



## Charlene Johnson named as Distinguished Catholic of Year

LAKE CHARLES – Charlene Johnson was named the “Distinguished Catholic of the Year” by St. Peter Claver Court and Council #168 of St. Henry Catholic Church at the annual Sapphire and Ice Gala fundraiser.

Father Wayne LeBleu in his nomination of Johnson said, “It is with great pleasure that I nominate Ms. Charlene Johnson, as she demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to her Church parish as well as to the community.”

Johnson is a longtime Lake Charles resident and parishioner of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, he noted.

“She has always balanced family, work, church, and community involvement and is always willing to go the extra mile,” LeBleu said. “Her commitment to serving the people of IHM and her community makes her an excellent candidate for this award. In my opinion, the best she can, when she can, is all the time.”

According to the nomination letter, Johnson has exhibited service to Immaculate Heart of Mary by volunteering in the Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), helping with registration, setup, and any other events that take place during PREP; and making head pieces for our Communicants and helping to serve for any reception given for celebrating the Sacraments.

She is a member of the Christian Mothers where she assists as needed; the head usher at the parish’s 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday evenings; a member of the 3rd and 4th Degree Ladies of Peter Claver and working intently for the an-

nual church bazaar, the parish “movie night,” the monthly ‘meet and greet; cooking for the monthly priest gatherings at the parish; helping with receptions given for ordinations.

Her willingness to be helpful within the community at large is also laudable.

“Ms. Charlene serves our community as well through service to those who are in need,” according to Father LeBleu. “She is always ready and willing to assist the sick and elderly, taking them to their medical appointments or any other errands that they may need.

“In the spirit of St. Peter Claver, she will give her last to assist someone in need. Even though she fell down to a leakage at the back of her brain, by the grace of God, she recovered and regrouped and began the ministry of service once again, where she is always anxious and willing to serve. Although she is very active, she has never received any awards, which is not important to her, but for this reason I feel that she is an excellent candidate for this award.”

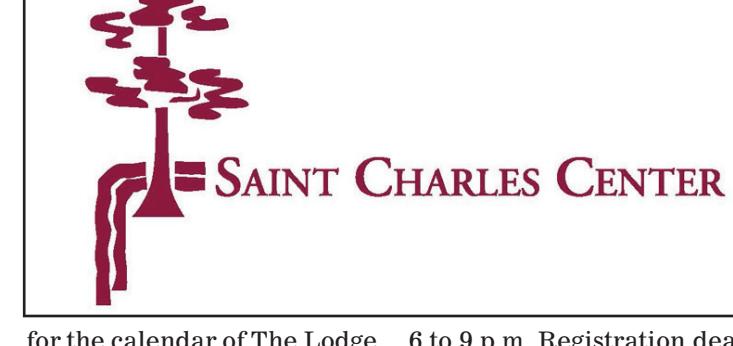
Proceeds from the event will be used to support college-level seminarians studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles and the St. Henry Catholic Church’s *Building Bridges* Capital Campaign.

Pastors of the church parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles were asked to nominate an individual for the award, with St. Henry serving as host for the gala.



Charlene Johnson, center, received the Distinguished Catholic of Year Award at the 2019 Sapphire and Ice Gala fundraiser. Pictured with Johnson are members of the clergy of the Diocese of Lake Charles, from left, Father Joby Matthew; Father Jeffrey Starkovich; Father Ruben Villarreal; Bishop Glen John Provost; Father Matthew Cormier, the pastor of St. Henry Catholic Church; and Father Timothy Goodly, the keynote speaker for the Gala. Johnson was nominated for the award by her pastor, Father Wayne LeBleu, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. St. Peter Claver Council and Court #168 of St. Henry Catholic Church sponsors the annual event.

## December events at Saint Charles Center



MOSS BLUFF – December events scheduled at Saint Charles Center include Fr. Whitney Miller and Deacon Brian Soileau presenting an Advent Family Eucharistic Adoration Evening of Reflection on Tuesday, December 3, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The evening includes an introduction and explanation of Eucharistic Adoration for the children followed by Adoration for the family as well as opportunity for Confession. There is also time in the evening for the children to participate in arts and crafts projects while the parents have quiet time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. In addition, any teens who attend join together for a group activity designed specifically for their age group. A sandwich, chip and cookie smorgasbord will remain available throughout the evening for family fellowship, sharing and visiting. Deadline to register is Friday, November 29, and the suggested donation is \$35.00 per family.

Registration for most events, unless otherwise noted, can be achieved by calling (337) 855-1232 or visiting stcharlescenter.com. Additional information on events is available at the website as well. In addition, advance reservations for events and activities are being accepted

for the calendar of The Lodge at Camp Karol. To make a reservation, call (337) 855-1232 to discuss details and arrangements. Please ask to speak with Michelle Monceaux or Deacon Soileau.

“KISS (Keep It Sane and Simple) Life” will be offered by Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, December 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. Deadline to register is Friday, December 6, with a suggested donation of \$20 per person. Life situations and people can be very difficult and stressful at times. Learn how to listen to His voice and know that He is God of your life. Learning simple tasks of keeping life sane and simple is what Jesus taught his disciples, the Early Church and our Church today.

The “Advent Evening of Reflection: Art as a Path to a Holy Encounter” will be presented by Doug Smith, Alex Torres, and Keith Faul on Tuesday, December 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. Registration deadline, with a suggested donation of \$20, is Friday, December 13.

In 2015, these three companions of faith presented an

Evening of Reflection on the spiritual themes of believing, beholding and becoming as revealed through inspired artwork, then in 2017, during the Season of Advent the

three reflected upon the art-

work of Mary as she Kissed

the Infant Jesus, Kissing the

Face of God. Now they will

consider selected pieces of

art as a path to holy encounter during the Advent Season.

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, re-discovering life’s meaning in quiet reflection.



Bishop Glen John Provost received a check in the amount of \$1,625.00 from Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus Diocesan Coordinator and District Marshall Sir Knight I. J. Tarou of Sulphur. The contribution comes from the 2019 donations made by Knights of Fourth Degree Assemblies domiciled in the Diocese of Lake Charles – Monsignor Hubert Cramers Assembly #320 of Lake Charles, Father Eugene Veillard Assembly #2087 of Sulphur, Monsignor Joseph Peeters Assembly #332 of Jennings, and Father James Shahrigian Assembly #2182 of DeRidder – to aid in the continuing excellence in religious education program of the Diocese. Pictured above, from left, are Sir Knight Darryl Fontenot of Father Shahrigian; Sir Knight Tarou of Father Veillard; Bishop Provost; Sir Knight Robert Dale Istre of Monsignor Peeters; and Sir Knight J.W. “Bill” Marcantel of Monsignor Cramers.



**The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

Regular office hours – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – will be observed on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 25, 26, and 27, and offices reopen on

Monday, December 2, at 8:30 a.m.



Rev. Robert Boxie III

# Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost  
Bishop of Lake Charles

November 15, 2019

## Diocesan seminary burses now over \$2.2 million

**LAKE CHARLES** – The 102 seminary burses that have been established over the years since the Diocese of Lake Charles was created to aid in the payment of educational expenses of the men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese now total more than \$2.2 million.

Payments received for burses over the past several months include gifts from the Serra Club of Lake Charles and payments for a memorial burse in the name of Father James Doyle and a burse honoring Father Whitney Miller, Ph.D., L.P.C. These contributions increased the total amount invested to \$2,204,769.72, as of November 4.

A seminary burse is a permanent fund set aside to provide income for the education and training of future priests. The principal amount of the fund is never spent but invested, with the interest used each year for education expenses of those men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Since the principal is never touched, this fund is truly a "gift that will give forever."

Donations made to any seminary burse will continue to support the education of seminarians in perpetuity. Seminary burses can be established in honor or memory of a loved one, in the name of especially well-loved priests (there are a number of these types of burses already established) or an organization with any amount of money.

Contributions may be added to current burses at any time. Checks made payable to The Diocese of Lake Charles should be sent to Rev. Msgr. Daniel Torres, V.G., Diocese of Lake Charles, PO. Box 3223, Lake Charles, LA 70602-3223 along with a description of the donor's wishes for the naming of the burse. Please also note in the memo portion of your check that the gift is for a seminary burse. The list of burses can be seen below.

If you would like further information on seminary burses, please call Monsignor Torres at 337-439-7400, Ext. 220 or e-mail him at daniel.torres@lcdioocese.org.

### Diocese of Lake Charles Seminary Burses (102 as of November 4, 2019)

Mgr. Louis Boudreax	\$ 6,982.50
Bishop Jeanmarie	\$ 9,276.69
Latrielle Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00

Charles Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00	Blessed Pope John Paul II	\$ 1,500.00
Gelu Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00	Edgar & Penny Perkins	\$ 25,000.00
Henry Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00	Angela & Frank Miller	\$ 10,000.00
Msgr. William J. Teurlings	\$ 3,092.23	Vocations for the Diocese of Lake Charles	\$ 42,173.35
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Houssiere	\$ 15,000.00	Rev. T.L. Herlong/Sr. Pius Blanchard, MHS	\$ 24,343.35
Israel Hebert Family	\$ 15,000.00	John & Dinah Bradford	\$ 2,500.00
Fr. Moise Hebert	\$ 2,231.66	Dr. W. Gerry & Susan Hebert Family	\$ 15,000.00
Pro Ecclesia	\$ 5,203.55	Ola Mae & F.M. Thornton	\$ 100,000.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 3,092.23	Kenneth & Marjorie Long	\$ 5,000.00
Saint Joseph	\$ 1,217.93	Mr. & Mrs. Earl B. Evans	\$ 23,500.00
Lake Charles Seminary	\$ 15,000.00	Rev. James A. Doyle	\$ 52,163.14
Cure d' Ars	\$ 3,092.23	Ray & Dorothy Conner	\$ 41,275.00
Mr. & Mrs. C. Delahoussaye	\$ 15,000.00	Todd & Missy Theriot Family	\$ 6,000.00
Msgr. Lerschen	\$ 1,203.35	Rev. Msgr. Joseph A. Bourque	\$ 57,340.74
Saint Theresa	\$ 5,356.71	Most Holy Trinity	\$ 3,000.00
Catholic Daughters of the Americas	\$ 1,666.46	Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Louviere	\$ 2,500.00
Msgr. Louis Boudreux	\$ 15,000.00	Kevin P. Gayle	\$ 10,000.00
Herrington Family	\$ 15,000.00	Mr. & Mrs. Garrett J. Caraway, Sr.	\$ 30,000.00
Horvath Family	\$ 12,500.00	Maurice & Patricia Serice	\$ 3,500.00
Harry Van Tiel Family	\$ 1,031.96	Frank & Frances Terranova	\$ 5,500.00
Habets-Oustalet-Mitchell Families	\$ 5,000.00	Richard & Worth Miller	\$ 15,000.00
Msgr. A. Van Buijtenen	\$ 7,862.00	Nancy A. Hayes	\$ 5,000.00
Msgr. Jules Daigle	\$ 15,000.00	Serra Club of Lake Charles	\$ 8,406.08
Mr. & Mrs. Galip Jacobs/Sam Josep	\$ 600.00	Jacob Louis Dietz	\$ 1,000.00
Msgr. Charles Leveseuer	\$ 70,000.00	Rev. Whitney Miller, Ph.D., L.P.C.	\$ 9,025.00
Plauche Family	\$ 4,000.00	Dale & Jennie Reichley	\$ 15,000.00
Rev. Oscar S Vasquez-Munoz	\$ 1,429.00	Benedict XVI	\$ 3,500.00
Msgr. Bede Beenel	\$ 23,652.68	Earl & Alverdy Veron	\$ 1,000.00
Jeffery Savant	\$ 2,435.00	Glen & Tirana Bertrand	\$ 15,000.00
Rev. Robert Lee Shreve	\$ 25,973.33	Rev. James C. Miles	\$ 25,676.25
Bishop Jude Speyrer	\$ 73,725.73	Hal, Gladys, Dotsy, & Francis Edwards	\$ 4,000.00
Our Lady of the Snows/CDA Court	\$ 22,400.00	Leroy & Ellen Martin	\$ 10,000.00
Msgr. Curtis Vidrine	\$ 28,689.60	Ray & Margaret Bertrand	\$ 3,000.00
Msgr. Murphy Bernard	\$ 27,476.90	Lester & Rubylee Roby Perez	\$ 2,525.00
Rev. Alphonse M. Volpe	\$ 25,122.62	The Vincent Family	\$ 1,000.00
East Deanery Serra Club	\$ 2,550.00	Dr. Harold G. Juanita M. Edwards & Fly	\$ 5,000.00
Msgr. Charles Dubois	\$ 9,926.70	Chuck & Jennifer Bellon	\$ 1,000.00
Msgr. Amos J. Vincent	\$ 34,723.21	Jerome J. Scalisi, Jr. Family	\$ 10,000.00
Rev. Oris A. Broussard	\$ 27,810.66	Jim & Andrea Blanchard	\$ 15,000.00
Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc	\$ 160,127.43	Catholic Extension/Endowment Match	\$ 50,000.00
Rev. John Giles	\$ 25,132.21	Rev. Archimandrite Herbert J. May, Jr.	\$ 29,235.70
Rev. Maurice Martineau	\$ 27,087.40	Karen & Ken Chamberlain	\$ 5,000.00
Truman Stacey	\$ 10,382.09	Father Sam (Trey) A. Ange III	\$ 2,285.00
Lorraine Yelverton	\$ 8,415.00	Robichaux, Wadsack & Watson	\$ 250,000.00
The Ordinario Family	\$ 50,000.00	Reverend Charles McMillin "Fr. Mac"	\$ 600.00
Walter Henry/Agnes Stevenson Granger	\$ 40,000.00	Reverend Monsignor Vincent Sedita	\$ 1,000.00
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cassidy	\$ 2,150.00	Reverend Monsignor Louis J. Melancon	\$ 43,017.91
Mitchell Duhon	\$ 252,984.14	Total	\$ 2,204,769.72
Joe & Janet Stoma	\$ 9,550.00		
Marion Bond Courregé	\$ 1,000.00		
Bill Moriarity	\$ 50.00		
Dr. & Mrs. David Buttross, Jr.	\$ 12,000.00		

## Venerable Augustus Tolton Fundraiser Breakfast



**Venerable August Tolton**

LAKE CHARLES -- Tolton Ambassadors – Louisiana present the Venerable Augustus Tolton Prayer Breakfast in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church's Founders Hall on Saturday, December 7, 2019, beginning with an 8 a.m. Mass in the church followed at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast and program.

The premiere of a new film on the life of Father Tolton will be held and local clergy, religious women, and seminarians will be honored. A donation of \$20 is requested with proceeds to benefit the Father August Tolton Cause for Canonization Fund.

For more information, call 337-377-9993 or email to tolton@outlook.com.

During a convocation held July 26-28, His Excellency, the Most Reverend Bishop Joseph N. Perry, Auxiliary Bishop and Postulator of the Cause for the Canonization of Venerable Augustus Tolton (1854-1897), hosted 26 lay faithful men and women from around the country and named and commissioned ambassadors representing the Diocese of Lake Charles

Altha Jordan-Green and Alberto Maxwell, IV. Jordan-Green was also recognized with the distinguished Tolton Stewardship Award for her tireless efforts in establishing the local corps of Ambassadors and coordinating a successful day of reflection in March 2019 in Lake Charles.

Representatives from Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Chicago were also appointed and commissioned as Ambassadors during the convocation.

Maxwell and Kim Procter of Detroit were elected as the first Tolton Ambassador Gen-

erals of the Tolton Ambassador Corps since its founding in February 2015. The Reverend Canon A. Gerard Jordan, O. Praem, also a native of Lake Charles and member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, was moderator of the convocation's proceedings and has been the chief Special Assistant to Bishop in furthering the Cause of Venerable Augustus Tolton for many years. Ambassadors present were tasked with developing strategic plans to aid in furthering the Cause for the first recognizably African American priest in the United States.

Now that the Cause has been instructed in compliance with the Vatican norms and the dossier sent to Rome for consideration as of September 2014, we have attached to the effort women and men locally and around the country excited about the Cause whose volunteer service entails maintaining a momentum of activity surrounding the Cause for beatification and canonization of Father Tolton. The Tolton Ambassadors are commis-

- Teach the faithful about the significance of the Tolton Cause.
- Make the Father Tolton story, in cooperation with pastors and religious education leadership, a part of instruction of adults, children and youth.
- Promote the absolute necessity of prayer for the success of the Cause.
- With permission of local pastors, to encourage support of the Cause among the faithful prayerfully and financially through individual group efforts having searched out appropriate events by way of meetings, study days of reflection and other types of gatherings.

Tolton Ambassadors are identified locally and approved by the Diocesan Postulator of the Tolton Cause. The long-term objectives of the Tolton Ambassadors Program can be summarized as: To promote the prayer for canonization in a manner that effects the continuation of possible miracles attributed to the intercession of Father Tolton.

## 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**

## Diocesan Briefs....

### November 40 Hours Devotion

LAKE CHARLES – Forty Hours Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood in the Diocese of Lake Charles, continues in the South Deanery during the remainder of November.

Adoration at Christ the King Catholic Church in Lake Charles will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, November 19-21, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day and on Friday, November 22, from noon to 5 p.m. The final locations will be St. Eugene Catholic Church in Grand Chenier and Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Creole on November 25-29.

For times and specific days for Adoration at St. Eugene and Sacred Heart, call 337-358-2245 or 337-542-4795.

### Latin Mass Conference December 6-8

LAKE CHARLES — *Gratia et Veritas*, the Third Annual Louisiana Traditional Latin Mass Conference & Festival will take place from Friday, December 6, through Sunday, December 8, at three churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

On Friday, celebration of the Holy Mass will take place at 6 p.m. in St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church, located in Carlyss. Following the liturgy, at 7 p.m., there will be an Introductory Reception.

On Saturday, Holy Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur followed by a meal at 12:05 p.m. and the start of the Conference at 1 p.m. There will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:05 p.m.

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will be the site of the conclusion of the weekend with Holy Mass celebrated at 5 p.m. followed at 6:30 p.m. with a Marian Procession through the streets of downtown Lake Charles. A reception will take place in the Cathedral's Ave Maria Hall at 7:15 p.m.

Speakers and their topics include Fr. Taj Glodda, Pastor of St. Joseph's, Plaisance, and St. Anne's, Frilot Cove, *Rediscovering the Meaning of the Liturgy*; Mike Church, Host of The Mike

Church Show, Advent: *The Genius of the Catholic Liturgical Calendar*; Msgr. Arthur Calkins, S.T.D., *The Roman Canon*; Thomas Drake, President of Louisiana Tradition, Family, and Property, *The Need for a Genuine Catholic Counterrevolution*.

For more information, contact Richard Broussard, President, McNeese State University Students for Life, at broussard.richard.rb@gmail.com or the offices of any of the three churches.

### CHRISTUS Hospice seeking volunteers

LAKE CHARLES – CHRISTUS Hospice, a Catholic faith-based organization, is seeking volunteers to aid in a variety of areas, according to Kelly Ieyoub, volunteer coordinator.

"Volunteers are needed to assist with patient companionship, caregiver respite, spiritual support and so much more," she said. "You can make a difference. Listen to cherished memories, pat a shoulder, give a hug, touch a heart, change a life ... maybe your own."

Those interested in volunteering should e-mail kelly.iejoub@lhcggroup.com or call 337-395-5650.

### January Holy Spirit Women's Retreat

LAFAYETTE – Johnnette Benkovic Williams, Fr. Mark Goring, Deacon Larry and Andi Oney, and Patti Mansfield will be featured at the annual Holy Spirit Women's Retreat January 24-26, 2020, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Lafayette.

The prophetic theme is "2020: Without a Vision the People Perish." The liturgies, music, prayer, teaching and fellowship will bring encouragement to all those who love the Lord and the Church.

Williams is Founder and President of Women of Grace which sponsors conferences, media, study groups and more. She is featured on EWTN on both radio and television and is a prolific writer. Her new book is *The Rosary: Your Weapon in Spiritual Warfare*.

Goring is a dynamic and inspiring preacher who is fearless.

He is a member of the Companions of the Cross, and the past Director of the Catholic Charismatic Center in Houston and has a daily YouTube broadcast of gospel preaching. They will be joined by Deacon Larry