



The Diocese of Lake Charles Catholic Schools: Catholic Schools Week: A+ For America * January 30-February 5

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Catholic Schools Week is celebrated across the country, this year during the week of January 30-February 5. 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 Schools Week on Tuesday, Feb. 1, 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 along with 12th grade students from St. Louis Catholic High School in addition to the St. Louis Choir will be attending the liturgy.

The week is marked nationally on the final week of January to highlight the contributions and gifts of a Catholic Education. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2011 celebrates the fact that Catholic schools are an added value ("a plus") for the nation. Because of their traditionally high academic standards and high graduation rates, all supported by strong moral values, Catholic schools and their graduates make a definite contribution to American society.

Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

"Historically, Catholic schools are known for their high level of academic achievement, moral values and high graduation rates," said Karen Ristau, president of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). "What may not be as widely recognized are the outstanding successes recorded by students of low-income families and students from the inner city. That's certainly a plus for many portions of the American population."

Marie Powell, executive director of the Secretariat of Catholic Education at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted: "This year nearly 30 percent of the nation's 2.1 million Catholic school students come from minority populations. Enrollment of students who are not Catholic has increased to 14.5 percent, an indication that many diverse families seek the benefits of a quality education with moral underpinnings."

The logo designed for the week displays the words "A+ For America, Catholic Schools" beneath a stylized banner of stars and stripes in red and light blue.

The 7,094 Catholic elementary and secondary schools make up 44.4 percent of all private schools in the United States.

A Catholic-school education is available in all regions of

the nation. Urban schools represent 30.7 percent of the total, suburban 36.5 percent, rural 20.5 percent and inner-city schools 12.3 percent. The five states with the highest student enrollments are California, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Ohio.

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.



A+ For America CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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, there are five Catholic schools in the greater Lake Charles area, as well as Catholic schools in Sulphur and Jennings.

Listed below are the Open House dates and contact information:

Immaculate Conception Cathedral

Catholic School (PreK-8)
1536 Ryan Street
Lake Charles
433-3497
Open House - Wednesday, Feb. 2,
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School (K-8)

600 Roberts Avenue
Jennings
824-1743
Open House - Tuesday, March 22,
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven

Catholic School (PreK-8)
3908 Creole Street
Lake Charles
477-7349
Open House - Thursday, March 24,
6:00 p.m.

Our Lady's Catholic School

(PreK-8)
1111 Cypress Street
Sulphur
527-7828
Open House - Wednesday, March 16
at 6:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School

(PreK-8)
1100 Mill Street
Lake Charles
436-3588
Open House - Sunday, February 6,
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday,
February 8, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

St. Louis Catholic High School

(9-12)
1620 Bank Street
Lake Charles
436-7275

Registration Dates:

Incoming freshmen from support schools, ends today, January 14
Continuing/current students: February 14-18
Incoming freshmen high school placement test: February 12, 8 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School (PreK-8)

2510 Enterprise Boulevard
Lake Charles
436-7959
Open House - Thursday, March 3,
6:00 p.m. with talks and tours.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School (K-8)

785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway
Moss Bluff
855-9465
Open House, Thursday, March 17, 2010
from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (during class hours) and 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



St. Louis Catholic High School head football coach Mike Johns, left, and SLCHS athletic director and soccer head coach Jason Oertling, far right, are joined by local businessmen Phil Tarver, second from left, of Lake Charles Toyota and Tarver Ford and Doug Gehrig, third from left, of McDonald's of Southwest Louisiana beside the new scoreboard, located at the school's soccer field and football practice field, which was provided through the generosity of the two businessmen and their companies.

Bishop Provost's presentations on St. John's Gospel continue

LAKE CHARLES - Bishop Glen John Provost will continue his presentations on the Gospel of St. John in 2011 on Friday, Feb. 4 at the Men's Prayer Breakfast and on Tuesday, Feb. 8 at the Women's Luncheon. The breakfast will be held in Ave Maria Hall at 7 a.m., following Mass in the Cathedral, while the luncheon is set for the Lake Charles Civic Center.

The Bishop will complete his presentation, begun in January, on the 13th through 17th chapters of the Gospel of St. John with the theme "Last Supper". All who plan

to attend these presentations are asked to read those passages beforehand.

Women are asked to 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 to register and include a stamped-self addressed envelope. The cutoff date for the January luncheon is Thursday, Feb. 3. Women are also asked to arrive at 11:30 a.m.

Men should call 337-439-7400 to register for the breakfast.

Diocesan Catechetical Conference set Jan. 28-29

(For more information go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/ore-home/111-office-of-religious-education/766-diocesan-catechetical-conference-january-29.html>)

LAKE CHARLES - The annual Catechetical Conference, sponsored by the Office of Religious Education of the Diocese of Lake Charles, will be Friday and Saturday, Jan. 28-29, at St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street.

The Friday session, which

is specifically designed for the faculty and staff of Catholic schools, will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bishop Glen John Provost will preside at the opening prayer.

Gloria Reinhardt Majerus, a regional Catechetical Consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division, will be the keynote speaker both days. Her talk will be "Do As I Have Done."

Majerus received her Masters in Religious Studies from Boston College. She has

worked in Religious Education at the parish, school and diocesan levels. Her positions have included: Associate Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Wilmington, Del.; Diocesan Coordinator of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Richmond, Va.; Religion Department Chairperson for a Catholic High School; Director of Religious Education in three parishes, Pastoral Associate, Director of Adult Faith Formation, Campus

Minister, Human Sexuality trainer and Retreat Director. Gloria participated in the Echoes of Faith project co-authored "The Person of the Catechist" and was a contributing author for the first module "Getting Started". She has given workshops and keynote presentations throughout the country. Presently she is a Regional Catechetical Consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division.

Families receive holiday assistance from Diocese

(For more information on this go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/774-families-receive-holiday-assistance-from-diocese.html>)

LAKE CHARLES - Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana made Christmas brighter for 82 families during the week of December 20. Of these, 18 families received Christmas gift assistance, and 64 received Christmas meal boxes from the agency.

Christmas gifts went to 59 children and eight senior adults in these 18 families. This was possible due to almost \$600 in cash gifts from diocesan employees who made this their Christmas donation in lieu of an exchange of gifts at their annual Christmas celebration. In addition, eight generous benefactors provided non-cash donations of gifts and gift cards totaling approximately \$5,000.

Families who received the food boxes included approximately 217 family members. These boxes included food from Second Harvest of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana (GNOA), hams donated by Honey-B-Ham of Lake Charles, and hens for the larger families donated by another donor.

Time and talent were as important as treasure in making the project successful. Volunteers came to the office to wrap, organize and distribute the gifts over a three-day period. Other volunteers went to Lafayette to pick up food from Second Harvest, packed the food boxes and distributed the food. They included adults, teens and children. The organizer of this year's gift event was Alison Durio, part-time employee of Catholic Charities and full-time student of McNeese State University. The food distribution was organized by Hanh Vu, Associate Director of Catholic Charities. All involved worked together to Provide Help and Create Hope for the families of Southwest Louisiana.

Two important collections set

(For more on this story go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/772-important-collections-upcoming.html>)

LAKE CHARLES - Two very important special collections will be taken up in the parishes of the Diocese of Lake Charles on the final two weekends of January. **Keep Faith**, the 2011 Collection for the Church in Latin America, is the weekend of January 22-23 while on the weekend of January 29-30

the special collection for Religious Education in the diocese will be taken up to support religious education activities and programs. All the funds realized from the Religious Education collection remain here in the Diocese.

Bishop Glen John Provost urges everyone to be as generous as they possibly can to each of these most important collections.



From left, Alli Crochet and Hannah Guth are shown wrapping gifts in the Sacred Heart Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School gym in preparation for present distribution. They are two of the many volunteers who assisted with the Christmas activities at Catholic Charities.

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

Hope After Abortion
Rachel's Vineyard
439-7400, Ext. 317
rachelvineyard.org

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



March for Life January 22

LAKE CHARLES - The annual March for Life rally, jointly sponsored by the Office of Pro Life, the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles and New Life Counseling, will be held 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 of 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, featuring Nichole Lanthier, Robby Alleman, Kenny Lantier, and Chip Gauthé, will start at 5:15 p.m. and continue until 6 p.m. Following the concert will be a "Stand Up For Life" rally featuring guest speakers Kathy Owen, Director of the Office of Pro Life, and Katie Prejean. At 6:45 p.m. a candlelight procession will move east on Kirby Street to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where a 7 p.m. Prayer Service will be conducted by Father Marcus Johnson, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Dean of the Central Deanery of the diocese, and Rector of St. Louis Catholic High School. The Office of Pro Life will be accepting donations during the prayer service to assist pro-life activities at New Life Counseling.

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.

For more information contact Kathy Owen at the Office of Pro Life, 337-439-7400, Ext. 313 or by e-mail: kathy.owen@lcdioocese.org.



A large crowd of supporters took part in last year's pro-life rally held at the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. This year's "Rally for Life" is expected to draw even larger attendance.

Prayer for Christian Unity

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will preside at the Ecumenical Prayer Service for Christian Unity at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Reverend Lathan Hill, pastor of First Baptist Church of Welsh, will deliver the message. The

event is held as part of the worldwide Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

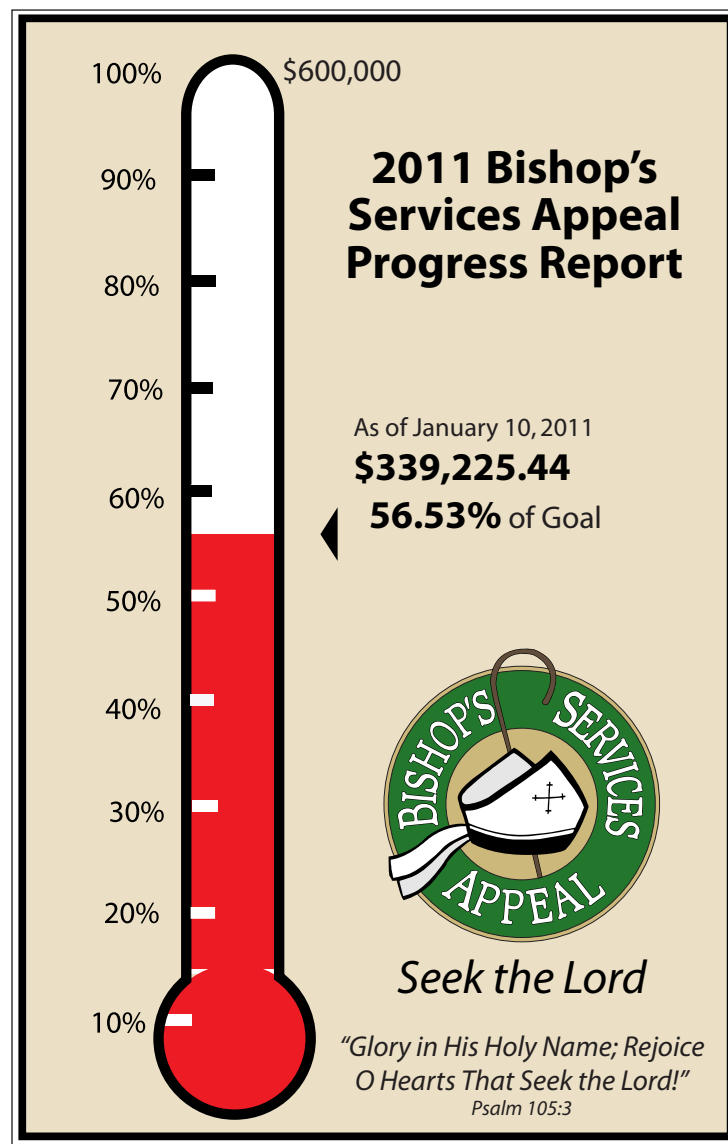
The annual prayer service is sponsored by the Imperial Calcasieu Cadre of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, in conjunction with the Diocese, according to the Reverend Archimandrite Herbert J. May, presi-

dent of the Cadre and coordinator of the service.

"Peoples of all faith backgrounds are invited to gather for this service and to ask that Christ help all of those who are His disciples to better understand one another, cooperate with one another and promote the cause of Christian Unity," Father May said.



The Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of Pontifical Knights and Dames of the Diocese of Lake Charles presented special awards to two members of the laity recently. Mrs. Lena Mae Oustalet of Jennings received the Msgr. DeBlanc Fellowship Award while the Sir Truman Stacey Award was given to Mrs. Eula Mae Jones. In the photo at left, Chester Jones, left, outgoing president of the Chapter, and Bishop Glen John Provost, second from right, present Mrs. Oustalet's award to two of her sons, Fred Zigler Oustalet and Jimmy Oustalet, both of Jennings. Mrs. Jones, in the photo at right, receives the Stacey Award from Mr. Jones. The DeBlanc Fellowship is presented to an individual who has given outstanding service to the civic community and to the Church, for which he or she has not been recognized while the Stacey Award goes to a person that has assisted the Chapter or the Diocese in an outstanding manner. Chapter officers for the next two years will be H. Gayle Marshall, president; Robert Chiasson, vice president; Pat Sigur, secretary; and Chester Jones, treasurer.



The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday, January 17, to honor the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 18 at 8:30 a.m.

Did you know...

Reverend Monsignor James Gaddy, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, and an avid outdoorsman was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette on Dec. 18, 1965 and was honored by his parishioners on the 45th anniversary of that event.

Five priests in the Diocese of Lake Charles will celebrate milestone anniversaries this year, two will be feted for 50 years of priesthood, two for 40 years and one on his 30th anniversary. Do you know these priests? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

Diocesan Briefs.....

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 are being held this month in the Central Deanery.

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 be the site for devotion Tuesday through Friday, Jan. 18-21. Adoration will take place on Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

The final site for the month 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.

Bishop Provost to speak at McNeese

LAKE CHARLES - The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, will deliver a talk on John Henry Cardinal Newman's *The Idea of a University: "A Grand and Mysterious Harmony"* at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10, in Gayle Hall Auditorium on the campus of McNeese State University at the invitation of the Newman Club.

A reception will follow the presentation in the Gayle Hall Annex. The public is invited to attend.

Bishop Provost prepared the lecture to celebrate the beatification of this important scholar, writer, and priest of the Catholic Church who was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in September during the pope's state and pastoral visit to England.

Father Long to head Christian Formation in July

LAKE CHARLES - Father Nathan Long, parochial vicar of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, has been appointed Secretary for the Secretariat of the Ministry of Christian Formation, effective Friday, July 1, by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles.

Until that time Bishop Provost named Deacon George Stearns, Chancellor of the Diocese to serve as the interim secretary.

Father Whitney Miller, who serves as Director of Diocesan Counseling Services and Director of Saint Charles Center, had previously directed the offices of Christian Formation - Religious Education, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Evangelization, Family Life, Child and Youth Protection, and Communications.

Disciple Jam slated Jan. 29

OAKDALE - Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church will host Disciple Jam on Saturday, Jan. 29, from 1 to 8 p.m., featuring Christ Padgett, Nichole Ackoury Lanthier and Kelly Pease. Katie Prejean will serve as master of ceremonies.

Father Jose Robles-Sanchez, who will also be a guest speaker, will celebrate Mass at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Sacred Heart Church at 318-335-3780 or Penny Welch, youth minister, at 318-306-1633. Advance tickets are \$10 and tickets at the door will be \$15.

St. Louis Catholic community event Feb. 5

LAKE CHARLES - St. Louis Catholic High School is celebrating its 40th anniversary will host a gumbo lunch welcoming all alumni and friends of the school from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5 in the school commons.

All community friends are invited for good food, company, conversation, and a tour of the campus. For more details go to the St. Louis Catholic High School website at www.slchs.org or call 337-436-7275, Ext. 244.

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 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. 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.

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.

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 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://abbeyyouthfest.com/reg>.

Vocation Drawing Contest slated

LAKE CHARLES - Every student in grades second through twelfth both in Catholic schools and in church parish CCD programs in Southwest Louisiana has been invited to take part in a Vocation Drawing Contest in preparation for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on Sunday, May 15.

The drawing should be made on an 8" by 11 inch sheet of white poster board and must be turned into the Office of the Vicar General, Father Daniel Torres, at 414 Iris Street by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2. Each drawing is to be placed unfolded into a large envelope. The outside of the envelope must have the name of the artist, the artist's age and grade level, parish church, and the name of the school printed. The envelope should be designated as being for the Vocation Drawing Contest.

For more information contact your church coordinator of religious education or the school religion coordinator.