



Diocesan Capital Campaign details are announced

LAKE CHARLES – The Diocese of Lake Charles announced new details of its landmark capital campaign at the Bishop's Gala last Saturday, December 12. The diocesan-wide Return to the Lord Capital Campaign, the first in the history of the diocese, is an effort to raise \$16 million to support priests, parishes, and faith ministries. The campaign logo can be seen at right.

Campaign Theme

Bishop Glen John Provost came up with the campaign theme. "When I arrived in Lake Charles a little over eight years ago, many shared with me that they were passionate about wanting to do more to grow in their faith. It comes from Psalm 116: 'How can I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?' The theme touches on that importance to have our actions match our heart. We can do so by giving back and meeting the needs of our parishes and our ministries."

Campaign Goals

The campaign will primarily help grow the investment endowments of the diocese's Priest Retirement Fund and Seminarian Education Fund. Both will receive twenty percent of campaign proceeds, or \$3.2 million respectively. Twenty percent of all funds raised during the campaign will be returned to every parish in the diocese to address specific needs.

The campaign is also raising \$2.4 million (15 percent) to begin a much needed and long delayed restoration project at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, \$1.6 million (10 percent) to build and operate a new youth program initiative of Saint Charles Center, and \$800,000 (5 percent) to expand Catholic Charities' services. Ten percent will be used to help run the campaign and be set

aside for unfulfilled intentions. Deacon Glen Bertrand, Director of the Stewardship and Development Office for the diocese, said more details of the campaign goals will be shared when the campaign officially starts in the Spring of 2016.

Parish Benefits

Each parish in the diocese has a specific monetary goal they are trying to meet. The parish goals are 125 percent of the average of the past three-year's offertory.

"They (goals) are not unreasonable and they are not assessments," said Father Keith Pellerin. "Parishioners will be asked to think about making a commitment over a three-year pledge period and they may also decide which elements of the campaign they really want to support."

Father Pellerin noted that the Pastor Advisory Council had discussed and agreed to recommend an 80/20 split initially in the campaign where 80 percent goes to the diocese and 20 percent of what each parish raises is returned to the parish. Then, once the parish goal is accomplished for the campaign prior to the end of three years, the campaign funds raised after goal will then switch to 80 percent to the parish and 20 percent to the diocese. For each parish, those funds will go to meeting their own individual needs that their pastor and parish leadership will decide. "The Pastor Advisory Council knows and the Bishop recognizes that every parish has projects which have been on our to-do list for some time," he said. "It is nice to rely on the campaign as a means to accomplish our diocesan goals and, at the same time, reinvigorate our parishes."

Leaders On Board

The Bishop asked six lay couples to lead this



historic effort. John and Arlene Bostick of St. Pius X in Ragley, Lance and Kelly Mudd of St. Patrick in Sweetlake, Deacon Harold and Sheryl Nixon of Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lake Charles, Joel and Lisa Oustalet of Our Lady Help of Christians in Jennings and Our Lady of the Lake in Lake Arthur, Jack and Mandy Robichaux of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles, and Judge Kent and Pat Savoie of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus in Carlyss. These General Chair couples will help recruit additional lay leadership needed and guide the campaign through the process of asking for gifts throughout the diocese.

Pastor Advisory Council

Bishop Provost appointed a nine-member Pastor Advisory Committee to assist him in the campaign, providing guidance, helping set campaign policies and procedures, determine goal allocations and be his primary source for advice during the effort.

Pastors named include Monsignor James Gaddy of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church as Chair; Father Aubrey Guilbeau of Immaculate

Conception Catholic Church (Sulphur); Father Keith Pellerin of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church (Kinder); Monsignor Ronald Groth of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church (Lake Arthur); Monsignor Daniel Torres of St. Henry Catholic Church (Lake Charles) and Vicar General; Father Edward Richard, M.S., of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church (Sulphur); Father John Huckaby of St. Theodore Catholic Church (Moss Bluff); Father Alan Trouille of Our Lady of Seven Dolours Catholic Church (Welsh), and Father Timothy Goodly of St. Pius Catholic Church (Ragley).

Campaign Start Date in 2016

"Right now, we are focused on preparing for the campaign and everything related to doing that," said Deacon Bertrand. "That includes getting communication material prepared, scheduling events and providing information about the goals to pastors and parish staff. We will do all of that first, before we begin to ask parishioners for gifts and pledges." The parishes will run the campaign in 2016. The diocese will formally announce the start of the campaign and provide more details at that time.

Respect Life Banquet Jan. 12

LAKE CHARLES – The Annual Diocese of Lake Charles Respect Life Banquet on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2016 in the Buccaneer Room of the Lake Charles Civic Center will feature the introduction of the "Pro Vita" awards to recognize the work and service of people of the diocese in pro-life activities.

Ramona Trevino, a former Planned Parenthood manager turned pro-life activist, is the guest speaker.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with silent auction items available for bid. The dinner is 6:30 p.m. and Trevino will speak at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 each and a table for eight can be purchased for \$400.

Call 337-439-7400 for Caroline Matt; or e-mail, rachel.vineyard@lcdioocese.org or caroline.matt@lcdioocese.org for more information. Tickets can be purchased by going to the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – live.lcdioocese.org – clicking the "Event Reg-

istration" button and then the Respect Life Banquet link

A number of diocesan pro-life ministries, including Rachel's Vineyard; The Gabriel Project, and youth pilgrims traveling to the annual March for Life gathering in Washington DC, are benefitted by the proceeds from this event.

According to Rickard Newman, Director of the Office of Pro Life of the Diocese, the basis of the awards is found in Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*. Nominations came from the pastors of each parish. Final recommendations were made by a committee following study of the nominees.

"In the Exhortation, the Holy Father lists a number of principles that are necessary for the mission of the Gospel," Newman said. "One of these is reality is more important than ideas. It is easy to speak about the pro-life message but another thing to actually carry out

the message in practice.

"It is our intention to honor men and women who have done this, not only speaking about the importance of the pro-life message of the Church but who have made it part of their own lives by their activities," Newman continued.

Two awards will be given in the categories of the laity – adult man or woman – and a youth. The winners will have exemplified the characteristics of carrying out this important reality.

Rachel's Vineyard is a weekend retreat program offered to men and women harmed by the abortion experience. The Gabriel Project provides a 24-hour hotline staffed by volunteers as well as spiritual and emotional support for unwed mothers and those facing difficult pregnancies as well as baby items that the mother might need. For information on Rachel's Vineyard retreats and the Gabriel Project, call 337-439-7400, Ext. 317.



Catholic Daughters of the Americas Officers' Second Annual Christmas Social for the Diocese of Lake Charles was held on Wednesday, December 2, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Ave Maria Hall in Lake Charles. Invitations went to all local Court officers, State Chairmen, and Louisiana State Officers. Attending were Louisiana CDA State Officers: Barbara Michael, Regent; Dawn Fortenberry, Second Vice Regent; Donna Young, Recording Secretary; Margaret Comeaux, Treasurer; and local Court officers. Local Court officers attending were from Lady of the Lake #695, Stella Maris #1233, Our Lady of LaSalette #1255, Mother Cabrini #1468, Our Lady of Fatima #1506, Father Charles Kirk #1573, Our Lady Queen of Heaven #1785, Our Lady of the Snows #1980, St. Joseph the Worker #1986, Of the Visitation #1999, St. Theodore #2161, St. Martin de Porres #2659 and St. Katharine Drexel #2697. The Social was hosted by District Deputies from the Diocese of Lake Charles: Karen Fills, Chairman; Melina Dally, Co-Chairman; Aline Babineaux; Barbara Lantz; Christie Melancon; and Cindy Vincent.



Last Saturday, The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – the Patroness of the Americas – was held at St. Henry Catholic Church with Bishop Glen John Provost celebrating the Mass in Spanish and English. Above, in the photo at left, Bishop Provost presents his homily, which was translated into Spanish by Deacon Josue Canelo, seen at far left of photo. At right, children – some dressed traditionally as St. Juan Diego – present roses to Our Lady of Guadalupe.



A Christmas Message

Merry Christmas is a greeting with a profound meaning. Merry Christmas literally means the joy of a Holy Mass to celebrate the Savior's birthday. Merry Christmas speaks of salvation, interior happiness, and the satisfaction of remembering an historic event with eternal consequences. Christmas is a time to be at peace and to allow that peace to spill over into every day. This is possible because its origin is a little child born of a Virgin but nonetheless the Prince of Peace. May peace come to the lonely, the persecuted, the homeless and those who feel unloved. May no one deprive you of the joy of this holy season, as the Catholics of the Diocese of Lake Charles join me, their Bishop, in wishing you a Merry Christmas!

–Bishop Glen John Provost

Diocesan Briefs...

Early Childhood Director 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.

St. Louis' Great Tuition Giveaway

LAKE CHARLES – St. Louis Catholic High School is holding the "Great Tuition Giveaway," with the possibility of winning tuition at St. Louis for a full year.

Tickets are \$25 each and available online at slchs.org or in the school's office at 1620 Bank Street, Lake Charles. For more information call 436-7275 or e-mail Ann Vincent at avincent@slchs.org. For every 500 tickets that are sold, another tuition prize will be awarded.

The scholarship is redeemable for up to two years but expires on August 1, 2017.

The winner will be chosen at a drawing on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016. The prize is transferrable but can not be redeemed for cash nor does it include the registration fee.

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 – are 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.macleane@lcdioocese.org to RSVP.

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.

White named Chief Nurse Executive

LAKE CHARLES – CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital has named Marsha White, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, as Chief Nurse Executive.

As CNE of CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital, White will be responsible for patient care delivery, nursing and nurse practice. She will provide vision and set direction for quality evidence-based patient-centered care. She will also serve as a member of the hospital's Senior Leadership Team.

CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation Board

LAKE CHARLES – The CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation recently elected new Board members and named the executive committee for the 2016 fiscal year.

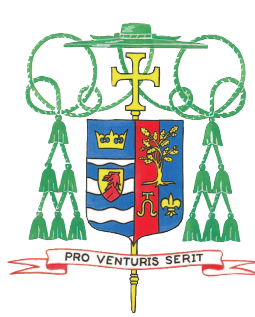
Leading the Foundation for the upcoming fiscal year is newly-elected Chair, Brian Abshire. Joining him on the Executive Committee are Eligha Guillory, Jr., Vice Chair; Sawсан Abu Shamah, Secretary; Eric Mire, Treasurer; and Members-at-Large: Myrna Conner; Keith Wimberly; and Don Lloyd, CEO CHRISTUS Southwestern Louisiana.

Returning members to the Board are Carl Ambrose, Sr.; Missy Amidon; Nancy Burleigh; Bob Chandler; Kimberly Dixon; Sherri Fastabend; Marion Fox; Stephen Hotard; Glenda McCarty; Anne Miller; Sister Ann Margaret Savant; David Sickey; and Gregory P. Thibodeaux.

The Foundation oversees the philanthropic efforts of the Hospital.

Happy
New Year

Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

December 18, 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. Theodora
(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)
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)

International Run *Carrera Antorcha Guadalupana*



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The annual Torch Run linking Mexico and the United States came through the Diocese of Lake Charles, Nov. 8-9 making overnight stops at St. Henry Catholic Church in Lake Charles and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Jennings. The Holy Fire, along with oversized images of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego, were en route from the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City for Our Lady's feast day last Saturday. In photo one, the Torch arrives from Beaumont at the Toomey exit off Interstate 10 near Vinton and in photo two begins its journey in the Diocese eastward down U.S. Highway 90 going through Vinton and Edgerly before moving through downtown Sulphur and to Lake Charles, in photo three. Msgr. Daniel Torres, pastor of St. Henry welcomes the Holy Fire to his parish on Sunday afternoon in photo four. On Monday morning, the Torch Run continued its journey down Highway 90 through Iowa, Welsh, Roanoke and into Jennings. In photo five, the runners exchange the torch while passing through Chloe. Photo six shows the runners arriving at Immaculate Conception Church in Jennings for their overnight stay before continuing their journey to New York.

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed for the Christmas holidays from the end of business – 4:30 p.m. – on Wednesday, December 23, until reopening for regular office hours - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - on Monday, January 4. On Monday, Jan. 18, Dr. Martin Luther King Day, the offices will also be closed, reopening at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19.