



Cormier ordained a Transitional Deacon

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost ordained Matthew Cormier as a Transitional Deacon on Saturday, May 18 during Mass celebrated at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. Deacon Cormier will be spending his deacon internship at Our Lady Queen of Heaven before returning to Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans for the remainder of his theological studies.

Deacon Cormier is a parishioner of Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur. In his homily, directed to Deacon Cormier as well as the congregants, Bishop Provost spoke of service, in particular as the Gospel of Matthew, 20th chapter, 26th verse reads, "Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant."

"The Gospel proclaims the redemptive work of Jesus Christ," Bishop Provost said. "He indeed came not to be served but to serve" and in so doing "give his life as a ransom for many". As we know, this is a reference to the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. The servant gives his life for the master.

"The servant lives at the beckoning and call of the one he serves," the Bishop continued. "There is a redemptive dimension to this servant. Jesus raises the task of being a servant to that of redeemer. As He has done, so also should we do, for in becoming a servant we imitate the Lord."

Bishop Provost related a recent conversa-

tion with a priest about the man's experience with questions from his parishioners about his acts of service.

"He held a position which required that he perform certain tasks that these parishioners considered servile," Bishop Provost continued. "So they asked him, 'Don't you feel demeaned, being a servant, performing those menial tasks?' The priest responded, and correctly so, that he did not. Quite the contrary, he considered it a privilege to perform his duties. He accepted wholeheartedly his role as a servant."

Continuing the Bishop pointed out, "'Servant' is almost a dirty word in the modern American vocabulary. In everyday life, we would never call anyone a servant nor would we wish to be called a servant. I humbly suggest that unless we overcome this tendency then we risk missing the lesson of the Gospel—which is, that in being a servant we share in the work of Christ."

He told Deacon Cormier "this morning we are celebrating *diaconia*. The word means service and Matthew is being ordained to the diaconate. He is going to be a servant. Some will have to get over it. Matthew should not."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Bishop Provost's homily, in its entirety, may be found at the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles at <http://live.lcdioocese.org/bishop-provost/homilies/1305-diaconate-ordination-2013.html>.)



Bishop Glen John Provost, right, and Deacon Matthew Cormier stand together following the ordination Mass for the newly ordained Transitional Deacon Saturday, May 18, outside Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. Deacon Cormier will return to Notre Dame Seminary late this year following his deacon internship at Our Lady Queen of Heaven.



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, met with Sr. Bernadette de Lourdes Dike, DMMM, left, the new Regional Superior/Servant for the USA-Canada Region of the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy, during her visit to the Diocese of Lake Charles to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the religious profession of Sr. Josephine Okafor, DMMM, right.

2013 Seminararian Summer Assignments

- Deacon Matthew Cormier - Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, Lake Charles
- Jay Alexius, M.D - St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, Kinder
- Ruben Villarreal - Christ the King Catholic Church, Lake Charles
- Cristian Gonzalez - St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Hackberry
- Trey Ange - Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church, Sulphur
- John Souder - Christ the King Catholic Church, Lake Charles
- Levi Thompson - Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Jennings
- Ryan Baca - Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Lake Arthur
- Michael Caraway - Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Maplewood
- Samuel Orsot - St. Joseph Catholic Church, Vinton
- Addison Pitre - St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Fenton
- Michael Beverung - St. Paul Catholic Church, Elton
- Jacob Rigmalden, decided not to continue discernment for the Priesthood
- Joseph Ferrer, decided not to continue discernment for the Priesthood

Fortnight for Freedom set June 21 to July 4

SULPHUR - The Fortnight for Freedom, called for by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is observed from Friday, June 21, to Thursday, July 4. Bishop Glen John Provost will be one of a number of speakers at a rally in support of religious freedom and conscience rights on Saturday, June 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Heritage Square Pavilion.

The rally is sponsored by the Diocese of Lake Charles, the Sulphur Area Ministerial Alliance, and various pastors and churches of the area including the Diocese of Lake Charles, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Maplewood, La., Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church, Maplewood Baptist Church, The Shepherd's Rest, Trinity Baptist Church, New Destiny Assembly of God, Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church, Covenant Presby-



terian, and Victory Worship Center. State and local officials, judges, clergy, and others will speak and the list includes District Attorney John DeRosier, Judge Kent Savoie, Judge David Ritchie, State Representative Mike Danahay, and Olympic Gold Medalist Jenny Finch, Judge Charles Schrupf, City Councilwoman Veronica Allison Mayor Carol Ponthieux, City Prosecutor Jennifer Page, Pastor/Army Reserve Chaplain Jerry Thompson, Pastor Ronnie Burke, and Mitchell Wyninger.

Musical groups appearing are the Houston River

Baptist Church Choir, Life Church Band, and the Barry Badon Band. Food and drinks will be available. Last year, as estimated 1,000 attended. Sponsoring organizations

Bishop Provost will be the celebrant of the 5 p.m. Mass Saturday, June 22, at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church to pray for respect of religious freedom and conscience rights. A youth event and concert will follow the celebration of the Mass in the Parish Hall. The concert will feature the Christian group, Core 13. Concessions will be available.

Pope to complete encyclical on faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Continuing a papal tradition of finishing a predecessor's work in progress, Pope Francis intends to complete an encyclical - on the virtue of faith - begun during the pontificate of Pope Benedict XVI.

"I can confirm that the plan for an encyclical on faith, begun by Benedict XVI, has been taken up by the new pope," Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said in a May 24 email response to questions. He said it would "be premature" to guess when the encyclical would be completed.

The Italian followed reports in the Italian media claiming that the retired pope would be completing the encyclical himself.

In an article for his diocesan bulletin, Bishop Luigi Martella

of Molfetta, Italy, had said that when he met Pope Francis in mid-May with other bishops from Italy's Puglia region, the pope told them that he had been worried about Pope Benedict's health, "but now he is much better."

Bishop Martella said Pope Francis "wanted to share a confidence, almost a revelation with us: Benedict XVI is finishing writing the encyclical on faith that will be signed by Pope Francis."

Responding to questions, Father Lombardi said, "I can absolutely deny that Benedict XVI is working on the planned encyclical."

In December, Father Lombardi had said Pope Benedict's encyclical on faith would be released in the first half of 2013. The encyclical would complete

a trilogy on the three "theological virtues," following "Deus Caritas Est" (2005) on charity, and "Spe Salvi" (2007) on hope.

A pope picking up work begun under his predecessor, adding his own thoughts and style to it, is common practice. For example, a document about the church's charitable activity begun under Pope John Paul II became the framework for the second section of Pope Benedict's 2005 encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est."

Bishop Martella said Pope Francis also told the Puglia bishops that he was planning an encyclical on poverty, "understood not in an ideological and political sense, but in an evangelical sense." It will be called "Blessed Are the Poor," the bishop said.



Secretaries and administrative assistants from a number of parishes and offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles participated in a Morning of Reflection in their honor on Administrative Professionals Day at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center. Mrs. Gloria Vanderwall, Certifications Coordinator for the Diocese of Baton Rouge was the presenter for the morning of talks, prayer, and reflection which was followed by lunch. Local automobile dealer Billy Navarre generously sponsored the event for the third straight year.

Diocese of Lake Charles assists with victims in Oklahoma and the Midwest

LAKE CHARLES - As a response to the devastating tornados, which struck in the Midwest, including the May 20 twister that destroyed much of Moore, Okla., the Diocese of Lake Charles will take up a second collection in every church parish on the weekend of June 22-23. These gifts will be used for immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable and support

the local Catholic Church and Catholic Charities USA and its ongoing mission.

The collection for "Catholic Charities - Aid to Midwest Tornado Victims" will provide urgently needed funding to assist those affected by the terrible storms in the Midwest," Father Wayne LeBleu, Secretary for the Ministry of Pastoral Services said. "Your contribution will save lives,

rebuild homes, provide shelter and supplies and restore hope. As this heartbreaking situation continues to develop, Catholic Charities USA is monitoring activities on the ground and stands ready to help emergency personnel in disaster response and recovery - assisting families and individuals with shelter, food, and other immediate and long-term needs."

Long-time married couples to be honored on June 23

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will honor couples celebrating 25 or 50 years of Christian marriage along with those couples whose anniversaries of more than 50 years are divisible by five at the 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 23, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Bishop will bless the

couples in attendance and, following the liturgy, will present special certificates of recognition to those celebrating these significant jubilee anniversaries during a reception in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral office complex on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets.

Couples must make their church parish aware of their

intention to attend the Jubilee Mass. The parish will forward those names to Mrs. Kathy Owen, director of the Office of Family Life, the sponsor of this annual event. A special invitation will then be sent back to the couple. The final date to register is June 17. The Cathedral is handicap accessible for those who may require such assistance.

Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

June 7, 2013

Crowning of Blessed Virgin Mary in Cathedral August 22

LAKE CHARLES – The Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Name and by the Authority of the Holy Father will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 22 - the Feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary - in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with His Excellency, The Most Reverend Glen John Provost as celebrant. His Excellency, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy See to the United States, will officiate the crowning rite and deliver the homily.

The Mass is by invitation only, due to space considerations in the Cathedral, while a reception with Bishop Provost and Archbishop Viganò is open to the public and set for 3 to 5 p.m. in The Historic Calcasieu Marine National Bank at 844 Ryan Street.

Last December on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bishop Provost inaugurated a "Jubilee Year of the Cathedral Church" in celebration of the anniversary year of the Cathedral's completion and dedication. There is only one other "crowned" image of the Virgin Mary that enjoys this privilege in the state of Louisiana and that is the state patronal image of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in New Orleans.

"This Year is meant to renew the commitment of all the faithful to the mission of Christ in the Diocese of Lake Charles and to deepen Catholic unity in the same." Bishop Provost said, "The Apostolic Penitentiary has given a Decree granting both plenary and partial indulgences during this year for the benefit of all of the People of God making pilgrimages to our Cathedral or offering pilgrimage prayers in the Diocese of Lake Charles."

The crowning of Mary under various titles has a very long history in the Church, both in the East and in the West. Beginning with the Council of Ephesus (A.D. 431), the long held practice of crowning Mary, also known as the coronation, began to develop further and spread more rapidly. It was at the Council of Ephesus that the traditional title Theotokos, the Mother of God, was reaffirmed and definitively held against the Nestorian heresy. Since then the custom of the Blessed Virgin Mary wearing a regal crown has enjoyed the favor of the sensus fidelium under the guidance of the Magisterium. The growth of this custom led to the development of a liturgical rite in which the Blessed Virgin Mary is invoked as queen. The "Introduction" to the rite states that Our Lady is rightly regarded as queen since she is the Mother of the Son of God, who is the messianic King. Furthermore, it states that she is the perfect follower of Christ. Mary is the perfect follower of Christ because she believed the words spoken to her by the angel and did the will of God. Therefore, she has undoubtedly won the "crown of righteousness" promised to those who believe in and follow Christ.

This "Jubilee Year of the Cathedral Church" of the Immaculate Conception is an opportune time to crown Our Lady, especially on the Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin



The above image serves as the official image for the celebration of the crowning. *Incoronazione della Vergine* (The Coronation of the Virgin); Giulio Cesare Procaccini, Italian; Oil Painting, 1604-1607; Getty Museum



This statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which sits in the niche above the high altar of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will be crowned during the celebration of the Mass at 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 22.

Mary acknowledges that the Trinity crowned Mary, the Queen of Heaven. The participation of His Excellency, Archbishop Viganò a great honor, in particular, because we will be crowning the Blessed Virgin Mary in the name and by the authority of the Holy Father. The title of nuncio simply means ecclesiastical diplomat. As the apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Viganò is the ambassador of the Holy See to the United States. He also has the position of delegate or representative between

the Holy See and the Church in the United States.

On August 22, the Diocese of Lake Charles, the people of God in union with their bishop, will manifest its love for God through honoring Mary and acknowledging her as queen. All the faithful will be given the opportunity to consecrate their hearts to Jesus through Mary and to recommit themselves to the Gospel. May our understanding of the Blessed Virgin Mary's role in the Church be deepened and may we receive her with joy.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2013 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

Glad Tidings to be pre-empted on June 9

LAKE CHARLES – Glad Tidings, the Sunday morning television program of the Diocese of Lake Charles, will not be seen on KPLC-TV this Sunday, June 9, due to the airing of the French Open Men's Tennis Championship match.

The program will be available on the website of the Diocese – lediocese.org – at its regular 6 a.m. time. Glad Tidings will return at its regular schedule time next Sunday, June 16.



Gretchen Jester, in photo at left, was recently awarded a national commendation by the National Catholic Educational Association for her tireless devotion and support of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School and, especially, to its Cornerstone Capital Campaign to raise funds to build a new middle-school building and make other renovations to the school.



McKenzie Wyninger, right, a student at Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur, served as Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Day during the final days of the 2012-2013 school year and received a Certificate acknowledging that fact from Bishop Glen John Provost, center, and Superintendent of Schools Kimberlee Gazdolo.

Did you know...

Blessed John Paul II visited 129 countries on 104 trips during his long pontificate. In that number were seven visits to South America and eight journeys to Latin America. He made seven trips to the United States during his reign as Supreme Pontiff compared to only a single journey by Pope Paul VI.

A patron saint is regarded as the heavenly advocate of a nation, place, craft, activity, class, clan, family, or person. Can you name the Patron Saint of Television or the Patron Saint of Journalists? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

Diocesan Briefs.....

Altar Society Popcorn Ball Sale

LAKE CHARLES – The annual St. Henry Catholic Church Altar Society popcorn ball sale is set for Saturday, June 8 from 9 a.m. until in the St. Henry Community Center.
Call 337-912-2185 or 337-439-1159 to order for \$2.50 each.

St. John Bazaar June 9

LACASSINE – The St. John Church bazaar is Sunday, June 9, in the Lacassine Community Center.
There will be bingo and a silent auction from 9 a.m. to noon with a live auction beginning at noon. Pork steak dinners will be available for \$7 and can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Contact Betty at 588-4224 for information on the dinners.
A raffle drawing will give first place \$400, second place \$250, and third place \$100. There will be water games for the kids, so don't forget to bring towels.
Call Charlotte at 588-4535 or George at 488-4466.

"Beat the Heat"

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana and the Fourth Degree Knights of Peter Claver, Assembly 22, with the help of the City of Lake Charles, are once again offering air conditioner units for elderly and disabled low-income individuals.
Call 337-439-7436 on Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30

p.m., if you are in need of an air conditioner.

St. Martin de Porres Garage Sale June 8

LAKE CHARLES – St. Martin de Porres Catholic Daughters of the Americas and Knights of Columbus are teaming up for a garage sale to raise money for the "Respect for Life Monument" Saturday, June 8 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Granger Vincent Complex on Elliott Road.

Marcantel named Loyola Alumnus of 2013

NEW ORLEANS -- Sylvia Marcantel (LU '11), a spiritual director in the Diocese of Lake Charles, was recently named the 2013 College Alumnus of the Year by the Loyola University New Orleans Alumni Association for the College of Social Sciences.

Clergy, religious anniversaries to be honored

LAKE CHARLES – St. Henry Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus will honor priests, deacons, and religious celebrating significant anniversary years in multiples of five at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Beginning Experience Weekend in October

LAKE ARTHUR – A Beginning Experience Weekend will be held Oct. 11-13 at the Lake Arthur Christian Camp.
Beginning Experience is a program that helps grieving sin-

gle-again people deal with the natural grief process and offers an opportunity, through God, for turning the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth.

Contact Georgette (337) 824-3197, Veronica (337) 328-7233, or go to www.beginningexperience.org for more information

Abrazando Cristo Cash Giveaway

LAKE CHARLES – Tickets for the Big Cash Giveaway Fundraiser aiding the work of the Abrazando Cristo Mission Program continue on sale for \$100 each.
First prize is \$5,000, second prize is \$1,000, and third prize is \$500. The drawing will be Sunday, June 16, in the St. Henry Catholic Church Community Center.
Purchase a ticket by sending your check to Abrazando Cristo Mission Program, Attention: Msgr. Daniel Torres, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601. Call 337-439-7400 for more information.

Special Needs Mass July 7

LAKE CHARLES – Father Whitney Miller will celebrate a Mass for Individuals with Special Needs and their families at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 7, 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.