

CATHOLIC CALENDAR



The Diocese of Lake Charles
lodiocese.org



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

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Seventeen to be ordained to permanent diaconate on August 16

LAKE CHARLES – Seventeen men will be ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Glen John Provost on Saturday, August 16, during a 10 a.m. Mass in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

The ordination will conclude a five-year journey of study and discernment for these deacon candidates. Fourteen parishes are represented by the 17 men. The Bishop instituted them as acolytes on August 10, 2013, during a liturgy at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Sulphur. He had previously instituted the group as lectors October 3, 2012 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Kinder. Bishop Provost had accepted them as deacon candidates on June 11, 2012 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Lake Charles.

Deacons, whether permanent or transitional (those men who are to be later ordained to the priesthood) are ordained clergy just like priests and bishops. The ministries that deacons perform include the teaching mission of the Church, caring for the poor, performing baptisms and marriages, conducting funeral liturgies, presiding at wake services and assisting the priest at Mass by proclaiming the Gospel, preaching, leading the intercessions, preparing the altar, and intoning the dismissal. Most are engaged in outside occupations. Some are retired and still others have full time ministries within the diocese or at their assigned parish.

The 17 new deacons will bring the total number of deacons, active and retired, in the Diocese of Lake Charles to 38. At the close of the liturgy, the newly ordained deacons will learn their pastoral assignments.

Short biographical sketches of the 17 follow:

Glen Bertrand is a native of Jennings and is married to Tirana Bertrand. The couple has two children, live in DeRidder and are parishioners of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from McNeese State University and

serves as the Chief Executive Officer of City Savings Bank. He previously held positions at First National Bank of Lake Charles and Calcasieu Marine National Bank.

Bertrand is the coordinator of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at St. Joseph. He is the current chairman of the diocesan pastoral council as well as the Southwest Louisiana Chamber of Commerce and Alliance and serves on the board of directors of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana and the McNeese State University Foundation.

He is past president of the DeRidder Rotary Club.

Josue Canelo, a member of St. Henry Catholic Church, was born in Venezuela. He and his wife Isa Lopez Canelo have four children.

He attended the Institute Universitary Polytechnic of the National Army Forces graduating with honors with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and earned a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Leeds and a Masters in Business Administration. He also holds Certification in Reliability Engineering- Monash University/ University of Tennessee; an MBA from the University of Zulia-Venezuela; Master Certificate in Six Sigma-Villanova University; and Specialization in Costs-University of Zulia-Venezuela.

Canelo has served as a lector at St. Henry. He has served in a variety of positions - maintenance supervisor, maintenance engineer, reliability engineer, consultant and engineering associate - in the oil refining, power generation and chemical industries.

He is a member of the International Club of Southwest Louisiana and has served as a volunteer prison minister at the Calcasieu Sheriff's Prison for the past nine years.

Erroll DeVille is a native of Lake Charles and a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. He and his wife Carla DeVille are the parents of four children.

DeVille attended Southern University in
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Glen Bertrand



Josue Canelo



Erroll DeVille



Richard Donahoe



Keith Ellender



Christopher Fontenot



Dan Foreman



Chris Gregory



Michael Guillory

Couples honored for marriage anniversaries

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost honored 58 couples celebrating jubilee anniversaries of Christian marriage during the annual ceremony in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, June 22 – the Feast of Corpus Christi (the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ).

The event is sponsored by the Office of Family Life. Bishop Provost presented each couple with a special certificate honoring their long-time commitment. Those with anniversaries of 25 and 50 years were recognized as well as couples married longer – 55, 60, and 70 years.

The longest-married couple, Verna and Nelson Bourgeois of Our Lady Queen of

Heaven Catholic Church in Lake Charles, were recognized for 70 years of marriage, having wed on August 15, 1944.

In his homily, Bishop Provost noted that, “In marriage we celebrate faith. I want to say thank you to all the couples here for your radical witness. Thank you for your Eucharistic faith, your faithful attendance at Mass, your work to build a domestic Church in your homes, your desire to pass this challenging faith on to your children.”

“Thanks to you, our faithfully married couples, we have a witness that the world today desperately needs,” the Bishop continued. “In the ‘old days,’ we presumed a great

deal. Today we can presume nothing. Married life is difficult enough, but made even more challenging by the economic, social, and cultural changes that we see taking place. Not all of these changes, it must be said, are for the better.”

“The very fabric of our social order is jeopardized when marriage is redefined,” he said. “The union of one man and one woman in fidelity and mutual giving is essential. Our preaching is important to restate this truth, but the faithful witness to a marriage well lived is worth more than a thousand words. For this reason we thank you.”

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Third Bishop's Gala set Dec. 13

LAKE CHARLES – The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra will provide smooth “Big Band” sounds at the Third Annual Bishop's Gala on Saturday, Dec. 13, in the Lake Charles Civic Center, according to Msgr. Daniel Torres, V.G. and Msgr. Ronald Groth, Gala co-chairman.

The orchestra's band leader is Terry Myers, who has a wealth of experience as a musician and an orchestra leader. His talent, his leadership qualities, and his ability to put an audience at ease are admired by musicians and concertgoers alike.

Last year's Bishop's Gala raised \$63,193.47 to support

the ministries of the diocesan Office of Communications.

Tickets, which will be available July 25, are \$125 each and a table for 10 can be purchased for \$1,250. They can be purchased in the parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles, at the Chancery at 414 Iris Street, Crossroads Bookstore, 701 W. Prien Lake Road, and on the website of the Diocese. To buy tickets on the website, using your credit card or e-check, go the lodiocese.org and click on the “Support the Diocese” button on the front page. Then, click on “Bishop's Gala Tickets” and follow the easy instructions.

Special sponsorship opportunities include one Bishop's Table for a contribution of \$30,000. For the donation, eight individuals receive dinner with Bishop Glen John Provost at the Gala with Concierge Service; special individual gifts; and special mention in the Gala Program and from the bandstand that evening; attendance at the VIP social from 6 to 6:30 p.m. before the Gala opens to the public and a photograph with the Bishop. In addition, they will be honored at a special Thank You dinner on a to-be-determined date at *LEvêché*, the Bishop's Residence.

Several other levels of sponsorship are also available – Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Crystal. Multiple numbers of these sponsorships will be offered.

Platinum Sponsors will receive two tables for 10, special individual gifts, special mention in the Gala program and from the bandstand that night, and VIP social from 6 to 6:30 p.m. before the Gala opens to the public and includes a photograph with Bishop Provost. Each of the Platinum sponsorships is \$20,000.

Gold Sponsors receive a table for 10 with special seating, recognition in the Gala program and from the bandstand that night, and a VIP social from 6 to 6:30 p.m. before the Gala opens to the public and includes a photograph with Bishop Provost for a \$10,000 donation.

For \$5,000, Silver Sponsors receive a table for 10 with special seating and recognition in the Gala program while Crystal sponsorships get a table for 10 and recognition in the Gala program for a \$3,000 donation.

Call Msgr. Torres at 337-439-7400 for additional information on these special sponsorships.

Participation in this wonderful event provides for the continuation of the production and airing of the Glad Tidings television program each Sunday morning on KPLC-TV. The preparation and publication of the Catholic Calendar in five regional newspapers is made possible by attendance at the Gala. The website of the Diocese –

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Bishop Glen John Provost, above left, pronounces a blessing on the married couples (photo at right, above) honored for jubilee anniversaries of Christian marriage during the annual celebration Sunday, June 22, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Fifty-eight couples received certificates signifying their years of faithfulness to each other. The Office of Marriage and Family Life sponsors the yearly recognition.

PLANTING THE SEED

Discourses in Gospel of Matthew extremely important

One of the true strokes of genius and an inspired moment in the liturgical renewal is the development of a cycle of readings for the Catholic liturgy. The cycle for Sunday readings rotates over a three-year period, designated A, B, and C. In this way the Church exposes us to more of the Sacred Scripture. In 2014 we find ourselves in Cycle A for the Sundays of the year. Following Lent and Easter and some significant solemnities, in July we begin to read the Gospel of St. Matthew at our Masses. I would like to share with you a few characteristics of the Gospel of St. Matthew that might help us understand its importance in the Christian proclamation.

First, the Gospel of St. Matthew is filled with discourses. As a matter of fact, there are five. The first one is the most famous, the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). The others are: the missionary discourse (Matthew 10); the parables (Matthew 13); the discourse on the Church (Matthew 18); and the eschatological discourse (Matthew 24-25). As a body, they present a significant amount of teaching. These discourses make St. Matthew unique. Many scholars point out that St. Matthew seeks to demonstrate the superiority of Jesus. St. Matthew wants to give proof that Jesus is above the rest and the supreme expression of God's revelation.

In his book *Jesus of Nazareth*, Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI points out that nothing can explain Jesus, as revealed in the Gospels, unless we understand how radical and sweeping were his teachings. "Unless there had been something extraordinary in what happened, unless the person and the words of Jesus radically surpass the hopes and expectations of the time, there is no way to explain why he was crucified or why he made such an impact" (Jesus of Nazareth, xxii). To illustrate this, the Pope-Emeritus emphasizes the expectations of the Jewish people. Moses was their lawgiver and primary teacher. We read Moses himself saying in Deuteronomy, "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kindred; to him you shall listen" (Deuteronomy 18:15). The Evangelists are acutely aware that Jesus fulfills this promise. Thus, Jesus communicates this definitive message and the fulfillment of this promise particularly in his teaching. The discourses in St. Matthew are emphatic about this Gospel.

The Gospel of St. Matthew is particularly addressed to a Jewish audience. His purpose is to show that Jesus indeed fulfilled the prophecies and expectations of the Jewish people contained in their sacred scriptures. I will cite only one example, but it is an important one. The passage in question occurs early in the Gospel. When Joseph discovers that Mary,

his intended spouse, is expecting a child, he decides to divorce her quietly. However, an angel appears to him in a dream and explains that it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that Mary has conceived. The angel proclaims, "She is to have a son and you are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). St. Matthew then adds a commentary. He writes, "All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will bear with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel,' a name which means 'God is with us'" (Matthew 1:22-23). St. Matthew is quoting Isaiah 7:14 to draw an important link. In other words, this child who has been conceived miraculously is the one about whom Isaiah spoke. Or, to express it perhaps more fully, the event of Jesus' coming is a fulfillment of the words of Isaiah. I would encourage anyone when reading the Gospel of St. Matthew to watch for these passages in which he quotes Old Testament antecedents, preparatory prophecies, underlying citations, which are fulfilled in the coming of Jesus. In this way, Jesus is shown not only to be a prophet like Moses but one who is greater. Watch for the words, "And this was to fulfill..."

A third characteristic is highlighted by one of the five discourses mentioned earlier. If Jesus is the fulfillment of a prophecy about one who would surpass Moses, then no discourse perhaps better typifies this fulfillment than "The Sermon on the Mount." Jesus "went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them..." (Matthew 5:1-2). Jesus ascends the mountain. So did Moses. Moses taught. So does Jesus. Jesus sits to do so, as would the rabbi in the synagogue or any other teacher in the ancient world, the chair or seat symbolizing his authority. Moses mediated the Decalogue, communicating the Ten Commandments of the Covenant to the people. Jesus gives the Beatitudes. One does not factor out the other. The Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes are complimentary. In fact, they are part of the same teaching. Those who thirst for righteousness, extend mercy, live with clean hearts, and foster peace are those who embody what it means to fulfill the Ten Commandments. Thus begins the Sermon on the Mount, the great teachings about love of enemies, the importance of almsgiving, the intimacy of prayer to the Father, the location of



Bishop Glen John Provost

true treasure, our faith in God, and how our holiness must surpass even the scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus is finished, St. Peter says the words: "When Jesuses finished these words, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes (Matthew 7:28-29). Indeed, they must be astonished because, "There is something greater than Jonah here" (Matthew 12:41). "There is something greater than Solom here" (Matthew 12:42). Jesus teaches with real, definitive authority, an authority that no one else possesses.

The theme running through the Gospel of St. Matthew is that Jesus is something "over and above." He speaks with authority and acts with authority. He gives authority, most notably to St. Peter. Jesus says to him. "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 16:19). We must not forget that the authority Jesus gives to St. Peter is part of the fulfillment that Jesus brings. We must also not forget that the kingdom that Jesus proclaims finds its earthly expression in the believers union with Him, something which the early Christians believed to be the Church. We must not forget that Jesus calls twelve apostles who along, with His disciples, make up an inner core to whom Jesus addresses most of what He teaches.

I remind this most exciting because it serves as an important reminder. Jesus is preeminent. There are some today see Jesus as simply one of many great teachers who have appeared in the annals of history. They diminish His importance as they strive to make Him into just another Socrates or founder of another religion. But this is not Jesus as we find Him proclaimed in the Gospels. Jesus is as St. Paul so beautifully speaks of Him:

"... the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, And in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church" (Colossians 1:15-18)

Bishop Provost dedicates altar at Our Lady of Prompt Succor

SULPHUR - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, D.D., M.A., Bishop of Lake Charles, celebrated Mass on June 23 and dedicated the new altar at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church following the completion of the renovation of the church's sanctuary.

During the celebration of the liturgy, Bishop Provost anointed the altar with the Oil of Chrism making it a symbol of Christ. Incense was burned on the altar to signify Christ's sacrifice, there perpetuated in mystery. The altar was then covered to indicate that it is the altar of the Eucharistic sacrifice and the table of the Lord.

Concelebrating the Mass were Rev. Edward Richard, M.S., pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor; Rev. Bino Poovannikunnel, M.S., parochial vicar; and Rev. Gijo Ik-karamattom, H.G.N. Deacon

Patrick LaPoint served the Vigil, J.C.L., and Rev. Derek Covert, J.C.L., as the Master of ceremonies.

Donors for the various furnishings and statues in the new sanctuary were honored in the program. The Altar of Sacrifice was dedicated to the memory of benefactors, Annie and O'Neil Breaux.

The High Altar with art and the Ambo were donated by Anthony J. Palermo, Sr., and Rev. Edward J. Richard, M.S., in loving memory of Rose and Joseph R. Palermo, Sr. The statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Henry Fontenot and Mrs. Adrienne Fontenot Marshall. The St. Michael statue was donated by the families of Gerald and Avita Conner, Dean and Kris Conner, Glen and Rachel Brown and Neal and Janet Rider.

The St. Joseph statue and pedestal was donated by Myrna Bernard Simmons in loving memory of her parents, Flossie and Leo Bernard. The statue of Our Lady of LaSalette was donated by the Missionaries of LaSalette for the use of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church.

Priscilla Fuselier donated the statue of St. Therese of Lisieux in loving memory of David and Burley Fuselier.

"The new furnishings and statues were designed by Heritage Restoration and Design Studio of Peoria, IL," Father Richard said. "Our parish suffered a terrible loss when all of our statues were destroyed by vandalism in 2012. We had already been in the process of planning a renovation of the sanctuary when that happened so we decided to merge the replacement of the statues with the renovation."

According to Father Richard, the Altar of Repose and reredos is approximately 22 feet high and 16 feet wide at the base. It is approximately 20 feet wide at the top. The altar is said to be designed in a French style due to its wider apex and more narrow base. The centerpiece of the reredos is a scene of the Crucifixion with the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John at the foot of the Cross.

The Crucifix floats on a painted backdrop depicting old Jerusalem as it is envisioned at the time of the Crucifixion. To either side of the Crucifixion center panel is a panel depicting coastal New Orleans on the left and a panel depicting Cartagena, Colombia on the right. The New Orleans painting includes the representation of a square-rig French ship that would have been typical of the ship upon which the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor was transported to New Orleans.

The Altar of Sacrifice is similar in design to the rear altar. The altar is fronted with a large icon of the Paschal Lamb. The Ambo matches each of the other pieces and is fronted with icons of the four Evangelists.



Bishop Glen John Provost is shown anointing the altar of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur with the Oil of Chrism, making it a symbol of Christ, who, before all others, is and is called 'The Anointed One.' The Father anointed him with the Holy Spirit and constituted him the High Priest so that on the altar of his body he might offer the sacrifice of his life for the salvation of all. Assisting the Bishop were Deacon Patrick LaPoint and master of ceremony Rev. Derek Covert. Also pictured is Rev. Bino Poovannikunnel, M.S.

Catholic schools open August 8, 14

LAKE CHARLES -The LAKE CHARLES -The Lake Charles will soon be ringing off the walls of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles as classes in the seven schools start in August.

Opening on Thursday, August 14, in Calcasieu Parish are St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; and Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur. Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, the lone Catholic school in Jefferson Parish, opens its doors on Friday, Aug. 8.

New principals will lead St. Louis - Christopher Fontenot - and Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School - Christina Jarreau.

Returning administrators include JoAnn Wallwork at Our Lady Queen of Heaven; Jennifer Bellon at St. Theodore Holy Family; Trevor Donnelly at Our Lady's School; Wendy Wicke at St.

Margaret of Scotland; and Nicole Reeves at Our Lady Immaculate . Assistant principal Ted Nixon returns at St. Louis.

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 sched-

ule 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.

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**

Did you know...

St. Fabian was pope from 236-250. It is said that a dove settled on his head during the Convocation marking him as the Holy Spirit's unexpected choice to become the next Pope.

St. Damasus was born in Rome and served as pope from 366 to 384. His reign coincided with a number of concepts that became commonplace in the Church. Do you know what they were? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar, published on August 15.

Deacon Ray Granger laid to rest



Deacon Ray Granger

LAKE CHARLES – Deacon James Reynold (Ray) Granger, 83, a native of Lake Charles, was laid to rest in Consolata Cemetery following a Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday, July 5. Deacon Granger died Saturday, June 28, in his home. Rev. Timothy Goodly was the celebrant of the liturgy in St. Henry Catholic Church.

Deacon Granger was a deacon for 37 years having been ordained by The Most Reverend Gerard L. Frey, Bishop of Lafayette, on June 26, 1977. Following his ordination, he served in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catho-

lic Church-St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church and St. Henry.

He was the youngest son of Richard and Laura (Boutte) Granger, both of Lake Charles, and a proud descendant of the Granger family, one of the original pioneer families in Lake Charles, and whose legacy in this area dates back to 1865. He graduated from Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic High School, after which he joined the U.S. Army. While stationed in Germany, he served his country honorably for four years during the Korean War.

Deacon Granger retired as

a United States Postal Service mail carrier after 35 years, rarely missing a day's work in all that time. He was a Fourth Degree member St. Henry's Order of the Knights of Columbus and served as director of the St. Henry's St. Vincent de Paul's charity.

He was a skilled ceramic tile setter, general handyman and jack of all trades, and he would readily lend a helping hand when needed. He loved to barbecue and enjoyed watching football games, especially his beloved New Orleans Saints.

Deacon Granger leaves to cherish his memory his de-

voted wife, Maurine Pappion Granger; three daughters, Denene of Angleton, Texas, Emily of Lancaster, Calif., and Ronette Granger of Baton Rouge, La.; one son, Richard "Ricky" Granger of New Orleans; 10 stepchildren, Eddie Pappion Sr., Gary Pappion Sr., Mark Pappion (Regina), Adrien Pappion, Maura Woods (Derek), Renee Lainez (Donald), Renita Pappion (Jason) and Stephan Pappion of Lake Charles, Anthony (Lena) Pappion Sr. of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Kevin Pappion (RaeAnn) of Lancaster, Calif.; 33 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-

grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Sedonia Orsot Granger; daughter, Suzette (Granger) Anderson; brothers, Richard Jr., George and Peter Granger; grandchild, Miriam Sedonia Cates; and great-grandchild, De'Andrea Granger.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Pope urges complete ban on producing, using landmines

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Landmines wound innocent civilians, "prolong war and nurture fear" long after conflicts have ended, Pope Francis told delegates working on the full implementation of an international treaty banning the production and use of anti-personnel mines.

"Reduce the stockpile of weapons! Ban weapons that have no reason for existing in human society and instead invest in education, healthcare, saving our planet and building societies marked by more solidarity and brotherhood," the pope said in a written message to representatives at the treaty review conference in late June.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin,

Vatican secretary of state, sent the message in the pope's name to the conference in Maputo, Mozambique, a nation that in the early 1990s became a symbol of the tragedy of landmines and their effects, particularly on children killed or maimed when they went into a mined field. The victims of landmines, the message said, "carry -- on their bodies and in their lives -- signs of an inhumane weapon, an irresponsible weapon, a weapon of cowards."

For civilians in former war zones, "the environment around them is a constant threat when it should be a source of fruitfulness, development and the joy of living."



The East Deanery Serra Club's inaugural golf tournament, held earlier this year, provided for a \$12,000 contribution to the Seminary Fund of the Diocese of Lake Charles. The gift will assist in paying the expenses for the education of men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese. Bishop Glen John Provost accepted the gift from representatives of the club recently at the Chancery of the Diocese. Pictured above, from left, are Dale Hotard, Sandra Hotard, Bishop Provost, Charles Savoy (outgoing president of the club), Dee Dee Savoy, Glenda Chapman and Deacon Wayne Chapman. The Diocese will have 16 men in discernment and studying for the priesthood in four seminaries this fall.



Bishop Glen John Provost, right, prepares to sprinkle the Historic Shrine to the Mother of God, Protectress from Storms at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron following the celebration of a Mass to Avert Storms on Wednesday, June 4. The votive mass is celebrated annually on or near the beginning of Hurricane Season -- June 1. Many parishioners from the coastal parishes attend the liturgy as well as those who have moved away, particularly following the 2005 and 2008 storms of Hurricane Rita and Hurricane Ike, respectively.

Eucharistic Procession in Oberlin

OBERLIN - On Sunday, June 22, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi was commemorated in most dioceses in the United States, including here in Southwest Louisiana.

The parishioners of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church participated in the Mass of Corpus Christi followed by a Eucharistic Procession led by Rev. Jacob Scott Conner carrying the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of the community. In addition to honoring the Lord, such a procession is also a public act of faith, wherein the Catholic faithful affirm their belief that Jesus Christ is really, truly, and substantially present in the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist.

This feast dates back to the thirteenth century. In AD 1246, a Belgian nun named St. Juliana of Mont Cornillon petitioned her Bishop for a liturgical feast to honor the Sacred Body of the Lord in Holy Communion.



Pilgrims of the Abrazando Cristo Mission Program recently returned from their annual journey to Nicaragua after the weeklong mission/retreat that offered communal prayer, daily Mass, daily recitation of the Rosary, helping with the construction of the Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church in the Diocese of Matagalpa - three hours northeast of the Managua, the country's capital. They also helped in the building of the priest's residence, painting, Vacation Bible School, working at a makeshift medical clinic, evangelizing the Catholic Faith, feeding the poor, and simply sharing the love of Christ. Msgr. Daniel Torres is shown here commissioning each of the individuals before the start of their journey and distributing to each missionary a wooden cross.



A changing of pastors occurred on July 1 at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff. Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois, who will celebrate 50 years of priestly service in December, retired after 17 years as the shepherd of St. Theodore. Msgr. Dubois, shown above right, celebrated Mass on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ on Saturday, June 21, with Bishop Glen John Provost in attendance. Rev. Msgr. Daniel Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese, concelebrated. In the photo at left, the new pastor of St. Theodore, Rev. John Huckaby, recites the Oath of Fidelity. St. Theodore Associate Pastor Rev. Scott DesOrmeaux is also shown. Msgr. Dubois has served in five churches in his nearly half century of priesthood -- St. Michael Catholic Church, Crowley (Associate Pastor, 1965-1971); Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Lake Charles (Associate Pastor, 1971-1974); St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, Lake Charles (Pastor, 1974-1983); Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Lake Arthur (Pastor, 1983-1997); and St. Theodore (Pastor, 1997-2014).



Central African bishops criticize government 'laxity'

OXFORD, England (CNS) -- Catholic bishops in the Central African Republic criticized their country's transitional government for failing to "revive hopes" and end months of conflict between Islamist and Christian forces despite international backing.

The bishops said July 2 that the January election of President Catherine Samba-Panza by members of the National Transition Council had been intended to "turn a new page in the country's dismal recent history." Instead, the bishops charged, Samba-Panza's government had "shown laxity" in tackling human rights violations and holding back rival armed groups despite support provided by thousands of peacekeepers backed by the United Nations and European Union.

Bishop Comments on Completion of Fifth Cycle of Parish Visitations

By Bishop Glen John Provost

Beginning in the fall of 2013, I began visitation of three parishes selected over a six-month period ending with St. John Vianney Parish, Bell City, the weekend of January 25/26, 2014. This was the fifth cycle of parish visitations for me since becoming Bishop of Lake Charles. I truly appreciate the opportunity to visit the parishes every year. I celebrate or attend and deliver the homily at all Masses on the weekend. Saturday evening there is always a meeting and dinner for parish leadership, and following Masses there are receptions where I meet the parishioners. It is a special moment for me as a bishop. As always, the visitations left me with lasting impressions.

There are two observations, reinforced when visiting the parishes as well for Confirmation ceremonies that I would like to share with you. First, many Parish Catechetical Leaders brought to my attention the difficulty they experience in scheduling youth and catechetical activities. No evening or after school time appears to be available. Extra-curricular activities consume the time of students and children almost every night of the week. Not even Sunday is sacred, when one often finds sporting tournaments scheduled. In some towns, there is an understanding that Wednesday is "church night." But this is not always the case in the majority of our communities. Perhaps we, as church leaders, need to look at this and see what can be done. I would like to bring this topic up for discussion at our fall deanery meeting to get the feedback of pastors.

Second, pastors, youth directors, and catechists repeated an often-heard observation—the highpoint of youth activities, such as retreats, is Eucharistic Adoration. The students share with me that Eucharistic Adoration was a powerful moment for them, when they experienced God's presence in their lives in a special way. Eucharistic Adoration has also proven to be a moment for vocational discernment. I want to reiterate my encouragement for Eucharistic Adoration as a component of spiritual growth in our parishes, such as Forty Hours Devotion, spiritual groups (e.g. Legion of Mary, Rosary Groups, Serra Club), days of recollection and youth retreats. To spend time with Our Lord outside the celebration of Mass is a valuable experience.

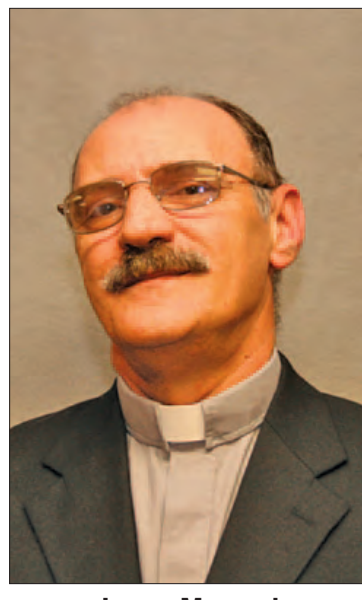
I look forward to beginning my sixth cycle of parish visitations the weekend of September 20/21, when I visit Our Lady of LaSalette Parish in DeQuincy. We should all give thanks to our parishes for the good work and ministry that is going on in our parishes



Leo Hebert



Patrick Hebert



Jesse Menard



Harold Nixon



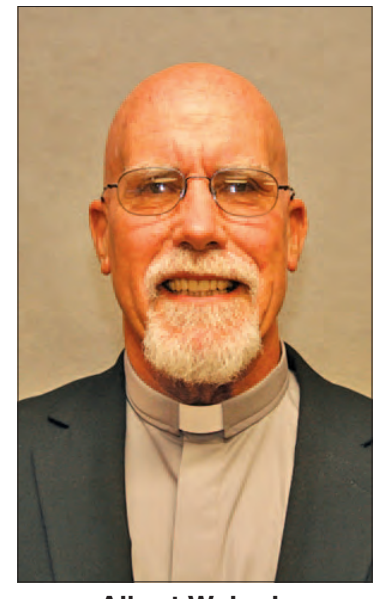
Tony Pousson



Brian Soileau



Stephen Starr



Albert Weinnig

PERMANENT DEACONS

Continued from Page 1

Baton Rouge and McNeese State University.

He has served as coordinator of the evangelization commission at Sacred Heart and serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and lector. He has also been a member of the Holy Name Society for eight years and serves as transportation chairman.

He has worked as a pipefitter (Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 106) and as a truck driver. DeVille served in the United States Navy from June 1971 to June 1973, stationed aboard the USS Newport News, home-ported in Norfolk, Va.

Richard E. Donahoe and his wife Denise Ann Donahoe are members of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, and the parents of two children.

Donahoe, a native of Lake Charles, graduated with Bachelor of Science degree from McNeese State University in 1977 and earned a Master of Science in 1983, also from McNeese.

He currently serves as catechist for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. He and his wife serve as a sponsor couple for the engaged. He has also been a member of the Cenacle Prayer Team.

He is employed by McNeese State University as instructor/coordinator of the Forensic Chemistry Program and holds current memberships in the American Chemical Society and the American Academy of Forensic Science. A past member of the Louisiana Lions Club, Donahoe served in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary from 1997-2002.

Keith Ellender and his wife Charlotte Ann Ellender are members of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Carlyss. The couple has four children. Ellender holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

He is a 38-year member of the Knights of Columbus, having served as Grand Knight and Recorder. Ellender is also a member of the Legion of Mary.

He has worked as a poultry inspector and a mud engineer as well as at Cities Service Refinery.

Christopher Fontenot, a native of Lake Charles, is the principal of St. Louis Catholic High School, named to the post earlier this year. He and his wife, Polly Fontenot, have one son.

He resides in Sulphur and attends Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Lake Charles.

A graduate of St. Louis Catholic High School, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Science, a Master of Education in Administration and Educational Specialist degree in Administration and Supervision, all from McNeese State University. He is currently doing additional post-graduate work at Lamar University.

He has worked in the Calcasieu Parish School system, most recently serving as principal at F.K. White Middle School in Lake Charles. Fontenot also spent a year as a teacher at East Jefferson High School in Metairie, La. He taught locally at Reynaud Middle School, Lake Charles-Boston High School, and Washington-Marion High School as well as assistant principal at F.K. White.

He is a member of the Louisiana Association of Principals, Calcasieu Association of Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Dan Foreman and his wife Victoria Foreman live in Sulphur and are parishioners of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church. They are the parents of three children. Foreman, who serves as a pastoral associate at Our Lady of Prompt Succor and as the parish administrator, has a degree in Business Administration from Alameda University.

A veteran, he was honorably discharged after serving in the United States Air Force from 1965-1969, and has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 45 years. He worked as a superintendent for the IBEW. Foreman is also a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Chris Gregory, a native of Fort Monroe, Va., has lived in Southwest Louisiana for almost all of his life. He and his wife, Mary Lynn Gregory, have four children.

He attended the LaSalette Junior College Seminary in Altamont, New York and graduated from McNeese State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.

He is chief executive officer-owner and president of the Sulphur Optical Shoppe and has worked as a certified optician since 1977.

Gregory is a 42-year member of both the Third and Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and a 20-year member of Rotary International, a past president and past treasurer.

Michael Guillory, a native of Elton, is a parishioner, along with his wife Dina Denise Guillory, of St. Paul Catholic Church. The couple has three children.

Guillory attended LSU-Eunice before entering the Louisiana National Guard (1985-1987) and then the United States Navy, serving from 1988 to 1992. He trained at the Naval School of Health Sciences in San Diego, Calif. (graduating as a Naval corpsman in 1989) and the Naval School of Health Sciences in Portsmouth, Va., graduating as a Naval Surgical Technologist in 1992. As a corpsman, he served during Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

He has worked as an independent insurance agent for 12 years and is a seven-year member of the Knights of Columbus and the VFW.

Leo Hebert, born in Port Arthur, Texas, is a parishioner of St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff. He and his wife

Shirley Ann Hebert are the parents of one child. The couple lives in Ragley.

He holds a Bachelors Degree from McNeese State University as well as a Masters Degree in Education Administration.

A veteran of four years service in the United States Navy, Hebert is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the St. Theodore Catholic community.

Patrick Hebert, a native of Jennings, lives in Iowa and is a member of St. Henry Catholic Church where he serves as coordinator of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now University of Louisiana-Lafayette) and a Masters Degree in Social Work from LSU-Baton Rouge. He served in the United States Army, retiring after 23 years.

He has served as a teacher and religious coordinator at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings, vocation director for the Secular Franciscan Order and was president of Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Lake Charles. He is the father of one daughter.

A clinical social worker, he worked at ETC, Inc. as coordinator/supervisor and was a clinician at the Office of Behavioral Health. He has been a member of the National Association of Social Workers.

Jesse Menard was born in Sulphur and with his wife Myrna Nassar Menard are members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vinton. They have two children.

Menard, a graduate of Vinton High School, is a 20-year member of the Knights of Columbus and has served as Recorder for four years and worked for the Kroger Co. for 22 years and as an operator at W.R. Grace for 17 years.

Menard has been involved with youth ministry for more than 30 years.

Harold Nixon is a native of Lake Charles. He and his wife Sheryl Nixon are members of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church and the parents of three children.

A veteran of 14 years service in the United States Marine Corps, rising to the rank of Major, Nixon was the recipient of the Navy Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from San Diego State University. Following his military service, Nixon worked for Citgo Petroleum Corporation as an inspector.

He has been a member of the Knights of Peter Claver for 22 years.

Anthony Pousson and his wife Sandra Ann Pousson are the parents of two children and members of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church.

Pousson attended the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette and St. Joseph Seminary College, earning a Bachelor of Arts in History at the latter. He did graduate work at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

He worked as an operator and trainer at the Conoco Oil Refinery and currently works at St. Margaret Church.

Brian Soileau is a native of Oakdale and a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Oakdale. He and his wife Catherine Soileau have three children.

He has worked at the Allen Correctional Center since 1992 and currently serves as Training Administrator at the facility. Soileau attended LSU-Alexandria and LSU-Eunice.

He is active at Sacred Heart, serving previously as a CCD teacher, and is currently youth director, confirmation coordinator and director of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and adult religious education director.

Stephen Starr, born in Laon, France, is campus minister and religion teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School. He and his wife Mary Elizabeth Stutes Starr live in Iowa and have three children.

He is a graduate of McNeese State University with a Masters Degree in Visual Arts, holds a Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University of New Orleans, and is currently in the Master of Arts program at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. He has taken part in the diocesan spiritual directors program.

Previously, Starr was the Director of Religious Education at Holy Family Lacassine School and at St. John the Evangelist Chapel in Lacassine. He worked at Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff as a maintenance mechanic; at the Iowa Outlet Mall as operations manager; and at Women's and Children's Hospital in Lake Charles.

Albert Weinnig was born in Washington, DC and served in the United States Army from 1969-1990. An Army Ranger, he earned a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantry Badge. During his years of service, he earned a Paratrooper Badge and was a Master Aviator.

He graduated from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. He has a Master of Science from Florida Institute of Technology. He has served as business manager AECOM at Fort Polk and a Project Manager for American Water Utilities.

He is married to the former Catherine Mary Hines and the couple, which has four children, reside in DeRidder and attend St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He is a 20-year member of the Knights of Columbus, a volunteer fireman and a 25-year member of the Retired Officers Military Association.

Appointments effective July 1

LAKE CHARLES – Among the numerous pastoral appointments that went into effect on Tuesday, July 1, Bishop Glen John Provost gave two priests and a deacon additional assignments.

Effective that date, the newly ordained Reverend Matthew Cormier, parochial vicar at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, became the Diocesan Chaplain for Scouting, replacing the Very Reverend Jacob Scott Conner, V.F., who was named Dean of the East Deanery.

Reverend Anthony Fontenot was appointed Director for the Propagation of the Faith, along with his new assignment as pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church.

Deacon Edward Lavine, Interim Secretary of the Ministry of Pastoral Services, was appointed Director of the Campaign for Human Development and Director of Catholic Relief Services.

BISHOP'S GALA

Continued from Page 1

ldioecese.org – is maintained as well as continually upgraded through the purchase of a Gala ticket or table. The broadcast of the 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on two local radio stations is also made possible, in part, by participation in this gala evening.

COUPLES

Continued from Page 1

Those honored for 60 years of marriage were Dorothy and Robert Landry from Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole along with Mildred and Daniel Monceaux of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Lake Charles.

Six couples are celebrating anniversaries of 55 years during 2014 - Louella and Hubert Gaillard of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vinton; Marlene and Joseph Guillory of Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lake Charles; Sandra and Dale Hotard of Our Lady Help of Christians in Jennings; Joetta and Leroy LaPoint of Our Lady of the Lake in Lake Arthur; Janet and Donald Laurent of St. Joseph Catholic Church in DeRidder; and Wanda and Alvin Richard of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Arthur.

Golden anniversary couples included Diana and Harold Bourgeois, Caren and Richard Dore, Julie and Buddy Engert, Gloria and Nolton Fontenot, Charlie and Louis Fuselier, Mona and Shannon Fuselier, Sandra and Charles Golla, Ruby and Wayne Guidry, and Percy Guillory, Glenda and B. W. Jardell, Hattie and Bernard Kadlubar, Orelia and Magdon Lavergne, Mary and Lurlin Leger, Beverly and James Martin, Dorothy and Robert McGowen, Novella and Leo Miller, Carol and Earl Norwood, Sharon and David Phillips, Linda and Lawrence Primeaux, Frances and Ray Richard, Joanne and Edward Richard, Mary and Joseph Richard, Sylvia and Lionel Savoy, Emma and Wallace Veillon, Pam and George Veron, JoAnn and Phil Watkins, and Charlotte and Albert Womack.

Couples honored for a quarter century of marriage this year included Esther and Jeffery Abrahams, Kelly and Glenn Babeaux, Jennifer and Hilton Bellow, Marty and Jimmy Berry, Ann and Daniel Callahan, Debbie and Kevin Dronett, Pearl and James Fouts, Tanya and Damian France, Brenda and William Gaidosek, Dana and Brian Guillory, Linda and Napoleon Harmon, Susan and David Ieyoub, Vanessa and Ronnie Lemelle, May and Bob McCorquodale, Didi and Larry Moreau, Maria and Tim O'Dowd, Debra and Alan Reeves, Alice and John Romero, Claire and Douglas Shearman, Elaine and Tom Solari, Angela and James Stevens, and Dece and Troy Trahan.

Bishop Provost's entire homily can be read and downloaded from the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – ldiocese.org – by clicking on "Our Bishop".

Court's ruling important to religious people

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that Hobby Lobby and certain other employers do not have to provide insurance coverage for some kinds of abortion-causing drugs and devices. The court made its ruling on the basis of the Religious Freedom and Restoration Act (RFRA) of 1993. While the case interpreted civil law, the opinion depends on conclusions that are of immense importance for religious people regarding their sincerely held beliefs. Among those, two are primary: (1) One's personal opposition to contraceptives that cause abortions can be the object of sincere religious belief under the law. (2) Providing insurance that covers such contraceptives can constitute a substantial burden on one's free exercise of religion.

The justices of the United States Supreme Court have been setting contraceptive policies in the states for over 50 years. Their rulings are couched in language that makes their rulings sound as though the Founders had bedrooms in mind when they wrote the Constitution. The Court's pivotal case was decided in 1965, *Griswold v. Connecticut*, where the justices struck down lawfully-passed state restrictions on the sale of contraceptives on the basis of a right of privacy found in the "penumbra" or shadow of the Bill of Rights. The brief filed by Planned Parenthood in this case and another case that followed in 1972 helped form substantially the court's decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

At first glance, the average citizen might not be very curious about the reasons for these rulings. They are contraception cases, after all, and in modern society opposing contraception is the equivalent of wanting to turn the clock back on human progress. Armed with this kind of support, the government mandated that employers would have to cover 20 kinds of contraceptives, even those that cause abortion.

It is a commonly held belief that contraception is only a problem for the Catholic Church. The history of religion shows that the acceptance of contraception among Christians is a modern novelty, however. Contraceptives have been around for a long time. The methods have developed but the sin is the same. One can find it discussed in literature going back into antiquity. It had been rejected as against the law of nature by civilized societies. As late as 1930, virtually all Christians rejected the use of contraceptives as contrary to God's teaching and contrary to sound reason. All Christians had the faith to know that contraception offended Jesus Christ.

What changed? In the last century, social engineers developed a method of moral thinking that holds that God is not responsible for the nature of things, even the transmission of human life. The meaning of the human body, male and female, they say, has nothing to do with nature, morally speaking. It also holds that God, if He exists, cannot be known by human intelligence. It goes on to tell us that nature, itself, does not lend any rational criteria for right judgment about what can make humans flourish and live happily. Nature is something that we need to overcome to get what we really want. Under the influence of these trends many Christians reduced their moral thinking to emotions and a few teachings in the Bible. Now, we are told we must accept and value sterility and feticide.

These days, one finds no effort in the Supreme Court's de-



Rev. Edward Richard, M.S.

isions to promote the good things that come from respecting the natural order. The reasoning always follows the path of determining what is the desire of the political power and then calculating the means to get to that goal. This is the result of a long-standing effort to deaden the human capacity to understand the intelligent order of God's creation. Every vestige of the truth of nature is something to be ignored. All that matters is the desire of the community, a commodity that can be easily manipulated. When one thinks about it, it is an easy sell. As long as those responsible for the charade can keep up the illusion that nature has been conquered, the masquerade is like a never-ending Mardi Gras parade. In this case, Health and Human Services is the parade marshal.

The Religious Freedom and Restoration Act of 1993 enters in here to help restore a bit of sanity as a matter of faith. The court said, "Because the RFRA applies in these cases, we must next ask whether the HHS contraceptive mandate "substantially burden[s]" the exercise of religion. ... We have little trouble concluding that it does." Now that the court has told us that contraception can be opposed sincerely according to the law, let us pray that all Christians will come, once again, to oppose it as a matter of faith.

Father Edward Richard, M.S., a native of DeQuincy, a priest of the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette, and Pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur in Sulphur, is a national recognized expert in the field of medical ethics, as well as a well-published commentator on moral issues. Ordained in 1990, he holds a Doctorate in Moral Theology, a Juris Doctor, and a Masters of Divinity. He received a Bachelor of Science from McNeese State University and studied at the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, Missouri.

YOUTH 2000 Retreat slated August 22-24

LAKE CHARLES - The YOUTH 2000 Retreat for 2014 - a weekend for, of, and by young people - will be Friday through Sunday, August 22-24, in St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street.

The annual event, which features inspiring talks, Eucharistic Adoration, and lively music, is for all youth age 13 to 30 and is sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. This program - "I Am The Bread of Life (John 6:35) - begins with registration on Friday, Aug. 22, at 6 p.m.

The remainder of the weekend schedule follows: 6:30 p.m. Music; 7:00 p.m. Welcome/Introduction and Rosary; 7:30 p.m. Mass (followed by short break); 8:30 p.m. Short Break; 8:45 p.m. Talk; 9:30 p.m. Exposition Music, Meditation, Adoration; and 10:30 p.m. Closing.

Saturday, August 23 - 8:00 a.m. Music; 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer; 9:00 a.m. Talk; 9:45 a.m. Workshops; 10:30 a.m. Short Break; 10:45 a.m. Music, Meditation, Testimonies; noon Lunch; 1:30 p.m. Talk/Examination of Conscience; 2:15 p.m. Workshops; 3:00 p.m. Break; 3:30 p.m. Music, Meditation, International Rosary; 4:30 p.m. Mass; 6:00 p.m. Dinner; 7:30 p.m. Talk; 8:15 p.m. Music, Meditation, Adoration; 9:00

p.m. Eucharistic Procession; and 10:00 p.m. Closing.

Sunday, August 24 - 8:00 a.m. Music; 8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer; 8:30 a.m. Talk; 9:00 a.m. Rosary; 9:30 a.m. Short Break; 10:00 a.m. Benediction and Reposition; 10:15 a.m. Crowning of Mary; 10:30 a.m. Mass; 12:00 p.m. Testimonies; and 12:30 p.m. Closing.

The Registration Form and Liability Release can be picked up at the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, 411 Iris Street, and for additional information call 337-439-7400. Forms are to be returned by Thursday, Aug. 14. The registration fee is \$60 per person, though the fee paid after August 14 will be \$65.00.

All participants, including chaperones, must complete the Liability Release Form. All forms for participants, age 17 and younger must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and must be completed in advance of the weekend. Participants are encouraged to pre-register.

Participants who wait to register at the door must have Liability Release and Registration Forms signed by a parent or legal guardian and will only be allowed entrance if space is available. All chaperones must submit proof of compliance with Diocesan

requirements for providing a safe and secure environment for minors by completing any Diocesan required training and a current criminal background check.

Lunch, dinner, and a drink with each meal will be provided on Saturday. The cost for these two meals plus snacks are included in the registration fee. Leaving the site for these meals is not an option.

Priests of the Diocese as well as members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal will be participating. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the weekend.

The retreat is promoted, organized, and directed by YOUTH 2000, U.S.A. YOUTH 2000 is an international spiritual initiative, begun in 1990 as a response to the challenge of Pope John Paul II given to the young people at World Youth Day in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, to "become shining heralds of the re-evangelization and generous architects of the civilization of love." Filled with zeal and eager to commit to the challenge, young people took seriously this call to a decade of evangelization.



The purpose of the YOUTH 2000 retreat is to lead young people to a personal encounter with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, to live and proclaim the Gospel message with joy and enthusiasm, to become the evangelizers of the NEW EVANGELIZATION. Shown here from last year, the Diocesan Monstration with the Holy Eucharist stands in the center of the participants in the St. Louis High School Commons.

Pope speaks openly of how his pontificate may end

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Sympathizing with all the unknowns facing young people today, Pope Francis -- half joking -- said it is easier for a pope because he knows where his earthly life will end. "I think the pope's definitive path is more certain. Where will the pope end up? There, in that tomb," in St. Peter's Basilica where most popes are buried, he said to a group of young men involved in a vocational discernment process run by the Diocese of Rome.

But that is not the way things turned out for St. Celestine V, who until 2013 was known as the last pope to voluntarily resign. When he renounced the papacy in December 1294, after only five months in office, his successor had him imprisoned. He died in custody and, eventually, his remains were interred in L'Aquila, the town where the cardinals had met and elected him pope.

Pope Francis opened a special Celestine Year July 5 in Isernia, the southern Italian city that claims to be where St. Celestine was born 800 years ago. The date of Pope Francis' visit was the anniversary of St. Celestine's election as pope. Pope Celestine had issued a decree making it theoretically possible for a pope to voluntarily leave office. A week later, he invoked the decree, citing his lack of physical strength and desire to return to his life of prayer as a hermit.

More than 700 years later, the possibility of papal resignations still is ensured in the law of the church, although it is not very detailed. "If it happens that the Roman Pontiff resigns his office, it is required for validity that the resignation is made freely and properly manifested but not that it is accepted by anyone," according to Canon 332.2 of the Code of Canon Law.

In office for more than 15 months, Pope Francis has not been coy about the possibility of a pope resigning. In fact, he has said that given how smoothly things have gone since Pope Benedict XVI shocked the world by resigning in February 2013, the position of retired pope has become "an institution."

On the way back from the Holy Land in May, he told reporters that Pope Benedict had "opened a door, a door to retired popes. Will there be others? God knows. But this door is open." As for himself, he said, "I will do what the Lord tells me to do. Pray and seek God's will."



Volunteers, shown above, work diligently to assist Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana in preparing boxes of food for the monthly distribution. On Friday, May 16, Catholic Charities distributed 318 boxes of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided food and 39 non-USDA boxes, those provided through local contributions to Catholic Charities. Client assistance from April 23 through May 21 provided housing aid to 48, utility payment assistance to 28, prescription assistance to three, funeral assistance to three and assistance to one person in gaining identification. Total financial expenditures for the period were \$24,438.06.

August events at Saint Charles Center

MOSS BLUFF - Several programs will be offered during the month of August at Saint Charles Center.

Participants can register for these events online at stcharlescenter.com and can call 337-855-1232 for more information.

Fr. Whitney Miller leads an Evening of Reflection "The Family at Prayer: Helpful Hints and Suggestions for

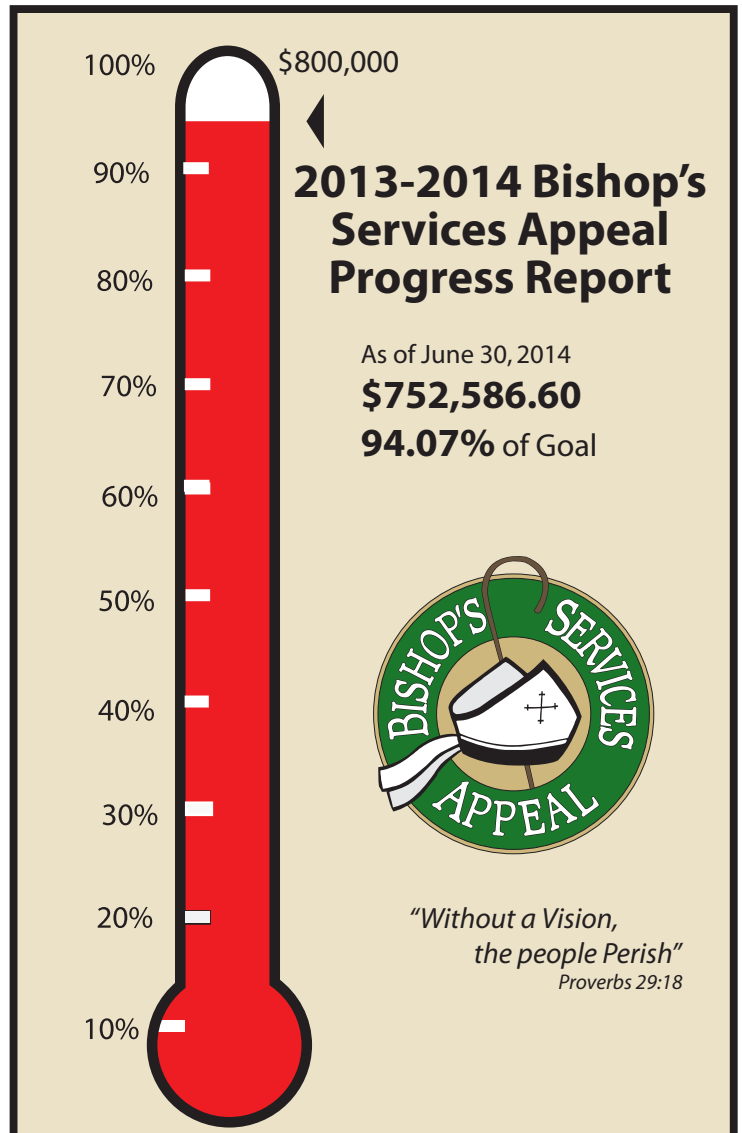
Strengthening Households of Faith" on Tuesday, August 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. Deadline is Friday, August 8. Suggested donation is \$20.00 per person and \$30.00 for a couple.

"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.



Twenty-seven parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles had reached their 2013-2014 Bishop's Services Appeal allocation as of the close of the fiscal year on June 30, bringing the overall contributions to \$752,586.60. Additional funds were expected to come in 2014. Parishes had closed their financial books on the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Help us out! Take the Communications Survey

LAKE CHARLES - The Office of Communications of Diocese of Lake Charles efforts. Released a survey to help with future communications efforts. The survey, which can be found at right, will help the Office to determine how the public currently accesses information about the diocese.

For example, the survey asks questions about what audiences read the *Catholic Calendar* in the Lake Charles American Press, the Jennings Daily News, the Beauregard Daily News, The Southwest Daily News, and the Cameron Pilot; what audiences watch on the Glad Tidings television program on KPLC; and what visitors view on the website - www.lcdioocese.org.

The survey also includes opportunities to comment on how the public can be reached more effectively. The survey consists of about ten questions and only takes a few minutes to complete.

Please complete the survey here and mail it to 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 or take it on the diocesan website at www.lcdioocese.org/survey. You can also copy the link and paste into your browser.

Center for Catholic Studies fall offerings

LAKE CHARLES – Reverend Jacob S. Conner, M.Div., S.T.B. and Reverend Edward J. Richard, M.S., J.D., D.Th.M. will be the instructors for two fall courses offered by the Center for Catholic Studies of the Diocese of Lake Charles through Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans. Each of the classes will be taught at the Catholic Student Center located at 221 Aqua Drive.

Father Conner, 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 Mondays, beginning Sept. 8 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Father Richard, pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur, will teach *Theology 280: CATHOLIC MORAL PRINCIPLES*, a three credit hour offering, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Sept. 2, from 4 to 5:20 p.m. The class 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 of the Catholic Church's moral teaching to everyday life is discussed.

Registration forms are available through the Newman Center; the Diocese of Lake Charles - Office of Religious Education, and on the diocesan website - lcdioocese.org. On the home page, click on Forms in 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 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.

Our Lady of Holy Cross College is Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges accredited. Because of the articulation agreement, the courses may transfer as liberal arts credits, depending on the student's degree program. Students should check with their faculty advisor to determine the possibilities.

Hospice volunteers sought by Christus

LAKE CHARLES – Christus Hospice and Palliative Care-St. Patrick Hospital is seeking volunteers, according to April Deshotel, Volunteer Coordinator.

"Patient volunteers provide emotional support and practical assistance, which enhance the comfort and quality of life for patients and their families and loved ones," she continued. "Volunteers can help extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ."

Volunteers are needed for companionship to a person in the final months or weeks of their lives, to support family members and caregivers, to be a comforting and support-

ing presence, and to provide time for the caregiver to take care of their own needs.

The volunteer is a fundamental part of the interdisciplinary team made up of doctors, nurses, home health aids, social services, pastoral services, bereavement services, therapeutic services, pharmacy services, and pediatric services, according to Deshotel.

For more information on becoming part of this important ministry of Christus Hospice and Palliative Care, contact Deshotel at 4444 Lake Street, Lake Charles, LA 70605; call 337-395-5600 or e-mail: april.deshotel@christushealth.org

Diocesan Briefs.....

Blessing of the fleet in Cameron

CAMERON – The Reverend Archimandrite Herbert J. May, pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron and Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole, will bless the fishing fleet of Cameron at 6 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 1 at the Jetties in preparation for the annual Cameron Fishing Festival, set for the weekend.

Veritas Conference Sept. 20

LAKE CHARLES – The annual Veritas Conference - On Faith and Evangelization - will be Saturday, Sept. 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street, with Rev. Jim Wehner as the keynote speaker.

Breakout sessions will have topics such as "Credo," "Angels and Demons according to the Dumb Ox," "Theology of the Body for First-timers," "Getting Started as a Catechist," "Catching and Keeping the Attention of High-Schoolers," and more. There will also be exhibits by publishers and bookstores. Lunch will be included with the registration fee.


Mark your calendars! More information will be available soon.

"Beat the Heat" program continues


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 sponsors 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.



HELP YOUR DIOCESE!



Please fill out this short survey to help improve your Lake Charles Diocese communications.
OR complete the survey online at: www.lcdioocese.org/survey

What is your age range? (please be honest) _____

A. below age < 30
B. between age 30 - 39
C. between age 40 - 49
D. between age 50 - 59
E. above age > 60

How often do you read the "Catholic Calendar" in the Lake Charles American Press? _____

A. I don't.
B. Occasionally
C. Always.

What is your favorite segment of the "Catholic Calendar"? Least favorite?
Comments:

How many times have you seen the television program "Glad Tidings" on Sunday mornings at 6 a.m. on KPLC? _____

A. Only on the diocesan website.
B. Never.
C. 1 to 3 times on KPLC.
D. Occasionally on KPLC.
E. Many times on KPLC, but not always.
F. Every Sunday on KPLC.

What is your favorite segment / part of the "Glad Tidings" television program? Least favorite?
Comments:

How often do you listen to the Cathedral Mass aired live on radio stations 1470 AM or 1290 AM on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.? _____

A. Never
B. Occasionally.
C. Always.

How often do you visit the website, www.lcdioocese.org ? _____

A. Never
B. Rarely (1 to 3 times)
C. Occasionally
D. Often
E. All the time!

What is your favorite section / part of the website www.lcdioocese.org ? Least favorite? What do you like or dislike about the website? What information would you like to see on the website?
Comments:

How would you like to get information about the diocese electronically? _____

A. Email
B. Text message
C. Facebook / Twitter / social media network
D. I do not care
E. Other

How do you most frequently access social media? (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) _____

A. Desktop / Laptop
B. Mobile phone
C. Tablet / iPad
D. I do not care to access social media
E. Other

What other information / segments would you like to see? What is the best way to get information to you about the diocese or to enrich your faith?
Comments:

After you fill out your answers, please cut out this section and mail your survey to:

Diocese of LC – Communications Survey
411 Iris Street
Lake Charles, LA 70601

THANK YOU! And please pray for your diocese!

Divine Mercy focus of logo, prayer of WYD 2016

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The official logo and prayer for World Youth Day 2016 were unveiled in the event's host city -- Krakow, Poland -- by the city's archbishop, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz.

The Vatican released the information the same day, July 3.

The logo and prayer focus on the theme chosen by Pope Francis from the Gospel of Matthew: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

The logo, created by Monika Rybczynska, 28, with help from Emilia Pyza, 26, features a red and blue flame of Divine Mercy flowing from a gold cross that is surrounded by a red outline of the map of Poland. A gold dot represents the city of Krakow on the map and symbolizes the youth. The red, blue and yellow colors represent the official colors of Krakow and the city's coat of arms.

The prayer begins with a

line from St. John Paul II's homily at the dedication of the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow in 2002: "God merciful father, in your son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the comforter, we entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman."

The first part of the prayer entrusts to the Lord's mercy all of humanity, especially the world's young people. The second part asks God to grant to the faithful the grace of being merciful toward others, especially those who have doubts about faith or who are discouraged. The last part asks for the intercession of Mary and St. John Paul -- the patron saint of World Youth Day.

The Archdiocese of Krakow is the former see of St. John Paul and is home to the Divine Mercy shrine. St. John Paul had a great devotion to



The official logo and prayer for World Youth Day 2016 was unveiled July 3 in the event's host city -- Krakow, Poland -- by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz. The logo and prayer focus on the theme chosen by Pope Francis from the Gospel of Matthew: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy." (CNS photo courtesy of World Youth Day Krakow 2016)

Divine Mercy, the recognition of God's mercy as demonstrated in his sending his son to die for the sins of humanity.

Pope Francis has asked young people to read the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12,

not just as a way to prepare for the 2015 diocesan celebration for World Youth Day and the international gathering with the pope in 2016, but also in order to make them a blueprint for their whole lives.

Food Pantry distribution set

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

Contact Catholic Charities at 337-439-7436 for information on client certification.

Food is being supplied to St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vinton and Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur for distribution at those sites as well.

Clergy and religious to be honored

LAKE CHARLES – The Knights of Columbus and the parish family of St. Henry Catholic Church will honor priests, deacons, and religious celebrating significant anniversaries in multiples of five on Tuesday, Sept. 9, with Mass in the church at 10:30 a.m. and luncheon to follow.

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.

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.lcdioocese.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 Diocese of 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.

Red Mass set in October

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen 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 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.