



Diocese of Lake Charles Seminarians 2009-2010



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

*"Whoever loses his life
for my sake will find it."*

Matthew 16:25



Prayer for Priestly and Religious Vocations

O Jesus, God and Gentle Shepherd, grant that the men and women from our community, may have the grace and the courage to hear and answer your call to priesthood and religious life.

Give them the wisdom to realize that life is a gift. Let them realize their life is part of YOUR plan. Call forth those you have chosen to spread the gospel message, and to help them to freely respond to a life of service in the Church.

May the parents and families of our parishes support and encourage young men and women to search for, follow, and answer the call of God in their lives.

Seminary Addresses

Pontifical Josephinum
7625 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43235

**The Catholic University
of America**
620 Michigan Ave., N.E.
Washington, DC 20064

**Pontifical North
American College**
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

**St. Joseph Seminary
College**
75376 River Road
Saint Benedict, LA 70457



JEFFREY STARKOVICH
Third Year Theology
Pontifical North
American College
Christ the King,
Lake Charles
Birthday: March 29, 1985



JOHN HUCKABY
Third Year Theology
Notre Dame Seminary
Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Lake Charles
Birthday: June 27, 1966



BRYAN THOMPSON
Second Year Theology
Pontifical College
Josephinum
Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception
Birthday: November 16, 1980



DAVID HARDEY, JR.
First Year Theology
Pontifical College
Josephinum
St. Theodore, Moss Bluff
Birthday: June 19, 1982



MATTHEW CORMIER
Fourth Year Philosophy
St. Joseph Seminary College
Our Lady of LaSalette,
Sulphur
Birthday: May 22, 1988



RUBEN VILLARREAL
Fourth Year Philosophy
Catholic University
of America
St. Lawrence, Raymond
Birthday: August 3, 1987



BRANDON JONES
Third Year Philosophy
St. Joseph Seminary College
St. Henry, Lake Charles
Birthday: June 6, 1987



KOREY LAVERGNE
Third Year Philosophy
St. Joseph Seminary College
Our Lady of LaSalette,
DeQuincy
Birthday: May 23, 1988



CRISTIAN E. GONZALES
First Year Philosophy
St. Joseph Seminary College
Our Lady Queen of Heaven,
Lake Charles
Birthday: July 18, 1986

Vocation Recruiters



FR. DANIEL TORRES
Director of Vocations
and Seminarians
337-439-7400
daniel.torres@lcdioocese.org



FR. MARCUS JOHNSON
Vocation Recruiter,
St. Louis Catholic
High School
337-436-8093
marcus.johnson@
lcdioocese.org



FR. RUBEN BULLER
Vocation Recruiter,
Catholic Schools
337-436-7223
ruben.buller@lcdioocese.org



FR. ANTHONY FONTENOT
Vocation Recruiter,
Eastern Deanery
337-824-1164
anthony.fontenot@
lcdioocese.org



FR. NATHAN LONG
Vocation Recruiter,
Central Deanery
337-477-1236
nathan.long@lcdioocese.org



FR. SUSIL FERNANDO
Vocation Recruiter,
Western Deanery
337-589-7358
susil.fernando@
lcdioocese.org

September 40 Hours Devotion

LAKE CHARLES - Forty Hours Devotions before the Blessed Sacrament to promote vocations to the priesthood and the religious life in the Diocese of Lake Charles continues in the Eastern Deanery of the Diocese during the remainder of September.

Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 23 after the 5:15 p.m. Mass through Friday, Sept. 25 at noon, St. Paul Church in Elton will host the Devotion.

The final two locations for September will be St. Frances Chapel in Elizabeth on Sept. 29, then continuing at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Oakdale until Oct. 2. Hours of Devotion are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

Fargo Bishop speaks on health care reform

FARGO, North Dakota - The bishop of Fargo has outlined four principles for Catholics to take into account when analyzing the moral value of a health care reform proposal.

In a statement released Aug. 29, Bishop Samuel Aquila addressed the current debate in the U.S. legislature over various health care reform proposals.

He affirmed that the Church "ought to always promote wider and more complete access to health care," but clarified that this "does not mean that in practice the Church ought to support each and every plan which is proposed by civil leaders."

Thus, the prelate offered four principles "that should always be used when evaluating the moral value and justice of a given plan to provide health care."

The first, he stated, is that "any provisions for actions which deny the dignity of human life, especially abortion, euthanasia, whether passive or active, and embryonic stem-cell research must be excluded from all health care plans."

As a second principle, the bishop affirmed, "the freedom of consciences must be safeguarded."

He continued, "The moral voice of individual doctors, nurses, health professionals, as well as the general public, deserve reverence and respect."

The statement emphasized a third principle: "Access to health care ought to be available to all people, including the poor, legal immigrants, the handicapped, and especially the elderly and unborn members of society."

Lastly, it continued, "the means of providing access to health care should be governed by the principle of subsidiarity, being reasonably and equitably distributed among members of society."

Upon the foundation of these four principles, Bishop Aquila noted, a "fruitful discussion about health care reform" can be built.

He urged Catholics to "become engaged in promoting genuine health care reform" and to work for the "well-being and flourishing of all human life."

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Bishop's Services Appeal for Diocesan needs begins

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop's Services Appeal, the annual campaign to raise funds to aid in the operation of a variety of ministries and programs of the Diocese of Lake Charles will begin this weekend, Sept. 19-20, according to The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles.

The goal for this year's campaign, which has as its motto "Our Lord Is Our Model: Let Us Take Up Our Cross and Follow Him" taken from the words of St. John Vianney, remains \$600,000, the same as in 2008-2009. Last year the appeal raised \$587,695.59, nearly 98 percent of the goal, from the contributions of the Catholic faithful of the local church in Southwest Louisiana.

During this year the Diocese will celebrate its 30th anniversary of formation.

"As we prepare for this celebration, I reflect on God's generosity to us throughout these years," Bishop Provost said. "The psalmist best expresses what should be our sentiment: 'We

thank you, God, we give you thanks; we call upon your name, declare your wonderful deeds' "

"I am also thankful to the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles for the generosity of 30 years to the Bishop's Services Appeal," the Bishop continued. "We show our thankfulness to God for His goodness through the sacrifices we make, giving back to Him what He has first given us. I have seen this countless times during last year's Appeal. Even with many people recovering from hurricanes Gustav and Ike, they continue to give of themselves. This is a great witness of the Catholic faithful of our Diocese to their fidelity to God, even in the midst of trial and tribulation."

Programs and ministries supported by Bishop's Services Appeal include Catholic Education (\$110,000), Youth and Young Adult Ministry (\$58,000), Vocations and Seminarians (\$71,000), Catholic Charities (\$89,000), Family Life (\$60,000), Seafarers Center (\$55,000), Diocesan Counseling (\$41,000), Evangeliza-

tion (\$18,000), Communications (\$50,000), and Saint Charles Center (\$50,000). All of these areas represent identifiable support from Bishop's Services Appeal. Each of them is additionally supported through various grants and the parochial tithes.

Vocations and Seminarians is a very important ministry for the Catholic Church in Southwest Louisiana and one of the most costly, with nine men in various stages of study and training to become priests for the Diocese.

"It will cost the Diocese approximately \$275,000 to educate these men for one year of study," Bishop Provost said. "Without the help of gifts to Bishop's Services Appeal, this work is impossible."

Bishop Provost hopes that God will grant an increase in the number of men studying to be priests. With that increase in numbers, an increase in costs will be apparent. The need to ordain more priests will become acute in the near future with the

number of current members of the Presbyterate retiring.

The Bishop has appointed a number of priests to serve as Vocation Recruiters, who will seek out men who be-



lieve they may have a calling to the priesthood. Those priests include Father Marcus Johnson, Father Ruben Buller, Father Susil Fernando, Father Anthony Fontenot, and Father Nathan Long. The Very Reverend Daniel Torres, who serves as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, is also the Director of Vocations and

Seminarians.

The Office of Evangelization has been able to expand its work of bringing the Gospel to great numbers in Southwest Louisiana. The billboard campaign last year and the office's Catholicism on the Road program were a great success. With the help of contributors to the Appeal, this work will continue to expand.

Saint Charles Center and its Tabor Retreat House and Saint Katharine Drexel Conference Center provides the opportunity for many different types of retreat programs as well conferences to aid in spiritual growth and renewal. The subsidy that the Diocese provides to the Center each year comes from contributions to the Bishop's Services Appeal. Without that aid, the Center would not be able to maintain the low costs offered. It could even be forced to reduce some of those opportunities and even raise fees.

Contributions to Bishop's Services Appeal make the programs and ministries of

the Diocese of Lake Charles operate more efficiently, enabling them to continue and even expand to reach more people in the area.

The Bishop's Services Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to continue to show support for Christ's Church, according to Bishop Provost.

"No matter the size of your gift the continuation and growth of the many programs and ministries provided are directly affected by you," Bishop Provost said. "Please continue to provide support to the 'larger Church' by making a selfless gift to the 2009-2010 Bishop's Services Appeal."

"We are a people, a Church, of service – service to our community and to all those who belong in it," the Bishop continued. "Our Diocese is a legacy of people – people inspired to service and sacrifice for others. Over these past 30 years, we do have much for which to be thankful. May your kindness toward the Bishop's Services Appeal ensure the future of the Church for the next 30 years."



Deacons attended along with a number of their spouses the annual celebration of the Feast Day of St. Lawrence, the patron of deacons, held at St. Lawrence Church in Raymond

Feast of St. Lawrence, patron of deacons held

RAYMOND -- Bishop Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, was the celebrant of the Mass for the Feast of St. Lawrence, Martyr, at St. Lawrence Church on August 10.

St. Lawrence, who died in 258, is the Patron Saint of Deacons. The deacons of the Diocese of Lake Charles attended the annual feast day Mass.

In his homily, Bishop Provost noted the words of the day's Gospel from St. John, Chapter 12, spoke of the grain of wheat.

"This is the fundamental message of Christianity," Bishop Provost said. "Unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat but if it dies it bears much fruit."

"He is speaking here of

what we call our Catholic theology – the Paschal Mystery," Bishop Provost continued. "The Paschal Mystery that is the very message of Christianity. It is the passion, death, and resurrection of the Lord. It is what we celebrate in each and every liturgical celebration that we as Catholics celebrate – the Liturgy of Hours, the celebration of one of the sacraments but particularly the celebration of the Eucharist."

The Bishop noted that on this Feast of St. Lawrence that the Saint is a number of things but one thing particularly, "He is the living out of that gospel message. In the life of St. Lawrence, in his sacrifice of himself for the Faith, we see in his martyrdom a living out of the Paschal Mystery – the Pas-

sion, Death and Resurrection. It is how we apply this in our lives that is essential.

Bishop Provost pointed out that there is no worship without sacrifice.

"Man thinks that today that he can solve his own problems," Bishop Provost continued. "This is folly. When he thinks this way then he has no sacrifice to offer. He can't enter into the Paschal Mystery because he has nothing to bring. The Paschal Mystery requires the death of which our Lord speaks in the Gospel – 'unless the grain of wheat falls to the earth and die it remains just a grain of wheat.'"

For more on this story go to lcdioocese.org - see "Diocesan Patron honored".

Diocese honors clergy, religious

LAKE CHARLES – Fourteen priests, religious sisters, and on religious brothers were honored for a total of 515 years of ordained and professed service at Mass celebrated on the Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Sept. 8, in St. Henry Catholic Church. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost was the celebrant.

The Knights of Columbus provided an honor guard and members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas were in attendance.

In his homily, Bishop Provost lauded the group for their willingness to serve God and the Church.

"We want to thank all of

your who have served and who continue to serve," Bishop Provost said. "We ask God's blessings on you. Each of you has answered a special calling."

Bishop Provost noted that everyone is "called to imitate Christ", priests and religious. "In so doing we are showing Christ to others who are also called to imitate Christ," Bishop Provost said.

The 10 priests, diocesan priests and priests who are part of religious orders – the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette (M.S.) and the Society of Divine Word (S.V.D.) - included Rev. John Poerio who celebrates the 50th anniversary of his ordination to

the priesthood later this year. The group has combined for 370 years of priesthood. Priests celebrating 45 years of ordained ministry in 2009 are Rev. Jude Brunnett, M.S., Rev. Ernest Corriveau, M.S., Rev. Donald Jeffrey, M.S. and Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois. Anniversaries of 40 years of ordination were honored for Rev. Joseph Angadiath, and Rev. Augustine Mulanjanany.

Rev. Thomas Vellappalil, M.S. celebrates his 15th anniversary while Rev. Emanuel Tanu, S.V.D. has been ordained five years this year.

Brother Don Smith, M.S. is celebrating 55 years of professed life this year.

Three religious sisters of the Daughters of Mary, Mother of Mercy order were also honored for their long years of service. Sr. Mary Leonie Therese Iweh celebrates 40 years, Sr. Mary Anayochkwu Iye celebrates 30 years and Sr. Mary Laurence Ugoalu celebrates 20 years.



Bishop Glen John Provost celebrated the Mass honoring clergy and religious with significant anniversaries of service occurring during 2009. A number of priests concelebrated with the Bishop at the liturgy held on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Henry Church.

News from around the Diocese of Lake Charles

Bon Ton Festival this weekend

CARLYSS – The annual St. Theresa Catholic Church Bon Ton Festival begins today and continues through Sunday on the church grounds, 4822 Carlyss Drive. Admission and parking are free for the festival.

The gates open at 5 p.m. today and close at 10:30 p.m. and on Saturday activities will be held from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. An outdoor Vigil Mass will begin at 4 p.m. The live auction will be held in the Church hall following the Mass. On Sunday gates open at 10 a.m. and close at 3 p.m.

Cathedral Chorale concert Sept. 26

LAKE CHARLES – The Cathedral Chorale will give a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, located at the corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets in Lake Charles.

The concert will include a wide variety of music from Classical to spirituals to contemporary and is free of charge. All are invited to attend.

Called2BCatholic Music Festival

LAKE CHARLES – Called2BCatholic, a Catholic music festival for the whole family, will be Saturday, October 24 on the Sulphur High School Freshman Campus. Doors open at

noon with Adoration ending at 9 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles. Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 301 or e-mail youth.ministry@lcdiocee.org for more information and about tickets.

Bishop's Golf Classic to be held October 9

LAKE CHARLES – The Second Annual Bishop's Golf Classic will be held on Friday October 9 at the Lake Charles Country Club.

The event provides funding for the Seminarian and Priest Retirement Funds.

The four-person scramble will have two shotgun starts, 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$125 per individual or \$500 a team. Registration forms can be found at area golf courses and at the Diocese of Lake Charles, 414 Iris Street. The entry deadline is September 28.

For general information, contact Larry DeRoussel at (337)794-8339 or by email at lderoussel@laia.com.

Part-time help sought at Seafarers' Center

LAKE CHARLES – The Seafarers' Center of the Diocese of Lake Charles is seeking applicants for a part-time driver/ship visitor position working 20 hours per week, according to Deacon Patrick Lapoint, Center director.

The successful applicant must be able to pass an FBI background check to receive a TWIC card, have a clean driving record and be willing and able to work nights.

Contact Deacon Lapoint at 436-1315 for more information.

Calca-Chew Festival Oct. 4

LAKE CHARLES -- St. Margaret of Scotland's "Calca-Chew Festival" will be held at the church's Family Center from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4.

A French Mass will open the festival at 7 a.m. with music by Les Amies Louisianaises Singers. Live music by "Red" Saltzman & Friends begins at 9 a.m.

There will be Cajun food, children's games, dancing, and raffle drawings along with live and silent auctions.

St. Raphael Bazaar Oct. 3-4

IOWA – St. Raphael Catholic Church will have its annual bazaar on the church grounds on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3-4.

Events will include a "Guitar Hero" contest, a Wii sport contest, train rides, musical entertainment and a silent auction.

For more information call Liz Starr at 499-3361.

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