



Response of Bishop Provost to increasing acts of violence

(Editor's Note: Bishop Glen John Provost preached the following as a homily for the 18th Sunday of the Year.)

*"Think of what is above, not of what is on earth."
Colossians 3:2*

We have been greatly troubled by the occurrences of the last few weeks and months. Terrorist attacks have become more frequent, and violence, it would seem, is becoming a way of life. In a news report I read recently our own State of Louisiana was cited as being one of the most violent. We see only the escalation of violent crimes and the abuse of human dignity. What is one to do?

Of course, we can look for human solutions, more laws, regulations, increased surveillance, and the expansion of law enforcement. But when all is said and done, the most peaceful societies are the ones who exhibit a social cohesiveness in its citizens bound together by a common understanding of right and wrong and a tradition passed down from one generation to the next that understands what makes a society work.

I cannot speak for all societies, but I can speak for a society that claims to be Christian. What is needed is conversion. We simply do not live as we should, and we need to repent, which

means changing our lives for the better, laying aside sin, repenting of past errors, and choosing a better way of living.

St. Paul in today's second reading sums it up rather well. "Think of what is above, and not of what is on earth" (Colossians 3:2). Religious faith has become for so many what they do on Sunday and little else. The next step is to secularize the society by purging the very thought of God from public life. Then, you have chaos.

This is the lesson of the Gospel. A rich man has such a bountiful harvest that he must build larger barns to store it all. Then, he makes his mistake. He forgets God. He forgets that he will be held accountable. He says, "[Y]ou have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!" (Luke 12:19). Does he think of sharing his rich harvest with those less fortunate? No. Does he consider making better use of his goods? No. Instead he hoards and allows his abundance to instill in him an arrogant presumption about the future. In short, he has forgotten God, for God makes Himself known through our conscience and the rich farmer has denied the imperatives of conscience.

However, God exists. What the rich farmer has forgotten is that God will ask him to give an accounting for his behav-

ior. God says, "You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?" (Luke 12:20). Then, Jesus brings home the lesson to us. "Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God" (Luke 12:21).

As one brilliant Catholic scholar once wrote, "It is not true as is sometimes said, that man cannot organize the world without God. What is true is that, without God, he can ultimately only organize it against man" (Henri de Lubac, The Drama of Atheist Humanism). We can build larger barns to protect our goods from harm, but if we forget God, then where will be our purpose? We can have the most intrusive security measures in place and write even more laws for courts to argue. But if we do all this, as necessary as it might seem, while at the same time forgetting God, then all our efforts will turn against us.

I think Jesus reminds us in the Gospel to look into ourselves. There is little we can do to alter the currents of world affairs, except by prayer. But we can look into ourselves and change our lives, realize God's presence and ultimately act as devout believers and not as heathens. Then, peace would come to our souls and into our homes. Thus it would be for the one who is rich in what matters to God.

Fourteen men have returned to seminary studies for Diocese

LAKE CHARLES – Fourteen men have returned to the seminary continuing their studies for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles act three seminaries.

Last week, Bishop Glen John Provost ordained Deacon **Trey Ange** to the transitional diaconate, the penultimate step before ordination to the priesthood, which, with God's grace, will occur next Pentecost.

Deacon Ange remains in the diocese until late October, in his assignment at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff under the supervision of Father John Huckaby. He will then return to Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans for the fourth year of theological studies.

Four seminarians will be attending the Pontifical North American College in Rome this fall, including three who enter their first year of theology – **Joseph Caraway** (St. John the Evangelist, Lacassine); **Andrew DeRouen** (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Lake Charles); and **Levi Thompson** (St. Theodore, Moss Bluff) who spent the summer in Italian language immersion classes in Italy.

Michael Caraway, a parishioner of Our Lady Help of Christians in Jennings, is in his second

year of theology at the North American.

Samuel Orsot, who recently completed his Clinical Pastoral Education at Christus/ Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio is a parishioner of St. Henry, Orsot enters his third year of theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

Other men studying at Notre Dame include **Samuel Bond** (Our Lady of LaSalette, DeQuincy) entering first year theology and **William Frue** (Our Lady of Seven Dolors, Welsh), new to seminary studies, opens his first year pre-theology studies.

Seminarians continuing their college studies at St. Joseph Seminary College in Covington are **Michael Bevering** (Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Lake Charles); **Eric Gruspier** (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Lake Charles); **Olin Chester** (St. Joseph, Vinton); **Joshua Page** (Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Sulphur); **Adam Richard** (Christ the King, Lake Charles); and **Alec January** (St. Philip Neri, Kinder). Bevering is in his fourth year of college, Chester in his third year, Gruspier his third year, Richard his second, January his second and Page his third.



The 101st National Conference of the Knights of St. Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary (KPC) was held Friday through Wednesday, July 22-27, in New Orleans. Bishop Glen John Provost concelebrated at the Bishop Provost's Sunday Opening Mass and celebrated the Monday morning liturgy. Bishop Provost is pictured here, center, with with Knight, Lady, Junior Daughter and Junior Knight members of the KPC District 6 of the Louisiana State Conference. Diocese of Lake Charles church parishes represented include Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Henry, St. John Bosco, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

September events numerous at Saint Charles Center

MOSS BLUFF – Saint Charles Center has released its fall schedule of programs and events beginning with a men's Silent Retreat weekend running Friday, Sept. 9 to Sunday, Sept. 11, presented by Father Stephen Ellis, LC.

This silent retreat is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola and is comprised of guided meditations, private reflection, Mass, Adoration, opportunities for Confession, and Spiritual Direction.

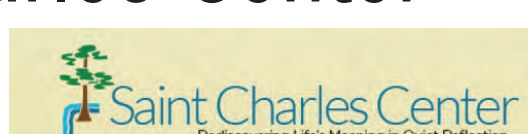
To register please contact Michael Istre at (337) 515-7164 or e-mail michaelwistre@gmail.com or call the Center offices for more information at (337) 855-1232.

"Letting Go of Resentment and Hurts...Replacing with Forgiveness and Mercy" is presented by Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, September 13 from 6 to 9 p.m.

The Evening of Reflection is to help attendees learn how to resolve hurts and resentments as well as how to replace these with mercy and forgiveness. Suggested donation is \$20 per person and the deadline to register is Friday, September 9.

Father Whitney Miller will present the Spiritual Book Club on Tuesday, Sept. 20 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The Spiritual Book Club is an informal group of women and men who read a good spiritual book and come together to discuss the selection. The fall selection is "Beautiful Mercy: Experiencing God's Unconditional Love So that We Can Share It with Others," a collection of essays on mercy by such noted authors as Pope Francis, Matthew Kelly, Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Fr. Larry Richards, Dr. Scott Hahn and many others. Suggested donation is \$20 per person with a deadline of Friday, September 16.

St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Bell



City presents "God's Beloved," its Women's Fall Retreat Weekend Friday, Sept. 23 to Sunday, Sept. 25 and presented by Sr. Camille Martinez, S.E.C. This silent retreat is open to any and all women who choose to participate.

Suggested donation for this retreat is \$170 for a private room and \$150.00 each for shared accommodations. Call Julie Racca at (337) 622-3255, (337) 452-1418 or the Center Office at (337) 855-1232 for registration or go to our website at stcharlescenter.com Scholarship information available upon request for those in need of assistance.

"The Nicene Creed: Living Mercy through Our Faith's Foundation," an Evening of Reflection presented by Michael Sartori, M. Div., is Thursday, Sept. 29, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Sartori and his wife, Sheila, are members of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and currently enrolled in the ACTS Spiritual Companion Program through the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. Suggested donation is \$20 per person and registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 26.

Call the Center at (337) 855-1232 for more information on any of these programs and to register. Check the Center's website – stcharlescenter.com – as well.

Saint Charles Center stands as a place apart, offering an atmosphere of serenity and peace, where one can achieve spiritual renewal and growth – rediscovering life's meaning in quiet reflection.



Members of the Imperial Calcasieu Delegation, Order of St. Lazarus visited the Veterans Home in Jennings recently. While there, they visited with some of the residents and visited the Chapel, which is undergoing some transformation. Thanks to a matching grant from the American Association of the Order of St. Lazarus, the Delegation was able to donate \$1,000 to the Home. Pictured, from left, are John Halloran, Delegate, Ella Dartez-Williams, James Dodd, Jean Thomas, Matt Duhon, Veterans' Home Administrator, Becky Hudson, Almoner, Sam Doucet, Administrative Manager, Lucille Matthews, Paul Matthews and the Honorable Carolyn Louviere. Seated are two veteran residents - Joseph Lassien and Richard Louviere.



Capital Campaign Corner

Wave 2 of the *Return to the Lord* Capital Campaign starts in late August/early September. The campaign will kick-off with dinners hosted by Bishop Provost at the Our Lady Queen of Heaven's Knights of Columbus Hall on Tuesday, August 30, Immaculate Heart of Mary's Founders Hall on Wednesday, September 7, and St. Raphael's Church Hall on Thursday, September 8. The parishes that are a part of Wave 2 are:

- Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception - Lake Charles
- Christ the King - Lake Charles
- Immaculate Heart of Mary - Lake Charles
- Our Lady Queen of Heaven - Lake Charles
- Our Lady Star of the Sea - Cameron
- Sacred Heart of Jesus - Creole
- Sacred Heart of Jesus - Lake Charles
- St. Eugene - Grand Chenier
- St. John Vianney - Bell City
- St. Joseph - Elton
- St. Margaret of Scotland - Lake Charles
- St. Martin de Porres - Lake Charles
- St. Mary of the Lake - Big Lake
- St. Raphael - Iowa

Please pray that these parishes, their pastors, staff, and volunteer teams have many blessings in supporting the goals of the campaign.

Breakfast and luncheon dates for September

LAKE CHARLES – The opening men's prayer breakfast and women's prayer luncheon with Bishop Glen John Provost will be Friday, Sept. 2, and Wednesday, Sept. 7, respectively, in the Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception office building.

The 2016-2017 cycle's topic is St. Paul's Letter to the Romans. The Ignatius Catholic Study Bible, available at Crossroads Bookstore, will be of great assistance with the presentations.

Mass, beginning at 6:30 a.m. in the Cathedral, will precede the Friday breakfast, which starts at 7 a.m. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

The luncheon presentation begins at noon. Women should send a check for \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Gaynell Carrie, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601, and include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Local Serran installed as national officer

LAKE CHARLES – Lake Charles Serran John Halloran has been installed as the Serra USA Council Vocations Vice President.

A Serran for 26 years, Halloran is a member of the Serra Club of Lake Charles. He will be responsible for fostering, promoting and affirming vocations programs for about 240

Serra Clubs in the U.S. and for making recommendations to the Executive Board toward this goal.

Halloran served as a District Governor for one year, Regional Director for two years and currently in his sixth year as the president of the Serra Club of Lake Charles



John Halloran



Bishop's Golf Classic Oct. 7 at The National

WESTLAKE -- The 2016 Bishop's Golf Classic will be played Friday, Oct. 7, at the National Golf Club of Louisiana, 2801 Louisiana Way. The four-person scramble tournament will feature an afternoon round, following lunch, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. The field will be limited to the first 32 paid foursomes.

Presenting sponsors for the tournament are City Savings Bank of DeRidder and Alfred Palma LLC of Lake Charles as well as Bubba Oustalet Automotive Group of Jennings.

Fees are \$500 per four-person team, with prizes for first, second and tenth low gross. Prizes for the longest drive and closest to the hole will also be given and a \$5,000 cash prize goes to the first golfer to score a hole in one.

Tee box sponsorships are \$150, green sponsorships are \$300 and banner sponsorships are \$1,000.

Proceeds from the event provide financial assistance to the Seminarian Education Fund and the Priest Retirement Fund.

Fourteen men are studying for the priesthood for the Diocese this year in four different seminaries and the cost of educational expenses will exceed \$600,000. In August, Deacon Trey Ange was ordained to the transitional diaconate, the penultimate step to ordination to the priesthood. With God's grace, Deacon Ange will be ordained a priest of the Diocese next year. The Diocese currently has 14 retired priests and it will expend nearly \$500,000 to maintain their health and welfare this year. Several others are nearing retirement or could retire due to health issues during the next several years.

Registration forms will be available at area golf courses and the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Payment of fees and registration using a credit card or e-check will be available soon on the Diocese of Lake Charles website - lcdiocese.org. Click the "Event Registration" button, then "Bishop's Golf Classic" and follow the easy steps to register your team or become a sponsor.

Contact Larry DeRoussel at 337-794-8339 or at lderoussel@laia.com for more information.

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.

The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude.

You are still the Master of the land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, and overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father: Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

**The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder
Second Bishop of Lafayette**

Diocesan Briefs.....

Xavier alumni fundraiser

LAKE CHARLES -- The Lake Charles Chapter of the Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA) Alumni presents its fifth annual scholarship fundraiser: "Celebrating the Harlem Renaissance Era" on Saturday, August 27, at the Historic Charleston Hotel.

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with great jazz and blues music of the era from City Heat, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction. Guests are urged to dress in the style of the Harlem Era.

The fundraising will benefit area students planning to attend the historically Black and Catholic university. A portion of the proceeds will also help to fully fund an endowed scholarship in memory of the late James Mayo, a Lake Charles native and XULA alumnus.

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by calling 337-513-9598.

Witness to Love at Our Lady of Good Counsel

LAKE CHARLES -- Mary-Rose and Ryan Verret, the founders of the Witness to Love Marriage Preparation program will be at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church on Saturday, Aug. 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Witness to Love is a virtues-based, catechumenate model of marriage renewal and preparation that integrates modern principles of psychology and the Virtues to help couples facilitate an authentic dialogue about their relationship.

The presentation is open everyone wishing to know more about Witness to Love. Call 337-477-1434 for more information.

A Catholic Journey Through Grief

LAKE CHARLES -- A *Catholic Journey Through Grief* will be presented by Joan Broussard, a trained spiritual director, on Saturday, Aug. 27, at St. Martin de Porres Granger Vincent Complex at 5326 Elliott Road.

There is a \$30 fee to attend includes supplies, snacks and lunch. Deadline to register by calling Sue at 337-478-3845 is August 22.

"Beat the Heat" program

LAKE CHARLES -- The annual "Beat the Heat" program of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana continues.

Catholic Charities will provide and install a window air conditioning unit to households with individuals over 65 years of age or who are disabled and in need of an air conditioner.

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

Kickball Classic - Seminarians 6, Priests 4



The inaugural Bishop's Invitational Kickball Summer Classic, held August 6 and sponsored by the Serra Club of Lake Charles, was a spirited contest. The seven-inning game ended with the team of diocesan seminarians taking a 6-4 victory over the priests of the diocese. The Serra Club's John Halloran presented a check for \$1,000 to Bishop Glen John Provost, photo 1, as the seminarians hoisted their victorious captain Deacon Trey Ange onto their shoulders. Pictured, from left, above are Alec January, Josh Page, Bishop Provost, Sam Orsot, Blake Adam Richard, Ange, Halloran, Will Fruge, Eric Gruspier, Michael Beverung, Sam Bond, and Olin Scott Chester. Action from the game, in photo 2, Father Brian King beats out an infield hit while Father Ruben Buller was not quite so fortunate in photo 3. Monsignor Daniel Torres, vicar general and former director of seminarians and vocations, used a courtesy runner, photo 4, to get a hit as an errant throw takes first baseman Eric Gruspier off the bag. Coordinating the event with Serrans in the event were the St. Louis Foundation, St Louis Catholic High School, local Knights of Columbus Councils and Assemblies and local Catholic Daughters of the Americas Courts.

Veritas Conference September 10

LAKE CHARLES -- Registration continues for the annual Veritas Conference, sponsored by the Office of Adult Education of the Diocese of Lake Charles, on Saturday, Sept. 10, with keynote speaker Dr. Edward Sri in St. Louis Catholic High School. The event begins at 7:30 a.m. and continues until 3:20 p.m.

Registration fees are \$25 without lunch, if paid by August 26; \$30 with lunch if paid by August 26; and \$40 without lunch, if paid August 27 or later. Pickup registration forms at 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601. A check payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles for the appropriate fee must accompany the returned form. Registration and payment can also be done on the website of the diocese - live.lcdiocese.org - under the Event Registration icon and clicking the Veritas Conference link. Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 308 for more information.



Jack O'Reilly, representing the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office, and Grand Knight Louis Gaudet, of St. Martin de Porres Council, present checks to Jeanne LeBato, director of New Life Counseling Center, for the purchase of the 4D ultrasound machine seen here. The presentation was made possible by the Ultrasound Initiative Program, in which local Knights of Columbus raise funds necessary for the purchase of an ultrasound machine with the Supreme Office kicking in half of the cost. The unit purchased for New Life is the 677th machine purchased nationwide since the inception of the national project in 2009, with a goal of 700 machines by the end of 2016. Local councils taking part in the project included those of St. Martin de Porres, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Henry, Christ the King, and St. Theodore in Moss Bluff. An envelope campaign also took place at the parishes mentioned along with Our Lady of Good Counsel to get all parishioners involved. Total local funding was \$32,742.16 with the Supreme Council adding \$22,000.00. Pictured along with O'Reilly, LeBato, and Gaudet are Knights Robert Suydam, Steven Bertrand, Danny Sheridan, Joe Babineaux, Richard Stutes, David Groce, John Richard, and Joe Granger.

assistance.

Dr. Peter Kreeft to speak Sept. 30

LAKE CHARLES -- Dr. Peter Kreeft, who teaches on the faculty of Boston College and is the author of more than 75 books, will present a lecture in the Catholic Student Center of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 221 Aqua Drive, on Friday, Sept. 30, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

For more information on the presentation call 337-477-1434

St Charles Borromeo Bazaar Sept. 11

FENTON -- The St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church Annual Country Bazaar is Sunday, Sept. 11, on the church grounds from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rides and games for the children will highlight the day along with a silent auction, country store, bingo, and a sweet shop. A live auction begins at noon.

Pork dinners along with hamburgers will be served.

Marriage Preparation class in October

LAKE CHARLES -- Openings for the Saturday, October 15, Marriage Preparation class offered by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles remain.

The class is 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.lcdiocese.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.

Mary and the Rosary set Sept. 24

LEBLEU SETTLEMENT - Father Rommel Tolentino, pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will be the guest speaker for *Mary and the Rosary*, a chapel building fund raising event, for the St. Joseph Mission Chapel's Ladies Devotional Luncheon on Saturday, September 24 at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets for the presentation and a light lunch are \$15. There will be door prizes.

Call Faye Humphery at 337-582-6882 or Laurie Vidrine at 337-292-9669 for tickets or more information. The deadline to purchase tickets is Sunday, September 18.

Biblical Walk through the Mass set

LAKE CHARLES -- Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic

Church sponsors "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass" - Discover the Riches of the Mass - a five-part Bible study featuring Dr. Edward Sri on Monday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sept. 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, and 24.

Registration for the event, which takes place in the Our Lady Queen of Heaven Family Life Community Center Activity Room, 3939 Kingston St., is \$20, which includes book and workbook.

Registration and payment at www.olqh.org by Sept. 14. Call Felicia with questions at 477-1236.

Sacred Heart of Jesus bazaar Oct. 8-9

LAKE CHARLES -- Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church hosts its annual bazaar Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8-9, on the church grounds.

Festivities are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Barbecue chicken and rib dinners, sweet potato pies, and popcorn balls will be sold both days with fried chicken wings, hamburgers, and a variety of other foods as well as games, rides and music on Sunday.

Bingo is Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets for the raffle, with two top prizes of \$1,000 each, can be purchased by contacting the Sacred Heart office at 337-439-2645.

WINE conference set in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, La.: WINE: Women in the New Evangelization, a national organization focused on encouraging women in their Catholic faith, host its first ever New Orleans conference, themed: Mercy: Encountering Boundless Love on Saturday, October 15 at Archbishop Rummel High School in Metairie, beginning at 8 a.m. and concluding at 4 p.m. with the celebration of Mass.

New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond will be the celebrant of the liturgy.

Tickets, which include a box lunch, cost \$55 each, if purchased before October 1. After the early-bird deadline, the price increases to \$65 a person. To register online, go to www.NewOrleansWINE-2016.eventbrite.com. For more information about WINE: Women in the New Evangelization or the upcoming conference visit www.CatholicVineyard.com and go to the Event tab or call (985) 807-5666.