

# CATHOLIC CALENDAR



The Diocese of Lake Charles  
lcdioocese.org



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

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## Two ordained: Father Cormier to priesthood, Deacon Alexius to the transitional diaconate

LAKE CHARLES – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost ordained Reverend Matthew Cormier to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles and ordained seminarian Deacon Jay Alexius to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, June 7, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Father Cormier celebrated his first Mass on Sunday, June 8, in his home parish of Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur. Father Cormier will become the parochial vicar of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church on July 1. Deacon Alexius will serve the people of Our Lady Queen of Heaven over the summer.

As is customary in the Diocese, Bishop Provost had named the new priest's parents – Michael and Jacinta Cormier – as Members of the Order of St. Charles, a personal recognition of the bishop to those who have provided services and contributions to the Church and the Bishop. This occurred at the dinner on Friday night sponsored by the Serra Club of Lake Charles.

Bishop Provost, in his homily, spoke of Jesus' comparison of his disciples to salt and light.

When he made that comparison, "He used vivid imagery," the Bishop said. "Salt and light exist for one purpose alone—to enhance something else. They are appropriate images for the selfless call of the Gospel."

The Bishop noted that in today's society, with the increase in medical problems, the use of salt is sometimes not seen in a good light.

"We seek out sodium-free foods," he said. "We want salt-free meals. Such was not the case in the days of Jesus. Salt was the 'spice of life.' Salt brought out flavors that enhanced whatever it seasoned."

Salt, of course, has many variations, the Bishop pointed out, "Different salts were

used for different purposes, and one came to recognize the difference between salt of this or that region. So, the question of Jesus drives home the point: 'But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?'

"Salt does not exist for itself," Bishop Provost said. "It exists for what it can do for the food it seasons. And the disciple is 'the salt of the earth'. How much more so the disciple who is Christ's ordained minister? The bishop, the priest, and the deacon are not ordained for themselves. They are ordained for the Church, to enter service, to season the meal prepared by Christ for the world."

Then, the Bishop spoke of the light. "...in our modern world we take light so much for granted," he said. "It is hard for us to imagine a world 'lit only by fire' where candles were precious commodities, where oil for lamps was the possession of those who could afford it, where at sunset most of the community went to bed. Light does not exist for itself but only for what it can illumine. Jesus reminds us that no one lights a lamp only to put it under a bushel basket. A light is never lit for itself but for the service it renders to others."

Speaking directly to Father Cormier and Deacon Alexius, the Bishop said. "God has created you, the ordained minister, for a purpose. You have purpose, a *raison d'être*, a reason for being, and it is hidden in God's intention. But while the intention remains mysterious and only partially revealed at times, of this we can be certain. Like salt and light, you were not created for yourselves. Your purpose finds its meaning in what you can do for others—enhancing a flavor or shedding light for others to see."

The complete text of Bishop Provost's homily can be found on the website of the Diocese – [lcdioocese.org](http://lcdioocese.org) – under the banner heading - Our Bishop.



Bishop Glen John Provost, center, stands with Reverend Matthew Cormier and Deacon Jay Alexius on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception following the Saturday, June 7, Mass of Ordination.

## Family Life director named for Diocese

LAKE CHARLES -- Richard Newman, who has toured the United States for the past two years as campaign manager for The Anonymous Us Project – the world's first story-collective educating people on the harms of third party reproduction – has been named Director of Family Life and Pro-Life for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Newman, who attended Orebro University and Stockholm University, has worked in collaboration with The Center for Bioethics and Culture Network on the Anonymous Us Project. He has also been a communications consultant and agency director and successfully led national and international companies and organizations to award winning success and growth.

In December 2011, he and his wife, Alana, (who have a daughter, Visa and expect the birth of a son soon) co-founded Happy Couple Workout, a health and wellness concept that aspires to build strong couples, both physically and emotionally. It is a collection

of 24 exercises and includes a 45-minute workout DVD. The pair co-wrote a pocket-sized relationship guide titled Happy Couple Creed: How to Make Your Love Last A Lifetime.

On the U.S. tour, he booked speaking engagements, radio/TV interviews, made viral videos, and provided content for internationally syndicated magazines and news sources using non-religious arguments in support of Catholic teaching on family and reproduction. The work of he and his wife has been featured in *Newsweek*, *The Human Life Review*, *Psychology Today*, *Catholic World Report*, and on *National Public Radio*. They have also been invited to speak at the United Nations, Catholic University of America, and The Love and Fidelity Network at Princeton University among others.

"Couples today are struggling to navigate a brave new world of romance and family building options," Newman said. However, he believes his experience and



Richard Newman

God's providence have given him what he needs to help the Church face these challenges. "I am uniquely prepared to assist in this realm. I am equipped to explain Catholic teachings regarding everything from marriage, sexuality and Natural Family Planning to sperm and egg donation and surrogacy and how these practices impact both individuals and society at large."

Before coming to the United States, Newman held a number of positions in Sweden. From April 2009 to Nov. 2011, he was agency director and senior consultant at Pronto Communication in Stockholm where he directly supervised a staff of 13 developing award winning social media campaigns.

He served as a communication specialist for Diplomat PR, one of Sweden's leading communications companies from Sept. 2004 to April 2009 and was Editor-in-Chief of *Blått Magazine*, a quarterly publication in Sweden with more than 30,000 subscribers.

## Bishop calls for Prayers of Reparation; decrees partial indulgences

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost has called for the faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles to join him on Friday, June 27, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, in Prayers of Reparation for sins offending our Lord, especially in the Most Holy Eucharist.

The Bishop also decreed two *partial indulgences* – one for each devout recitation of the Prayer for the Family and one for the devout recitation of any hour of the Divine Office in the presence of Our Lord in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist, whether solemnly exposed for adoration or reserved in the tabernacle.

These two decrees, in particular law for the Diocese, were announced at the close of the Ordination Mass on Saturday, June 7. Along with them, a third decree was announced that the Apostolic Penitentiary for the Universal Church has granted a *partial indulgence* to the Christian Faithful who devoutly recite the Act of Reparation prepared by the Apostolic Penitentiary. This indulgence will be a *plenary* one when this Act of Reparation is publicly recited on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

According to the decrees, the norms for the reception of *partial indulgences* for re-

citing the Divine Office or the Prayer for the Family are that one must be at least inwardly contrite, have at least the general intention of acquiring them, and complete the prescribed works. Generally, while *partial indulgences* may be gained several times a day, these indulgences are granted for each hour recited and each time the Prayer for the Family is recited, according to the required conditions.

The decrees also explain that the indulgences pertain to all the faithful within the territory of the Diocese of Lake Charles and to all the faithful belonging to the Diocese of Lake Charles, even when outside the territory.

Bishop's call for Prayers of Reparation on June 27 may include a Holy Hour for the vigil of the Solemnity, communal recitation of the rosary, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, the praying of Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Prayer of Reparation. All are available to parishioners through their pastors and on the website of the diocese – [lcdioocese.org](http://lcdioocese.org).

The sins specifically mentioned by the Bishop that require reparation include, but are not restricted to desecration of the Eucharist, sacrilegious communions, disrespect for the Eucharistic Presence, blasphemy and profanity, and sins violating members of the Body of Christ, such as child abuse, human trafficking, racial prejudice, abortion, pornography, calumny, detraction, and disregard for sacred duties by those who have care for souls. All sin has a communal dimension.

"While we may not perform acts such as these in violation of God's will, we can be aware of them and even tolerate them and thus become responsible to whatever extent," Bishop Provost said.

The Office Decree of Announcement For Indulgences, the Decrees, the Prayer for the Family, and the Act of Reparation are available to print from the diocesan website – [lcdioocese.org](http://lcdioocese.org) – and have been provided to each church parish.

### Fourth of July office hours

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed Friday, July 4, to celebrate the 238th birthday of the United States. Regular office hours – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – resume on Monday, July 7.

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# PLANTING THE SEED

## Teaching requires giving the whole story

*"Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." Matthew 13:52*

Jesus spoke those words to His disciples when concluding His explanation of parables about the kingdom of heaven. Jesus was giving privileged information to them because He realized that not all would understand the message of His parables (Matthew 13:34-35). When we teach, we impart knowledge, and if our students are to understand better what is taught, then the teacher must give them the whole story—not just part of the story. [E]very scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven knows how to bring "from his storeroom both the new and the old." Jesus wanted an unencumbered transmission of His message. For example, in His day, Jesus was not handicapped by labels, this almost endless obsession with liberal/conservative that today surrounds almost every discourse in politics and in the Church. Jesus knew that we must live in the present, and to live well in the present we cannot ignore the accumulated wisdom of the past. Jesus saw no disconnect within the continuum of God's plan for His People. To preserve this continuity, tradition is indispensable.

Tradition is not to be understood here in its popular but rather broad and classical sense. By tradition I do not mean a return to a previous custom or way of thinking because "we always did it that way." Neither is tradition taking out a cultural treasure and treating it as we would an exhibit in a museum. Rather tradition is a firm foundation that allows us to build with the best of the past and the present. The tradition I am emphasizing here helps make possible the transmission of what we as Catholics call Sacred Tradition, the oral tradition which is part of Divine Revelation (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church #83). Tradition is a living and dynamic contribution from our cultural past that makes grasping the truth easier and embracing life more beautiful. A healthy respect for tradition fosters harmony, balance, perspective, and sobriety—all qualities sorely lacking in our modern world.

G. K. Chesterton in his book *Orthodoxy* observes the following: "Tradition means giving a vote to the most obscure

of all classes, our ancestors. It is the democracy of the dead.... Tradition refuses to submit to the small and arrogant oligarchy of those who merely happen to be walking about. All democrats object to men being disqualified by the accident of birth; tradition objects to their being disqualified by the accident of death" (Chapter 4, "The Ethics of Elfland"). Chesterton's appeal for tradition was grounded in the realization that if we ignore what has gone on before us, then our present is bankrupt. Anyone can tear down the past. Few can build for the future. The Church understands this.

The Church was not born yesterday. It is theologically the Body of Christ, as St. Paul spoke of it (cf. Ephesians 1:23, 5:23; Colossians 1:18, 24). But the Church also has a societal dimension. Evidence of the Church holding society together is seen throughout history. Whether it is the founding of the first universities or preserving manuscripts that made possible scientific advances we enjoy today or inventing musical notation or giving both the East and the West a common faith or making the values of the family and community an accepted goal or promoting the institution of marriage—the Church remains at the center of what has held society together through the centuries. Yes, some in the Church made mistakes. Serious errors were made. But the Church has and continues to correct the failings of its members, upholding standards and repenting for the sins of those who fall short of the Gospel.

Tradition is an important component in the life of the Church. We have just celebrated Pentecost, an event commonly referred to as the "birth of the Church." The Holy Spirit descended on the disciples, including Mary (cf. Acts 1:13-Acts 2:13), "as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim" (Acts 2:4). The Church has never stopped proclaiming because the Holy Spirit does not sleep. The Holy Spirit continues to work in our day



**Bishop  
Glen John  
Provost**

just as it did in the year 100 or 500 or 1000. The Church cannot forget the accumulated wisdom of the past that makes possible the proclamation in the present. This is part of tradition.

A healthy regard for tradition and a respect for inheritance have made and continue to make possible the Church's work. As I mentioned earlier, anyone can tear down. Not just anyone can build up. To build up one has to have a plan. To have a plan one must know what went on before, keep what is valuable, employ what is new, and discard what obscures the message. Read the sermons of St. Peter and St. Paul in the Acts of the Apostles. You will get the idea.

In late April the Church had the great joy of canonizing St. John Paul II and St. John XXIII. They were not canonized because one was "conservative" and the other was "liberal." The facts defy this silly proposition. They both reflected the continuance of a tradition. Let us not forget that "liberal" St. John XXIII issued an encyclical called *Veterum Sapientia* enshrining Latin as the Church's official language, laying the groundwork for Pope Benedict XVI's implementation of the Extraordinary Form, and that "conservative" St. John Paul II sharply criticized the excesses of capitalism, setting the stage for what we hear from Pope Francis. Holiness goes deeper than superficial labels. Pope Francis and cannot forget what their predecessors wrote and taught. That is tradition.

The Church recognized the genuine holiness of these two popes. They suffered through troubled times, witnessing the tyranny of Nazism and Soviet Communism, as well as the devastation following two world wars. They were anchors and they took Jesus Christ and His Church very seriously. They were nothing superficial in their approach. They gave everything they had to give and left behind nothing for themselves. They knew where the Church had been and they gave direction for the future, thanks to their openness to God and His inspiration. They "refused to submit to the small and arrogant oligarchy of those who merely happen to be walking about." They were wise heads of the household who knew how to bring from the storeroom "both the old and new."



Bishop Glen John Provost, right, stands with Reverend Msgr. C Eugene Morris, STL, Assistant Professor and Director of Sacred Liturgy at the Pontifical College Josephinum (Columbus, Ohio), in the Chapel of the Assumption in Taber Retreat House at Saint Charles Center following Mass with the priests of the Diocese of Lake Charles during their annual Convocation. Msgr. Morris, the event's keynote speaker, is a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and has taught at the Josephinum since the fall of 2010. He previously served on the faculty of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis.

## Pastoral assignments effective July 1

LAKE CHARLES – A number of pastoral assignments made by Bishop Glen John Provost become effective Tuesday, July 1.

Those assignments include Rev. Anthony Fontenot as Pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church in Lake Charles and Director of the Propagation of the Faith; Rev. Susil Fernando as Pastor of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Jennings; Rev. Carlos Garcia as Pastor at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vinton; Rev. Keith Pellerin as Pastor of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Kinder; Rev. Alan Trouille as Pastor of Our Lady of Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Welsh;

and Rev. Archimandrite Herbert May as Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole and Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in the Cameron.

Others are Rev. Timothy Goodly as Pastor-Designate of St. Pius X in Ragley; Rev. Nathan Long as Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Lake Charles and continuing as Secretary for Christian Formation and Director of Vianney House of Discernment; Rev. John Huckaby, Pastor of St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff – replacing the retiring Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois; Rev. Rojo Koonathan, H.G.N., as Pastor of St. Joseph Cath-

olic Church in Welsh with pastoral care of St. John the Evangelist in Lacassine; Rev. Gijo Ikkaramatton, H.G.N., as Pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry and Our Lady of the Assumption in Johnson Bayou; and Rev. Rommel Tolentino as Pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles.

Rev. Msgr. Jace Eskind was named Pastor at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Lake Charles; Rev. D. Bryan Thompson as Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur and continuing as Co-Chaplain for Hispanic Ministry; Rev. Matthew Cormier as

Parochial Vicar of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles; and Very Rev. J. Scott Conner as Vicar Forane for the East Deanery of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Named Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur was Rev. Bino Poovannikunnel, M.S., a priest of the Missionary of Our Lady of LaSalette. Rev. Andrews Kollannoor, M.S. became Pastor of Our Lady of LaSalette, Sulphur on May 23, replacing the retiring Rev. James Winiarski, M.S.

## 'Fortnight' links religious freedom, service

WASHINGTON (CNS) – For Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, the third annual Fortnight for Freedom is an opportunity to consider the link between religious liberty and service to the poor.

"People who value their Catholic faith will understand that there is an organic connection between what we believe and how we practice our faith in service well beyond the borders of the church," said Archbishop Lori. "We want to be able to practice it unabashedly, whether in church or in the workplace or as part of church ministry. We don't think we should have to compromise our beliefs in order to observe."

As chairman of the U.S. bishops' Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, Archbishop Lori has been involved with the fortnight movement from the beginning. Originally stemming out of a 12-page statement released by the committee in June 2012 titled "Our First, Most Cherished Liberty," the fortnight aims to protect religious liberties from government infringement.

For the Catholic Church, chief among threats to religious freedom is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' mandate that most employers, including Catholic hospitals, schools and charities, provide insurance coverage for contraceptives, sterilization and some abortion-inducing drugs.

Although the event mainly targets Catholics, Archbishop Lori cites the fortnight as a chance for individuals of all faiths to educate themselves regarding the issue of religious freedom.

"The aim of the Fortnight for Freedom is to build a prayerful awareness not only among Catholics, but among all people of good will, of the importance of religious freedom," he told Catholic News Service June 3. "This year, we are working with ecumenical and other faith groups to lay foundations over time for a larger, unified religious freedom movement."

Archbishop Lori will open this year's fortnight with Mass Saturday, June 21, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore. After two weeks dedicated to prayer, study, catechesis and public action, this year's program will end with Mass celebrated by Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on Friday, July 4.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, will be the homilist at the Independence Day Mass. Archbishop Kurtz is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Discussing this year's fortnight theme, "Freedom to Serve," Archbishop Lori said, "While almost everyone in our culture gives acknowledgement to freedom of worship, it is when churches step beyond their walls and reach out to the poor that religious freedom is sometimes challenged. Individuals have a duty to fulfill their life's mission in accordance with the

faith and what we believe."

As the church celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of political persecution throughout the two-week event, the archbishop hopes that campaigns like this will provide hope to religiously persecuted individuals everywhere.

"This is a time for individuals to come to understand better what religious freedom is, what the church teaches about it and how that affects the way we exercise good citizenship and an appropriate love for our homeland," said Archbishop Lori. "We believe that the flame of freedom ought to be kept burning brightly within this country as a beacon of hope for religiously persecuted people around the world."



### 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 humbled 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

# Volunteers honored at Catholic Charities Jazz Brunch

LAKE CHARLES -- This year's Catholic Charities Jazz Brunch featured soft jazz, Bishop Glen John Provost on the piano, and the bluegrass tunes of the Holy Mountain Bluegrass Band with Father Edward Richard, M.S., but above all provided good food and fellowship.

Held Sunday, May 18 at the Lake Charles Country Club, the event is the major fundraiser for Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana.

The soft jazz tones were rendered by Chester and Jarvis Daigle, well-known in local circles with Chester on keyboard and his son, Jarvis, on the violin. Bluegrass favorites were picked out by Father Richard and Bishop Provost provided a rendition of "Time Goes By" to the glee of the audience.

Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM, the director of Catholic Charities introduced herself. A native of Boston, she is a vowed member of the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Mich. The Order came to Lake Charles at the request of Bishop Provost.

She spoke of the many things she was beginning to like in Southwest Louisiana and even talked of "liking" the heat and humidity of the summer.

Two volunteers of Catholic Charities were honored for their Christian service to those in need.

The first to receive the volunteer appreciation award was Debra Richard. "Debra is in charge of the Food Distribution and works as a volunteer 40 hours a week." Sr. Mary Vianney said. "We wanted to express appreciation for all that she does but more for the way she is with the people who seek assistance."

A painting, first found in Germany and by an unknown artist, titled 'Our Lady Undoer of the Knots' was given to Richard.

"The painter wanted to represent the thought of St. Irenaeus who was said to compare Mary with Eve," Sr. Mary Vianney continued. "What Eve caused by her disbelief... Mary was able to undo with her faith."

The image shows Our Lady and two angels

- one angel handing her a ribbon all knotted (and representing the problems and struggles for which we do not see any solution). Mary receives the knots and quietly and lovingly undoes them, passing the smooth ribbon down to the second angel. "We can present any problem to Mary and she will help us unravel them," Sr. Mary Vianney continued. "Debra is naturally drawn to try to help at times, people with complicated problems or situations and advocates for them. Sometimes we at Catholic Charities can help and sometimes, if the person is unwilling or unable to help themselves at that time, she prays to Mary for them."

The second to be recognized was Blanche Landry, who was given an image of the Visitation, by the painter Dorothy Webster Hawksley.

"Blanche also works in the areas of Food Distribution, Beat the Heat Program, Christmas Gift Baskets and coordinating volunteer services," Sr. Mary Vianney said. "We wanted to focus more on how Blanche relates to the people who seek help at Catholic Charities... by phone or in person."

"The image of the Visitation between Mary and Elizabeth, reflects the natural gift that women have in relating with others," she continued. "Blanche has a wonderful way of reflecting back to a person their worthlessness, when she listens and responds to their concerns and goes out of her way to find a resource that can assist them. She teaches us that even when we cannot help a person with a particular problem - when we show respect and concern - the people do not leave empty-handed."

For the year 2013, Catholic Charities provided \$117,832.00 for rent/mortgage assistance/homelessness prevention program; \$32,276.00 for utility assistance; \$22,193.00 for the "Beat the Heat" air conditioning program.; \$8,800.00 for funeral assistance; and \$4,065.00 for employment/identification expenses. Food distribution amounted to 3,872 boxes.



Two volunteers - Debra Richard and Blanche Landry - were honored for their work with Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana during the annual Catholic Charities Jazz Brunch by Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM. Pictured are, from left Landry, Sr. Mary Vianney, Sr. Jennifer Reed, and Richard.

# St. Louis Class of 2014 numbers 158

LAKE CHARLES -- Natasha Navejar and Andrew Ammons, valedictorian and salutatorian respectively, led the 158 members of 2014 Senior Class of St. Louis Catholic High School at commencement ceremonies held in Burton Coliseum and Bishop Glen John Provost presented the St. Louis Awards to Suzanne Monlezun and Stephen Joshua Page.

The St. Louis Award goes to a male and female senior student voted as the outstanding Christian student at the school by their peers and approved by members of the faculty.

The awards, made possible by the Lake Charles Serra Club, are presented to students who have shown Love of God and Neighbor, Strong Moral Character, Desire to Serve Community, Courage to Stand up for Christian Principles, a Daily Christian Lifestyle, and Proper Use of God-Given gifts.

Valedictorian Natasha Navejar and Salutatorian Andrew Ammons each gave addresses to their fellow graduates.

Navejar likened her four years of high school to "the best four years of my life with friends that were more like family."

Ammons talked about the graduates' continuing journey. "The vast majority here has little idea about the next steps in our lives." He also quoted Lewis Carroll (from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland), noting, "when you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there."

Bishop Provost urged the graduates to continue "building their own house and to live in a moment worthy of your calling."

Members of the Class of 2014 included: Grey Edwin Abraham, Alaina Claire Aguilard, Jonathan Dale Allen, Madeline Grace Allen, \*Bayleigh Jonae' Allison, \*Andrew William Ammons (Salutatorian, GPA 4.46), Inez Elise Ange, John Francis Ange, Maia Desirae' Antoine, Grant Joseph Armentor, \*Annabelle Grace Bang, Andrew Gordon Barbie, Julia Rose Ba-

sone, William Augustus Bell, Brandi Lynne Bellard, Nikhil Mitesh Bhakta, Brandon Paul Bilbo, Timothy Graves Boring Jr., Ethan Joseph Boulton, \*Lindsey Anne Bower, Ellee Louise Boyer, Jack Austin Boyer, Morgan Joseph Broussard, Tyler Paul Broussard, Mylika Joy Brown, Talmadge Lane Joseph Bryant, \*Cassidy Jordan Caballero, \*Johnathan Grant Camara, \*Sarah Rose Carpenter, Caroline Blayke Chamberlain, William Steele Charles, Drew Elizabeth Chatters, \*Mary Kathryn Clements, \*Whitney Nicole Conner, Caleb Christopher Cormier, Jed Neal Cormier, \*Lauren Elise Courville, Sasha Francine Daigle, Andrew Scott Darbonne, Ashley Ann DeClouette, \*Emily Rose DeRouen, \*Tatiana JoAnn DeRouen, Austin Lance Doiron, Andrew Charles Dondis, Abigail Marie Dore', \*Annaleigh Lauren Drost, and Jack Widman Duplechin.

Also, Phillip Michael Ernst, Brooke Elise Falgoust, \*Mary Claire Fontenot, Morgan Gabrielle Fontenot, \*Maria Renee Francois, Whitney Alyxandra Frey, Karlis Lynn Paul Gardner, Alexander Andrew Gayle, \*Jolie Ann Gonsoulin, \*Dylan Kent Goodfriend, Hayley Clair Guidry, Khristian Alyse Guidry, Zachary Thomas Guidry, Lauren McKenzie Guillory, Jenna Marie Hacker, Stephen Calise Hanks, \*Olivia Renee' Hansen, Chaseton William Hebert, Olivia Kathryn Heinen, \*Jacob Michael Hinton, William Reed Hodgkins, \*Amani Hannah Husein, Anderson Tyler Hutchins, \*Anna Elyce Ieyoub, \*Nicholas David Ieyoub, Patrick Daniel Ieyoub, Hafeez Alexander Ijaz, Andrew Thomas Jester, Morgan Nell Johnson, \*Jennifer Edith Jones, \*Gabrielle Diane Kadlubar, Kaycie Carol Ella Ida Kennison, Gregory Walter Klumpp, \*Madeline Nicole Koenig, Kayleigh Ann Kohnke, Tyler Kade Kyeer, Alec David Landreneau, Stephen Michael LeBlanc, Glenn Conway LeBlau II, \*Alexandria Kathleen Lemoins, Laura Catherine Lewing, Alexandra Claire Loftin, \*Jonathan Packard

Lorio, Madeline Claire Mack, Makayla Francis Mackin, \*John Paul Marceaux, Paige Katherine McNeely, \*Robert Scott McPherson, Robyn Kari Meschwitz, Lee Louis Metoyer, Landry Dietz Miller, John Boyce Monk, \*Suzanne Louise Monlezun, \*Brett Michael Montelaro, William Carl Moreno, and Max McCain Morris III.

Also, \*Natasha Miranda Navejar (Valedictorian, GPA 4.52), \*Grant Walker Nelson, Maggie Rose O'Dowd, Jett Caitlin Olney, Stephen Joshua Page,, \*Samantha Ann Perez, Megan Kathleen Pettoveto, Abigail Kathleen Piatt, Derek James Poe, \*Hannah Pascal Pohorelsky, Kennedy Marie Poor, \*Charles Andrew Pousson, \*John William Pruitt, \*Briaunna Carlyse Rachal, \*Megan Lee Raftery, Collin Stewart Reed, Katelyn Montez Reid, \*Cullen Benjamin Richardson, Hunter Joseph Saltzman, Devin Nicole Sanders, Ashton Paul Savoie, \*Abigail Louise Schmitt, Jacob Levi Seep, \*Caroline Elizabeth Self, Madeline Rose Shelton, Clayton Joseph Sills, Austin Blake Simon, Narvey Dwight Sims, \*Jared Destin Smith, Anna Katherine Solari, William Sherman Solari, Christian Blake St. Romain, \*Leigh Taylor Steele, Terrell Hogan Stelly, Lehrue Stevens IV, Stefa'n Christopher Stevens, Ashlyn Danyelle Stewart, and Alexandra Leigh Stutes.

Also, \*Frances Barry Thompson, Gabriel Augustus Townsley, Sophia Ann Trafford, Ryan Gerard Troendle, Kaitlyn Makenzie Tunks, Jack Taylor Vanchiere, Laura Michelle Vaughan, Jacob Austin Vinson, \*Charlotte Estelle Wade, Richard Quinn Walker, Wilson Joseph Washington III, \*Claire Audrey Watkins, William David White, Devin Garrett Denison Wicke, Hunter Kade Wills, \*Caroline Keith Wilson, and \*Gabrielle George Wilson, Those with \* in front of names are Honor Graduates, and are students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher and at least six honors or Advanced Placement courses.



The invocation for the 31st Annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Avenue of Flags Monday, May 26, in Graceland-Orange Grove Cemetery was given by Bishop Glen John Provost. The Bishop serves as chaplain of the Sons of the American Revolution Oliver Pollock Chapter, which sponsors the Avenue of Flags. This year there were more than 920 memorial flags of veterans flying in the cemetery.

# Rally for Religious Freedom on June 28

SULPHUR - Bishop Glen John Provost will offer the opening prayer for the third Rally for Religious Freedom set for Saturday, June 28, in the Heritage Square Pavilion.

The Bishop will be among numerous other public representatives taking part in the event, which begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 1 p.m. Some of those participating are mayors Chris Duncan of Sulphur and Carol Ponthieux of Iowa; District Attorney John DeRosier; Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Tony Mancuso; District Judges Kent Savoie, David Ritchie, and Charles Schrupf; Louisiana Senator Mike Danahay, and others.

Music will be provided by Mickey Smith, Ted Nelson, and Hunter Forman and his band, The Grafted. KPLC-TV's John Bridges will serve as the Master of Ceremonies.

On Friday, June 27, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bishop Provost has called for the faithful of the Diocese to join him in Prayers of Reparation for sins offending our Lord, especially in the Most Holy Eucharist.

These Prayers of Reparation may include a Holy Hour for the vigil of the Solemnity, communal recitation of the rosary, visits to the Blessed Sacrament,

the praying of Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Prayer of Reparation, are available to all parishioners through their pastors.

According to the Bishop, the sins specifically mentioned that require reparation include but are not restricted to the following: desecration of the Eucharist, sacrilegious communions, disrespect for the Eucharistic Presence, blasphemy and profanity, and sins violating members of the Body of Christ, such as child abuse, human trafficking, racial prejudice, abortion, pornography, calumny, detraction, and disregard for sacred duties by those who have care for souls. All sin has a communal dimension.

"While we may not perform acts such as these in violation of God's will, we can be aware of them and even tolerate them and thus become responsible to whatever extent," Bishop Provost said.

The Office of Liturgy and the Office of the Bishop have forwarded information to the parishes on this worthy practice and Bishop Provost urges everyone to take part.

The Bishop will celebrate a Solemn Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form at 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 27, in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church.

Nationwide, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has called for the third annual Fortnight for Freedom - June 21 to July 4.

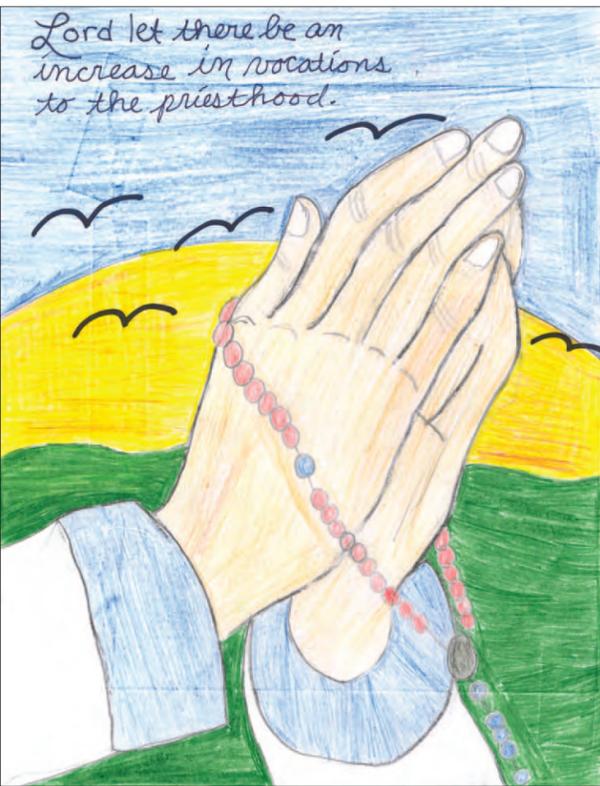
# World Meeting of Families announces official theme

PHILADELPHIA -- Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. and Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, President of the Pontifical Council for the Family, along with World Meetings of Families—Philadelphia 2015, have announced the official theme for the Eighth World Meeting of Families: "Love is our mission: the family fully alive." Inspired by the words of the early Church father, St. Irenaeus, "the glory of God is man fully alive," the conference theme reflects the central role of the family in teaching people how to receive and give love.

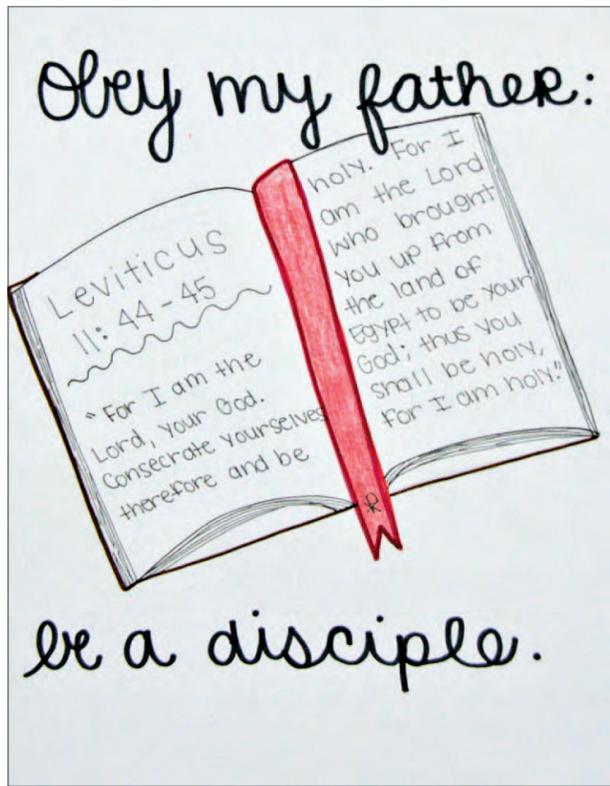
"His Holiness, Pope Francis embodies the message of mercy, joy and love that lies at the heart of the Gospel," said Archbishop Chaput. "His compassion for the genuine needs of people around the world and his deep care for the institution of the family have inspired our theme. It not only reminds each of us that love should be our life's 'mission' but that also it is the engine of life. Our goal for the 2015 World Meeting of Families is to create a moment of hope and celebration for all of the world's families - a moment in which we hope Pope Francis will join."



The highest honor a graduating senior of St. Louis Catholic High School can receive is the St. Louis Award. This year's winners were Suzanne Monlezun and Stephen Joshua Page. Pictured above, from left, are Very Reverend Marcus Johnson, Rector of St. Louis Catholic, Bishop Glen John Provost, Monlezun, Page, and Rev. Jeffrey Starkovich, St. Louis chaplain. Bishop Provost presented the awards at the school's May 13 Commencement Ceremonies.



Lord let there be an increase in vocations to the priesthood.



First prize, pictured at top left, in the annual vocation contest sponsored by the Office of Seminarians and Vocations was won by Claire Adams, a student at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and a parishioner at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church. She is the daughter of John and Alice Adams. Second prize, pictured at top center, went to Natasha Navejar, a graduate of St. Louis Catholic High School, parishioner of St. Theodore Catholic Church and the daughter of Felix and Alicia Navejar. Third place, picture at top right, was garnered by Olivia Meche, a student of St. Margaret of Scotland School and St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church. Her parents are Marty and Kelly Meche. Each of the winners is pictured above, left to right, with Bishop Glen John Provost.

# Campaign to improve children's lives begins

BATON ROUGE -- The Louisiana Interchurch Conference (LIC) has launched a five-year campaign to improve the lives of children throughout the state of Louisiana.

The LIC 'Bread or Stones Campaign' will focus primarily on improving services in four areas that most impact child well-being: prenatal and child health, school readiness and school dropout prevention, marriage and family supports, and child poverty reduction.

"In reports such as the Annie E. Casey Annual Kid's Count, Louisiana has consistently been ranked as one of the worst states in all measures of child well-being. This is completely unacceptable. We can do better," states Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Catholic Bishop Shelton Fabre, President of the LIC.

"The LIC Board calls upon the Governor of Louisiana and the Louisiana Legislature to set a goal and commit to a specific improvement in our national ranking," according to Bishop Fabre. "Without setting such a goal, we will continue to fail our children. We believe we can improve child well-being by working collaboratively with the state and among religions, non-profits, and civic organizations through education, social services, advocacy, and community development and organizing," he claims.

Louisiana has shown that child well-being can be improved through such programs as the Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP), the Louisiana Earned Income Tax Credit, and Maternal and Child Health Care Initiatives," according to Rev. Dan Krutz, LIC Executive Director. The state has begun to reduce teen pregnancy rates and has shown improvement in decreasing the number of low-birth-weight babies. "We have shown that we can improve our rankings in several of the child well-being indicators," remarked Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey of the United Methodist Church. However, among the 1,107,000 children in Louisiana, more than one in four (28 percent) live in poverty, which has a fundamental impact on whether or not children thrive.

Hundreds of churches in 16 Catholic and Protestant denominations have committed to the LIC Bread or Stones Campaign, inspired by the passage in the Gospel of Matthew (7:9) where Jesus asks: "Would one of you hand his child a stone when he asks for a loaf...?" In addition to services already provided, these religious congregations have committed to developing new church social services for families, advocating for state and federal children's programs, educating their members about the state of Louisiana's children and how to become better parents and organizing people to work together for safer, healthier communities.

"For too many years, instead of bread we have been handing stones to our Louisiana children," says Bishop Fabre. In addition to Bishop Fabre, all 24 leaders of the 16 LIC member denominations have committed their churches to the Bread or Stones Campaign.



Bishop Glen John Provost celebrated a special Mass for members of the Louisiana legislature in St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge. The state's bishops celebrate a monthly liturgy on a rotating basis during the legislative session. Assisting the Bishop was one of the diocesan seminarians -- Addison Pitre.

# Bishop Provost celebrates Mass for legislators

By Richard Meek  
The Catholic Commentator

State lawmakers should always acknowledge the Lord's presence, Bishop Glen John Provost of Lake Charles said during the homily of a special legislators Mass on May 22 at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Bishop Provost said the Eucharist is "very special for all of us," and Catholics should always be aware of "His presence."

"This is especially important for (legislators)," he added. "It's important to remember the Lord is with us. We must be keenly aware of how he works in our lives."

Bishop Provost said attending Eucharistic Adoration is an effective way to maintain that reminder. He recalled how a group of young students related to him adoration was the "high point" of their confirmation retreat.

"The young people connect with our Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament," Bishop Provost said, adding that as we grow older some Catholics take for granted the Eucharist. "It is at that point (young people) connect (with the Lord) in their lives."

A Mass is celebrated once a month for legislators while the legislature is in session. Louisiana Catholic of Conference Bishops associate director Robert Tasman said three years ago a legislator inquired about the possibility of celebrating a Mass for Catholic lawmakers while in session. Tasman said there are ecumenical and other religious services but at that time there was nothing specific for Catholics.

"We responded," he said "It's an opportunity (for lawmakers) to take time out of their busy schedules during the legislature and pray and reflect on their faith in an environment that is non-threatening and nothing is being asked of them."

The state's bishops celebrate the Mass on a rotating schedule.

(Richard Meek is the editor and general manager of The Catholic Commentator, the diocesan newspaper of the Diocese of Baton Rouge).

# Lawsuit 'disputes government's power' to require contraceptive coverage

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) -- The Archdiocese of Philadelphia and its Catholic Charities affiliates have sued three agencies of the U.S. federal government seeking relief from the federal mandate that most employers cover contraceptives in their employee health plans.

Under the federal health care law, the Department of Health and Human Services issued regulations requiring that employee health care coverage include contraception, sterilization procedures and potentially abortion-causing drugs, all of which violate Catholic Church teaching on the sanctity of human life. The suit was filed against HHS and the departments of Labor and Treasury on behalf of the archdiocese in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

The archdiocese's suit also named as defendants Kathleen Sebelius, former HHS secretary; Labor Secretary Thomas E. Perez and Treasury Secretary Jacob "Jack" Lew. In a statement June 3, the archdiocese said its suit was "grounded on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the First Amendment" of the Constitution, and it asks the court "to block enforcement of portions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that force religious employers to provide contraceptive services that violate Catholic belief."

# Did you know...

Pope Benedict IX was the nephew of his two immediate predecessors - Benedict VIII and John XIX - and sat on the throne of Peter three separate times: 1032-1044; 223 days in 1045; and from November 1047 until July 17, 1048, at which time he left the papacy. It is noted in the Catholic Encyclopedia that he lived out his life at the Abbey of Grottaferrata, near Rome.

St. Fabian was pope from 236-250 and is famous for the miraculous nature of his election. Do you know the nature of the "miracle"? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar, published on July 18.

## DOMESTIC CHURCH

# Discovering the heart of the Church in Rome, in the home

My wife, Kate, and I were able to go to Poland last month to give some presentations and meet with the Domestic Church community, a lay movement for Sacramentally married couples that began in Poland with the help of St. John Paul II and is now available in Louisiana. This was scheduled for the week after Divine Mercy Sunday, the day Popes John XXIII and John Paul II would be canonized, so it seemed that God had provided for a perfect start to such an important trip, and we booked our flights into Rome with plans to work our way into St. Peter's square to attend the canonization.

We knew it would be one of the most crowded canonizations in history, so we prayed for the best and contacted John Souder, one of our Lake Charles seminarians studying in Rome. What began as a joy-filled reunion with John and our Polish friends quickly became a rigorous, but deeply grace-filled pilgrimage with a million other people from around the world (mostly Poland!). We spent the night squeezed in the middle of a sea of people so tight that very few could sit, though the prayers and songs and a general feeling of gratitude to God remained constant as the hours passed. A few hours after the sun came up, we realized there was no hope of getting into the square, and though we were disappointed, regret was far from our minds. We knew that we, along with the hundreds of thousands of others standing in the streets, felt that our sacrifices were truly fruitful and we were grateful to be there with so many others rejoicing in the great things God has done in the Church and yearning to be as close to the heart of it as

possible.

After John allowed us to rest a bit at the seminary, we bid him farewell and drove from Rome to Poland, making a few stops to take advantage of some of the incredible holy sites along the way. It is such a gift to see the same heart of the Church that we experienced in Rome present in every holy place, in every tabernacle, in every country and city we visited, though each in its own unique way. The shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Poland was definitely one of the highlights. Mary's presence is felt so intensely there, and while standing in front of the ancient icon, it is clear that everything can be entrusted to her motherly care and intercession, and no need will go unanswered.

During the Domestic Church meetings, presentations, and retreat, we experienced the heart of the Church in a different way. Our Domestic Church community here in Lake Charles has only been operative for two and a half years, but we have already seen intense changes and very real spiritual growth in many marriages and families. Domestic Church began in Poland, however, over forty years ago, and the great fruits of the movement are very clear in the couples who are involved. We saw in them such deep joy and gratitude for their spouses



**David Dawson**

and their children, and they knew their faith so well! However, their knowledge of their faith and of God wasn't just a "head knowledge," but it was as if they knew God personally, and had the ability to hear Him speak to them in Scripture, in the Mass, and in their prayer, and to actually recognize His face in each other and in their kids. This doesn't mean they don't struggle or suffer; all of the couples we spoke with had many struggles and deep suffering, but they had found the way to experience God's presence and help within the reality of their difficulties.

We returned home filled with hope for our own marriage and the coming challenges our family faces, but we are also very hopeful and filled with gratitude for all the couples here who are with us on the journey, together with their spouses to receive all that God desires to give us. As the Domestic Church movement continues to grow here in the U.S., we are intensely grateful to God for the gift of St. John Paul II and for giving us access to the Heart of the Church, the Heart of Christ, especially in the "church" of our own homes.

*David Dawson has served as the Director of the Office of Marriage and Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles for a year. Beginning July 1, he will take over a similar role in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. He and his wife, Katherine Anne, are the parents of four children.*

## July, August events at Saint Charles Center

**MOSS BLUFF** – The months of July and August provide a number of retreats and programs at Saint Charles Center.

Participants can register for some events on line at [stcharlescenter.com](http://stcharlescenter.com) and can call 337-855-1232 for more information. Other events require direct contact with Saint Charles Center.

Fr. Don Piraro, Judy Savoie, Gloria Villegas, Robin Hebert and Gwin Miller-Cronin will provide an Introduction to the Directed Retreat from Friday, June 27 to Sunday, June 29.

July offerings include "Saving America" with Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, July 8, from 6 to 9 p.m.. Deadline for registration is Thursday, July 3. The suggested donation is \$20.00 per person. Also, on Tuesday, July 8, Fr. Don Piraro will lead the Spiritual Book Club from 6 to 9 p.m. The July selection is "Merton's Palace of Nowhere" by James Findley. Deadline for registration is Thursday, July 3.

An Engaged Encounter will be held Friday through Sunday, July 11-July 13. Contact Mr. and Mrs. Paul Trahan at 337-898-9257 to register or

for information. The suggested donation is \$190.00 per couple.

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Healing After Abortion is Friday, July 18 through Sunday, July 20 with Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and Diocesan Team. The weekend combines discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential. The cost is \$210.00. For more information or registration, contact Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400 ext. 317 or e-mail [rachels.vineyard@lediocese.org](mailto:rachels.vineyard@lediocese.org).

Instruction in the Byzantine-Russian Tradition of the Prosopon School of Iconography returns with a beginning/intermediate Icon Writing Workshop from Monday, July 21 to Sunday, July 27. The cost for beginners is \$1,098.00. The intermediate/advanced course costs \$938.00 with students providing their own supplies. A non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of \$150.00 is required to reserve a space. Class size is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis.

Deposits will only be refunded in the case of workshop cancellation. Please make checks payable to: Prosopon Icon Workshop-Lake Charles. Contact Sylvia Marcantel at 337-304-2911 or e-mail [smarcantel@suddenlink.net](mailto:smarcantel@suddenlink.net) for information and registration form.

Fr. Whitney Miller leads an Evening of Reflection "The Family at Prayer: Helpful Hints and Suggestions for Strengthening Households of Faith" on Tuesday, August 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. Deadline is Friday, August 8. Suggested donation is \$20.00 per person and \$30.00 for a couple.

"Co-Dependency According to Scripture" is Tuesday, August 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. with Sr. Diane Depwe Register by the Friday, August 22 deadline. Suggested donation is \$20.00 per person.

The August Spiritual Book Club, led by Fr. Don Piraro, is Tuesday, August 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. The month's selection is "The Gift of Being Yourself, The Sacred Call to Self-Discovery" by David Benner. Registration deadline is Friday, August 22. Suggested donation is \$20.00 per person.

## ICCS principal named

**LAKE CHARLES** – Christina R. Jarreau, a teacher with 14 years experience in both public and Catholic education, has been named principal of Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School (ICCS) for the 2014-2015 school term.

Mrs. Jarreau, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Louisiana State University (1997) and a Masters of Science in Educational Administration from Texas A&M Corpus Christi (2001), has most recently served as Middle School Religion teacher at ICCS. She also holds lifetime – non-public school – certification in all levels of physical education.

Her other teaching stints began in 2001 at Maplewood Middle School as the middle school PE, girls coach and middle school math teacher. In 2003, she went to Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic



**Christina Jarreau**

School where she served as Pre-K to 8th grade PE coach and girls middle school coach.

From 2008-2010, she taught middle school math at Our Lady Queen of Heaven and moved to middle school coor-

dinator in 2010-2011.

She taught fourth and fifth grade English and Spelling at ICCS from 2011-2012.

A parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, Mrs. Jarreau has also served as a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS-CASI) review team and as a member of the SACS-CASI leadership team for an onsite visit during the 2009-2010 school year at Our Lady Queen of Heaven School.

She also took part in the Diocese of Lake Charles administrator training workshop, was a member of the ICCS fair assessment committee, on the ICCS administrative team and is currently serving as a PREP teacher, Lifeteen, and Confirmation group leader at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church.



In the top photo, Rev. Rommel Tolentino, chaplain of the Stella Maris Seafarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles and pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry, sprinkles holy water on one of 28 boats blessed on Sunday, May 25, in honor of National Maritime Day. Assisting Father Tolentino is Deacon Patrick LaPoint, the director of the Seafarers Center. In the bottom picture, a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Lake Charles Marine Safety Unit lays a wreath on Lake Charles in remembrance of the men and women sailors who have given their lives in maritime service. On the previous Thursday, May 22, Maritime Day, the new Harbor Police Department Security Center was dedicated at the Port of Lake Charles. Both events were sponsored by the Propeller Club of Southwest Louisiana.

**NEXT CATHOLIC CALENDAR  
PUBLISHED JULY 18**

## Catholic schools calendars for 2014-2015 are released

**LAKE CHARLES** – The Office of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles has released the school calendars for the 2014-2015 academic year, according to Kimberlee Gazzolo, superintendent.

Catholic schools in the Diocese include St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, St. Margaret

of Scotland Catholic School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur; and Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings.

Six of the seven Catholic schools in the Diocese will open classes on Thursday, August 14, while the seventh,

Our Lady Immaculate, will have its first day on Friday, August 8. The difference relates to the different opening dates of public schools in the civil parishes of Calcasieu and Jefferson Davis.

School holidays include Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 1; Thanksgiving, Monday, Nov. 24 to Friday, Nov. 28; Christmas, Monday, Dec. 22-Friday, Jan. 2; Dr. Martin Luther

King, Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 19; Mardi Gras, Friday, Feb. 13, Monday, Feb. 16; Tuesday, Feb. 17; and Easter, Friday, April 3 to Friday, April 10.

St. Louis will also be closed for classes on Monday, Oct. 13.

Our Lady Immaculate will have the same holiday schedule in addition to being closed on Friday, Oct. 3 – Jennings

Fair Day; a Christmas Holiday that begins Friday, Dec. 19 and continues through Friday, Jan. 2; and Records Day on Thursday, May 21. The OLI Mardi Gras holiday will be different as well – Monday, Feb. 16-Wednesday, Feb. 18.

Commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2015 of St. Louis will be held Tuesday, May 12.

The sessions end at the schools in Calcasieu Parish on Friday, May 22 and at Our Lady Immaculate on Thursday, May 21.

The calendars can be printed out at the website of the Diocese – [lediocese.org](http://lediocese.org). They are listed at the bottom of the story – 2014-2015 Catholic School Calendars Released.

# St. Joseph Chapel in Soileau to reopen

OBERLIN – St. Joseph Chapel, located in Soileau, will be reopened following the approval by Bishop Glen John Provost of a request from Father Jacob S. Conner, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin.

The chapel, a mission of St. Joan of Arc, has been unused since March 20, 2005, one of seven mission chapels closed at that time. Bishop Provost announced the reopening of the chapel, due to a pastoral need, at the May 15 Confirmation ceremonies held at St. Joan of Arc. Announcements by Father Conner followed at St. Joan's masses on the weekend of May 17-18. St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, still in use, is adjacent to the chapel.

"The chapel had been a topic of discussion by the faithful since its closing,"

said Father Conner. "The faithful made inquiries about the possibility of reopening the chapel. The benefits of having a functional chapel for the parish were seriously discussed."

Father Conner pointed out that "there is a considerable Catholic presence in the area."

Catholic history in the Oberlin area actually began in the Soileau community, then known as Hampo and later as Prairie Soileau, in 1893. It was a modest area of farming and timber. The first chapel, built of rough timber, was located on 10 acres donated by Johann Simon. In 1899, fire destroyed this small structure and a new chapel was erected in Oberlin, closer to the railroad, which was the mode of transportation used by the priests from Immaculate Conception

Church in Lake Charles, first Church in Lake Charles, Alexandria) Cornelius Van de Ven and then Father Hubert Cramers. In 1913, with the establishment of St. Paul Catholic Church in Elton as a parish, the area became its mission. In 1920, St. Joan of Arc was erected as a parish and the chapel came under the new parish.

In 1964, the area became mission territory of the Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Duralde, located in the Diocese of Lafayette. This was also the year of the construction of the current chapel building.

In 1980, with the establishment of the boundaries of the new Diocese of Lake Charles, St. Joseph returned to its stature as a mission chapel of Oberlin.



Plans continue to evolve for the reopening of St. Joseph Chapel in Soileau, a mission of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin.

## Peter's Pence Collection: "Be a Witness of Charity"

WASHINGTON—The Peter's Pence Collection will be taken up in the Diocese of Lake Charles on the weekend of June 28-29. This collection offers Catholics the opportunity to reach out to the poor and suffering by joining Pope Francis in his charitable works throughout the world.

The collection's 2014 theme is "Be a Witness of Charity" and focuses on the need to show Christ's love

to others. This worldwide collection supports needs of the Church and humanitarian activities by caring for victims of war, oppression, religious persecution and natural disasters. Donations to the collection will also assist seminaries and institutes of Christian formation in developing countries.

"The Peter's Pence Collection is a way for individual Catholics to help Pope Francis as he reaches

out to our suffering brothers and sisters around the world," said Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr of Cincinnati, chairman of the Committee on National Collections of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). "The collection offers us a unique way to witness our faith, by joining our charity with the person who is the visible representative of Christ in the world."



Seven Novices of the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Mich., visited Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM, and director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lake Charles recently. The novices, entering the second year of their novitiate, along with Novice Mistress, Sr. Mary Nika, RSM, drove from Michigan to visit other Religious Sisters of Mercy communities in St. Louis, Missouri and Tulsa, Okla., before journeying to Lake Charles, the newest RSM community. The Novices, pictured above, from left, are Sr. Marie Faustina, Sr. Pia Marie, Sr. Marie Rafqa, Sr. Marie Josepha, Sr. Mary Elisha, Sr. Paul Mary, and Sr. Maliya.

## Funeral brochure distributed; downloadable from website

LAKE CHARLES -- A funeral brochure, produced by the Diocese of Lake Charles and disseminated to all 38 church parishes and the funeral homes in the diocese, includes important information regarding cremation and Words of Remembrance, two issues that surface often when planning funerals.

Bulletin and pulpit announcements were also provided to each parish church.

According to Rev. Derek Covert, the Judicial Vicar of the diocese, it is important for everyone to know and understand what the Church expects in these situations.

"The document addresses these issues from a pastoral, canonical and liturgical standpoint," Father Covert said. "It is not an exhaustive reference and does not replace having a conversation with your parish priest or deacon when planning a funeral for a loved one."

Some people don't realize that the Church does not prohibit cremation but does offer some conditions on the practice - making sure the remains of person should be placed in a place of respect.

Such a place would not include on a mantle, in a vital worn around a person's neck, or cast to the winds. "These would not be considered in keeping with the Church's longstanding traditions or reverence to the person," Father Covert said.

A bodily burial is preferred by the Church. If the person is to be cremated, it is preferred that the body be in the church or funeral home at the time of service, then cremated.

"This practice allows those remaining the opportunity to deal with the reality of death, the sorrow, and to see and to remember the person," Father Covert said. "It is consoling."

The brochure is available for download from the website of the diocese - [lcediocese.org](http://lcediocese.org).

The brochure was printed in a significant but limited number, according to Father Covert and "having it available on the website for download is important. Parishes and funeral homes may print more on their own, if they distribute all they have. It is an available resource, one that could initiate a conversation about the funeral process. It is also

hoped that the discussion will then lead to other items in the funeral service - scripture readings, music, etc.

"The goal is to have the idea of preparing for a person's funeral come up in years in advance," he said.

Father Covert also pointed out that the topic of "Words of Remembrance" rather than "eulogy" is covered in the brochure.

"Eulogies are about the person," Father Covert said. "The real focus of the funeral is Christ, about being clothed in Christ and what Christ has done for us, in consolation and offering people who mourn. Certainly personal aspects of the deceased should be mentioned in the homily."

Words of Remembrance can be placed within the context of the funeral Mass, at the wake, following a rosary, or a prayer service, Father Covert noted.

"They could focus on the person's life of faith, that they were a regular churchgoer, their charitable activities, volunteerism, kindnesses among families and friends," Father Covert said. "They are brief and must not take the place of Christ."

## Spanish bishops praise Juan Carlos

OXFORD, England (CNS) -- King Juan Carlos of Spain received a tribute from the country's bishops after he announced his decision to abdicate in favor of his son.

The executive committee of Spain's bishops' conference described the work of the outgoing 76-year-old king as having "extraordinary value" because of his work on behalf of democracy during his 39 years on the throne. "All Spanish bishops recognize and appreciate the work of His Majesty the King, Don

Juan Carlos, and his generous gifts and contributions to Spain's recent history, particularly to establishing and consolidating democratic life, which was especially relevant during the political transition," the bishops' committee said in a statement. It said Crown Prince Felipe de Borbon y Grecia, Prince of Asturias, who will succeed his father, had "proved his qualifications and competence" to continue the monarchy's "constitutional

service."

Meanwhile, Archbishop Julian Barrio of Santiago de Compostela, praised the king's "affection" for the western Catholic shrine and close ties with the city, as well as his periodic attendance at Mass in the city's historic cathedral. "I feel utmost respect for his decision," the archbishop said in a June 3 message posted on the archdiocesan website.

## Diocesan Briefs.....

### "Beat the Heat" program begins

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana and the Fourth Degree Knights of Peter Claver, with assistance from the City of Lake Charles, once again sponsor the "Beat the Heat" program.

This annual program offers window air conditioning units to households with individuals who are over 65 or disabled.

Those in need who qualify should call 439-7436 during the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to register.

### Food Pantry distribution set

LAKE CHARLES – Beginning Friday, July 18, food pantry distribution at Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, 1225 Second Street, will from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Third Friday of each month.

Contact Catholic Charities at 337-439-7436 for information on client certification to receive food distributions.

Food will be supplied to St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vinton and Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur for distribution as well as the regular distribution at Catholic Charities.

### Our Lady Immaculate Summer raffle

JENNINGS – Tickets for the Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School Summer Raffle are now available.

First prize is \$3,000, second is \$500, third, fourth and fifth are \$100 each.

The final day to purchase is Wednesday, August 6, with the drawing set at the end of the first day of classes, Friday, August 8. Winners need not be present. Tickets may be purchased from any OLI family or through the school's front office.

### 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.

This unique retreat allows participants to enter the grieving process, identify effects the abortion has had and release deep feelings of anger, shame, and guilt that frequently accompany an abortion experience and combines the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a memorial service, and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential.

Call Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail [rachels.vineyard@lcediocese.org](mailto:rachels.vineyard@lcediocese.org) for information.

### Together for Life Marriage Prep

MOSS BLUFF – Together for Life, a weekend marriage preparation event sponsored by the Office of Family Life, is Saturday and Sunday, August 23-24. Saturday's events are in Tabor Retreat House at Saint Charles Center and on Sunday the location changes to the Diocesan Chancery, 414 Iris Street.

For more information, call 337-439-7400, Ext. 301. A registration form is available at [www.live.lcediocese.org/forms.html](http://www.live.lcediocese.org/forms.html)

### 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 337-779-5953; Laura Hobgood at 338-480-1280; Jackie Stewart at 337-540-8959 or the office of Dr. Darbonne at 337-474-3883.

### Day of Refreshment for Women

NEW ORLEANS -- The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of New Orleans will sponsor its annual Day of Refreshment for Women on Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Matthew the Apostle in River Ridge.

Theme for the day is "Let Everything that Has Breath Praise the Lord." Cost is \$30 and includes lunch. Register online at [www.ccrno.org](http://www.ccrno.org) by Wednesday, June 25 to order a lunch. On-site registrations are accepted but no lunch is guaranteed. For more information, call 504-828-1368 or visit [www.ccrno.org](http://www.ccrno.org).

### 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.

Registration fee is \$190 per couple. Contact Paul and Carolyn Trahan at 337-898-9257 or 337-254-8947, or e-mail [cee.trahan@gmail.com](mailto:cee.trahan@gmail.com) for information or to register.

### Artisan's Fair in July; items sought

SULPHUR – 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

and 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](mailto:gdaruss@msn.com) for information.

Proceeds from both fees help to fund the Court's many projects including Relay for Life, New Life Counseling Center and the court's CDA Kid.

### 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. Call 337-527-9969 for more information.

The Jeep was donated by Autoplex 2000.

### 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 Courtroom A of the Historic Calcasieu Parish Courthouse.

Judges, attorneys, and government officials from the five civil parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles – Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jefferson Davis – are invited to attend. The local St. Thomas More Society, Judge Henry Yelverton Chapter, and the Diocese sponsor the event.

### Katelyn Foreman second in essay contest

LAKE CHARLES -- Katelyn Foreman, a student at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, placed second in "The Luckiest Man" Essay Contest, hosted by The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter.

The three winners were recognized at the Louisiana State Capitol in May. The contest is an opportunity to raise awareness of ALS by educating young people on the legendary New York Yankee, Lou Gehrig, who was diagnosed with ALS in the prime of his baseball career.

The contest was open to all 8th grade students in Louisiana