The Diocese of Lake Charles Icdiocese.org



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# Bishop Speyrer laid to rest on Saint Charles Center grounds

LAKE CHARLES – His Excellency, The Most Reverend Jude Speyrer, S.T.L., D.D., 84, the founding bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles, was interred in New Bethany Cemetery on the grounds of Saint Charles Center on Wednesday, July 31, following the Mass of Christian Burial in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop Glen John Provost was the celebrant.

The Bishop-emeritus died on Sunday, July 21, in Opelousas. Bishop Speyrer was consecrated and installed as the first bishop of Lake Charles on April 25, 1980. Pope John Paul II appointed him to lead the new diocese on January 29, 1980.

Bishop Speyrer is survived by a sister, Alice Louise Finley of Arnaudville; a brother, Oscar Speyrer and his wife Faye of Opelousas; and a multitude of nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Antoine Speyrer and Emelie Quebedeaux Speyrer and nine siblings, Aimee David Wyble, Paul Joseph Speyrer, Daniel Antoine Speyrer, Marie Hayes Mayne, Mildred Olivier, Anthony Speyrer, Sr. Antoine (Rita) Speyrer, Alfred C. Speyrer, and James Phillip Speyrer.

**Bishop-emeritus** The served as the shepherd of the local church of Southwest Louisiana until Dec. 12, 2000, when Pope John Paul II accepted his request for retirement. He was named Administrator of the Diocese by the College of Consultors after his retirement, serving until Feb. 21, 2001, when his successor, Bishop Edward K. Braxton, was installed.

Bishop Speyrer was born on April 14, 1929 in Leonville, La. – one of 12 children of Emelie and Antoine Speyrer. He entered St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, La. at the age of 13 and graduated in 1947 with an associate of arts degree. He then entered Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in May 1949. In Sept. 1949, he was sent to the Pontifical North American College in Rome for further studies, transferring to the University of Fribourg in Switzerland in 1950. He was ordained to the diaconate in 1953 and graduated from the University of Fribourg with a Licentiate in Sacred Theology in May 1953. Lafayette Auxiliary Bishop Maurice Schexnayder ordained him to the priesthood on July 25, 1953 in St. John Cathedral in Lafayette. He celebrated his first mass in his hometown church of St. Leo the Great in Leonville. His first assignment was as assistant pastor of St. Landry Catholic Church in Opelousas. He was later assigned as assistant chaplain to Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel at the University of Southwestern Louisiana as well as associate edi-

tor of The Southwest Louisiana *Register*, the newspaper of the Diocese of Lafayette.

In 1964, he became pastor to Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Arthur as well as administrator of the parish's St. Maria Goretti Catholic elementary and high school.

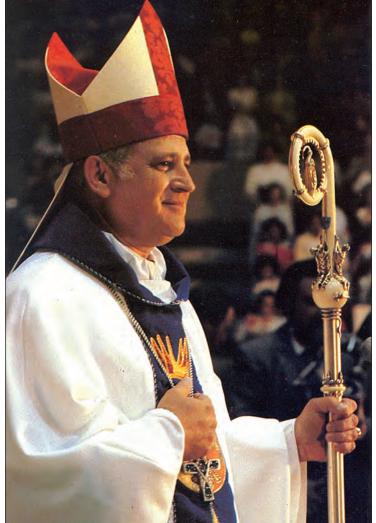
In 1969, he became the founding pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Lafayette and in 1974 named a Chaplain to His Holiness Pope Paul VI with the title Monsignor.

Beginning in 1974, he was named - in succession - Chancellor, Vicar General, Vicar for the Lafayette Deanery and Chairman of the Council of Vicars of the Diocese of Lafayette, working in Chancery positions until his elevation to

the episcopacy in 1980. He was very active in the

community helping to launch Abraham's Tent in 1986. He was on the Board of Directors for United Way of Southwest Louisiana for a number of years and served as chairman, vice chairman and treasurer, the latter on two occasions. He was also instrumental in raising awareness and funds for the construction of a chapel at the Phelps Correctional Center in DeQuincy.

There were many highlights during his 20 years as Bishop of Lake Charles. On Sept. 9, 1980 – the Feast of St. Peter Claver - he named St. Peter Claver as the patron of the fledgling diocese. He inaugurated the Sunday morning television program of the dio-



cese - Glad Tidings - on Oct. 5, 1980 and he participated in the celebration of 100 years of Catholic education in Lake Charles on Aug. 1, 1982.

He established the publication of the Catholic Calendar, initially a single page published twice monthly in the Lake Charles American Press, on Oct. 15, 1982.

In 1983, Bishop Speyrer established the first new parish in the Diocese of Lake Charles at St. Charles Borromeo in Fenton and dedicated the first new chapel - St. Jude Chapel in Dry Creek.

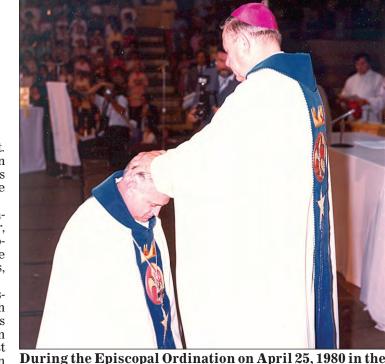
On April 25, 1985, the offices of the Chancery were moved into new quarters at 414 Iris Street, the building being a gift from Calcasieu Council 1207 Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Lady of the Lake 695 of the Cathedral parish.

Bishop Speyrer initiated the publication of a monthly newspaper for the Diocese, The Southwest Catholic, in Nov. 1986. He dedicated the Stella Maris Seafarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles on Jan. 15.1987.

In April 1988, the Bishop made the first of three ad limina visits to the Holy See to report to the Holy Father on the Diocese.

A project near and dear to his heart began on April 1, 1995 with the start of construction of Saint Charles Center, the diocesan spirituality/retreat center on Sam Houston Jones Parkway in Moss Bluff. Shortly after the establishment of the Diocese, Bishop Speyrer had called his priests together to discuss the most important needs for the new diocese. While many topics were discussed, the item that came up repeatedly was the need, at some time in the future, for a retreat center for the Diocese. After years of planning and fundraising, the project was begun.

In Jan. 1995, Bishop Speyrer welcomed to Lake Charles, The Most Reverend Agostino Cacciavillan, the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States for the dedication of Saint Charles Center and its Tabor Retreat House and Katharine Drexel Conference Center. Acting upon Pope John Paul II's 1994 apostolic letter Tertio Millennio Adveniente to the world's bishops, clergy, and lay faithful on preparation for the Jubilee of the Year 2000, Bishop Speyer initiated in Jan. 1997 a 36-month pilgrimage to each parish of the diocese. The monthly pilgrimage began at the youngest parish – St. Charles Borromeo in Fenton and concluded at the oldest, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. On Dec. 31, 1999, a Night Watch ceremony was held at the Cathedral and four other parishes of the Diocese to usher in the new millennium.



Lake Charles Civic Center, all of the bishops present, including Lafayette's Bishop Gerard Frey laid hands on **Bishop Speyrer's head.** 

anniversary of the Diocese from the Lake Charles Chaptook place Jan. 28, 2000 at a ter of the National Conferreception in the Calcasieu Marine tower in downtown Lake Charles. The anniversary saw the publication of The Visible Church, a history of the church parishes of the Diocese.

Catholic

During his two decades as head of the Diocese, Bishop Speyrer was singled out for numerous honors. In Aug.



A 24-year old Father Jude Speyrer on the day of his priestly ordination – July 25, 1953.

1980, he was invested as a Knight Commander of the Order of the Fleur de Lis, in Oct. 1981 as a Knight Commander Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and in 1994 as

ence of Christians and Jews, was named the diocesan Citizen of the Year by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, and presented with the Silver Beaver Emblem by the Calcasieu Area Council of Boy Scouts of America.

The National Council of the Knights of Peter Claver conferred upon him its National Gold Medal of Merit, he was named the Distinguished Citizen by the Calcasieu Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, awarded the diocese's St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award, and presented the Gold Palm of Jerusalem from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

The Pontifical Knights of the Diocese awarded him their inaugural Clergy Leadership Award, and the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus gave him a Medal of Commendation. The Louisiana District of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus gave him the Pope John XXIII Award for Ecumenism, and he received the Award of Honor by the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George for his spiritual and moral leadership. He received the with Star of the Equestrian inaugural H.E. Chevalier Order of the Holy Sepulchre Truman H. Stacey Award for the Promotion of Ecumenism from the Imperial Calcasieu Cadre of the Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem. In 2008, he established The Bishop Jude Speyrer Fund in Honor of Monsignor Gouaux with the Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana. Distributions from the Fund are to be used exclusively for tuition assistance for clergy of the Diocese of Lake Charles seeking further education. Contributions to the this fund or directly to the Diocese for a charity dear to Bishop Speyrer would be gratefully accepted.

The newly consecrated and installed Bishop Jude Speyrer, the founding bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles stands with his crozier on April 25, 1980.

### Bishop Provost speaks on the death of Bishop Speyrer

"We are all saddened by the death of Bishop Speyrer who served our Lord Jesus so devoutly and fulfilled the office of apostle so diligently. He was a good and faithful servant. We also appreciate the legacy he left behind, the foundations he laid for the Diocese of Lake Charles, and the memories of his insight and wisdom. Finally, we take great consolation

in the faith that we shared with Bishop Speyrer in the victory over death accomplished in Jesus Christ and the hope of eternal life that it promises. I recall my long acquaintanceship with Bishop Speyrer that began in Lafayette when I served as his altar server. I consider it a great privilege to have been under his tutelage. May he rest in lasting peace."

A celebration of the 20th

# Catholic schools open August 9, 14

LAKE CHARLES – For the children of Southwest Louisiana, summer's sunny days are waning and that means the beginning of the school. The seven Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles will be opening for classes in August.

Catholic schools in Calcasieu Parish - St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; and Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur - open for classes on Wednesday, Aug. 14, while the lone Catholic school in Jefferson Davis Parish – Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School will open its doors on Friday, Aug. 9. Last year the seven Catholic schools welcomed

2,533 students on the first day of classes.

New principals will lead two schools - St. Margaret of Scotland and Immaculate Conception Cathedral School. Wendy L. Wicke, a career educator in the public schools of Cameron Parish, brings 28 years of service to the top job at St. Margaret and Michael Miller, the new leader at Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, comes to Southwest Louisiana from Dayton, Ohio.

Wicke served in positions at Grand Lake High, South Cameron Elementary, Cameron Elementary, South Cameron High, and the school's Central Office. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, a Master of Education in Elementary Education, a Masters of Education plus 30, and a principal's certification, all from McNeese State Univeristy.



**Michael Miller** 

Miller holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from The Ohio State University, a Masters of Arts in Private School Education from University of San Francisco, and a Masters of Education Degree in Secondary Education from Wright State University.

He has served in instructional and administrative positions in Ohio, Missouri, Texas and on Saipan, the largest island Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, including founding princi-



Wendy L. Wicke

pal of Mount Carmel Catholic School on Saipan, principal at Saint Helen Catholic School in Georgetown, Texas, and at **Bishop Fenwick High School** on Dayton, Ohio.

Other returning Catholic school administrators include JoAnn Wallwork at Our Lady Queen of Heaven; Jennifer Bellon at St. Theodore Holy Family; Trevor Donnelly at Our Lady's School; Deborah Frank and Ted Nixon at St. Louis, and Nicole Reeves at Our Lady Immaculate.

an Ecclesiastical Knight Commander of Grace in the Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George.

Over the years, he was recognized by many organizations for his dutiful service, receiving the St. George Emblem from the National Committee on Scouting and named Clergyman of the Year by Msgr. Cramers Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, and Knight of the Year by District VI of the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver. He also received the Ecumenical Service Award

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** 





The Most Reverend Glen John Provost Bishop of Lake Charles

August 2, 2013

# Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Viganò, to officiate at Aug. 22 crowning rite

LAKE CHARLES – His Excellency, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, will officiate at the crowning rite of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, August 22, at a 6 p.m. Mass celebrated by His Excellency, Bishop Glen John Provost. Archbishop Viganò, will be the homilist.

This special event, held on the Solemnity of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is done in the name of and by the authority of the Holy Father. Archbishop Viganò is official representative of Pope Francis to the United States

The crown to be used for the crowning was fashioned by Fratelli Savi, one of the most distinguished workshops in Rome for church items. The Savi brothers fashioned items regularly for the Vatican during the pontificates of Blessed Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. Each item, including the crown for the Diocese of Lake Charles, is custom designed and hand made.

Generous donors made the manufacture of the crown possible without any cost to the Diocese. The design and construction of the crown was donated In Memory of Edwin Pierre and Kathleen Lacour Rabalais and the gems on the crown — aquamarines and sapphire – were donated In Memory of Durrell L. Hudson, Jr.

The Mass is by invitation only, due to space considerations in the Cathedral, but 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.

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.

In December 2012 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."

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 Mary acknowledges that the Trinity crowned Mary, the Queen of Heaven. The participation of His Excellency, Archbishop Viganò is 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.

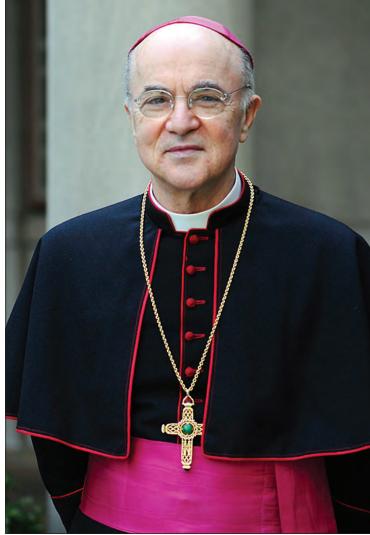
Archbishop Viganò was ordained a priest on March 24, 1968 and incardinated in the Diocese of Pavia (Italy). He has a Doctorate in both Canon and Civil Law (*Utroque Iure*). He began his service in the Diplomatic Corps of the Holy See as Attaché in 1973 in Iraq and Kuwait. In 1976 ,he was transferred to the Apostolic Nunciature in Great Britain. From 1978 until 1989, he worked at the Secretariat of State of Vatican City. On April 4, 1989, he was nominated Special Envoy with the functions of Permanent Observer to the European Council in Strasbourg. He was elected Archbishop on April 3, 1992 and on April 26, 1992 he was consecrated and made Titular Archbishop of Ulpiana.

He was nominated Apostolic Pro-Nuncio in Nigeria, on April 3, 1992. On April 4, 1998 he was nominated Delegate for the Pontifical Representations. Archbishop Viganò served as Secretary General of the Governorate of the Vatican City State from July 16, 2009 until September 3, 2011. On October 19, 2011 Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Apostolic Nuncio to the United States.

He speaks Italian, French, Spanish and English.



# Deacon LaPoint named adviser to Apostleship



Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò

### Did you know...

- St. Mary Magdalene was the first person to witness to the risen Christ and announced his resurrection to the Disciples. Her feast day is July 22 and she is the patroness of preachers.
- The martyred saint whose feast day is August 10 was murdered by the faith in a particularly heinous. Do you know his name and the manner of his martyrdom? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

### Bishop's Golf Classic Oct. 4

LAKE CHARLES -- The Bishop's Golf Classic this year is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 4, at the Lake Charles Country Club. The four-person scramble tournament will have morning and afternoon tee times at 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Registration for the morning round begins at 7 a.m. and at 12:30 p.m. for the afternoon tour.

Sponsors for this year's

rounds., is limited to 22 teams per session. Prizes will also be given for the longest drive and closest to the hole for each round and a \$5,000 cash prize goes to the first golfer to score a hole in one.

Tee box sponsorships are \$150, green sponsorships are \$300 and a banner sponsorship is \$1,000.

Proceeds from the event provide financial assistance to the Seminarian Education Fund and the Priest Retirement Fund. Contact Larry DeRoussel at 337-794-8339 or at lderoussel@laia.com for more information.

Deacon Patrick LaPoint



LAKE CHARLES – Deacon Patrick LaPoint, Director of the Stella Maris Seafar-

of the Stella Maris Sealarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles, has been named a National Adviser of the Apostleship of the Sea-USA (AOS-USA) by the Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers (PCMRT). The Most Reverend Rutilio J. Del Riego, Auxiliary Bishop of Diocese of San Bernardino and Chairman of the subcommittee, informed Deacon LaPoint of his appointment in letter dated May 6, 2013.

As a National Adviser, Deacon LaPoint will serve as liaison between the AOS-USA and the PCMRT. His period of service extends until December 31, 2015.

Bishop Glen John Provost, in acknowledging the appointment, said, "I have received with great pleasure the news of Deacon Patrick LaPoint's appointment as National Adviser of the Apostleship of the Sea of the USA. This appointment is made by the Chair of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops' Subcommittee on the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers.

"Deacon LaPoint will continue to serve the Diocese of Lake Charles as Director of the Lake Charles Seafarers' Center but now with added responsibilities at the national level advising the USCCB on the pastoral needs and concerns affecting the Apostleship of the Sea," the Bishop continued. "He will be a valuable asset to the Bishops in addressing initiatives involving migrants, refugees and travelers. I congratulate Deacon LaPoint on assuming this new

responsibility."

One primary responsibility of a National Adviser is to communicate from a national perspective, the pastoral experience of his particular apostolate especially best practices in continuing evangelization and participation in the life of the Church. Moreover, the subcomittee expects to hear about pastoral needs and concerns affecting the AOS-USA community so it can support initiatives, which might address these needs. Deacon LaPoint will be responsible for submitting an Annual Report that captures that information.

He also serves as AOS-USA National Treasurer (a post he previously held) and has been National Vice-President and National Port Chaplain Representative.

tournament are City Savings Bank, Alfred Palma LLC, and Bubba Oustalet.

Fees are \$500 per four person team, with prizes for first, second and tenth low gross in both morning and afternoon

### "Holy Hour to Discern My Vocation"

LAKE CHARLES -- A "Holy Hour to Discern My Vocation" will be hosted monthly at various churches in Diocese of Lake Charles by Vocaré, a movement of the Office of Vocations.

Vocaré is a gathering of young men age 15 and up seeking to know God's will in their lives. The sessions are intended to give the men a united effort of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament about their vocations. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI himself recently said, "the Eucharist means God has answered: The Eucharist is God as an answer, as an answering

presence." Dates and locations in

2013 are: Sept. 8, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, Lake Charles; Oct. 6, Our Lady Prompt Succor Catholic Church, Sulphur; and Nov. 3, Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Jennings.

In 2014, dates and sites are: Feb. 2, St. Margaret of Scotland; March 2, Our Lady Prompt Succor; and April 6, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Oberlin

All dates are Sundays and each gathering begins at 6:30 p.m.. Refreshments and fraternity will follow the Holy Hour.

## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Institution as acolytes August 10

SULPHUR – Candidates for the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Lake Charles will be instituted as Acolytes on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2013 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Maplewood. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will preside.

### Magnificat breakfast set August 24

LAKE CHARLES -- The Lake Charles Chapter of Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic women, will host a breakfast on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Grand Marais Courtyard and Pavilion, 919 North Lake Arthur Avenue in Jennings with guest speaker Melissa Seilhan.

There will be limited seating and no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets may be purchased at Crossroads Bookstore in Lake Charles, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Arthur, or by mail, with a check payable to Magnificat in a self-addressed stamped envelope, sent to Magnificat, Lake Charles, P.O. Box 655 Jennings, LA 70546.

### St. John Bosco RCIA to start

WESTLAKE – St. John Bosco Catholic Church will begin its Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults on Thursday, Sept. 5 in the church at 1301 Sampson Street, according to Deacon Fred Reed. For more information and to make an appointment for an interview contact Deacon Reed at 337-439-6585 or 529-8285, or by e-mail at fred.reed@lcdiocese.org.

### "Late Nite Catechism 3" on August 11

LAKE CHARLES – St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church will present "Til Death Do Us Part: Late Nite Catechism 3" in the Rosa Hart Theatre of the Lake Charles Civic Center for one performance at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11.

Tickets, from \$32 to \$52, may be purchased by calling the Civic Center Box Office at 491-1432 or on the Internet at Ticketmaster.com and search St. Martin de Porres Late Nite Catechism 3.

### Day of Reflection on *Lectio Divina*

MOSS BLUFF – Father Whitney Miller will be joined by Keith Faul and Paula Hunter at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday Aug. 17, to lead a Day of Reflection on *Lectio Divina*. This classical monastic practice of praying with scripture allows the Word of God to penetrate our hearts and lead us to grow in heart-toheart intimacy with God.

The suggested donation for the event is \$25 and registration should be completed by Aug. 14. Call 337-855-1232 or go to stcharlescenter.com.

### Veritas Conference set September 14

LAKE CHARLES – "How to Answer the New Atheism" will be the topic for the Veritas Conference on Faith and Evangelization set for Saturday, Sept. 14, at St. Louis Catholic High School with Benjamin Wiker, Ph.D. as the keynote speaker.

Dr. Wiker graduated from Furman University with a B.A. in Political Philosophy and has an M.A. in Religion and a Ph.D. in Theological Ethics from Vanderbilt University.

Breakout topics for the conference will include Faith and Science, Demonstrations of God's Existence, Darwinism and Evolution, The Dictatorship of Relativism, and more.

### All Saints Auction August 17

LAKE CHARLES --St. Louis Catholic High School will holds its Second Annual All Saints Auction on Saturday, August 17 in the school gym beginning with a silent auction at 6 p.m.

Dinner, served by Cousins, and a live auction with auctioneer Hal McMillin will follow. Tickets are \$50 each. Proceeds benefit the entire Saints community, on-going projects and facility improvements.

For tickets or to donate an item contact Susan Percle at 436-7275, ext. 271 or spercle@slchs.org. More information can be found at www.slchs.org.