

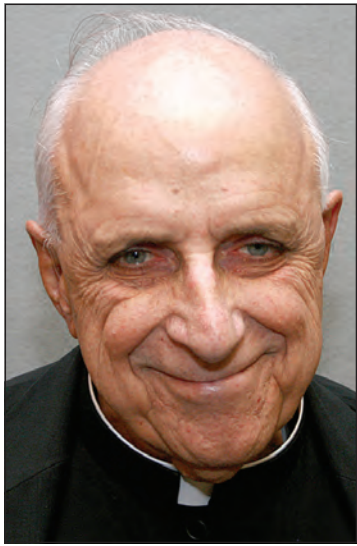


## Father T. L. Herlong dies and is laid to rest

LAKE CHARLES – The Mass of Christian Burial for the Rev. Theophilus L. Herlong, 86, a priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles, was celebrated by The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, Tuesday, Jan. 22, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Music for the funeral Mass was specifically requested by Father Herlong and included the *Ave Maria*, *In Paradisum*, “Humbly We Adore Thee,” and “Shepherd of Souls in Love Come Feed Us.”

Rev. Don Piraro delivered the homily and a large group of priests of the Diocese concelebrated the liturgy. Interment followed in New Bethany Cemetery on the grounds of Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff.

He attended Central School and graduated from Lake Charles High School in 1943, began his priestly studies at St. Joseph Seminary in St. Benedict, La. (1943-1945), continuing in study with the Society of Jesus at St. Charles College at Grand Coteau, La. (1945-1949). Father Herlong graduated from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Ala. in 1952 and taught at Jesuit High School in Dallas until



Father T. L. Herlong

1955 before continuing his theological education at St. Mary's University in Kansas.

The Most Reverend Thomas Toolen, Archbishop of Mobile, ordained him a priest of the Society of Jesus on June 18, 1958, in the Spring Hill College Chapel. He celebrated his first Mass on June 22, 1958, in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in downtown Lake Charles.

He continued his education at St. Louis University and earned a Licentiate of Sacred Theology (S.T.L.) in

1959. He returned to Jesuit High in Dallas and later taught at Strake Jesuit in Houston before moving to retreat work, with assignments at Manresa House in Convent, Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House at Grand Coteau, and Montserrat Retreat House in Lake Dallas, Texas. He also served as a chaplain of Lafayette Charity Hospital and was guidance counselor at Jesuit High School in New Orleans. In 1976, Father Herlong earned an M.S. from the University of Southwest Louisiana.

In 1978, he was incardinated into the Diocese of Lafayette and served as associate pastor at St. Anthony in Eunice, Holy Rosary in Kaplan, and Sacred Heart of Jesus in Ville Platte. Father Herlong was administrator at St. Raphael in Iowa and Immaculate Conception in Jennings.

He was incardinated into the Diocese of Lake Charles in 1981 and named pastor of Immaculate Conception in Jennings, serving there until 1991, when appointed pastor of St. Mary of the Lake in Big Lake. Named to Senior Priest status and retired in 1996, he lived at Holy City Community and then was in residence at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss



Bishop Glen John Provost celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial for Father T. L. Herlong, a retired priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles, on Tuesday, Jan. 22, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. A large number of priests of the Diocese were on hand to concelebrate the liturgy.

Bluff, later moving to Villa Maria Retirement Center.

Father Herlong served a variety of administrative assignments including as a judge in the diocesan Tribunal, on the priest senate, the diocesan school board, and as a diocesan consultant. He also served as Scout Chaplain for the Diocese, Faithful Friar of Msgr. Cramers Assembly, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, and director of Radio Maria.

He was a contributor of nu-

merous scriptural reflections to Emmanuel Magazine, having his commentary on Matthew's infancy narrative published only last year. His book, “Maturity Revisited,” was published by Liguori Publications in 1972.

Survivors include nephews and nieces: Travis Hoffpauir and wife Cathy of Lake Charles, Daniel Herlong, III and wife Ubon of Staunton, Va, Bucky (Raymond) Herlong and wife Dana of Fredericksburg, Va, Susan Herlong

Kenney of Falls Church, Va, George Harveson Herlong and wife Koh of Hollywood, Fla. He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings and a niece, Kitten (Catherine) Herlong.

Memorials may be made to the Office of Vocations of the Diocese of Lake Charles at P.O. Box 3223, Lake Charles, LA 70602-3223 for the purposes of Seminary Education.

## Catholic Schools Notes † Superintendent's Message

### Office of Catholic Schools

#### Mrs. Kimberlee Gazzolo, Superintendent

This year's Catholic Schools Week was celebrated by a kickoff festival at Prien Lake Mall. Students from all area Catholic schools showcased their art and talents to family and friends. Schools continued the celebration with activities throughout the week, including the celebration of Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. This week is a reminder that Catholic School provides a gift for life. Academic excellence rooted in the Catholic faith provides students with a foundation that will stay with them as they move to high school, college and beyond.

This year's theme – Catholic Schools Raise the Standards – celebrates the constant attention that Catholic educators pay to increasing the learning and growth in faith of all students. Not only is religion an academic subject its' core values are embedded in the education students receive throughout the day. Social justice is a core component as faculty guide students in projects that combine service and faith.

We continue to “Raise the Standards” as we move to incorporate the Common Core Standards into our curriculum. Helping our teachers understand shifts in learning has been a priority this school year. Our student assessments in the spring will begin including the new standards. There is no doubt that our students will continue to achieve at high levels.

NCEA has published a video that reminds us that Catholic schools are challenging, relevant, Christ-centered, value relationships and make education happen. It is an exciting time for Catholic education and I am proud to be a part of it.

### Our Lady's Catholic School

New family registration for the 2013-14 school year begins Thursday, February 21. OLS offers a wide array of academic, religious and extra-curricular programs for its students. For

more information, call the office at 527-7828 or visit the web site at [www.olcs.org](http://www.olcs.org).

### St. Louis Catholic High School

During National Catholic Schools Week and always, St. Louis Catholic High School strives to be the best in all areas as the school continues to “Honor and Praise God...in all Ways.” Students, faculty and staff are able to experience spiritual growth through daily prayer, weekly Mass, and opportunities for Reconciliation. St. Louis students consistently score higher than the national average on standardized tests such as the ACT. Many students take Advanced Placement classes and are recognized each year by the College Board for their outstanding academic performances. St. Louis is the only high school in the area to have implemented the One-to-One Initiative – a technology program in which every student has a tablet laptop for use both at home and at school. With a strong Catholic identity as a foundation, St. Louis Catholic High School is committed to academic excellence while offering the latest technology daily.

### St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School

Holy Family Catholic School celebrated an Open House on January 25. The day began with a Paraliturgical celebration for Grandparents and Catholic Schools Week was filled with a continuation of “Raising the Standards” of Academics and Faith.

### Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School

St. Margaret Catholic School celebrated Catholic Schools Week this week with an Open House for new families, a pep rally and a school wide service project. The students participated in a “soup” collection for Oak Park Food Pantry. The week ended with the students enjoying a game of BINGO and a sack lunch.

### Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School

ICCS recently completed its four-week Parenting 101 se-

ries. Topics included: Discovering God's Blessing in our Everyday Lives, Parenting the Strong-Willed Child, What Should My Kids Be Reading and Controlling My Kid's Social Media.

ICCS is closed Friday, Feb 8, through Tuesday, Feb 12, for the Mardi Gras holiday. The Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated Wednesday, Feb 13 at 8:30 a.m. in the school gym. The seventh grade social studies fair is Wednesday, Feb. 20, with winners moving on to the regional competition. New family registration is Thursday, Feb 21, from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Prospective students and their parents must meet with the principal before registration. Interviews may be scheduled by calling Erin Lang at 337-433-3497.

### Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School

OLI students of the year are Nicholas Cassidy, 8th grade, and C.J. Thibodeaux, 5th grade. Registration for the 2013-2014 school year begins on Monday, Feb. 4, for returning families and Thursday, Feb. 21, for new families. OLI's Open House is Monday, Feb. 18 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School's All-Star Dinner and Auction is Saturday, February 23. Visit the OLI office for tickets.

### Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School

Our Lady Queen of Heaven School kicked off the next aspect of its campaign: “Layers of Legacy” Courtyard on Wednesday, January 30, during Catholic Schools Week Alumni Mass. The brick courtyard in the new middle school building offers the opportunity to commemorate people, classes, grade levels, graduation classes, etc. Bricks may be purchased in increments of \$100, \$250, \$500 and \$1,000. Call the school's office at 337-477-7349 or email [djackson@olqhs.org](mailto:djackson@olqhs.org) to be a part of this historic opportunity. Leading by example, all grade levels of the school have already purchased the first bricks in the courtyard, paving the way for the new endeavor.

## February events at Saint Charles Center

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1222-february-events-at-saint-charles-center.html>)

MOSS BLUFF – The second of four sessions of the “Faith of Our Fathers” Series featuring Msgr. Jace Eskind, Fr. Tony Fontenot and Msgr. James Gaddy highlight February events at Saint Charles Center.

The series is being presented by Saint Charles Center in celebration of the “Year of Faith and allows the “Fathers” to share their witness of faith. This segment is Tuesday, February 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. The format each evening will consist of Evening Prayer, followed by supper and then the “Faith of Our Fathers” presentations.

Call 337-855-1232 to register or go to [scharlescenter.com](http://scharlescenter.com). The suggested donation of \$20.00 per person, includes the meal. Deadline to register is Friday, February 22, so that adequate arrangements can be made for dinner.

There will be an Engaged Encounter weekend from Friday, Feb. 8 to Sunday, Feb. 10. The weekend is designed to give the couple planning

marriage an opportunity to dialogue honestly and intensively about their prospective lives together and includes topics such as: their strengths and weaknesses; their ambitions, and goals; attitudes about money, sex, children, family, and their role in church and society. A priest and two married couples are the presenters. Please contact and send registrations to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Trahan, 353 Howard Royer Road, De Quincy, LA 70633. Call 337-254-8947 or 337-786-7329. The suggested donation is \$190.00 per couple.

Father Whitney Miller and Father Don Piraro will lead “Our Call to Lenten Grace”. An Ash Wednesday Evening of Reflection on Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The program will consist of Mass and the Distribution of Ashes, a simple supper and the presentation on Lenten spirituality. There will be no cost for the evening, but a free will offering will be accepted. Funds procured will benefit the Long Term Maintenance Account for the Center. Call 337-855-1232 to register.



Garden of the Pieta

### Did you know...

There are currently seven archbishops or bishops over 75 that have already submitted their resignations. Those are Abp. Francis George, Chicago; Bp. Michael Pfeifer, San Angelo, Texas; Bp. Walter Hurley, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Bp. John Kinney, St. Cloud Minn.; Bp. Joseph Latino, Jackson, Miss; Abp. Henry Mansell, Hartford, Conn.; and Bp. Timothy McDonnell, Springfield Mass.

Four Bishops will be 75 this year and one has a Lake Charles connection. Do you know his name? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

## Mark Your Calendars!

Among the many important dates and events in the Diocese of Lake Charles during 2013, a number of them hold greater significance. Please mark your calendars and make plans to be a part of these special times. More information on these events will be forthcoming.

**Transitional Diaconate Ordination:** Saturday, May 18, at 10 a.m. in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church for seminarian Matthew Cormier.

**Jazz Brunch:** Sunday, June 9 from 12 to 3 p.m. at a venue to be announced. Proceeds benefit the work of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana.

**Crowning of Our Lady:** Thursday, August 22, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Con-

ception. Bishop Glen John Provost will be joined by His Excellency, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy Father to the United States of America. The Bishop will crown the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Cathedral in the name and authority of the Holy Father.

**Bishop's Golf Classic:** Friday, October 4 at the Lake Charles Country Club. Morning and afternoon rounds. Proceeds benefit the Clergy Retirement Fund and the Seminarian Vocation Fund.

**Bishop's Gala:** Saturday, December 14 in the Lake Charles Civic Center. Proceeds benefit the Office of Communications' efforts of evangelizing the Catholic faith in the Diocese through its print, electronic, and television ministries.

## Two diocesan-wide collections upcoming

LAKE CHARLES – Two annual diocesan-wide collections are slated in February, one – CRS Rice Bowl – that continues from Ash Wednesday, Feb. 13 through Easter Sunday, March 31, and the other – the Black and Indian Mission Collection – is held on the First Sunday of Lent, Feb. 17.

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the United States. The agency alleviates suffering and provides assistance to people in need in nearly 100 countries, without regard to race, reli-

gion or nationality. For more information Operation Rice Bowl brings Lenten spirituality to life. And it renews our commitment to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters throughout the world.

When the Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles give to Rice Bowl, 25 percent of the donations go to hunger and poverty alleviation efforts here in our own community and 75 percent supports CRS's humanitarian relief programs.

The Black and Indian Mission Collection was established in 1884 by the bishop's of the United States as the

embodiment of the Catholic Church's concern for evangelizing the African American, Native American and indigenous peoples of the United States.

The Diocese of Lake Charles, as a mission diocese, receives grant funds from the Black and Indian Mission Collection each year to aid in evangelization efforts in the African American and Native American communities of this local church.

Last year's Black and Indian Mission Collection provided \$8,000,000 of grants to the missions in most need.



# Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

February 1, 2013

## Pro-Life Rally, Prayer Service held

LAKE CHARLES – The anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision – *Roe v Wade* – that made abortion legal in this country was commemorated on Sunday, Jan. 20, with a rally on the steps of the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse and a prayer service in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The beautiful and sunny day brought out a large crowd, estimated at more than 300 to listen to Christian music, a talk by Father Edward Richard, M.S., the praying of a Pro-Life rosary and the release of a balloon rosary.

The crowd then walked to the Cathedral for the prayer service, which also served to bless many of the some 160 pilgrims that traveled to Washington, DC for last Friday's National March for Life. Father Nathan Long, Secretary for the Ministry of Christian Formation, led the service and blessed the pilgrims. Bishop Glen John Provost joined the Lake Charles pilgrims in Washington for the National March for Life on Friday, January 25.

The events were sponsored by the offices of Family Life and Pro-Life and Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese.

In the 40 years since the high court's ruling, more than 50 million children have been killed through abortion.

During his talk, Father Richard, the pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur and a moral theologian, compared the number of deaths from abortions to the number of other unnatural deaths in the U.S..

"The number of deaths from abortion last year was approximately 1.2 million," Richard said. "This number is one thousand times the annual number of accidental deaths to those under the age of 19. It is almost 100 times the annual murder rate according to the FBI statistics for 2011. It is over one thousand times the murder rate of those under 18 years of age."

"By comparison, the number of human beings who die in

the U.S. from abortion is far greater than the numbers who die from illegal murders, suicides, and accidents," he continued. "Under any other circumstances we can imagine, if human beings were dying in such numbers, the cry would rise up from every segment of society to curtail such harm. Even apart from the fact that we are here speaking of a deliberate choice to end a life, we would, under any other circumstance, seek to prevent the death of so many individuals and the harm done to society. In spite of the commercial and political rhetoric aimed at convincing the public that abortion should be safe, legal and rare, since the law's inception, abortion has never been either safe or rare."

Father Richard also noted the Supreme Court's expected rulings on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and California's Proposition 8 vote that provided that "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

When the Supreme Court rules on those issues, "it will have underneath its ruling the ever-expanding principle that holds that the people of the states and their representatives are less competent to judge what is right than are the individuals who sit on the bench in the federal court system," Richard continued. "This was exemplified, above all, in the Roe holding that the human in the womb has no legal rights that any person is bound to respect. Thus, no matter what a citizenry of a particular state might wish to say about the rights of the unborn, the federal government will not allow such rights to be recognized."

Read Father Richard's talk in its entirety by going to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1220-father-richards-pro-life-rally-talk.html> on the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – [lcdioocese.org](http://lcdioocese.org).



A crowd estimated between 250 and 350 were in attendance at the annual Pro-Life Rally Sunday, Jan. 20, on the steps of the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse followed by the Pro-Life Prayer Service in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The events commemorate the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision of *Roe v Wade*, which has cost the lives of more than 50 million children to abortion.

## New bus for Seafarers Center

LAKE CHARLES – The Stella Maris Seafarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles, a ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles, recently took delivery on a new 14-passenger bus for its seafarers transportation program. Funding was provided with a grant through the Southwest Louisiana Area Maritime Security Committee from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security.

The new vehicle replaces a 2004 model with more than 175,000 miles on the odometer, almost all of which were stop-and-go driving to the various docking facilities in the area.

Reliability and cost savings were top priorities for Deacon Patrick Lapoint, director of the Seafarers Center.

"Our other bus was old and the maintenance costs were high," Lapoint said. "It was expensive to operate and almost every week we seemed to be replacing or fixing something on the bus."

"We put in a new engine, front end, tires, air conditioner," he continued. "There was something constantly going wrong and this new bus will lower our costs of operation."

The center sees between 700 and 800 seafarers each month using the bus in the ministry's widespread area of service.

"We cover 17 facilities and 39 docks," Lapoint said. "It averages out to seven ships a day – some days more and some days less. The farthest dock on the west side of the river is Hackberry and Big Lake on the east side."

Because of federal restrictions Lapoint can't intermingle seafarers from different ships unless they have docked at the same facility. If there is only a single ship and one facility, he must pick up his passengers from there and take them to their destination before going to his next stop.

"That is one of the reasons



Deacon Patrick Lapoint, right, director of the Stella Maris Seafarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles, shakes hands with Lt. Robert Rhodes II, chairman of the Area Maritime Security Committee. It was through the committee that the Center was able to gain the grant funds allowing the purchase of the new 14-passenger bus to be used in the transportation ministry.

for putting so many miles on the bus," he said. "The bus is much better than our seven-passenger van because when we do have multiple ships at a single facility, we are able to mix the passengers. Being able to cover more ships helps us a great deal."

In addition to Deacon

Lapoint, there are two paid employees at the Seafarers Center, Lou Richard (full-time) and Joe Soileau (part-time). Volunteer Rev. Lloyd Nelson, an ordained Baptist minister, represents the Carey Baptist Association, which provides great assistance to the Center, according to

Lapoint.

"The center is an ecumenical ministry and we have always worked very well with the Carey Baptist Association," Lapoint said. "They provide Bibles to the center and coordinate other needs through area Baptist churches."

The offices of the  
**DIocese of LAKE CHARLES**  
will be closed on Monday and Tuesday,  
Feb. 11 and 12. They reopen on Ash Wednesday,  
Feb. 13, at 8:30 a.m. and will have regular business  
hours for the remainder of the week.

## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Rite of Election Feb. 17

LAKE CHARLES – The Rite of Election, the recognition of God's choice to call catechumens for immediate initiation into the Church, will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 17, the First Sunday of Lent, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost will preside and meet the Catechumens and Candidates.

The rite closes the period of the Catechumenate, and begins the preparation for baptism at Easter. Catechumens who undergo this rite are called the "Elect" during the period of purification and enlightenment.

### Special Needs Mass Feb. 10

LAKE CHARLES – Father Brian King will celebrate a Mass for Individuals with Special Needs and their families at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 10, in St. Louis Catholic High School.

The Mass is offered as an opportunity for all to worship despite difficulty, embarrassment, or frustration.

Call Karen Duhon at 337-478-0243 or Shari Cormier at 337-478-0043 for more information.

### OLI School Dinner Auction

JENNINGS – Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School's annual dinner auction, sponsored by Jeff Davis Bank, is set for Saturday, Feb. 23, in the Grand Marais Ballroom, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Call 337-824-1743 for more information and to purchase tickets.

### Diocesan Youth Conference Feb. 22-24

DRY CREEK – The Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC), with this year's theme – Pursue the View – is Friday, Feb. 22 through Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Dry Creek Retreat Center off Hwy. 113.

Registration forms for DYC, sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, are available from parish youth offices and at the Bishop Harold Perry Building, 411 Iris Street.

Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 301 for more information or mail questions to [youth.ministry@lcdioocese.org](mailto:youth.ministry@lcdioocese.org).

### March Prayer Breakfast, Luncheon dates

LAKE CHARLES – The next Men's Prayer Breakfast is set for Friday, March 1 and the Women's Prayer Luncheon is Tuesday, March 6, both in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Office Complex.

Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 6:30 a.m. before the 7 p.m. breakfast. Men can register by calling 337-439-7400.

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.

### Dates for Poland pilgrimage

LAKE CHARLES – The nine-day pilgrimage to Poland and Czech Republic will take place June 11-19, according to Father Nathan Long.

Pilgrims will visit Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, Prague and other sites. The per person price is \$2,475, plus \$650 for departure taxes and fuel surcharges from Houston. A \$350 deposit is due by Feb. 15 with the final payment deadline of March 6.

Contact Peter's Way Tours, Inc. by e-mail at [peter@petersway.com](mailto:peter@petersway.com) or at 1-800-225-7662.

### Cathedral Altar Society Bus Trip April 24

LAKE CHARLES – The Altar Society of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is sponsoring a bus trip to New Orleans on Wednesday, April 24.

Stops will include Longue Vue House and Gardens, lunch at Mandina's Restaurant, the sculpture garden at the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Pope John Paul II Exhibit, and a visit to the Morning Call Coffee Stand in City Park.

Cost is \$130 per person and reservations can be made by calling Karen Fills at 337-625-8436.

### Live Stations of the Cross at Consolata

LAKE CHARLES – A performance of the live Stations of the Cross will be held at 3 p.m., on Palm Sunday, March 24, at Consolata Cemetery.

Charles McNeely, head of the Theater Department at McNeese State University, will direct the production. Those interested in being a part of the performance should contact McNeely at the Theater Department or call Gayle Marshall at 337-477-5372.

