



Seminarian Michael Caraway installed as Reader in Rome

ROME - Michael Eugene Caraway, a seminarian of the Diocese of Lake Charles studying at the Pontifical North American College, was one of 68 members of the first year theological class installed as Readers on Sunday, Jan. 10.

This Sunday, the first of those given to seminarians in their formation for ordination to the priesthood, gives them the ministry within the Church to proclaim the scriptures at the Church's liturgies.

Caraway is a parishioner of Our Lady Help of Christians

Catholic Church in Jennings. Bishop Glen John Provost accepted him to candidacy for Orders in August 2015.

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Paul R. Gallagher, Secretary for the Relations with States in the Vatican was the celebrant of the Mass and during the Rite presented each candidate with the Lectionary, the book containing the readings from Holy Scripture which are proclaimed at Mass. While doing so, he instructed them "Take this book of Holy Scripture and be faith-

ful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of his people."

In his homily, Archbishop Gallagher reminded the seminarians that they are to proclaim the Word of God clearly that it may be heard by all, both literally in the manner in which they speak, and also as a matter of integrity as to how they live their lives as a witness to that which they proclaim. He noted that this is an important first step in their public life in the Church, being mandated and charged by the Church for this task of proclaiming God's Word, and that the other ministries they receive on the way to priesthood build on this first public step.

The Pontifical North American College, founded in 1859, is a house of formation for the priesthood for candidates from the dioceses of the United States as well as candidates from Canada and Australia.

Seminarians from neighboring dioceses also instituted as Readers are

Joseph Austin Boustany of the Diocese of Lafayette, Blake Michael Novosad of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, and Joseph René Sigur of the Diocese of Beaumont.



Michael Caraway, a seminarian of the Diocese of Lake Charles studying at the Pontifical North American College, was instituted into the Ministry of Reader by The Most Reverend Paul R. Gallagher, Secretary for the Relations with States in the Vatican, on Sunday, Jan. 10. Souder was one of 59 seminarians to receive the ministry. (Photo courtesy: Pontifical North American College)

Catholic Schools Week slated for January 31 – February 6

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 3. Eighth graders from Catholic schools in the diocese will join St. Louis Catholic High School students for the liturgy.

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. The theme for is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

Schools typically observe the week with events that focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. Daily themes for the week are: Sunday - In Our Parish; Monday - In Our Community; Tuesday - In Our Students; Wednesday - In Our Nation (National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools); Thursday - In Our Vocations; Friday - In Our Faculty, Staff and Volunteers (Teacher Appreciation Day); and Saturday - In Our Families.

In the Diocese of Lake Charles, this year the seven schools have set a number of events.

Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff will start the week with the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Theodore Catholic Church. Students will attend in their school uniforms. On Monday, Feb. 1, a week-long book fair (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) begins in the library and open houses are sched-

uled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

A student pep rally will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 2 and on Feb. 3 eighth graders attend Mass at the Cathedral. On Thursday, Feb. 4, parents will be presented with a treat as they drop off their students in the morning and a grandparents day mass will be celebrated with a reception following in the library.

Students will pray a living

hunt and dress up days will also highlight student activity.

An open house, for prospective families, opens the week at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School on Monday, Feb. 1, starting at 6 p.m. Tours of the school for interested families will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

At a school-wide Mass on Thursday, beginning at 8:40 a.m., the introduction of the 2015-2016 school's Distinguished Graduate will be made. The week culminates with PreK through eighth grade enjoying an afternoon playing Bingo.

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School has student appreciation day. It will also be a t-shirt day with a skate night set for the evening. A new family open house is Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and it is also Cafeteria staff appreciation day. On Wednesday, there is parent appreciation night and a parent/teacher organization meeting. The teachers and staff will be honored on Thursday.

A new family open house is set at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School beginning at 5 p.m. in the school gym on Monday, Feb. 1. The annual eighth grade vs. faculty volleyball game will take place at 1:15 p.m. on Wednesday while the annual school and alumni mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m. in the church on Thursday.

A Tuesday, Feb. 2, open house is set at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and a school-wide mass is at 8 a.m. Tuesday.



rosary in the afternoon.

Scheduled events at St. Louis will include a middle school dance in the school's cafeteria on Thursday, Feb. 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. with middle school students from other schools invited. A hospitality room will be open for parents in the Landry gym at the same time offering king cake and coffee.

At Our Lady's School in Sulphur, the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday is dedicated to the school while Monday is staff appreciation day, Tuesday is parent appreciation day with an open house starting at 6 p.m. A weeklong scavenger

St. Louis Hall of Fame inductees

(Read more at live.lcdiocese.org)

LAKE CHARLES – The newest members of the St. Louis Catholic High School Hall of Fame are Mrs. Janice Conoly Picard and Mrs. J.A. Landry.

St. Charles Academy and J. A. Landry Memorial High School consolidated 45 years ago at the Landry site at 1620 Bank Street to create St. Louis High School. It was a financial necessity that sparked the movement to consolidate

the two schools in the 1960's. St. Charles was a girls' school and Landry Memorial a boys' school.

The St. Louis Catholic High School Hall of Fame was established to recognize any person, living or deceased, who has demonstrated outstanding ability, leadership, character, heroism, dedication, and patriotism and whose life and accomplishments can be an inspiration to the students of St. Louis Catholic High School.

Catholic

Opening the Holy Doors



In the top photo, Bishop Glen John Provost opens the eastern facing doors of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception setting into motion the worldwide Jubilee Year of Mercy here in the Diocese of Lake Charles. Pope Francis called for the Jubilee to make clear the Church's mission of being a witness of mercy. The rite of the opening of the Holy Door at the Cathedral, which happened on Sunday, Dec. 13, is intended to symbolically illustrate the idea that the Church's faithful are offered an "extraordinary path" toward salvation during the time of Jubilee. In the bottom photo, many parishioners who waited outside during the ceremony make their way through the Holy Doors for the Sunday Liturgy.



Inaugural Quiz Bowl successful

(Special from the Office of Religious Education)

LAKE CHARLES – On Saturday, December 5, over 100 middle school students from around the Diocese of Lake Charles participated in the Inaugural Diocese of Lake Charles Quiz Bowl at Saint Louis Catholic High School.

The day began with an opening prayer and word of welcome from The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles, who wanted to begin this event in order to bring students into a deeper knowledge and love of their faith. Weeks prior to the event, one young lady from the winning team remarked that she was grateful to have had the opportunity to study and participate in Quiz Bowl, whether she won or lost. Certainly, we hope all the participants feel the same way, as they gained the knowledge from more than 200 questions, which they were given to study.

As the day progressed and teams were eliminated, students from around the Diocese had the opportunity to get to know each other in different games and icebreakers. At the end of the day, the game came down to Our Lady Help of Christians Parish and Saint Martin de Porres Parish. The final round was held before the full audience, with Our Lady Help of Christians coming in first place. The winning team received \$1,600 (\$400 per student) and the second place team received \$800 (\$200 per student). Both teams graciously accepted their awards and went back to their parishes to celebrate!

As the teams discussed what they wanted to do with the money, the team from Our Lady Help of Christians remembered a woman they met at morning Mass that day who said she knew a teenage moth-

er who was in need of a crib and mattress. One of the girls noted that would be a worthy use of their prize money. However, when they got back to Our Lady Help of Christians, the crib and mattress had already been donated because people knew that the winning team was thinking about spending their money on that project. This team certainly learned that our faith is something to be known and lived.

We look forward to an even more lively competition next

year on Saturday, December 10, 2016. The questions are already available at: https://quizlet.com/_1nngfj with the password: dolc. You too can check out the questions to see and learn what our young people are learning. You will be impressed! If you have questions about next year's Quiz Bowl or would like to make a donation contact Sister Miriam MacLean, RSM by e-mail at miriam.macleam@lcdiocese.org or by telephone at 337-439-7400, Ext. 305.



The team from Our Lady Help of Christians captured first place in the Inaugural Diocesan Quiz Bowl. Pictured with Sr. Miriam MacLean in photo 1, are, from left, Rachel Wild, Kate Watkins, Emma Granger, and Mary Caraway. In photo 2, the second place teams was from St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, from left, Aiden Manuel, Amelia Sarver, Sr. Miriam, Derek David, and Jessie Cormier.



The Story of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

As the seat of the Diocese of Lake Charles, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is a spiritual symbol for over 24,000 Catholic families. However, it is also a symbol of history and architectural design for generations of Louisianans.

Early Catholics of southwest Louisiana were served, at first, in various homes by visiting priests from the Diocese of Galveston. Later priests began to come east from Opelousas and the area was a mission of St. Landry Catholic Church. By 1858, property was purchased on Ryan Street across from the courthouse and a small church building was dedicated to St. Francis de Sales. After the Civil War, the church became a mission of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church in Abbeville. In 1869 with the Catholic population having grown to such a number, The Most Reverend Jean Marie Odin, Archbishop of New Orleans established the canonical parish of St. Francis de Sales, which covered what had become known as the civil jurisdiction of Imperial Calcasieu Parish.

Following the devastation and death from a Yellow Fever epidemic, a new church build-

ing was constructed, which was dedicated to the Immaculate Conception on October 2, 1881. Growth continued at a slow and steady pace with a succession of pastors for the far-flung parish.

On April 23, 1910, the city of Lake Charles was devastated by a fire that destroyed 109 buildings including Immaculate Conception Church, its rectory, the boys and girls Catholic schools, and the convent of the Sisters Marianites of Holy Cross.

Once the shock of the horrific losses waned, parish leaders chartered construction for a new building. Dedicated on December 18, 1913, the church, designed by the architectural firm of Favrot & Livaudais of New Orleans, is of a Lombardy Romanesque style.

In addition to Immaculate Conception Parish, Favrot & Livaudais also designed other buildings in the diocese including the Calcasieu Marine Bank (840 Ryan St.) and Calcasieu Parish Courthouse (Ryan St. at Kirby St.) in Lake Charles and the Strand Theatre (432 N. Main St.) in Jennings. All four buildings are listed on the U.S. National Park Service's

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Although buildings owned by religious organizations are typically excluded from being listed in the registry, an exception was made for Immaculate Conception because of distinctive characteristics of its architecture and construction and having great artistic value. The Cathedral was added to the National Register on October 7, 1994.

When Pope John Paul II established the Diocese of Lake Charles on January 29, 1980, the Church of the Immaculate Conception became our cathedral. The Cathedral enshrines a century old image of the Blessed Virgin Mary made of Carrara marble. The venerated image of Our Lady, located in a high niche above the main altar, was crowned by His Excellency, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio of the Holy See to the United States on August 22, 2013 in the "Name and Authority of the Holy Father." Pope Benedict XVI had approved the rite of crowning in 2012 at Bishop Glen John Provost's request. This crowning made the Cathedral one of only two such "crowned" im-



The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, corner of Kirby and Bilbo streets

ages of the Virgin Mary in the state of Louisiana – the other being the state patronal image of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in New Orleans.

Although designed to be used only as a parish church, it has filled the role of cathedral for this diocese for over 35 years. Unlike churches and

chapels, which are broad terms referring both to the worship space in an architectural sense as well as the congregation as a collective group of people meeting within the church building, cathedrals fulfill a specific role within the Catholic faith.

Named for the "bishop's

seat" (cathedra), a cathedral is designated the principal church within a Vatican-specified geographic area, a diocese. In addition to being the bishop's church, the cathedral also serves as the central church for the entire diocese and acts as the bureaucratic center for the diocesan administration.

'Domestic Church' photo exhibition

(Special from the Office of Family Life)

LAKE CHARLES - On Sunday December 27, the Feast of the Holy Family, the Office of Family Life, with the help of Knights of Columbus, arranged a photo exhibit called "The Hidden Beauty of the Domestic Church" at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

Earlier last fall, the ordinary lives of five Catholic families in the Diocese of Lake Charles were captured by professional photographer Amber Griggs, who was featured on Glad Tidings' "Lead, Kindly Light" on October 11. Ms. Griggs is the oldest child of a family of eleven, grew up in Oklahoma and now works as a freelance photographer in New York City.

"Pictures often speak louder than words. In a world where it is increasingly difficult to agree on, let alone discuss Truth and Goodness, an even greater emphasis falls on the discovering God through the Beautiful. I want people to be able to experience the daily generosity and small joys that abound in the midst of Catholic family life. I believe art touches the soul in a particularly powerful and quiet way," says Ms. Griggs.

This photo project is a collaboration between the Office of Family Life in the Diocese of Lake Charles and the Family Life Apostolate in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. On January 30, the images will be featured at an exhibit in New Orleans.

"The captivating beauty of the image of God in a family is often overlooked or hidden by the distractions and demands of

our daily lives. Pope Francis recently emphasized, "The most effective witness to the blessing of marriage is the good life of Christian spouses and their families. There is no better way to communicate the beauty of the sacrament". This exhibit is a good reminder of how much beauty and holiness are embedded in family life. We want to share these images with as many as possible so please feel free to contact us if your parish would like to host an exhibit" says Rickard Newman, Director of Family Life.

As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith. For this reason the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family "Domestic Church". In 1973, a lay movement called Domestic Church, officially recognized by the Catholic Church, was founded in Poland by Servant of God, Fr. Franciszek Blachnicki with the guidance, support, and influence of his bishop, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla (soon to be Pope St. John Paul II).

Domestic Church provides Sacramentally married couples with life-long formation so that they may achieve sanctity together. The movement found its way to Lake Charles in December 2011 and has since grown to involve more than 100 couples. If married couples want to learn more about Domestic Church and how to join, Evangelization Retreats are offered at the St. Charles Retreat Center in Moss Bluff. Please call the Office of Family Life at 337-439-7400 for dates and more information.

At left, young and old alike got good looks at the Domestic Church Photographic Exhibition at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church as seen in photo 1. Photo 2 shows the large crowd of people who took advantage of the opportunity to view the images. Dr. Bryan Barrilleaux, representing the Knights of Columbus (one of the exhibit's sponsors) stands with Rickard Newman, director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Lake Charles in photo 3.

Saint Charles Center spring events

LAKE CHARLES – Father Whitney Miller will present "Thomas Merton at 100: A Man of Mercy for All Seasons" Evening of Reflection on Tuesday, January 26 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

Call 337-855-1232 or go to stcharlescenter.com for more information on events, suggested donations, and registration deadlines. Registration online is available for most events though some require direct contact with the Center.

In February, a Rachel's

Vineyard Retreat for Healing After Abortion is Friday, Feb. 5 through Sunday, Feb. 7 with Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and the diocesan team. For more information or registration contact: Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or at rachels.vineyard@lcdiocese.org.

Though there is no cost for the Ash Wednesday Evening of Reflection - "Our Call to Lenten Grace" on Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 6 to 8:30 p.m., free will offerings will be accepted for the Maintenance Account.

Call the Center to register.

St. Pius X Catholic Church in Ragley sponsors a Lenten Silent Preached Retreat - "Living God's Mercy in the Midst of Temptation" - with Fr. Don Piraro and Deacon Glenn Viau Friday, February 12 to Sunday, February 14.

"On Eagle's Wings" with Sr. Diane Depwe is Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Father Miller will present an Evening of Reflection: "The Church as Oasis of Mercy in a Violent World" from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18.

Lenten Private Directed

Retreats led by Fr. Miller, Fr. Piraro, Judy Savoie and Gloria Villegas are available Monday, February 29 to Sunday, March 6. The retreatant may choose to do three or five days. Information and registration is available by calling 337-855-1232. Registration is not available online.

A Lenten Introduction to the Directed Retreat is also available for this interested in this type of silent retreat from Thursday, March 3 to Sunday, March 6. Registration and more information can only be obtained by calling the Center.

Diocesan Briefs.....

February prayer luncheon, breakfast

LAKE CHARLES – The next Ladies Luncheon and Men's Prayer Breakfast will take place Wednesday, February 3 and Friday, February 5, respectively, in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception office complex.

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.

Magnificat breakfast Feb. 20

JENNINGS -- Debra Landry will be the guest speaker at the next women's breakfast hosted by the Lake Charles Chapter of Magnificat on Saturday, February 20, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in John Windt Hall of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Jennings. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased at Crossroads Bookstore, 601 W. Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, by phone to Sherree LaBouve 337-247-2419 or Sharla Prejean 337-246-0620, by email to sharlaprejean@yahoo.com

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.

Housekeeping, kitchen position available

MOSS BLUFF – Saint Charles Center is accepting applications for a part-time worker in the housekeeping and kitchen departments at the facility.

The successful candidate must be available for immediate employment. Previous work experience in kitchen and housekeeping duties is preferred. Applicant must be flexible and available to work various hours as well as some weekends.

Interested individuals should contact Michelle Monceaux at 337-855-1232.

Spiritual/Gospel Concert Feb. 28

LAKE CHARLES – The Lake Charles Kiwanis North will assemble a community choir under the musical direction of Don McZeal and the artistic supervision of Fred Houston to present its 3rd annual Negro Spiritual and Gospel Sounds: An American Phenomenon at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 2031 Opelousas on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m.

For more info, contact McZeal at 337/853-2163 or Houston at 337/244-1182.

Couples prayer series in February

LAKE CHARLES – "Together with Jesus," a six-part program created for every Christ-centered married or engaged couple is presented by Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church from 6-8 p.m. on Monday - February 15, 29 and March 7, 14, 21, 28.

The activity room of Our Lady Queen of Heaven's Family Life Center will be the location. Deadline to register at www.olqh.org is Tuesday, Feb. 10. Call 337-477-1236 for more information.

Cathedral Altar Society Spring Trip

LAKE CHARLES – The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception's Altar Society is planning a spring trip to New Orleans on Wednesday, April 20.

Reserve a spot by either mailing a check in the amount of \$130.00 or a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit made payable to ICC Altar Society to Karen Fills, 1513 Anita Street, Sulphur, LA 70663. The full cost of the trip is due by April 1. Call Fills at 337-625-8436 for more information.

'Walk Through the Mass' set in Feb.

LAKE CHARLES – The five-part 'Biblical Walk Through the Mass' featuring Edward Sri will be offered at the Our Lady Queen of Heaven Family Life Center on the Monday mornings of February.

Register for the 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at www.olqh.org by Jan. 27. There is a \$20.00 registration fee. Call Felecia at 337-477-1236 for more information.

Women's Day of Reflection, Feb. 27

LAKE CHARLES – "The Woman You Were Made to Be," a women's day of reflection is Saturday, Feb. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in St. Louis Catholic High School.

Sr. Camille Martinez, SEC will lead the day. It is open to all women and hosted by the Fleur de Lis Theresians of Southwest Louisiana.

Early registration, by Feb. 20 is \$25 and \$30 after that date, with lunch included. Call Connie Walker to register or for more information at 337-298-0866.