



## An Easter Message from Bishop Provost

My dear People of God:

“[H]e has been raised.” Luke 24:6

Christ is risen!” “Truly He is risen!” (Χριστός ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!) This is the traditional greeting exchanged between any two Christians on Easter Sunday in the Greek world and Oriental Church. “Christ is risen!” “Truly He is risen!” In a very real way, this greeting helps us relive the joy and wonder that must have filled the first Christians when they heard the news of this truly marvelous and unprecedented event. Death was conquered. The grave was defeated. Life was triumphant. “Christ is risen!” “Truly He is risen!”

On the first Easter Sunday, the women went to the tomb expecting to anoint the body of Jesus. The stone was already rolled back from the entry, and when they entered, they discovered the body of Jesus was gone. Instead they saw “... two men in dazzling garments” who said, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised” (Luke 24:5-6). The women returned to the apostles and disciples and told them what had happened. “Christ is risen!” “Truly He is risen!”

All the joy and wonder of Easter are contained in those words. As when Simon Peter and the beloved disciple saw the empty tomb and burial cloths, the reality was too much to grasp. “[T]hey did not yet understand” (John 20:9). It seemed too good to be true. Could it really be so?

I think of those moments in our lives when something happens that is too marvelous to comprehend. There are not many moments like this in our lives—the birth of a child perhaps, the discovery of love, an unexpected success, being forgiven for an offense. Imagine the joy and wonder of Mary Magdalene announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” (John 20:18).

Jesus Christ rose from the dead so that we could say to

each other, “Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!” More importantly, the words tell us of the reality. They speak the truth.

There is much in the world today that would rob us of this joy and wonder. I am speaking here not just of cynicism fed by secularism in this “Oh, whatever” culture. I am not speaking only of the kind of blasé attitude one meets in people who are bored with life and indifferent to human suffering. All of this is bad enough. But I am speaking specifically of an attitude that ignores the right to life from conception to natural death, deprives the human person of the dignity to which he or she is entitled, and ultimately leads us to ignore pain and suffering and engage in acts of violence and disregard for the rights of others. It is an attitude that wants us to be ashamed of our Christian teaching, keep it to ourselves, and hide our happiness. But we cannot. How can we be silent about the glory of the Lord and the life He won for us? I am reminded of the words of Jesus Christ when He entered Jerusalem to shouts of praise by His disciples. The Pharisees did not want Jesus acclaimed in this way and said, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples” (Luke 19:39). Jesus responded, “I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!” (Luke 19:40).

I am reminded of a story told to me by a grandmother. It happened about four years ago when it snowed, a rare occurrence in Louisiana. Her little granddaughter was staying with her at home. When the little girl woke up in the morning and saw the snow, she opened the front door, ran into the yard, opened her arms and screamed, “Oh, grandma, it’s good to be alive.” Yes, life has something to say to us. We cannot remain silent.

This last January I had the blessing of joining three

busloads of pilgrims from the Diocese traveling for the March for Life. The total crowd in Washington, D.C. was estimated to be approximately 500,000. Over half were young people below the age of 30. I remarked that it was so impressive to see how many youth took seriously the witness to life, especially that of the unborn. “Yes,” one of them said to me, “they are here because they are glad to be alive. They know that in this kind of world they could just as well have been a victim.”

To say “Christ is risen” is to profess faith in life, its power, its goodness, and its truth. If we kept silent, “the stones [would] cry out.” We cannot remain silent. No one can take our joy from us, not today or any day. Faith in the resurrected life of Jesus Christ gives us hope. Ultimately it is the source of our joy. It motivates every good deed, the forgiveness of enemies, and a love for peace. It is the foundation of Christian society, respect for our neighbor, and love for the poor. In the words of St. Paul, “... let us celebrate the feast” (I Corinthians 5:8). “Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!”

To you, your families and loved ones, I extend my blessings for a truly joyful Easter.

Sincerely yours in our risen Lord,

+Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

## New principal named at ICCS

LAKE CHARLES – Michael Miller, a native of North Carolina with 20 years experience in Catholic education, has been named principal of Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School for the 2013-2014 year. He replaces the retiring Dinah Bradford, who has served at ICCS for 12 years.

Miller, principal at Bishop Fenwick High School in Middletown, Ohio, from 2009-2012, holds a Masters degree in Secondary Education from Wright State University and a Masters degree in Private School Administration from the Institute of Catholic Educational Leadership Program at the University of San Francisco. He attended The Ohio State University, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.

Other educational positions include founding principal at Saint Helen Catholic School in Georgetown, Texas, grade school principal at Mount Carmel Catholic School in Saipan, MP, and Director of Curriculum and Instruction at Chaminade-Julienne Catholic School in Dayton, Ohio. He has also taught American Literature, Theology, Social Studies, Reading, U.S. History and Government.

Miller and his wife, Rebecca, who is also a Catholic educator, have two children.

About taking the post and moving his family, Miller said, “My family and I are excited to be coming to Lake Charles. I am honored and humbled to be part of such a great school, parish, diocese, and community.”

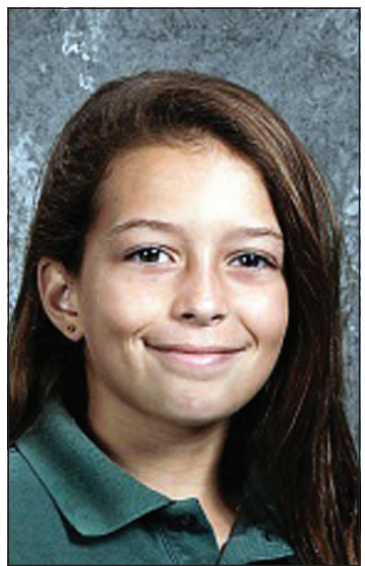
He also noted “there is a great pastor, Msgr (Jace) Eskind and history of great pastors, a warm and caring parish community that has always supported its school, a rich tradition of parishioner’s sending their children to ICCS over generations yet open to others who are sending their children to Catholic school for the first time, an incomparable legacy of academic excellence, athletic success, and strong faith formation, an outstanding faculty and staff that continually forms children’s knowledge and faith and develops each child to their fullest human potential in a loving and caring environment, and a rich history of excellent school leadership embodied by the current principal, Dinah Bradford.”



Bishop Glen John Provost recently hosted members of the Southwest Louisiana legislative delegation and members of the staff of the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops (LCCB) at L'Évêché to discuss issues important to the Church in the upcoming Regular Session of the Legislature, which begins on Monday, April 8. Pictured are, from left, Daniel Loar, Executive Director of the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, District 33 Rep. Michael E. Danahay, Bishop Provost, District 27 Sen. Ronnie Johns, District 36 Rep. and Speaker of the House Chuck Kleckley, and Rob Tasman, LCCB Associate Director.



Margaret Lie



Blake Alley



Emma Hixson

## Non-public school Students of the Year announced

LAKE CHARLES -- Students from Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Hamilton Christian Academy, and Saint Louis Catholic High School are the 2012-2013 Non-Public School Students of the Year in the Southwest

District of Louisiana, according to Kimberlee Gazzolo, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Fifth grade Student of the Year is Blake Alley of St. Margaret of Scotland while the

eighth grade winner is Emma Hixson of Hamilton Christian. Margaret Lie of St. Louis Catholic was chosen as the 12th grade winner.

Other students chosen for the District Competition from their individual non-public schools were, from the fifth grade, Michelle Cormier, Our Lady’s Catholic School, Jennings; Olivia Desantos, Holy Family Catholic School, Moss Bluff; C.J. Thibodeaux, Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, Sulphur; Russell Mixon, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School; and Camden Edward, Bethel Christian School; from the eighth grade, McKenzie Wyninger, Our Lady’s; Joseph Bang, Saint Margaret; Luke Burnham, Holy Family; Nicholas Cassidy, Our Lady Immaculate; Gage Navarre, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School; and Alex Mallet, Bethel Christian. Katelin Wilder was chosen from Bethel School.

## Vatican security scrambling, yet prepared for pope’s spontaneity

(Read more at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/1269-vatican-security-scrambling-yet-prepared-for-popes-spontaneity.html>)

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis’ style of breaking away from his security detail and diving toward the crowds means his protectors have had to do a quick rewrite of strategy, sometimes on the spot.

Concern and urgency

were visibly etched on the face of the head of the Vatican police, Domenico Giani, after the pope celebrated Mass in the Vatican’s Church of St. Anne March 17.

Giani swiftly shouted out fresh commands for undercover guards and police to regroup as Pope Francis made a beeline toward a large cheering crowd pressing against a barricade outside the entrance into Vati-

can City. This came after the pope personally greeted, often hugging, each of the approximately 200 members of the congregation right after Mass.

The pope has preferred to walk short distances within Vatican City instead of taking a waiting sedan and has also eschewed a multi-car security escort for longer trips, preferring just one vehicle to get him to his destination.

## Did you know...

It is said that in the not too distant past, when the means to clinically determine if the Pope was dead were not as certain, the Camerlengo tapped the forehead of the Pontiff three times with a silver hammer while calling out his baptismal name. If there was no answer, the Pope was declared dead. In the circumstance of the death of Blessed John Paul II, an electrocardiogram was used to make that determination and, in an unprecedented move, the full contents of the death certificate were revealed.

Even though it is the only parish domiciled in Beauregard Parish, St. Joseph Catholic Church in DeRidder, does not have full canonical responsibility for the entire civil parish. Do you know the church whose boundaries extend into Beauregard Parish? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.



Bishop Glen John Provost stands with pianists Grace Ardoin, Ella Aguillard, Hayden Yates and Mikayla Matte at the conclusion of the bishop’s visit to St. Theodore’s Holy Family Catholic School, the final school visit by the bishop for the year. Each of the students played the piano for Bishop Provost and the student body of Holy Family. Bishop Provost then played several selections for the students and teachers.

# Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

March 29, 2013

## Teen leadership training scheduled in May

LAKE CHARLES – The Christian Leadership Institute (CLI) and Advanced Christian Leadership Institute (ACLI) are weeklong training experiences sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles focusing on developing and sharpening leadership skills in a Christian manner to use in every aspect of their lives.

This year's events will be held from May 25 to May 31 at Camp Bethany, located at 9766 U.S. Highway 79 in Bethany, La, which is near Shreveport. For information on the camp, go to [cambethany.com](http://cambethany.com).

The focus of the training includes effective communication skills, facilitation skills, decision making skills, consensus seeking skills, temperament and leadership styles, male/female leadership styles, and call to ministry.

The training involves experiential learning and is reinforced by hands-on activities and small group challenges. The young people themselves play a part in shaping the routine activities of each day from waking up in the morning, to setting the environment and planning prayer for meals, morning and evening prayer, the evening liturgy

and the evening socials. ACLI takes the skills learned at CLI and continues to sharpen the skills and planning process on a larger scale. It is an exciting and transforming experience, according to Milissa Thibodeaux, director of the office.

Teens will be transported to and from Camp Bethany (near Shreveport) on buses. The cost of the week is \$350 and includes meals, lodging, leadership materials, transportation to/from the camp, and t-shirt. A deposit of \$100 is due with registration form by Thursday, April 4. The remaining balance of the cost

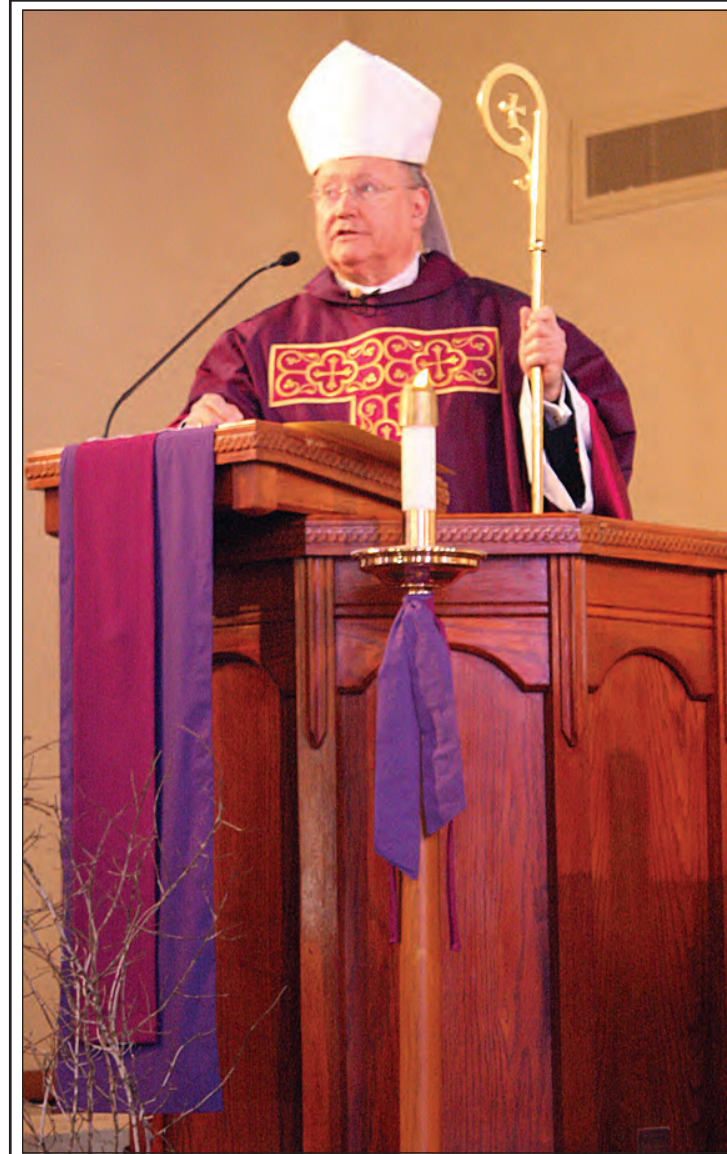
can be paid at any time between April 4 and Friday, June 7. Bills will be mailed twice during this time.

There is also a Payment Plan Option, which calls for a second payment of \$125 by Wednesday, May 1 and the final payment due Wednesday, May 29.

Payment # 2: \$125 (due Wed., May 1st) Payment #3: \$125 (due Wed., May 29th)

Bills will be given for balance remaining on first day of camp.

For more information, contact the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 337-439-7400, Ext. 301.



Harry Methvin

## Harry Methvin inducted into St. Louis Catholic Hall of Fame

LAKE CHARLES -- Harry Methvin, a teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School, is the newest inductee into the school's Hall of Fame. The ceremony was Thursday, March 14, in the school's commons.

Methvin, a native of Hargrove Settlement, began his teaching career at St. Louis in 1972 after completing a Master's Degree at McNeese State University. During his time at St. Louis, he taught English and Industrial Arts and served as the head of the Language Arts Department.

In 1991, Methvin began teaching seventh and eighth grade English at Vinton Northside Middle School teaching. During the five years he taught at Vinton Northside, the school became one of the highest performing schools in Calcasieu Parish.

In 1993, Methvin was

Teacher of the Year at Vinton Northside and he was one of seven finalists for Calcasieu Parish Middle School Teacher of the Year. Methvin has also taught at the Calcasieu Correctional Center and Vinton High School.

Methvin has served as vice president of the DeQuincy Railroad Museum Board, on the DeQuincy Centennial Committee preparing for the city's centennial anniversary and has volunteered with the Calcasieu Historic and Preservation Society. He was named "Citizen of the Year" by the DeQuincy Chamber of Commerce.

The St. Louis Catholic High School Hall of Fame was established to recognize any person, living or deceased, who has demonstrated outstanding ability, leadership, character, heroism, dedication, and patriotism and whose life and accom-

plishments can be an inspiration to the students of St. Louis Catholic High School.

Previous inductees to the Hall of Fame have been: 2000-2001 Austin Dyer, Sr.; 2000-2001 Joe Stoma; 2001-2002 Rev. Msgr. Louis H. Boudreaux; 2002-2003 Rev. Msgr. Harry Benefiel; 2002-2003 Rev. Msgr. Robert Angelle; 2003-2004 Leah Soulier; 2004-2005 Hilda Henry; 2005-2006 Rev. Henry Mancuso, D. Min.; 2005-2006 Sr. Monica Stelly; 2006-2007 John Gabriel; 2007-2008 Sr. Colette Guidry; 2008-2009 Charles Zebley; 2009-2010 Carl Ambrose, Sr.; 2010-2011 Daniel Ieyoub; and 2011-2012 Julie Miller.

## Good Friday collection for Holy Land

LAKE CHARLES – The special collection being taken up today, Good Friday, in the churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles provides for the continued existence of programs that support Christians in the Holy Land.

The parishes are called upon, once a year on Good Friday, to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. The Holy Land Franciscans are counting on the financial help from the faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles to assist us in providing presence, care and service.

As a pontifical collection requested by Pope Benedict XVI, the annual Good Friday Collection offers a direct link for parishioners to be witnesses of peace and to help protect the Holy Places, social and charitable activities, educational and scientific activities, pastoral activities, liturgical, and ecumenical and communications programs



## Bishop Comments on Completion of Fourth Cycle of Parish Visitations

By Bishop Glen John Provost

The last weekend I visited Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Lake Charles with its mission of Our Lady of Fatima and in so doing completed my fourth cycle of parish visitations for 2012-2013. During this time period, I also visited St. Joseph Parish in Elton, Sacred Heart Parish in Oakdale with its mission of St. Frances of Rome in Elizabeth, and Sacred Heart Parish in Creole, along with Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cameron.

The parish visitations offer me the opportunity of seeing firsthand the ministry and vibrancy of our parishes in the Diocese of Lake Charles. The pastors and their staffs submit to me a parish visitation form in which they detail the pastoral ministries in which they are engaged. I am always so impressed with what I find.

Each parish has so much to offer. On the coast, I saw how the rebuilding was progressing. Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Creole has just completed the final construction project of a new parish hall. I will bless that hall in May. The new rectory was finished last year. St. Joseph Parish in Elton had undergone major reconstruction of its nave that was collapsing under the weight of the roof. Through

the generosity of diocesan funding, Catholic Extension Society, and its parishioners, I was able to celebrate Mass in a newly refurbished church. Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish continues to grow with remodeling of its sacristy and the addition of classrooms in the parish hall for catechetical instruction, as well as expansion of its ministries. In Oakdale, we found a lively Sacred Heart Parish youth group, with ministry in religious education still a priority and an ever-increasing number of converts to the Catholic faith.

In each of the parishes, the pastor hosts a dinner attended by the staff and councils of the parish. At this meeting, I share with them my observations about their report and entertain their questions. Another purpose of my visitation is to thank the parishioners at every Mass for their generosity to the Bishop's Services Appeal. I want them to know of my gratitude and the needs which they help us to address.

I wish to thank publicly Father Jose, Father Goodly, Father Babasino, and Father Johnson and their parishioners for the warm reception I received. May God continue to bless them abundantly in this Year of Faith.

I look forward to beginning the fifth cycle of parish visitations in the fall.

## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Pastor's Appreciation Cruise, April 6

LAKE CHARLES – Rev. Msgr. Jace F. Eskind, Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will be honored on a pastor's appreciation cruise Saturday, April 6, aboard the yacht "Lady of the Lake", sponsored by Saint Charles Center and benefitting the Center's Long Term Maintenance Fund, according to Rev. Whitney Miller, director.

Tickets are \$200 per person and available at Saint Charles Center, 2151 Sam Houston Jones Parkway in Moss Bluff or by calling 337-855-1232. The cruise will leave the Lake Charles Civic Center docks at 6 p.m.

### Catholic Committee on Scouting e-mail address

LAKE CHARLES – The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Committee on Scouting now has a general e-mail address - [lccatholicscouting@yahoo.com](mailto:lccatholicscouting@yahoo.com).

Scouts who have a completed religious emblem application and evaluation pages, which are found within each program workbook may be scanned and emailed to this address. Only those pages are need and candidates may keep their workbooks.

The Bishop's Religious Emblems Awards Dinner is Sunday, April 21.

### NFP information night on April 4

LAKE CHARLES -- A "Natural Family Planning Information Night," beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday April 4, is offered by the Office of Family Life and Pro Life in the Assembly Room of the Chancery at 414 Iris Street, according to Kathy Owen, Director.

Mary-Rose Verret, a certified teacher and trainer for SymptoPro Fertility Awareness, will answer questions about Natural Family Planning. SymptoPro treats fertility as a natural

part of life and a significant indicator of a woman's overall health.

Married, engaged or single ladies are invited: whether you know a little, next to nothing, something or use NFP but want a refresher. "Come with an open heart to listen or to ask questions about Natural Family Planning," Owen said.

There is no fee to attend. Call 337-439-7400 for more information.

### Prayer breakfast and luncheon dates

LAKE CHARLES – The next Men's Prayer Breakfast is set for Friday, April 5 and the Women's Prayer Luncheon is Tuesday, April 10, 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 \$15, 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.

### Abrazando Cristo Mission fundraiser underway

LAKE CHARLES – The Abrazando Cristo Mission Program continues its annual Big Cash Giveaway fundraiser with prizes for \$100 each and only 500 available.

First prize in the drawing is \$5,000, second is \$1,000 and third is \$500. Proceeds benefit the ongoing work of the Abrazando Cristo to the missions in Nicaragua.

Purchase your tickets by sending a check to Abrazando Cristo Mission Program, Attn: Msgr. Daniel Torres, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601. Drawing is June 16 in the St. Henry Community Center. Call 337-439-7400 for more information.



Bishop Glen John Provost, top, was the celebrant and homilist at the Mass celebrating the 75th anniversary of establishment of St. Joseph Catholic Church in De-Riddert. Father Jude Brunnert, pastor of St. Joseph, middle, burns the loan documents after the final payment of the note that helped renovate St. Joseph in 2010. In the bottom photo, Bishop Provost, stands with Frances Delia Crawford, the first infant baptized in the newly established parish on Sept. 25, 1938.