



The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools Catholic Schools Week: Dividends for Life January 31-February 6

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Catholic Schools Week is celebrated across the country, this year during the week of January 31-February 6. 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 Most Reverend Glen John Provost will be the celebrant of a Mass for Catholic School's Week on Thursday, January 28 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception beginning at 9:30 a.m. Students from the eighth grade classes of the schools of the Diocese and St. Louis Catholic 12th grade students will be attending the liturgy.

The week is held annually to highlight the contributions and gifts of a Catholic Education. This year's national theme is "Catholic Schools: Dividends for Life." Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

According to Karen Ristau, NCEA president, "Catholic schools provide good things for students and families—high expectations and daily experience of faith. In these challenging times, the theme also reminds parents that the dividends of a Catholic school education—students prepared in faith, knowledge, morals and discipline—last a lifetime. There is no better way to invest in a child's future—or the future of our world."

Marie Powell, executive director of the Secretariat of Catholic Education of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted: "We realize that in most parts of the country a Catholic education is not without some cost. But I can't think of a better investment in the future than to invest in the education of a child."

The logo designed for the week features a cross superimposed on an outstretched hand. Rays coming from behind the hand express the concepts of faith, knowledge, morals and discipline—all beneficial aspects of a Catholic education. The theme "Catholic Schools" runs across the top of the art and "Dividends for Life" runs across the bottom of the art.

As part of Catholic Schools Week, National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools will be observed Wednesday, Feb. 3. National Appreciation Day was established to encourage supporters nationwide to showcase to elected officials the great accomplishments and contributions of Catholic schools. In Washington, a delegation of Catholic school stu-

dents, teachers and parents will visit Capitol Hill to meet with congressional leaders to promote Catholic schools.

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 Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles offer 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 celebrate Catholic Schools Week, they also prepare themselves for prospective students and 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.

Along with St. Louis Catholic High School, the Diocese of

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

Lake Charles has four elementary schools in the greater Lake Charles area, as well as an elementary school in Sulphur, Moss Bluff and Jennings.

Listed below are the Open House dates and contact information:

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School
2510 Enterprise Boulevard
Lake Charles
436-7959
Open House on Tuesday,
March 2 at 6:00 p.m. in
school cafeteria

Immaculate Conception Cathedral School
1536 Ryan Street
Lake Charles
433-3497
Open House on Wednesday,
March 10 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 Tuesday,
February 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School
1100 Mill Street
Lake Charles
436-3588
Open House on
Tuesday, March 3
from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Our Lady's Catholic School
1111 Cypress Street
Sulphur
527-7828
Open House on
Sunday, January 31
from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School
785 Sam Houston Jones
Parkway
Moss Bluff
855-9465
Open House on
Thursday, March 11
from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School
600 Roberts Avenue
Jennings
824-1743
Open House on
Thursday, March 11
at 7:30 p.m.

St. Louis Catholic High School
1620 Bank Street
Lake Charles
436-7275
Began registering
students Monday,
January 11



A large contingent from Southwest Louisiana attended the workshop, "Understanding School Law and Related Issues", offered by the Diocese of Baton Rouge and held at the Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. Sister Mary Angela Shaughnessy, SCN, J.D., Ph.D., Executive Director of the Education Law Institute and the Chair/Division of Education for St. Catharine College, St. Catharine, Ky., was the presenter for the day. Those attending from the Diocese of Lake Charles were, bottom row from left, JoAnn Wallwork, Our Lady Queen of Heaven School; Dinah Bradford, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School; Sr. Mary Angela; middle row, from left Stacy Myers, Our Lady Immaculate School, Jane Piraro, Our Lady Queen of Heaven School, Denise Donahoe, Director of Religious Education, Diocese of Lake Charles, Jennifer Bellon, Holy Family School; top row, from left, Nicole Reeves, Our Lady Immaculate School and Bernell Ezell, Director of the Office of Child and Youth Protection, and Kimberlee Gazzolo, Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

Catechetical Conference Jan. 30

LAKE CHARLES – Roy Petitfils, a well-known speaker and author from Lafayette, will keynote the annual Diocese of Lake Charles Catechetical Conference on Saturday, Jan. 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street.

The event, "Some Assembly Required – Helping Others Piece Together a Passionate, Faith-Filled Life", is sponsored by the diocesan Office of Religious Education. Denise Donahoe, director of the office, said, "Parish and school catechetical leaders, parish catechists, school religion teachers, youth ministers, and Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and evangelization team members are invited. Actually, any adult wanting to learn more is welcome."

Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. with the opening prayer and welcome from Bishop Glen John Provost set for 8:30 to 9 a.m. Petitfils keynote address will be from 9 to 10 a.m.

The first group of 10 breakout sessions will be from 10:30 a.m. until noon. And the second is set for 1 to 2:30 p.m. Speakers will include Rev. Tim Goodly, Rev. Anthony Fontenot, Nancy Cameaux, Rev. Ruben Buller, Adrienne Brame; Petitfils, Josh Boutte, Karlo Broussard, David Dawson, Stephanie Legendre and Rev. Whitney Miller. The day will conclude with closing prayer from 2:30 to 3 p.m.

Petitfils is a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Parish in Broussard, La., and earned his Masters in Counseling from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette and is an alumnus of St. Joseph Seminary College in Covington, La. For two years, he studied ministry and spirituality at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome.

Upon returning from Italy he began teaching and ministering at St. Thomas More Catholic High School in Lafayette, serving in numerous capacities.

Today, Petitfils serves as a counselor and administrator at St. Cecilia School in Broussard and as Counselor Intern at Pax Renewal Center in Lafayette. His counseling ministry draws upon his own experience of the therapeutic process.

Petitfils and three other campus ministers from around the United States have co-authored *A Practical Guide to High School Campus Ministry* (St. Mary's Press, 2007) and he has now added another title, *What I Wish Someone Had Told Me About the First Five Years of Marriage* (St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2010).

The fee to attend is \$25 including lunch or \$20 without lunch and registration forms are available in the parishes of the Diocese as well as the Office of Religious Education, 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601. Deadline for registration is Monday, Jan. 25. For more information call 337-439-7400, Ext. 309.

Collection for Latin America this weekend

WASHINGTON—Keep Faith is the theme for the 2010 Collection for the Church in Latin America, to be taken up this weekend January 23-24 in the parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

With last week's devastation from the earthquake in Haiti, this collection means all that much more. The proceeds of the Collection for the Church in Latin America are distributed to dioceses, parishes and other Catholic institutions throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to provide assistance for the many pastoral needs of the region.

In spite of the state of the economy, Catholics across the United States continue to show those in need have a special place in their hearts. In 2009, the USCCB Subcommittee for the Church in Latin America distributed \$6.8 million among 479 projects. These projects helped promote the Church's work in catechesis, evangelization and training of religious personnel. The formation of 20 novices and 70 junior sisters

in Peru, sharing the Gospel message in the Mapuche indigenous communities, and training for 72 Seminarians in the Archdiocese of Monterrey, Mexico, are only a few examples of the many essential works being done to Keep Faith in Latin America.

In August 2009, the subcommittee led a delegation to Cuba to see firsthand how funds were used to rebuild churches and other structures after Hurricanes Gustav and Ike devastated the island in September 2008. While there, they toured the construction site of the new National Seminary, which the collection is also helping to fund. In September, the collection provided funding to a national gathering of catechists in Brazil. And in December, the subcommittee offered help to the Church in El Salvador after damage caused by major flooding.

Additional information about the collection and the projects supported by it can be found at www.usccb.org/latinamerica.



The Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of Pontifical Knights and Dames have honored Rev. Msgr. Charles Dubois, second from left, pastor of St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff, and Sir James P. Martin, second from right, a member of Our Lady of Seven Dolors Catholic Church in Welsh. Msgr. Dubois, now serving in his 46th year of priestly ministry, received the Clergy Leadership Award, while Martin, who is a past president of the Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of the Pontifical Knights and Dames, was given the Sir Truman Stacey President's Award. Pictured with the honorees are Sir Gayle Marshall, left; The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, center; and Sir Chester Jones, Chapter president.

This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles through the generous sponsorships of the following:

For sponsorship information
Call Laurie Cormier at 337-436-5037
or lcormier62@yahoo.com

Your
Knights of
Columbus
Council Here

Your Knights
of Peter Claver
Council Here

In Memory
Of Your
Loved One
Here

"Connected Catholics"
Diocesan Singles
Ministry 337-439-7400

Catholic Charities
Diocese of
Lake Charles
337-439-7436

Watch "Glad Tidings"
Sunday at 6 a.m.
on KPLC-TV



"Walk in the Light" March for Life Rally tonight

LAKE CHARLES - The "Walk in the Light" March for Life Rally will be held today, Jan. 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the steps of the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse.

Nichole Lanthier, Robby Alleman, Kenny Lantier, and Chip Gauthé will open the evening with music for a "Concert for Life".

The "Stand Up for Life Rally" starts at 6:15 p.m. with a presentation remembering the Roe v Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. Speakers will include Mrs. Kathy Owen, director of the Office of Pro-Life for the Diocese of Lake Charles. Hot Chocolate will be served.

The rally will conclude with a candlelight "Walk for Life" from the Courthouse to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The walk's route will be north on Ryan Street, turning right onto Pujos Street, then right onto Bilbo Street before arriving at the Cathedral, 935 Bilbo Street.

An "Ecumenical Prayer Service" will be held at 7 p.m. in the Cathedral featur-



More than 700 people attended the Jan. 22, 2009 March for Life Rally held at the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse and in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The 2010 events, organized by the Office of Family Life and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, should draw even larger crowds.

ing reflections by Rev. Daniel Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese and Dr. David Darbonne, a local pro-life obstetrician.

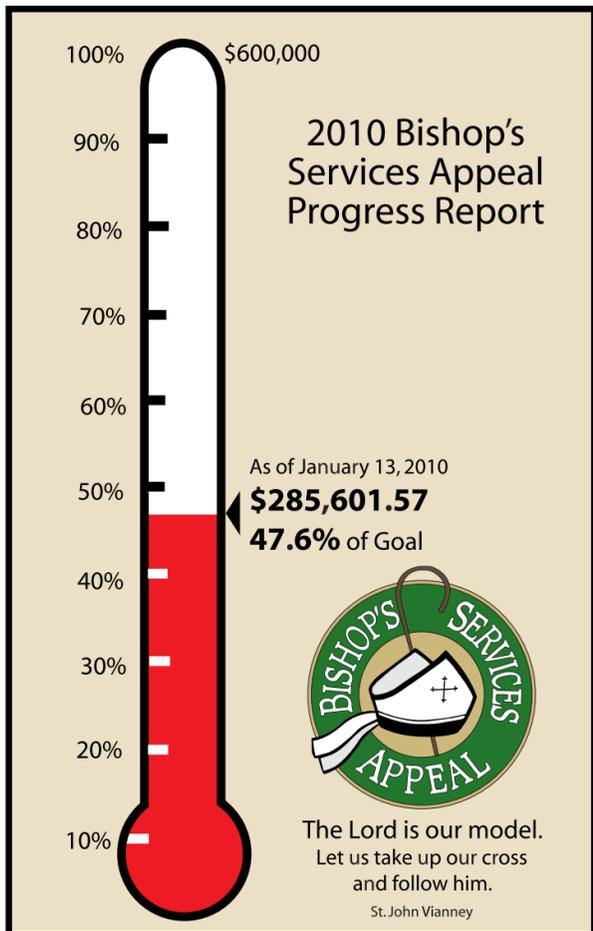
A "Rally for Life" reception will be held in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral Office Building at 7:45 p.m.

Many pro-life groups will be represented. Food and beverages will be served.

The final event of the evening will be a "Holy Hour for Life" in the Cathedral from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the offices of Family Life and Youth & Young Adult

Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles along with New Life Counseling, the local crisis pregnancy center. New Life will accept donations of baby items, such as booties and blankets as well as monetary contributions either at the courthouse or during the prayer service.



Volunteers, at left, worked diligently to complete the 100 boxes of food given out by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Lake Charles to those in need at Christmas. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles blessed the food prior to the distribution with Reverend V. Wayne LeBleu, Secretary for the Ministry of Pastoral Services, assisting.

OLQH marks Migration Week

LAKE CHARLES - Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish marked the week designated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as National Migration Week with a multi-cultural liturgy and a "Taste Fest".

The festivities highlighted the fact that, with the exception of the Native Americans, everyone is a decedent of migrant peoples and should remain attentive to the concerns of migrant peoples.

Parishioners represented their cultural heritage, dressing in traditional costume including those with ancestors from Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Italy, Mexico, South Africa, Philippines, Scotland, Spain, Saipan, Nigeria, Poland, Ireland, Vietnam, Greece, Germany and France as well as Cajun and Texan cultures. The Stella Maris Seafarers' Center, the Diocese of Lake Charles Office of Hispanic Ministry and the Our Lady

Queen of Heaven Catholic School Beta Club also had booths highlighting areas of social justice dealing with migrant peoples.

Representatives of the various cultures had tables decorated to highlight their cultural heritage as well as offered tasty samplings of food and beverages from their ancestral cultures. Entertainment was provided by Ricky Menard and Louisiana Heritage Cajun Band, Bagpiper James Dean of the Lone Star Pipe Band, the Coushatta Pow Wow Dancers, and Latin dancers Jay and Maria Cotto. The Nigerian Sisters offered an African Dance and a large crowd took part in the German Chicken Dance.

Beginning the week, the

church's 11 a.m. liturgy on the Feast of the Epiphany, celebrated Jan. 3, opened with a procession of costumed representatives from many countries accompanied by colorful flags. The Prayers of the Faithful were led by representatives petitioning first in their country's native language then in English.

The Nigerian sisters in the Diocese, members of the order Daughters of Mary, Mother of Mercy, brought up the offertory gifts in their tradition, with dancing and song and baskets of fruit and other gifts. The choir led songs from other countries such as Mexico and Germany as well as traditional English hymns.

Three instituted Knights of the Annunciation

LAKE CHARLES - Three young men have been installed as Knights of the Annunciation, a group instituted to help more fully prepare men who are discerning a possible priestly vocation.

Bishop Glen John Provost blessed Jacob Rigmaiden, Samuel Orsot and Chad Thibodeaux following Mass in the Cathedral on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Not in attendance that day but who will be installed at a later date are John Trost and Daniel Singer.

"This is an organization that grew out of our monthly Vocaré group," Rev. Nathan Long, vocation recruiter for the Central Deanery, said. "Vocaré is composed of men at all different stages of discernment. Among them are some who are prepared to make a deeper commitment, and are serious about the possibility of applying to a seminary in the next year or so."

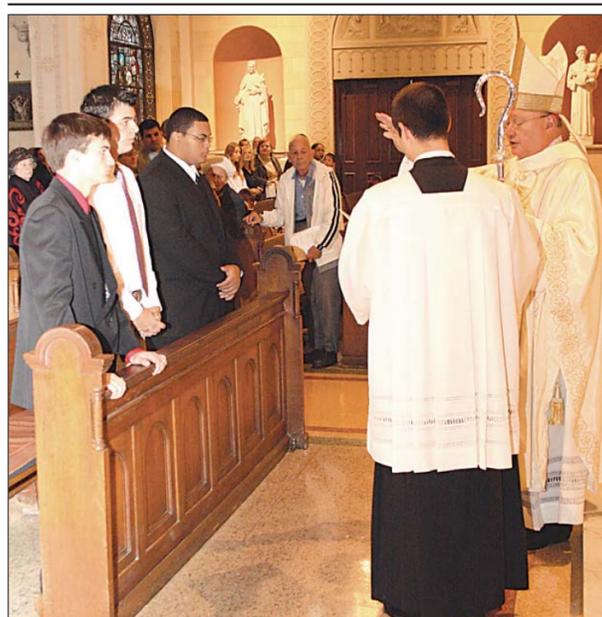
"Those who make a commitment with the Knights of Annunciation have basically agreed to what is classically known as a "rule of life" - a

spiritual program including regular prayer and spiritual direction," Father Long continued.

Those commitments include, daily meditation on the gospel or Scriptures (15-20 minutes); weekly visit to the Blessed Sacrament for longer period of Adoration; a decade or more of the rosary daily; monthly spiritual direction; monthly Sacrament of Penance; attending weekday Mass at least one day out of the week (Monday through Saturday) and altar serving at the desire of one's pastor

"The intent of this rule of life is to give people some concrete tools for discerning a call to the priesthood," Father Long noted. "It also prepares the candidate to adopt a prayer routine that will be necessary if he does choose to enter the seminary."

The Central Deanery Vocaré group meets at 7:15 p.m. each Sunday at the office building of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church. For more information call Father Long at 477-1236 or e-mail nathan.long@lcediocese.org.



Bishop Glen John Provost, right, blesses the three young men being instituted into the Knights of the Annunciation, a group that grew out of the monthly Vocaré meetings - Jacob Rigmaiden, Samuel Orsot and Chad Thibodeaux. Assisting the Bishop is Rev. Nathan Long.

Diocesan Briefs

St. Louis seeking principal

LAKE CHARLES - St. Louis Catholic High School is seeking a principal for the 2010-2011 school year. The St. Louis administrative team consists of the principal and two Deans of Students who report to and work collaboratively with the President to advance the school's mission.

Candidates must be a practicing Catholic for whom loyalty to Christ, his people, and the Church are of primary importance and hold a philosophy of education consistent with Catholic conviction; possess a master's degree and meet the requirements of certification for principal by the State of Louisiana and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; have school administrative experience in a secondary campus, preferably in a Catholic school; and demonstrate leadership ability in past or present educational assignments.

Application forms may be accessed on the St. Louis website - slchs.org. Applicants may send resumes and applications to Deborah Frank, President, St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 or fax (337) 436-6792.

Final January SE initial training session

LAKE CHARLES - The final Safe Environment Initial Training Session of January will be Monday, Jan. 25, according to Bernell Ezell, Director of the Office of Child and Youth Protection of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

The session is set for 6 p.m. in the Chancery of the Diocese, located at 414 Iris Street. Please contact Mrs. Ezell at 337-439-7400, Ext. 305 if you plan to attend.

St. Louis Catholic registration dates set

LAKE CHARLES - Registration for the 2010-2011 school year at St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street, continues in February and March.

Continuing St. Louis students who will be in grades 10 through 12 register Monday, Feb. 8 through Friday, Feb. 12 while transfer students in grades 10 through 12 will be able to register Monday, March 1 through Friday, March 5. Registration is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

Bishop's monthly presentations will resume

LAKE CHARLES - The monthly presentations of Bishop Glen John Provost on the Book of Revelation will resume in February.

The First Friday Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Feb. 5 while the Women's Prayer Luncheon with the Bishop will be Tuesday, Feb. 9.

The Breakfast will be held in Ave Maria Hall at the corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets at 7 a.m. Men may register by calling 439-7400.

The Women's Luncheon will be in the Lake Charles Civic Center. Women should send a check in the amount of \$10, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Ms. Esther Gallardo, 612 Alamo Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601 and include a stamped, self addressed envelope.

"Come Follow Me" Retreat

LAKE CHARLES - The Diocese of Lake Charles is joining with its sister Dioceses of Lafayette and Baton Rouge to offer a discernment retreat on February 5-7, 2010, at the Bishop Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. It is open to interested men 16 and older, in high school, college or professional life that may feel a call to the priesthood.

Registration forms are available from your Church office or from Very Reverend Marcus M. Johnson at 436-8093 for more information. All registration forms are to be mailed to Father Johnson at 2031 Opelousas Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601

Junior High Youth Rally

OBERLIN - The Diocese of Lake Charles will sponsor the junior high youth rally from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. Mass will begin at 4 p.m., according to Milissa Thibodeaux, Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

There will be live music, talks, skits, games, good and fund.

Registration forms are due by Monday, March 15. For more information call the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 337-439-7400, Ext. 301.

Did you know...

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception seats about 600 but St. Philip Neri Church in Kinder has the largest capacity, about 1,000.

Each year a group of the faithful travels to South America to do mission work in one of the poorest areas of the continent. Do you know which country is visited and the name of the local mission group? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar.

This page paid for by the Diocese of Lake Charles through the generous sponsorships of the following:

Your Knights of Columbus Council Here

Your Knights of Peter Claver Council Here

In Memory Of Your Loved One Here

Saint Charles Center/Tabor Retreat House 337-855-1232

Crossroads Your Store of Faith 474-7100

For sponsorship information Call Laurie Cormier at 337-436-5037 or lcormier62@yahoo.com