

# CATHOLIC CALENDAR



The Diocese of Lake Charles  
lcdiocese.org



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

Vol. 41, No. 7

May 15, 2015

## Financial aid asked for Nepal earthquake victims

LAKE CHARLES – The devastation from the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Nepal in the early morning hours of Saturday, May 25, was great. Thousands of people lost their lives with many villages and communities in the mountainous country destroyed.

Bishop Glen John Provost has requested that the faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles show their generosity to their brothers and sisters affected so terribly by the quake, including the injured and homeless, many of whom lost loved ones in the disaster by supporting the efforts of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official overseas relief and development agency of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and a member of Caritas International and the National Catholic Development Conference.

The Bishop has also asked the pastors of the Diocese of Lake Charles to include information about CRS and its efforts in this particular natural disaster in weekend bulletins. Bishop Provost also asked the pastors to consider, if possible, taking up a second collection to aid in support of

the work of CRS as it provides on-site aid in Nepal.

Gifts from the public will also be accepted at the Chancery of the Diocese, P.O. Box 3223, Lake Charles, LA 70602-3223. Checks should be made payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles. Contributions should indicate the gift is for Nepal Earthquake Relief. All monies will be remitted to Catholic Relief Services for its efforts.

Bishop Provost has also informed pastors that the Bishops of the United States already communicated their pledge of support and prayers to the Vicariate Apostolic of Nepal.

Pastors were asked to add an intention to their public and liturgical prayers for the safety of the people of Nepal, the recovery efforts, and the victims of the earthquake.

CRS and our partner Caritas Nepal plan to support 10,000 families with emergency shelter, blankets, water treatment kits and hygiene kits. Because this region is known for earthquakes, CRS had prepositioned emergency aid in nearby Bihar, India.

See NEPAL AID, Page 6

## Glad Tidings airs half hour earlier on May 24

LAKE CHARLES – The airing time for *Glad Tidings*, the Sunday morning television program of the Diocese of Lake Charles, will change for Sunday, May 24. Due to NBC Network Sports Programming, *Glad Tidings* will begin one-half hour earlier that day, airing from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.

The program, as always, will be available as a streaming feed on the website of the Diocese – live.lcdiocese.org – also beginning at 5:30 a.m. *Glad Tidings* is archived on that site so that visitors may view past programs as well.

## St. John Vianney Church to celebrate 75th anniversary

BELL CITY – Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 31, at 9:30 a.m. in St. John Vianney Catholic Church on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the parish.

Actually established by the Most Rev. Jules Jeanmard, Bishop of Lafayette, on October 12, 1939, St. John Vianney, with some 400 families, is shepherded today by Rev. Emanuel Tanu, SVD. Located in a predominantly agricultural area, St. John Vianney serves the faithful from three communities – Bell City, Hayes, and Holmwood.

Before the establishment of the parish, Catholics were served by priests from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings, then Our Lady of Seven Dolours Catholic Church in Welsh, and finally from St. Raphael Catholic Church in Iowa.

A chapel, dedicated to St. Joseph, was built near the beginning of the 20th Century and served the people until it was destroyed by a storm in 1939. The Rev. Mathias J. Cramers was the founding pastor. After seeing to the construction of a place to live, Father Cramers began working on the church building, breaking ground on the project on Aug. 8, 1940. The construction came to a swift completion and the church was dedicated by Bishop

Jeanmard on Dec. 1.

Father Cramers celebrated Mass in Hayes, Thornwell, and Lowery as well as in Bell City. Rev. Daniel Habetz was the parish's second shepherd, taking over from Father Cramers in 1950. The construction of a chapel in Hayes was completed and it was dedicated to St. Daniel as a mission of St. John Vianney on April 16, 1953. The first Mass was celebration on March 22, 1953.

Father Habetz remained in the parish until 1958 when Rev. A. W. Van Buijtenen was appointed, serving until 1967. He was followed by Rev. Fernand N. Gouaux until 1969.

Others included Rev. Rosaire Veilleux, Rev. Francis Bourgeois, and Rev. Robert Shreve. Father Shreve came to Bell City in 1977 and remained through the establishment of the Diocese of Lake Charles in 1980, serving until 1985. Rev. Roland Vaughn came next, followed by Rev. Milton P. Miller, Rev. John Poerio, Rev. V. Wayne LeBleu, Rev. Alan Trouille, Rev. Albert W. Borel, and Rev. Augustine, Mulanjanay. Father Tanu was appointed by Bishop Provost in 2011.

In 2011, the St. Daniel Center, which contains the church office and classrooms, was completed.

## Papal Honorees



Bishop Glen John Provost presented various Papal honors to nine worthy individuals at the conclusion of Mass on Sunday, April 19 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Honors presented in the name of His Holiness, Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pontiff of the Holy Catholic Church were Knights of St. Gregory the Great to Dr. Jon Yokubaitis, John Robichaux, and Grady Conner; Dames of St. Gregory the Great to Alyson Yokubaitis, Mandy Robichaux, and Kathy Conner. This honor is given for service done in the local community and for the Church, and a demonstration of fidelity to the Holy Father and the Holy Catholic Church. The Papal Medal *Benemerenti*, given for service in the community because of the individual's Christian convictions, was awarded to Marjorie Long. The *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* Cross, given for service done publicly for the good of the Church and the honor of the Holy Father, was bestowed upon Cheryl Riley and Pamela Seal. Pictured from left are, Knight Yokubaitis, Knight Robichaux, Dame Yokubaitis, Dame Robichaux, Bishop Provost, Dame Conner, Mrs. Seal, Knight Conner, Ms. Riley, and Mrs. Long.

## Council 1207 Knights of Columbus reactivated

LAKE CHARLES -- Keith Manuel was installed as Grand Knight of the reactivated Knights of Columbus Council 1207 of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception following the celebration of Holy Mass on Tuesday, April 7 in the Cathedral.

Bishop Glen John Provost presided at the Mass, celebrated by the Rev. Rommel Tolentino, pastor of the Cathedral and Council 1207 chaplain. Assisting was Deacon Christopher Fontenot, Cathedral pastoral assistant and principal at St. Louis Catholic High School.

Serving with Manuel will be Stephen Broussard, deputy grand knight; Justin Brashear, financial secretary; John Day, chancellor; Chris McCall, lecturer; Raymond Phillips, warden; Shaine Rider, advocate; Troy Stine, treasurer; Michael Williams, recording secretary; Jared Watson, outside guard; Jon Yokubaitis, inside guard; and Jack Robichaux, Tommy Navarra and Vincent Lupo, trustees.

Other members of the reactivated council are Trinidad Arrendando, Guy Bradberry, Charles Burton, Jimmy Bushnell, Marty Derouen, Matthew Devall, Brad Foreman, Dan Frick, Chad Hobgood, Chris Jones, Kendall Lejeune, Charles Marcantel, Houston Middleton III, Michael Nodier, Gerry Abluda, Keane O'Neal, Scott Riviere, Sam Sprehe, Guy Vick, Charles Vincent and Lee Zimmermann.

Council 1207 was originally chartered, with 39 members on March 10, 1907, according to information provided by the Office of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Conn. Due to a lack of membership the council went inactive Oct. 10, 1999, the Supreme Council records indicate. Those members still active were transferred to the KC Council at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

The process to reactivate the council began some three years ago when a number of men approached the pastor, Msgr. Jace Eskin about the prospects. Following much prayer and the support of many at the schools and in the parish the idea

grew and Msgr. Eskin provided a list of prerequisites that to accomplish. This included at least 50 new members from the parish join other councils so that they might learn about the Knights of Columbus for a year and meeting together other than in the church to see if interest remained.

One of the men provided his childhood home near the cathedral for the group to gather and pray. Some men joined the Council at St. Martin de Porres and now make up the reactivated 1207 officer core.

Father Tolentino, who replaced Msgr. Eskin as pastor in 2014, was approached and informed of how close the group was to achieving the goals previously set for them. He enthusiastically agreed that the work should continue and made available Ave Maria Hall on the fourth Tuesday of each month for the group, which has been meeting there for the Rosary. The growth and work achieved there culminated with the reactivation of Council 1207, which sponsored the Cathedral's Spring Parish Picnic.

The original establishment of Council 1207 came primarily through the efforts of Rev. Hubert Cramers, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, and William E. Krebs, editor of the Lake Charles American Press.

Sir Knight Krebs was the first grand knight, serving from 1907 to 1909. He also led the council from 1914-1917.

In 1925, through the efforts of the late Paul Zimmermann and other leaders of the Knights of Columbus, a permanent domicile was constructed at 414 Iris Street. The building, a two-story brick structure, was also the home for the parish's Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court.

In 1980, following the establishment of the Diocese of Lake Charles, the Council donated the building and grounds to the Diocese for use as its official headquarters. Following renovation, it was dedicated as the Chancery on April 21, 1985, with Archbishop Pio Laghi, the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio (the Pope's ambassador) to the United States, in attendance.



Members of the newly reactivated Knights of Columbus Council 1207 of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception stand on the steps of the Cathedral with Bishop Glen John Provost and Father Rommel Tolentino, pastor of the Cathedral, following the Mass of Tuesday, April 7. The Council, originally chartered in 1907, went inactive in 1999.

# PLANTING THE SEED

## May: The month of our Mother Mary

Entering the month of May, my thoughts cannot help but turn to Mary. Once on a trip to northern Italy, I came across a lake called Lake Orta. The church sat on the slope of a hillside that had been at one time the crater of an active volcano. Now overgrown with tall trees, lush foliage, and gorgeous flowering gardens, the church was enjoyed a privileged view and setting. The church was a small pilgrimage site built in the 17th Century to commemorate an apparition of our Lady to a young blind shepherdess. The Blessed Mother appeared to her in the branches of a tree. Her blindness was cured, and the spot became a place of pilgrimage named after the fruit of the tree in which Mary appeared, thus its name, *Santuario della Madonna della Bocciaola* or, variously translated, Our Lady of the Wild Plum. In the Catholic world, could something so charming and so beautiful exist.

The tradition of honoring Mary, as Mother and Queen, has its origins in the Old Testament. The Mother of the King is called "the great lady," as the King Solomon's mother goes to meet him to ask a favor; when the text reads, "The king stood to meet her and paid her homage. Then he sat down upon his throne, and a throne was provided for the king's mother" (I Kings 2:19). Even the king pays his mother respect. This image of the honored mother is so strong that the Sacred Scriptures use it to describe God's love. The prophet Isaiah will write, "Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you" (Isaiah 49:15). The attributes of a mother are applied even to the holy city of Jerusalem, "a city that is a mother in Israel," as Second Samuel describes it (II Samuel 20:19). Our

Lady is the mother of the King, a unique impression she leaves is so strong that it influenced even the imagination of the early Christian Church.

When the Book of Revelation reveals the Church giving birth, the sacred writer under Divine inspiration turns to the image of the mother. "A great sign appeared in the sky," Revelation reads, "a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars" (Revelation 12:1). The woman is about to give birth, but a dragon stands ready "to devour her child." God sweeps up her child and protects the woman by hiding her away in safety. How can a Catholic miss the symbolism?

The Church is a mother giving birth to her children, just as Jerusalem was the mother of Israel. The devil seeks to devour, just as so many enemies of the Church have tried over the centuries to do, but God protects those who are His own and will not allow His Church to be destroyed. Mary is the image of that Church, because if the Church is the Body of Christ, as St. Paul describes her, then Mary gives birth to it in a mystical symbolism. Every virtue, every truth, every dignity that we admire in Christ is brought into the world and made possible by a Mother's love. It is Mary that prompts Christ's first miracle when she says at Cana, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). She prompts the beginning of Christ's work



**Bishop Glen John Provost**

and mission, as the Church will continue that work of Christ in the world. For this reason, Our Lady says, "from now on will itself will call me blessed" (Luke 1:48). When He gives her to the cross and says, "Behold, your mother" (John 19:27). And she, like the mother she was and remains, will be present at the birth of the Church at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descends on the apostles gathered "together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus" (Acts 1:14). She is a mother and the end.

If Jesus is a "true vine" and we are the branches, then the relationship between Jesus and us is living. It is an organic relationship. It is like a body where Jesus is the head and we are the members. It is like a family where God is the Father, Jesus a Brother, and Mary a mother. If the sap of life is to flow through the vine into Mary's branches, then there must be a loving union, and what more loving union can there be than the union of a mother with her children. To affirm that Mary is our Mother is to say that we are the spiritual descendants of Our Lady beloved disciple at the foot of the cross. To call Mary "Our Lady" is to say that we are one with her Son in His Body the Church. Whether we speak of vine or body, father or mother, we speak of union, never separation. Mary is the very image of everything a mother should be, whether that mother is the mother of a family or the Church.

My thoughts return to that idyllic spot on Lake Orta. Who was the mother of the blind shepherd girl? The Lady she saw in the branches of a tree, Our Lady of the Wild Plum. She is our mother also.

### Decree of Announcement of Pastoral Assignments



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

- Effective July 1, 2015:**  
Rev. William Miller **Pastor**, St. Lawrence, Raymond and St. Joseph, Elton
- Rev. V. Wayne LeBleu **Pastor**, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lake Charles
- Very Rev. Marcus Johnson **Pastor**, St. Margaret of Scotland, Lake Charles and Continues as Dean of the Central Deanery and Completes his service as Rector of St. Louis High School
- Rev. Jeffrey Starkovich **Senior Parochial Vicar**, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Lake Charles and Continues as **Chaplain** of St. Louis High School and **Vocations Recruiter**
- Rev. Joby Mathew **Parochial Vicar**, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lake Charles and **Chaplain** to nursing home facilities in St. Martin De Porres, St. Margaret of Scotland, and Our Lady Queen of Heaven
- Rev. Msgr. Harry D. Greig Continues as **Chief Financial Officer** and Completes his service as **Secretary** for Ministry of Administration.
- Rev. Deacon Edward Lavine Completes his service as Interim **Secretary** for Pastoral Services
- Very Rev. Anthony Fontenot **Rector** of St. Louis High School and Continues as **Dean** of the South Deanery, **Chair** of the Presbyteral Council and **Pastor** of Christ the King.
- Rev. Nathan Long Completes his service as **Secretary** for Christian Formation and Begins his service as **Director** of Continuing Education and Continues as **Director** of Vianney House of Discernment and Formation and **Pastor** of Our Lady Good Counsel
- Rev. Ruben Buller **Moderator of the Curia, Vice-Chancellor**, and **Secretary** for Ministry of Administration and **In Residence** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and Continues as Director of Liturgy and **Master of Ceremony** for the Bishop
- Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM **Secretary** for Ministry of Pastoral Services and Continues as **Director** of Catholic Charities
- Mr. Rickard Newman, **Secretary** for Ministry of Christian Formation and Continues as **Director** of Family Life and Pro-Life and Child and Youth Protection

We would like to offer our gratitude to Msgr. Greig, Father Long, and Deacon Lavine for their service as secretaries of curial offices.

Signed by our hand and that of our Chancellor, given on this 30th day of the month of April in the Year of our Lord, 2015.

*Glen John Provost*

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

*George Stearns*

Rev. Deacon George Stearns  
Chancellor



**Donald Lloyd II**



**Stephen F. Wright**

### Being Christian is service, not 'makeup' for a pretty soul

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Being Christian is humbly serving others, not applying "makeup" to your soul to make it prettier, Pope Francis said.

"To be Christian is to do what Jesus did -- serve," he said in a homily during Mass in the chapel of his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

Thinking about oneself and being self-centered "is a sin, it's a habit we have to break," he said, according to Vatican Radio. Just ask for forgiveness and pray "that the Lord convert us," he added.

"To be Christian isn't about appearances or social conduct, it isn't putting a bit of makeup on the soul so that it's a little more beautiful," he said.

A Christian serves others and people should ask themselves, "Do I have others serve me, do I take advantage of others, the community, the parish, my family, my friends

or do I serve, am I at the service of others?" he said.

Being a Christian is also about recognizing that one is part of an entire people on a journey with God, not an individual whose spirituality is concocted in an abstract or controlled environment, like a laboratory, he said.

God has made his people "walk for centuries in order to reach" maturity, "the fullness of time," he said.

"How many, how many offenses" along this journey, this long history of sin and grace, he said. "Our history must take on saints and sinners. It is my personal history, everyone's, it must take on our sin."

God's grace is always there, he said, because he is "with us, accompanying us in (our) sin in order to forgive and accompanying us in grace. There is no Christian identity without history."

### Help sought for embattled Syrian Christians

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Ties to the land stretching back two millennia keep Syria's Christian population from fleeing en masse, said Melkite Catholic Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart of Aleppo, Syria. He said people come to him for counsel on whether they should stay or leave in the middle of a protracted civil war among the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad, fighters from rebel groups, and a clutch of rebel State of various leanings.

"This has been our land for 2,000 years," Archbishop Jeanbart said during an April 30 interview with Catholic News Service. Moreover, he added, Christians have lived peaceably with their Muslim neighbors, "although not as much now as before."

### CHRISTUS Health reorganizes with focus on growth, operational efficiency

CHRISTUS Health has reorganized to ensure growth and operational efficiency that will allow its mission of extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ to thrive in today's ever-changing healthcare environment. The reorganization includes hospitals throughout four distinct regions. CHRISTUS North Louisiana, CHRISTUS Central Louisiana, CHRISTUS Southwest Louisiana and CHRISTUS Southeast Texas have joined together under the leadership of Stephen F. Wright, who will serve as CHRISTUS Health's Senior Vice President, Group Operations. The former CEO of CHRISTUS Health Louisiana will oversee these combined facilities that are estimated to produce over \$1 billion in patient service revenues.

The new Louisiana/Texas combined operations includes the following Louisiana-based hospitals: CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital in Lake Charles, CHRISTUS Highland Medical Center in Shreveport/Bossier, CHRISTUS Coushatta Hospital in Coushatta, Natchitoches Regional Medical Center in Natchitoches, CHRISTUS St. Joseph - a long-term care facility in Monroe, CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria and Savoy Medical Center in Mamou. Additionally, the Southeast Texas facilities now added to the joint operations include CHRISTUS Hospital-St. Elizabeth in Beaumont, CHRISTUS Hospital-St. Mary in Port Arthur, CHRISTUS Jasper Memorial Hospital in Jasper and a newly purchased Bone and Joint Institute in Beaumont/Port Arthur.

"I have had the privilege of serving in a leader-

ship capacity with CHRISTUS Health for more than 30 years and am humbled to have been asked to lead this newly formed collaboration between Southeast Texas and Louisiana," said Wright. "I'm looking forward to working with the leadership of these regions to share knowledge and best practices across the new division, so we can enhance the care we provide to each community we serve. This reorganization brings a lot of energy to our organization as our geographic presence will now allow us to further extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ to all those we serve."

Donald Lloyd II, who has served as Administrator and Chief Operating Officer for CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital since 2011, will now assume the new role of CEO for CHRISTUS Southwestern Louisiana. Lloyd, who has over 30 years' experience in the health care industry, is actively involved in many professional societies and has served numerous community service organizations.

"I'm excited about the flexibility this new organizational model brings. To stay at the forefront in healthcare, we must continually search for better ways to serve," Lloyd said. "Stephen and I have a shared vision of creating collaborations that will offer the highest quality health care here at home."

Prior to his arrival at CHRISTUS St. Patrick, Lloyd served as the President and CEO of Marion Regional Healthcare System, a fully-integrated rural health system employing 800 Associates, clinicians, paraprofessionals, support staff and physicians.



The St. Louis Foundation, the Trust Fund for the Future, was established in 1983 for the sole purpose of providing financial assistance to St. Louis Catholic High School. Governed by a Board of Directors, the Foundation annually distributes one-half of its earned income to the school and reinvests the second half, meaning that every gift to the Foundation is perpetual. This year's Foundation distribution to the school is \$200,000. Pictured, left to right, with the "big check" are Rev. Marcus Johnson, Rector and Foundation treasurer; Bryan Vincent, Foundation chairman; and Deacon Christopher Fontenot, Principal.

# ANSWERING THE CALL

## The story of the Divine Word Missionaries and St. Augustine Seminary

(Reprinted from *IN A WORD*, with permission of the Divine Word Missionaries, Southern Province)  
**Second part of a series**

On Wednesday, July 4, 1904, Archbishop Quigley, contacted Mr. Bremner in Shermerville. After a brief conversation, Mr. Bremner shared with the Archbishop, some of the plans and intentions he had for the construction of a house and the usage of the land. The Archbishop was excited and very happy with what he had heard. Mr. Bremner was prepared to donate three hundred and twenty acres of forestland, erect the buildings needed by the missionaries and also contribute otherwise to the maintenance of the station. The land was very productive and the settlement was not far from the big city of Memphis. Bremner would be satisfied with such a small beginning. It would be enough also, if Blacks were to learn only reading and writing, and be instructed in religion. As he explained, he could guarantee thirty school children for a beginning. In his opinion, the number would increase since a growth in the population was expected. The Archbishop shared Mr.

Bremner's plans with Father Peil, who in turn forwarded them to his superiors, but made no commitments for the present. However, he did make arrangements to visit the area in order to make a more informed decision. He thus planned a trip South in the Fall of 1904. On that trip he met with many people who worked in the evangelization of Blacks. Amongst them was St. Katharine Drexel who encouraged and supported the Divine Word Missionaries.

To his credit it was Father John Peil who pushed hard to have the Society of the Divine Word begin work in the Black Apostolate. Through numerous letters between himself and the founder of the order St. Arnold Janssen, one sees how he worked passionately to involve the Divine Word Missionaries in the evangelization of Blacks. There was concern on the part of advisors to St. Arnold Janssen that such a venture was warranted but it is to the credit of St. Arnold that he went along with the plan to involve Divine Word Missionaries in working amongst Blacks.

After much discussion the Divine Word Missionaries took on the mission in Merigold, Mississippi. Father



**Rev. Aloysius Heick, SVD  
 First SVD Missionary to the Southern USA**

Aloysius Heick was to be pastor. On July 15, 1905, he went and began the mission. However, it was not easy. There were no Catholic Blacks in the area and opposition from Protestants and the White population was intense. It is said that Father Heick was threatened many times and told to leave. Or...he would be killed. There was no way he could continue. In fact the stories of how he left Merigold are shrouded in legend. Some accounts say he had to flee for his life after stopping the flogging of a young boy by a white man. It is said he had to hide in a coffin or piano

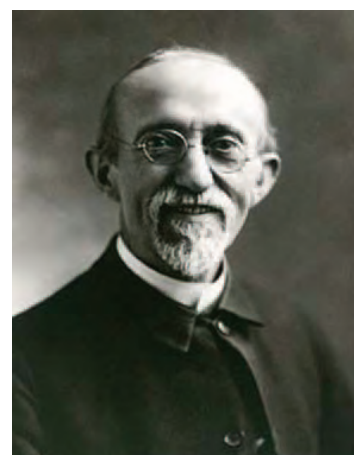
box and be taken away before the KKK could find him.

This unfortunate beginning, however, did not stop Father Peil. He was persistent and believed that the Divine Word Missionaries must be involved in evangelization efforts amongst Blacks. After more correspondence between himself and St. Arnold the opportunity to start another place in either Memphis or Vicksburg came up. St. Arnold wanted to go to Memphis but at the last minute the Bishop announced that the parish was no longer available for the Josephite priest who had lingered in coming had finally arrived. There was no place for the Society of the Divine Word in Memphis.

So it was that Father Heick went and established a parish in Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1905. From that initial mission other parishes would be staffed in Meridian, Greenville and Jackson.

Eventually the Bishop of Natchez gave the entire Northern part of Mississippi to the care of the Divine Word Missionaries.

With SVD now established in the work amongst Blacks a swell of support developed for the ordination of Black



**Brother Wendelin Meyer, SVD**

men to serve as priests for the Blacks amongst the German Divine Word Missionaries. The fascinating story of faith and courage of Fathers James Wendel and Matthew Christman and the Papacy will be examined in the next issue of *IN A WORD*.

To his everlasting credit St. Arnold Janssen believed it was God's will that the young order of priests and brothers give of themselves to the Black Apostolate. In numerous letters, one sees his interest in the work. He communicated with St. Katharine Drexel and the Bishops. He offered support and care for Father Heick and

was patient with the strong-willed Father Peil. Surely God was the foundation for the wonderful work that led to St. Augustine's Seminary in Bay Saint Louis.

**NOTE:**  
*This article can only highlight important facts about the early beginnings of St. Augustine Seminary. Much of our information comes from a doctoral dissertation, Divine Word Missionaries' Black Apostolate in the Southern USA, by Michael Meier, SVD published in 1961 in German. We have an English translation. Also of value was a collection of letters written by Saint Arnold to Divine Word Missionaries in North America. Other information is found in a book by Ernest Brandewie. Brandewie's informative book on the Society of the Divine Word and its beginnings in North America provides much more detail specifically about Father Peil and the beginnings of the African American Apostolate. Titled IN THE LIGHT OF THE WORD: DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES OF NORTH AMERICA. The book was published by Orbis Press on May 1, 2000. It can be found on Amazon Books.*

## Let's take the challenge: raise funds for our seminarians

**By Deacon Glen Bertrand  
 Director of Development**

LAKE CHARLES -- The Catholic Extension Society has offered a challenge to raise seminary funding to the Diocese of Lake Charles. For every donation of \$1,000 or more to the Seminary Bursary Endowment, Catholic Extension will match the offering with 50 cents on every \$1.00 given. By raising \$50,000 by December 31, 2015, we will receive \$25,000 in matching funds.

The Seminary Bursary Endowment is a permanent fund set aside to provide income for the education and training of future priests. There are now 88 such funds. Seminary burses can be established in honor or memory of a loved one, in the name of especially well-loved priests (there are a number of these types of burses already established) or an organization with any amount of money. Contributions may be added to current burses at any time.

The principal amount of the fund is never spent but invested, with the interest used each year for education expenses of those men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles. Since the principal is never touched, this fund is truly a "gift that will give forever." Donations made to any seminary bursary will continue to support the education of seminarians in perpetuity.

The Diocese of Lake Charles was recognized by Catholic Extension for its quick solicitation of donations since the first of the year, collecting over \$31,000. Qualifying donations must be new or increased gifts of \$1,000 or more. Lesser donations will be appreciated but do not qualify for the matching Challenge. All funds must be received in cash before December 31, 2015.

We are very excited to take advantage of this generous offer to raise funds for seminary education. We are enjoying record levels of seminarians in formation for the priesthood. With this blessing comes the challenge of providing the necessary education and support while they are in formation. Our current costs amount to over \$600,000 per year.

We hope that those who can will do everything possible to support the seminarians. The Catholic Extension Society is one of the most generous supporters of our Diocese. The Seminary Endowment Challenge gives the Diocese another way to raise much needed funding to support our development efforts for seminarian education.

Checks should be made payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles and sent to Deacon Glen Bertrand, Director of Stewardship and Development, or Rev. Msgr. Daniel Torres, V.G., Diocese of Lake Charles, P.O. Box 3223, Lake Charles, LA 70602-3223. Include a description of the donor's wishes for the naming of the bursary. Please note in the memo of your check that the gift is for a "seminary bursary."

If you would like further information, please call Deacon Glen Bertrand at 337-439-7400 or e-mail him at glen.bertrand@lcediocese.org.

### Diocese of Lake Charles Seminary Burses (As of May 8, 2015)

Msgr. Louis Boudreaux	\$ 6,982.50
Bishop Jeanmard	\$ 9,276.69
Latrielle Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00
Charles Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00
Gelu Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00
Henry Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00
Msgr. William J. Teurlings	\$ 3,092.23
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00
Israel Hebert Family	\$ 15,000.00
Fr. Moise Hebert	\$ 2,231.66
Pro Ecclesia	\$ 5,203.55
Immaculate Conception	\$ 3,092.23
Saint Joseph	\$ 1,217.93
Lake Charles Seminary	\$ 15,000.00
Cure d' Ars	\$ 3,092.23
Mr. & Mrs. C. Delahoussaye	\$ 15,000.00
Msgr. Lerschen	\$ 1,203.35
Saint Theresa	\$ 5,356.71
Catholic Daughters of the Americas	\$ 1,666.46
Msgr. Louis Boudreaux	\$ 15,000.00
Herrington Family	\$ 15,000.00
Horvath Family	\$ 12,500.00
Harry Van Tiel Family	\$ 1,031.96
Habetz-Oustalet-Mitchell Families	\$ 5,000.00

Msgr. A. Van Buijtenen	\$ 5,808.00
Msgr. Jules Daigle	\$ 15,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. Galip Jacobs/Sam Joseph	\$ 600.00
Msgr. Charles Levasseur	\$ 70,000.00
Plauche Family	\$ 4,000.00
Rev. Oscar S Vasquez-Munoz	\$ 1,429.00
Msgr. Bede Becnel	\$ 23,652.68
Jeffery Savant	\$ 2,435.00
Rev. Robert Lee Shreve	\$ 25,973.33
Bishop Jude Speyrer	\$ 73,725.73
Our Lady of the Snows/ CDA Court	\$ 20,200.00
Msgr. Curtis Vidrine	\$ 28,689.60
Msgr. Murphy Bernard	\$ 27,476.90
Rev. Alphonse M. Volpe	\$ 25,122.62
East Deanery Serra Club	\$ 550.00
Msgr. Charles Dubois	\$ 9,926.70
Msgr. Amos J. Vincent	\$ 34,723.21
Rev. Oris A. Broussard	\$ 27,810.66
Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc	\$ 160,127.43
Rev. John Giles	\$ 25,132.21
Rev. Maurice Martineau	\$ 27,087.40
Truman Stacey	\$ 10,382.09
Lorraine Yelverton	\$ 5,050.00
The Ordinario Family	\$ 50,000.00
Walter Henry/Agnes Stevenson Granger	\$ 40,000.00
Edward Thomas (Tom) Cassidy	\$ 2,000.00
Mitchell Duhon	\$ 252,984.14
Joe and Janet Stoma	\$ 7,250.00
Marion Bond Courrage	\$ 1,000.00
Bill Moriarity	\$ 50.00
Dr. and Mrs. David Buttross, Jr.	\$ 10,000.00
Blessed Pope John Paul II	\$ 1,500.00
Edgar and Penny Perkins	\$ 25,000.00
Angela and Frank Miller	\$ 8,500.00
Rev. Charles Soileau	\$ 42,173.35
Rev. T.L. Herlong/Sr. Pius Blanchard, MHS	\$ 24,343.35
John and Dinah Bradford	\$ 2,500.00
Dr. W. Gerry & Susan Hebert Family	\$ 15,000.00
Ola Mae and F. M. Thornton	\$ 100,000.00
Kenneth and Marjorie Long	\$ 2,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. Earl B. Evans	\$ 9,500.00
Rev. James A. Doyle	\$ 44,213.14
Ray and Dorothy Conner	\$ 275.00
Todd and Missy Theriot Family	\$ 5,000.00
Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Bourque	\$ 57,340.74
Most Holy Trinity	\$ 3,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Louviere	\$ 2,500.00
Kevin P. Gayle	\$ 10,000.00
Mr. & Mrs. Garrett Caraway, Sr.	\$ 10,000.00
Maurice and Patricia Serice	\$ 2,500.00
Frank and Frances Terranova	\$ 2,000.00
Richard and Worth Miller	\$ 15,000.00
Nancy A. Hayes	\$ 5,000.00
Serra Club of Lake Charles	\$ 1,000.00
Jacob Louis Dietz	\$ 1,000.00
Rev. Whitney Miller, Ph.D., L.P.C.	\$ 4,400.00
Dale and Jennie Reichley	\$ 10,000.00
Benedict XVI	\$ 3,500.00
Earl and Alverdy Veron	\$ 1,000.00
Glen and Tirana Bertrand	\$ 15,000.00
Rev. James C. Miles	\$ 25,676.25
Hal, Gladys, Dotsy, and Francis Edwards	\$ 4,000.00
Leroy and Ellen Martin	\$ 10,000.00
Ray and Margaret Bertrand	\$ 3,000.00
Lester and Rubylee Perez	\$ 50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,666,106.03</b>

## Mass to Avert Storms June 3 in Cameron

CAMERON -- Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Mass to Avert Storms beginning at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron.

The 2015 Hurricane Season begins on Monday, June 1, but the Mass has been scheduled on this particular day and time (an hour later than in previous years) to help facilitate attendance by a greater number of the faithful. Rev. Archimandrite Herbert May, pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea and Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole, will concelebrate along with the pastors of the other coastal churches - Father Richard Adiukwu of St. Eugene Catholic Church in Grand Chenier and Father Gijo Ikkaramattom, H.G.N., of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry.

Bishop Provost asks that everyone pray the prayer penned by the Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, in 1957 following Hurricane Audrey.

### Let Us Pray:

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**

## Couple's ancestors ministered to lepers, hanged for witchcraft

OIL CITY, Pa. (CNS) -- The roots of Jerry Nurss' family tree are tangled in the infamous Salem witch trials. But his wife, Pat, shares her bloodline with a saint.

The Oil City, Pennsylvania, couple -- who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary in August -- quip that their disparate backgrounds have kept them together all these years.

"If you go back a couple of centuries or more, people definitely wouldn't talk about the witch connection, but today when we mention it to anyone, we make a joke out of it," says Jerry, whose seventh great-grandmother, Rebecca Nurse (original spelling), was hanged for witchcraft on July 19, 1691.

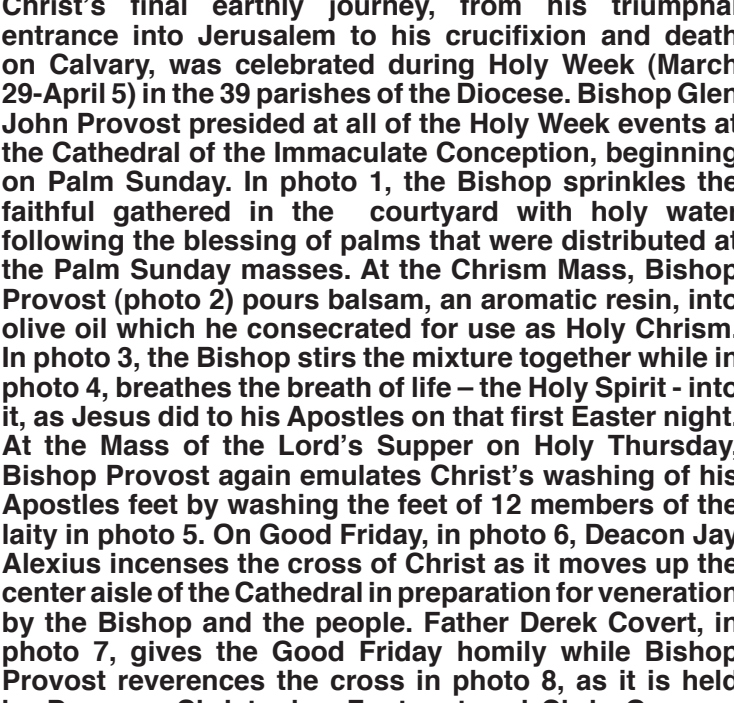
"I'm protecting him," teases Pat, whose second cousin is St. Damien of Molokai, the Flemish-born priest who ministered to lepers in Hawaii in the late 19th century.

The Nurss' parish priest, Father Justin Pino, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Oil City, finds their family backgrounds historically interesting. "In Salem, they had to fight for justice. St. Damien had to fight for dignity for lepers. The connections are fascinating," Father Pino says.

Jerry Nurss learned about his seventh great-grandmother's hanging through genealogical research done in England in the 1950s. According to historical reports, Rebecca Nurse was a 71-year-old widowed mother of eight who was falsely accused for instigating the odd behavior of several young girls in Salem Village, now Danvers, Mass.

The town doctor bowed to Puritanical fear, concluding that the girls' "horrid fits" were a direct result of witchcraft.

# Holy Week – Palm Sunday to Easter



Christ's final earthly journey, from his triumphal entrance into Jerusalem to his crucifixion and death on Calvary, was celebrated during Holy Week (March 29-April 5) in the 39 parishes of the Diocese. Bishop John Provost presided at all of the Holy Week events at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, beginning on Palm Sunday. In photo 1, the Bishop sprinkles the faithful gathered in the courtyard with holy water following the blessing of the palms that were distributed at the Palm Sunday masses. At the Chrism Mass, Bishop Provoost (photo 2) pours balsam, an aromatic resin, into the Chrism. In photo 3, the Bishop stirs the mixture together while in photo 4, breathes the breath of life – the Holy Spirit – into it, as Jesus did to his Apostles on that first Easter night. At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, Bishop Provoost again emulates Christ's washing of his Apostles feet by washing the feet of 12 members of the laity in photo 5. On Good Friday, in photo 6, Deacon Jay Alexius incenses the cross as it moves up the center aisle of the Cathedral in preparation for veneration by the Bishop and the people. Father Derek Covert, in photo 7, gives the Good Friday homily while Bishop Provoost reverences the cross in photo 8, as it is held by Deacons Christopher Fontenot and Chris Gregory. The Easter Vigil begins after sundown on Saturday with Bishop Provoost opening the Service of Light with prayer in photo 9. He prepares the Paschal Candle, in photo 10, by embedding five grains of incense in the candle to represent the five wounds of Jesus: the three nails that pierced his hands and feet, the spear thrust into his side, and the thorns that crowned his head. The Bishop lights the new Paschal candle from the burning brazier in photo 11. The Easter Vigil continued as the celebrant, deacons, and servers along with the crowd processed into the Cathedral under candlelight. In photo 12, Bishop Provoost blesses water he used in baptizing the catechumens received into the Church in photo 13. Photo 14 shows the Bishop sprinkling Holy Water on those in attendance and in photo 15, he extends his hands over the three he will confirm, praying that they may receive the Holy Spirit. Shortly thereafter, using the Sacred Chrism consecrated at the Chrism Mass the previous Wednesday, the Bishop anointed the forehead of the catechumens and the two candidates of the Cathedral.

## Catholic Communication Campaign connects people with the Church

WASHINGTON — The 2015 Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC) will be taken up in the Diocese of Lake Charles and many dioceses around the country this weekend - May 16-17. This collection helps support evangelization efforts at home and abroad through a variety of communications platforms, including the Internet, radio, print and social media. Here in the Diocese of Lake Charles, half of the contributions made for the appeal remain in this local

church of Southwest Louisiana to aid the communications efforts, such as the Catholic Calendar, the diocesan website, radio ministry, and Glad Tidings, the weekly television program. From the 2014 collection, that amount was \$14,433.40. "With digital media taking an increased role in our daily lives, it is important that the Church continues using these new mediums as a way to connect with people.

## Bishop Sam Jacobs to speak May 23

LAKE CHARLES -- Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Lake Charles presents "Pentecost Power" with special guest Bishop Sam G. Jacobs, Bishop-emeritus of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, on Saturday, May 23, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in the St. Henry Catholic Church Community Center, 1021 Eighth Avenue. Bishop Jacobs, who was a priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles when he was raised to the Episcopacy as Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria in 1989, served as Director of Catholic Charismatic Renewal here. Registration begins at 9 a.m., with Praise & Worship at

9:30 a.m., Bishop Jacobs first session at 10 a.m. and lunch, provided by Catholic Charismatic Renewal, at 11:30 a.m. Praise & Worship opens at 1 p.m. with Bishop Jacobs' second session at 1:30 p.m. Closing prayer is 3:30 p.m. and the anticipated Mass in St. Henry Catholic Church begins at 4 p.m. There is no registration fee but love offerings will be gratefully accepted to offset expenses. Two love offerings will be taken up on the day of the event. For more information and a registration form, call Betty Bruney at 337-477-0065. Deadline to pre-register is Wednesday, May 20.

# God instituted marriage between man and woman

The authentic teaching of the Church holds with infallible certainty that marriage can exist only between a man and a woman. Marriage is a specific type of human friendship between two people, one a male, and the other a female. Not two men. Not two women. Not three or more of any gender combination. It was true before the Fall in the Garden of Eden. It was true after the Fall, even though, due to hardness of heart, important people disobeyed. It was revitalized by the Father's own Divine Son in His home life at Nazareth. Though individuals and societies have failed quite often, with the guiding light of reason and honest reflection, in the past we have managed to arrive at the certain conclusion that the good of each person and all society depends on the maintenance of that simple, straightforward equation.

Friendships of other sorts exist but those are not marriages. Arguments for changing the meaning of marriage rely on the radical assertion that a certain kind of desire belongs to that set of wants that society has no choice but to embrace. That conquering desire supersedes all things divine, scientific, reasonable, and just plain obvious. Now, the only limitation that secular society seems willing to permit upon unions between persons of the same gender is a minimum age requirement.

The ordinary Christian, as well as any reasonable person, could present a clear, rational explanation for protecting against the utter destruction of marriage by the arbitrary rulings of legal decision makers. Experience testifies to that

which we assent. There are tendencies within us that we should not indulge, much less enshrine in law. We cannot build society on a foundation of desires that owe their origin to a fallen world and hearts that are the battlefield between lust and goodness. Some desires are not wholesome and should not be unleashed upon society. Not all desires are born of justice and charity, even when they feel like love. Some things that seem beautiful, delicious, and enlightened are poison. Yes, *we* are born that way.

Acknowledging the troubling weaknesses we inherited, children of Adam that we are, we can choose nevertheless to direct our lives toward a progress in virtue, natural and supernatural. Thankfully, there are many households where one finds examples of fallen humanity living beyond the emotional lameness in which their fallen state would hold them captive. They were not *born* that way. None of them are born saints. In those homes one finds the members of families, sinners all, who do not demand the indeterminate liberty to pursue wrongful inclinations with pretensions of those entitled to forbidden fruit. By the grace of God they do battle for freedom in their own lives every day.



**Rev. Edward Richard, M.S.**

Our contemporaries need us to witness with unwavering resolve to the truth that marriage is not the product of arbitrary legal decisions. We did not simply create a law of marriage so that we can impose it upon society. We have not created a law of marriage, at all. God instituted marriage; He did it for love, not in order to limit us but to protect us and to free us. The love that belongs to marriage, as it was in the beginning, is found nowhere else in creation except between man and woman. There are other kinds of human attraction, other kinds of love, but those are not the love between husband and wife that belongs only to marriage.

Perhaps we will not be able to hold back the forces that will only enslave the future of society to uglier battles, but we must not shrink from witnessing to God's gift of redemption and the freedom to overcome sin, even when we are held in contempt.

*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 nationally 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.*

# Abrazando Cristo Mission celebrating 15th Anniversary

LAKE CHARLES - The Abrazando Cristo Mission Program is celebrating its 15th anniversary of its conception this year with its mission to Nicaragua slated for July 11-19 to the Diocese of Matagalpa and the Diocese of Granada. Thirty-two missionaries from the Diocese of Lake Charles are embarking on this Catholic Mission to evangelize through prayer, work, and engaging in the lives of the poorest of the poor.

The work for the mission for this July will be a continuation of the construction of the St. John the Baptist Rectory in Matagalpa from last year, the medical clinic, painting of the church, Vacation Bible School for the children, assisting fifteen adults in their college studies to receive degrees in religious studies, and feeding the multitudes. Assistance will also be given to the Diocese of Granada for the Saint John Paul II Center as well as the renovation of a convent to become a boarding school for

children who are poor and who are not able to be educated.

The mission program has two fundraisers each year to assist in the work of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. The first fundraiser is the annual Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament at Mallard Cove Golf Course in Lake Charles on Saturday, June 6. The family of Johnnie Thibodeaux, Jr., a former LSU Tiger Baseball player, a local baseball player of the South Lake Charles Little League and Barbe High School while growing up in Lake Charles, wanted to establish something in Johnnie's memory after his car accident on June 17, 2005. The thought of doing this golf tournament to help other children and people who do not have families in Nicaragua became a family affair as well as the involvement of close friends of Johnnie working to spread the message of "Loving one another." Proceeds from the golf tournament help with

many of the projects of the mission. For information on how to register to play or sponsor a hole or be a major sponsor of the tournament, please contact Johnnie and Susan Thibodeaux at 337-249-6886.

The other fundraiser is the Big Cash Giveaway where 500 tickets are being sold for \$100.00 each. The first place drawing is \$5000.00; the second place drawing is \$1000.00; and the third place drawing is \$500.00. The drawing will be June 21 at 2:30 p.m. at the Saint Henry Community Center. You do not need to be present to win. If you wish to purchase a ticket, please send a check for the number of tickets you would like to purchase. Make the check out to: Abrazando Cristo Mission Program. Mail the check to Monsignor Daniel A. Torres, V.G., Diocese of Lake Charles, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 and the ticket stub(s) will be mailed to you. You may also purchase a ticket from one of the missionaries.



**Johnnie Thibodeaux, Jr.**

Please pray for the success of the mission program and for the missionaries: Sally Abate, Samuel Bond, Dr. Steven Caraway, Joseph Caraway, Dr. Phillip Conner, Joyce Dippery, Chelsey Dubroc, Kelsey Dubroc, Randall Edwards, Brad Foreman,



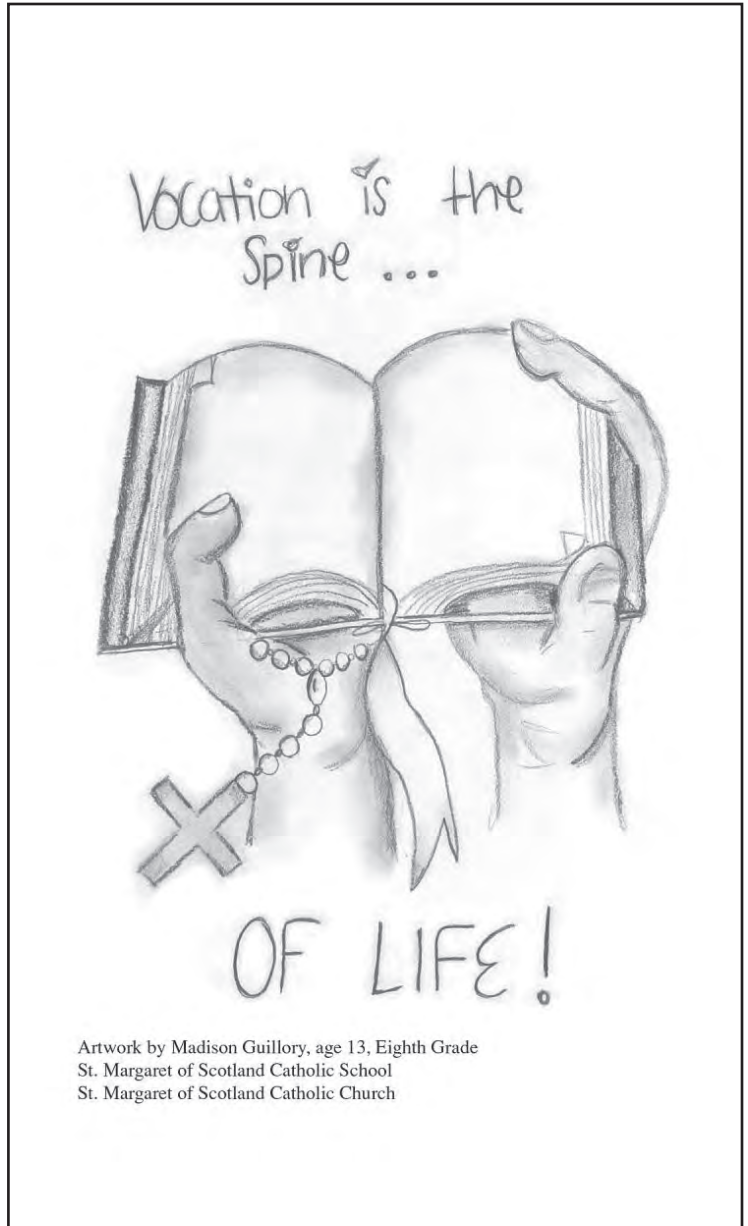
One of the projects on the agenda for the missionaries on this summer's trip is the completion of a rectory begun last year. Msgr. Daniel Torres said he was surprised at the progress from the photo as when last there, "we began by digging a ditch."

Taylor Frost, Anna Katherine Gaspard, Joan Gatte, Bethany Hebert, Dr. Edward Hebert, Deborah LaFargue, Kenneth Long, Fr. Nathan Long, Bernard Marcantel, Heather McCarty, Mark McCarty, Anna Beth McConaughay, Debra Richard,

Mallory Robicheaux, Peggy Smith, Geovanni Soto, Susan Thibodeaux, Sharon Torres, Quinton Touchette, Melody Trahan, Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, and Monsignor Daniel Torres. May God bless you for all the good you do!



Winners of the 2015 World Day of Prayer for Vocations Drawing Contest were honored by Bishop Glen John Provost at the conclusion of Mass on Sunday, April 26, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. First place of a \$200 prize went to Madison Guillory, eighth grade student at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and parishioner of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church. Her winning effort is seen at right above. Second place and \$100 was won by Hannah Derouen, eighth grade student at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and parishioner of Christ the King Catholic Church while third place, along with \$50, was garnered by Ben Bertrand, second grade student at Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and parishioner of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church. Honorable mention with a \$25 prize went to -Timothy Thomas, seventh grade student at Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and parishioner of St. John Bosco Catholic Church in Westlake and Karah Guillory, second grade student at Margaret of Scotland Catholic School and parishioner of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church. Pictured here with Bishop Provost are, from left, Madison Guillory, Hannah Derouen, Timothy Thomas, Ben Bertrand, and Karah Guillory.



Artwork by Madison Guillory, age 13, Eighth Grade St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

## Matthew Kelly to appear at OLQH

LAKE CHARLES -- Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church will host Matthew Kelly from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, November 14 in the Msgr. Irving DeBlanc Family Life Center Gym, 3939 Kingston Street. Cost for this life-changing event is \$39, which includes all retreat materials. Visit [www.DynamicCatholic.com/Lake Charles](http://www.DynamicCatholic.com/Lake Charles) or call 859-980-7900 for more information or to purchase your ticket.

Matthew Kelly has dedicated his life to helping people and organizations become the best-version-of-themselves. He is an internationally acclaimed speaker, best-selling author, and business consultant. His books have been published in twenty-five languages, have appeared on the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and USA Today bestseller lists, and have sold in excess of seven million copies.

Joining Kelly will be Eliot Morris, an acclaimed singer songwriter who has toured with the Counting Crows, John Mayer, and James Taylor. He is best known for his albums What's Mine is Yours and All Things in Time, which includes the hit Up From the Bottom.

# Catholics must be active in politics, no matter how 'dirty,' pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Catholics must get involved in politics even if it may be "dirty," frustrating and fraught with failure, Pope Francis said.

Given today's "throw-away" culture and so many problems unfolding in the world, "Do I as a Catholic watch from my balcony? No, you can't watch from the balcony. Get right in there!" he said.

The pope made his comments during an informal question-and-answer session with members of Italy's Christian Life Community and the Student Missionary League -- groups inspired by Ignatian spirituality. As a Jesuit priest, Pope Francis

served as a national assistant to the Christian Life Community in Argentina in the late 1970s.

Pope Francis set aside his prepared text and instead took questions from four people in the audience, warning them at one point that it could be dangerous.

"When you ask me these questions, the danger -- danger for the pope, too, you know -- is believing that I can answer all your questions. The only one who can answer every question is the Lord. My job is simply to listen and say what comes to me from within. But (it is) insufficient and too little," he said.

One man asked how to keep strong the link between

faith in Jesus and the responsibility of building a more just and caring world.

Christians have a duty to work for the common good in the world of politics, the pope said, adding that that does not mean forming a Catholic political party.

"That is not the way. The church is the community of Christians who adore the Father, follow the way of the Son and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is not a political party," he said.

However, individual Catholics must get involved and "embroiled" in politics, he said, because it is one of the "highest forms of charity" since it seeks the common good.

Yet, it isn't easy, especially when there is so much corruption, he said. "It's a kind of martyrdom" where one carries the cross of the ideal of the common good every day "without letting yourself be corrupted" or discouraged in the midst of failure.

It is hard to be in the middle of it all "without getting your hands or heart a little dirty," he said. "Ask the Lord to help you not sin, but if you get your hands dirty, ask for forgiveness and keep going," don't get discouraged.

A woman told the pope she often loses hope and asked what she and others could do to really understand that God never abandons his people.

The pope said sometimes

people think "hope" means having an easy, successful or comfortable life. That is "a controlled hope" that exists only as a concept and has nothing to do with a real life made up of problems, skepticism and failure, he said. "True hope is a gift of God, a present, and one that never lets you down."

God is always walking with his people, even if they may not always realize it, he said. Doubts that he is there come when people try to do good, but fail or witness so much brutality and suffering.

Hope is one of the hardest virtues to have because "you have to lower yourself a lot so the Lord can give it to you," he said. "Humility and service -- these are the two

things that hold small hope, the most humble virtue, but the one that gives life."

The pope told a diocesan priest who is involved in formation programs that "the best medicine" to cure the disease of indifference was touching "the wounds of the Lord in the poor of our time."

"You will never know Jesus Christ if you don't touch his wounds, his pains," he said.

The pope told the priest that if he came across someone considering a priestly vocation, but who had never directly experienced touching and loving the wounded Lord, he was to send the candidate away "on a beautiful vacation for one, two years, it will do him good."

# Marianites of Holy Cross jubilarians honored

(Read more at [live.lcdioocese.org](http://live.lcdioocese.org) - Marianites of Holy Cross)

OPELOUSAS - Jubilee anniversaries of Marianites of Holy Cross religious sisters are being celebrated around the world this year and 10 of those dedicated religious were honored on Saturday, May 2, during Mass celebrated in St. Landry Catholic Church.

Five members of that group, led by Sister André Mouton, MSC, a native of New Orleans, celebrating 80 years of consecrated life, are either natives of Southwest Louisiana or served in parishes and/or schools located in the Diocese of Lake Charles. The remaining four are Sister Joel Miller, MSC; Sister Mary Kay Viellion, MSC; Sister Jane Kidder, MSC; and Sister JoAnn DeLoach, MSC.

Sister André Mouton, MSC, was born in New Orleans in 1935, at the age of sixteen. Active and energetic, she began her ministry the year of her entrance into the community as a primary education at St. Cecilia in New Orleans. After receiving her degree Sister André taught at elementary, middle, and high schools in New Orleans, Lake Charles,



Sr. Mary André Mouton, MSC

Franklin, Opelousas, Morgan City, Eunice, Platte, Houma, and Plaquemine. In 1955, she was assigned to teach high school in Houma, Eunice, Opelousas, and Morgan City. During this span, Sister was also in charge of the boarders in Franklin.

**Celebrating 50 years**  
Sister Joel Miller, MSC was born in Oklahoma, but a native of Lake Charles since the age of one. She entered the Marianites of Holy Cross in September, 1965 after graduating from St. Charles Academy. She served as a middle school teacher in New Or-



Sr. Joel Miller, MSC

leans, Plaquemine and Lake Charles, and as principal at St. John's Elementary School in Franklin, La. from 1980-1985 and in Port Allen, La., at Holy Family School from 1986-2007.

**Celebrating 60 years**  
Sister Mary Kay Viellion, MSC (a.k.a. Sr. Dominic Savio) was born in New Orleans' French Quarter and entered the Marianites of Holy Cross after graduating from Holy Angels Academy. She taught elementary, high school, and college classes in Opelousas, New Orleans, Houma, Morgan City, Lake Charles, and



Sr. Mary Kay Viellion, MSC

Plaquemine, La. Sister Jane Kidder, MSC, was born in Arnaudville, La. After many years as a teacher in elementary education in Lake Charles, New Orleans, and Houma, Sister served as coordinator of St. Philip the Apostle Preschool. She later ministered as Coordinator of Hospice Volunteers at Hotel Dieu Hospital in New Orleans.

Sister JoAnn DeLoach, MSC, celebrated 60 years of Consecrated Life as a Marianite. Sister was born in Beaumont, Texas, and moved when she was in fifth grade to Lake



Sr. Jane Kidder, MSC

Charles, La. where she met the Marianites while attending St. Charles Academy. After graduating from the Academy in 1955, JoAnn entered the Marianite novitiate. The following year she received the Marianite habit and the name Sister Mary Paula. After Vatican II, she chose to return to her baptismal name. Sister JoAnn made perpetual profession in 1960, and was assigned to teach in elementary schools in Algiers, Ocean Springs, Miss., and Plaquemine.

Others whose jubilees were celebrated included



Sr. JoAnn DeLoach, MSC

Sister Gretchen Dysart, MSC; Sister Sue Pavlovich, MSC; Sister Mary Consuelo Champagne, MSC; Sister Audrey Fontenot, MSC; Sister Rita Marie Chauvin and Sister Madeleine Sophie Herbert, who celebrated 85 years of professed life.

The Marianites of Holy Cross will celebrate jubilees for 24 religious sisters around the globe this year ending in September. In 2016, the Marianites, founded by Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau in Louisiana, France, will commemorate the 175th year of the founding of their community.



Bishop Glen John Provost takes questions from students of Immaculate Conception Cathedral School during his visit. The Bishop visits each Catholic school in the Diocese each year.

## Bishop Provost completes visits to Catholic schools

LAKE CHARLES - With his Wednesday, April 22, trip to the Immaculate Conception Catholic School (ICCS), Bishop Glen John Provost completed his annual set of visitations to each of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

At ICCS, Bishop Provost met with students in several of the classrooms (kindergarten, first and second grade) and then spent the remainder of the morning in the school's library talking with the other classes, answering a variety of questions from the students, and playing the piano to the children's enjoyment.

The Bishop has visited in each of the schools every year since his consecration

and installation as the Third Bishop of Lake Charles on April 23, 2007.

During this school year, the visits began in September 2014 with the celebration of Mass and visit to St. Louis Catholic High School as well as a visit to St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School. In October, the Bishop traveled to Jennings and visited with the students and faculty of Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven was the next scheduled visit in November and in December, Bishop Provost presided at the celebration of Mass at Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur and helped to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Our Lady's School.

The Bishop visited St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff in January and later that month celebrated the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The schedule for the 2015-2016 school visits has been set as follows: St. Margaret of Scotland, Wednesday, Sept. 30; Our Lady Immaculate, Jennings, Tuesday, Oct. 6; Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Tuesday, Nov. 10; Our Lady's School, Wednesday, Dec. 9; St. Theodore's Holy Family School, Thursday, Jan. 14; Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Wednesday, Feb. 24; and St. Louis Catholic High School, Wednesday, March 16.

## Did you know...

Three members of the family of St. Gregory the Great, his mother Silvia and two aunts - St. Tarsilla and St. Emiliana of Rome, sisters of Gregory's father Gordianus - have been canonized, leading him to be considered "a saint among saints." He is also related to Pope St. Felix III. He had been a monk and did not want to serve as pope upon his election, often lamenting that his new duties as pontiff forced him to "bear with secular business."

Everyone knows that upon his election as pontiff in 1978, Cardinal Albino Luciani took the name John Paul I. Before that, what was the previous occasion that a pope took a new papal name? Do you know? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar, published on June 19.



Pope Francis smiles as he plays with a basketball next to members of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team at the Vatican.

## Memorial Day Office Hours

LAKE CHARLES - The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday, May 25, in commemoration of Memorial Day.

Office hours for the remainder of that week - Tuesday, May 26 through Friday, May 29 - are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## COMMUNICATION

Continued from Page 4

This collection makes many communications projects possible and breathes new life into our evangelization efforts," said Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of Yakima, Washington, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) CCC subcommittee. "Through this collection we can continue to bring people

together and encourage discussions and conversations about the faith. Through the work of these projects, distance becomes a smaller obstacle to reaching the faithful."

The USCCB-sponsored website For Your Marriage (www.foryourmarriage.org) provides advice and witness stories to help couples at every stage of their journey, from dating to marriage and parenting.

## NEPAL AID

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Temporary shelter kits, water purification kits and hygiene kits for 2,000 families have been transported to Nepal for immediate distribution.

An additional 3,000 tarpaulins were flown in from Dubai not long after the recovery effort began. CRS made an initial commitment of \$825,000 to relief efforts in Nepal, a figure that is expected to rise as needs become clearer.

## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Louisiana State Catholic Daughters Convention

LAFAYETTE -Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #695 captured two first places and a third at the Louisiana State Catholic Daughters of the Americas 46th Biennial Convention held April 23-26.

The Court newsletter won first place in its division, the Court captured first place in Membership 2014-2015 - Category B and won third place in the 2014-2015 Circle of Love Contest - Leadership.

Lucia Riviere, an eighth grade student at Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, was the winner of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas 2015 \$200 Scholarship Award from the Diocese of Lake Charles. The scholarship goes to an eighth grade student entering the ninth grade in a Catholic high school. Selected based upon her academic record, standardized test scores, letters of recommendation and an autobiography, Riviere will attend St. Louis Catholic High School this fall.

Karen Fills and Barbara Guillotte attended the convention as voting delegates from Court Lady of the Lake #695.

### Ashley Lavine earns honor from Microsoft

LAKE CHARLES - Ashley Lavine, Business/Technology Teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School, has been recognized by Microsoft as a global leader in using technology. She was selected as a Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert for 2015 for her excellence in using technology to help students learn and achieve more - and ultimately succeed in a mobile-first, cloud-first world.

Each year, Microsoft selects MIE Experts to be part of an exclusive global community that is paving the way for their peers to share ideas, try new approaches and learn from each other. This year, Microsoft selected more than 800 thought leaders in innovative learning who possess technology and desire to amplify their reach and voice.

### Pontifical Solemn Mass set June 24

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Pontifical Solemn Mass on Wednesday, June 24 - the Nativity of St. John the Baptist - in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 6 p.m.

### Hospice volunteers sought

LAKE CHARLES -- CHRISTUS HomeCare Hospice and Palliative Care-St. Patrick is seeking individuals to become Christus Hospice Volunteers.

Patient volunteers provide emotional support and practical assistance, enhancing the comfort and quality of life for patients, their families and loved ones, according to April Deshotel, Volunteer Coordinator.

"Volunteer can help extend the Healing Ministry of Jesus Christ," Deshotel said. "They are needed for companionship to a person in the final months and weeks of life, provide support for family members and caregivers, be a comforting and supporting presence, and provide time for caregiver to take care of themselves."

Contact Deshotel at 4444 Lake Street, Lake Charles, LA, 70605 or call 337-395-5600 for more information about becoming a Volunteer for Christus Hospice and Palliative Care.

### Sacred Heart clothing outreach

LAKE CHARLES -- Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Lake Charles has an outreach ministry for women in the area called "Gently Used Business & Dress Attire."

Donate clothes or shop for free for women's business attire on the fourth Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon at 1024 Division Street, across from the former junior high building of Sacred Heart/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School.

For more information e-mail Deneen at gentlyusedbusinessdressclothes@gmail.com.

### Vocaré on First Saturday at Vianney House

LAKE CHARLES -- Young men ages 16 to 25, seeking to know God's will in their lives, are invited to attend Vocaré, a ministry of the Office of Vocations, held the first Saturday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Vianney House, 1624 Bank Street.

Call Father Nathan Long at 337-477-1434 for more information.

### Spiritual Directors Conference

WOODSWORTH - Dr. Gray Matthews will be the presenter at the Spiritual Director's Annual Conference at the Wesley

Center Friday, May 22, through Sunday, May 24.

His topic will be "Awakening to Wisdom: Thomas Merton and the Long Art of Contemplation." The event is open to all Spiritual Directors.

For more information, to register and or become a member go to [www.louisianaspiritualdirectors.org](http://www.louisianaspiritualdirectors.org).

### Couple Prayer Series in June, July

LAKE CHARLES -- LAKE CHARLES - Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church will present Together with Jesus Couple Prayer Series from June 9 through July 14 on Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Family Life Community Center.

Each session, facilitated by Audra and Walter Melton, will begin with a light meal. Deadline to register at [www.olqh.org](http://www.olqh.org) is Friday, May 29.

The focus of the Together with Jesus Couple Prayer Series is simply and solely to help any Christ-centered married or engaged couple learn how to pray together more openly, comfortably, safely, supportively and consistently.

### Icon writing workshop July 20-26

MOSS BLUFF - A beginner/intermediate icon-writing workshop will be held at Saint Charles Center, 2151 Sam Houston Jones Parkway, July 20-26.

Instruction is in the Byzantine-Russian Tradition by the Prosopon School of Iconography.

Cost is \$1,098 for the beginner, which includes 36 hours of studio instruction, all art supplies, meals, and room with private bath. The intermediate/advanced students will pay \$938, which provides everything except the art board and supplies. Prior art experience is helpful but not required.

A non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of \$150 is required to reserve a space in the class. Class size is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. In the case of workshop cancellation, deposits will be refunded.

Contact Sylvia Marcantel, 1513 Covey Lane, Lake Charles, LA 70605, call 337-304-2911, or e-mail [smarcantel@suddenlink.net](mailto:smarcantel@suddenlink.net) for registration forms and more information.