



## Ministry of Lector conferred on three diocesan seminarians

ROME – Three seminarians of the Diocese of Lake Charles, studying at the Pontifical North American College, were among 50 instituted into the Ministry of Lector recently by His Excellency Bishop Paul Tighe, Adjunct-Secretary to the Pontifical Council for Culture. The liturgy took place in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception of the College.

The three were Joseph Calloura Caraway (St. John the Evangelist, Lacassine); Andrew Martin DeRouen, (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception); and Levi Joseph Thompson (St. Theodore, Moss Bluff). All are in their first year of theological studies at the North American College.

Bishop Tighe, in his homily, reminded those receiving the ministry of Lector that their newly given responsibility to proclaim the Word of God publicly is always to be grounded in the interior disposition to give themselves over to the service of others, that the very nature of the word “ministry” means to be a selfless servant, and that while at times trying and demanding, only this disposition

allows the Word of God, the person of Jesus Christ, to be received by those whom they will serve. The Bishop noted the joy he felt in bringing 50 men to this place on their journey to the altar, a powerful witness to the vitality of the Church in the United States.

As part of the rite, the Bishop placed the Holy Scriptures, in the hands of each candidate and said, “Take this book of Scripture and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of his people.”

The Pontifical North American College serves as the American seminary in Rome. Founded in 1859 by Blessed Pius IX, the college has formed over 5,000 priests near the heart of the Church for service in dioceses around the United States, Canada, and Australia. The College strengthens the bonds between Rome and local Churches worldwide, and it allows its students to study the Church’s rich religious and cultural heritage at close range.



Three seminarians of the Diocese of Lake Charles, in their first year of theological studies at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, were instituted into the Ministry of Lector recently. They are, from left, Joseph Caraway, Andrew DeRouen, and Levi Thompson.

## Operation Rice Bowl 2017 will begin March 1

BALTIMORE - The season of Lent is marked by many traditions among Catholics in the United States. Symbolized by its ubiquitous cardboard box, CRS Rice Bowl has been a tradition for generations of Catholics. Beginning in 1975 as a response to a growing famine in Africa, CRS Rice Bowl today shines a light on the Catholic community’s commitment to poor and vulnerable families – our brothers and sisters. Their lives are improving in meaningful, measurable ways through the humanitarian programs and services provided by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Catholic Church around the world.

This year, CRS Rice Bowl provides a path for Catholics in the United States to build, what Pope Francis calls “a culture of encounter”. By following the daily Lenten calendar, sharing the weekly stories of hope, and making the meatless meals, participants will follow a personal journey that leads to us seeing ourselves in the faces of our neighbors, cultivating a spirit of global solidarity and encountering God’s love anew.

Pope Francis told Catholic leaders that the “ability to see ourselves in the faces of others, this daily proximity to their share of troubles and their little acts of heroism: this is what enables you to practice the commandment of love, not on the basis of ideas or concepts, but rather on the basis of genuine interpersonal encounter.”



“We do not love concepts or ideas,” the Pope said. “We love people.”

“CRS Rice Bowl is about people and the hope we have for each other. It’s about our ability to encounter our neighbors no matter where they live, to love them as God loves us,” said Joan Rosenhauer, Executive Vice President of U.S. Operations for CRS. “At a time when there is so much conflict in the world, this Lenten program gives people of all ages a way to respond to human suffering with compassion and action. To remember the names and stories of our brothers and sisters, to include them in our prayers, to contribute our Lenten sacrifices so they can live better, healthier lives; this is the way we deepen our faith, building a culture of encounter and holding up the dignity of each and every one of us,” Rosenhauer said.

For over 40 years, CRS Rice Bowl has provided an inspired collection of resources for families, parishes and Catholic schools to incorporate into their Lenten season. With CRS Rice Bowl,

each week of Lent is a new opportunity to meet a family from a different country overseas, hear their personal stories, learn about their culture and experience a meatless meal they serve at home. Each Lenten story illustrates a principal of Catholic social teaching – an essential element of Catholic faith that says every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family.

CRS Rice Bowl is global in its reach, bringing tangible goods and services to people in need around the world. Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs such as community gardens, food pantries, soup kitchens, support groups, and job centers. The remaining 75 percent goes to support CRS’ humanitarian and development programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.



The Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver Court and Council #168 of St. Henry Catholic Church recently presented a check for \$2,000.00, representing a portion of proceeds from the annual Sapphire and Ice Dinner, to Bishop Glen John Provost and Father Jeffrey Starkovich, director of vocations, and seminarians for the Diocese. The gift supports College-level seminarians studying for the priesthood. This year’s donation raises to \$14,000.00 the amount contributed to seminarian education over the seven years of Sapphire and Ice. Pictured above, from left, is Fr. Starkovich, who also serves as Council Chaplain; Lady Rosella Guillory, Junior Daughters Councilor; Grand Knight John Halloran; Bishop Provost; Grand Lady Connie LeMelle; Past Deputy Supreme Knight Paul Jones; and Knight Fred LeMelle, Council Financial Secretary.

## CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation celebrates

LAKE CHARLES -- The CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation held a celebration of thanks for those who gave time and money to make the “Healthcare and Hope...Here at Home” fundraising campaign, which was held from 2014-present, a success. During the campaign, close to \$14 million was donated toward the purchase of the latest technology for Cardiology, Neuroscience and Oncology.

To honor donors, a stained glass donor wall by local stained glass artist Frank Thompson was unveiled in the CHRISTUS St. Patrick front lobby.

Donors gave close to \$7 million, and \$7 million was matched by CHRISTUS Health toward new technology. Of the nearly \$14 million raised, over \$7 million was invested in the Regional Cancer Center for more comprehensive oncology services and advanced technology so that patients from Southwest Louisiana can be treated here rather than traveling out of town for treatment.

Over \$3.5 million was invested in the Regional Heart Center to develop the first accredited chest pain center with technology that is the gold standard in cardiac care that is used to quickly and accurately detect heart attacks. The naming rights of the Regional Heart Center have been underwritten by John and Sylvia Stelly, who donated \$1 million to improve cardiology services in this region.

“Since 40 percent of people from southwest Louisiana die annually from cardiovascular disease, we need to change that statistic by hav-



Frank Thompson  
Stained glass artist

ing the advanced technology here to care for patients and to also bring awareness of the importance to regularly monitor and improve our health as individuals,” stated John Stelly. Also in development is the region’s first Hybrid Surgical Suite, which will be dedicated in memory of Coach Max Calderera.

Finally, over \$1.5 million went toward the creation of a technologically advanced and more precise Neurosurgical, Spine and Orthopaedic program. The “Healthcare and Hope...Here at home” capital campaign donor wall, designed and developed by Thompson, resembles the flow of the CHRISTUS ministry and the progress being made to bring advanced healthcare service to southwest Louisiana. The donors’ names stream through the

design with the ebb and flow in the current of the design.

“We are so grateful to all the donors who have supported our fundraising efforts. Through their donations, we are able to give our patients the latest treatments here, in their community, with the family and friends they need for support and the comfort of home,” CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation Director Kay Barnett said.

“Through much research and evaluation, CHRISTUS St. Patrick identified three critical service lines to receive enhancements and gave that information to the Foundation to make the enhancements a reality,” said CHRISTUS St. Patrick President and Chief Executive Officer Donald Lloyd II. “Because of our donors, the enhancements that have been made will allow us to continue meeting the needs of families in southwest Louisiana with the most advanced technology and equipment right here at home.”

Equipment purchased and enhancements made or being made through fundraising efforts include:

### ONCOLOGY

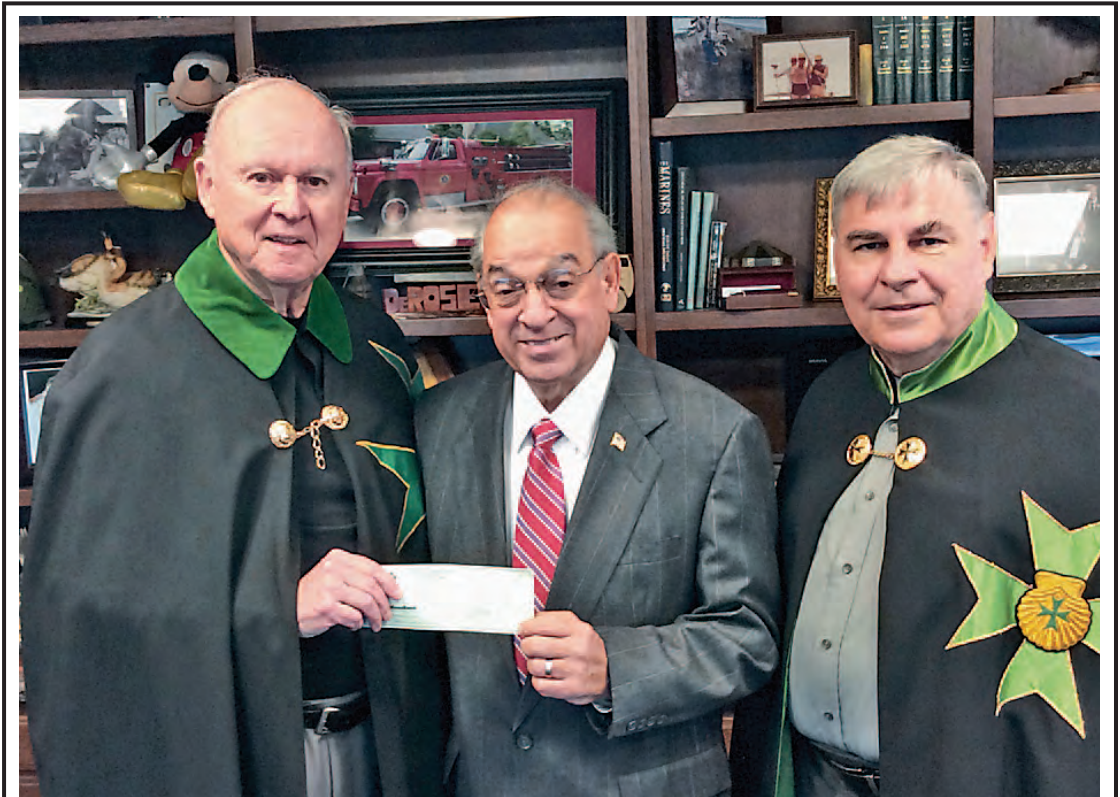
New Linear Accelerator (and upgrade to current equipment); CT Simulator; Ease of Access; and Clinical Research treatments.

### CARDIOLOGY

128-Slice CT Scanner; Updated Catheterization Labs; Hybrid Surgery Suite.

### NEUROSCIENCE

O-Arm Technology; Microsurgical Microscope; and C-USA Device (also known as a Cranial Ultrasonic Tissue Aspirator).



The Imperial Calcasieu Delegation of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem contributed a gift of \$1,000 to the Calcasieu Parish District Attorney’s Office to assist in funding a program known as the Veterans Treatment Court. This program is for those who have served in the military and after leaving active duty were arrested for a law violation. This 24-month program is an alternative to putting them in jail and being a burden on the taxpayer. Those in the program are matched with local Veterans who serve as mentors. While in the program, there are costs incurred by the Veteran. This program exists in a number of other states and has been very successful. The Imperial Calcasieu Delegation’s gift was matched by a grant from the American Association of the Order of St. Lazarus, enhancing the funds available to help offset costs incurred by Veterans in the program. Pictured with District Attorney John DeRosier, center, presenting the check are CAPT (Ret.) Joe Hill, Sub-Delegate - who helped start the program in Calcasieu Parish - and by COL (Ret.) John Halloran, Delegate. The Order of St. Lazarus is a worldwide Ecuumenical Christian Order of Chivalry. For more information about the Order, please contact the Delegate, John Halloran, at colhalloran@hotmail.com or the Sub-Delegate, Joe Hill, at jdnavy34@bellsouth.net.



## “Pro Vita” Awards presented at Respect Life Banquet

LAKE CHARLES – The second annual presentation of the “Pro Vita” awards highlighted the 2017 Respect Life Banquet, sponsored by the Office of Pro-Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles, held recently. Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse, the founder and president of the Ruth Institute, a global non-profit organization, dedicated to creating a Christ-like solution to family breakdown was the guest speaker.

The honorees were Hailey Guth of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in the youth category and Lea Poncho of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in the adult layperson classification.

According to Rickard Newman director of the Office of Pro-Life, the jury panel that chose Guth made the following comments, “Hailey began to pray for guidance from God on how to fight for the rights of the unborn and started a Pro-Life group at Barbe High School – their first Students for Life group. In the summer of 2016 she also worked with Pulse to put on a successful one-day rally in Lake Charles. Hailey attended the March for Life pilgrimage to Washington D.C. this year and continues to learn about what it means to be pro-life and share it with others.”

The citation for Poncho read, “Aside from being a busy wife and mother of four, Lea Poncho volunteers in support of pro-life causes not only in her home parish of St. Martin de Porres but in the diocese at large as well.

“Lea’s chief ministry is the Gabriel Project. She never hesitates to come to the aid of a Gabriel Project mom. No matter how hopeless or desperate the situation might seem, Lea finds a way to provide and does this with a joyful and prayerful spirit. She generously shares her experience and wisdom with others who are working in the diocese and other Gabriel Project groups.

She also volunteers at Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, coordinates “Angels” in her parish and ministers to women in prison. Lea has heard the Lord’s call in her life and answers by giving her life in return. She has said yes to life and makes it her daily mission to share this belief, this love, this way of life with everyone she meets.”

The fund-raising banquet provides support for a number of Pro-Life projects, including the newly instituted Grief to Grace, a spiritual and psychological program for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse and is appropriate for those who have endured traumatic violations during childhood, adolescence or as adults. Contact Mrs. Marjorie Long or the Office of Pro-Life at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 for more information and how to get involved in this ministry.



The Office of Pro Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles recognized two individuals for their work and service protecting the unborn at the recent Respect Life Banquet. This second annual presentation of the “Pro Vita” awards was made to Hailey Guth (Photo 1) of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in the youth category and to Lea Poncho (Photo 2) of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in the adult layperson category. Bishop Glen John Provost and Rickard Newman, director of the Office of Pro Life, are shown in each photo as well.

Other pro-life ministries helped by the banquet proceeds include, Rachel’s Vineyard, which offers two weekend retreats at the Saint Charles Center to those who have been involved in abortion(s) and are seeking healing and repentance. During these weekends the retreatants have a chance to express and reconcile post-abortive emotions and begin the process of restoration and renewal; the annual March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington, DC calling to end abortion; the Gabriel Project, which helps bring hope and assistance to women experiencing crisis pregnancies.

Dr. Morse earned her doctorate in Economics at the University of Rochester in 1980 and taught economics at Yale University and George Mason University. She has authored several books and spoken around the globe on marriage, family and sexuality and was named one of the “Catholic Stars of 2013” by Our Sunday Visitor – a list that also included Pope Francis and Pope Benedict XVI.

In her talk Dr. Morse spoke about the sexual revolution, its victims, and “that the sexual revolution airbrushes all the bad

things away from the picture.

“You have been supporting the pro-life cause for many years, and my goal tonight is to hopefully, to put the pieces together so you can see just how big the sexual revolution really is and how the pro-life issue fits into that larger scheme of things,” she continued. “Everyone in America are victims of the sexual revolution; all of those around us, every family in America is affected in one way or another.”

She pointed out the three big ideas that are involved in the sexual revolution and provided the contradictions to those ideas.

“First, a good and decent society should separate sex from babies, which I call the contraceptive ideology,” Dr. Morse said. “The second, is that a good and decent society should separate both sex and babies from marriage; you can have babies you can have sex, it doesn’t matter. I call that the divorce ideology; and finally, the third point of the sexual revolution is that a good and decent society should eliminate all differences between men and women.”

## Quiz Bowl 2016

For the second year in a row, a team from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings came away with top honors at the recent Quiz Bowl. The event is sponsored by the Office of Religious Education of the Diocese. Pictured above, from left, are first place team members Mary Caraway, Patrick Fontenot, Rachel Wild and Gabe Wild and runner-up team members Morgan Futch, Seth Rodriguez, Will Monic and Noah Scarborough. Also pictured are Sr. Mary Elizabeth Ann McCullough, RSM, interim director of Religious Education, extreme left and Sister Mary Elisha Glady, RSM, Director of Religious Education, far right. In fact, two other teams representing Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings finished second and fourth in the event. Third place in the competition went to a team from St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church. A total of 14 teams participated, including squads from Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff, St. Pius X Catholic Church in Ragley, and St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School. Each parish and Catholic school were allowed to enter up to three teams.



## Diocesan Briefs.....

### Popcorn ball sale, barbecue dinners at St. Henry

LAKE CHARLES - St. Henry Catholic Church’s Altar Society Popcorn Ball sale and Knights of Columbus Council 5022 will be held today and Saturday, in the St. Henry Community Center.

The popcorn ball sale begins at 9 a.m. today and continues Saturday until all the product is sold. Popcorn balls are \$2.50 each.

The Knights of Columbus barbecue opens at 8 a.m. Saturday, continuing until all dinners have been sold. Dinners are \$9 each, with a choice of half chicken or pork steak with rice dressing, baked beans and potato salad.

Call 337-912-2185 or 337-439-1159 for more information.

### Mass for individuals with special needs, families

LAKE CHARLES – A Mass for individuals with special needs and their families will be celebrated Sunday, Feb. 5, at 11 a.m. in St. Louis Catholic High School.

All may attend despite difficulty, embarrassment, or frustration.

Call Karen Duhon at 337-478-0243 or Geri Christ Landry at 337-433-5662 for more information.

### Divine Mercy DVD series at Cathedral

LAKE CHARLES -- The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will host a 10-part DVD series and small group study on “Divine Mercy - The Second Greatest Story Ever Told.” on the Thursdays of February, March and April.

Sessions are set from 6 to 7 p.m. on February 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and April 6, 20.

The study is free of charge, but pre-registration by calling 337-436-7251 is appreciated.

### Magnificat Breakfast slated Feb. 11

JENNINGS -- Marie Patin Trahan will be the guest speaker at the Feb. 11, Magnificat Breakfast in John Windt Hall of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for open seating with breakfast starting at 9 a.m. Tickets for priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters are complimentary.

Register on online at magnificatlakecharles@gmail.com. Tickets are \$15 each. Make check or money order only payable to Magnificat Lake Charles and pickup ticket at the door.

Tickets can also be purchased by mail at Magnificat, 18057 D. A. LeDoux Rd., Jennings, LA, 70546.

Other dates for breakfasts in 2017 are May 6, September 9,

### Vocation drawing contest calls for entries

LAKE CHARLES – The call for entries into the annual vocation drawing contest for the Diocese of Lake Charles in preparation for World Day of Prayer for Vocations has been made.

All students in grades 2nd through 12th are invited to make a drawing on letter size white poster board depicting awareness of vocation to the priesthood in Southwest Louisiana.

The drawings are to be turned in to Connie Perkins in the Office of Vocations, 411 Iris Street, by noon on Friday, April 7.

Entries must include, printed on the back of the drawing, the artist’s name, age, grade, phone number, church, city, and name of school. The entry must be placed unfolded in an envelope marked ‘Vocation Drawing Contest.’

Monetary awards will be given for first, second and third place. The first place winner will have their art reproduced on prayer cards to be distributed on Sunday, May 7, at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Henry Catholic Church, 1021 Eighth Avenue.

### Luncheon and breakfast dates

LAKE CHARLES -- The Men’s Prayer Breakfast and Women’s Luncheon with Bishop Glen John Provost are Friday, March 3, and, Wednesday March 8, respectively, in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Office Building.

Women should send a check for \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Women’s Luncheon Tickets, 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 and include a stamped self-address envelope.

The breakfast starts at 7 a.m. and is preceded by Mass beginning at 6:30 a.m. in the Cathedral. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

### “The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide” at OLQH

LAKE CHARLES -- Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse and Sean Corcoran will facilitate “The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide” - Helping You Find Peace, Power, and Passion After Your Divorce at Our Lady Queen of Heaven’s Family Life Community Center beginning in March.

The program will be held on the Tuesdays of March 21 through June 6 each day from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Activity Room. Registration fee of \$40 covers all materials and registration is available at www.olqh.org. The deadline is March 10.

The program will help those who take part to discover how to work through the emotions of separation and divorce, exper-

ience personal healing and hope, gain wisdom and comfort from others who share your experiences, address questions of forgiveness and new family dynamics, and obtain an understanding of the annulment process.

Call 337-477-1236 for Felicia with any questions.

### Next Marriage Preparation class March 11

LAKE CHARLES – Openings for the next Marriage Preparation class, offered by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese, is Saturday, March 11.

The class is 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.

Register online at www.lcdioocese.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.

### “Mommipotent: A Book Club for Moms” in March

LAKE CHARLES -- “Mommipotent: A Book Club for Moms” Finding Peace, Balance, & Joy in Your Vocation as a Mother. Is being a mother what you thought it would be? The exhaustion, monotony, mounting unfinished projects, loss of sense of self...Too many moms feel disillusioned and overwhelmed.

Mommipotent validates the dignity and importance of motherhood and will help you recognize your uniquely feminine strengths. Come join fellow moms and see how you can use those strengths to find peace, balance, and joy in being the woman God created and called you to be.

Where: Our Lady Queen of Heaven FLCC, Fireplace Room, 3939 Kingston St. When: Monday afternoons, 12:30-2:30 p.m., March 6, 13, 20, 27. Registration: \$30 fee covers journal and book.

Register and pay at www.olqh.org by the Feb. 20 deadline.

Call 337-477-1236 for Felicia with any questions.

### Lenten Mission at Our Lady Queen of Heaven

LAKE CHARLES -- Fr. Thaddaeus Lancton, MIC of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, is the featured speaker at “Divine Mercy and the Blessed Virgin Mary”, the 2017 Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church Lenten Mission Monday, March 13 through Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. each day.

Fr. Thaddaeus will preach at all weekend and concelebrate weekday masses and be available during confessions.

Call Felicia at 337-477-1236 with any questions or go to olqh.org for daily schedule and topics.