

CATHOLIC CALENDAR



The Diocese of Lake Charles
lcdioocese.org

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

Vol. 40, No. 6

May 16, 2014

Pope Francis, with retired pope, canonizes Sts. John and John Paul

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Canonizing two recent popes in the presence of his immediate predecessor, Pope Francis praised the new Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II as men of courage and mercy, who responded to challenges of their time by modernizing the Catholic Church in fidelity to its ancient traditions.

"They were priests, bishops and popes of the 20th century," the pope said April 27, in his homily during Mass in St. Peter's Square. "They lived through the tragic events of that century, but they were not overwhelmed by them. For them, God was more powerful."

"John XXIII and John Paul cooperated with the Holy Spirit in renewing and updating the church in keeping with her original features, those features which the saints have given her throughout the centuries," he said.

Speaking before a crowd of half a million that included retired Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis praised St. John for his best-known accomplishment, calling the Second Vatican Council, which he said "showed an exquisite openness to the Holy Spirit."

"He let himself be led, and he was for the church a pastor, a servant-leader," the pope said of St. John. "This was his great service to the church. I like to think of him as the pope of openness to the Spirit."



A large crowd is seen as Pope Francis celebrates the canonization Mass for Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Sunday, April 27. (CNS photo/Evandro Inetti, pool)



Pope Francis kisses the relic of St. John Paul II, presented by Floribeth Mora Diaz, accompanied by her husband Edwin, right, during the April 27 canonization Mass for Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II. Mora Diaz's cure from an aneurysm in 2011 was the second miracle in the sainthood cause of St. John Paul. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Francis characterized St. John Paul as the "pope of the family," a title he said the late pope himself had hoped to be remembered by. Pope Francis said he was sure St. John Paul was guiding the church on its path to two upcoming synods of bishops on the family, to be held at the Vatican this October and in October 2015.

The pope invoked the help of the two new papal saints for the synods' success, and he prayed, "May both of them teach us not to be scandalized by the wounds of Christ and to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of divine mercy, which always hopes and always forgives, because it always loves."

Pope Francis has said the agenda for the family synods will include church teaching and practice on marriage, areas he has said exemplify a particular need for mercy in the church today.

The pope repeatedly mentioned mercy in his homily, which he delivered on Divine Mercy Sunday, an observance St. John Paul put on the church's universal calendar in 2000. The Polish pope died on the vigil of the feast in 2005 and was beatified on Divine Mercy Sunday in 2011.

In addition to Pope Benedict, making only his third public appearance since he resigned in February 2013, Pope Francis' concelebrants included some 150 cardinals and 700 bishops.

Pope Benedict did not join the procession of bishops at the start of Mass, but arrived half an hour earlier, wearing white vestments and a bishop's miter and walking with a cane; he sat in a section of the square designated for cardinals. Pope Francis greeted his predecessor with an embrace at the start of the Mass, drawing applause from the crowd, and approached him again at the end.

During the canonization ceremony, which took place at the beginning of the Mass, devotees carried up relics of the new saints in matching silver reliquaries, which Pope Francis kissed before they were placed on a small table for veneration by the congregation.

St. John's relic was a piece of the late pope's skin, removed when his body was transferred to its present tomb in the main sanctuary of St. Peter's Basilica.

Floribeth Mora Diaz, a Costa Rican woman whose recovery from a brain aneurysm was recognized by the church as a miracle attributable to the intercession of St. John Paul, brought up a silver reliquary containing some of the saint's blood, taken from him for medical testing shortly before his death in 2005.

The Mass took place under cloudy skies with temperatures in the low 60s, and only a sprinkle of rain fell just before the 10 a.m. start of the liturgy. Huge tapestries bearing portraits of the two saints hung from the facade of the basilica, and the square was decorated with 30,000 roses and other flowers donated by the nation of Ecuador.

The square and the broad Via della Conciliazione leading up to it were tightly packed with approximately half a million pilgrims, many of whom had been standing for hours before the start of Mass. Among the many national flags on display,

See CANONIZATION, Page 6

Ordinations set for June 7

LAKE CHARLES - Two ordinations, one to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church in service to the Diocese of Lake Charles, and the second of a transitional deacon - the penultimate step before priestly ordination - will take place Saturday, June 7, at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Glen John Provost in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Deacon Matthew Cormier, a native of Sulphur, will be ordained a priest and Jay Alexius, M.D., will be ordained as to the diaconate.

Deacon Cormier, following ordination, will be the Parochial Vicar for Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. In the fall, Alexius will return to Mount Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland for his final year of studies.

Deacon Cormier, who graduated from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans in May with a Masters of Divinity, will celebrate his first Mass on Sunday, June 8, at 2 p.m. in Our Lady of LaSalette in Sulphur, his home parish. He is the son of Michael Nelton Cormier, Sr. and Jacinta Lanell Courville Cormier.

He went to elementary school at D.S. Perkins in Sulphur and was homeschooled from 1998-2006, then attending McNeese State University for a year before going to St. Joseph Seminary College, from which he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 2010. He studied at Notre Dame Seminary from 2010 until his graduation. In 2013, he did his deacon internship at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Deacon Cormier admitted to being nervous, as time grows short until his ordination.

"I had a classmate who before his diaconate ordination was asked by the Archbishop, how he felt," Cormier said. "His answer was 'nervous.' The Archbishop said 'good because if you



Deacon Matthew Cormier



Jay Alexius, M.D.

weren't nervous, I wasn't going to ordain you"

"You know there should be a certain nervousness," Cormier continued. "It's not so much hesitation, it's just knowing the full weight of what is about to happen. At the seminary, we were doing our practicums - practicing how to celebrate the Mass, hear confessions. But, to know that in just a few weeks, I will be standing there at the altar, in Persona Christi, saying those words of consecration.

"It's very humbling but I have then overall feeling of gratitude," he said. "One of the scriptures verses that I picked for my holy card was from Psalms - 116, which is a priestly psalm. It is 'I will take into my hands, How can I return to the Lord for all the good that He has done for me. I will raise up the cup of salvation.'

"For as far back as I can remember, I wanted to be a priest," Cormier said.

Before his entry into the seminary for the diocese, Alexius was a licensed physician, specializing in general emergency medicine. He graduated from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans and did his residency in Emergency Medicine from 1993-1997 at Charity Hospital in New Orleans. Following the completion of his residency, he practiced in the Houma-Thibodaux area.

"I wish to offer my profound gratitude to His Excellency, Bishop Provost who shall bestow upon me the Holy Order of the Diaconate through the unbroken form of the Tradition of the Apostles, the imposition of hands," Alexius said. "It is of the utmost importance that I offer my sincere gratitude to all people who pray for us seminarians and to those who have given of their means to aid the diocese in the significant costs of seminary formation so that, in response, we may offer ourselves back to Christ who uses our hands to perform the Will of the Father."

Mass to Avert Storms June 4

CAMERON - Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Mass to Avert Storms at 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and Shrine.

Pastors of the coastal Cameron churches - Father Timothy Goodly, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Father Richard Adiuokuw of Grand Chenier's St. Eugene, and Father Rommel Tolentino of Hackberry's St. Peter the Apostle and the chapel of Our Lady of the Assumption in Johnson Bayou will concelebrate. With the opening day of the season being Sunday, June 1; the June 4 date was specifically chosen to provide the best opportunity for parishioners of all the coastal parishes as well as former parishioners who have moved away to attend the liturgy along with other clergy who wish to be in attendance.

The faithful who make this Diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine for the liturgy will receive spiritual benefits as

if visiting the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome, due to the special affiliation the Cameron church has with the Basilica. The pilgrimage provides a plenary indulgence with the fulfillment of certain requirements, including recent confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayers for the Holy Father, and the recitation of the Creed.

Bishop Provost also asks once again that during this year's storm season that all pray the prayer composed by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, in 1957 following the Hurricane Audrey.

The prayer can be found on page 2 or at the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles - lcdioocese.org.

The Bishops of the Province of New Orleans have designated Friday, June 6, as a Day of Prayer and Fasting from hurricanes. Bishop Provost urges everyone's participation in this worthy practice.

May 25, June 6 Glad Tidings changes

LAKE CHARLES - The Sunday, May 25, airing of Glad Tidings, the television program of the Diocese of Lake Charles, will get a half-hour head start - beginning at 5:30 a.m. rather than the normal 6 a.m. time. NBC and KPLC-TV will air the Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix that morning starting at 6:30 a.m.

In addition, due to the NBC coverage of the tennis finals of the French Open on June 8, Glad Tidings will not be aired on KPLC-TV.

Both programs will still be available for viewing as a streaming video on the diocesan website at live.lcdioocese.org/resources/glad-tidings.html.

PLANTING THE SEED

Memories abound from Lenten Holy Land pilgrimage

May is Mary's month. Please allow me a small reminiscence.

To visit the Holy Land is to walk in the very footsteps of our Lord. Feet and where they walk play an important role in the Holy Land. This realization came home to me most recently on a trip to the Holy Land in Lent. Our pilgrim group stopped to visit Jericho. Here Jesus cured the blind man Bartimaeus, as recorded in three Gospels (Matthew 20:29ff; Mark 10:46ff; Luke 18:35ff). Here too He visited the home of the tax collector, Zachaeus (Luke 19:1ff). And it was on the road from Jericho to Jerusalem that our Lord set the parable of the Good Samaritan.

This road to Jerusalem runs along a small watercourse called the Wadi Qelt. Along these roadside streams, our Lord walked, because it is a major ascent to Jerusalem from Jericho. He knew it well. The Wadi Qelt meanders through valleys and arid landscape, bordered by high cliffs and open desert, finally coming to the outskirts of the Holy City.

As I looked over the Wadi Qelt, there were foot travelers making their way up to Jerusalem just as our Lord had done and countless thousands of others over the centuries. A prevailing thought occupied my mind that Jesus had experienced this very place on foot, the sun, the heat, the mountainous terrain and the dusty journey.

The Sacred Scriptures came alive—Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem. The very mention of those names conjures up so many memories. The reality of the Lord's presence is everywhere. Whenever a word or the name of a place is mentioned, some scriptural passage comes

to mind, some association with the life of Jesus Christ. No less is true of our Blessed Mother Mary.

Let us not forget that Mary is introduced in great detail in the first two chapters of the Gospel of St. Luke, as in the similar introductory chapters of the Gospel of St. Matthew. And how can we fail to think of her presence at the wedding of the Holy Land in the second chapter of the Gospel of St. John? Oh, how marvelous it was to visit Cana and to repeat her words of instruction from the Gospel of St. John, "Do whatever He tells you" (John 2:5)! Mary never detracts from her Son. She only highlights, His importance.

When one visits Nazareth, the town where Mary lived and St. Luke tells us the angel Gabriel made the announcement that she was to be the mother of the "Son of the Most High" (Luke 1:32), the reality of Mary's role in the history of salvation cannot be ignored. In the beautiful 20th century church built over the traditional site of the Annunciation, in the crypt the pilgrim finds the cave in which the announcement was made to Mary. In the floor is a disc on which is inscribed the words, "Here the Word became flesh." It is not enough to say, as we read in the Gospel of St. John, "And the Word became flesh" (John 1:14), we must add here. Yes, in this spot, on this site, here in this place!



Bishop Glen John Provost

In the Holy Land one is faced with the object of faith—Jesus Christ. That Jesus Christ was born and lived in a specific place at an historic time brings home to the pilgrim the reality. And the saints accompany this journey into faith and its profession—Martha, Mary, and Lazarus at Bethany; Joseph at Nazareth; Mary of Magdala; Peter, Andrew, James and John by the Sea of Galilee—and Mary, the Mother of the Lord. And, at the end, we ascend to Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem we enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Here before we move to the Sepulcher where our Lord rose from the dead, we must first mount Calvary. At the place of the Skull at the Crucifixion, St. John tells us, "Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved" (John 19:26). At Calvary Mary stood. As I celebrated Mass on the altar in this holy place, I thought of the very words of Jesus to His beloved disciple, "Behold, your mother" (John 19:27).

Mary is not an inconvenient truth. Her life had only one purpose, so that she could say "yes" to God. And what a powerful "yes" that was! In saying "yes", she played an important and essential role in the work of salvation. She also left us an important example and taught us a true lesson.

As we remember our earthly mothers in this month of May, let us recall our mother in faith. May is Mary's month too. Let us walk in her footsteps. As we profess our faith in the living Lord, let us ask her prayers to lead us to her Son.

LCCB's Loar to retire, Tasman named new executive director

BATON ROUGE — After over a decade of service to the Catholic Church at the state Capitol in Baton Rouge, Daniel J. Loar, the Executive Director of the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops (LCCB), has announced his retirement. The Louisiana Catholic Bishops have named Robert M. Tasman the new executive director.

In the name of the Louisiana Catholic Bishops, New Orleans Archbishop Gregory Aymond expressed gratitude to Loar's commitment to the Church and for all he has accomplished as director of the LCCB saying, "the bishops remain grateful for his leadership."

Since 2002, Loar has served in the capacity of executive director and chief lobbyist for the Catholic Church in Louisiana representing the state's seven (arch)bishops before the legislative and executive branches of state government.

He has worked with the bishops in Louisiana to host annual legislative luncheons prior to the start of each session, as well as celebrations of Masses for legislators near the State Capitol at St. Joseph's Cathedral during each session.

In addition, Loar has worked closely with the (arch)diocesan school superintendents on legislation and state funding programs for nonpublic school programs.

Under Loar's leadership, an inaugural website was launched, legislative bill handling was changed from paper service to digital service, an eMail advocacy network of 10,000 people was established for influencing legislators' votes, and files of the organization from its inception were archived and repositied.

He is the former Secretary, of the National Association of State Catholic Conference Directors and now serves as the organization's Treasurer.

"While retiring from LCCB, I will continue working, going back to my original career of teacher, which is what I was prior to my being a lobbyist and businessman," said Loar. "I will be teaching 6th grade Religion and 7th grade American History at St. Theresa Middle School in Gonzales. All of this is a blessing as I love kids, History, and my Catholic Faith.

"I feel honored and privileged that I was able to work for the Church and the Bishops in the important work that we do at the Capitol," continued Loar. "I know that Rob Tasman will do a fine job going forward as the next Executive Director."

Tasman has served as Associate Director of the LCCB since February 2008. In this capacity, he has been responsible for advising the bishops on policy for Life, Social Justice, and Family Life issues and advocating for the bishops at the Capitol during state legislative sessions and at the federal level throughout the year. He has also worked directly with legislators and state officials to explain the Catholic Church's position on issues and drafted official statements and press releases on behalf of the LCCB.

"I am incredibly excited to have the opportunity to con-

tinue to develop and nurture relationships with policymakers and their staff so that the Word that our Church proclaims is expressed in a loving and resolute way," said Tasman. "We are indeed relational beings as created by God and to be a presence of the Church

to those within the political forum so that they know that they are appreciated and supported, as well as that they can reach out to us for counsel and guidance is very appealing. Having those with the authority and responsibility of making decisions, which impact individuals throughout our state, know who the LCCB is and what we stand for is critical to the positive role we can play in the political forum."

In addition to his work with the LCCB, Tasman is an instructor on issues of morality, sexual ethics and theology for the Diocese of Baton Rouge and a religious education instructor at Catholic High School in Baton Rouge.

Tasman has also been a featured speaker and panelist for organizations such as Catholic Charities USA, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC).

In May 2013, Tasman was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to the Louisiana Commission on Marriage and Family.

"Representing the Catholic Church and more specifically the inspired, intentional, and faithful men who are our bishops is a humbling reality," continued Tasman. "Quite frankly it is an awesome responsibility

given the opportunity that the Church has to catechize and evangelize those within positions of power. My time spent with the LCCB has allowed me to influence my own faith life and my personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I remain in awe of many leaders within our faith, not least of which would be Pope Francis and

the sense of pride and joy upon this occasion. I feel overwhelmed blessed and thankful to our bishops and am indebted to Danny Loar for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Associate Director as well as for leaving the LCCB in great standing. It is my grand hope that when policymakers are faced with moral and ethical issues something compels them to reach out to the LCCB because they know of our presence and what we truly represent."

A native of New York, Tasman holds both a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Theology and a Master of Arts in Theology with a specialization in Christian Social Ethics, from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass. He holds a Juris Doctor from the Paul M. Hebert School of Law at Louisiana State University since 2009. He and his wife Katherine are the parents of four boys: Mack, Kevin, Joseph, and Samuel.

Loar will officially retire June 30, 2014.



Rob Tasman

Atlanta archbishop to restrict weapons

ATLANTA (CNS) -- Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta pledged Tuesday that the presence of guns in Catholic institutions in response to a new Georgia law that would allow licensed gun owners to carry arms into schools, churches and other locales.

Set to take effect July 1, the law was opposed by the Georgia Catholic Conference.

Writing in his column in the May 1 issue of the Georgia Bulletin, newspaper of the Atlanta Archdiocese, the

archbishop said he regrets the enactment of the new law "more than I can possibly express."

"Before this legislation takes effect in July, I will officially restrict the use of weapons in our Catholic institutions except for those carried by the people that civic authorities have designated and trained to protect and guard us -- and those who are duly authorized law and military officials," Archbishop Gregory explained.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2014 the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles pray the following prayer, composed in 1957 by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey:

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 former 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**

Summer event schedule at Saint Charles Center

MOSS BLUFF -- The schedule of events for June, July, and August has been released by Saint Charles Center.

On Monday, June 9, Isaiah 9: "The Harbinger", Presented by Sr. Diane Depwe; Spiritual Book Club with Fr. Don Piraro on

Tuesday, June 10; an Evening of Reflection - "Opening to God: Exploring Prayer in the Spiritual Life" - with Fr. Whitney Miller on Monday, June 16; Private Directed Retreats with Fr. Don Piraro, Judy Savoie, Gloria Villegas and Robin Hebert Sunday, June 22 - Tuesday, July 1; and Introduction to the Directed Retreat with Fr. Don Piraro, Judy Savoie, Gloria Villegas, Robin Hebert and Gwin Miller-Cronin Friday, June 27 - Sunday, June 29. In July, Sr. Diane Depwe presents "Saving America" on Tuesday, July 8; Spiritual Book Club with Fr. Piraro on Tuesday, July 8; Engaged Encounter - Engaged Encounter - Diocese of Lake Charles Friday, July 11-Sunday, July 13; Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, Retreat for Healing After Abortion with Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and the Diocesan Team from Friday, July 18-Sunday, July 20; and Beginning/Intermediate Icon Writing Workshop from Monday, July 21-Sunday, July 27.

August offerings include an Evening of Reflection, "The Family at Prayer: Helpful Hints and Suggestions for Strengthening Households of Faith" with Fr. Miller on Tuesday, August 12; "Co-Dependency According to Scripture" with Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, August 26; and the Spiritual Book Club with Fr. Piraro on Tuesday, August 26.

For more information call Tabor Retreat House at Saint Charles Center at 337-855-1232, check the Saint Charles Center website - stcharlecenter.com - or the latest news on the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles - ldiocese.org.



The "Running From The Bears," scheduled in late January was cancelled due to poor winter weather conditions. Even so, generous donors came through with contributions to assist the Long Term Maintenance Fund of Saint Charles Center and the Send A Saint Financial Assistance Fund at St. Louis Catholic High School, joint sponsors of the event. Pictured, above from left, with the check for \$1,682.65 are Holley Fontenot, Robbie Austin, Stephanie Robertson, Rev. Whitney Miller, and Geneva Breaux.



May 16, 2014
Friday

My dear People of God,

Greetings for this joyful Easter Season of God's Grace!

As our diocese has completed yet another fiscal year, I am pleased to present for your review the financial statement of the Diocese of Lake Charles. An independent accounting firm conducted the review and compiled the statement according to accepted accounting principles. The statement you will find here is a general overview of our financial position and activities. If you would desire greater detail or have any questions, please contact our diocesan Office of Administration (439-7400) for a complete audit.

In keeping with established practice, this financial statement does not include the financial operations of individual parishes within the Diocese. Each pastor is responsible for reporting the financial statement of his parish in the appropriate parish bulletin.

I wish to thank you sincerely for your continued support, especially to the Bishop's Services Appeal. Those whom we serve rely on your generosity. Without that assistance, a great deal of good work would not be possible.

I join my sentiments to those of St. Paul: "We ought to thank God always for you" (II Thessalonians 1:3). True stewardship comes from the heart, and you have demonstrated over and over again the openness of your heart to others. It is my prayer that God will provide for your every need. May God continue to make possible the work of hundreds of faithful workers in the vineyard of our diocese who answer His call to service.

With abiding gratitude and extending my blessings to you, I remain

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

+Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

**THE SOCIETY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
THE DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES**

**Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2013
(With comparative totals as of June 30, 2012)**

	2013	2012
Assets:		
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 7,679,795	\$ 7,779,242
Investments and securities	924,498	876,883
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$9,019	112,078	140,616
Grants and contributions receivable in less than one year, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$0	453,410	297,047
Loans receivable	97,753	110,490
Cash value of life insurance policies	648,140	678,005
Prepaid insurance and other expenses	323,237	686,015
Property, equipment, net	7,985,095	8,020,236
Investments pledged as collateral	100,000	100,000
Beneficial interest in securities held in trust	1,906,490	1,899,854
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 20,230,496	\$ 20,588,388
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 473,488	\$ 789,845
National collections and other payables	116,503	286,232
Reserve for insurance claims	252,803	158,081
Contributions payable	88,389	1,205,116
Deferred Revenue	26,000	23,350
Contingent Liability	200,000	-
Total liabilities	\$ 1,157,183	\$ 2,462,624
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	\$ 7,945,960	\$ 7,230,866
Designated for specific purposes	7,354,910	6,978,517
Total unrestricted net assets	15,300,870	14,209,383
Temporarily restricted	2,285,651	2,390,224
Permanently restricted	1,486,792	1,526,157
Total net assets	\$ 19,073,313	\$ 18,125,764
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 20,230,496	\$ 20,588,388

**Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2013
(With comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2012)**

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2013 Totals	2012 Totals
Support and Revenue:					
Parochial tithes	\$ 2,509,484	-	-	2,509,484	2,344,561
Diocesan assessments	5,601,650	137,000	-	5,738,650	5,350,899
Diocesan appeals	77,521	173,671	-	251,192	237,300
Contributions and bequests	680,475	430,428	-	1,110,903	627,476
Grants	144,231	578,484	-	712,715	587,545
Investment income, gains and losses	97,794	155,775	(39,366)	214,203	463,886
Loss from disposal or impairment of property	(5,205)	-	-	(5,205)	(8,685)
Special programs and other revenues	862,790	10,938	-	873,728	830,384
Less: cost of direct benefits to donors	(44,917)	-	-	(44,917)	-
Net assets released from restrictions	1,580,869	(1,580,869)	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 11,504,692	\$ (104,573)	\$ (39,366)	\$ 11,360,753	\$ 10,433,366
Expenses:					
Program expenses					
Clergy life	878,091	-	-	878,091	768,699
Christian formation	2,038,750	-	-	2,038,750	1,987,050
Pastoral services	1,444,204	-	-	1,444,204	2,821,297
Health care and casualty insurance	5,016,596	-	-	5,016,596	4,742,136
Supporting Services					
General administration	925,092	-	-	925,092	931,126
Fund raising	110,471	-	-	110,471	106,948
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,413,204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,413,204	\$ 11,357,256
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 1,091,488	\$ (104,573)	\$ (39,366)	\$ 947,549	\$ (923,890)
Net assets beginning of year	14,209,382	2,390,224	1,526,158	18,125,764	19,049,654
Net assets, end of year	\$ 15,300,870	\$ 2,285,651	\$ 1,486,792	\$ 19,073,313	\$ 18,125,764

Church growth remains steady worldwide

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The number of Catholics in the world and the number of priests, permanent deacons and religious men all increased in 2012, while the number of women in religious orders continued to decline, according to Vatican statistics.

The number of candidates for the priesthood also showed its first global downturn in recent years.

The statistics come from a recently published Statistical Yearbook of the Church, which reported worldwide church figures as of Dec. 31, 2012.

By the end of 2012, the worldwide Catholic population had reached 1.228 billion, an increase of 14 million or 1.14 percent, slightly outpacing the global population growth rate, which, as of 2013, was estimated at 1.09 percent.

Catholics as a percentage of the global population remained essentially unchanged from the previous year at around 17.5 percent.

However, the latest Vatican statistical yearbook estimated that there were about 4.8 million Catholics that were not included in its survey because they were in countries that could not provide an accurate report to the Vatican, mainly China and North Korea.

According to the yearbook, the percentage of Catholics as part of the general population is highest in the Americas where they make up 63.2 percent of the continent's population. Asia has the lowest proportion, with 3.2 percent.

During the 2012 calendar year, there were 16.4 million baptisms of both infants and adults, according to the statistical yearbook.

It said the number of bishops of the world stayed essentially the same at 5,133.

The total number of priests -- diocesan and religious order -- around the world grew from 413,418 to 414,313, with a modest increase in Africa, a larger rise in Asia, and slight decreases in the Americas, Europe and Oceania. Asia saw a 13.7 percent growth in the number of priests between 2007 and the end of 2012.

The number of permanent deacons reported -- 42,104 -- was an increase of more than 1,100 over the previous year and a 17 percent increase since 2007. The vast majority -- more than 97 percent -- of the world's permanent deacons live in the Americas or in Europe.

The number of religious brothers showed 0.4 per-

cent growth worldwide. The number of religious brothers totaled 55,314 at the end of 2012. Slight growth was seen everywhere except the Americas.

The number of women in religious orders continued its downward trend. The total of 702, 529 temporarily and permanently professed sisters and nuns in 2012 was a 1.5 percent decrease from the previous year and a 5.9 percent decrease since 2007.

The number of candidates for the priesthood -- both diocesan seminarians and members of religious orders -- who had reached the level of philosophy and theology studies showed its first downturn since 2003. The number of candidates dropped slightly to 120,051 men at the end of 2012 as compared to 120,616 at end of 2011. Increase were reported in the traditionally vocations-rich continents of Africa and Asia, although the increases were modest; Africa reported 245 more candidates than in 2011 and Asia reported 179 more men in their final years of study for ordination.

cent growth worldwide. The number of religious brothers totaled 55,314 at the end of 2012. Slight growth was seen everywhere except the Americas.

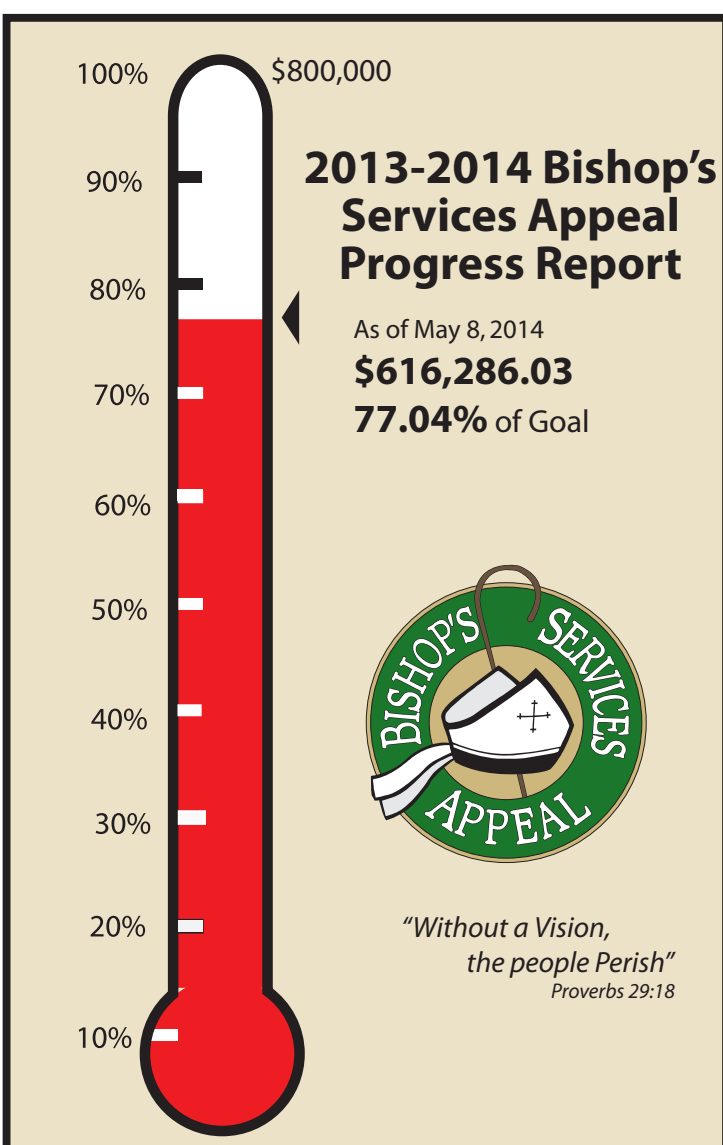
The number of women in religious orders continued its downward trend. The total of 702, 529 temporarily and permanently professed sisters and nuns in 2012 was a 1.5 percent decrease from the previous year and a 5.9 percent decrease since 2007.

The number of candidates for the priesthood -- both diocesan seminarians and members of religious orders -- who had reached the level of philosophy and theology studies showed its first downturn since 2003. The number of candidates dropped slightly to 120,051 men at the end of 2012 as compared to 120,616 at end of 2011. Increase were reported in the traditionally vocations-rich continents of Africa and Asia, although the increases were modest; Africa reported 245 more candidates than in 2011 and Asia reported 179 more men in their final years of study for ordination.

cent growth worldwide. The number of religious brothers totaled 55,314 at the end of 2012. Slight growth was seen everywhere except the Americas.

The number of women in religious orders continued its downward trend. The total of 702, 529 temporarily and permanently professed sisters and nuns in 2012 was a 1.5 percent decrease from the previous year and a 5.9 percent decrease since 2007.

The number of candidates for the priesthood -- both diocesan seminarians and members of religious orders -- who had reached the level of philosophy and theology studies showed its first downturn since 2003. The number of candidates dropped slightly to 120,051 men at the end of 2012 as compared to 120,616 at end of 2011. Increase were reported in the traditionally vocations-rich continents of Africa and Asia, although the increases were modest; Africa reported 245 more candidates than in 2011 and Asia reported 179 more men in their final years of study for ordination.



MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE HOURS

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day. They reopen on Tuesday, May 27, at 8:30 a.m. with regular office hours -- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. the remainder of the week.

Fall courses at Center for Catholic Studies

LAKE CHARLES – Two courses will be offered this Fall through Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans and the Center for Catholic Studies of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Our Lady of Holy Cross College is Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges accredited; therefore the courses may transfer as liberal arts credits. Depending on the student's degree program, these credits may be used to fulfill elective requirements for their curriculum. McNeese students are encouraged to speak with their faculty advisor to find out what works best for them.

Father Jacob S. Conner, M.Div., S.T.B., the pastor of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin, will teach *Theology 205: INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES*, a three credit hour course. An introduction to the Christian Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, the course will examine the unique historical origins and developments of Jewish and Christian scriptural traditions. Interpretation of the Scripture is discussed, and themes such as covenant, Messiah, Christ, Church, grace are explored. The importance of scriptures found in other religious traditions, such as Islamic, Hindu, and others, may also be examined.

Class will be held on Monday, beginning Sept. 8 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the McNeese Catholic Student Center, 221 Aqua Drive.

The second Fall course is *Theology 280: CATHOLIC MORAL PRINCIPLES*, a three credit hour offering, and taught by the pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur, Father Edward J. Richard, M.S., J.D., D.Th.M. This is a presentation of the development of Christian moral principles with a focus on theological and cardinal virtues as well as the morality of happiness. The application the Catholic Church's moral teaching to everyday life is discussed. Dates for the course are Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Sept. 2, from 4 to 5:20 p.m. at the McNeese Catholic Student Center, 221 Aqua Drive.

Registration forms are available through the Newman Center; the Diocese of Lake Charles - Office of Religious Education, and on the diocesan website - lcdiocese.org. On the home page, click on Forms at the Main Menu and scroll down to Office of Religious Education.

Deadline for registration is Aug. 8. The Center for Catholic Studies is made possible by an articulation agreement between McNeese State University and Our Lady of Holy Cross College. The Diocese of Lake Charles facilitates coursework in the theology offered on site through Holy Cross College.

Center for Catholic Studies courses are available for credit or audit and may be taken by college students or any interested lay faithful meeting enrollment requirements. For more information, contact Susan Borgman, 439-7400, Ext. 309, in the Diocese of Lake Charles Office of Religious Education.



1



2



3

Third Fortnight for Freedom June 21-July 4

WASHINGTON—Catholic dioceses and parishes across the United States are once again encouraged to raise awareness for domestic and international religious freedom concerns during the third annual Fortnight for Freedom, June 21-July 4. The two-week celebration will focus on the theme, "Freedom to Serve," emphasizing the link between religious liberty and service to the poor and vulnerable.

Here in the Diocese of Lake Charles, Bishop Glen John Provost will participate in the Saturday, June 28, Religious Freedom Rally held in Sulphur's Grove at Heritage Square. The previous night, Friday, June 27, the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bishop Provost will celebrate a Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church beginning at 5:30 p.m.

"During the Fortnight, our liturgical calendar celebrates great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution by political power—St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More, John the Baptist, Peter and Paul and the first martyrs of the Church of Rome," said Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). "This is a time when Catholics can unite themselves in prayer to the men and women throughout history who spread the Gospel and lived out Jesus' call to serve the 'least of these' in even the direst of circumstances."

Two nationally televised Masses will bookend the Fortnight. Archbishop Lori will celebrate Mass at the Baltimore Basilica on June 21, at 5:30 p.m. EDT. Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on July 4, at noon EDT. USCCB President Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, will be the homilist at the July 4 Mass.



4

Christ's journey, from his triumphal entrance, from his crucifixion and death on Calvary, was celebrated in all the churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles April 13-20. At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, on Palm Sunday, (1), Bishop Glen John Provost sprinkled palms with holy water, before their distribution to the faithful. The passage continued at the Chrism Mass with Bishop Provost, after mixing balsam to the pure olive, stirs the mixture (2) before its consecration as the Oil of Chrism. On Holy Thursday, the Bishop (3) washes the feet of two of 12 men, emulating the washing of the feet of the Disciples by Jesus at the Last Supper. On Good Friday (4), the only day of the year when Mass is not celebrated, Deacon Matthew Cormier incenses the cross as it processes toward the front of the Cathedral, where the Bishop and the faithful will venerate it. At the Easter Vigil (5) Bishop Provost, after blessing the water, prepares for the baptism of the two Elect of the Cathedral.



5

Did you know...

Though modern day popes are elected at older ages, in ancient times that was not necessarily the case. Pope Benedict IX is believed to have been born around 1012, making him approximately 20 upon his ascension to the Throne of Peter in 1032. He may have been the youngest but other sources point to Pope John XII who was 18 when elected in 955. As to the oldest at election, that title would go to Pope Clement X, elected in 1670 at the age of 79 years, 290 days. In modern times, Pope Benedict XVII was 78 years, three days at his election in 2005 and Pope Francis was 76 years, 86 days upon his election last year.

Pope Benedict IX has a couple of other quite unusual distinctions as pope. Do you know what they are? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar on June 20.

Next Catholic Calendar will be published Friday, June 20

Fr. Miller is 17th SLCHS Hall of Fame inductee

LAKE CHARLES – Rev. Whitney Miller, a former rector of St. Louis Catholic High School, became the 17th inductee into the St. Louis Hall of Fame during ceremonies held Tuesday, April 29, in the school's Commons.

Father Miller now serves as Director of Saint Charles Center, the diocesan spirituality/retreat facility located in Moss Bluff of Sam Houston Jones Parkway and Director of Diocesan Counseling.

A large crowd of friends, former students, collaborators during his time as Rector, and family were on hand for the event.

Also, a number of previous inductees were present to see their number grow, including Msgr. Robert Angelle, who holds the singular distinction of having been the last principal of Landry Memorial and the first principal of St. Louis. A graduate of Landry, he was inducted in 2003. Only able to stay a short time before returning to Lafayette, where he lives, Msgr. Angelle took the podium to congratulate Father Miller.

The event opened with prayer by the Very Rev. Marcus Johnson, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church and the current Rector. Geneva Breaux led the way with a history of the Hall of Fame. She invited Robbie Austin, a current instructor of religion at the school, to the podium and he told of how important Father Miller was in his discernment to return to Lake Charles and a job at St. Louis.

He presented Father Miller with an original bit of his art – an image of St. Joan of Arc (one of Father Miller's personal heroines) – made by Austin's own hand.

In speaking about Father Miller and the Hall of Fame, Breaux noted that "he always pushed the students to learn and sing the school's alma mater properly during his time as rector of the school."

She then gave him a very special gift to remind him that "this is always your home and we are always your children. Please accept and cherish this gift (a large platter with the words of the St. Louis alma mater inscribed). It is a gift to symbolize your work and your "thriving beyond your mere surviving" at St. Louis Catholic. You always did your best and we can never thank you enough for that."

In presenting the glass oval that signifies induction, Breaux said, "St. Louis Catholic and all your family and friends honor you Rev Whitney Miller for your infectious spirit, loving respect for all, leadership and tireless efforts to Catholic education. So that we are always reminded of your rich gift of love and guidance, we have hung your picture next to our other hall of famers. Now you can watch over us for as long as we are here and to remind you of how much you are appreciated please accept this award as our 2014 Hall of Fame inductee."

In an emotional response, Fr. Miller thanked many people with whom he had worked during his stint as Rector, including members of the school board, the administrative team, and many others.

He noted that he had been moved by the presentation a visiting religious sister to the school board at that time and her quote became a motto of the administrative team.

"She said 'Catholic education can not be just about getting your children into Harvard, we must make it our primary goal to get them into heaven,'" Father Miller said. He noted that that idea became very important to the work done at the school during those years.

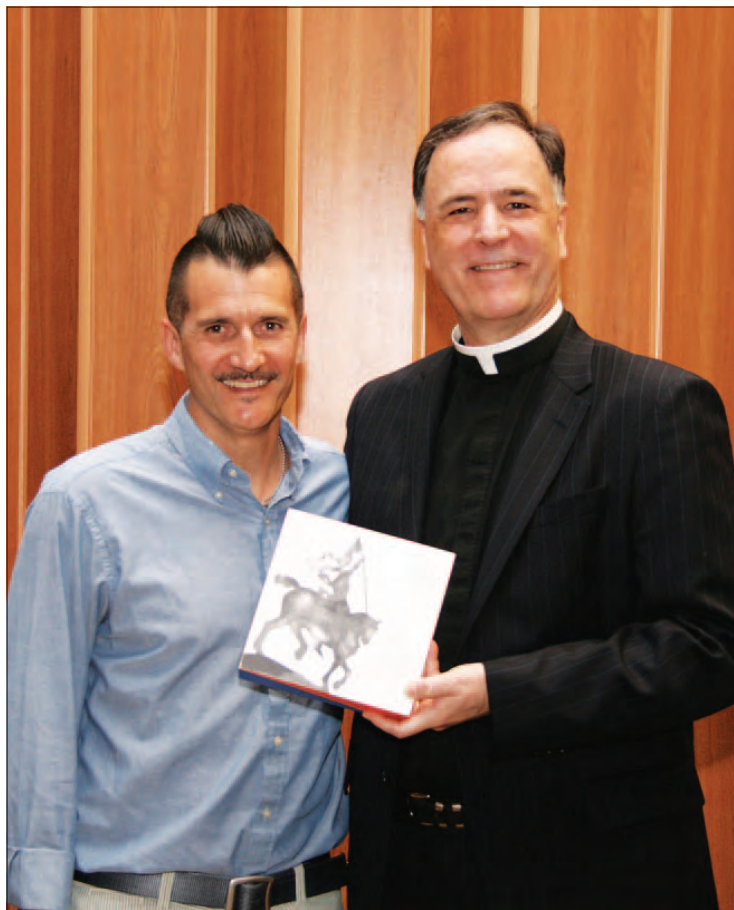
In accepting the award, Father Miller used something that Pope Francis said during a homily given at the Feb. 22 public consistory where the Holy Father raised Bishops and Archbishops to the dignity of Cardinals.

"The Pope invited the newly elevated Cardinals to see this worldly perceived honor as just another way of being of service," Father Miller said. "He helped them examine what they were looking for."

His Holiness said, "This is what the Church is looking for - the Church needs your courage, your witness to the truth, your compassion. The Church needs you to be a peacemaker, building peace by your actions and hopes and prayers. It is a deeper call of service and yet just another and enriching way to the Church we all love and the kingdom we all strive to build"

Father Miller then said, "It is in this spirit that I accept this honor this evening, just as another way of being of service."

Previous inductees to the Hall of Fame are: 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, M.S.C.; 2006-2007, John Gabriel; 2007-2008 Sr. Colette Guidry, M.S.C.; 2008-2009 Charles Zebley 2009-2010 Carl Ambrose, Sr.; 2010-2011 Daniel Ieyoub; and 2011-2012 Julie Miller; 2012-2013 Harry Methvin.



At top, 2014 inductee Father Whitney Miller, right, sits with Rev. Msgr. Robert Angelle, a former principal of St. Louis Catholic High School and a fellow SLCHS Hall of Fame inductee as they listen to opening remarks at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony. The glass plaque presented to Father Miller signifying his inclusion in the Hall of Fame is shown in the center photo. In the bottom photo, Father Miller holds the original art piece produced by Robbie Austin, a religion teacher at St. Louis, for the occasion. The image on the painting is that of St. Joan of Arc, one of Father Miller's favorite saints.

DRAWING NEAR

Make me Holy

I wasn't entirely sure how to respond to the question...the student caught me off guard as we were discussing the canonization process of the Church.

"Miss Prejean, do you think you'll be a saint someday?"

I slowly responded, "I guess I hope that'll happen, but I really have no idea..."

The student quickly replied, "Well, do you mind giving me the Kleenex you just used? If you do get canonized, I'm sure I could sell it on e-Bay for a lot of money, and I'd like to be prepared..."

It was a humorous exchange...just a student trying to get the class to laugh in the middle of a long lecture about a topic he probably found boring. The question stuck with me though, and the more I thought about it, the more I realized that I didn't really have an answer. I'm sure we would all say, "yes" to the query "Do you want to go to Heaven?" especially when faced with the alternative of hell. But, if someone were to ask us "Do you want to be a canonized saint?" we hesitate to give an answer. In reality, the questions are essentially the same.

Do we want to eternally feast upon the face of God, basking in His glorious presence while in complete communion with Him? Yes. Do we want a seat at the heavenly banquet table, surrounded by the Church Triumphant giving glory to God? Yes. Do we want to sing with the angels, sit at the feet of Jesus, and pray for those on earth seeking the same eternal happiness we will have found? Yes. In short...yes to all the above! We all want to get to heaven and so therefore, we should all want to be saints!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church clearly states: "All Christians, in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. All are called to holiness." (CCC #2013) The word "saint" comes from the Latin word "Sanctus" meaning "holy." To become a saint means to embrace the divine, to be fully and perfectly formed in the image and likeness of God as He originally intended, and to live life according to His will above all else. What more could we want than this: to know who we are and whose we are? A saint is holy, as in possession of knowledge and love of God, and wholly, as in being possessed and consumed by the love of God.

So why the hesitation when the question is posed? Why do we sometimes avoid the question altogether? Why do so few of us seem to set sanctity, this true possession of the Lord as lover of our souls, as our goal? I would say there is one simple explanation for our hesitation: fear.

Sanctity is not easy. The lives of the countless men and women who have reached heaven are not usually ones of luxury or simplicity. They are typically lives filled with suffering, hardship, persecution, pain, rejection, and hurt...and this is frightening. When we say "yes" to sanctity we say "no" to the world. We embrace the cross as our own and allow God to work in our lives in ways that we won't always understand or necessarily enjoy. We have to decrease and allow the Lord to increase. As the Psalms and Gospels say, He will refine us and He will perfect us, and He won't stop until the work is complete (Psalm 66:10, Mt. 5:48).

But, in the midst of this suffering and rejection that is often characteristic of the sanctified life, there is great joy and satisfaction in the love of the Lord. There's a reason the faces of the saints are depicted as so serene: they are filled with a peace this world only imitates...they are consumed by the blazing hot fire of God's love of which all other things are only a shadow. They are enamored with the Truth that answers every question and they are rejoicing in the Triumph of death's defeat. They are wholly holy – completely formed in and by the very same God they eternally seek.

In the summer of 2009, Fr. Derek Covert gave me a brutal penance at the conclusion of what I thought was a pretty simple and straightforward confession. He told me to sit in front of the Blessed Sacrament for half an hour and recite three simple (yet dangerous) words over and over again: Make me holy. Those three words completely shattered the reality with which I had become comfortable. Over time, as only God can do, He began to refine and perfect my soul in ways I didn't necessarily want, but in the way He knew was necessary.

If your answer to the question "Do you want to get to heaven?" was yes, then those three words must become the mantra of your life. While most of us will never have venerated tombs or blessed holy cards, we must all strive to attain the perfection of Heaven our soul so deeply desires and allow the Lord to form us in His perfect image. Make us holy, Lord. We give you permission.

Katie Prejean is a Catholic youth minister and teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School.

Catholic Communication Campaign uses technology to share the Faith

WASHINGTON—The 2014 Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) will be taken up in many dioceses the weekend of May 31-June 1. The collection offers an opportunity for Catholics around the country to support evangelization through technology and social media by supporting the production and dissemination of high-quality Catholic content via the Internet, television, radio, and print publications.

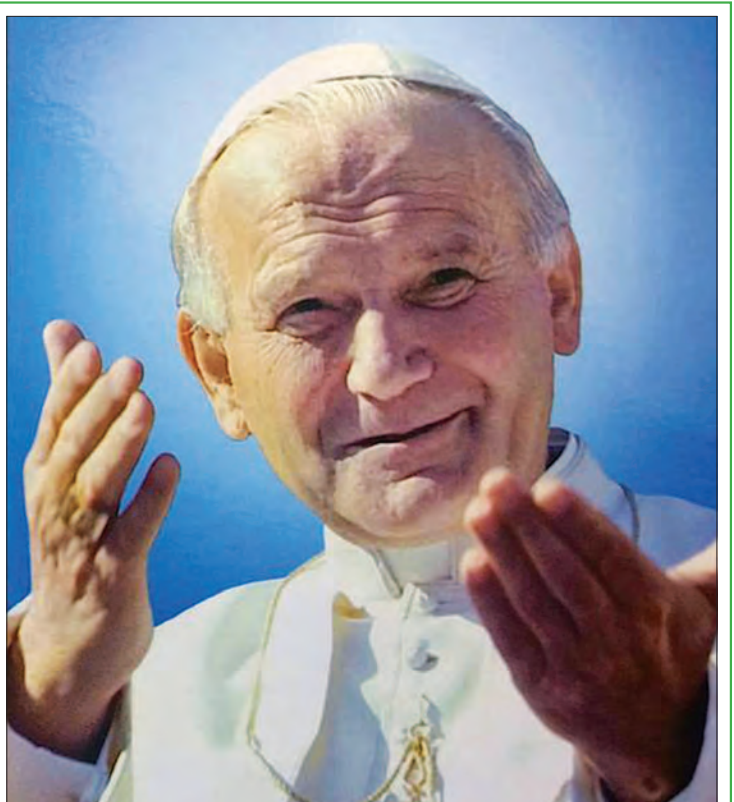
In the Diocese of Lake Charles these funds (\$14,665.08) aided in the production and airing of the Glad Tidings television program on Sunday morning; and the publishing of Catholic Calen-

dar as a six-page insert in the American Press, generally on the third Friday of each month. The Catholic Calendar also appears as a single page on the third Thursday in the Cameron Pilot, and on the third Friday in Beauregard Daily News, Jennings Daily News, and Southwest Daily News. These donations also helped pay for the broadcast of the 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception; the operation and maintenance of the website of the diocese - lcdiocese.org; and numerous other local communication efforts.



Prayer to St. John XXIII

"Your simple and meek persona carried the scent of God and the desire of goodness was inflamed in the heart. Pray for us so that we do not limit ourselves to mourn the darkness but rather to enkindle the light, bringing Christ everywhere and always praying to Mary. Amen."



Prayer to St. John Paul II

"Oh Saint John Paul, from the window of Heaven grant us your blessing! Bless the Church that you have loved, served and guided, pushing Her with courage towards the paths of the world to bring Christ to all, and all to Christ. Oh Saint John Paul, from the window of Heaven, where we see you next to Mary, send down upon us all the blessing of God. Amen."

Decree of Announcement of Pastoral Assignments



I, The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, hereby announce the pastoral assignments for the Year Two thousand and Fourteen for the Diocese of Lake Charles, Louisiana:

- Effective April 12, 2014:**
Rev. Bino Poovannikunnel, M.S. **Parochial Vicar**, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Sulphur
- Effective May 23, 2014:**
Rev. S. Andrews Kollannour, M.S. **Pastor**, Our Lady of LaSalette, Kullannour
- Effective July 1, 2014:**
Rev. Anthony Fontenot **Pastor**, Christ the King, Lake Charles and Director of the Propagation for the Faith

- Rev. Susil Fernando **Pastor**, Immaculate Conception, Jennings
- Rev. Carlos Garcia **Pastor**, St. Joseph, Vinton
- Rev. Keith Pellerin **Pastor**, St. Philip Neri, Kinder
- Rev. Alan Trouille **Pastor**, Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Welsh
- Rev. Archimandrite Herbert May **Pastor**, Sacred Heart, Creole and Our Lady Star of the Sea, Cameron
- Rev. Timothy Goodly **Pastor**, St. Pius X, Ragley

- Rev. Nathan Long **Pastor**, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Charles, Continuing Secretary for Christian Formation and Director of Vianney House
- Rev. John Huckaby **Pastor**, St. Theodore, Moss Bluff
- Rev. Rojo Koonathan, H.G.N. **Pastor**, St. Joseph, Welsh with pastoral care of St. John Evangelist, Lacassine
- Rev. Gijo Ikkaramattom, H.G.N. **Pastor**, St. Peter the Apostle, Hackberry Our Lady of the Assumption, Johnson Bayou

- Rev. Rommel Tolentino **Pastor**, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Lake Charles
- Rev. Msgr. Jace Eskinid **Pastor**, St. Martin de Porres, Lake Charles
- Rev. D. Bryan Thompson **Parochial Vicar**, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Sulphur and Continuing as Co-Chaplain for Hispanic Ministry

- Rev. Deacon Matthew Cormier **Parochial Vicar**, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Lake Charles
- Very Rev. J. Scott Conner **Vicar Forane**, East Deanery

Signed by our hand and that of our Chancellor, given on this 16th day of the month of April in the Year of our Lord, 2014.

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles Rev.

Deacon George Stearns
Chancellor



In recognition for making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem are honored by the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem by being awarded the coveted Pilgrim Shell. In a typical year the Latin Patriarchate awards between 700 and 900 Pilgrim Shells which are presented in an impressive award ceremony presided over by the Latin Patriarch, or the Auxiliary Bishop of Jerusalem and held at the Latin Patriarchate complex in the Old City of Jerusalem. Recently, the Southeastern Lieutenancy sponsored a pilgrimage with Bishop Glen John Provost serving as spiritual director. In the photo above, the pilgrims are shown, following this prestigious ceremony and include from left first row, J.P. Herbert, Father Derek Covert, Bishop John Provost, Bishop William H. Shomali (Auxiliary Bishop of the Latin Patriarchate), Richard, Dawn and Larry Graner; second row, Sonda Abrahams, Peggy Hebert, Eli and Mary Calteco, Debbie Giglio, Cindy Haus, Joe Giglio, Brenda and Bob McCall, Roz and Pierre Allemond, Father David Wathen, OFM Cordy Hebrink, and Joseph Dubuque. Bishop William Shomali, spoke to the group very frankly about the situation in the Mid-East. During the course of the ten days of the pilgrimage Mass was daily at the various Holy Sites visited, married couples renewed wedding vows in Cana, visited the birthplace of our Lord, baptismal vows were renewed at the traditional site of our Lord's baptism, the Upper Room was visited as well as the Garden of Gethsemane. The Stations of the Cross were prayed while carrying a wooden cross along the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where Cavalry and The Empty Tomb were visited.

Pope names Chaldean bishop

WASHINGTON — Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of the Most Reverend Ibrahim N. Ibrahim from the pastoral governance of the Chaldean Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle and has appointed as bishop of the same eparchy Father Frank Kalabat, a priest of the eparchy and until now director of vocations for the eparchy and pastor of St. Thomas Chaldean Church, West Bloomfield, Michigan.

The appointment was publicized in Washington, May 3, by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Frank Kalabat was born in Beirut in 1970, and moved to the United States in 1989. He was ordained a priest in 1995.

Bishop-elect Kalabat began studies for the seminary at St. Francis De Sales Center in San Diego, California, and pursued theological studies at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit. The jurisdiction extends to the eastern states of the United States.

CANONIZATION

Continued from Page 1

the majority were from Poland, the native land of St. John Paul.

The Vatican estimated that 800,000 attended the ceremony in Rome, with overflow crowds watching on giant-screen TVs set up at various locations around the city. The 2011 beatification of Pope John Paul drew more than 1 million people, according to Italian police estimates at the time.

The Vatican said 93 countries sent official delegations to the Mass, and more than 30 of the delegations were led by a president or prime minister. The king and queen of Spain and the king and queen of Belgium were in attendance.

Pope Francis spent half an hour personally greeting the delegations following the Mass. He then rode in his popemobile through the square and adjacent avenue, drawing cheers and applause from the crowds, for about 20 minutes until disappearing at the end of the street.

The canonizations of both popes came after extraordinary measures by their successors to expedite the process. Pope Benedict waived the usual five-year waiting period before the start of a sainthood cause for Pope John Paul shortly after his death, when he was mourned by crowds shouting "Santo subito!" ("A saint at once!"). In the case of St. John, Pope Francis waived the usual requirement of a second miracle before a blessed can be added to the church's canon of saints.

St. Louis principal named

LAKE CHARLES -- The school principal, supervisor of instruction, and a number of others.

Fontenot, a resident of Sulphur, is a candidate for the permanent diaconate for the Diocese with course work in the theology, philosophy, Canon Law, Christology, and Scripture during the five-year program of study.

"Mr. Fontenot is an exemplary educator and veteran administrator," said Mrs. Gazzolo. "I feel confident he will be an asset to the St. Louis Catholic community and I am grateful for the work of the search committee."

In announcing the choice, Father Johnson said, "The search committee and I believe that the new principal is the best person for the job. At the core of the mission of a Catholic School is God! A Catholic school without Catholic identity is of no value.

"As a man of faith, our new principal will be able to build on our long tradition of Catholic education and strengthen it. He himself is a product of Catholic education and an alumnus of St. Louis."

Fontenot is a 1989 graduate of the school. In remarks made to the faculty and staff, he said, "It is a great feeling to be here - like being at home. I look forward to working with all of you."

Noting that some of the teachers in the crowd were at St. Louis when he attended, Fontenot continued. "I

LAKE CHARLES -- The school principal, supervisor of instruction, and a number of others.

Fontenot, a resident of Sulphur, is a candidate for the permanent diaconate for the Diocese with course work in the theology, philosophy, Canon Law, Christology, and Scripture during the five-year program of study.

"Mr. Fontenot is an exemplary educator and veteran administrator," said Mrs. Gazzolo. "I feel confident he will be an asset to the St. Louis Catholic community and I am grateful for the work of the search committee."

In announcing the choice, Father Johnson said, "The search committee and I believe that the new principal is the best person for the job. At the core of the mission of a Catholic School is God! A Catholic school without Catholic identity is of no value.

"As a man of faith, our new principal will be able to build on our long tradition of Catholic education and strengthen it. He himself is a product of Catholic education and an alumnus of St. Louis."

Fontenot is a 1989 graduate of the school. In remarks made to the faculty and staff, he said, "It is a great feeling to be here - like being at home. I look forward to working with all of you."

Noting that some of the teachers in the crowd were at St. Louis when he attended, Fontenot continued. "I



Christopher Fontenot

wouldn't be standing here without some of you - some of you taught me."

Serving on the principal search committee, co-chaired by Father Johnson and Superintendent Gazzolo, were Rev. Msgr. Jace F. Eskinid (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception), Board of Pastors ; The Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois (St. Theodore), Board of Pastors; The Rev. William Miller (St. Margaret of Scotland), Board of Pastors; Judge Charlotte Bushnell (St. Henry), SLCHS School Board; Rusty Stutes (Our Lady Queen of Heaven), SLCHS School Board; Cheryl Riley (Sacred Heart of Jesus), Educator; Dinah Bradford (Our Lady Queen of Heaven), Educator; Robbie Austin (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception), SLCHS Faculty Member.

Diocesan Briefs.....

Vianney House application deadline

LAKE CHARLES - The deadline for applications for residency in the Vianney House of Discernment for the 2014-2015 school term is Sunday, June 1.

The residence, located on the grounds of St. Louis Catholic High School, is a home for college-age men who may have a calling for the priesthood but need a place to sort things out through prayer and direction.

Residents may stay for one school year while attending classes at McNeese State University.

Contact Father Nathan Long at 337-439-7400, Ext. 308 or e-mail nathan.long@lcdioocese.org by the deadline, for more information.

Abrazando Cristo Cash Giveaway Fundraiser

LAKE CHARLES -- The Abrazando Cristo Mission Program is holding its annual Big Cash Giveaway with only 500 tickets available at \$100 each.

First prize is \$5,000; second prize, \$1,000; and third prize, \$500. Proceeds benefit the ongoing work of the mission program in Nicaragua. To purchase a ticket, please mail your check payable to Abrazando Cristo Mission Program, Attn: Msgr. Torres, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA, 70601. Tickets are also available from any of the 24 missionaries taking the 2014 trip. The drawing is Sunday, June 15 in the St. Henry Community Center.

For more information, call 337-439-7400.

Original items being sought for Artisan's Fair

SULPHUR - The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #1980 of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church will host its fourth annual "Artisan's Fair--Christmas in July" on Friday and Saturday, July 11-12, in the Immaculate Conception hall & classrooms.

The Court is seeking items for the sale, specifically 2D and 3D original art, photography, pottery, glass, quilts, crocheted & knitted items, etc. Contact Debbie Russell at gdaruss@msn.com for information.

Engaged Encounter Weekend upcoming

MOSS BLUFF - A Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held Friday through Sunday, July 11-13, in Saint Katharine Drexel Center at Saint Charles Center.

Contact Paul and Carolyn Trahan at 337-898-9257 or 337-254-8947, or e-mail cee.trahan@gmail.com for information or to register.

St. Louis Alumni Softball Tourney slated

LAKE CHARLES -- The second annual St. Louis Catholic Alumni Softball Tournament is Saturday, June 7, beginning at noon. Visit the alumni section at www.slchs.org for more information on the tournament.

Natural Family Planning Training

LAKE CHARLES - The incredible gift of Natural Family Planning is now available in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Three instructors certified in the Creighton Model Fertility(Care) System work with the Diocese and Dr. David Darbonne.

For more information about training contact Bonnie Kron at 337-377-7953; Laura Hobgood at 338-480-1280; Jackie Stewart at 337-540-8959 or the office of Dr. Darbonne at 337-474-3883.

Wedding Anniversary Mass June 22

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will honor couples celebrating 25th or 50th anniversaries of Christian marriage this year, as well as those couples with anniversaries of more than 50 years divisible by five, at the 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 22, 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 at a reception in Ave Maria Hall on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets.

Couples must contact their parish of their intention to attend the Mass. The parish will then forward those names to the Office of Family Life, the event's sponsor. The couple will receive a special invitation.

Solemn Pontifical Mass June 27

SULPHUR - Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Solemn Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form on the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday, June 27, in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church at 5:30 p.m.

Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament

LAKE CHARLES - The annual Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, June 7, at Mallard Cove Golf Course.

Proceeds from the event benefit several of the projects of the Abrazando Cristo Mission Program to Nicaragua.

Call 337-478-4095 for more information.

Jeep raffle for Our Lady's School

SULPHUR - A 2014 Jeep Wrangler Sport, with a sticker price of more than \$28,000.00, is being raffled to aid in the fundraising effort being conducted by Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church and Our Lady's Catholic School to build a new gym for the school.

Tickets are \$100 each and available at the offices of Our Lady's School, and Our Lady of Prompt Succor, and at the Chancery of the Diocese of Lake Charles, 414 Iris Street. The drawing is Saturday, June 28, at the Religious Freedom Rally in Sulphur's Grove at Heritage Square. Call 337-527-9969 for more information.

The Jeep was donated by Autoplex 2000.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend set

MOSS BLUFF - The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend is Friday through Sunday, July 18-22, at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

Participation is strictly confidential.

Call Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail rachel.vineyard@lcdioocese.org for information.

Red Mass set in October

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant and homilist for the annual Red Mass set for 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Following the liturgy, Bishop Provost will deliver the invocation for the Opening of Court in the Courtroom A of the Historic Calcasieu Parish Courthouse.

Judges, attorneys, and government officials from the five civil parishes that make up the Diocese of Lake Charles are invited to attend. The local St. Thomas More Society, Judge Henry Yelverton Chapter, is the sponsor along with the Diocese, of the event.