theodore Catholic Church).

Summer assignments were also announced by Msgr. Daniel Torres and the Office of Vocations and Seminarians.

Current seminarians returning for the 2012-2013 term and their summer duties are Ruben Villarreal, North American College in Rome; Matthew Cormier, Clinical Pastoral Education at East Jefferson Hospital in Metairie, La.; John Souder,

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Arthur; Cristian Gonzalez, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur; Trey Ange, St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Kinder; and Joseph Ferrer, Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings.

Assignments for the new seminarians will find Alexius at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Lake Charles; Baca at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry; Rigmaiden at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Fenton; and Thompson at St. Paul Catholic Church in Elton.

Deacon Bryan Thompson will complete his course of study in Theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, this spring and be ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese by Bishop Provost on Saturday, May 26, during a 10 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

## Marriage Preparation, Engaged Encounter programs

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/flta/136-marriage-and-family-life/1060-marriage-preparation-engaged-encounter-programs-revised.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – A revised schedule of Marriage Preparation events has been

released by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Together for Life, a two-day weekend program, begins on a Saturday at Saint Charles Center and continues on Sunday, following the 11:15 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral, with

lunch and informative afternoon in the Diocesan Chancery, 414 Iris Street, according to Kathy Owen, director of the Family Life office.

Remaining dates for Together for Life in 2012: include May 12 and 13; June 9 and 10; August 11 and 12; September 8 and 9; and October 20 and 21. In 2013, the program will be held on January 5 and 6; February 23 and 24; March 23 and 24; April 6 and 7; and June 8 and 9.

Registration fee is \$100 per couple, which includes materials and lunch on both days. Classes fill up very quickly so those considering attending should not delay in mailing the registration form. If the requested date is full, the couple will be automatically

placed in the next available class. Contact Office of Family Life with questions at 337-439-7400, Ext 301. Directions to both facilities will be sent by mail along with confirmation of the registration.

A "marriage preparation" registration form can be found and downloaded at: <http://live.lcdioocese.org/forms.html>

Dates for Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekends – Friday evenings through Sunday noon – during the remainder of 2012 are May 18-20 and November 16-18.

These weekend overnight retreats are held in the Saint Katherine Drexel Center at the Saint Charles Center. The retreat is presented by two married couples and a priest.

## "Work of Human Hands Sale" at Christ the King

LAKE CHARLES – Christ the King Catholic Church in partnership with Catholic Relief Services and SERRV, a nonprofit organizations with a mission to eradicate poverty, will have its second "Work of Human Hands Sale" on the weekends of April 21-22 and April 28-29 following each Mass. Products will be available for sale and to order during office hours during the week in between.

Items to be offered are made by marginalized artisans and farmers living in over 30 countries and purchases allow them to gain

income and skills need to support themselves and their families. Through SERRV, a small percentage goes to grants that fund these artisans while the rest goes back to the artisans themselves.

Mass times at Christ the King are Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Office hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information call Shane Swire at 337-478-0213. You can also check out merchandise and get an information packet at [www.crs-fairtrade.org/crafts](http://www.crs-fairtrade.org/crafts).

## Did you know...

Bishop Sam G. Jacobs was the director of vocations and seminarians of the Diocese of Lake Charles when Pope John Paul II appointed him Bishop of Alexandria 1989. In 2003, he became the third Bishop of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. Raised in Lake Charles, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette in 1964. He will be 75 on March 4, 2013.

A very active ministry in the Diocese, which many do not know about, will celebrate its 50th anniversary this month. Can you name that ministry? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

# Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

April 6, 2012

## Life Center now being built at Sacred Heart

CREOLE – The faith communities of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Our Lady Star of the Sea came together recently with Bishop Glen John Provost to bless the site of a new Life Center now under construction on the grounds of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. The building, which replaces the parish halls and religious education buildings of the two parishes destroyed by Hurricane Rita.

Hurricane Rita in 2005 wiped out the structures at Our Lady Star of the Sea and rendered Sacred Heart's Hall and CCD classrooms unsalvageable.

The new building, which will be built 19 feet six inches above sea level, will serve multiple purposes for not only the churches but also for the communities.

"This Life Center will provide a place for religious education, wakes, receptions, showers, meetings and other church and community functions," Father Timothy Goodly, the pastor to both parishes, said. "Many parishioners and former parishioners, who have moved away, continue to express a desire to celebrate their sacraments, particularly their funerals, here in Creole, rather than elsewhere."

The 7,790 square foot building will include a full kitchen, classrooms, parish office space, and large meeting area. It will feature a large elevator, capable of moving groups of people quickly or moving a casket for funerals. The design will be residential in appearance, in keeping with the local character. Sam Istre Construction is the contractor

The two churches will be responsible for insurance and upkeep, for which fundraising will be ongoing.

The nearly 20-foot elevation of the structure is higher than FEMA regulations mandate, according to Steven Shows, the project architect. He also noted that being able to build a single structure to serve both church parishes and the community at-large is a great concept.

"This building is a major step forward for the communities," Shows said. "It represents a consolidation with individual building costs. Being able to consolidate the building in one location makes it possible to build a better and larger building than if two were built – one for Sacred Heart, one for Our Lady Star of the Sea."

Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were Bishop Provost, Fr. Ruben Buller, Fr. Timothy Goodly, Fr. Uche Adiukwu, Fr. Aubrey Guilbeau, Deacon George Stearns, Parish Council members Brian Richard, Robert Landry, Stephanie Rodrigue, and Darlene Higgins, architect Steven Shows, and Chris and Kristina Talbert of Sam Istre Construction. (Photo by Cyndi Sellers)



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Members of the Theresian Community of Southwest Louisiana took part in the packaging of gift bags for sailors who come into the Port of Lake Charles and the Diocese of Lake Charles Seafarers Center for distribution to visiting sailors at the Center. Shown are, from left, Deacon Patrick Lapoint, Center Director; Cookie Phillips, Shirley Manuel, Sally Foret, Sylvia Marcantel, Dee Dee Savoy, Barbara Guillory, Martha Deshotel, Kathy Owen and Irene McGee. The group put together 131 gift bags during their recent visit to the Center. Theresians International is a global ministry founded in the Catholic tradition. It welcomes all women who desire to grow spiritually within a Christian community. Theresians pledge support by prayerfully nurturing, affirming, and empowering one another to become the women God intends them to be. By living according to five Dimension - Spirituality, Education, Community, Vocation, and Ministry - they grow in faith.

## Appreciation Cruise April 14

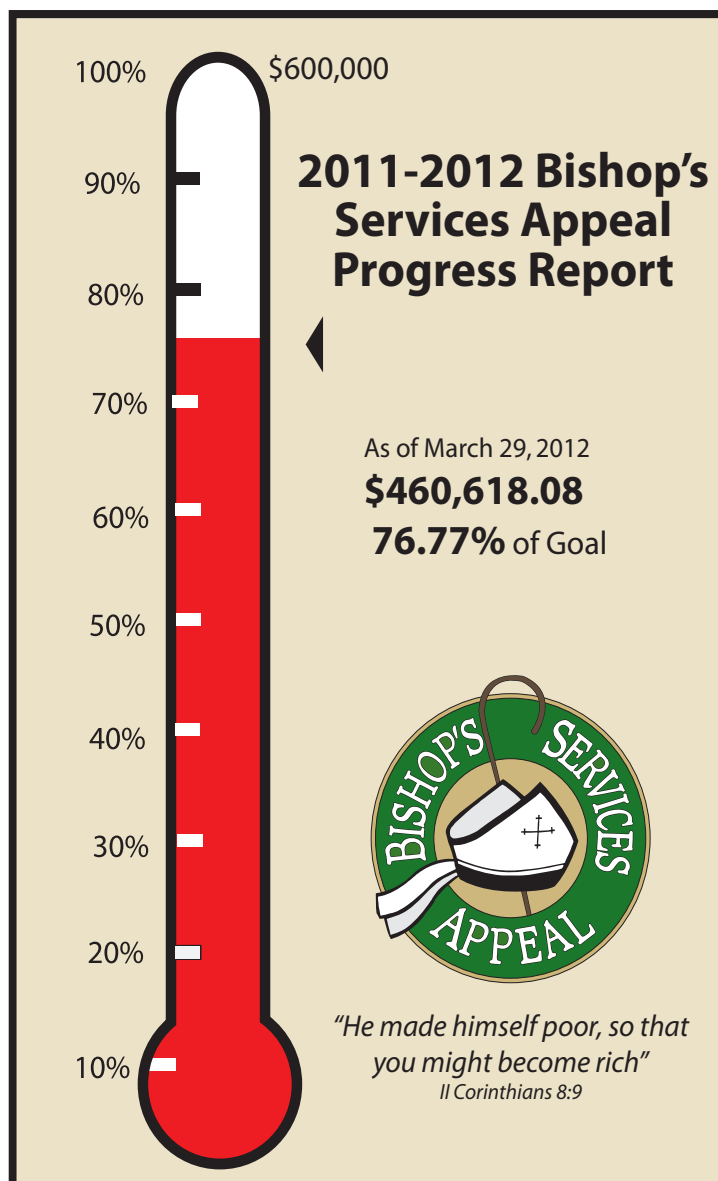
LAKE CHARLES – A Pastor's Appreciation Cruise, aboard the yacht "Lady of the Lake", will honor Msgr. James Gaddy on Saturday, April 14. The three-hour catered cruise will depart the Lake Charles Civic Center Marina at 6 p.m. returning at 9 p.m.

There are a limited number of tickets at \$200 each for this special event to honor Msgr. Gaddy and help fund the Saint Charles Center Long Term Maintenance Account.

Call 337-855-1232 to purchase tickets or more information



Msgr. James Gaddy



## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Bishop Provost's schedule at Cathedral

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will preside today at the celebration of the Lord's Passion 3 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The service begins with the Liturgy of the Word, followed by Veneration of the Cross, with the faithful recognizing the Cross of Christ as our only hope of salvation. The celebration concludes with Holy Communion and the congregation leaves the Cathedral in silence.

The Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 7, will begin at 8 p.m. in the Cathedral. On Easter Sunday, Bishop Provost will celebrate the 9 a.m. Mass at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

Mass times for Easter Sunday, April 8, in the Cathedral are 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. The celebration of the Extraordinary Form of the Liturgy will be at 5 p.m. in the Cathedral on Easter Sunday.

### OCTOBER BABY begins April 13

LAKE CHARLES – OCTOBER BABY is the story of 19-year-old Hannah, who finds out she is adopted and is the survivor of an attempted abortion. The movie will begin showing at Cinemark Theatre in the Prien Lake Mall on Friday, April 13, according to Kathy Owen, Director of the Office of Pro-Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

The girl goes on a road trip to find answers, locate her birth mother and, ultimately, discover how powerful forgiveness can be. OCTOBER BABY honestly and evenhandedly invites audiences to explore their own views of life's value and the importance of their choices.

To find out more go to [www.cinemark.com/groupsales](http://www.cinemark.com/groupsales).

### Forty Hours Devotion in April

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 be in the Day Chapel of St. Henry Catholic Church Tuesday, April 10 through Friday, April 13 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church on Tuesday, April 17, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, April 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, April 19, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, April 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### 2012-2013 Catholic School Calendars announced

LAKE CHARLES – The Office of Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles has released calendars for the 2012-2013 school years at St. Louis Catholic High School and the elementary schools in the Diocese.

The new school term will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 15, and

end on Friday, May 24, 2013, according to Mrs. Kimberlee Gazdolo, Superintendent of Schools. Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings will start a few days earlier on Friday, Aug. 10, coinciding with Jefferson Davis Parish schools.

Each calendar can be downloaded from the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – [lcdiocese.org](http://lcdiocese.org).

### Jazz Brunch set June 10

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.

### Abrazando Cristo Cash Giveaway Fundraiser

LAKE CHARLES -- The Abrazando Cristo Mission Program is holding its annual Big Cash Giveaway with only 500 tickets available at \$100 each.

First prize is \$5,000; second prize, \$1,000; and third prize, \$500. Proceeds benefit the ongoing work of the mission program in Nicaragua. To purchase a ticket, please mail your check payable to Abrazando Cristo Mission Program, Attn: Msgr. Torres, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA, 70601. The drawing is Sunday, June 17 at the St. Henry Community Center.

For more information, call 337-439-7400.

### Memorial Golf Tournament June 2

LAKE CHARLES -- The annual Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament is Saturday, June 2, at Mallard Cove Golf Course.

Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Pan y Amor Boys' Home and School in Managua, Nicaragua, a project of the Abrazando Cristo Mission Program.

Call Johnnie and Susan Thibodeaux at 337-478-4095 for more information.

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost continues with his presentation on the Gospel of St. Matthew at the Women's Prayer Luncheon on Tuesday, April 10, and at the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Friday, April 13. Both are in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of office complex.

Women are asked to 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 Provost will celebrate Mass at 6:30 a.m. in Cathedral before the breakfast. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

### Yom Hashoah observance April 19

LAKE CHARLES – Thursday, April 19, will be the day the community observes Yom Hashoah, a time to remember the Holocaust and heroism.

Events include art displays, exhibits, and films from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Central School on Kirby Street and a civic program from noon to 1 p.m. A candlelight vigil will take place on the Lakefront Promenade from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. followed by a tree-planting ceremony.

### IBCS set at Xavier University

NEW ORLEANS – The Institute for Black Catholic Studies, a school of ministry for clergy, religious, and laypersons working in the Black Community and the Catholic Church, will convene at Xavier University of Louisiana from June 22 through July 14.

The Master's program offers a three-week course of Pastoral Theological Studies while certificate and enrichment courses are held in three one-week modules.

Check the website at [www.xula.edu/ibcs](http://www.xula.edu/ibcs) or call 504-520-7961 for information.

### Cathedral Altar Society spring trip set

LAKE CHARLES – The Altar Society of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will take its spring trip to Houston on Wednesday, April 11.

Stops on the journey will include the Treasures of Tutankhamen exhibit at the Houston Museum of Fine Art, lunch at Café Express, and a visit to the Museum of Natural Science.

Cost is \$120 per person with a \$50 non-refundable reservation fee, which applies to the total cost of the trip. Call Rita Stutes at 439-2878, Janet Stoma at 436-0330, or Joanna Viccellio at 474-0203 for more information or to register.

### Special Needs Mass April 22

LAKE CHARLES – A Mass for individuals with special needs, their families and friends is Sunday April 22 at 11 a.m. at St. Louis Catholic High School. Rev. Nathan Long, Secretary for the Ministry of Christian Formation and Director of Vianney House, will be the celebrant.

All denominations are welcome to attend this Mass, which an opportunity for all to worship despite difficulty and without embarrassment or frustration.

Call Karen at 478-0243 or Shari at 478-0043 for more information.

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