



Solemnity of St. Peter Claver, Sept. 9

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of the Holy Mass on Sunday, September 9, the Feast Day of the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Lake Charles, at 11 a.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church.

All Knights in Papal Orders, including Knights of Peter Claver and Knights of Columbus, should come in full regalia. Priests and deacons free from parish duties that day are invited to attend. Representatives of organizations from all parishes in the Diocese are also invited.

St. Peter Claver was chosen as the Patron Saint by the late Bishop Jude Speyrer, founding Bishop.

A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich

port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit. Although the practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled “supreme villainy” by Pope Pius IX, it continued to flourish.

Peter Claver's predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself “the slave of the Negroes forever.”

As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After the slaves were herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters, he gave basic instructions and assured his brothers and sisters of their human dignity and God's love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Claver's apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, dur-

ing which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced the saint to remain inactive and largely neglected, he died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

He is also the Patron Saint of African Americans, African Missions, Colombia, comedians, communication workers, and Interracial Justice.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron named him the patron of all missionary activities.



Saint Peter Claver

Catholic schools open

LAKE CHARLES – The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles began the 2018-2019 school year with the return of students to classes last week in Jennings at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School and yesterday, for the six Catholic schools located in Calcasieu Parish.

Those were St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; and Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur.

Four of the schools – St. Louis, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Our Lady's School, and Holy Family – have new leadership in the principal's office.

Andrew Bradley will be at St. Louis, Trevor Donnelly at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Linda Portie at Our

Lady's School, and Charlotte Kohlenberg at Holy Family.

Bradley takes over from Deacon Glenn Viau at St. Louis, Donnelly moves from his position at Our Lady's School replacing Our Lady Queen of Heaven principal JoAnn Wallwork, Portie replaces Donnelly at Our Lady's School, and Kohlenberg takes over from Jennifer Belton at Holy Family.

Holidays during the school year - days the students are not in attendance - include Labor Day, Monday, September 3; All Saints Day, Wednesday, November 1; Thanksgiving, Monday, November 19 to Friday, November 23; Christmas, Monday December 24 to Friday, January 4; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday January 21; Mardi Gras, Friday, March 1 to Tuesday, March 5; and Easter, Friday April 19 to Friday April 26. Students at Our Lady Immaculate will get an additional Jefferson Davis Parish Fair Day, on Friday, October 5.



Andrew Bradley



Trevor Donnelly



Linda Portie



Charlotte Kohlenberg

Bishop to begin teaching on Corinthians

LAKE CHARLES -- Bishop Glen John Provost begins his teachings to the men and women of the Diocese of Lake Charles, this year focusing on St. Paul's Letters to the Corinthians, with the Men's Breakfast on Friday, September 7, and the Ladies Luncheon on Wednesday, September 12, both in the Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Office Complex.

Breakfasts begin at 7 a.m.

and are preceded by the celebration of the Mass at 6:30 a.m. in the Cathedral. The luncheons begin at 11:30 a.m. with the Bishop's teachings starting at noon.

Men should call 337-439-7400 to register while women should send a check in the amount of \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Victoria Walter, 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601. A stamped self-addressed envelope should be

included with payment. The Ignatius study Bible is available at Crossroads Bookstore.

Breakfasts will be on Friday Oct. 5 (I Corinthians, 5-8); Nov. 2 (I Corinthians, 9-12); and Dec. 7 (I Corinthians, 13-16). The breakfast will take a hiatus in January and re-start beginning Friday, February 1 (II Corinthians, 1-4) continuing Friday, March 8 (II Corinthians, 5-7); Friday, April 5 (II Corinthians, 8-10); and Friday, May 3 (II Corinthians,

11-13).

Luncheon dates and topics are as follows: Wednesday, Oct. 3 (I Corinthians, 5-8); and Wednesday, Nov. 7 (I Corinthians, 9-12). Due to scheduling there will be no luncheon in December or January, but will resume Wednesday, Feb. 13 (II Corinthians 1-4); Wednesday, March 13 (II Corinthians, 5-7); Wednesday, April 10 (II Corinthians, 8-10); and Wednesday, May 1 (II Corinthians, 11-13).

Diocesan Briefs.....

August events at Saint Charles Center

MOSS BLUFF – Programs for the remainder of August at Saint Charles Center will include “Growing in Prayer: What to Do AFTER the Mountaintop Experience of a Retreat” presented by Fr. Whitney Miller on Tuesday, August 22, from 6 to 9 p.m.

A Married Couples Retreat, “God Created Us, Man and Woman,” will be presented by Mark and Shila Cowart from Friday, August 25 to Sunday, August 27. The donation per couple for the weekend is \$385.00 with a \$25.00 non-refundable deposit necessary to reserve a space. For more information call 337-905-2032 or e-mail shilacowart@camtel.net.

For more information call 337-855-1232 or go to stcharles-center.com to register.

Radio broadcasts of Cathedral Sunday Mass

LAKE CHARLES -- The celebration of the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, which has been broadcast on KLCL (1470-AM), since the beginning of the Diocese of Lake Charles and more recently on Jennings' KJEF-AM (1290-AM), as well streaming on the two stations' websites, will also be broadcast on Radio Maria (91.1 FM) on the second Sunday of each month and streaming on Radio Maria's website.

Women sought to join Theresians

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic women are being sought to join a monthly faith-filled spiritual community, especially to form a new Theresians group in the Westlake, Sulphur, Vinton and Carlyss areas, according to Cookie Phillips, outreach coordinator for the Theresians International Organization.

To learn more about the Theresians call 337-474-9205 or email cookiephil@suddenlink.net.

“Havana Nights” set Saturday, August 18

LAKE CHARLES -- St. Louis Catholic High School kicks off the academic year on Saturday, August 18, with a “Havana Nights” All Saints Dinner and Auction in the Historic Calca-

sieu Marine National Bank Building beginning at 6:30 p.m.

There will be Cuban cuisine, salsa dancing and music by the group The Flamethrowers. Make reservations online at slchs.org or call 337-439-7275, Ext. 237.

Center for Catholic Studies class schedule

LAKE CHARLES -- Instructors and subjects for upcoming classes offered at the Center for Catholic Studies at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 221 Aqua Drive, have been announced by the Office of Religious Education and the Office of Adult Education of the diocese of Lake Charles. The actual dates and times for the classes will be made public later, according to Sister Marirose Rudek, RSM, director of the offices.

Father Ruben Buller will teach Introduction to Spiritual Theology during September and October while Father Ruben Villareal will lead Introduction to Philosophy in November and December.

Father Nathan Long will teach on the Letters of St. Paul during the months of January and February while Paula Hunter will teach Theology of the Body & Interior Life during March and April.

Cost is \$50 per person for each course. For more information or to be placed on a list for future announcements, call 337-439-7400, Ext. 308 or e-mail marlie.mudd@lcdioocese.org.

Parish catechists summer workshops

LAKE CHARLES -- Summer workshops for parish catechists and Professional Catechetical Leaders offered by the Office of Religious Education have been announced by Sr. Marirose Rudek, RSM, director of the office. Topics are the same in each workshop, so those who are catechists or those thinking about becoming a catechist in their parish should only register for one day. There is a \$5 fee for the workshop, according to Sr. Marirose.

The dates and locations for the final two are Saturday, August 18 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic and Saturday, August 25 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur from 8 am to 11:45 a.m. each day.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2018 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 on 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**

Each workshop begins with an overview of Theology of the Body for catechists followed by breakout sessions for catechists doing religious education for elementary, middle school, high school (Life Teen), high school classroom, and special needs students.

Catechists are asked to register with their parish PCL for the workshop of their choice.

Saint Charles Center accepting applications

MOSS BLUFF -- Saint Charles Center is accepting applications for a part-time cook.

Interested applicants need to be available for immediate employment and previous work in the kitchen is preferred. Applicants need to be flexible and available to work various hours during the week as well as some weekends.

The setting of the retreat center provides the employee a peaceful environment with a spirit of shared collaboration among cooperative staff members.

Call Michelle Monceaux at 337-855-1232 for information.

St. Louis Catholic High School job opening

LAKE CHARLES -- St. Louis Catholic High School is seeking applicants for St. Louis Catholic High School has announced its search for applicants for the position of Advancement Services Manager at the school in the Office of Advancement and reporting to the Director of Advancement.

Those interested may apply for the position via e-mail, with your details, to aatkins@slchs.

Celebration of clergy and religious jubilees

LAKE CHARLES -- The Knights of Columbus and the St. Henry Catholic Church parish family will honor priests, deacons, and religious in the Diocese of Lake Charles celebrating significant anniversaries years in multiples of five on Tuesday, September 11, at 10:30 a.m. with the celebration of the Holy Mass in St. Henry Church, followed by a luncheon in the parish community center.

Call Michelle Monceaux at 337-855-1232 for information.