



Catholic schools to open for 2011-2012 year

(To read more, go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/893-catholic-schools-open-for-2011-2012-term.html>.)

LAKE CHARLES – Summer vacation for Catholic school students nears an end as the eight Catholic schools of the Diocese of Lake Charles prepare for a return to the classrooms. Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School in Jennings gets a head start, opening its doors for classes on Wednesday, August 10, while the other seven schools will welcome students on August 17, the same day as Calcasieu Parish public schools.

The first day for Our Lady Immaculate coincides with the opening of the public schools in Jefferson Davis Parish.

The eight schools in the Diocese include St. Louis

Catholic High School, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Catholic School, Sacred Heart/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School in Moss Bluff; Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur; and Our Lady Immaculate.

Those first days of classes will be full day sessions, differing from years' past when the opening day was shortened, with students released at noon.

"This will allow the students to be in all of their classes for the entire day," said Mrs. Kimberlee Gazzolo, Superintendent of Catholic Schools. "By not having a shortened day, it helps the students get right into the

routine and helps our parents as well. Daycares will be in session after school, if necessary."

The superintendent anticipates about 2,654 students on that first day, a one percent decrease from last year.

"That number reflects projected enrollment of registered students in the spring and may increase as well," Gazzolo said. "We see those as very healthy numbers as our parents continue to support Catholic education. The Diocese of Lake Charles has the smallest decrease of all of the dioceses in the region and we are very pleased."

Two major building projects highlight the normal freshening up of the campuses. Immaculate Conception

Cathedral School continues work on its three-story classroom addition at the corner of Ryan Street and Dr. Michael DeBaKey Drive. A campus improvement plan at Our Lady Immaculate in Jennings, which includes a new entrance gate and façade, should be completed by the opening of classes.

A new principal, Ms. Hattie Ashton, will take over the reins of Sacred Heart/St. Katharine Drexel Catholic School.

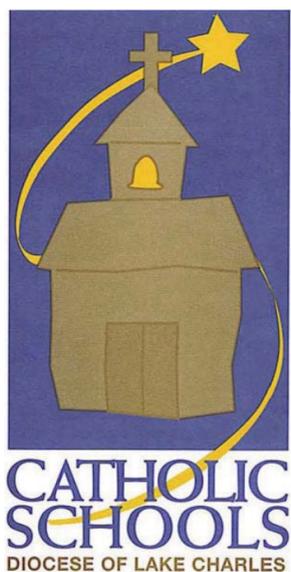
Some 25 new teachers and staff members will be working in Catholic schools this fall. "Not all of those are replacement teachers," Gazzolo said. "Some have had to be added to faculties."

In this number are some truly "new" teachers, freshly graduated from college as

well as experienced teachers who have come to Catholic education from the public school system.

Gazzolo is looking forward to continuing the progress made during the last school term.

"We are extremely proud of our students, teachers and administrators," she said. "Last year on the Stanford Achievement scores we saw an increase of 33 percentile points in reading and 27 percentile points in math, in the fourth grade for example. We continue to post above the national averages in Stanford tests across the board and in Advanced Placement and ACT scores. There is still room for improvement and I think we will continue to see gains."



Ground broken for new Assumption Chapel

JOHNSON BAYOU – The new Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Chapel will soon rise on the site of the former structure, which was damaged by Hurricane Rita in 2005 and then destroyed by the storm surge of Hurricane Ike in 2008. It will be the first church to be rebuilt in Johnson Bayou.

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, joined Rev. Rommel Tolentino, pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church in Hackberry, and Rev. Roland Vaughn, a former pastor, along with Rev. Aubrey Guilbeau, Dean of the Eastern Deanery of the Diocese of Lake Charles, for a prayer service, blessing of the site, and a groundbreaking. Joining with the clergy in the groundbreaking were incoming church trustees Sonny McGee and Cathy Devall, pastoral council member Glenn Trahan, outgoing trustee Mae Doris Little; Timothy Trahan, Grand Knight for Council 8323, and Marsha Trahan, Catholic Daughters Court

The new church will contain 3,612 square feet with the floor 17 feet above sea level, according to architect Steven Shows of H. Curtis Vincent - Steven D. Shows, Architects, APC of Sulphur. Shannon Smith is the general contractor for the project.

Work is anticipated to start in early September with completion in about eight months or early spring 2012, according to Father Tolentino.

The wood framed church will rest on concrete pilings, with a concrete slab underneath, and features an elevator as well as stairs. The siding on the building will be concrete-based to protect the structure from insect infestation and rot, according to Shows.

There was great historical significance to this groundbreaking as brothers Glenn, Kenny and Donnell Trahan took part, as altar servers, in the groundbreaking for the original church on the site in 1965.



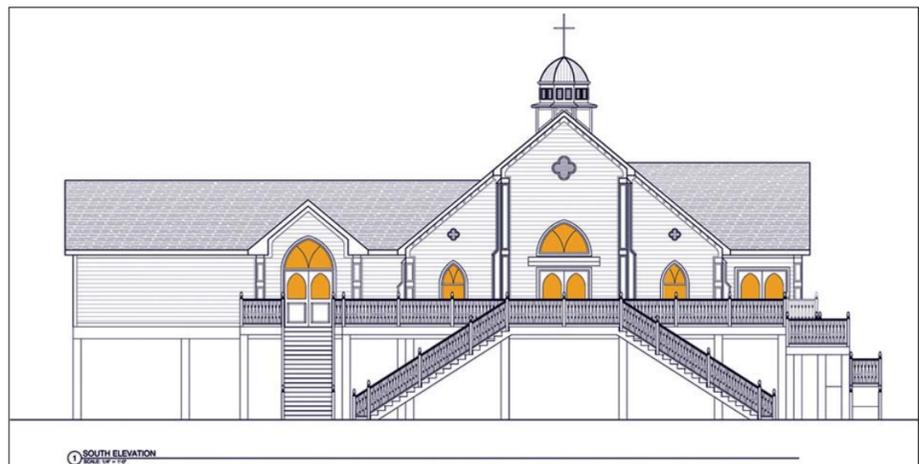
2011

Breaking ground for the new construction of Our Lady of the Assumption Chapel in Johnson Bayou were, from left, Sonny McGee, Cathy Devall, Mae Doris Little, Bishop Glen John Provost, Father Rommel Tolentino, Father Aubrey Guilbeau, Father Roland Vaughn, Timothy Trahan, and Marsha Vaughn. Construction will begin in September and take about eight months to complete.



1965

At the groundbreaking for the first Our Lady of the Assumption Chapel in 1965 Father Richard Donahue did the honors in this photo from the March 5, 1965 edition of the Cameron Pilot. Also pictured are Father Simon Herbers, Roland Istre, and Roy Billeaud. In the background with the cross is Glenn Trahan and with the candle, his brother Kenny. Another brother, Donnell, though not pictured took part in the celebration.



The architects' view of the south elevation of the new Our Lady of the Assumption Chapel being built on the site of the church destroyed by Hurricane Ike in 2008. (Image provided by H. Curtis Vincent-Steven D. Snows, Architects, APC)

Couples honored for marriage jubilees

(To read more go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/895-long-married-couples-honored-by-bishop-provost.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – Couples were honored for milestone anniversaries of Christian marriage at the 9:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception recently. The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, was the celebrant and homilist for the annual event, sponsored by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese.

Lucille and Joe Foreman of St. Raphael Parish in Iowa are celebrating 65 years of marriage, the longest-married couple reported in this year's group of honorees.

Eight couples celebrate 60th anniversaries, eight couples have 55th anniversaries, 40 couples celebrate 50 years of marriage and 21 celebrate 25th anniversaries. Following the Mass a reception was held for the couples and family members attending. Bishop Provost, assisted by Kathy Owen, the director of the Office of Family Life, awarded special certificates to the honorees.

Diamond jubilee couples were Una and Clifton Broussard, Jean and Hilliard Broussard, Lois and Whitney Derise, Nettie and Joseph DeVillier, Catherine and Gerald Foret, Wilda and Columbus Hanks, Verdie and John Oliver, and Laskie and Joseph Rougeau.

Couples married for 55 years were Bobbie and Russell Cart, Carolyn and Bobby Gau-

threaux, Lucy and Warren Goodly, Helen and Ray Guillory, Carol and A.C. May, Amy and Deacon Jack Reynolds, Pat and Don Sigur, and Shirley and James Verrette.

Golden Jubilee couples were Sondra and Kenneth Abrahams, Edith and James Bergeron, Rose and Wilson Bernard, Leneta and Robert Boudreaux, Shirley and Alfred Broussard, Betty and Allen Broussard, Martha and Patrick Broussard, Poddy and Joseph Champeaux, Janice and Robert Crador, Emma Jean and LeRoy Crochet, Marlene and Dr. Larry DeRouen, Esther and Roland Doucet, Caroline and Frank Draves, Deanne and Ellsworth Duhon, Dee and Charles Elter, Irene and Larry Fields, Anna Mae and Caldwell Fontenot, Janet and Richard Bandoaux, Juanita and Jean Hebert, Joan and William Heller, Ursula and Daniel Ieyoub, Patricia and Marlyn Johnson, Mickey and Cliffe LaBorde, Dorothy and Jerry Malone, Jean and Bill Mancuso, Nelvia and Guy Murphy, Carroll and Troy Portie, Lula and Irving Prudhomme, Dolores and Rodney Rougeau, Margaret and Joseph Rubit, Elaine and Jerome St. Mary, Patricia and Deacon Maurice Serice, Gloria and Robert Smith, Dorothy and Wayne Smith, Patricia and Gene Sonnier, Jeanette and Willie Stutes, Janell and Michael Suydam, Lorita and Edward Thomas Jr., Bernita and Leroy Victorian, Margaret and Wylace Vincent, and Sandra and Bobby Weatherford.



Long-time married couples stand as Bishop Glen John Provost gives his blessing for their continued commitment to Christian marriage during Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Did you know...

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Carlyss will celebrate its 40th anniversary of establishment on August 22. The church was a mission of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Parish in Sulphur and Father John C. McDonald, M.S. was named the first pastor by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder of the Diocese of Lafayette.

The two oldest original church structures in the Diocese of Lake Charles will celebrate significant anniversaries soon. Do you know the two churches and when they were built? Find out in the next Catholic Calendar.

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Bryan Thompson to be ordained to Diaconate

LAKE CHARLES – Bryan Thompson, a seminarian studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Lake Charles, will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on Saturday, August 6, at 10 a.m. in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church during a Liturgy celebrated by The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles.

Thompson will return this fall to the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, for his fourth year of theological studies, following his summer internship at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church under the tutelage of Father Marcus Johnson.

In March, he made his Profession and Faith and took the Oath of Fidelity. He was admitted to Candidacy for the Diaconate and the Priesthood in 2010 following his second year of theology at the Josephinum.

Following the Diaconate Ordination there will be a reception in the Monsignor Irving A. DeBlanc Family Life Center.

While Thompson sees his

diaconate ordination as a milestone on his journey to the priesthood, there is a great deal of consistency.

“I think that in one sense there is a lot of continuity between where I have been in formation so, far and the next step as a transitional deacon,” Thompson said. “But there will be a difference, it is a remarkable when a man receives the sacrament of orders. The continuity comes in the sense that I have another year of seminary still, the daily effort to study and to enter into those studies and to continue a life of prayer to respond to Christ in prayer and to respond to my formation that I received at the Josephinum.”

His summer has been a busy one, given his internship at Immaculate Heart of Mary and the general formation for seminarians planned by Msgr. Daniel Torres, Director of Vocations and Seminarians.

“I have been a lot busier than I thought I would be,” Thompson said. “Father Johnson had many projects and even some unexpected

ones.”

One instance of the “unexpected” came when Thompson was called upon to make unconventional entry into the Immaculate Heart rectory to assist a priest who was locked inside and having a medical emergency. Thompson, who knows fluent Spanish, was indispensable for the EMTs working with the priest, who spoke only in Spanish.

The planning for the Eucharistic Procession for the Feast of Corpus Christi and the work done for the celebration by Bishop Provost of the Pontifical High Mass in the Extraordinary Form were intense, according to Thompson. Also, the seminarians spend Wednesdays and Fridays working at Abraham’s Tent and Catholic Charities, respectively.

Immaculate Heart of Mary is the third parish to which Thompson has been assigned since he arrived in the Diocese in 2008. The Baton Rouge native resided in the Cathedral parish before his first semester of study for the Diocese and followed that up the next summer in



Bryan Thompson

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Lake Arthur. Last year, he did his Clinical Pastoral Education training in a hospital in San Antonio.

“I found it a great blessing to be assigned to a unit for children with cancer and blood disorders,” he said. “It was a particularly good experience.”

Thompson observed that he found as he listened to people he was also trying to hear what might be moving them in their time of need, what were their desires and fears, and what might be behind what they were sharing with him.”

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2011 the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles pray the following prayer, composed by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey in 1957.

Let Us Pray

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children.

The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its quietude.

You are still the Master of the land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, and overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder
Second Bishop of Lafayette

Bishop Provost celebrates Pontifical High Mass



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, enters the Sanctuary of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church at the start of the celebration of the Pontifical High Mass in the Extraordinary Form on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29. It was also the 60th anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI.

JENNINGS – The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, celebrated a Pontifical Mass in the Extraordinary Form in Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church to honor the 60th anniversary of priestly ordination of Pope Benedict XVI. The liturgy took place on Wednesday, June 29, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul.

It was also the 36th anniversary of Bishop Provost’s priestly ordination by Pope Paul VI, which took place on that date in 1975 in Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

Our Lady Help of Christians, the second oldest original Catholic Church building in the Diocese and one of the five proto-parishes named by Bishop Jude

Speyrer during the Millennium Pilgrimage in 1999, accommodates the Extraordinary Form very well, according to Bishop Provost. The Bishop indicated that he hopes in the future to celebrate the Extraordinary Form of the Liturgy two or three times annually on “appropriate solemnities.”

Participating in the liturgy were priests from the Diocese of Lake Charles and the Diocese of Lafayette, including Father Roland Vaughn, the chaplain of the Extraordinary Form of the Liturgy in the Diocese. Father Rommel Tolentino served as master of ceremonies.

Other priests of the Diocese of Lake Charles who attended were Father Charles McMillin (pastor of Our Lady

Help of Christians), Father Marcus Johnson, Father Eddie Richard, M.S., Father Ruben Buller, Father Scott Conner, Father Derek Covert, Father Nathan Long and Msgr. Ronald Groth. Father Bill Blanda and Father Jason Vidrine from the Diocese of Lafayette also attended.

Deacon Michael Tramel was also a participant.

Seminarians in the Diocese participating included Bryan Thompson, Matthew Cormier, Ruben Villarreal, Cristian Gonzalez, Joseph Ferrer, and John Souder.

The Holy Father, in his motu proprio *Summorum Pontificum* of 2007, issued an Apostolic Letter on the celebration of the Roman Rite according to the Missal of

1962. This made celebration of the rites of the Extraordinary Form more accessible for use.

In addition, the priests of the Diocese, in further observance of the Holy Father’s Diamond Jubilee of priestly ordination, were asked, along with the priests of the world to offer 60 hours of Eucharistic Adoration per diocese between Pentecost and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, July 1. This is being done for the intention of the sanctification and increased holiness of priests.

To view a gallery of photographs from the Pontifical Mass, go to www.live.lcdioocese.org/resources/image-galleries/view/26.html.

Catholic Charities Jazz Brunch successful

(For more go to <http://live.lcdioocese.org/news/894-catholic-charities-jazz-brunch.html>)

LAKE CHARLES – The 2011 edition of the Catholic Charities Jazz Brunch was a great success financially and a marvelously entertaining afternoon. The event, which raises funds to assist the ministry of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, grossed more than \$30,000.

The annual awards – Caritas and St. Peter Claver – went to deserving recipients who provided great assistance to those in need in Southwest Louisiana

through their generosity and hard work for Catholic Charities.

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word of Houston Texas, who have been stationed at Christ St. Patrick Hospital since its founding in 1908, received the Caritas Award. Sr. Maura Theriot, C.C.V.I., accepted the award on behalf of the Order.

“We offer grants to entities like Catholic Charities who do so much good for our brothers and sisters in Christ,” Sr. Maura said. “We have enjoyed working in collaboration with Catholic Charities in all the work they

do and look forward to continue working with them.”

The St. Peter Claver Award, named for the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Lake Charles, is an award that honors service to the least of among us. Named for the Jesuit priest who ignored the persecution of his generation by ministering to African slaves at a time when most people did not even recognize their humanity.

The 2011 award went to John Friend, the outreach coordinator of the St. Vincent de Paul Ministries of Our Lady Queen of Heaven

Catholic Church.

“Catholic Charities is thankful to everyone who made the Brunch successful,” said Director Trish Trejo. “Staff and volunteers made the Jazz Brunch a lovely afternoon. Sponsors provided over \$9,000 in revenue for the event.”

“The donors of auction items and those who purchased these terrific donations also made a great contribution to the work of Catholic Charities as we ‘Provide Help and Create Hope’ for the people of Southwest Louisiana,” Trejo concluded.

Diocesan Briefs.....

August programs at Tabor Retreat House

MOSS BLUFF – Several programs take place in August at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

Father Whitney Miller, director of the Center, will lead a “Parent Survival Mini-Boot Camp” on Wednesday, Aug. 10 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. This “crash course” will help those who attend gear up for the beginning of a new school year in this time for parents to get “in shape” once again in the basics of family life tidbits for effective discipline, solid communication skills, and spiritual guidelines for constructive growth and long term happiness. The suggested donation of \$20.00 includes supper.

The Spiritual Book Club, moderated by Father Don Piraro, will meet on Tuesday, Aug. 30 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The Spiritual Book Club is an informal group of women and men who read a good spiritual book and come together to eat supper and to discuss the selection. The August selection is *The Paradox of Power* by Michael Crosby. Drawing from real life examples as well as theory, this book explores the potential for inspiration and wisdom that resides in power and can heal and invigorate relationships, marriages, and families, and benefit larger organizations such as corporations, churches and even nations. Michael Crosby is a Capuchin Franciscan. The book is a five star selection on Amazon.com. The suggested donation of \$20.00 includes supper.

Sr. Diane Depwe will lead “Let Go, Let God” on Tuesday, Aug. 30 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. This program will help attendees experience God’s love for them in a way that will help them let go of worries, perfectionism, past hurts from others and /or events. The suggested donation of \$20.00 includes supper.

For more information, call the Center to register at (337) 855-1232.

Called2BCatholic Festival slated

LAKE CHARLES – “Love Out Loud”, the 2011 Called2BCatholic Festival, is set for Saturday, September 10, in St. Louis Catholic High School, according to Milissa Thibodeaux, Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Lake Charles. Doors open at 11 a.m. for this event designed for the entire family.

Admission is \$15 per person and children 12 and under will be admitted free. For ticket information and to purchase tickets contact the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 337-439-7400.

Christian musical entertainers on the main stage include Laura Prejean, Gabriel’s Cry, Ceili Rain, Mary Thompson, John Angotti, Michael Chaisson, and Nichole Lanthier.

Father Leo E. Patalinghug, who hosts the television program *Grace Before Meals*, has been seen on numerous networks including EWTN, ABC, Food Network, PBS, CBS and Fox, will give the keynote address, which includes a cooking demonstration.

The *Grace Before Meals* movement encourages families to eat their meals together at five times a week or as many as possible.

Women on the Way support group

LAKE CHARLES – *Women on the Way* is a monthly support group for women discerning a possible vocation to the Religious Life. Sponsored and hosted by various women Religious in the Diocese of Lake Charles, the meetings are open to all women 16 years and older.

For more information, call Sr. Camille Martinez, SEC at 477-1236.

Women’s silent retreat set in August

MOSS BLUFF – A silent retreat for women, sponsored by St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Bell City and led by Father Whitney Miller, will be held Friday, August 19 through Sunday, August 21, at Tabor Retreat House of Saint Charles Center.

Retreatants will reflect on the fifth chapter of St. Paul’s Letter to the Galatians and will examine the call to holiness as revealed in the fruits of the Holy Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Silence will be maintained throughout the weekend.

To register call Ester Harrington at 477-5184 or Saint Charles Center at 855-1232. The suggested donation is \$139 per person in a shared room or \$155 for a private room.

Clergy, religious anniversaries

LAKE CHARLES – The Knights of Columbus and the faith community of St. Henry Catholic Church will honor priests, deacons and religious celebrating significant anniversary years in multiples of five on Tuesday, Sept. 20, at a Mass beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the church at 1021 Eighth Avenue.

A luncheon for the honorees will follow the Mass in the St. Henry Community Center, located behind the church.

Calca Chew Festival scheduled

LAKE CHARLES – The annual Calca Chew Festival, sponsored by St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, will be Sunday, Sept. 25, on the church grounds and in the Family Center, located at the corner of Enterprise Boulevard and 17th Street.

Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate Mass in French beginning at 7 a.m. and the festivities get fully underway at 9 a.m. with food, games, auctions, live music, and raffle drawings.