



## The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools: Catholic Schools Week: "Celebrating Service" January 25-30

Service is a long-standing tradition in Catholic education and a foundation of church social teachings. Catholic schools integrate community service as a basic part of their curriculum. Pope John Paul II said, "Community is at the heart of all Catholic education, not simply as a concept to be taught, but as a reality to be lived. . . . Your students will learn to understand and appreciate the value of community as they experience love, trust, and loyalty in your school and educational programs, and as they learn to trust all persons as brothers and sisters created by God and redeemed by Christ."

The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools offers a community environment in which children can thrive and live out the values they are encouraged to develop so they can contribute to society and assume leadership roles in shaping public attitudes and programs.

As our local schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles cele-

brate Catholic Schools Week, they also prepare their schools for prospective families. The seven elementary schools will be hosting Open Houses, followed by new family registration. Parents interested in enrolling students are encouraged to visit the schools on these occasions. Parents choose a Catholic education for their children for many reasons. From academics and curriculum to school environment and parental involvement, Diocesan schools meet the academic needs of students while integrating faith, life and culture in a disciplined and safe environment.

The Diocese of Lake Charles has four elementary schools in the greater Lake Charles area. The Diocese also has an elementary school in Sulphur, Moss Bluff and Jennings. Each school will be holding an Open House and preparing for Spring registration beginning on March 30.

Listed below are the Open House dates and contact information:

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**(EDITOR'S NOTE: Catholic Schools Week is celebrated across the country this year during the week of January 25-30. The eight Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles are St. Louis Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, Sacred Heart of Jesus/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings; and Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur.)**

The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools will celebrate Catholic Schools Week beginning January 25. Catholic Schools Week is held annually to highlight the contributions and gifts of a Catholic Education. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools: Celebrating Service."

**St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School**  
2510 Enterprise Boulevard  
Lake Charles  
436-7959  
Open House on March 3 at 6:00 p.m.

**Immaculate Conception Cathedral School**  
1536 Ryan Street  
Lake Charles  
433-3497  
Open House on March 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School**  
3908 Creole Street  
Lake Charles  
477-7349  
Open House on January 29 at 6:30 p.m.

**Scared Heart of Jesus/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School**  
1100 Mill Street  
Lake Charles  
436-3588  
Open House on March 10 at 8:30 a.m.

**Our Lady's Catholic School**  
1111 Cypress Street  
Sulphur  
527-7828  
Open House on March 10 at 6:00 p.m.

**St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School**  
785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway, Moss Bluff  
855-9465  
Open House on March 3 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School**  
600 Roberts Avenue  
Jennings  
824-1743  
Open House on March 19 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**St. Louis Catholic High School**  
1620 Bank Street  
Lake Charles  
436-7275  
Began taking applications on January 12

## Three honored by Pontifical Knights and Dames

LAKE CHARLES - A priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles and two members of the laity have been honored by the Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of the Pontifical Knights and Dames of the Diocese.

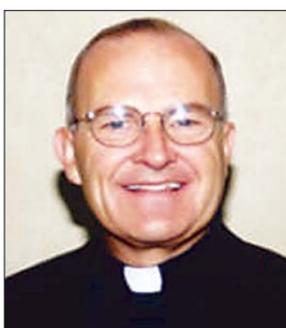
Msgr. Harry D. Greig was presented with the Truman Stacey Award by outgoing president, James P. Martin, while Georgie LeJeune of Welsh was given the Monsignor DeBlanc Fellowship Award, and Peter John Saab of Lafayette was recipient of the *Pro Deo Et Pontifice* Award.

The president's award, given in even numbered years, goes to a person that has assisted the Chapter or the Diocese in an outstanding manner. The late Tru-

man Stacey was a founding member of the chapter who was instrumental in the communications efforts of the Diocese from its establishment.

Msgr. Greig, who serves as pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church in Big Lake and as Secretary for the Ministry of Administration for the Diocese, was honored for his distinguished work as Administrator of the Diocese during the period when it was without a Bishop. Msgr. Greig was named Administrator on Feb. 22, 2005 and continued until March 23, 2007, when Bishop Glen John Provost was ordained and installed as the third Bishop of Lake Charles.

Msgr. Greig provided outstanding leadership of the



**Msgr. Harry D. Greig**

Diocese during the perilous times after the passage of Hurricane Rita in September 2005 and the recovery period that followed.

The DeBlanc Fellowship is given out in even years to an individual who has given

outstanding service to the civic community and to the Church, for which he or she has not been recognized.

LeJeune, a member of Our Lady of Seven Dolours Church in Welsh, is an active member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and the Ladies Altar Society.

She serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Communion at the church and brings Communion to the patients in the local nursing home. She also has served as a wedding coordinator and worked in the church's food pantry.

LeJeune is a member of the Women's Research Club, the Welsh Museum, and a Block Off Broadway's Actors Club in Jennings, working backstage as well as onstage. She also serves as editor of the Eastern Deanery Serra Club Newsletter and retired from the teaching in the Jefferson Davis Parish School system.

The *Pro Deo et Pontifice* Award is conferred on a Knight of another diocese who has rendered outstanding service to the Church and mankind.

Saab has been married for more than 50 years to his wife, Lynn and the couple has six children, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Originally from Canton, Miss., where, after graduating from the University of Mississippi, he owned a men's clothing store. He was instrumental in organizing the nationally known Canton Flea Market.

He moved to Lafayette in 1971, becoming co-owner of the Shop Rite convenience stores.

In 1990, Saab and his wife were invested into the Southern Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. He was promoted to the rank of Knight Commander in 1995 and in 2000 was promoted to the rank of Knight Commander with Star.

The Chapter also installed its new officers at the meeting, including Chester J. Jones, Jr., president; Gayle Marshall, vice president; Robert Chiasson, secretary, and John H. Roth, treasurer.



**Peter John Saab of Lafayette, left, and Georgie LeJeune of Welsh, were honored by the Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of Pontifical Knights and Dames of the Diocese of Lake Charles. Saab was given the *Pro Deo et Pontifice* Award while LeJeune received the Msgr. DeBlanc Fellowship Award.**

### Diocesan Briefs

#### March for Life Jan. 22

LAKE CHARLES - A March for Life on the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade, Supreme Court decision, Thursday, January 22, sponsored by the Offices of Pro-Life and Youth Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles and New Life Counseling, will begin at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

At 5:30 p.m., a "Rosary for Life" will be recited in the Cathedral followed by an "Ecumenical Prayer Service for Life" at 6 p.m. featuring reflections by Bishop Glen John Provost and Jeanne LeBato, Director of New Life Counseling. A candlelight "Walk for Life" from the Cathedral to the Parish Courthouse will take place following the prayer service.

At the courthouse, "Stand Up for Life," will begin at 7 p.m. The Rev. Nathan Long, associate pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church, will lead a "Holy Hour for Life" at the Cathedral at 7:45 p.m.

For more information, contact Kathy Owen at 337-439-7426, Ext. 313.

#### Prayer Service for Christian Unity

LAKE CHARLES - The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception will be the site for the annual Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20. The event is sponsored by the Diocese of Lake Charles and the Military and Hospitalier Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, an ecumenical order of chivalry dedicated to praying and working for the re-unification of all Christians.

Brother Paul Franks, pastor of Enterprise Boulevard Church of Christ, will deliver the message. A reception will follow in the Ave Maria Center of the Cathedral.

Bishop Glen John Provost along with members of the diocesan clergy, as well as preachers and ministers of other faith traditions will be in attendance.

#### Catholic Schools Week Mass

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will celebrate the annual Catholic Schools Week Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Students from St. Louis Catholic High School and eighth grade students from the seven elementary schools of the Diocese will be in attendance.

#### Bishop's Catholic School Message

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost has penned a special message regarding the upcoming Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 25-30, in the Diocese. It can be found on the Diocesan website, [lcdioocese.org](http://lcdioocese.org), and will be published in the Jan. 30 Catholic Calendar.

#### 40 Hours Devotion

LAKE CHARLES - Forty Hours Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament to promote vocations to the priesthood and the religious life here in the Diocese of Lake Charles will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27 and continue until 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 at Immaculate Heart of Mary, 2031 Opelousas Street and will be at Sacred Heart of Jesus, 1102 Mill Street, from 9 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 29 until 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30.

#### February breakfast, luncheon with Bishop set

LAKE CHARLES - The next Women's Prayer Luncheon with Bishop Glen John Provost will be at noon Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the Lake Charles Civic Center while the Men's First Friday Prayer Breakfast with Bishop Provost will be Feb. 6 in Ave Maria Hall at 7 a.m. following the 6:30 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral.

Women who wish to attend the luncheon are asked to send a check for \$10 to Ms. Esther Gallardo, 612 Alamo Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 to register. Please make the check payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles. They are also asked include a self-addressed, stamped envelope so their admission ticket may be mailed back to them.

Men should call 439-7400 to register for the Breakfast.

**The Offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19. They will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 8:30 a.m.**

**(This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles.)**

## Postcard campaign set Jan. 24-25

LAKE CHARLES - The Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Lake Charles are being asked to participate in a massive nationwide postcard campaign on the weekend of Jan. 24-25. The Office of Pro-Life of the Diocese is providing postcards to every Catholic Church in the Diocese for distribution and completion that weekend. With the approval of the U.S. Bishops at their 2008 general meeting, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops and the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment are co-sponsoring this "Fight Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) Postcard Campaign."

People are being asked to send the signed postcards to their U.S. Senators and Representatives asking them to defeat FOCA, a bill which would create a right to abortion the government could not limit and bring about a national abortion policy far worse than the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v Wade decision. For the first time, abortion would become an entitlement the government must fund and promote. Citizens would lose the freedom they now have to enact even modest regulation of the abortion industry.

In asking for the help of

the people of the Diocese Bishop Glen John Provost said, "The threat is serious. I firmly believe that failure to voice an objection and concern would be morally delinquent. I ask also for your prayers in support of life."

The campaign will send the message to Congress that the radical policies of FOCA are out of step with the most basic values of the American people and should not become a part of our nation's laws in any way.

The postcard-signing event gives parishioners as individuals and as a body, an opportunity to give public witness to their belief in the sanctity of human life.

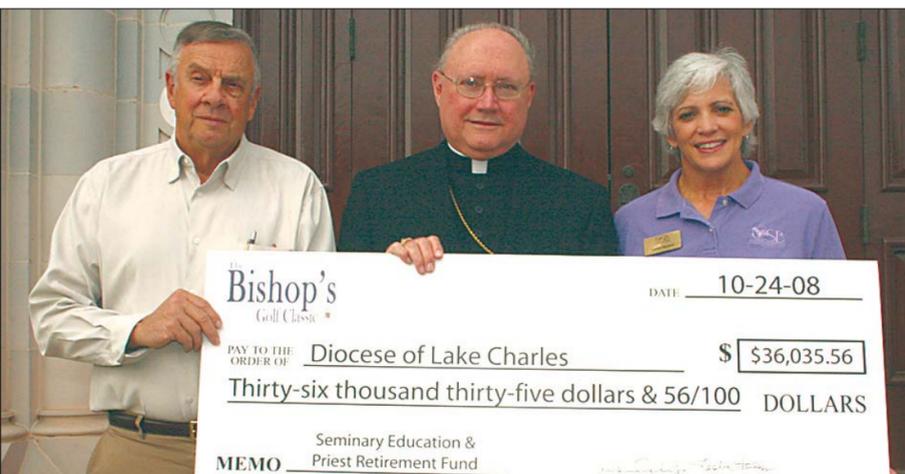
Bishop Provost has sent a special message to the people of the Diocese detailing the urgency of the situation and how they can help.

"The work for pro-life is the responsibility of everyone but particularly us as Catholics who consistently preach a Gospel of Life," Bishop Provost said. The Bishop noted that the president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Francis Cardinal George of Chicago, reminded everyone of this fact in a statement made at the Bishops' November meeting.

"One serious threat facing us is what is called the Freedom of Choice Act or FOCA," Bishop Provost continued. "Cardinal George outlined a number of consequences adverse to life which would occur if FOCA, as it is presently proposed, becomes law."

Those consequences as outlined in Cardinal George's statement "include removing any 'interference' to abortion at will; depriving the states of the freedom to enact regulations on the abortion industry; outlawing parental notification and informed consent precautions; deregulating abortion clinics; abrogating the Hyde Amendment that restricts federal funding for abortions; compromising the consciences of doctors, nurses, and health care workers whose personal convictions do not permit them to cooperate in the killing of unborn children; and threatening Catholic health care institutions and Catholic Charities."

For information about the postcard campaign and how you can participate, contact your parish pro-life director or Kathy Owen at the Office of Pro-Life, 337-439-7400.



**Bishop Glen John Provost, center, accepts a check in the amount of \$36,035.56 from Alfred Palma, left, representing Alfred Palma Inc., and Leslie Harless, right, Cameron State Bank, both banner sponsors for the inaugural Bishop's Charity Golf Classic. The proceeds from the tournament are for the seminarian education fund and the priest's retirement fund of the Diocese of Lake Charles. The tournament is expected to be an annual event.**

### Did you know...

When the Diocese of Lake Charles was established in 1980 Bishop Jude Speyrer set up temporary offices at St. Margaret of Scotland Parish. Later a floor of the Weber Building in downtown Lake Charles was secured to provide more room. On April 21, 1985, the Chancery, located at 411 Iris Street, which was given to the Diocese by the Cathedral's Knights of Columbus Council and Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court, was dedicated.

One church parish celebrates its 50-year anniversary in 2009, do you know which one? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar.