



Five to be ordained; one to priesthood, four to diaconate

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost will be the ordaining prelate on Saturday, June 29, at a 10 a.m. liturgy in the newly restored Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for the priestly ordination of Deacon Michael Caraway and the historic ordination of four men - Samuel Bond, Joseph Caraway, Andrew DeRouen, and Levi Thompson - to the transitional diaconate, the penultimate step to the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Prior to the liturgy's conclusion and Bishop Provost's final blessing, the official announcement of the first pastoral assignment of the newly ordained priest will be made by Deacon George Stearns, diocesan chancellor.

Deacon Caraway is a parishioner of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings – where he will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, June 30 at 10:30 a.m. He is the son of William and Betty Caraway of Jennings. The Deacon completed his theological studies at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

Deacon Caraway noted that “as I approach the end of seminary formation, I am excited because the true journey is only just beginning. As I conclude the first chapter of my vocational journey, I reminisce on the many blessings that God has bestowed on me during my time in priestly formation. As I do so, I am moved to give thanks to God and his faithful people who have been so good to me. The words of the psalmist so eloquently capture my current sentiment. In answer to the question of ‘How can I repay the Lord for all of His goodness to me?’ (Psalm 116:12), I find myself answering with the words of the psalmist, ‘The chalice of salvation I will raise and call on the name of the Lord’ (Psalm 116:13).”

As to the change in focus from studying for the priesthood to serving God and his people “my thoughts are thoughts of excitement, wonder, and awe,” he said. “I am excited because this is what I set out to do so many years ago when I responded yes to the call of Christ. I am in wonder and awe because the task at hand is so far beyond me. How is it that I am called to minister to the people of God in the Diocese of Lake Charles for the glory of God and the salvation of souls?”

“This task so far surpasses me and yet it is where the grace of God has led me, and what my heart desires to do,” Caraway said. “The words of St. Ignatius of Loyola sum up my thoughts quite well, ‘Pray as if everything depends upon God, work as if everything depends upon you.’”

As he awaits eagerly his priestly ordination, Caraway had a number of people to thank.

“I thank my parents, Bill and Betty Caraway, for the love, support, and sharing of the Catholic Faith with me; His Excellency, Bishop Provost, for his great generosity to me in his leadership, prayers, and support; and all of my family for their prayers, love, and support,” he said.

“I thank Msgr. Torres who served as my vocation director for many years and Fr. Jeffrey Starkovich who is currently serving as my vocation director, Deacon Caraway continued. “I thank Fr. Charles McMillin, my pastor and a great support to me, Fr. Aubrey Guilbeau as he has been a great witness and example to me along with Fr. Scott Conner who helped me discern into the seminary. “The Serra Clubs, West Deanery Vocations, and the Knights



Deacon Michael Caraway

of Columbus have been so generous to me in their prayers and support,” he said. “Finally, I thank all who have prayed and supported me during my vocational discernment! Thank all of you for your prayers and support!”

The ordination of the quartet of seminarians to the transitional diaconate is historic for the Diocese of Lake Charles being the largest number of transitional deacons ordained. Additionally, the ordination, occurring in the newly restored Cathedral will only make the event more noteworthy and exciting.

Joseph Caraway (St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Fenton and its Mission of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Lacassine), DeRouen (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception), and Thompson (St. Theodore Catholic Church) are all students at the Pontifical North American College in Rome while Bond (Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in



Samuel Bond



Joseph Caraway



Andrew DeRouen



Levi Thompson

DeQuincy) attends Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. Following completion of their diaconate internships, generally in October, they will return to their respective seminaries to complete their theological training.

Internships for the to-be-ordained deacons will find Bond continuing his studies at the Liturgical Institute at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Ill., and at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception under the direction of Rev. Rommel Tolentino; Joseph Caraway at St. Henry Catholic Church in Lake Charles under the direction of Rev. Matthew Cormier; Thompson at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church under the direction of Msgr. Daniel Torres and DeRouen at Our Lady of Prompt Succor under the direction of Rev. Edward Richard, MS.

Following the Sunday, June 2, celebration of a Mass to Avert Storms, praying for Our Lady's intercession during hurricane season, Bishop Glen John Provost sprinkles holy water on the Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea located outside the Cameron church. The Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea is the start of hurricane season and a “Day of Prayer and Fasting” in the Diocese of Lake Charles. Faithful making this Diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine received spiritual benefits as if they had visited the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome, due to the special affiliation the church and Shrine have. The pilgrimage provides a plenary indulgence with the fulfillment of certain recent confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayers for the Holy Father, and the recitation of the Creed.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2 - CELEBRATION OF A MASS TO AVERT STORMS *Bishop Provost leads Diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady Star of the Sea*



Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2019 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**

Father Fred Russi interred at New Bethany Cemetery



Rev. Fred Russi

LAKE CHARLES – A Mass of Christian Burial for Rev. Frederick F. “Fred” Russi, 78, a retired priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles, was celebrated in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church on Thursday, May 30. Father Russi, a native of Lafayette, died on Thursday, May 23.

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, was the celebrant with priests of the Diocese concelebrating and Reverend Don A. Piraro the homilist. Interment followed in New Bethany Cemetery at Saint Charles Center in Moss Bluff.

He is survived by the Caraways, his adopted family.

Father Russi was born January 19, 1941, in Lafayette, to Charles Frederick Russi and Susan Fisk Russi. He graduated from Cathedral High School and began his priestly studies at Immaculate Seminary in Lafayette, then Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and did post-graduate studies at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

He earned a B.A. in Philosophy in 1963 and his M.Div. in 1966, both from Notre Dame Seminary. Father Russi was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Bishop of Lafayette, on Dec. 17 1966

and celebrated his First Solemn Mass on Dec. 18, 1966, in Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Lafayette.

His initial pastoral assignment was at St. Landry Catholic Church in Opelousas as an Assistant Pastor and served as chaplain at the high school.

Father Russi served for three years as Assistant Pastor to St. Margaret Catholic Church in Lake Charles, followed by a stint at St. John the Evangelist in Jeanerette, Sacred Heart of Jesus in Broussard, and Immaculate Conception Church in Lake Charles.

In late 1974, he was named

Pastor to St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Oberlin, serving there for 12 years, before being assigned as Pastor of St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Raymond in 1986 and serving there until June, 1997. He was thence named pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Oakdale, ministering there until his retirement in June, 2004.

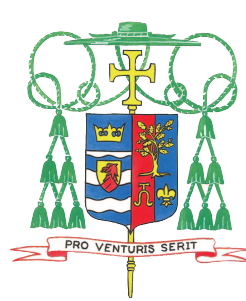
In 1980, upon the establishment of the Diocese of Lake Charles, Father Russi was incardinated as a priest of the diocese. He served as a member of the Clergy Personnel Board of the diocese on two separate occasions as well on the diocesan Vocation

Advisory Board.

“Padre,” as he was affectionately known by many, was a lover of all of God’s creation and greatly appreciated the outdoors. An avid hunter and fisherman, he dreamed of taking an African Safari to hunt big game and see unique wildlife. He enjoyed training dogs for hunting and field trials; Labrador retrievers and pointers were his favorite breeds. He also enjoyed the game of golf and belonged to several golfing groups over the years. He was a gifted poet, as well, although he seemed to keep that talent rather private.

*Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

June 28, 2019

Return to the Lord - Camp Karol Update June 2019

(Special to the Catholic Calendar)

MOSS BLUFF -- There is plenty of excitement about the progress being made at the Camp Karol construction site!

The Lodge, which is funded by the *Return to the Lord* Capital Campaign, now sits prominently in the center of the property with all exterior walls and the roof complete.

At the present time, painting of the exterior walls continues as well as placement of windows and doors. Work on the front entry porch and the cupola continue and is near completion.

In the next few weeks all of the exterior stone work will be put in place, basically bringing the outside work on the Lodge to a conclusion.

All electrical, plumbing, ventilation, heating and air-conditioning work is also near completion bringing the focus in the weeks to come on the detailed work of the interior of the Lodge.

Crews will be working on the beautiful lobby with the stone fireplace at its center, the large conference hall, the chapel, the kitchen and spacious dining hall and the director's office and staff conference room.

Father Whitney Miller and Deacon Brian Soileau have also begun a Phase II Campaign to address future construction projects for Camp Karol such as the Bungalows, the Bear Island obstacle course and a Board Walk to the island.

These efforts have raised funding to begin construction on the first set of six Bungalows and blueprints and plans have already been reviewed by the Diocesan Building Committee. It is quite possible that construction on the first set of Bungalows could begin in a few months with the approval of Bishop Glen John Provost.

To address Camp Karol's programming and operational needs three committees have been set up to begin planning and strategizing for the opening. These committees operate under the titles of Programs Committee, Finance Committee and the Training and Staff Development Committee.

In addition to the formation of these committees, volunteers are also being recruited to assist with the operational needs of Camp Karol. If anyone would like to be a volunteer at Camp Karol please contact Deacon Brian Soileau at 337-855-1232.

To address some of the Camp's spiritual needs the Camp Karol Music Ministry Team has also been formulated. This team will operate under a volunteer music director and will focus on Liturgical music for Masses, Praise and Worship music for youth events and a multitude of musical genres which will allow the beauty of music to flourish within all of Camp Karol's ministries.

Much is already being accomplished at Camp Karol and much is still to be done!

Saint John Paul II, pray for us!



Work continues on the site of construction of The Lodge at Camp Karol, located at the end of Bozo Road off Sam Houston Jones Parkway (La. 378), in Moss Bluff. The Youth Retreat Center has been under construction since the project's groundbreaking in October 2018. Photo 1 provides a view of the front entry along with the striking cupola. An expansive back porch, along the west side of the structure, is shown in photo 2. Extensive electrical power needs forced the clearing of a right-of-way along Bozo Road, seen in photo 3. Eight "bungalows" are planned for construction on property located to the north of The Lodge. Photo 4 shows clearing of the roadway to site for these accommodations, whose construction could begin soon.

Saint Charles Center summer schedule

MOSS BLUFF -- The summer program schedule for events at Saint Charles Center continues with Understanding America, the Republic for Which It Stands, One Nation Under God" presented by Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, July 9, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The deadline for registration is Friday, July 5, with a suggested donation of \$20 per person.

"Gift of Internal Faith in the Eternal" presented by Kevin Miller is Tuesday, July 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. The deadline for the \$20 suggested registration for this Evening of Reflection is Friday, July 12.

Instruction in the Byzantine-Russian Tradition of the Proskomen School of Iconography through Beginning/Intermediate Icon Writing

Workshop is Monday, July 22 to Sunday July 28. Instruction for beginners is \$1,199 while intermediate/advanced students fees total \$1,020.00. Commuter rates for the beginner is \$924 and intermediate/advanced students is \$744. For more information contact Sylvia Marcantel at 91 Chartres Street, Lake Charles, LA 70605, call (337) 304-2911, or email smarcantel@suddenlink.net.

Father Miller and Deacon Soileau will present "Let the Children Come to Me" (And Bring Your Parents Too) Family Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday, July 30 from 6 to 8 p.m., providing parents with a perfect opportunity to spend time in the Adoration Chapel and with the little ones along without concern for disturbing others in prayer. Dead-

line to register is Friday, July 26, with a suggested donation of \$25 per family.

The Impact of Technology on Our Spiritual Lives" is scheduled with Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, August 6 with a Friday, August 2 deadline for the suggested \$20 donation per person.

A Men's Discipleship, Eucharist, Evangelization and Prayer (D.E.E.P) Retreat for those who have attended an ACTS retreat will be led by Fr. Keith Pellerin, Fr. Miller, Deacon Soileau and ACTS team from Sunday August 11 to Tuesday August 13. The cost of the retreat is \$195. Registration forms are available on the Saint Charles Center website at stcharles-center.com or by contacting

Denis Husers at (337) 302-6711 or denishusers@gmail.com.

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Healing After Abortion will be led by Fr. Rommel Tolentino, Margie Long and the Diocesan Team from Friday, August 16 to Sunday, August 18. The cost is \$220.00 which includes meals, private room with private bath and all retreat materials. Financial assistance is available for those in need. For more information or registration contact: Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana at (337) 439-7400 ext. 317 or rachel.vineyard@lcediocese.org.

"I Will Sing of Your Love," an Evening with Deacon Soileau in concert is set for

Tuesday, August 20, from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be no fee to attend this event love offerings would be appreciated in support of the Bear Island project of Camp Karol. Register by Friday, August 16 by contacting the Center or visiting stcharlescenter.com.

Father Miller will present "The Art of Discernment: Knowing God's Will for My Life" from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27. Registration with payment of the suggested donation of \$20 per person should be completed by Friday, August 23.

Future dates for Private Directed Retreats include: Monday, June 24 - Sunday, June 30, 2019; Monday, Nov. 4 - Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019; Monday, March 16 - Sunday,

March 22, 2020; Monday, June 22 - Sunday, June 28, 2020; Monday, November 2 - Sunday, November 8, 2020; Monday, March 8 - Sunday, March 14, 2021; Monday, June 21 - Sunday, June 27, 2021; and Monday, November 8 - Sunday, November 14, 2021.

For more information on any of these programs contact Saint Charles Center at 337-855-1232 or at stcharles-center.com.

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

Diocesan Briefs.....

July 4 Holiday Hours

LAKE CHARLES --The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Thursday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day -- the 243rd anniversary of the publication of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain in 1776.

Regular office hours will be followed Monday through Wednesday, July 1-3, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday, July 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Centennial of founding of Sacred Heart of Jesus

LAKE CHARLES -- Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church continues to celebrate its centennial of establishment today, June 28, with the Parish Memorial Procession on the grounds of the Church and on the surrounding streets, memorializing the trek of early parishioners from Mill and Pine Streets to downtown Lake Charles so as to attend Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Following the procession, parishioners will spend an hour of thanksgiving at Sacred Heart Church before the Blessed Sacrament.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor's 100th anniversary

SULPHUR -- Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church's celebrations of 100. years of serving Catholics in the Sulphur area will include a procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the City Court House, the church's original location, at the corner of South Huntington and Logan Streets on Saturday, July 13, following the 5:00 p.m. mass.

Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Centennial Mass on Sunday August 4, at 11:00 a.m.

Quo Vadis Days Retreat July 30-August 1

MOSS BLUFF -- The annual Quo Vadis Days Vocation Camp, sponsored by the Office of Vocations, will begin Tuesday, July 30 and conclude on Thursday August 1, at Sam Houston Jones State Park, according to Father Jeffrey Starkovich, director of vocations and seminarians.

There is no cost to attend. The event is open to male freshman high school students to those age 25.

Fearing persecution from the Roman emperor, an ancient tradition says that St. Peter decided to flee for his life. After leaving the walls of Rome, he encountered Jesus carrying his

cross in the direction of the city. St. Peter asked Jesus, "Quo Vadis, Domine?" (Where are you going, Lord?) Jesus answered, "I am going to Rome to be crucified again." With that, St. Peter turned around and followed Jesus as he led him to Rome where he continued his apostolic ministry and faced his martyrdom with courage.

"St. Peter was open to following where Jesus led him," Father Starkovich said. "Come discover where the Lord is leading you in your life during the Quo Vadis Days Vocation Camp. You will learn about the priesthood and how to discern your vocation with priests, seminarians, and other young men like yourself gathered together in fellowship, recreation, prayer, and discussion to help you explore our Lord's call in your life."

For more information and to register call Father Starkovich at 337-725-3719.

"Beat the Heat" air conditioner program

LAKE CHARLES -- Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana and the Fourth Degree Knights of Peter Claver, Assembly 22, with the help of the City of Lake Charles are once again offering air conditioner units for elderly and disabled low-income individuals. Call 337-439-7436 on Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., if you are in need of an air conditioner unit.

Mission News

LAKE CHARLES -- The *Abrazando Cristo* Mission Program expresses its gratitude to the 578 ticket purchasers for the Big Cash Giveaway Fundraiser, according to Msgr. Daniel Torres

The drawing, held Sunday, June 16, had the first prize of \$5,000 going to ticket 0167 (PLM); second prize of \$1,000 to ticket 0537 (EAS); and the \$500 third prize to ticket 0401 (JLG).

Msgr. Torres also thanked the many golfers who turned out for the Johnnie Thibodeaux Memorial Golf Tournament held in May at Mallard Cove. The Tournament Committee was able to donate \$30,000 towards the work of the *Abrazando Cristo* Mission in Nicaragua and Puerto Rico.

"May God bless you for your prayerful and financial support this year," Msgr. Torres said. "Please pray for the 23 missionaries who will be traveling to Fajardo, Puerto Rico to help the people from the aftermath of Hurricane Maria some two years ago."

Mass on Radio Maria

ALEXANDRIA -- The celebration of the Mass can be heard at 8 a.m. Monday through Friday, 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday on Radio Maria (91.1 FM) and on www.radiomaria.us. The previously mentioned website will provide you the location as well as by calling 1-888-408-0201.

Pontifical Masses scheduled

LAKE CHARLES -- Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate a Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form on Thursday, August 1, Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest, at 5:30 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Bishop is also scheduled to be the celebrant on Sunday, December 29, Sunday in the Octave of Christmas, at 11:15 a.m.

Catholic schools open August 9 and 12

LAKE CHARLES -- The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles will begin the 2019-2020 school year with the return of students to classes on Friday, August 9, at Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings and on Monday, August 12, at the six schools located in Calcasieu Parish.

This is according to calendars for the 2019-2020 school term that were recently released by the Office of Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Schools in Calcasieu include 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.

Holidays during the school year - days the students are not in attendance - include Labor Day, Monday, September 2; Fair Day (Our Lady Immaculate) Friday, October 4; Veterans Day, (Calcasieu schools) Monday, November 11; Thanksgiving, Monday, November 25 to Friday, November 29; Christmas, Monday, December 23 to Friday, January 3; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday January 20; Mardi Gras, Friday February 21 through Tuesday, February 25; and Easter, Friday April 10 to Friday April 17.

In-service days for teachers and staff in Calcasieu schools include October 14 and March 16. Our Lady Immaculate will have service days on August 6-8, October 3, February 15, and February 26.