



## Catholic Schools Week Jan. 27- Feb, 2; CSW Mass on Wednesday, Jan. 30

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass in St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 30.

Eighth graders from Catholic schools in the diocese will join senior students from St. Louis Catholic High School for the liturgy.

There are seven Catholic schools in the Diocese, St. Louis, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School, in Moss Bluff; Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings; and Our Lady's School in Sulphur.

Principals of the Catholic schools are David Bradley, St. Louis; Christi Jarreau, ICCS; Rebecca Chapman, Our Lady Immaculate; Trevor Donnelly, Our Lady Queen of Heaven; Linda Portie, Our Lady's School; Wendy Wicke, St. Margaret; and Charlotte Kohlenberg, Holy Family.

Kimberlee Gazzolo is the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration,

since 1974, of Catholic education in the United States. Starting Sunday, January 27, it continues through Saturday, February 2.

Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to the Church, our communities and our nation.

Daily themes for the week are: Sunday - Celebrating Your Parish; Monday - Celebrating Your Community; Tuesday - Celebrating Your Students; Wednesday - Celebrating This Nation; Thursday - Celebrating Vocations; Friday - Celebrating Faculty, Staff and Volunteers; and Saturday; Celebrating Families. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

Contact individual schools for information on specific events during the week at the schools, either by telephone or at their website.



## Rachel's Vineyard Retreat scheduled for March 1-3

LAKE CHARLES -- Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana, sponsored by the Office of Pro-Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles, hosts its next retreat weekend Friday through Sunday, March 1-3, at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

The retreat is for both men and women who are suffering from the trauma and after-effects of abortion. These can include: eating disorders, difficulty with relationships, repeat abortions, substance abuse, depression, suicidal urges, anxiety/panic attacks, nightmares, emotional numbness, guilt, anger & fear of punishment from God.

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat provides an opportunity to deeply enter the grieving process and identify all the ways an abortion may have affected you. Rachel's Vineyard offers a number of powerful exercises that allow the wounded soul to speak its grief and sorrow. The exercises help to connect participants to their inner voice, to each other, and to the love and compassion of God.

They also help participants to accept forgiveness for themselves and others. There is also an opportunity to re-connect with the children that were aborted on a spiritual level, to give them honor and dignity through special and creative spiritual exercises as well as in a memorial service.

If you or someone you love is hurting from an abortion, please reach out by contacting Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or by e-mail at rachel.vineyard@lcdioocese.org.

Future retreat dates are August 16-18, 2019 and February 21-23, 2020.

## Deacon Brian Kirk named diocesan CFO



Deacon Brian Kirk

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost has named Deacon Brian Kirk as Chief Finance Officer (CFO) for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

The appointment was effective January 1 for a period of five years.

Deacon Kirk currently serves as a Deacon at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, where he will continue in that ministry. He is married to Stephanie Kirk and the couple has three children.

Deacon Kirk is a Public Accountant, certified to practice in Texas and Louisiana, and holds a Master's in Business Administration.

The appointment of the CFO for a diocese requires the consultation of both the College of Consultors and the Diocesan Finance Council. Both bodies enthusiastically supported the Bishop's recommendation.

## Men's breakfast, ladies' luncheon next in February

LAKE CHARLES -- The First Friday Men's Prayer Breakfast and the Ladies Luncheon with Bishop Glen John Provost will be February 1, for the former, and Wednesday, February 13, for the latter.

The breakfast will be preceded by Mass beginning at 6:30 a.m. in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral Office Complex, with breakfast in the Assembly Room of the Chancery, 414 Iris Street, at 7 a.m. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

For the luncheons, 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 dates and topics for remaining breakfasts are Friday, February 1 (II Corinthians, 1-4) Friday, March 8 (II Corinthians, 5-7); Friday, April 5 (II Corinthians, 8-10); and Friday, May 3 (II Corinthians, 11-13).

Remaining luncheon dates and topics are Wednesday, February 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).

## Sr. Monica Stelly, MSC laid to rest

(Read more at [www.lcdioocese.org](http://www.lcdioocese.org))

LAKE CHARLES Sr. Monica (Frances Marie) Stelly, MSC, died on Dec. 15, 2018 in Opelousas.

Born Nov. 20, 1922, in Lake Charles, she graduated from St. Charles Academy, entered the Marianites of Holy Cross in 1938 and pronounced perpetual profession on Dec. 31, 1943.

Sister Monica was involved in elementary and high school education in Crowley, Eunice, Morgan City, New Orleans, Plaquemine,

Ville Platte, and Lake Charles. She served as principal at various Catholic schools in the state and was well-known as a choir director, orchestrating many musical presentations through her talents of singing and playing the organ.

Memorial donations should be made to the Marianites of Holy Cross, Congregational Center, 21388 Smith Road, Covington, LA 70435 or The Sister Monica Stelly Scholarship Fund at Immaculate Conception School, 1536 Ryan Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

## As it happened ...



Bishop Glen John Provost took part in the Solemn Blessing and Dedication of the LaSalette Shrine/Facsimile located at Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Sulphur. Photo 1 provides the image of the Shrine, which is next to and contiguous with the church prayer garden. In Photo 2, Bishop Provost uses Holy Water to bless those in attendance and the statues and rose bushes making up the grounds of the shrine. These particular statues are now in their third home in Sulphur, having previously been located in two other locations, including Attleboro, Mass. "The Shrine of LaSalette is truly a holy ground in Sulphur where you will have serenity, peace, and an atmosphere of prayer," said Fr. Andrews Kollanor, M.S., pastor for Our Lady of LaSalette. "Peace benches placed in the Shrine are inviting to sit down and pray for peace in families, communities, and the world." Nine of the 12 clergy and religious who were honored for significant anniversaries, totaling 360 years of service, are pictured in Photo 3. The Mass and reception, the 11th annual event, took place at St. Henry Catholic Church and was coordinated by Msgr. Cramers Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and supported by Third- and Fourth-Degree assemblies, numerous Courts of Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Knights of Peter Claver Assemblies, Chapters, Courts and Councils along with many church altar societies from throughout the Diocese. In Photo 4, Bishop Provost blesses the new Holy Face Scenel Building constructed at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School. The Bishop, in Photo 5, is shown along with a number of ministers and representatives of other faith traditions who remembered in prayer the 11 people killed and seven injured in the Pittsburgh synagogue mass shooting at Tree of Life - Or L'Simcha Congregation. The Bishop was invited to participate by Rabbi Barry Weinstein of Temple Sinai in Lake Charles. In Photo 6, Msgr. Daniel Torres, a former pastor, carries the Monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament during the Eucharistic Procession held to conclude the 60th anniversary year of St. Henry Catholic Church. Members of the Junior Catholic Daughters of Lake Arthur's Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Photo 7, are shown with Deacon Patrick Lاپoint, director of the Seafarers Center. The youngsters helped put together Christmas bags that were handed out to sailors coming into the port. Deacon Lapoint noted that a total of 983 bags were provided to seafarers this year and thanked everyone for their generosity in donating items for the bags and all those that helped to put the bags together. Two live performances of *Tolton: From Slave to Priest*, the story of Father Augustus Tolton, whose cause for sainthood is being considered, were held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. In Photo 8, actor Jim Coleman thanks the audience for coming to the Sunday night production. More than 200 people attended the two showings. Celebrating the Feast of Christ the King with a Eucharistic Procession from the Civic Center to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception are members of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church in Photo 9.