



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Church began under patronage of St. Francis de Sales

By Pamela Seal
Diocese of Lake Charles

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Lake Charles has been a symbol of resilience and faith over the past 150 years, rising above the destruction of hurricanes and ashes early on.

From its humble beginnings as the Parish of St. Francis de Sales in 1869 to a majestic Cathedral now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Immaculate Conception has always been the center of liturgical life. It serves as a reminder of the pioneering spirit and determination of the early missionaries who helped establish the first Catholic church in Lake Charles.

Reflecting on the sesquicentennial anniversary of Immaculate Conception Church Parish, which is Dec. 8, the Rev. Rommel Tolentino, pastor of the Cathedral, expressed gratitude to those early church fathers for their sacrifice and dedication to provide spiritual nourishment to the people in this area.

"The missionaries and priests deserve a great deal of thanks for being faithful to their vocation," Father Tolentino said. "Christ commanded the apostles and their successors — which are the bishops and their collaborators, the priests — to spread the Gospel and to preach to all corners of the world. They took that mandate seriously even through difficult situations, crossing bayous and marshes, using boats and horseback to bring the Gospel and Sacraments here to the people of Lake Charles."

The sesquicentennial year-long celebration initially kicked off on Dec. 8, 2018, with the theme, "Celebrating Our Past With Joy Today and With Hope For the Future."



Coinciding with the anniversary year was the extensive restoration of the Cathedral. The glorious interior was revealed on June 29 during the historic ordination of one priest and four transitional deacons.

"It is such a blessing that our own generation has been able to contribute to our history through the capital campaign for the restoration of the Cathedral," said Tolentino. "Not every generation had that opportunity. The examples of our ancestors are truly inspiring for us to do our own part in contributing to the growth and development of this parish. Hopefully our efforts will inspire the generations that are coming after us."

The Cathedral has played a significant part in the lives of thousands over the years, whether for baptisms, weddings, ordinations, funerals, or daily and weekend Masses. Being the "mother church" of Southwest Louisiana, from which all other Catholic churches were born, adds a great weight to the Cathedral, Tolentino noted.

"When you think about all the prayers that have been said in this church, all the Sacraments that have been celebrated, the holiness of this place

draws people to this parish."

Father Tolentino compared the Cathedral's traditional architecture to the stability of Christ.

"This church was built to last for many years. The sacred art inside these walls connects us to the Scriptures and the truth of the Catholic faith. It is very tangible, something you can see with your own eyes."

Today, the Cathedral ministers to 845 registered families (2,117 individuals) and is considered to be one of the most outstanding examples of Lombardy Romanesque architecture in the United States.

History of the parish

While Immaculate Conception was established as the first Catholic church parish in Lake Charles on Dec. 8, 1869, recorded missionary activity began in the Imperial Calcasieu area as early as the 1850's as priests from Texas and later Opelousas and Abbeville came to minister to the people.

Instrumental in this role were two missionaries from France, the Rev. P. F. Parisot and the Rev. Andre Borias, who traveled the ocean for 52 days to answer the plea of the Most Rev. Jean-Marie Odin, Bishop of the Diocese of Galveston. Their missionary work in eastern Texas included the western part of Louisiana in which Calcasieu Parish and Lake Charles were also serviced.

The registers of the Galveston Diocese show 129 baptisms were recorded in Calcasieu Parish during those early years. The growth of the Catholic Church soon led to regular visits by clergy from Opelousas.

When priests made visits to Lake Charles, Mass was celebrated in the courthouse. But as the number of Catholics continued to grow, it became obvious that a church building was needed.

In 1857, through the efforts of Father Francois Raymond from Opelousas, a lot on the corner of Ryan and Kirby streets, measuring 200 feet by 200 feet was purchased for \$375, and a chapel was built. The church, constructed for \$900, was dedicated to St. Francis de Sales on Sept. 26, 1858, thus making Lake Charles a mission of St. Landry Parish in Opelousas.

In 1866, after the Civil War, the parishes of the western part of the state were realigned and Lake Charles became a mission of St. Mary Magdalen Parish in Abbeville. The Rev. Theodore Lamy, pastor in Abbeville, visited Lake Charles at least three times in 1867 and 1868.

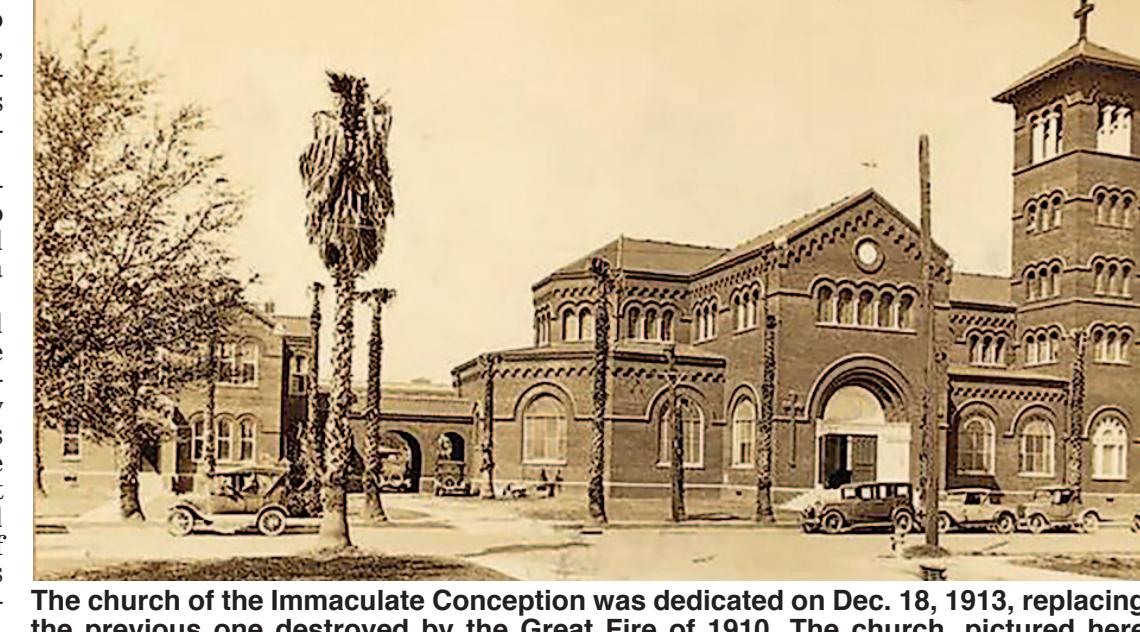
In 1869, however, missionary status came to an end when The Most Reverend Jean-Marie Odin, who had since become Archbishop of New Orleans, established the Parish of St. Francis de Sales with the appointment of a pastor, the Rev. Francois Magniny, and his assistant, the Rev. Etienne Badoil. The region — recognized today as the Diocese of Lake Charles — encompassed the present civil parishes of Allen, Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Cameron and Calcasieu.

A few months after the Rev. Michael Kelly arrived in Lake Charles in May of 1879, a hurricane spread destruction throughout the area on Aug. 22, badly damaging both the church and the rectory. While the rectory was refurbished, a new church was built and dedicated under the name Immaculate Conception

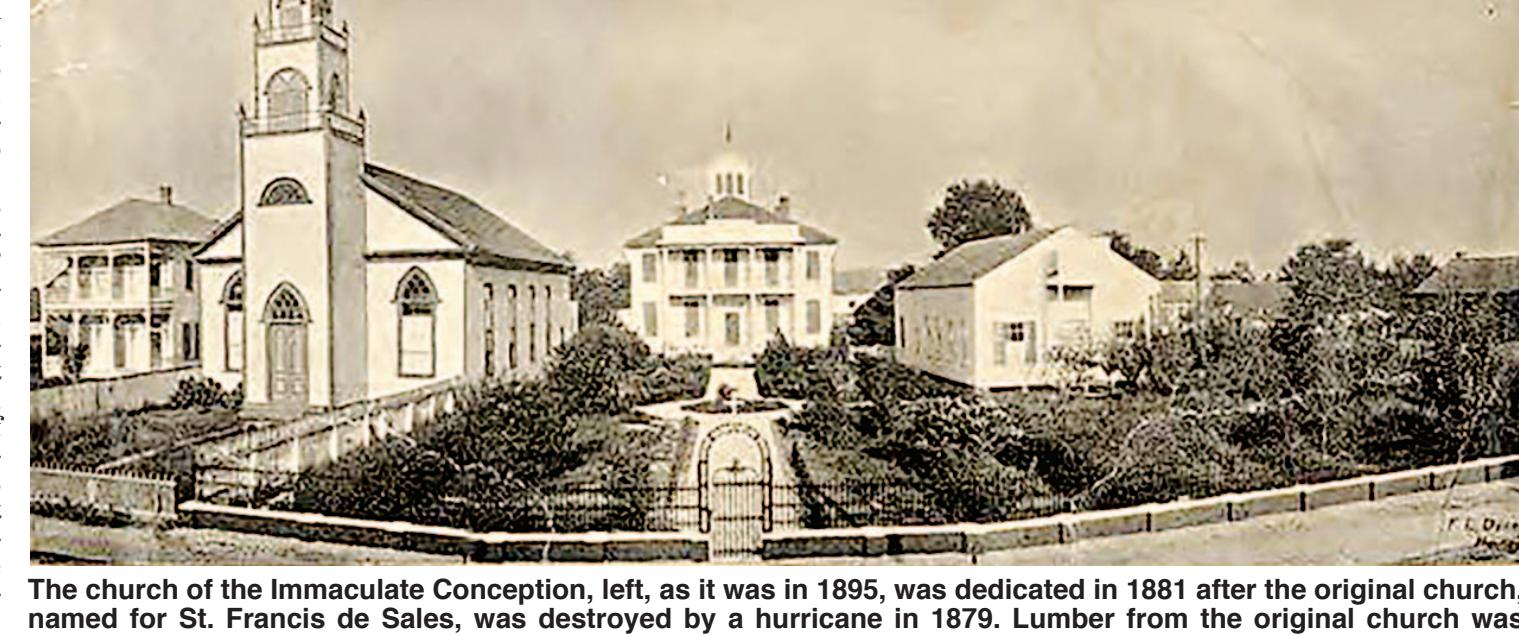
by the Most Rev. Francis X. Leray, Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans, on Oct. 2, 1881. It faced the courthouse on Ryan Street, as did the old church and rectory.

Father Kelly used lumber from the old church to build a boys' school, and added a girls' school and a convent.

Destruction would strike again when The Great Fire of 1910 leveled more than seven city blocks of Lake Charles claiming not only the church, rectory, convent and both the boys' and girls' schools, but most of the parish church records as well. Only a few baptismal records survived. Because of its devastating effects, the Great Fire proved to be a turning



The church of the Immaculate Conception was dedicated on Dec. 18, 1913, replacing the previous one destroyed by the Great Fire of 1910. The church, pictured here in 1930, would later become the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception when the Diocese of Lake Charles was created on April 25, 1980. This is the third church structure in the 150 year-history of Immaculate Conception Parish.



The church of the Immaculate Conception, left, as it was in 1895, was dedicated in 1881 after the original church, named for St. Francis de Sales, was destroyed by a hurricane in 1879. Lumber from the original church was used to construct a boys' school, right. The Convent of the Sisters Marianites of Holy Cross can be seen in the background.

point in the history of Immaculate Conception parish.

Plans for a new church, seating between 800 and 900, were approved in 1912. Building got underway immediately on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo streets, and the church and was dedicated on Dec. 18, 1913, by Archbishop James Blenk of New Orleans. On Dec. 8, 1927, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the church was solemnly consecrated. This is the church that stands today.

It was under the leadership of the Rev. Hubert Cramers, a 27-year-old Dutch priest, assigned to the parish in 1902, that Immaculate Conception would flourish. Under his pastoral care at that time were about 4,000 Catholics and two schools enrolling 110 girls and 78 boys. In 1929 Pope Benedict XV made Father Cramers a Domestic Prelate with the title of "Monsignor." He would spend the remainder of his life as pastor before his health declined. He died on Aug. 10, 1935, and his body is interred in a special vault just outside the sanctuary in the main aisle of the Cathedral.

In September 1935, Monsignor J.A. Vigliero was appointed as successor to Monsignor Cramers. During his five-year term as pastor, stained glass windows were installed in the church as well as a bell in the high tower.

Succeeding Vigliero was another beloved pastor, Monsignor Louis H. Boudreux, who served from 1940-1974. He was the first native-born priest to serve the parish as pastor. It was during his administration that Immaculate Conception became the first Catholic church in Louisiana to be air conditioned. Monsignor Boudreux died on Dec. 3, 1974, just hours after his retirement had taken place.

Many more pastors would follow as well as the establishment of more church parishes through

out Southwest Louisiana. Eventually, the Diocese of Lake Charles was formed on Jan. 29, 1980, and The Church of the Immaculate Conception became the Cathedral of the Diocese.

Generations of parishioners in addition to priests have served as a symbol of fortitude and willingness to endure hardships for the sake of Christ.

"While the priests played an important part in the growth and development of the parish, the lay people did as well," Tolentino emphasized. "Without them, there would not be a church. They had that pioneering spirit in rebuilding after the Great Fire of 1910, and even the hurricane in 1881. Through the fundraising efforts they had to do for the bell, the altar, to pay for the first church and the new church, ... they sacrificed a lot."

The establishment of the first Catholic church in Lake Charles would also bear fruit to serve the community's medical and educational needs.

It was through the efforts of Monsignor Cramers and Dr. John Greene Martin that the first hospital in Lake Charles, now known as Christus Ochsner St. Patrick Hospital, was dedicated in 1908 as St. Patrick Sanitarium.

Under the leadership of Monsignor Boudreux, Immaculate Conception Catholic School was the first parochial grade school in the area for both girls and boys, opening its doors on Feb. 19, 1950.

Sesquicentennial celebrations

To culminate a year of sesquicentennial celebrations, the Cathedral has planned several special Masses to mark this milestone in its history:

- 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Extraordinary Form Mass, followed by a Marian Procession.

• 8:30 a.m., Monday, Dec. 9: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School Mass at the Cathedral, followed by Marian Procession to ICCS.

• 6 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 12, Sesquicentennial Anniversary Mass, followed by a reception in Ave Maria Hall.

• 11:15 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 29, Sesquicentennial Anniversary Closing, Solemn Pontifical Mass, followed by a reception in Ave Maria Hall.

The Most Rev. Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will be the main celebrant for both the anniversary Mass and closing Mass. Invited guests for the anniversary Mass include former pastors and parochial vicars of Immaculate Conception, as well as priests and deacons of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

• A proclamation from Mayor Nic Hunter will be read at all the Masses during the weekend of Dec. 7-8.

Celebrations have also included:

- Presentations on St. Francis de Sales by Cathedral historian Roland Bodin.

- Immaculate Conception Cathedral School Family Mass and reception.

- An anniversary concert entitled "Our Musical Heritage" under direction of Bob Marcantel, director of music.

- Parish Family Picnic

held at Drew Park. Special honor was given to parishioners 90 years and older: Lois Baham, Gerard Becnel, Roland Bodin, Robert Boudreux, Ruthie Broussard, John Gaspard, David Hebert, Marie Hebert, Betty Henry, Theresa Hood, William Langley, Sybil McMurray, Hazel Mistretta, Louis Robert, Ruth Otteweller, Lena Roush, Olivia Scalisi, Sherman Solari, Joe Stoma, Lorena Stutes, Ione Vincent and Romona Wall.

• Sesquicentennial Gala at the Historic Calcasieu Marine National Bank.

Sesquicentennial committee members are Barbara Wyman, Roland Bodin, Sue Burke, Bob Marcantel, Andrea Prejean, Monica Broussard, Richard Moreno, Amanda Martin, Charles Marcantel, Janet Stoma, Barbara Dubose, Kay Morgan, Marty Derouen, Andrew Steiner and Pamela Seal.

Father Tolentino conveyed his appreciation to the group, "We have been meeting monthly for over a year. Without their help, we could not have planned all the events with success."

Editor's note: Sources for history of Immaculate Conception Parish include "The Vine and the Branches: A History of the Catholic Church in Lake Charles" by Lloyd G. Barras; "The Visible Church" by the Diocese of Lake Charles; and the 2015 church directory for the Cathedral.

The next publication of the Catholic Calendar will be Friday, Dec. 20.

Regular office hours for the Diocese, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., are in effect through Friday, December 20. Offices are closed for Christmas from Monday, December 23, through Wednesday, January 1, reopening on Thursday, January 2, at 8:30 a.m.



Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

December 6, 2019

Institute of Christ the King bringing oratory to Diocese

By Pamela Seal
Diocese of Lake Charles

St. Francis de Sales lived his life doing seemingly ordinary things in extraordinary ways. This was the means of his sainthood.

In this very same spirit, the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest will establish St. Francis de Sales Oratory in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

At the invitation of The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, the Institute will establish the oratory in Sulphur, breathing new life into a building that has its roots in Catholicism.

The former site of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church, which was repurposed in 1985 as the Sulphur Judicial Center, will soon be home for the Traditional Latin Mass celebrated by priests of the Institute. Dedicated to offering the Extraordinary Form of the Holy Mass, the Institute offers the opportunity for faithful Catholics to also receive the full range of sacraments in this same Form.

"This is very exciting for us," said the Rev. Canon Matthew Talarico, provincial superior of the U.S. Province of the Institute in Chicago, "as this will be the first apostolate in the South."

The Institute has 120 priests worldwide, with another dozen expected to be ordained in the summer of 2020. Currently, they are active in 12 countries and 17 dioceses across the United States. The Diocese of Lake Charles will be the first in Louisiana since their establishment in the U.S. in 1996.

Familiar with the charism of the Institute, "Bishop Provost found it to be a great compliment to the spiritual landscape of the diocese," said Canon Talarico. "I know he appreciates St. Francis de Sales and the Salesian spirituality."

This won't be the first time, however, for Southwest Louisiana to have a church named in honor of the saint widely known for his book, "Introduction to the Devout Life." Before Immaculate Conception became a parish, its origin was as a mission from 1858 under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales.

Canon Talarico explained, "Bishop Provost wanted to

revive a name that existed for the first Catholic church in Lake Charles. Naming the oratory after St. Francis de Sales goes along very well with our patron saint of the Institute and our spirituality."

As the Catholic community grew in those early 20th century years, it was during the administration of Monsignor Hubert Cramers, pastor of Immaculate Conception, that the first Catholic church in Sulphur was built in 1907.

It served as a mission chapel of Immaculate Conception. Monsignor Cramers laid the first foundation stone, and for more than 10 years, the all-wood structure would be the center of Catholic life in Sulphur on the corner of Huntington and Logan (Cypress) streets.

The Most Rev. Jules B. Jeanmarie, first Bishop of Lafayette, elevated the church from its mission status and established the parish of Our Lady of Prompt Succor on June 29, 1919. The Rev. Joseph LeBerre was appointed the first pastor.

The LaSalette Missionaries were entrusted with the parish a few years later in 1921. A second structure was built in 1922 and blessed by Bishop Jeanmarie in October of 1924. It is that building which stands today as the Sulphur Judicial Center on the site of the first church.

Emphasizing the historical significance, the provincial superior said, "Canonically,

it is a way to put this building back into use again for the good of the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles. This is an innovative way to give a future to what was once home to Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church and fill a spiritual need so people can experience another type of spirituality that will be well received."

The closing date on the sale of the property is planned for mid-January after which time repairs and renovations will begin to transform the Sulphur courthouse back to a church.

"A solution for the building and the spiritual needs of the people can come together," said Canon Talarico. "When we come to a diocese, the bishop will give us the canonical status of an oratory. We are not a parish but an oratory, like a supplement to one's spiritual life. That's what Bishop Provost has in mind for our apostolate in Sulphur."

Established canonically in 1990 by Monsignor Gilles Wach and Canon Philippe Mora in Gabon, Africa, the Institute's stated mission is "the honor of God and the sanctification of priests in the service of Church and souls."

The idea for establishing the Institute of Christ the King was born from an interest by more and more young men who wanted a traditional Catholic formation to the priesthood. Since its foundation, it has been inspired from



Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur was originally located on the corner of Huntington and Logan (Cypress) streets. Serving as a courthouse for the city of Sulphur since 1985, the building will be renovated and transformed back to a church early next year for the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest. The new name will be St. Francis de Sales Oratory.

the writings and examples of a trinity of patron saints — St. Benedict, St. Thomas Aquinas, and especially St. Francis de Sales.

Canon Talarico said the priests are trained in spiritual direction that models St. Francis de Sales who wrote a lot about spiritual direction. "Priests of the Institute are always trying to bring people full circle to the altar through instruction, spiritual direction, planting seeds of faith, and teaching them how they can be holy and happy Catholics in their homes and families," he continued.

The Institute puts great emphasis on charity toward God and neighbor "... ultimately there's peace and joy

that comes from charity that nothing else in this world can give," Canon Talarico said.

The provincial superior noted that priests ordained to the Institute of Christ the King are referred to as Canon to signify a particular lifestyle.

"Our priestly life is halfway between that of diocesan priests and that of religious clergy like monks. We have community prayer like religious, but then we also have the apostolic pastoral duties similar to that of parish priests," said Canon Talarico. To assist priests in their apostolic work, the Institute also has clerical oblates in addition to a community of religious sisters called the

Sisters Adorers of the Royal Heart of Jesus.

The Institute is based nationally in Chicago and internationally in Gricigliano in Tuscany, Italy, the Archdiocese of Florence. Priests receive their seven-year formation at St. Philip Neri Seminary, located about 170 miles from the Vatican. The main center for the one-year pre-seminary program for U.S. candidates operates from the St. Francis de Sales Oratory in St. Louis, Mo., while some young men receive training at other apostolates throughout the United States.

For more information on Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, visit www.institute-christ-king.org.



A High Mass is celebrated prior to the Second Vatican Council (1960s) in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Sulphur. Today, the building houses the Sulphur Judicial Center, but will be repurposed and used as an oratory for the Traditional Latin Mass celebrated by priests of Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest.

Saint Charles Center events

MOSS BLUFF – December events remaining on the Saint Charles Center schedule include a program offered by Sr. Diane Depew - "KISS (Keep It Sane and Simple) Life" - 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. The program allows learning of simple tasks for keeping life sane and simple is what Jesus taught his disciples, the Early Church and our Church today. 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.

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 artwork 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.

Registration for these events can be achieved by calling 337-855-1232 or visiting stcharlescenter.com. In addition, advance reservations for events and activities are being accepted for the calendar of The Lodge at Camp Karol by calling 337-855-1232 to discuss details and arrangements with Michelle Monceaux or Deacon Brian Soileau.

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.....

"10's for Turkeys" continues

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana presents its "10's for Turkeys," a fundraising program seeking to put a turkey on the table of low income families in need this holiday season.

Though \$10 will purchase a turkey – a total of 750 are being sought – contributions of any amount are most welcome as are direct donations of one or more frozen turkeys. The goal of \$11,000 will purchase turkeys for the 650 Catholic Charities' monthly food bank clients and the extra food baskets, some 250, that are given away. The hope is to provide each family with a turkey, so they can share a nice holiday meal with loved ones.

History of Lacassine, surrounding communities

LACASSINE – A book on the history of Lacassine will cover early settlers in Lacassine but also the surrounding communities and is now available for purchase.

Cost of the hard cover book is about \$35.00 and all funds raised will go toward the building fund for a new church hall. For more information and to purchase the book, call 337-540-9924.

Latin Mass Conference December 6-8

LAKE CHARLES – *Gratia et Veritas*, the Third Annual Louisiana Traditional Latin Mass Conference & Festival continues today, December 6, through Sunday, December 8, at three churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

The celebration of the Holy Mass will take place at 6 p.m. today in St. Therese 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 Glodd, 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*.

Messiah Chorus set December 8

LAKE CHARLES – The 79th annual performance of Handel's Messiah by the Lake Charles Messiah Chorus is set for Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. in the Francis G. Bulber Auditorium on the McNeese State University campus. Admission is free.

Ember Day Saturday Mass

LAKE CHARLES – A Solemn Mass in the Extraordinary Form will be celebrated on Saturday, December 21 at 9 a.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

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*.

Fr. 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 Oney and Andi, Patti Mansfield, and the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of New Orleans team. Register online at www.cerno.org or call 504-828-1368.

Women's D.E.E.P. Retreat set

MOSS BLUFF – The first Women's Discipleship, Eucharist, Evangelization, and Prayer (D.E.E.P.) Retreat will be held at

Saint Charles Center on Tuesday through Thursday, March 24-26, 2020.

The retreat is designed to guide women who have attended an A.C.T.S. retreat to go deeper in their faith walk and renew themselves spiritually.

Contact Linda Daigle for more information about the retreat and team registration at lindadaigle.deep@yahoo.com or call (337) 802-3496.

Clergy cook-off fundraiser April 18

LAKE CHARLES – The Diocese of Lake Charles Office of Pro-Life will present its third annual Clergy Cook-off on Saturday, April 18, 2020, at Prier Lake Park, according to Rickard Newman, Director of Pro-Life and Family Life.

The fundraiser will support pro-life ministries in the diocese including Rachel's Vineyard, which will continue to help people heal from the wounds of abortion, and Grief to Grace, for anyone who has suffered from different forms of abuse.

The cook-off will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with tasting from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Individual tickets for tasting are \$60 each (children under 12 are free) and the Trinity Package (\$600) offers eight tickets for tasting, a signed thank you from Bishop Glen John Provost, and "Long Time, No Sheen," a book of jokes by the Venerable Bishop Fulton Sheen. There will be live entertainment, door prizes and children's games.

Those participating in the tasting serve as judges and determine the winning dish and team and the winner receiving a \$500 donation to the parish.

To sign up or for more information contact Marjorie Long at 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or marjorie.long@lcldiocease.org.

"Grief to Grace" retreat May 13-17, 2020

LAKE CHARLES – Registration for the next Grief to Grace retreat experience being offered by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles, has opened according to Marjorie Long, site leader.

The retreat will be held May 13-17, 2020 at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

The cost is \$1,500, which includes a private room, meals and all materials. Scholarship assistance is available upon request for those in need of partial aid.

All inquiries are confidential. To register, call (337) 489-2473 or at grieftogradelouisiana@lcldiocease.org.