



Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles

Catholic Schools Week: A+ For America

(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.)

Choosing a school for a child is one of the most important decisions parents make. From academics and curriculum to school environment and parental involvement, there are many compelling factors to consider when looking at a school. The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles provide an education you can have faith in. Diocesan schools meet the academic needs of students by integrating faith, life, and culture in a disciplined and safe environment.

Academics

The Diocese of Lake Charles students perform better academically than their counterparts in public schools. In comparing scores from standardized tests, students from the Diocesan schools scored substantially higher than the national average at every grade level. Statistics also show that Catholic school students are less likely to drop out and are more likely to go on to college. Catholic schools provide smaller classrooms and more personal attention to every student. With a smaller teacher-to-student ratio, teachers are able to gain insights that enhance the whole learning process for students. Realizing that each child is unique with different learning styles, teachers are able to utilize individualized plans for classroom teaching. Parents are assured that students receive a strong academic education in an environment structured to have lasting value.

Environment

The Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles provide a disciplined, safe environment in which students can excel both academically and personally. Self-discipline, responsibility, and self-motivation are among the benefits of an environment that is both nurturing and structured. Catholic schools are able to provide a disciplined environment that fosters responsibility and emphasizes Christian values. Catholic schools also welcome and expect parents to become involved in school programs and daily activities of students. Parents are acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their children. Catholic school faculties share this responsibility by providing students with equal opportunities for spiritual, intellectual, and social development.

Christian Development

A Catholic school education prepares a child for life. At a Catholic school, students learn much more than reading, writing and arithmetic. Religious education is an everyday part of the Catholic school curriculum. Classes encourage the discussion of faith and Christian values, focused on the total moral development of each child. Students take what they learn and apply it to everyday life through projects, activities, and school clubs that emphasize service and social justice.

There are many compelling reasons beyond the benefits of an excellent education to choose the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles. Diocesan schools strengthen the overall faith of students while they learn Christian values and morals necessary for a full and productive life. Each school will be holding an Open House or has already done so and is preparing for Spring registration. Listed below is contact information for each school as well as open house and/or registration dates:



Bishop Glen John Provost is shown with representatives of the eight Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in celebration of the annual Catholic Schools Week. Students include Zachary Schwartzburg, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, Lake Charles, eighth grade; Ella Segura, Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School, Jennings, kindergarten; Ashlynn Fontenot, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, fourth grade; Allee Doucet, Our Lady's School, Sulphur, fifth grade; Elliot Jasmine, Sacred Heart of Jesus/Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic School, Lake Charles, fifth grade; Ethan Peloquin, St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School, Moss Bluff, first grade; Kevin Hardy and Hannah Reed, twelfth grade, St. Louis Catholic High School, Lake Charles; and Anna Cherie, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Lake Charles, seventh grade.

Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School (PreK-8)
1536 Ryan Street
Lake Charles
433-3497

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.

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. 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.

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

St. Louis Catholic High School (9-12)
1620 Bank Street
Lake Charles
436-7275
Registration Dates:
Continuing/current students:
February 14-18
Incoming freshmen high school placement test: February 12, 8 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School (K-8)
785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway
Moss Bluff
855-9465
Open House: Thursday, March 17, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (during class hours) and 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Faith and Light Communities: Special In Every Way

LAKE CHARLES -- The Catholic Diocese of Lake Charles is a place that expresses God's inclusiveness and love. One of the ways this is made known is through its desire to encourage and support the establishment of a Faith and Light Community.



Faith and Light helps people with intellectual disabilities and their families find their place within the Church and society. Rev. Brian King and Cathy King with the support of Denise Donahoe, Director of the Diocesan Office of Religious Education and countless parents and friends of those with intellectual disability meet on the second Saturday of each month at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Each monthly Gathering is grounded in a scriptural theme where those individuals with a disability, their parents and their friends can grow together in God's love and acceptance. On a regular basis, a Eucharistic Celebration is offered.

"This is a ministry that invites persons of all denominations to participate so there is a need to keep Gatherings as inclusive as possible," Father King said. "At each Gathering there is an opportunity for those with a disability to do crafts while parents and friends are able to share support for each other and practical advice to address daily needs of their loved ones."

Each Gathering is punctuated by a Fiesta, which is a simple snack or meal tied into the theme of the month. The fiesta is also an opportunity to celebrate birthdays and special events in the life of the community.

Faith and Light is an international ministry that was founded by Jean Vanier and Marie-Helene Mathieu some 44 years ago and is now active on every continent of the world.

"It is not a ministry to persons with a disability, it is a ministry with these individuals because they teach us about God's love and acceptance in more profound and beautiful ways than we could ever teach them," Father King continued. "Faith and Light believes in the words of Saint Paul: 'God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong' (1Cor 1, 27)."

Those interested in becoming involved in planning and/or wishing to attend a Gathering of Faith and Light should call Fr. King or Cathy at (337) 439-4817 or (337) 513-2027. This registration will help make certain that enough refreshments are available for the Fiesta. The next Gathering will be Saturday, February 12 at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Future dates for Faith and Light Gatherings are March 12, April 9, and May 14.



Father Brian King will be the celebrant of a Mass for Individuals with Special Needs and their families and friends at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 13, in the Commons of St. Louis Catholic High School, 1620 Bank Street. Shown here is the October 2010 Liturgy with Bishop Glen John Provost as celebrant. The Mass for Special Needs will be celebrated in 2011 on April 3 with Father King, July 10 with Father Whitney Miller, and Oct. 30 with Bishop Provost. For more information, call Karen Duhon at 478-0243 or Shari Cormier at 478-0043.

Did you know...

Five priests in the Diocese of Lake Charles will celebrate milestone anniversaries this year - Rev. James Doyle and Rev. Lawrence Kohler, M.S. on their 50th anniversaries of priestly ordination; Rev. Marshall Boulet and Rev. Roland Vaughn for 40 years of priestly service; and Rev. Albert Wayne Borel for 30 years of service to the Catholic faithful of the Diocese.

Two of our longest serving priests in the Diocese were ordained during the papacy of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII. Do you know the names of these priests? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

Bishop Provost comments on DC "March for Life"

The date of January 22 holds special significance for any of us who hold dear the principle of human life, since it is the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, commonly referred to as *Roe v. Wade*. On that date, Washington becomes the rallying point for an enormous "March for Life." When January 22 falls on a day when Congress is not in session, the March takes place on the nearest session date. This year the March was held on Monday, January 24, and I was privileged to participate. That a demonstration of approximately a quarter of million people receives little or no attention in the media is more a commentary on a secular agenda than it is on any lack of zeal and exuberance on the part of the participants.

Most were youth—high school and college age, as well as young adults, a fact not lost on Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, the homilist for the Vigil Mass for the March and the Chair of the Bishops' Pro-Life Committee. The Mass every year is celebrated in the vast expanse of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the eve of the March. Thousands upon thousands participate, including clergy and laity, seminarians and religious. In his homily, Cardinal DiNardo made mention of the many organizers who needed to be thanked for their interest and assistance with the Vigil and the March. At the end of the list, he said that, like the Wedding of Cana, he had saved the best for last. He wanted to thank the youth present and added this statement addressed to them particularly: "To the astonishment of nature, of the chattering classes, and of the disinterested and jaded media, you have continuously

come forward here and throughout the places where you live to be unflinching witnesses to the inestimable worth of each human being." The presence of the youth added a hopeful dimension to the March and its accompanying activities.

A group from the Diocese of Lake Charles joined participants from the Diocese of Lafayette and the Diocese of Baton Rouge. They were a lively component to the March. The entire event, however, had the atmosphere of a pep rally, but with a major difference. During the March, that slowly made its way from the Capital Mall up Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court, we prayed. We prayed the rosary and since it was the 3 o'clock hour, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Most of the groups I saw were Catholic. They were singing hymns and songs and joining Byzantine monks chanting their

divine office, and devout Orthodox Jews raising their voices in prayer.

All of them braved the cold weather—and it was indeed cold and breezy with temperatures below freezing. Yet, you met sincere and interested people from all parts of the nation—from New England to the Deep South, the Mid-West to the Rocky Mountains. What joined them all together was to speak out in favor of the "culture of life" and to warn against the "culture of death." We need that reminder, desperately and now more than ever.

To the many who witnessed to the value of human life, who took the time to travel from great distances, to both Washington and the numerous other marches held throughout the nation, we should be very grateful.

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

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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 | Your Catholic Daughters Court Here | 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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Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

February 4, 2011



The upper left photo shows the crowd of pro-life supporters that attended the Concert for Life followed by the Rally for Life, upper right, at the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse commemorating the 50 million children killed because of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision – Roe vs. Wade – that legalized abortion. In the lower left photo, candlelit marchers walked down Ryan Street, then Pujo Street and finally Bilbo Street on their way to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for the pro-life Prayer Service. The large crowd of between 500 and 600 people nearly filled the Cathedral, at right.

Pro-Life rally draws hundreds of participants on Jan. 22

(To read more of this story go to lcdiocese.org and click on the news story "Rally for Life.")

LAKE CHARLES – A crowd of between 500 and 600 braved the cold to take part in annual Jan. 22 commemoration of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision making abortion legal in the United States – Roe vs. Wade – and the more than 50 million children who have died from abortion. The event was sponsored the Diocese of Lake Charles and its offices of Pro-Life as well as Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese and held on the steps and grounds of the Calcasieu Parish Courthouse and in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

While the Rosary was recited in the Cathedral, a Concert for Life, with music provided by Nichole Lanthier, Robby Alleman, Kenny Lantier, Matt Didier, Paul Rogers, and Chip Gauthé, was held on the

Courthouse steps. This was followed by the Rally for Life that featured keynote speaker Katie Prejean, a St. Louis Catholic High School graduate and a theology student at the University of Dallas.

"Being 'pro-life' is about proclaiming life," Prejean said. "It's about saying to the world - we, as people, are distinctly unique, made in the image and likeness of God, and are precious in His sight. That being known, we have to treat one another as He treats us - with love, respect, and care. This life is precious and delicate, and worth fighting for! We have to proudly declare that we love life, respect life, defend life, and believe in life!"

"Mary, our beloved and blessed Mother, would've been in the perfect position to not choose life," Prejean continued. "She was unwed, young, definitely unemployed, and probably very terrified. And yet, she said

yes! She accepted the remarkable gift of the Word and brought our Savior into the world. Her yes is our model, both to a life of discipleship and a beautiful witness to how we can protect and defend life. Being pro-life means we **proclaim** life as beautiful and precious, we **protect** those whose lives are at risk, and we recognize how **profound** life is and hold it as a lovely gift."

The March for Life, a candlelight procession from the courthouse down Ryan Street, to Pujo, on to Bilbo and into the Cathedral, was followed by a Prayer Service for Life with Rev. Marcus Johnson, Dean of the Central Deanery and Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, presiding. Members of the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Core Team led a Litany for Life, based on Corinthians (12:31-13:8a). Cathedral.



The Lewis family, from left, Gianna Ellyse, Maria, and Iain, seated in the Cathedral.

Diocesan Briefs.....

Bishop Provost will speak to Newman Club

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.

Forty Hours Devotion for February

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 Western Deanery.

Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in DeQuincy will host Adoration from Monday, Feb. 7, through Friday, Feb. 11. From Monday, Feb. 14 through Friday, Feb. 18, the site for Adoration will be St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Carlyss while Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Maplewood will have Adoration from Monday, Feb. 21 through Friday, Feb. 25.

For times, please contact the specific church offices – Our Lady of LaSalette, 337-786-3500; St. Theresa, 337-583-4800; and Immaculate Conception, 337-625-3364.

St. Louis Catholic 40th anniversary fete Saturday

LAKE CHARLES – St. Louis Catholic High School is celebrating its 40th anniversary and will host a gumbo lunch welcoming all alumni and friends of the school from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow, 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 confi-

dential 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@lcdiocese.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".

Registration 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://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 8.5 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.

The first place winner will receive \$200; second place will get \$100 and third place will be awarded \$50. The first place winner's drawing will be reproduced on prayer cards to be used in all the churches of the Diocese on World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

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

Cathedral Altar Society trip to New Orleans

LAKE CHARLES – The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Altar Society is sponsoring a trip to New Orleans on Wednesday, April 6, leaving from the Cathedral following a 6 a.m. Mass and returning in the evening.

Stops on the journey will include The National World War II Museum and the motion picture "Beyond All Boundaries," created exclusively for the museum and shown in the Solomon Victory Theater. From noon to 2 p.m. the group will attend the Victory Belles Lunch Show in the Stage Door Canteen.

The next stop will be The Ogden Museum, a new museum featuring Southern art. A final stop will be at Café du Monde for coffee and beignets.

Cost is \$125 with a \$50 non-refundable registration deposit. The remaining \$75 is due by March 26.

For reservations call Rita Stutes at 439-2878 or Joanna Vicedello at 474-0203.

All checks should be sent to Janet Stoma, 2110 Barbe Court, Lake Charles, LA 70601.

Pre-K registration at SH/SKD ongoing

LAKE CHARLES – The Sacred Heart/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School Pre-Kindergarten program is in its second year of operation under the Non-Public School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD) that operates out of the Louisiana Governor's Office. Open enrollment for the next school year continues through April 30.

The NSECD program provides scholarships for four-year-old children of families meeting Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) eligibility guidelines (i.e., earned income that is below 200 percent of the federal poverty level). All eligible children must be four years of age by September 30.

For more information, call the School Office at 337-436-3588 or check the Parent Information tab on the NSECD website at www.prekla.org to download the student application.