



A Christmas Message from Bishop Glen John Provost

My dear People of God,

"In the beginning was the Word." John 1:1

I grew up hearing or reading those words at every Mass I attended—as the case might be, since the Mass was heard in Latin and read in an English missal. "In the beginning was the Word," read the priest. *In principio erat Verbum* (John 1:1). It was called in the Latin rite, "The Last Gospel," the final word, if you will, to remind us of all that had gone on before. "In the beginning was the Word." Now, in the present liturgy, we hear those words spoken almost exclusively on Christmas morning, at a Mass that few attend because they prefer the Vigil.

I did not know it then but only later came to realize that these words had a profound effect on my understanding of what the "Word" is. The passage begins the Gospel of St. John. "In the beginning" is too similar in message not to recall the opening sentence of the entire Bible. "In the beginning" also begins the first book of the Bible, which we call *Genesis*, precisely for that reason. God begins His creation in *Genesis* and St. John wants us to know that in Christ, His Son, He is beginning His re-creation.

The "Word" that St. John describes "was with God" (John 1:1). As a matter of fact, "... the Word was God" (John 1:1). This Word was with God from the beginning, but since we know God has no beginning, the beginning spoken of is the created reality that we experience, the object of our measurement and temporal definitions. "All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be" (John 1:3). This Word is pre-existent. This Word is eternal. This Word is Jesus Christ. "And the Word became flesh

and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). Oh, mystery!

You see the reason that "Last Gospel" changed my understanding of the "Word" is because St. John was proclaiming something more than a written word. I was a child, then, and like a child I was learning the meaning of "words" in school, studying their definitions and spellings. However, every time I went to Mass I would hear of a Word that existed before time and took flesh. And to further emphasize those words, we would genuflect when those words were spoken. Could a word be immaterial? Or, more importantly, could a word have a meaning that transcended its written form? Without a doubt this was true, if we were to believe St. John. I could not help but think that what St. John said was true, because I saw it particularly lived out at Christmas.

Christmas has always been a special time for me. I hope that it continues to be for all of you. What happens at Christmas? There is a meal and gathering like no other at any other time of the year. There are presents, trees with lights, special music and singing—but most especially words. I heard my grandmother and my aunts tell stories, and to do so they used words. There were reminiscences, remembrances of things past, which were told at other times of the year, but at Christmas took on a hallowed aspect because they were surrounded with the trappings of manger scenes and lights, exquisite food and sparkling gifts.

"Mom," I asked my grandmother once following dinner as the family sat visiting over

coffee in the dining room, "What does *collation* mean?" The old French word had puzzled me. She answered, "What we are doing now, sitting around the table talking." A sharing of words, ideas, stories? I thought it meant a meal. I could not help but think that what she said had come from another time, perhaps some colloquial meaning of the word that had been passed down from 18th Century France, as only one could encounter in Southwest Louisiana. A *collation* was a meal at which a sharing took place that involved more than words. It was conversation, the exchange of ideas, the communication of family and friends in love, with good cheer and happiness at being together.

Did not God engage in *collation*? He most certainly did. There was never a doubt in my mind. He invited us to a banquet, the Eucharist, and sat and talked to us through His prophets, His apostles, and most especially through Jesus, His Son. "What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race" (John 1:3). The Word brought life. The Word made flesh was "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

In the modern world, words have become cheap. With I-Pods and text-messaging, our shortcuts and abbreviations, with the jargon of a more complicated and complex world, a world full of words with seemingly little meaning, sometimes I think we are experiencing the results of placing too much emphasis upon a written word. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). From before the beginning, the Word was more than a written word. It was a Revelation, or better yet, an act of love bursting forth, coming down from heaven, fracturing the boundaries of whatever

might confine it, including human sin, and entering the stage of human discourse so that creation would never be the same again. In this way, we could receive "from his fullness... grace in place of grace" (John 1:16).

I thought of that when I was a child but not in the same way, when my mother would ask me to play on the piano her favorite Christmas carol, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. I heard angels breaking into song on a cloudless, chilly night in the city of David, through carols sung around a tree, and their words announcing a mystery that was as compelling as the desire to be with family on the birthday of the Prince of Peace. It is a mystery no one can take from us because it is bigger than written words, though we must use them out of frustration to express our deepest truth. There are words that mean more because they tell us of an eternal "Word," at a *collation* that only God could have prepared. "[H]e has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word" (Hebrews 1:3).

To you and to your families and friends, I extend my personal greetings and blessings for a safe, peaceful and joyous Christmas. May the Prince of Peace bring to rest all that would prevent you from benefiting from the celebration of His Birthday. God love you!

The Most Rev. Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

Catholic Charities Christmas Collection: Please give generously!



LAKE CHARLES – On Christmas Day in the Diocese of Lake Charles, a special collection will be held that is of great importance to those most in need in Southwest Louisiana – the Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities.

"As you make your final preparations for the celebration of Christ's birth, please remember the Christmas collection for Catholic Charities," Trish Trejo, Director of Catholic Charities said. "This second collection is the only one in the year that goes entirely to fund the work of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana in its

fight against poverty."

The goal for this year's collection is \$55,000, almost 26 percent of the total revenue budget of Catholic Charities for the fiscal year.

"Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to the Christmas wish list of Catholic Charities this year," Mrs. Trejo said.

Examples of what gifts of particular amounts can do shows that \$25 provides a box of food for a senior adult, \$50 offers life-sustaining medication for one month; \$100 pays a natural gas bill for a low-income family; \$200 helps with funeral assistance; and \$400

provides rental assistance to someone facing eviction.

According to Mrs. Trejo, during the first 11 months of 2010, donations from church parishes and individuals made possible over \$101,000 of emergency financial assistance that included all of the above examples. This money helped 455 households, a total of 953 individuals. Over 250 of these families had children under 18 living in them, and 44 of them had senior adults in the home.

"Please consider prayerfully how much you can give to this worthwhile cause," Mrs. Trejo said. "You can give through your church parish's collection at the

Christmas Mass or mail your donation directly to Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, 612 Louisiana Ave, Lake Charles LA 70601."

Father Wayne LeBleu, Secretary for Pastoral Services of the Diocese, also urges everyone to consider making a gift to this extremely important cause. "In these difficult times please be as generous as you possibly can," Father LeBleu said.

Anyone with questions about Catholic Charities services or a desire to volunteer may call 439-7436 and ask for Mrs. Trejo or e-mail her at trish.trejo@lcdioocese.org.

Christmas Mass Schedule for churches of the Diocese of Lake Charles

Bell City	Hackberry	Lake Charles	Oakdale
St. John Vianney (7120 Hwy. 14 E.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (Day)	St. Peter the Apostle (1210 Main St.) 4:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.; (Eve); 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. (Extraordinary Form of the Liturgy (Day)	Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (Corner of Kirby and Bilbo Streets) 4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day) Christ the King (7680 Gulf Hwy.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)	Sacred Heart of Jesus (1208 E. 7th Ave.) 7:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)
Big Lake	Iowa	Immaculate Heart of Mary (2031 Opelousas St.) 4:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)	Oberlin
St. Mary of the Lake (11054 Hwy 384) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Raphael (211 S. Thomson Ave.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:15 a.m. (Day)	Our Lady of Good Counsel (221 Aqua Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Joan of Arc (110 W. 5th Ave.) 5:30 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)
Carlyss	St. Peter Claver Chapel (503 Second Street) 8:00 a.m. (Day)	Our Lady Queen of Heaven (3939 Lake St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Day)	Ragley
St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (4822 Carlyss Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Jennings (705 S. Lake Arthur Ave.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. (Day)	Sacred Heart of Jesus (1102 Mill St.) 4:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Pius X Chapel (16816 Hwy 171) 5:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)
Creole	Our Lady Help of Christians (710 N. State St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)	St. Henry (1021 Eighth Ave.) 4:45 p.m., 6:45 p.m.; 8:45 p.m. (Spanish) (Eve); 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) (Day)	Raymond
Sacred Heart of Jesus (5250 West Creole Highway) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	Our Lady of Perpetual Help (920 S. Broadway) 9:00 p.m. (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Margaret of Scotland (2500 Enterprise Blvd.) (NW Corner of Enterprise Blvd. & 17th Street) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Lawrence (5505 Pine Island Hwy.) 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)
DeQuincy	Johnson Bayou	St. Martin de Porres (5326 Elliott Rd.) 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)	Sulphur
Our Lady of LaSalette (203 S. Grand Ave.) 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	Our Lady of the Assumption Chapel at Community Center (5556 Hwy 82) 7:00 p.m. (Eve.)	St. Patrick Hospital Chapel (524 Dr. Michael DeBakey Drive) 9:00 a.m. (Day)	Immaculate Conception (2700 Maplewood Dr.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)
DeRidder	St. Philip Neri (607 Fourth Ave.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	LeBleu Settlement	Our Lady of LaSalette (602 N. Claiborne St.) 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)
St. Joseph (1125 Blankenship Dr.) 5:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m. (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	Lacassine	St. Joseph Chapel (2110 Claude Hebert Road) 8:30 a.m. (Day)	Our Lady of Prompt Succor (1109 Cypress St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 10:00 a.m. (Day)
Elizabeth	St. John the Evangelist Chapel (306 Ann St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m. (Day)	Moss Bluff	Sweetlake
St. Frances of Rome Chapel (204 Poplar St.) 8:00 a.m. (Day)	Lake Arthur	St. Theodore (785 Sam Houston Jones Pkwy.) 4:30 p.m., 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 9:00 a.m. (Day)	St. Patrick Chapel (469 Hwy. 27) 8:00 a.m. (Day)
Elton	Our Lady of the Lake (203 Commercial Ave.) 12:00 Midnight (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Day)		Vinton
St. Joseph (209 N. Washington St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)			St. Joseph (1502 Industrial St.) 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)
St. Paul (1100 St. Mary St.) 7:00 p.m. (Eve); 7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)			Welsch
Fenton			Our Lady of Seven Dolours (209 N. Adams St.) 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m. (Day)
St. Charles Borromeo (804 Third Ave.) 6:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:45 a.m. (Day)			St. Joseph (310 N. Sarah St.) 10:00 a.m. (Day)
Grand Chenier			Westlake
St. Eugene (5035 Grand Chenier Hwy.) 5:30 p.m. (Eve); 8:30 a.m. (Day)			St. John Bosco (1301 Sampson St.) 4:00 p.m. (Eve); 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Day)

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Your Knights of Columbus Council Here	Catholic Charities Diocese of Lake Charles 337-439-7436	Saint Charles Center/Tabor Retreat House 337-855-1232	Crossroads Your Store of Faith 474-7100	Watch "Glad Tidings" Sunday at 6 a.m. on KPLC-TV	"Connected Catholics" Diocesan Singles Ministry 337-439-7400	For sponsorship information Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 307 sponsorship@lcdioocese.org
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Cardinal Burke visits Diocese of Lake Charles

LAKE CHARLES – During his recent visit to the Diocese of Lake Charles, His Eminence, Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke spoke at the annual fundraising banquet for New Life Counseling, a pregnancy counseling agency, that drew more than 700 people. The Cardinal, who is uncompromising in his support of “right to life”, is Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura. His position is comparable to that of the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Cardinal Burke, who was elevated to the College of Cardinals by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI on Nov. 20, was introduced by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles. The two men were seminarian students in Rome in the 1970s and were ordained by Pope Paul VI on June 29, 1975 in St. Peter's Basilica.

The Cardinal's education background, which makes him one of the world's leading authorities on Canon Law, includes a Doctorate in Canon Law (JCD) with specialization in jurisprudence, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1984; Diploma in Latin Letters, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1983; Licentiate in Canon Law (JCL), Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1982; Master of Arts in Theology, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1975; Bachelor of Sacred Theology (STB), Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1974; Master of Arts in Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, 1971; and Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, 1970.

The Cardinal urged the gathering to never give up the struggle to maintain a culture this is based on respect for life. He said he respects New Life Counseling so much because it is based on the love of Christ, “New Life Counseling is a witness to the public, but also a witness to government officials. Having come to know your mission, I am honored to be with you, tonight, and to join my support to the support of so many faithful Christians,” he said.

(For more on this story go to live.lcdioocese.org/news/751-cardinal-burke-visits-lake-charles.html and to read Cardinal Burke's talk go to live.lcdioocese.org/news/748-cardinal-burkes-address-at-new-life-counseling-banquet.html.)



Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke, left, and Bishop Glen John Provost at L'Evêché, the bishop's residence.

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles are closed today, Dec. 24, and will remain closed through Friday, Dec. 31; reopening at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 3.

The next Catholic Calendar will be published on Friday, Jan. 14, 2011.

Philanthropist issues challenge to Catholics

CHICAGO, Ill. – Father Jack Wall, President of Catholic Extension, recently announced that Richard Driehaus, well-known Chicago philanthropist and founder of the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, has issued a second \$500,000 Challenge Grant for 2011 to supporters of the Chicago-based organization. Catholic Extension helps Catholic communities across America flourish by providing support for their faith-building initiatives and ministries.

Since 2000, Catholic Extension has provided grants totaling \$3,914,660 to the Diocese of Lake Charles for programs and ministries as well as for needy parishes. The organization was also instrumental in assisting the diocese with more than \$1,000,000 following Hurricane Rita.

Mr. Driehaus explained that his challenge grant is meant to encourage new donors to give while also motivating current donors to increase their level of giving.

“The challenge grant I announced last year was one of the most successful I have ever made, and I am humbled and inspired by the exceptional response,” Mr.

Driehaus said. “In fact, I am so inspired, that I am going to repeat it again next year. I encourage anyone who can to join me in supporting this compassionate and effective organization.”

Mr. Driehaus's 2010 Challenge attracted an unprecedented number of new donors, raised \$3,750,000 for Catholic Extension and enabled the organization to increase its support in more than 80 dioceses by nearly 20 percent to almost \$18 million. Meeting the new 2011 challenge will enable Catholic Extension to keep pace with the tremendous needs of growing Catholic communities in 33 states.

To learn more about Catholic Extension and the 2011 Driehaus Challenge, or to contribute, contact the Development Office at catholicextension.org or 1-800-842-7804.

Since 1905, Catholic Extension has been empowered Catholic communities by providing them funds to establish themselves; become self-sustaining; provide religious education and outreach ministries; build and renovate church buildings.

Did you know...

The Diocese of Lafayette was established on Jan. 11, 1918, by decree of Pope Benedict XV, with Bishop Jules B. Jeanmard as the founding bishop. The first parish established in what is now the Diocese of Lake Charles was Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Sulphur, on June 29, 1919. Slightly less than four months later, a second new parish in Southwest Louisiana was formed – Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lake Charles. St. Paul Parish in Elton was the last parish established, in 1913, before the formation of the Diocese of Lafayette from the area of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

One diocesan priest recently celebrated his 45th anniversary of ordination and was honored with a gala celebration by his parish. Do you know this “outdoorsman” priest? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

Father Scott Conner assigned to St. Henry

LAKE CHARLES – Reverend Jacob Scott Conner was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles on Saturday, Dec. 18, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception before a standing room only crowd. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, was the ordaining prelate.

Father Conner received his first pastoral assignment as a priest as Parochial Vicar to St. Henry Parish in Lake Charles.

He celebrated his first Mass Sunday, Dec. 19, at Our Lady of Seven Dolours Catholic Church in Welsh.

Father Conner's December ordination places him in a select company of priests in the Diocese. A priestly ordination on the Saturday before Christmas is reminiscent of a revered tradition, that of celebrating ordinations during the Ember Days of Advent, specifically Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after the Third Sunday of Advent. Other priests serving in the Diocese who hold that distinction include: Monsignor James Gaddy, Fathers Marshall Boulet, Ed Brunner, Ernest Corriveau, Joe Gosselin, James Winiarski, Roland Vaughn, Brian King, Augustine Mulanjanany, John Poerio, and Fred Russi.

(For more on this story go to live.lcdioocese.org/news/764-reverend-conner-ordained-to-priesthood.html and to read Bishop Provost's homily in its entirety at live.lcdioocese.org/bishop-provost/homilies/761-priesthood-ordination.html. Photos from the ordination Mass may be found at live.lcdioocese.org/resources/image-galleries/view/25.html)

Catholic Schools' Notes

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School

Holy Family Catholic School's French Market Bazaar had its most successful year! The school raised \$1,730 and had more booths and shoppers than ever before! The proceeds from the bazaar are used for the Holy Family Teacher Curriculum fund.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School

OLQH School will be celebrating Msgr. James Gaddy's 70th birthday on Thursday, January 6 at 8:30 a.m. in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church.

Our Lady's Catholic School

Our Lady's school students will now have access to a new MacBook Learning Center. The portable lab will consist of 20 laptop computers and enable students to incorporate technology directly into their daily schoolwork and classroom projects.

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School

ICCS middle school students participating in Drama performed a special Christmas production of “A Charlie Brown Christmas” on Wednesday, December 15 on the ICCS stage. Immaculate Conception Cathedral School offers Drama as an enrichment course to students in grades sixth through eighth.

Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic School

Faculty, staff, families and friends were treated to the Sounds of the Season by students in Pre-K through fifth

grade during the SMCS Christmas Program on December 16th. An Advent Service was held on Dec. 17, and featured Liturgical dance performed by the eighth grade girls. As a school-wide service project and in the spirit of giving, SMCS provided many gifts and gift cards to four adopted families through Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School

We congratulate Kaylee Herpin, chosen as Fifth grade Student of the Year, and Toni Romero, chosen to be our Eighth grade Student of the Year. They have demonstrated excellent academic achievement, leadership ability, and citizenship. We wish everyone special Christmas Blessings and a Happy New Year!

St. Louis Catholic High School

On Thursday December 2, a group of 20 St. Louis Catholic High School students and several teachers attended the New Life Counseling Banquet and witnessed the keynote address given by His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke. The students and staff were also privileged to take a picture with Cardinal Burke and His Excellency, Bishop Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles. It was a memorable occasion for the St. Louis Catholic group.

Sacred Heart/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School

Sacred Heart School will join Sacred Heart Church in hosting a Kwanzaa Celebration Sunday, January 2 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Gym. Kwanzaa is a celebration of family, community and culture. Harambee! All are welcome!

Diocesan Briefs.....

Bishop Provost to celebrate Pontifical High Mass

LAKE CHARLES – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will be the celebrant of a Pontifical High Mass (Extraordinary Form) on Sunday, Dec. 26, at 2 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. All are invited to attend.

Seminarian Korey LaVergne enters Monastery

ST. JOSEPH ABBEY—Korey LaVergne of DeQuincy, until this time a seminarian studying for the Diocese of Lake Charles, will be entering St. Joseph Abbey in Covington, Louisiana, this January. He will now be pursuing a call to religious life with the Benedictine monks of that abbey. Father Daniel Torres, Vocation Director for the Diocese, stated: “We offer Korey our prayers as he enters the monastery in Covington. May God continue His good work in him.”

Abrazando Cristo Mission trip set

LAKE CHARLES – The 2011 Abrazando Cristo Mission trip to Nicaragua is scheduled for July 2-10, according to Father Daniel Torres, Director of the mission program. Cost of the trip is \$1,900 per person, which includes all air and ground transportation, meals, lodging, tips, taxes, retreat, and mission shirts.

For an information packet/registration form please contact Father Torres at 337-439-7400. Only 25 seats are available and a \$300 non-refundable deposit is due by Jan. 15 to secure a seat.

Forty Hours Devotion for January

LAKE CHARLES – Forty Hours Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament or “Extended Eucharistic Adoration” praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and the religious life in the Diocese of Lake Charles will be held during January 2011 in the Central Deanery.

On Wednesday, Jan. 5 and Thursday, Jan. 6 from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Friday, Jan. 7, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Adoration will be held at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Lake Charles.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and Sacred Heart of Jesus Church will each offer 20 hours of adoration from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Immaculate Heart on Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 10 and 11, and Sacred Heart on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 12 and Jan. 13.

Our Lady of Good Counsel will have adoration Tuesday through Friday, Jan. 18-21. Adoration will take place on Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

The final site will be St. Theodore Church in Moss Bluff from 6:15 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 24, to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 25.

March for Life January 22

LAKE CHARLES – The annual March for Life rally, jointly sponsored by the Office of Pro Life and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 22 beginning with a Concert for Life on the steps of the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse.

The event is held each year on the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision on Roe v Wade, which made abortion legal in the United States. Since that time there have been more than 50,000,000 children killed through abortions in this country.

The Concert for Life will start at 5:15 p.m. and continue until 6 p.m. Following will be a “Stand Up For Life” rally featuring guest speakers Kathy Owen, the Director of the Office of Prof Life, and Katie Prejean. At 6:45 p.m. a candlelight procession will move down Kirby Street to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where at 7 p.m. a Prayer Service will be conducted by Rev. Marcus Johnson, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and Dean of the Central Deanery of the diocese.

At 7:45 p.m. a reception with a Pro Life Ministries fair will be held in Ave Maria Hall, on the corner of Kirby and Bilbo streets. A Holy Hour for Life will be held from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Cathedral to complete the evening.

Institute for Black Catholic Studies in July

NEW ORLEANS – The Institute for Black Catholic Studies is a school of ministry for clergy, religious and laypersons working in the Black community and Roman Catholic Church that convenes each summer at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans. The 2011 session is scheduled for July 1-July 23.

The Master's Program is a three-week course of study. Certificate and Enrichment courses for Catechists, Youth Ministers, Parish Leaders, and Elders are held in three one-week modules. For more information, check the website at www.xula.edu/ibcs or call (504)520-7961.

Rachel's Vineyard Weekend in February

LAKE CHARLES – Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana, a ministry of Priests for Life sponsored by the Diocese of Lake Charles will hold its second weekend retreat Friday through Sunday, February 18-20, 2011 at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

A Rachel's Vineyard weekend is an opportunity for any person who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion, to surface and release repressed feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief. The retreat will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment.

Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience the mercy and compassion of God.

For more information or registration contact 337-439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail rachels.vineyard@lcdioocese.org.

Abbey Fest set March 26

ST. BENEDICT – St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College will sponsor the 11th annual Abbey Youth Festival on Saturday, March 26, which will have as its theme “ever Ancient ever New”.

“Early Bird” registration through Monday, January 24, will be \$25 per person and includes a t-shirt; regular registration, from Tuesday, January 25 through Friday, March 11 at 11 a.m. will be \$30 per person, including a t-shirt. On line registration ends at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 11 and late or on-site registration is \$35 per person. Late registration does not include a t-shirt. Registration is also accepted by calling 985-867-2233. On-site registration is accepted, but pre-registration is appreciated.

Those attending are free to bring their own meals but a variety of on-site meals will be available and must be pre-ordered at time of registration.

For registration information go to <http://abbeyyouth-fest.com/reg>.

Hall of Fame nominations being sought

LAKE CHARLES – St. Louis Catholic High School is seeking nominations for its “Hall of Fame.” Deadline for applying is Friday, Jan. 14, 2011.

To be eligible, a person must have graduated from St. Louis at least 10 years ago or from one of its merger schools, Landry Memorial, Saint Charles Academy or Sacred Heart.

Nomination forms are available at the St. Louis office or by calling 337-436-7275.