



## Pastoral Letter: Year of Mercy 2015-2016

My dear People of God,

Sacred Scripture instructs us that God "is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us" (Ephesians 2:4). Let us explore this concept of God's mercy as we begin the Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by our Holy Father Pope Francis.

Pope Francis began his proclamation of the Year of Mercy with these words: "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy" (Misericordia Vultus, # 1). When we encounter mercy, we encounter God. And we meet God in the person of Jesus Christ who is the fullness of God's revelation to us. "No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him" (John 1:18). To meet Jesus Christ is to meet God's mercy.

Human beings are like Philip in the Gospel of St. John. There is something in the heart of each one of us that wants to meet God. Philip pleads with Jesus, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us" (John 14:8). Philip seems to be exploding with intent. He has heard what Jesus has taught. He has seen the miracles. He knows there is something greater here. He wants more. He wants to see God. Jesus satisfies him and says, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). Whatever Jesus has taught and whatever He has done, His words and His works, are possible because Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Him (John 14:11). And, when we meet Him, we find the mercy of God.

To deny this basic fundamental desire can only lead to frustration. We can also, to our own peril, substitute this need with other objects of desire. This is, of course, the danger of a secularized and materialistic world, where God is excluded from consideration, has no real part in our lives, and is ignored. How can we yearn for what we refuse to admit exists?

We cannot hear that sentence—"Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy"—without thinking of the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-31). It is the key to understanding mercy. We know the parable well. There is a father who has two sons. At his request, the younger son receives from the father his inheritance in advance. The younger son then squanders his wealth "on a life of dissipation" (Luke 15:13). In dire circumstances, he takes the only job he can find, raising pigs. His plight is so extreme that he even hungers for the food the pigs are eating, "but nobody gave him any" (Luke 15:16). Finally, destitute and starving, the younger son comes to his senses and says, "I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers'" (John 15:18-19). What do we learn here?

First, there is always a father. The younger son may wander and stray, but the father is always there waiting for him. The younger man believes in his father. The father sees the repentant son coming at a distance and runs out to meet him (John 15:20). The father's first reaction is not anger but "compassion" (John 15:20). He embraces the son and kisses him (John 15:20). The father doesn't even allow the son to finish his

### Rich in Mercy

prepared speech. He calls his servants and orders two things for the returning son: the finest clothing and a delicious banquet. The son receives back the dignity of the family, symbolized in the clothing, and the food of the family, symbolized in the banquet in which all participate.

Certainly the father's abundant forgiveness is more than the son expected, but the son had confidence in the father's ability to forgive. And this confidence was rooted in the father's existence and presence. The son knew he would find the father home. This is faith, a faith rooted in the Creator of our being. To paraphrase St. Augustine, our hearts are restless until they rest in God (Confessions, Book 1, Chapter 1). God's mercy is not elusive. It is we who make ourselves elusive. It is we who hide from mercy or ignore it or make excuses for our refusal to acknowledge it. All the while, God waits. God is patient. He exists, and so does His mercy.

Second, there is a turning point in the life of the son, and that turning point is repentance. The son has lost his dignity. Every time we sin we lose our dignity. This is a basic fact. It is at that moment that we come to realize that it doesn't have to be this way. We can return to the Father, where even the servants have more than enough. The son has squandered his inheritance and will return not to reclaim his status as a son but to accept even being a servant (Luke 15:19). In this act of humility we find the thoroughness of his repentance. "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you" (Luke 15:18). God cannot penetrate a heart that has shut the door to Him and consequently His mercy. This brings me to the Catholic practice of having a "holy door" during a Jubilee Year.

When I was child, I recall the door of a house was seldom locked during the day. Family and old friends arrived for a visit, and they found the door open. They knocked and came right in. How times have changed! But the door of a house has always been symbolic of welcome and openness. So it is spiritually in the Church.

The custom of having a "holy door" is based, like all traditions in the Catholic Church, on the Sacred Scriptures. Doors and gates in the Bible are frequently mentioned, and they almost always have to do with opening ourselves to God and entering into His presence. I think of the cry of the victor in Psalm 118, when in a hymn of thanksgiving he says:

Open the gates of victory;  
I will enter and thank the Lord.  
This is the Lord's own gate,  
where the victors enter (Ps. 118:19-20).

The one who enters through these gates is sharing the glory of the King whose house he is entering. We seek to follow through the door. Psalm 24 will ask, "Who can stand in his

holy place?" (Psalm 24:3). The answer comes that the one with clean hands and pure heart may follow through the door that has already been opened by the Lord.

Such are the people that love the Lord,  
that seek the face of the God of Jacob.  
Lift up your heads, O gates;  
rise up, your ancient portals,  
that the king of glory may enter (Psalm 24:6-7).

I could mention so many references to doors in the Bible that take place in visions and dreams, are sung of in hymns and canticles, and symbolize our closeness to God. But in the New Testament the door communicates something new and it is best described in the Book of Revelation.

Our Lord dictates seven letters. In the last letter, the one addressed to "the church in Laodicea" (Revelation 3:14), He says:

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me. I will give the victor the right to sit with me on my throne, as I myself first won the victory, and sit with my Father on his throne (Revelation 3:20-21).

The door has gone full circle. In the Psalms, the door was that of God's house. Here the door belongs to us. The Lord stands at our door and knocks. We must open the door, allow Him to enter, and we will share together in the victory.

In the past, the Holy Doors for a Year of Jubilee were located in Rome, the object of our pilgrimage. To make this highly symbolic act of welcoming the Lord present to more of the faithful, Pope Francis has given permission for each diocese in the world to have a Holy Door.

The Holy Door for our diocese is located at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles. Here special indulgences are granted and we can participate in this significant act of entering God's house and demonstrating our own willingness to welcome Him into our house. There mercy is found. Let the door of God's mercy be opened. Like the prodigal son, let us renew our faith in the existence of God and His mercy. Let us return to God's house. Let the doors of our hearts be opened through repentance and conversion from sin. May we love more completely our God who is "rich in mercy."

In the hope that each of us will open that door and return to the Father's house, I remain with blessings for you and your families,

Devotedly yours in our Lord,

† Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

## U.S. Bishops approved formal statement on pornography

BALTIMORE — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved a formal statement, "Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography," at their annual November Fall General Assembly in Baltimore.

The full body of bishops approved the statement by a vote of 230 votes, four against and one abstaining.

"My brother bishops' approval of this statement shows our collective concern for the widespread problem of por-

nography in our culture today," said Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, New York, chairman of the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family and Youth (LMFLY), which led the statement's development. "As the statement says, virtually everyone is affected by pornography in some way. So many people—including within the Church—are in need of Christ's abundant mercy and healing. My hope is that the statement can serve as a foundation and catalyst for increased pastoral attention to

this challenge at the national and local level."

The formal statement provides a basic catechesis on human sexuality and chastity, an explanation of why the production and use of pornography is a sin, an overview of its effects in our society, a closer look at its effects on men, women, children, young people, marriages and families, and a word of hope and encouragement to those who have been harmed by pornography use or in its production.



The annual Red Mass was celebrated Friday, Oct. 23, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with Bishop Glen John Provost as celebrant and homilist. Judges, attorneys and government officials from the five civil parishes making up the Diocese of Lake Charles were invited. Sponsored by the local St. Thomas More Society, Judge Henry Yelverton Chapter, and the Diocese of Lake Charles, the Red Mass is generally celebrated at the opening of the judicial year. Its celebration serves to request guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the God-given power and responsibility of all in the legal profession. Some of those in attendance are pictured above, from left (first pew) Honorable Penelope Richard, 38th Judicial District Judge, Cameron; Honorable Guy Bradberry, 14th Judicial District Judge, Calcasieu; Honorable Ulysses Gene Thibodeaux, Third Circuit Court of Appeal Judge. Second pew, Honorable Martha O'Neal, 36th Judicial District, chief judge, Beauregard; Honorable Kerry Anderson, 36th Judicial District Court Judge. In the third pew are attorneys Winfield Little, Jack Wheeler, and Sid Rosteet.

## Fourth Annual Bishop's Gala tickets on sale

LAKE CHARLES — Times grows short to purchase tickets for the Fourth Annual Bishop's Gala, Saturday, Dec. 12, in the Lake Charles Civic Center. A centennial tribute to the birth of "Old Blue Eyes" - Frank Sinatra - will be the feature entertainment provided by the renowned Nelson Riddle Orchestra.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for a VIP social with general admittance at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets, \$125 each and a table of 10 for \$1,250, can be purchased at the Chancery (414 Iris

Street) and online at [live.lcdioocese.org](http://live.lcdioocese.org).

To buy tickets online, using your credit card or e-check, click "Event Registration" button on the front page, then click the "Bishop's Gala Tickets" link and follow the easy instructions. The patron of this year's event, on whose feast day the Gala is celebrated, is Our Lady of Guadalupe. Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 220, for more information.

Proceeds from the Gala provides financial aid for diocesan communication and evangeli-

zation efforts - the production and airing of the Glad Tidings television program, the publishing of the Catholic Calendar in five regional newspapers - twice a month in the American Press and once a month in newspapers of Jennings, Sulphur, DeRidder, and Cameron, the maintenance and enhancement of the website of the Diocese - [live.lcdioocese.org](http://live.lcdioocese.org), and the radio broadcast of the 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday on 1470-AM and 1290-AM from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on two local stations.



Seven members from the Imperial Calcasieu Delegation attended The Military and Hospitalier Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem Grand Priory of America Grand Prioral Council Meeting recently with six receiving promotions or special recognition. Promoted were Delegate COL (Ret.) John Halloran, Jr. to Knight Commander, Hospitalier Nila Halloran to Commander. Also Members James Dodd, Paul, and Lucille Matthews were promoted to Commander. Chaplain Archimandrite Herbert May, a Senior Chaplain in the Order, received one of the Order's highest honors, the Companionate of Merit in the rank of Knight. Sub-Delegate / Marshal CAPT (Ret.) Joe Hill attended and served as a Marshal at the Vigil Service and Investiture/Promotion and Awards Ceremony. Member Gladwin Ball was accepted as an Officer in the Order. The Order of St. Lazarus is an international ecumenical Christian order. Its initial mission about a thousand years ago was to care for lepers, a mission which the Order supports to this day. Also, the Order of today continues to perpetuate the ideals of honor, integrity and charity by promoting Christian unity and relief of human suffering locally and world-wide. To learn about the Order, contact John Halloran at [colhalloran@hotmail.com](mailto:colhalloran@hotmail.com) or Joe Hill at [jdnavy34@bellsouth.net](mailto:jdnavy34@bellsouth.net).

# Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

December 4, 2015

## Christmas Mass Schedule for the churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles

**Bell City**  
St. John Vianney  
(7120 Highway 14 E.)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Day)

**Big Lake**  
St. Mary of the Lake  
(11054 Highway 384)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve)

**Cameron**  
Our Lady Star of the Sea  
(135 Our Lady Road)  
8:30 a.m. (Day)

**Carlyss**  
St. Theresa of the Child Jesus  
(4822 Carlyss Drive)  
4:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Creole**  
Sacred Heart of Jesus  
(5250 West Creole Highway)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve)

**DeQuincy**  
Our Lady of LaSalette  
(203 S. Grand Avenue)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)

**DeRidder**  
St. Joseph  
(1125 Blankenship Drive)  
5:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Elizabeth**  
St. Frances of Rome Mission  
(204 Poplar Street)  
8:00 a.m. (Day)

**Elton**  
St. Joseph  
(209 N. Washington Street)  
8:30 a.m. (Day)  
St. Paul  
(1100 St. Mary Street)  
7:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

**Fenton**  
St. Charles Borromeo  
(804 Third Avenue)  
6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Grand Chenier**  
St. Eugene  
(5035 Grand Chenier Highway)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)

**Hackberry**  
St. Peter the Apostle  
(1210 Main Street)  
7:30 p.m. (Eve); 8 a.m. (Day)

**Iowa**  
St. Raphael  
(211 S. Thomson Avenue)  
5:30 p.m. (Eve); 10:15 a.m. (Day)

**Jennings**  
Immaculate Conception  
(705 S. Lake Arthur Avenue)

4:00 p.m. (Eve); 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. (Day)  
Our Lady Help of Christians  
(710 N. State Street)

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
(920 S. Broadway)  
8:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)

**Johnson Bayou**  
Our Lady of the Assumption Mission  
(5556 Highway 82)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve)

**Kinder**  
St. Philip Neri  
(607 Fourth Avenue)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Lacassine**  
St. John the Evangelist Mission  
(306 Ann Street)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. (Day)

**Lake Arthur**  
Our Lady of the Lake  
(203 Commercial Avenue)  
4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)

**Lake Charles**  
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
(Corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets)  
4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve);  
9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Extraordinary Form) (Day)

Christ the King  
(7680 Gulf Highway)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
(2031 Opelousas Street)

4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)  
Our Lady of Good Counsel  
(221 Aqua Drive)

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)  
Our Lady Queen of Heaven  
(3939 Lake Street)

4:00 p.m. (Main Church),  
4:15 p.m. (Family Life Center gym),  
6:00 p.m., (Main Church) (Eve);  
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Day)

Sacred Heart of Jesus  
(610 Louisiana Avenue)  
4:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Day)  
St. Henry  
(1021 Eighth Avenue)

4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. (Eve);  
8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish), 5:00 p.m. (Day)  
St. Margaret of Scotland  
(2500 Enterprise Blvd.)

(NW Corner of Enterprise Blvd & 17th Street)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve);  
7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)  
St. Martin de Porres  
(5326 Elliott Road)

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)

St. Patrick Hospital Chapel  
(524 Dr. Michael DeBaKey Drive)  
9:00 a.m. (Day)

**LeBleu Settlement**  
St. Joseph Mission  
(2110 Claude Hebert Road)  
8:30 a.m. (Day)

**Moss Bluff**  
St. Theodore  
(785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway)  
4:30 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. (Day)

**Oakdale**  
Sacred Heart of Jesus  
(1208 E. 7th Avenue)  
7:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)

**Oberlin**  
St. Joan of Arc  
(110 W. 5th Avenue)  
5:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Ragley**  
St. Pius X  
(16816 Highway 171)  
6:00 p.m. (Eve);  
5:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. (Day)

**Raymond**  
St. Lawrence  
(5505 Pine Island Highway)  
6:30 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. (Day)

**Sulphur**  
Immaculate Conception  
(2700 Maplewood Drive)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)

Our Lady of LaSalette  
(602 N. Claiborne Street)  
4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)  
Our Lady of Prompt Succor  
(1109 Cypress Street)

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve);  
7:00 a.m. (Extraordinary Form), 10:00 a.m. (Day)

**Sweetlake**  
St. Patrick Mission  
(469 Highway 27)  
8:00 a.m. (Day)

**Vinton**  
St. Joseph  
(1502 Industrial Street)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)

**Welsh**  
Our Lady of Seven Dolours  
(209 N. Adams Street)  
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)

St. Joseph  
(310 N. Sarah Street)  
9:00 a.m. (Day)

**Westlake**  
St. John Bosco  
(1301 Sampson Street)  
4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed in celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – a Holy Day of Obligation - on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Offices are open the remainder of the week – Monday, Wednesday through Friday – from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

## Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe set Dec. 12

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, on Saturday, Dec. 12, in St. Henry Catholic Church at 6:30 p.m. A reception will be held in the St. Henry Community Center following the liturgy.

Before the liturgy, a mariachi band will begin playing the Mañanitas – the little morning,

This annual diocesan event, held at St. Henry, reminds everyone of the importance of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego in 1531 to the conversion of the Aztec people to Christianity.

## Diocesan Briefs...

### Diocesan Fiscal Position Available

LAKE CHARLES - The Diocese of Lake Charles is accepting applications for the full time position of Assistant Director of the Office of Fiscal Affairs.

An application may be found on the front page of the diocesan website under this story. The position will be available Thursday, December 17, and applications are requested by Friday, December 4. For more information, call The Very Rev. Ruben Buller, Moderator of the Curia at (337) 439-7400 or email ruben.buller@lcediocese.org.

### Early Childhood Director applicants sought

LAKE CHARLES -- Our Lady Queen of Heaven - Early Childhood Center is seeking applicants for the Director position.

Applicants must have a degree in Early Childhood Education, as well as experience in daycare operations, management and finances.

Contact Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School at 337-477-7349 for application information.

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8

LAKE CHARLES - A celebration of the patronal feast day of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is set for Tuesday, Dec. 8, beginning with a recitation of the Holy Rosary at 5 p.m., followed by the celebration of a Solemn High Mass in the Extraordinary Form at 5:30 p.m. and a Marian Procession through the streets of downtown Lake Charles. A reception will follow the procession in the Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral Office Complex at the corner of Kirby and Bilbo streets.



Pictured in the photo at left is, (from left) Sir Robert McCall, who was promoted to Knight Grand Cross of the Holy Sepulchre (KGCHS), Sir Edward Mason, who was promoted to Knight Commander of the Holy Sepulchre (KCHS), and Reverend Ruben Buller, who was invested as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre. Also invested was Lady Nila Halloran. The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre held its annual meeting in New Orleans November 6 - 8. Some of the members of the large delegation from the Diocese of Lake Charles attending the Investiture, shown in the photo at right, were, Front Row - LGCHS Dale DeSonier, Ainsley DeSonier, and KGCHS Dr Keith DeSonier; Middle Row, from left, KGCHS Dr David & Mrs Joyce Buttross, Jr. LCHS Mary Frances Bordlee, LGCHS Janet Stoma, and KGCHS Joe Stoma; Back Row, from left, KGCHS Clarence Prudhomme, KCHS Dr Bruce Bordlee, LGCHS Kitty Prudhomme. KCHS Edward Mason, KCHS Paul and Paula Reed, and KGCHS Robert McCall. Others present at the meeting were KCHS Msgr Jace Eskind, KCHS Msgr Harry Greig, KCHS Colonel John Halloran.



### Christmas Senior Adoption Project

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, 1225 Second Street, will again be providing Christmas gifts for the elderly through the Christmas Adoption Project.

In association with church parishes, senior housing facilities, and local councils on aging, Catholic Charities seeks out the loneliest and most neglected of the community and shows God's mercy through gift giving in this most holy of seasons.

Anyone who would like to adopt a senior may contact Catholic Charities at 337-439-7436.

### St. Louis seeking alumni updates

LAKE CHARLES – St. Louis Catholic High School is seeking alumni wishing to receive the monthly school newsletter.

Graduates of Landry Memorial, Sacred Heart High School, St. Charles Academy or St. Louis Catholic High School are asked to visit the school's website – www.slchs.org - to update contact information.

### January prayer breakfast, luncheon

LAKE CHARLES – The next Men's Prayer Breakfast and Ladies Luncheon will take place in January at Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception office complex.

The luncheon is set for Wednesday, Jan. 13, and the breakfast is Friday, Jan. 15

Women should send a check for \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Mrs. Gaynell Carrier, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 at least a week prior to the luncheon. A stamped, self-addressed envelope should be included.

Mass is celebrated at 6:30 a.m. in the Cathedral before the breakfast. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

### "Lumen Fidei" on Second Saturdays

LAKE CHARLES – Women – juniors in high school and older – welcome to join the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Michigan, on the second Saturday of each month to discuss the Order's vocation to love as attendees discover God's particular and loving plan for their lives.

The meeting begins with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at noon and concludes at 6:20 p.m. Call 337-656-2911 or e-mail miriam.macleon@lcediocese.org to RSVP.

### Catholic Charities aid to the needy

LAKE CHARLES – The most recent report from Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana on its aid to the needy of the area shows a total monthly expenditure of \$22,725.91, according to Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM, director.

Eighty-one clients were served during the month, ending November 18, with 35 aided with rental payments, 12 in acquiring a TWIC card or Louisiana state ID card; 10 with payment for medications, 19 with utility payments, and five with assistance in paying for a funeral.

The next food distribution is Friday, Dec. 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Catholic Charities office – 1225 Second Street, Lake Charles.

To qualify to receive food distribution all clients must bring the following items: picture ID for each adult in the household, Social Security card for each person in the household, proof of one month's income for the household (food stamp letter, SSI, TANF, Social Security, Child Support Letter, Retirement, Unemployment, Veterans benefits, payroll checks, proof of residency - a utility bill, and proof of the number of persons in the household. Call 337-439-7436 for more information or to make an appointment.