



Father Bryan Thompson ordained to the priesthood

LAKE CHARLES – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost ordained Reverend Bryan Thompson to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles on Saturday, May 26, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The newly ordained was joined by his brother priests of the Diocese and clergy from elsewhere for the ordination.

Father Thompson celebrated his first Mass on Saturday afternoon in the Cathedral.

Before the conclusion of the Mass, Deacon George Stearns, Diocesan Chancellor, announced the first priestly assignments for Father Thompson – Parochial Vicar to St. Henry Catholic Church and Co-Chaplain to Hispanic Ministry. Both of those appointments are effective Monday, June 25.

A number of other appointments were also made public and those can be viewed by going to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1104-father-bryan-thompson-ordained-to-the-priesthood.html>.

Bishop Provost, in his homily, spoke to the new priest and to all in attendance about the importance of obedience mentioned in the second reading of the Mass of Ordination from the Letter to the Hebrews, which “correlates so well with the first words spoken by our Lord following his Resurrection in the Gospel of John, ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ The priesthood rests upon an appreciation of obedience that finds its roots in the mission of Jesus Christ to fulfill the will of God.

“Jesus comes to do the Father’s will,” Bishop Provost continued “Jesus will say ‘the world must know that I love the Father and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.’ This entails rejection, suffering and ultimately death. Jesus struggles with obedience, not because there is any suggestion that in the end He will choose against the Father’s will. Instead, the struggle exists to show the free will of Jesus at work, embracing the Father’s will completely and entirely.” The Bishop quoted scripture from Matthew, ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will but as you will.’

He also pointed out, using Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange’s *The Three Ages of the Interior Life*, “Obedience has been called ‘the highest of the three evangelical counsels.’”

Later Bishop Provost that “If Christ learned obedience from what He suffered, then we must do the same. When authority decides against our preconceived notions, when the faithful criticize our absence from the parish, and when a lack of attentiveness to duty causes disruption, these are the facts that unsettle our pride of life.”

The Bishop closed his remarks saying, “Entering the Cathedral today as a deacon, you will leave as a priest. Allow your heart to be a priestly heart. Let your heart be contrite and humble. Give God room to act in your life and transform your will ever more fully into what He desires. May Christ, who learned obedience through what He suffered, be your inspiration, guide and example. When tempted to let the “cup” pass you by, pray the words of our Lord in the Garden: ‘Not as I will, but as you will.’”

The priests of the Diocese concelebrated the liturgy with Bishop Provost.

The complete text of Bishop Provost’s homily is found at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/bishop-provost/homilies/1094-priesthood-ordination-2012.html>.

Events include Mass, Rally



LAKE CHARLES – The Diocese of Lake Charles is joining dioceses across the United States in celebrating a *Fortnight for Freedom* from June 21 - the vigil of the Feasts of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More - to July 4, Independence Day. These 14 days are dedicated to a great hymn of prayer for our country.

The *Fortnight for Freedom* was called for by the Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to point out serious concerns over threats to religious freedom, both at home and abroad.

Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Mass for Freedom at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 1, in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur. Father Edward Richard, M.S., the

pastor, will be the homilist.

On Saturday, June 30, there will be a “Stand Up For Freedom Rally” from 9:30 a.m. until noon at the Heritage Square Pavilion on Cypress and Ruth streets in Sulphur. Civic and religious leaders will speak on the constitutional right to religious liberty. Scheduled to speak are District Judges Kent Savoie and David Ritchie, Sulphur City Judge Charles Schrupf, Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Tony Mancuso, Sulphur Mayor Chris Duncan, Pastor Ronnie Burke, Bishop Provost, and others.

Everyone is invited to attend both events and encouraged to pray for greater respect for religious liberty in our country, Bishop Provost noted.

The pastors of Diocesan churches have been provided

a number of resources for the *Fortnight for Freedom*, including homily notes and commentary, Prayers Of the Faithful, a bulletin insert, and a prayer for use at the close of each mass during the 14 days.

The USCCB Ad Hoc Committee issued a document in early April “Our First, Most Cherished Liberty,” which is available at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/our-first-most-cherished-liberty.cfm>.

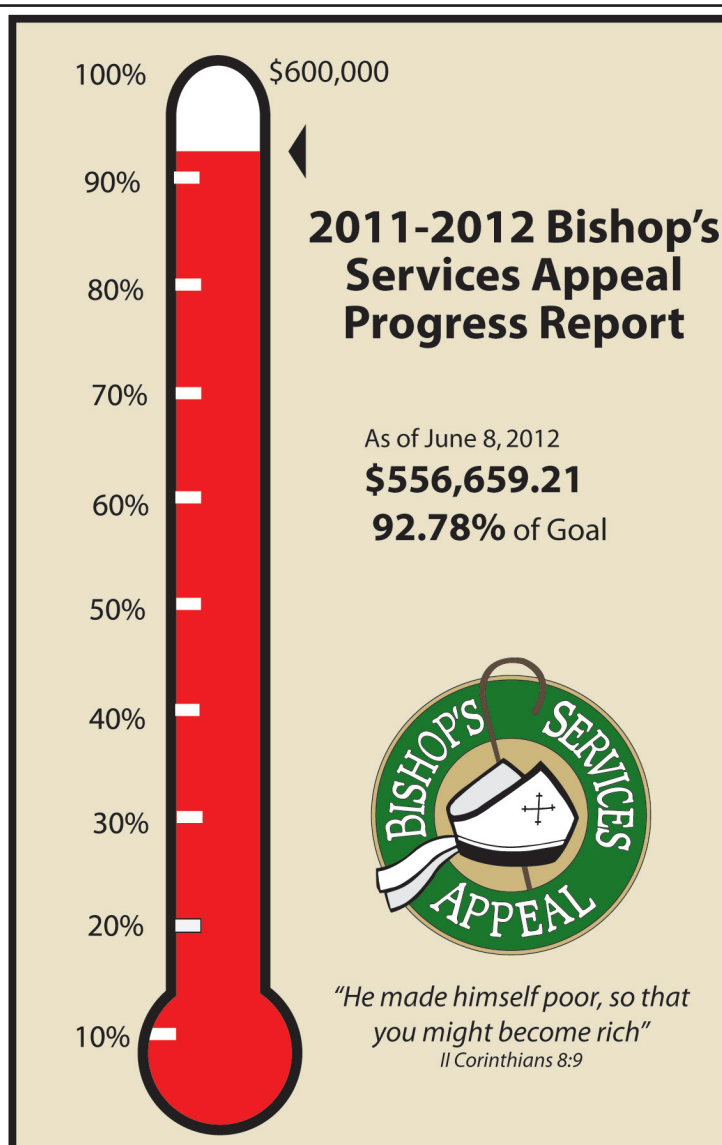
These 14 days should be a period of prayer, education and action in support of religious freedom. Catholic institutions are encouraged to cooperate with other Christians, Jews, people of other faith traditions and all who wish to defend our most cherished freedom.

Peter’s Pence Collection June 23-24

LAKE CHARLES – Next weekend in the Diocese of Lake Charles, we will have the opportunity to join other Catholics throughout the United States in helping Pope Benedict XVI provide his assistance to Catholics in all parts of the world. This aid includes poor dioceses where many people depend on the Church for support, areas where the Church is persecuted and must serve discreetly, and nations that are overwhelmed with refugees or victims of war and natural disasters.

The Peter’s Pence Collection, which will be taken up the weekend of June 23-24, here in this local church provides assistance for all of these populations. The theme of the collection for 2012 is, “Cast the peace of Christ upon the world.”

Bishop Glen John Provost urges everyone’s participation in the Collection because it provides an opportunity to extend a sign of peace to the Body of Christ around the world.



Catholic



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, stands with Reverend Bryan Thompson on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception following the Saturday, May 26, Mass of Ordination.

Tickets go on sale for Bishop’s Gala June 18

LAKE CHARLES – Tickets for the inaugural Bishop’s Gala, a black tie formal social and dance set for Saturday, Dec. 8, go on sale Monday, June 18 in the Diocese of Lake Charles. They will be available at the Chancery of the Diocese, 414 Iris Street; Crossroads Bookstore, 601 West Prien Lake Road; and through the parish churches of the Diocese.

Purchasing tickets, which are \$125 each, by credit card will also be available on the website of the Diocese – lcdioocese.org. Tables for 10 are \$1,100 each. Only 1,000 tickets will be available

The Gala will be in the Exhibition Hall of the Lake Charles Civic Center beginning at 6 p.m., continuing until midnight, with music by the 12-member Tommy Dorsey Orchestra. Proceeds will benefit the efforts of the Office of Communications in evangelizing the Catholic faith through print (Catholic Calendar), television (Glad Tidings), radio (airing of the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass from the Cathedral); and the Diocesan website.

The date of the Gala is also the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, one of the patrons of the Diocese, and

will kickoff the 100th Anniversary of the construction of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the Historic Lake Charles City Hall, and the Central School Arts and Humanities Center.

Food will be heavy hors d’oeuvres and each ticket provides the purchaser with two alcoholic beverages. In addition, there will be water, tea, coffee, and soft drinks available.

There will also be a silent auction with many wonderful selections available. Winning bidders will have the ability to use credit cards on site to pay for their items.

Saint Charles Center offers own “Running of the Bulls”

MOSS BLUFF – Saint Charles Center and the Fine Arts Department of St. Louis Catholic High School host a Southwest Louisiana version of the “Running of the Bulls,” the annual highlight of the San Fermin Festival in Pamplona, Spain, on Saturday, July 7 from 9 a.m. to noon at Tabor Retreat House.

These “bulls” will be members of the performing arts ensembles of St. Louis – on roller skates. Runners will try to outmaneuver the “bulls” along the pathway Tabor’s covered courtyard.

An entrance fee of \$5 per individual and \$15 per family will be asked. Those attending should wear red and white to get into the spirit of the day.

For more information, call Saint Charles Center at 337-855-1232 or St. Louis Catholic High School at 337-436-7275, Ext. 244. The school’s website – www.slchs.org – has detailed information on the event along with runner/sponsor information and forms.

Runners must be 14 years of age or older. The typical costume for runners is white pants and shirt with a red

sash, which is a requirement. Pre-registration is required by Friday, June 27 to guarantee a t-shirt on the day of the event for the runner and sponsor advertising. A post-mark of June 27 is required. All runners must be registered by Monday, July 2. No runners will be allowed to register after that date or on the day of the event.

Registration fee paid by sponsor is \$75, which covers runner registration, a t-shirt

for the runner, and sponsor advertising on the day of the event.

Special trophies/awards will be given to first and second place finishers of the run and awards and recognition will be given to the best-dressed runner. There is also a costume contest for guests.

Father Whitney Miller, director of Saint Charles Center, urges everyone to come out and enjoy this “fundraiser and fun-raising event.”

Did you know...

Father Marcus Johnson and Father Charles McMillin celebrated 10 years of priestly service on May 18 and Father Clyde Thomas reaches that decade of service on August 17. For the bonus points – Bishop-emeritus Jude Speyrer will celebrate 59 years of ordination to the priesthood on August 25.

Two other priests also celebrate anniversaries of more than 50 years of priestly ministry this year. Can you name them? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.



Seventeen advance on journey to Permanent Diaconate

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1102-seventeen-admitted-to-candidacy-for-permanent-diaconate.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, admitted 17 men from 14 parishes of the Diocese to candidacy for the Permanent Diaconate during Solemn Vespers on Sunday, June 3, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

The group has completed three of the five-year period of study and discernment for the diaconate. Candidates are Glen Bertrand and Albert Weinnig of Saint Joseph Parish in DeRidder; Joseu Canelo and Patrick Hebert of Saint Henry Parish in Lake Charles and Erroll Deville and Harold Nixon of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Lake Charles.

Also, Richard Donahoe of Saint Martin de Porres Parish in Lake Charles; Keith Ellender of Saint Theresa of The Child Jesus Parish in Carlyss; Christopher Fontenot of Our Lady of Counsel Parish in Lake Charles; Daniel Foreman of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Parish in Sulphur; James Christopher Gregory of Immaculate Conception Parish in Maplewood; and Michael Guillory of Saint Paul Parish in Elton.

Also, Leo Hebert of Saint Theodore Parish in Moss Bluff; Jesse Menard of Saint Joseph Parish in Vinton; Anthony Pousson of Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish; in Lake Charles; Brian Soileau of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Oakdale; and Stephen Starr of Saint Raphael Parish in Iowa.

The men are to be instituted as Lectors on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Kinder and will be instituted as Acolytes on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2013 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Maplewood.

Their ordination as Permanent Deacons is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, 2014 in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles.



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, stands with the 17 men admitted to Candidacy for the Permanent Diaconate during Solemn Vespers on Sunday, June 3, in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Lake Charles. Those admitted were, front, from left, Glen Bertrand, Joseu Canelo, Lee Hebert, Stephen Starr, Richard Donahoe, Anthony Pousson and Errol DeVill and back row, from left, Keith Ellender, Jesse Menard, Brian Soileau, Harold Nixon, Daniel Foreman, Patrick Hebert, Christopher Gregory, Albert Weinnig, Christopher Fontenot, and Michael Guillory. The group will continue with two further years of study, training, and discernment toward ordination.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2012 the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles pray the following prayer, composed by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey in 1957:

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its quietude. You are still the Master of the land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, and overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder
Second Bishop of Lafayette

On Wednesday, July 4, 2012, the Offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed in celebration of the 236th anniversary of our country's independence. Regular office hours - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - will be followed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, July 2, 3, 5, and 6.



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, prepares to bless the Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cameron following a Mass to Avert Storms celebrated at Our Lady Star of the Sea on the eve of the beginning of the 2012 hurricane season. Bishop Provost also presented Father Timothy Goodly with the framed documents from the Holy See that provides a "spiritual bond" with the Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Mary Major in Rome. This provides for individuals to receive the same plenary indulgence by visiting the Cameron Shrine as they would by visiting the Marian Shrine in Rome, after having fulfilled certain conditions.

Please enroll today in the "Apostleship of Prayer"

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1103-enroll-to-day-in-the-apostleship-of-prayer.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – On the recent weekend of the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Diocese began an enrollment of the faithful in an association dedicated to connecting Christ's followers to the Eucharist and to the Church at large. The "Apostleship of Prayer" dates to missionaries in France in 1844.

Father Nathan Long, Secretary for the Ministry of Christian Formation, in an article in the Catholic Calendar recently wrote that the 'group of Jesuit seminarians were eager to conclude their studies and begin work in the missions.' The founder of the Apostleship, Fr. Francis Xavier Gautrelet told them, "Be apostles now, apostles of prayer!"

Throughout this next 12 months in the Catholic Calendar and on the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – Icdioocese.org – will be announced Diocesan prayer intentions for each month as well as monthly prayer intentions of Pope Benedict XVI.

The Apostleship of Prayer calls for us to be "missionaries" without ever leaving the comfort of our homes, according to Father Long.

"Throughout the year volunteers will be visiting in our parishes asking for your commitment," Father Long said.



Prayer Intentions July 2012

Pope Benedict XVI
General Intention: Work Security. That everyone may have work in safe and secure conditions.

Missionary Intention: Christian Volunteers. That Christian volunteers in mission territories may witness to the love of Christ.

Diocese of Lake Charles
For Priests:
That they increase in holiness of life and zeal for their priestly ministry.

Diocesan Briefs.....

"Ignite" youth mission week, June 26-30

LAKE CHARLES – "Ignite," a summer mission and service week for youth is Tuesday, June 26 through Saturday, June 30, at St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street, beginning with registration at 6 p.m. on Tuesday. The event is sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Cost for the week is \$75, which covers lodging, meals, and a t-shirt. Checks should be made payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles. Participants should register with the youth minister in their own parish or, if there is no parish youth minister, contact the Youth Ministry Office of the Diocese at 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

Mission participants should bring a number of items for their own comfort with them, including bedding (a sleeping bag or an air mattress is suggested); towels, other items of a personal nature and a jacket or sweater, if cold natured.

"For The Love of God" mission June 22

SULPHUR – John "Rick" Miller brings his "For The Love of God Worldwide" Mission to Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church at 2 p.m. Friday, June 22.

Miller, who founded "For the Love of God" in 2008 claims more than one million participants and cites consecration, conversion, daily prayer, and good works along with the 10 Commandments as the path back to God.

He visited St. Henry Catholic Church last December. Contact the church office at 337-527-5261 for more information or go to fortheLoveofGodWorldwide.com.

Long-married couples to be honored June 24

LAKE CHARLES – Married couples in the Diocese of Lake Charles celebrating anniversaries of 25 and 50 years of Christian marriage in 2012 will be honored Sunday, June 24, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of the 11:15 a.m. Mass. The Office of Family is sponsors the event.

Couples who will celebrate an anniversary of more than 50 years that is divisible by five, such as 55, 60, 65, 70 or 75 are also invited. All couples should contact their church parish office to register for the celebration and receive a formal invitation from the Bishop.

A reception will be in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral Office Complex on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo streets immediately following the Mass. The Cathedral is handicap accessible for those who may require this assistance.

Contact Kathy Owen, Director of the Office of Family Life, at 337-439-7400 for more information.

Bishop's Pilgrimage to Shrines of France

LAKE CHARLES – Space is still available for the 10-day pilgrimage to the Shrines of France with Bishop Glen John

Provost from Oct. 29 through Nov. 7.

Call 337-439-7400 for more information.

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 in the St. Henry Community Center.

For more information, call 337-439-7400.

Married Couples Retreat Cruise

LAKE CHARLES – Married couples are invited to a Celebrate Marriage Couples Retreat aboard the cruise ship Triumph, sponsored through the office of Family Life.

The ship departs Galveston on Monday, Sept. 24, with stops in the ports of Progresso and Cozumel, and returns on Saturday, Sept. 29.

Call Kathy Owen in the Office of Family Life for more information, 337-439-7400.

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