



Bishop's Services Appeal begins this weekend

LAKE CHARLES – The annual Bishop's Services Appeal, the fundraising campaign to aid in the operation of various ministries and programs of the Diocese of Lake Charles, begins this weekend, Sept. 21-22, in the church parishes of the Diocese.

Last year's Appeal successfully raised \$634,377.47, or 105.7 percent of the \$600,000 overall goal for the 38 parishes of the Church in Southwest Louisiana.

This year's campaign, which continues until the end of the fiscal year - June 30, 2014 - has a goal of \$800,000.

This year's Appeal has as its theme - "Without a Vision, the People Perish," a scripture reference from Proverbs 29:18.

In his message to the people of the Diocese, speaking about this year's Appeal, Bishop Glen John Provost remembered the priorities facing the Diocese when he became Bishop in 2007.

"One was the rebuilding of the coastal parishes that had been devastated by both hurricanes Rita and Ike," the Bishop said. "Thanks to God through the generosity of our people who returned to reclaim their homes and through the financial assistance of many others, most of our facilities have been rebuilt.

"The other was the need to pray for vocations and to increase the number of our seminarians," he continued. "I instituted the Forty Hours Devotion of Prayer for Vocations to be observed in a rotation basis by all our parishes. I also broadened the scope for the Vocation Office, including vocation recruiters and the Vianney House of Discernment, now in its third year."

Only five seminarians were studying for the Diocese in 2007. This year there are 11 men in various stages of education and discernment.

The Bishop also pointed to his long-term priorities for the Diocese.

"First, securing the funds required to educate our increased number of seminarians, which have been an answer to our prayers," Bishop Provost said. "You can imagine the cost of providing a Catholic University education today. As grateful as we are that the Lord hears our prayers for vocations, the greater the financial responsibility falls upon us to secure their spiritual formation and education."

The continuing operation of Vianney House, which has provided wonderful successes in its first two years, requires additional support, he noted.

"We want to respond to the desire of our Holy Father to implement the "New Evangelization" in our area. With the opening of the Center for Catholic Studies, offering classes from Holy Cross College of New Orleans, university students and others can be exposed to the 2,000 years of culture, philosophy, theology and history of the Catholic Church."

Bishop Provost's third priority is Saint Charles Center, the diocesan retreat and spirituality facility at Moss Bluff.

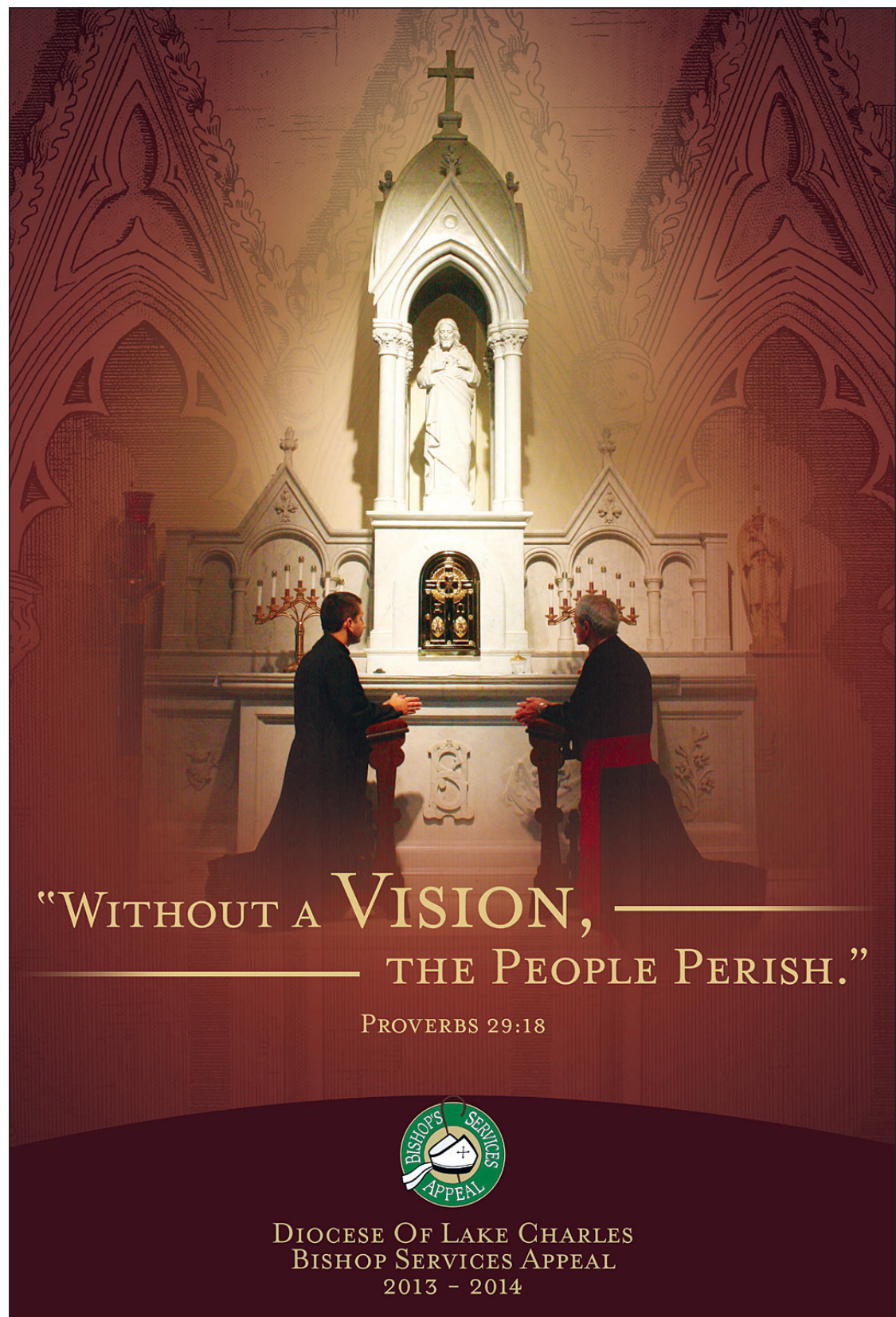
"Saint Charles Center has made exceptional progress in meeting its expenses, but the Center will always depend on the Diocese for significant support," the Bishop said. "The retreat center continues to need funding for their many repair expenses. I have always considered Grand Coteau and our own retreat center as holy ground. Offering a place of silence and prayer is needed all the more in this age of hectic and stressful living."

Finally, the Bishop spoke about the retired priests of the diocese, current as well as future, and how to care for them.

"We need to provide a substantial and viable priest retirement fund. Our annual collection each year in December addresses this need, but it is not enough. We need a fund to provide for retiring priests who have spent their lives in the vineyard of the diocese. There is no retirement home for older priests who have no family or friends that can provide lodging for them. Where will they live? We lack adequate "rainy day" funds for catastrophic illnesses. A generous retirement fund would offer us that security."

Ten specific areas of the Diocese are aided by donations to the Bishop's Services Appeal. Those are Catholic Education, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Vocations and Seminarians, Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, Family Life, the Seafarers Center, Diocesan Counseling Services, Evangelization, Communications and Saint Charles Center.

To contribute to Bishop's Services Appeal, contact your parish or the Office of Development at 337-439-7400, Ext. 307.



"WITHOUT A VISION,
THE PEOPLE PERISH."

PROVERBS 29:18



DIocese Of Lake Charles
BISHOP SERVICES APPEAL
2013 - 2014



Father Charles McMillin, left, Chaplain for Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Mother Cabrini in Jennings, is installed as the State CDA Chaplain by State Regent Ellen Corbello, right, during Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church. Court Regent Janet Doucet presented Father McMillin with his State Chaplain Pin. On hand for the installation were Second Vice State Regent Barbara Michael, State Regent Corbello, National Director Ruth Guidry, First Vice State Regent Pat Myers, and State Treasurer Dawn Fortenberry.

Three men invested into Order of the Fleur de Lis

BATON ROUGE – Three men of the Diocese of Lake Charles were invested into the Order of the Fleur, a Catholic organization that recognizes outstanding contributions to patriotism, love of country, and Catholic religious principles, at St. Louis King of France Catholic Church on August 24.

The three from Southwest Louisiana were Donald Cubbage from Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur, COL (Ret.) John Halloran, Jr. from St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff and I. J. Tarou from Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur. The trio was among 10 clergy and laity invested to the Order.

Members of the Order re-

side in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee and, after the investiture, boasts 31 clergy and 50 Catholic gentlemen as its members. Other members of the Order from the Diocese of Lake Charles are Bishop Glen John Provost; Rev. Archimandrite Herbert May, Grand Prior; Robert Chiasson; Wilmer Dugas, Board of Governors; Fred Fluitt; Chester Jones; A. J. Langley, Vice Grand Chancellor and Board of Governors; C. D. Mouton; and Jack W. O'Reilly, Grand Chancellor of Honor and Board of Governors.

The objectives of the Order are to support and defend the Holy Catholic Church and its teachings; promote patriotism and good citizenship, encour-

age public morality and unselfish service to God and country; and assist and publicize the activities of other organizations which also promote the above. Others are to memorialize and popularize the memories and achievements of Catholic leaders in religion, the arts and sciences, philanthropy, education, exploration, archaeology, government, international relations, medicine, jurisprudence and other established professions; to commend individuals and organizations for outstanding public service and to decorate with its highest honor, the Knight Commander's Cross, those outstanding Catholic gentlemen who have contributed in a distinguished way in service to God and country.

Catholic Schools in Diocese open with 2,561 students

Superintendent's Message
By Kimberlee Gazzolo

It is always exciting to start a new school year. This year, I had the privilege of spending an August morning with 40 new teachers and staff who will be working in our schools this year. Above all else, I witnessed a commitment to Catholic education, and a desire to uphold the Catholic Identity of our schools. Many of our schools have seen growth in student enrollment as we welcomed 2,561 students across grades Pre-K through 12. That is not surprising, given the academic achievement we saw in 2012-2013. The results of the Stanford 10 demonstrated that students continued to show impressive gains in both reading and math. I attribute this to both student dedication and faculty commitment to using proven instructional strategies in the classroom. At the high school level, St. Louis Catholic students scored 3.3 points higher than the state average on the ACT and two points higher than the national average. Their average ACT score shows that St. Louis students meet the college readiness benchmark for the designated college courses of English Composition, Algebra, Social Science, and Biology.

One hundred and eight-seven teachers attended the annual Educator's Gathering on August 30. Administrators, teachers and staff were able to attend a variety of sessions, which focused on the Common Core Standards, teaching strategies, parent communication and special education. This year, our Catholic schools, while keeping their local curriculum will infuse the Common Core standards with the faith and principles that are inherent in our mission. Our continued emphasis on clear, measurable academic goals will ensure high academic expectations for all of our students.

In an ongoing effort to provide a quality Catholic education to students, the Bishop's Scholarship program generously donated \$175,986 to the schools to be used for tuition scholarships. The Office of Catholic Schools received monies from the Education Excellence Fund, which provided student research databases and technology equipment for all students in the Diocese.

As we progress this year, I am grateful to those families that have chosen Catholic Education, to our Partners in Education and to those community members who continue to support our schools. I look forward to watching the progress of our students as they grow both academically and spiritually.



Father Charles McMillin, (left photo) pastor of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings, assists arriving students at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic High School with their backpacks on the first day of classes. Father Jeffrey Starkovich (right photo), the chaplain at St. Louis Catholic High School, talks with students at the school prior to the beginning of the first day of the 2013-2014 school term.





Eleven seminarians return to studies for Diocese

LAKE CHARLES – Eleven men returned to seminary studies and continued discernment this year for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Deacon Matthew Cormier, who is in doing his deacon internship at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, will be returning to Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans for his fourth year of Theology studies in October. With God's grace, Deacon Cormier of Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur will be ordained to the priesthood at Pentecost next year.

Two other men – Ruben Villarreal and Jay Alexius, M.D. – will enter their third year of Theology, Villarreal, from St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Raymond, re-

turned to the Pontifical North American College in Rome and Alexius, of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles, to Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

Trey Ange, from Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Lake Charles, and John Souder, from Our Lady Queen of Heaven, both entered their first year of Theology studies – Ange at Notre Dame Seminary and Souder at the Pontifical North American College.

Michael Caraway, a first year seminarian from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings, began first year Pre-Theology studies at Mount St. Mary's while Samuel Orsot, a first year seminarian from St.

Henry Catholic Church in Lake Charles, started his first year Pre-Theology at St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, La.

Ryan Baca, of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church in Lake Charles, and Levi Thompson, of St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff, are both returning seminarians. Each started at St. Joseph - Baca in his third year of College course work and Thompson beginning his second year of study.

Addison Pitre of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin and Michael Beverung of Our Lady Queen of Heaven are also first year seminarians with Pitre doing his second-year College and Beverung his first year of College, both at St. Joseph.



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, stands with the 11 men that are continuing their seminary studies for the Diocese of Lake Charles this school term. Pictured, standing from left, are Michael Beverung, Addison Pitre, Trey Ange, Levi Thompson, Samuel Orsot, Michael Caraway, and Ryan Baca. Seated, from left, are John Souder, Deacon Matthew Cormier, Ruben Villarreal and Jay Alexius, M.D.

Bishop Provost to celebrate Red Mass

LAKE CHARLES – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost will be the celebrant and homilist of the annual Red Mass set for 8:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 18, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Judges, attorneys and government officials from the five civil parishes that make up the Diocese of Lake Charles – Calcasieu, Cameron, Allen, Beauregard and Jefferson Davis – are invited to attend.

The local St. Thomas More Society, Judge Henry Yelverton Chapter, is the sponsor along with the Diocese. The Mass is so named because

of the color of the vestments worn by the Bishop and priests, donned in symbolism of the tongues of fire that descended on the Apostles. Additionally, Judges of the High Court of England and all doctors of law wore red robes or academic hoods.

The Red Mass is celebrated at the opening of the judicial year and requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice and offers the opportunity to reflect on Catholics believe is the God-given power and responsibility of all in the legal profession.

The first recorded Red

Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral of Paris in 1245. From there, it spread to most European countries. Around 1310, during the reign of Edward II, the tradition began in England. It was attended at the opening of each term of Court by all members of the Bench and Bar. The event gradually fell out of fashion until 1931, when Sydney became the first English-speaking city to re-institute the practice. The first Red Mass held in the United States was celebrated in St. Andrew's Church in New York City, near the courthouses of Foley Square.

Companions of Honor Mass Oct 5

LAKE CHARLES – The Companions of Honor Morning of Reflection, Memorial Mass, and Luncheon is Saturday, Oct. 5.

The Morning of Reflection, led by the Very Reverend Anthony Fontenot, begins at 9 a.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, ending at 10:30 a.m. Mass, in the Cathedral, begins at 11 a.m. with the luncheon and business meeting to follow in Ave Maria Hall.

The Companions of Honor is an organization made up of clergy, religious, and laity who have been decorated by the Holy See or the Diocese of Lake Charles, plus those Catholic members of internationally recognized Orders of Chivalry residing in the Diocese.

Companions that have died over the previous year – since the group's last meeting – are remembered during the Prayer of the Faithful.

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

September Prayer Intentions

Pope Francis:

General Intention: That people today, often overwhelmed by noise, may rediscover the value of silence and listen to the voice of God and their brothers and sisters.

Mission Intention: That Christians suffering persecution in many parts of the world may by their witness be prophets of Christ's love.

Bishop Glen John Provost

For the Victims of Violence:

That those who have suffered physically, emotionally, and spiritually receive the consolation and strength needed from our Lord who, as an innocent victim, also suffered greatly.

Bishop Provost welcomes Religious Sisters of Mercy into Diocese of Lake Charles

LAKE CHARLES -- Bishop Provost has announced that the Religious Sisters of Mercy have accepted his invitation to enter the Diocese of Lake Charles and work in certain areas of the apostolate, particularly social services to the poor and needy.

The Religious Sisters of Mercy, with its Motherhouse located in Alma, Michigan, is a Religious Institute of Pontifical Right dedicated to the Spiritual and Corporal works of Mercy. Established in 1973 in response to the renewal called for in the Second Vatican Council, the Institute recognizes Venerable Catherine McAuley as its original founder.

The first sister to arrive, by January 2014, will be Sister Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM, who will assume duties directing Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Lake Charles. Sister Mary Vianney was born in

Boston and entered the Institute in 1985. She graduated from Massachusetts General Hospital School of Nursing with an RN in 1969, received a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from St. Joseph College Hartford Connecticut in 1992 and a Masters Degree in Social Work from Michigan State University in 1995. As a registered nurse she worked in medical/surgical intensive care, nursing supervision, and as research assistant on a grant to research the needs of the elderly in rural Minnesota.

In the area of social work, Sister Mary Vianney has served as a Hospice social worker, from 1996-2005 as a clinical social worker, and from 2005 to the present as head of nursing services for seminarians and clergy assigned to Rome. She also served as consultant and counselor in the field of medical services for various reli-

gious congregations in Rome. In 1999 she qualified for ACSW certification, i.e. achieved 4,000 hours of supervised social work by a licensed clinical social worker.

Bishop Provost said, "We are delighted to welcome Sister Mary Vianney and the Religious Sisters of Mercy to the Diocese. We look forward to a long collaboration in the area of work with the most needy of our brothers and sisters, particularly in the service of Catholic Charities. Sister brings with her a wealth of experience in social work, supervision of staff, and expertise in both physical and mental health care work. Her firsthand knowledge of the needs of youth and elderly, the poor, and rural and urban populations, will be of great benefit to serve the needs of the most vulnerable in our area."

A second religious sister will arrive by August of 2014.

Crowning Rite now streaming

LAKE CHARLES – On October 22, the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, located in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, was crowned in the Name and by the Authority of Pope Francis.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganó, the Pope's Ambassador to the United States and Papal Nuncio, presided at the Crowning Rite during Mass celebrated by Bishop Glen John Provost and attended by 11 other Bishops from Louisiana, Texas, and Illinois.

A video presentation of the liturgy and crowning rite is available for viewing on the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles at <http://live.lcdiocese.org/video-specials.html>. The streaming video is one hour and 45 minutes in length.

Diocesan Briefs.....

Bishop's Golf Classic October 4

LAKE CHARLES – The Bishop's Golf Classic is Friday, Oct. 4, at the Lake Charles Country Club and registration for the four-person scramble is \$500 per team.

Tee times are 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Forms are available at local golf courses while registration and fees are also payable online at lcdiocese.org by clicking the "Support the Diocese" button, then the Bishop's Golf Classic link, and following the simple instructions.

The field is limited to 22 teams per session. Contact Larry Deroussel at 337-794-8339 or e-mail lderoussel@laia.com for more information.

St. Louis Catholic Homecoming Week

LAKE CHARLES -- The 2013 Homecoming Week for St. Louis Catholic High School is Sept. 30 through Oct. 6, 2013.

Class reunion planners for this year should contact Geneva Breaux as soon as possible to participate as a reunion class in the parade, Alumni Meet and Greet, Homecoming Game, and/or Alumni Breakfast and Tour.

All events are open to St. Louis Catholic, Landry Memorial, Sacred Heart High School, and St. Charles Academy alumni. Call 337-436-7275, Ext. 244 or email gbreaux@slchs.org for more information.

Bishop's Gala tickets available

LAKE CHARLES – Tickets for the Bishop's Gala, set for

Saturday, Dec. 4, in the Lake Charles Civic Center, are available for \$125 each in the church parishes of the Diocese, the Diocesan Chancery at 414 Iris Street, Crossroads Bookstore, 701 W. Prien Lake Road, and online at lcdiocese.org.

Tables for 10 can be purchased for \$1,250.00. To purchase on the diocesan website (lcdiocese.org), using a credit card or e-check, click "Support the Diocese," then "Bishop's Gala Tickets" and follow the easy instructions.

Bayou Run/Walk 5K set Oct. 12

BELL CITY -- St. John Vianney Catholic Church hosts its first Bayou Run 5K Run/Walk at the Lorraine Bridge at 8 a.m. on Saturday, October 12.

Pre-registration is \$20 and Race Day registration, from 7 a.m. to 7:50 a.m., is \$25. Phantom runners (non-runners supporting the event) can register for \$25 and the family registration fee, for parents and children, is \$50. Runners who pre-register by September 27th, may pick up t-shirt and run package beginning at 7 a.m. on race day.

Call 337-274-9094 for more information and registration forms.

The Couple Prayer Series

LAKE CHARLES – The Couple Prayer Series will be offered at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church beginning in October.

Sponsored by the parishes and the Diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, the six-week session is from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1 at St. Martin de Porres and each Tuesday following. Another session begins on Tuesday, Oct. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, and continues on subsequent Tuesdays.

Call 337-478-3845 to register at St. Martin or 337-477-1236 to sign up at Our Lady Queen of Heaven.

St. Philip Neri Harvest Fest Oct. 12-13

KINDER -- St. Philip Neri Catholic Church of Kinder will hold its 10th Annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 12 and Sunday October 13 on the church grounds.

Food, games, arts and crafts, and the well-known smorgasbord return for everyone's enjoyment. Tickets for the smorgasbord - dine-in or take out - must be purchased in advance. Contact the St. Philip Neri Office at 337-738-5612 for tickets or information.

St. Raphael bazaar Oct. 5-6

IOWA – The St. Raphael Catholic Church bazaar is Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 5-6.

Bingo is 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday with pork jambalaya dinners for \$6 a plate. Bingo on Sunday at 9:30 a.m., with lunch-barbecue chicken or roast - for \$7 a plate, offered at 10:30 a.m., and an auction at noon.

Did you know...

First in 1929 and then 53 years later in 1982, St. Paul Catholic Church in Elton was visited with disastrous fires. On each occasion the stalwart pastors and parishioners worked diligently rebuilding their church building. On January 25, 1984, Bishop Jude Speyrer joined then-pastor Father Michael Baras to dedicate the newly rebuilt St. Paul.

Two priests of the Diocese have had individual pastorates of more than 40 years. Can you name them? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.