



New seminary burse funded with largest bequest ever, over \$250,000

LAKE CHARLES -- The largest donation to establish a seminary burse for the Diocese of Lake Charles has been received from the estate of Mitchell G. Duhon of Lake Charles, according to The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles. The generous bequest also pushed the total amount invested in the 51 burses to more than \$1 million.

The legacy from Mr. Duhon, a lifelong resident of Lake Charles and member of a pioneer family of the area, was made to help provide for the education of seminarians. The Mitchell Duhon Seminary Burse was funded with \$252,984.14, bringing the total value of seminary burses for the Diocese to \$1,107,695.47.

"This was a farsighted donation on the part of Mr. Duhon, in so far as it has the long-range education of seminarians in view and a desire on the part of the faithful, particularly Mr. Duhon, to see that our priests receive the best preparation, formation and education possible," Bishop Provost said.

According to family members, Mr. Duhon, a bachelor and a charter member of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, was a "very private person, deeply religious. He would say his prayers each morning as he walked out to pickup his newspaper, as he had a long driveway. He was friends with the

priests at Queen of Heaven for years and entertained many of them over the years in his home." Also, it was pointed out that many times "he opened the church for the first Mass of the day and that he had a strong devotion to the Way of the Cross. He never missed an opportunity to pray at the Stations of the Cross. He was guided in his decision to make this gift by his relationship with Jesus Christ."

Father Keith Pellerin, pastor of St. Martin de Porres Church, confirmed the early morning ritual. "Every Sunday morning he was here before 6:30 a.m. because he wanted to be in the church by himself to pray the Way of the Cross," Father Pellerin said. "When we were a chapel, he had his own key and opened it up himself. Perhaps it was one of the devotions that he was taught as a child."

Father Pellerin also noted his private nature. "He never wanted to call attention to himself. He didn't want accolades. One year Mr. Duhon was chosen to receive one of the Maple Leaf awards and he didn't want to go to the ceremony. He said, 'I'm not doing this for that (the award and recognition). It's what God has called me to do and what He calls me to be'."

Mr. Duhon, who died on April 28 at the age of 85, graduated from LaGrange High School and attended



Mitchell G. Duhon

McNeese Junior College. A member of the United States Navy he was ultimately trained as a frogman and assigned to an underwater demolition team following Underwater Demolition School. He also attended Southwestern Louisiana Institute in Lafayette and the U.S. Navy Reserve School of Communications at Harvard University in Boston. He was a veteran of World War II having done occupational reconnaissance duty with his underwater demolition team in Japan.

Following his discharge, he attended Loyola University of the South School of Pharmacy in New Orleans and began his pharmaceutical career at Gordon's Drug Store in Lake Charles and

Cade's Pharmacy in Sulphur, later opening his own business, Enterprise Pharmacy at the corner of Enterprise Boulevard and Twelfth Street.

He was a member of the Louisiana State Pharmaceutical Association, Monsignor Irving DeBlanc Knights of Columbus Council 4562, and Monsignor Cramer's Assembly 4th Degree Knights of Columbus. He was a parishioner of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church and St. Martin de Porres Church.

A seminary burse is a permanent fund set aside to provide income for the education of seminarians. The principal of the fund is never spent but invested, with the interest used each year for education expenses of those men studying for the priesthood. 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 with any amount of money and gifts may be added to current burses.

For more information about making a contribution to create a special burse of your own choosing or adding to an existing burse contact Bishop Provost or Father Daniel Torres, at 337-439-7400, Ext. 220, or email to daniel.torres@lcdioocese.org.

Diocesan Briefs

Red Mass in Cathedral today

LAKE CHARLES -- The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will celebrate the Red Mass at 8:30 a.m. today, October 16 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

St. Martin de Porres mission begins

LAKE CHARLES -- Father Daniel Mahan, Executive Director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship, will present a mission at St. Martin de Porres Church beginning Saturday, Oct. 17 at the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass, according to Rev. Keith Pellerin, pastor.

Father Mahan will also preach at the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 18 liturgies.

He will also present one-hour mission talks on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at 7 p.m. The event is not just for St. Martin de Porres parishioners but will provide information of which anyone can benefit, according to Father Pellerin.

A priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Father Mahan's talks will show that stewardship is about much more than just money but "that it is a way of life, deeply rooted in the Person of Jesus Christ."

The author of "More Than Silver And Gold: Homilies Of A Stewardship Priest", Father Mahan was ordained in 1988.

Safe Environment Initial Training Sessions

LAKE CHARLES -- The final Safe Environment Initial Training session in the month of October will be Monday, October 19 in Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings beginning at 6 p.m., according to Bernell Ezell, Director of the Office of Child and Youth Protection.

Two November Training Sessions have been set in the Assembly Room of the Chancery of the Diocese, 414 Iris Street, the first on Sunday Nov. 8 at 2:30 p.m. and the second on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. Attendees should use the east side parking lot entrance.

To register, please call Mrs. Ezell at 337-439-7400, Ext. 308.

Annulment workshop set Oct. 31

LAKE CHARLES --The Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Lake Charles and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church will sponsor a workshop for persons interested in requesting church annulments from 9 a.m. until approximately noon on Saturday, October 31 in the Activity Room of the Our Lady Queen Of Heaven Family Life Center, 3939 Monsignor DeBlanc Place.

The workshop is designed to provide information to aid someone preparing to petition for a church annulment. There is no charge for the workshop and while reservations are not necessary, they would help to assure sufficient materials for those attending. To register, contact the church office (337) 477-1236 or e-mail olqh@lcdioocese.org.

Cash giveaway at St. Henry

LAKE CHARLES - The big cash giveaway will be the highlight of the annual Saint Henry Church Bazaar on Sunday, October 25. The drawing will be held at 2:30 p.m. and the top prize is \$10,000, second prize is \$5,000, and third prize is \$1500.

Twelve hundred tickets are available at \$100 each. The bazaar will be held on the church grounds at 1021 8th Avenue from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 436-7223.

Bishop's Dinner for Scouting

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will present qualifying scouts with their religious emblems at the annual Bishop's Dinner for Scouting on Sunday, October 18. The event is sponsored by the Calcasieu Area Council Catholic Committee on Scouting.

The dinner begins at 5 p.m. in the Our Lady Queen of Heaven Family Life Center, 3939 Kingston Street, Lake Charles.

Deceased Pontifical Knights, Dames to be remembered

WELSH -- Deceased members of the Bishop Jude Speyzer Chapter of Pontifical Knights and Dames of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be remembered at the celebration of Mass on Sunday, Nov. 1 in Our Lady of Seven Dolors Church.

The Rev. Archimandrite Herbert J. May, pastor of Our Lady of Seven Dolors, will be the celebrant at the 10 a.m. Liturgy, according to Chester Jones, chapter president. The family members of all deceased Knights and Dames are invited to attend.

Companions of Honor Mass Oct. 31

LAKE CHARLES -- The annual Memorial Mass and Luncheon of the Companions of Honor of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 31 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets.

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will be the celebrant. The names of the those members of the organization will be remembered during the liturgy. The Companions of Honor organization is made up of clergy, religious and the laity who have been honored by the Diocese of Lake Charles, the Holy See, or are members of recognized Orders of Chivalry who reside in the Diocese.

SE update lessons posted to lcdioocese.org

LAKE CHARLES - The web-based safe environment single update lesson for the 2009-2010 year is now posted on the Diocese of Lake Charles website - lcdioocese.org, according to Bernell Ezell, Director of Child and Youth Protection.

She urges safe environment coordinators to encourage all those on their parish and school lists to complete the lesson as early as possible and noted that if anyone has yet to complete the two update lessons for the year 2008-2009, it is not to late as the lessons are archived.

August Seafarers Center Report

LAKE CHARLES --Staff at the Seafarers Center at the Port of Lake Charles made visits to 58 ships during the month of August, according to Deacon Patrick Lapoint, Director of the Center.

A total of 561 seafarers from 16 countries visited the Center and 795 were transported to various destinations by Center personnel.

Additionally, there were two ship blessings, one Mass, and one Memorial Service, during two ship visits by Rev. Rommel Tolentino, chaplain.

38th Catholic Charismatic Conference set Nov. 6-8

LAKE CHARLES -- The 38th Annual Catholic Charismatic Conference in the Diocese of Lake Charles -- The Truth Shall Set You Free -- will be held Nov. 6-8 at St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street, according to organizers.

Rev. George Montague and Rev. John Pardue are scheduled to be the main presenters. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will speak on Saturday, Nov. 7.

On-site registration begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 5 and Father Montague will lead the General Session and Opening Mass: The Truth Shall Set You Free starting at 6:30 p.m.

Registration reopens at 8:30 a.m. Saturday with a New Life in the Holy Spirit Seminar, A Teen Workshop (ages 12-19); Youth Ministry (8-11) and Children's Ministry (ages 3-7) beginning at 9



Rev. John Pardue

a.m. Father Pardue will open the day's first general session at 9 a.m. with Inner Healing/Healing of Memories. Bishop Provost will speak during this time as

well and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following the session.

The youth programs will resume at 1 p.m. following the lunch break.

The afternoon general session with Father Montague -- Fanning the Flame -- opens at 2 p.m. continuing until 5 p.m.

Father Pardue will conclude with an evening general session -- Healing the Physical Person -- at 6:30 p.m., which will include a Vigil Mass along with the Sacrament of Anointing with Benediction.

The final general session -- Holy Spirit, Make Your Home in Me -- will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday with Father Montague.

Father Pardue will celebrate the closing Mass beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Recommended registration donations are \$15 per



Rev. George Montague

individual or \$30 for a family and \$5 for an unaccompanied teen. For more information and a registration form call Catholic Charismatic Renewal at 337-439-1898 or Betty Bruney at 337-477-0065

Did you know...

Miss Eleanor Figaro, a graduate of St. Paul High School in Lafayette, was hired to teach regular academic subjects and Catholic doctrine to the children at Sacred Heart School which opened in 1908 at Green's Hall on Enterprise Boulevard as the first private school for African Americans in Lake Charles. Eighteen students made up the first class for Miss Figaro, who worked at the school enriching the lives of thousands of boys and girls until her death in 1953.

A former Baptist orphanage would be turned into a educational institution that would prepare young men for adulthood. Do you know who made this transformation possible? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar.



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, center, recently installed the Very Reverend Marcus Johnson, right, as Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Father Johnson recites the Profession of Faith and Oath of Office while his right hand is placed on the Book of Gospels. Assisting at the installation were Rev. Msgr. Jace Eskind, master of ceremonies, and, Deacon Joseph Bushnell.

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Called2BCatholic Family Music Festival - Oct. 24 439-7400, Ext. 301

Diocese of Lake Charles website
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Called 2B Catholic Family Music Festival of Louisiana Oct. 24

SULPHUR – Called 2B Catholic Family Music Festival of Louisiana will be held from 12:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24 on the Sulphur High School Freshman campus.

Doors will open at noon and Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. The event will close with Eucharistic Adoration beginning at 8:30 p.m. on the main stage.

"This all-day festival indoor event is more than a concert," said Milissa Thibodeaux, director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles, which sponsors the event. "It is a faith-filled event featuring Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, an opportunity for Confession, breakout sessions on key topics,

and some of the best international recording artists, food concessions, Catholic product vendors and various organizations and ministries. It is an event for the entire family!"

A variety of Catholic-Christian music will be performed by Ceili Rain, ValLimar Jansen, Josh Blakesley, Cooper Ray, Greg Walton, Daniel diSilva, Nichole Ackoury Lanthier, Gabriel's Cry and more, according to Ms. Thibodeaux.

In addition to the main music stage there will also be the "Music and Ministry Stage" sponsored by St. Michael Music with breakout sessions on key topics. Speakers will include Cooper Ray, Greg Walton, Daniel diSilva, Katie Prejean, Chip Gauthier, and Joshua Boutte. Each breakout session will begin

with a musical act featuring some of our local and regional musicians.

"We will also have a "Vocations.com Coffee House" for teens ages 16 and up, young adults and adults with scheduled talks, testimonies and more," Thibodeaux said. "Those attending can take time out to pray in the Adoration Chapel featuring music by wonderful faith-filled musicians. The chapel will be open from noon to 5:30 p.m."

"In addition to all of this, we will have a "Kids for Christ Play Area" featuring Party for the Pope, Arts and Crafts, Sand Art, music and dance," Thibodeaux continued. "It is our prayer that the event brings over 2000 people from Louisiana and other Southern states to the new state-of-the-art facility in

Sulphur, Louisiana. Nearby hotels offer an affordable relief for those traveling, and the large parking lot at Sulphur High will allow free and convenient on-site parking."

Tickets can be purchased at the Diocese of Lake Charles office located at 411 Iris Street, Crossroads Bookstore, and the Youth Office of the church parishes within the diocese. Call Caroline Dupre at 337-439-7400, Ext. 301 to order tickets by telephone.

Lower rates apply for larger groups and diocesan youth groups are encouraged to order together, according to Thibodeaux.

For more information about this event, please contact Thibodeaux by e-mail at milissa.thibodeaux@lcdioocese.org.



The final runner of the day arrives outside St. Henry Catholic Church and leads the procession, which included large paintings of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego. At right, is Father Arturo Lozano, S.J., Director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry. This year's Mass in celebration of the Mexico City to New York torch relay will be on November 9.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Torch Run will make way through LC Nov. 9-10

LAKE CHARLES – The annual relay, the International Run Carrera Antorcha Guadalupana Mexico-New York Torch Race, which connects Mexico and the United States, will make its way through the Diocese of Lake Charles on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 9-10.

The journey began Oct. 5 at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City and will end at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on Dec. 12, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The run, which began in 2002, represents the fervor and faith Hispanics have for our Lady of Guadalupe, arguably the premier national symbol of Mexico and its culture. The relay seeks to promote friendship and solidarity among Mexican-American community groups all along its path, and provide a symbolic link for those families divided by the international border. More than 25,000 people take part in the relay and an audience of more than 22 million in Mexico and the United States monitor its progress.

Runners, representing Mexico's migrant community, will bring the blessed fire of the Torch of Our Lady of Guadalupe across the Texas-Louisiana state line at approximately on Monday, Nov. 10. It will be met by runners from Southwest Louisiana who will join with the Mexican runners, and Rev. Arturo Lozano, S.J., Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Lake Charles, along a route down U.S. Highway 90 through Vinton, Sulphur and Westlake.

The runners will be driven from the west side of the Calcasieu River I-10 Bridge into Lake Charles and will meet with other local runners at the Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitor's Bureau on Lakeshore Drive before continuing the journey down Broad Street to St. Henry Catholic Church, 1021 Eighth Avenue, for a 6 p.m. Liturgy, followed by a reception in the St. Henry Community Center. Everyone is invited to come meet the torchbearers and attend the Mass and reception.

On Tuesday, Nov. 10 runners will recommence the journey from St. Henry down Broad Street to U.S. 90 through Iowa, Welsh, Roanoke and Jennings before crossing over into Acadia Parish at the Mermentau River and into the Diocese of Lafayette.

The torch run makes its way from Mexico City through Mexican states of Estado de México, Morelos, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Puebla, Tlaxcala, Hidalgo, Veracruz, and Tamaulipas crossing the border between Matamoros and Brownsville, Texas. It then travels through San Antonio, Houston and Beaumont before crossing over into Louisiana. It continues its journey through Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Washington, DC, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and, finally, New York. At its conclusion it will have passed through more than 60 cities covering 3,813 miles.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church celebrates 90 years

SULPHUR – Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church celebrated its 90th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 19, with Mass and a dinner. Rev. Joseph Gosselin, M.S., the church's pastor, was the celebrant and the Very Rev. Daniel A. Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese of Lake Charles was the homilist.

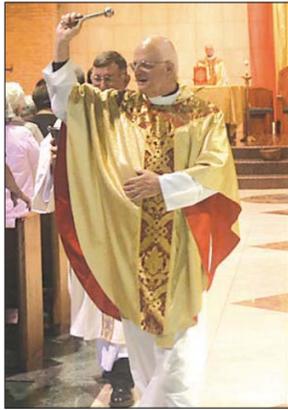
Rev. Gerard Boulanger, M.S.; Rev. Ernest Corriveau, M.S.; Rev. Egidio Vecchio, M.S., (a former pastor of the church) and Father Torres were concelebrants.

The beginnings of the Catholic community in the Sulphur area go back to the early part of the 20th century with the 1907 construction of a wooden chapel on the corner of Logan and South Huntington Streets. The building was destroyed by the Hurricane of 1918 and was rebuilt. A year later, Lafayette Bishop, The Most Reverend Jules B. Jeanmard established the new parish dedicating it to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Prompt Succor. This title had been previously approved by the Holy See as the Patroness of the City of New Orleans and the entire state of Louisiana.

The Rev. Joseph LeBerre was named the founding pastor. In 1921, Bishop Jeanmard invited the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette to come into the diocese and gave the responsibility for the parish to them. The first LaSalette priests in the diocese were Rev. John Ramel, M.S., and his assistant Rev. Eugene Veillard, M.S.

A new brick church building was built on the corner of Huntington and Logan Streets and dedicated in 1924. This facility was remodeled, enlarged and renovated several times during the next 65 years.

New offices and a parish rectory were constructed adjacent to Our Lady's School on Cypress Street in the late 1970s. In 1984, a new church building was built and dedicated on the Cypress Street



Rev. Joe Gosselin, M.S. blesses those in attendance at the Mass celebrating the 90th anniversary of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church.

site. Father Vecchio was the pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor during this period.

Pastors during the 90-year history of the Church have included: 1919-1922, Fr. Leberre; 1921-1922, Fr. John Ramel, M.S.; 1922-1928, Fr. Victor Faure, M.S.; 1928, Fr. John Carty, M.S.; 1928-1930, Fr. James McCarthy, M.S.; 1930-1931, Fr. John Roux, M.S.; 1931-1935, Fr. Arthur Vegiard, M.S.; 1935-1937, Fr. Eugene Veillard, M.S.; 1937-1939, Fr. August Dupraz, M.S.; 1939-1941, Fr. Simon Forestier, M.S.; 1941-1943, Fr. James McCarthy, M.S.; 1943-1949, Fr. Joseph Boutin, M.S.; 1949-1955, Fr. Eugene Veillard, M.S.; 1955-1960, Fr. Dennis Monahan, M.S.; 1960-1963, Fr. Francis Lavin, M.S.; 1963-1965, Fr. James Shahrighian, M.S.; 1965-1967, Fr. Wilfred Boulanger, M.S.; 1967-1975, Fr. Joseph Decoteau, M.S.; 1975-1985, Fr. Egidio Vecchio, M.S.; 1985-1988, Fr. Philip Negley, M.S.; 1988-1989, Fr. Francis Fitzsimmons, M.S.; 1990-2000, Fr. Donald Thomas, M.S.; 2001-2004, Fr. Edward Brunnert, M.S.; 2004 – Present Fr. Joseph P. Gosselin, M.S.

MOSS BLUFF – St. Theodore Holy Family Catholic School recently held a "blessing of the animals" event honoring the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi.

Reverend James A. Doyle, who is widely known for his love of animals, gave a special blessing to a large group of animals, including a miniature horse, many different breeds of dogs, several cats, a rabbit, and several hamsters, including one named Jasmine. In addition, the pre-kindergarten classes at the school brought stuffed animals from home, which Father Doyle also blessed.

St. Francis was born in 1181 or 1182 and died in 1226. He is the founder of the Orders of Friars Minor, more commonly known as the Franciscans and was a deacon. He reportedly began suffering from the Stigmata on or about September 14, 1224, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, following having received a vision described as "a vision of a seraph, a six-winged angel on a cross. This angel gave him the gift of the five wounds of Christ."

Francis died on the evening of October 3, 1226. Pope Gregory IX pronounced him a saint on July 16, 1228 and on the following day, the pope laid the foundation stone for the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi. He was buried on May 25, 1230 under the Lower Basilica. His burial place remained inaccessible until it was rediscovered in 1818. A crypt was constructed in a neo-classical style under the lower basilica for his remains.

This was refashioned between 1927 and 1930 into its present form and in 1978 the remains of St. Francis were identified by a commission of scholars, appointed by Pope Paul VI and put in a glass urn in the ancient stone tomb.

Considered to be the first Italian poet by literary critics, Saint Francis believed commoners should be able to pray to God in their own language, and he wrote always in the dialect of Umbria instead of Latin. His writings are considered to have great literary value.



Father James Doyle blesses two of the many and varied pets brought to the Blessing of the Animals held at St. Theodore Holy Family School. Assisting Father Doyle was Jennifer Bellon, principal of the school.



A re-dedication and blessing was recently held for Holy Family Catholic School's updated library, which was dedicated to St. Jerome, priest and doctor and also patron saint of librarians and students. As all the students, teachers and attending parents gathered together in the library, Rev. Whitney Miller pronounced the blessing and sprinkled those attending, the room and books with holy water.

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