



Mass to Avert Storms draws crowd in Cameron

CAMERON -- Bishop Glen John Provost celebrated the annual Mass to Avert Storms on Friday, June 3, at the Historic Church and Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea with a large crowd of worshippers in attendance.

Concelebrants included pastors of the coastal churches, Father Clyde Thomas of St. Eugene Catholic Church in Grand Chenier, Father Gijo Ikkaramattom, H.G.N., of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry, and Father Vincent Vadakkedath, administrator of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole and Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Cameron. The Very Reverend Ruben Buller served as master of ceremonies for Bishop Provost.

The 2016 Hurricane Season began Wednesday, June 1. At the conclusion of the liturgy, Bishop Provost led the procession to the Shrine outside the church for the final blessing.

Bishop Provost opened his homily to those attending saying, "We come every year to begin the hurricane season by invoking the intercession of Our Lady Star of the Sea, here at her shrine, asking for prayer for the safe hurricane season and that we might be spared from all storms and destruction. When we do this, we cannot help but be reminded of the tragic occurrences in the lives of the people of this area because of dreadful storms.

"We will soon process to the statue of Our Lady Star of the Sea and remember, of course, one of the worst, which was Hurricane Audrey in 1957," Bishop Provost continued. "As we do that there is something of a happy coincidence, providential you might call it, that we celebrate this Mass on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart reminds us of the immense love of God that is poured forth in the heart of his Son to us. We are reminded of the great devotion that has been so classically a part of our devotions for hundreds of years, going back to the great St. Margaret Mary Alacoque."

This saint had a series of visions at Christmas time of 1673, in the French city of Paray-le-Monial, saying that the Lord appeared to her and revealed his heart to her -- saying, 'Behold

the heart that has so loved the world that it has spared nothing.'

"So, the church established the Feast of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart to remind us of this immense love and mercy of God that is manifested especially through the sacramental life of the Church, because of Jesus Christ."

Continuing, the Bishop said, "We are reminded today of the need for conversion, the need for repentance, the need to draw closer to the heart of Jesus Christ, so that we come to know the love of Christ actually and really in our lives. I don't think there is any better way for us to begin the hurricane season than for us to make a resolution to live a better life - to live a life in conformity to God's commandments and His will.

"We come today to begin the hurricane season, asking Mary's prayers, our beloved Mother, for her intercession for a safe hurricane season that we be spared all storms and destructive weather," the Bishop said. "As we ask these prayers, we are reminded too of the immense, the immense love of Christ for us and the love of God manifested through His heart. The heart that has so loved the world that it has spared nothing. When we are in the midst of that love, then we are reminded too of what we must do, that is live a life in conformity to God's will, to conform ourselves to the will of God."

The faithful who made this diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine for the liturgy could receive spiritual benefits as if they had visited the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome, due to the special affiliation the Cameron church has with the Basilica. The pilgrimage provides a plenary indulgence with the fulfillment of certain requirements, including recent confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayers for the Holy Father, and the recitation of the Creed.

This "spiritual bond" was granted by His Eminence, Santos Cardinal Abril y Castelló, the Cardinal Archbishop of the Basilica and His Eminence, Edmanuel Cardinal Montero de Castro, the Cardinal Apostolic Penitentiary following Bishop Provost's ad limina visit in 2012.



Bishop Glen John Provost celebrated the annual Mass to Avert Storms on Friday, June 3, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and Shrine. The pastors and administrator of the coastal parishes were concelebrants. In his homily, photo 1, Bishop Provost told the assembled "there is any better way for us to begin the hurricane season than for us to make a resolution to live a better life - to live a life in conformity to God's commandments and his will. Following the liturgy, the Bishop led the procession to the Historic Shrine and Statue of Mary to pray that we might be spared from hurricanes and devastating storms. He ended the service by leading the people, photo 2, in the Hurricane Prayer written by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey in 1957.

Peter's Pence Collection: Be a Witness of Charity

WASHINGTON—The annual Peter's Pence collection will be taken up in many dioceses the weekend of June 25-26. This collection sup-

ports Pope Francis' charitable outreach to the suffering and marginalized around the world.

"Participation in the Pe-

ter's Pence collection is particularly important in this Jubilee Year of Mercy," said Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi of Mobile, Alabama, chairman of the Committee on National Collections. "By supporting this collection we become witnesses to charity and help Pope Francis reach out in merciful love to those who are in need."

The Peter's Pence collection is taken up worldwide and helps support the works of Pope Francis by providing relief to victims of war, religious persecution, and natural disasters. More information about the collection can be found at www.usccb.org/ppc.

Magnificat Day of Reflection July 9

JENNINGS -- Pat Fox, a Catholic inspirational speaker, convert and author will be the guest speaker at the Saturday, July 9, Women's Day of Reflection, sponsored by the Lake Charles Chapter of Magnificat, at John Windt Hall of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Sign in begins at 8:30 a.m. with the program starting promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Fox will talk on the theme of the retreat "Come, Walk this Way: A Journey of Love" and the call to recognize the working of the Holy Spirit in the ordinary happenings of our lives.

There is no charge for the day but a love offering will be accepted. Pre-registration is required and lunch will be provided. Deadline to register is July 1 and everyone is asked to bring their Bible.

Mail in the registration form to "Magnificat Lake Charles," 18057 D. A. LeDoux Road, Jennings, LA 70546. Those interested may also call Sharla Prejean 337-246-0620; Phyllis Nash 337-802-3021; or Sherree LaBouve 337-247-2419 to register. For e-mail registration send to: sharlaprejean@yahoo.com

Fox will share her conversion story, how the Holy Spirit led her home to the Catholic Church, and continues to provide guidance in her life.

As a convert, Pat did not rush out to embrace Mary, but our Blessed Mother embraced her, and she experienced Mary's mantle of love.

Through Scripture and life experiences, Pat's inspiring spiritual journey will touch your heart. All of the stories she shares are examples of the Holy Spirit in her life, in the lives of others, and the Holy Spirit in Salvation's history.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2016 the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles pray the following prayer, composed in 1957 by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey:

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children.

Its former Galilee obeyed your order and returned to the Sea of Galilee.

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



At the graduation of the St. Louis Catholic High School Class of 2016, the inaugural St. Louis Catholic High School Teacher of the Year Award was presented to Mrs. Linda Gail Shumaker. Shown above, from left, are Deacon Christopher Fontenot, St. Louis principal; Mrs. Shumaker; Bishop Glen John Provost; Very Reverend Anthony Fontenot, St. Louis Rector; and Father Jeffrey Starkovich, St. Louis chaplain. Deacon Fontenot noted, "It is often said that teaching is the one profession that gives rise to all others. In fact, every one of us can recall an important teacher, who positively impacted our lives. This was the reason the award was implemented and it will be a legacy that continues here at St. Louis Catholic High School," Fontenot noted.



Bishop Glen John Provost blesses the crucifix held by eight grade students from Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School (OLQHS) at the dedication and blessing of the OLQHS Early Childhood Center located on Creole Street across from the school. Bishop Provost placed a crucifix in the nine classrooms of the facility, which is dedicated to the spiritual, moral, emotional, intellectual, social, and physical growth of each young child. The original facility opened at the beginning of the 1963 school term primarily to take care of the children of the lay teachers working in Our Lady Queen of Heaven School.



Sixty-one couples honored on marriage anniversaries

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen Provost honored 61 couples celebrating jubilee anniversaries of Christian marriage in 2016 at the annual ceremony in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, June 5.

The event is sponsored by the Office of Family Life. Each couple was presented with a special certificate honoring their long-time Christian commitment. Additionally, each couple received a personal-sized wedding cake and a simple reception was held in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral office complex. Those with anniversaries of 25 and 50 years were recognized as well as couples married longer, multiples of five years – 55, 60, 65, and 70 years.

The longest married couple was Verna Ann and Nelson Bourgeois, parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, who were wed on August 15, 1944. They were celebrating their 72nd anniversary.

Honored for their 70 years of marriage were Lucille and Joe Foreman of Iowa. Parishioners of St. Raphael Catholic Church, they were married on July 21, 1946.

In his homily, Bishop Provost noted, “Today we thank the men and women who have lived faithfully the marriage vows they took many years ago.”

Correlating the words of the day’s Gospel from St. Luke 7(11-17), in which Jesus raises from the dead the son of the widow of Nain.

“How wonderful it would be to hear each of you describe how God... visited you in your marriage!,” the Bishop continued. “What wonders have you seen God work in your lives? When you thought the world was collapsing around you, how did you hear God say, “Do not weep”? And, when did you hear the word “arise”? For if God can raise up an only son for a widow of Nain, then He can indeed do anything. And, He has in you. This materialistic and selfish world has great need of your witness. God be praised for having brought you to this moment in your lives. May we learn the significance of trusting in God’s will.”

Couples honored for their 65 years of marriage were Barbara and Charles Bourgeois, Una and Clifton Broussard, Lois and Whitney Derise, Wilda and Columbus Hanks, Ethel and John LeMaire. Verdrie and John Oliver.

Diamond couples, those married for 60 years, included Bobbie and Russell Cart, Corinna and Walter Dugas, Sr., Clara and James Fontenot, Elda Mae and Lenward Guidry, Helen and Ray Guillory, Mary Ann and Filmore Johnson, Betty and George Mack, Carol and A.C. May, Nancy and Howard Percle, Patricia and Donald Sigur, and Dorothy and Lee White.

Couples married for 55 years were Sondra and Kenneth Abrahams, Verna and Donald Arceneaux, Leneta and Robert Boudreaux, Caroline and Frank Draves, Dewana and Charles Elter, Irene and Larry Fields, Natilia and Edward Hebert, Ursula and Daniel Ieyoub, Hazel and Cliffe Laborde, Jean and William Mancuso, Belva and James Naquin, Delores and Rodney Rougeau, and Sandra and Bobby Weatherford.

Golden Anniversary pairs, those married 50 years, were Brenda and Edward Benoit, Gail and Thomas Bonsall, Carol and Louis Daigle, Claudine and Leland Dupuis, Beatrice and Normal Fontenot, Mary and Lionel Goodwin, Terry and Douglas Hebert, Jr., Janelle and Carl Johnson, Marjorie and Hayward Labbe, Diane and Bruce LaFargue, Saundra and Clayton LaFleur, Barbara and Thomas Lemaire, Sonja and Bradley Moreaux, Lois and Lonnie Neveu, Georgia and Henry Orsot, Janet and John B. Postell, Marlene Peña and Jorge Romero, Earline and Donald Ryder, Linda and James Stewart, Angel and Frank Tartamella, Irene and Vernon Theriot, Audrey and Harold Winney, Myrtle and Jon Wren, Peggy and Mitchell Young.

Silver anniversary (25 years) couples were Kristin and Kenton Bonsall, Bobbie and Anthony Clopton, Teresa and Eric Ernst, Maria and Mickey Richard, and Rose and Deacon Glenn Viau.



The annual jubilee mass honoring married couples of the diocese married 25 and 50 years as well as those celebrating 55, 60, 65, and above was celebrated by Bishop Glen John Provost on Sunday, June 5, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Sixty-one couples received special certificates for reaching their auspicious jubilees. Pictured above, Bishop Provost stands with the two longest-married of the 61 couples – at left, Joe and Lucille Foreman from St. Raphael in Iowa celebrating 70 years and at right, Verna Ann and Nelson Bourgeois of Our Lady Queen of Heaven in Lake Charles honored for 72 years of Christian marriage.

Saint Charles Center schedule

MOSS BLUFF – Saint Charles Center’s June and July schedule of programs and events includes Father Whitney Miller, Sr. Camille Martinez, SEC, Judy Savoie, and Gloria Villegas directing Private Directed Retreats from Monday, June 20 to Sunday, June 26.

These are a form of silent retreat based on the spiritual exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola focusing on the personal prayer of the individual. Retreatants may choose to do three or five days. For more information and to register, you must call the Center at (337) 855-1232. Scholarship assistance available upon request.

An Introduction to the Directed Retreat will also be offered by the same group of directors Thursday, June 23 to Sunday, June 26. This weekend provides an understanding of the prayer technique of a silent retreat, preparing the individual for the longer retreat. Registration must be done by calling 337-855-1232. No online registration is available for directed retreats or the introduction weekend.

Scholarship assistance is available upon request.

Sr. Janelle Sevier, Director of Missions for the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur will present “The Call to Mission: Giving and Receiving Mercy” on Tuesday, June 28 from 6 to 9 p.m. In this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis calls us to be particularly mindful of the “least of our brothers and sisters” both in our families but also, throughout the world. Sr.

Janelle will provide stories of ministry and mission that will serve as source of inspiration and of challenge for each of those attending. The suggested donation is \$20 per person and the deadline to register is Friday, June 24.

July’s events begin on the weekend of July 1 to 3 with a “Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat for Healing After Abortion” with Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and Diocesan Team. A Rachel’s Vineyard weekend retreat combines discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God’s love, forgiveness and compassion. The cost is \$210.00 for meals, private room with private bath and all retreat materials. Assistance is available if a person has a financial burden. For more information or registration contact: Rachel’s Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at (337) 439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail rachel.vineyard@lediocese.org.

Father Miller will facilitate the Spiritual Book Club on Thursday, July 5 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. It is an informal group of women and men who come together to read a good spiritual book, eat supper and discuss the selection. The text for the summer will be the Bull of Indiction issued by Pope Francis for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy entitled “The Face of Mercy.” Though a brief publication of modest length, the pages are rich in theological imagery, scrip-

tural reflection and evangelical inspiration. The suggested donation is \$20 per person with a deadline to register of Friday, July 1.

An Evening of Reflection, “Mercy in the Workplace,” will be presented by Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, July 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. All are invited to come, learn, and live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ as we work and live our lives. The deadline to register is Friday, July 8 and there is a suggested donation of \$20.

A Beginning/Intermediate Icon Writing Workshop will be offered from Monday, July 18 to Sunday, July 24, instructing in the Byzantine-Russian Tradition of the Prosopon School of Iconography. The cost for beginners is \$1,098 and includes 36 hours of studio instruction, all art supplies, meals and room with private bath.

Intermediate/advanced student cost of \$938 includes meals and room with private bath but do not include board or supplies. Prior art experience is helpful but not required. A non-refundable, non-transferable deposit of \$150.00 is required to reserve a space in the class. Class size is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Deposits will only be refunded in the case of workshop cancellation. Please make checks payable to: Prosopon Icon Workshop-Lake Charles. Mail your deposit and registration form to the workshop coordinator – Sylvia Marcantel - (337) 304-2911 or e-mail: smarcantel@suddenlink.net.



“Prayers and Patches” quilts organizer Trena Wendt of Basile met for a one-day retreat with Monsignor Ronald Groth of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church at the Lake home of Toni and Stephanie Benoit. The day was spent in prayer and reflection with a mid-day luncheon. Monsignor Groth blessed the quilts for Saint Jude Children’s Hospital. The group had the goal of 500 quilts and have reached 600. Blessing of the Benoit Home and Mass concluded the day. Those enjoying the prayerful day were: Stephanie Benoit, Becky Klumpp, Glenda Trahan, Evelyn Sandell, Sandra Chapman, Carol Murff, Bea Langley, Trena Wendt, Monsignor Groth, Liz Johnson, Kay Christ, Ethel Bordelon, Jean Thomas and Sue Fontenot.

Diocesan Briefs.....

Positions open in Catholic schools

LAKE CHARLES -- The Office of Catholic Schools is announcing the following positions for the 2016-2017 school year.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, 5-8 Social Studies teacher needed – secondary certified 6-12. Please send resume to Nicole Reeves at nreeves@olischool.org.

St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School, 6-8 Social Studies teacher needed. Please send resume to Rachel Curl at rcurl@sthfcs.com.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, 3rd grade teacher, 4th grade teacher, Middle School ELA and Religion. Please send resume to Wwicke@stmcs.com.

Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Middle School Science teacher. Please send resume to Christi Jarreau at cjarreau@iccschool.org.

Our Lady’s School in Sulphur is also seeking applications for the position of Guidance Counselor/Curriculum Coordinator. Application forms are available at olcs.org and should be mailed to Our Lady’s School, Attention: Principal, 1111 Cypress Street, Sulphur, LA 70663.

Trey Ange diaconate ordination

LAKE CHARLES – Trey Ange, a native of Lake Charles and a third-year theology seminarian at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans is to be ordained to the transitional diaconate, the penultimate step to priestly ordination, on Wednesday, August 10 at 6 p.m. in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

Bishop Glen John Provost will be the ordaining prelate.

“Beat the Heat” program

LAKE CHARLES -- The annual “Beat the Heat” air conditioning program of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana began on June 1.

A window air conditioning unit will be provided and installed to households with individuals who are over 65 or who are disabled and in need of an air conditioner.

Call Catholic Charities at 337-439-7436 for information and assistance.

St. Margaret summer basketball camp

LAKE CHARLES -- The Saint Margaret “Little Hoopsters”

basketball camp is Monday through Thursday, June 20th to June 23rd from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. daily for boys and girls six to nine years old or entering grades first through fourth while the hi-hoops camp for boys and girls ages 10 to 13 or entering the fifth through eighth grade is Monday through Thursday, June 27th to June 30th from 8 a.m. to noon. All sessions take place in the Saint Margaret family life center.

Fees are \$50 for a single camper, \$90 for two campers and \$130 for three campers.

Call Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church at 439-4585 or camp director Brandon Simon at 853-5074 for more information along with registration and release forms.

Marriage Preparation class in September

LAKE CHARLES – Openings for the Saturday, September 17, Marriage Preparation class offered by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles remain.

The class is held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Chancery of the Diocese, 414 Iris Street. Registration is \$100, which includes the Prepare/Enrich online assessment, lunch, and materials. Registration and payment can be achieved online at live.lediocese.org by clicking the Event Registration button, then the Marriage Preparation link.

A registration form can also be printed by going to Marriage Preparation under the forms link on the website.

“Praying as a Family” Workshop

LAKE CHARLES -- “Praying as a Family” Workshop - presented by the Nashville Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia is Saturday, July 9 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

There is no fee though a love offering will be collected. Registration is needed, including the ages of children attending. Go to olqh.org to register or call Felicia at 337-477-1236 to register and for more information.

Bereavement Workshop at St. Martin de Porres

LAKE CHARLES -- A Catholic Journey through grief is set for August 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Granger Vincent Complex, South 5326 Elliott Road, Lake Charles LA

Fee of \$30 includes supplies, snacks and lunch. Checks should be made payable to St. Martin de Porres. Register by

calling Sue at 337-478-3845. Deadline is August 22.

The retreat will be led by Joan Broussard, a trained spiritual director.

Inaugural priests vs. seminarians kickball game set

LAKE CHARLES – The inaugural Bishop’s Invitational Kickball Summer Classic, sponsored by the Serra Club of Lake Charles, will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Power Center Ball Field on Gerstner Memorial Highway (U.S. Hwy 14).

The game will pit a team composed of diocesan priests, captained by Rev. Msgr. Daniel Torres, V.G. against a team of diocesan seminarians, captained by seminarian Trey Ange competing for at least a \$1,000 prize. The priests will be playing for the Priest Retirement Fund while the seminarians will play for the Seminary Burse Fund.

The event is held in coordination with The St. Louis Foundation, St. Louis Catholic High School, local Knights of Columbus and local Catholic Daughters

There is a \$10 donation for adults with children getting in free.

Vocation Discernment Retreat scheduled

LAKE CHARLES -- *Quo Vadis Days*, an encounter with Jesus Christ for young men seeking to know God’s will for their lives that is sponsored by Diocese of Lake Charles, is Sunday, July 31 to Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Chicot State Park, near Ville Platte.

Contact Father Nathan Long at 337-477-1434 for information or registration forms. Forms may also be picked up at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 221 Aqua Drive in Lake Charles or the Diocesan Office at 414 Iris Street for this Vocation Discernment Retreat.

“Sorting the Fish” set for July 30

LAKE CHARLES – “Sorting the Fish,” an Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults Day of Learning is July 30 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the Diocese of Lake Charles Chancery.

Jim Schellman, the former executive director of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate, will lead the day as he explains the difference between candidates, catechumens and those needing only to be confirmed.