

CATHOLIC CALENDAR



The Diocese of Lake Charles
lodiocese.org



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

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2015 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools-Communities of Faith, Knowledge, Service * Jan. 25-31

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Catholic Schools Week is celebrated across the country, this year during the week of January 25-31. The seven 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, St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School, all in Lake Charles; St. Theodore 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, Bishop of Lake Charles, will be the celebrant of a Mass for Catholic School's Week at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Students from the eighth grade classes of the schools of the Diocese along with 12th grade students from St. Louis Catholic High School and from Jennings, the Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School Choir. National Catholic Schools Week (NCSW) is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States, a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2015 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

The logo and theme, developed for NCSW, was in response to member requests for a theme and logo that would last more than a year, the new theme will be used for at least three years. This

will provide opportunities for schools to brand the week and their ongoing marketing activities with repeated mentions and use of a consistent logo.

The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. First, schools are communities—small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged.



The new logo features a swirl of colors interacting around a cross, which is at the center of all Catholic education. The vibrancy of the colors and the movement and shadows in the logo portray the inner-connectivity and community life that are present in our Catholic schools.

"Catholic schools are a vital aspect of the Church's mission to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and so an important aspect of our own teaching mission," said Archbishop George Lucas of Omaha, Nebraska, chairman of the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Education. "Pope Francis has reminded us that the New Evangelization is not precisely about

what we do and what programs we adopt; rather, it is about what God is doing, the graces we are being blessed with, and the Spirit that is always being poured-out over our ministry."

About 2.1 million students are currently educated in nearly 6,600 Catholic schools in cities, suburbs, small towns and rural communities around the country. Students receive an education that prepares them for the challenges of higher education and a competitive work environment. An estimated 99 percent of students graduate from high school and 85 percent of Catholic school graduates attend college.

Archbishop Lucas also stressed the importance of reaching out to underserved populations.

In these days of economic turmoil for so many families, a good education remains the single best way out of poverty for young people," Archbishop Lucas said. "At the same time, we cannot forget, through the education and faith formation of children and youth, our Catholic schools are part of a solution to support families and to build productive lives for future generations."

The observance of Catholic Schools Week began in 1974. Schools and parishes around the country will hold activities such as Masses, open houses, and potluck gatherings to celebrate the communities they represent.

School Open House dates and contact information:

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

Open House - Wednesday, January 28, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

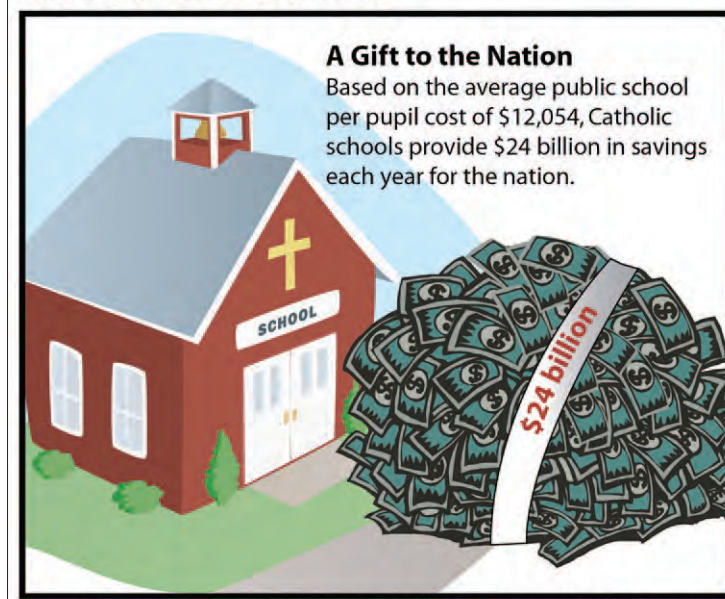
Last year's activities included nearly a thousand students who joined bishops, parents and teachers from Arizona dioceses in a rally at the state Capitol in Phoenix. Pastors from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio, rang their church bells to mark National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. In Idaho, students from a school in Lewiston participated in a living rosary to pray for the nation.

The Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lake Charles offer a community environment in which children can thrive and live out the values they are encouraged to develop so they can contribute to society and assume leadership roles in shaping public attitudes and programs.

As our local schools in the Diocese celebrate Catholic Schools Week, they also prepare themselves for prospective students and families. The seven elementary schools will be hosting Open Houses, followed by new family registration. Parents interested in enrolling students are encouraged to visit the schools on these occasions. Parents choose a Catholic education for their children for many reasons. From academics and curriculum to school environment and parental involvement, Diocesan schools meet the academic needs of students while integrating faith, life and culture in a disciplined and safe environment.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SNAPS

A quick take on issues and statistics



Source: U.S. Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2013-2014: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing (NCEA).

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic School (K-8)
600 Roberts Avenue
Jennings
824-1743
Open House - Wednesday, Jan. 28

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School (PreK-8)
3908 Creole Street
Lake Charles
477-7349
Open House Monday, January 26, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Our Lady's Catholic School (PreK-8)
1111 Cypress Street
Sulphur
527-7828
Open House Monday, January 26, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic School (PreK-8)
2510 Enterprise Boulevard
Lake Charles
436-7959
Open House - Tuesday, January 27, 6:00 p.m.

St. Theodore's Holy Family Catholic School (K-8)
785 Sam Houston Jones Parkway
Moss Bluff
855-9465
Open House - Thursday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Our Lady's Catholic School celebrates 60th anniversary

SULPHUR - Our Lady's Catholic School celebrated the 60th anniversary of its founding in December with Mass celebrated by Bishop Glen John Provost in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church and a reception in the school's Chamblee Hall.

At the reception, Louisiana State Representative Michael Danahay and Louisiana State Senator Ronnie Johns presented the school with a certificate of recognition from the Legislature, "recognizing the school on its anniversary for building the future of all students through the grace of God and academic excellence."

The certificate further thanked current Our Lady's School principal Trevor Donnelly as well as the faculty and staff for their commitment to educating "our children and their dedication to developing the total child."

Further, the certificate saluted Our Lady's School as an "extraordinary learning institution for providing a lasting and positive influence on the community and the great state of Louisiana."

Sulphur Mayor Chris Duncan also proclaimed "Our Lady's School 60th Anniversary Day" as Dec. 10, 2014.

The school formally opened its doors to students in September 1954 and the original building consisted of the front part of the present structure housing six classrooms, the principal's office, teachers' lounge, and living quarters for the religious sisters. It was built on property donated by Mr. and Mrs. A.M. Stelly.

Administrative duties of the school were maintained by members of the Dominican Sisters of Houston and the faculty was initially made up of six lay teachers, making Our Lady's School the first school in the then-Diocese of Lafayette to be staffed fully by lay teachers.

The Dominican Sisters remained at the school until the end of the 1971-72 term when the Sisters of St. Joseph took over the administration of the facility. In 1979, the Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament came on board and were then followed by the priests and brothers of the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette.

Since its inception the school has had, as its purpose, to help fulfill the goal of Catholic education: to prepare the pupil to be a worthy citizen, both in this world and in the next.



Bishop Glen John Provost was the celebrant of a special Mass celebrating the 60th anniversary of the founding of Our Lady's Catholic School in Sulphur in Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church. Concelebrating were Fr. Edward Richard M.S., Fr. Bino Poovannikunnel, M.S., Fr. Andrews Kollannoor, M.S., and Fr. Gijo Ikkaramattom, H.G.N. Father Ruben Buller served as the Master of Ceremonies and was aided by Fr. D.B. Thompson. Deacon Patrick LaPoint and Deacon Dan Landry served Bishop Provost.

Photo reproductions lined the walls of the hall along with scrapbooks that marked the six decades of the school's existence. Bishop Provost spoke to those in attendance and played the piano to accompany the school's show choir along with fifth grade voices.

The Bishop noted that

"Catholic schools are fountains of youth for our communities and were places of stability and tradition while also being a place with an awareness of the future and its challenges."

Our Lady of Prompt Succor pastor Father Edward Richard, M.S., called the school a "wonderful gift."

Pope names 15 new cardinal electors

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Under scoring the geographical diversity of his selections, Pope Francis named 15 cardinal electors "from 14 nations

of every continent, showing the inseparable link between the Church of Rome and the particular churches present in the world."

In addition to 15 new electors, Pope Francis named five new cardinals who are over the age of 80 and, therefore, ineligible to vote in a con-

clave. Popes have used such nominations to honor churchmen for their scholarship or other contributions.

See CARDINALS, Page 6

Diocese of Lake Charles employs 1,592

LAKE CHARLES - Results of a recent survey of Catholic institutions within the Diocese of Lake Charles show that 1,592 people are employed by the local church in Southwest Louisiana - ranking it in the top 10 of major employers in the area.

These employees work in the 39 church parishes, seven Catholic schools, at Christus/St. Patrick Hospital, and are part of administrative staff of the Diocese, including the Chancery, Bishop Harold Perry Building, Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, Office of Catholic Schools, Stella Maris Seafarers Center, and Saint Charles Center.

The number of staff members includes full-time and part-time combined - priests, deacons, and paid religious as well as lay staff.

PLANTING THE SEED

St. Thomas Aquinas: The patron of Catholic students

Once in the parish a cadet in one of our national military academies returned for vacation. I asked him about his studies. He replied that his class was studying the "just war theory" of St. Thomas Aquinas. We were all reminded how important the thinking of this great 13th century genius was.

The Saints should be our friends. We should develop not only an acquaintance with the saints but also a relationship with those who knew and followed Jesus Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas is one such saint, and his feast occurs next Wednesday, January 28.

St. Thomas Aquinas may just be another medieval philosopher to some, but anyone who has read and studied his writings knows that his contribution is substantial. He indeed lived in the 13th century, when there was an extraordinary birth taking place in the intellectual world. The university system was born in legendary places like Bologna, Oxford, and Paris. And St. Thomas Aquinas was part of this explosion of knowledge, research and learning that set the stage for so much that we take for granted today. One can understand very well why cadets at a military academy would be studying his theory of just war.

My friendship with St. Thomas Aquinas goes way back. Recently I rediscovered a holy card in my prayer book. The holy card was dedicated to the saint and contained a letter written by him to a student (cf. Opusculum 61). I thought this was doubly important since we are entering Catholic Schools

Week and St. Thomas Aquinas is the patron of all Catholic students, wherever they find themselves. I thought the advice he gives students would be worth reviewing.

First, St. Thomas tells the student, "Be slow to speak; and do not frequent those places where people do a lot of talking. Rather, stay in your own room and try to make it a place of covenant with your Lord. Remember that by devoting yourself to regular prayer, you will be able to preserve that precious thing we call purity of conscience." St. Thomas saw study and learning as coming forth from prayer, an active correspondence with God. The advice of St. Thomas reminded me of that famous adage from St. Ignatius of Antioch in his letter to the Ephesians: "Better to be silent and to be, than speaking not to be."

Second, the Angelic Doctor, as he is called, writes, "Be a gentleman at all times. Don't be too inquisitive about the affairs of others; and don't be too familiar." He saw being a good student as equal to being a decent human being with concern for others. Good advice in this insanely curious world.

St. Thomas' third piece of advice concerned the company



Bishop Glen John Provost

the student keeps. "Take the saints," he wrote, "and the good people around you as your models." Practical and worthwhile advice it is. If you are looking for a model, then why not look in the right place?

Next St. Thomas advises, "It's not the teacher so much as the truth he expounds that counts. Don't be prejudiced by the sources of your information." In being open-minded, the student avoids rash-judging the teacher. How often do students miss the information because they don't "like the teacher"? Don't let the cult of personality get in the way of learning.

Finally, St. Thomas encourages thoroughness. "Be sure you clear up all doubts about the subjects you are studying. Like a man who wants to fill a vessel, be eager to store your mind with every possible item of useful knowledge." The operative word here is "useful." We can so easily clutter our minds with useless information, but knowing what is useful requires first that we know what is good and worthwhile to achieve our goal. This is perhaps the real challenge not only for students but for all of us.

Wisdom is found by those who know where to find it. And a primary source for good insight into life and faith has always been St. Thomas Aquinas. I will conclude with one of his more famous quotes: "Three things are necessary for a human being's salvation: to know what he ought to believe; to know what he ought to desire; and to know what he ought to do." I say, "Amen."

LC's Jared France honored by Archdiocese of N.O.

NEW ORLEANS -- Jared Michael France, a 2010 graduate of St. Louis Catholic High School who will earn his Master's degree in Biomedical Engineering in May from Tulane University, recently received Archdiocese of New Orleans' Order of St. Louis IX Medallion from Archbishop Gregory Aymond.

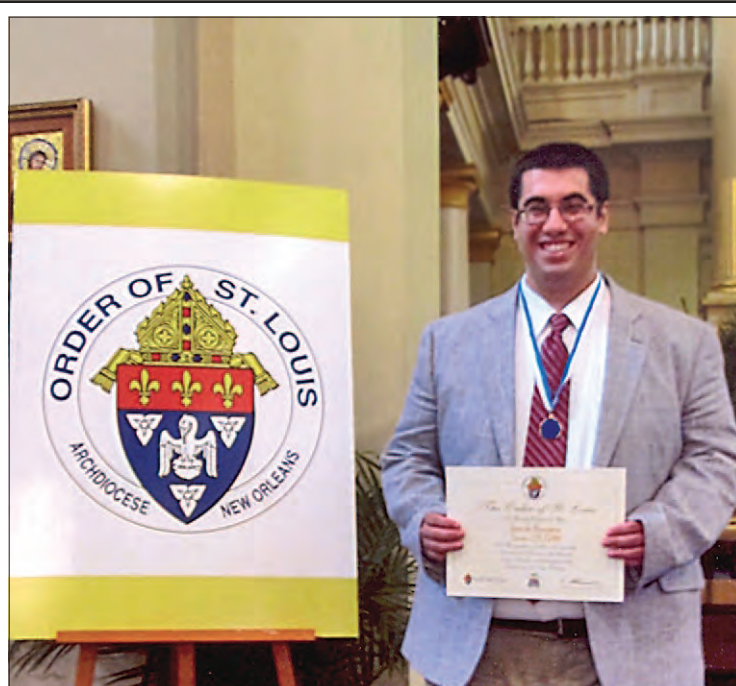
France, the son of a damian member of the Tulane Catholic Student Center, has been an integral part of the Tulane CSC Mission Honduras ministry team.

While there, France and other student missionaries visited, played with and share God's love with children in two orphanages of San Pedro Sula -- one a home for children with severe mental and physical disabilities and the other for children born with HIV. He also ministered to women and children in a home for those abused and visited with the residents of a retirement home in the city.

Along with the other missionaries, France traveled to mountain villages delivering donated clothing to the needy, expanding a medical clinic, installing a playground, and building a bridge to provide for safe travel during rainy season.

France has served as president, vice president, and service chair at the Catholic Student Center as well as helping to plan, lead, and staff retreats for Tulane students.

He served as the 2015 chair for the Center's trip to the national SEEK Conference. During his time at Tulane, he



Jared France, a 2010 graduate of Lake Charles' St. Louis Catholic High School, stands with his award certificate following his reception of the St. Louis IX Medallion given by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

has also participated in many outreach programs of the City of New Orleans, including tutoring children in an inner-city afterschool program, working to help develop a monitoring system for tracking at-risk patients at St. Margaret's of Mercy and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. France has also worked at a food bank/soup kitchen, volunteered at an animal shelter, and the New Orleans Children's Hospital.

The Order of St. Louis IX award, one of the most cherished awards presented by the Archdiocese of New Orleans was established in 1965 to honor those members of the laity who have contributed their time and talents to the Church.

Ash Wednesday Mass; Mardi Gras Office Hours

LAKE CHARLES -- Bishop Glen John Provost will celebrate the 12:05 p.m. Mass on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, with the distribution of ashes as the season of Lent begins.

The offices of the Diocese of Lake Charles will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 16-17 for Mardi Gras. Regular office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) will be in effect for the remainder of the week, Feb. 18-20.

Pope names new Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans

WASHINGTON -- Pope Francis has named Franciscan Father Fernand Cheri III, 62, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Bishop-elect Cheri is a member of the Sacred Heart Province of the Order of Friars Minor and currently serves as director of campus ministry at Quincy University in Illinois.

The appointment was publicized in Washington, January 12, by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Fernand Cheri III was born January 28, 1952, in New Orleans. He studied at Notre Dame University, New Orleans, where he received a master's of divinity in 1978, and at the Institute for Black Catholic Ministry at Xavier University, New Orleans. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans on May 20, 1978.

As a priest of the archdiocese, he served as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Lourdes, New Orleans, and St. Joseph the Worker, Marrero, Louisiana, 1978-1984; pastor of

St. Joseph the Worker, 1984-1985; pastor of St. Francis de Sales, New Orleans, 1985-1990; and administrator of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, New Orleans, 1990-1991.

In 1992, he entered the novitiate for the Order of Friars Minor, Sacred Heart Province, and made solemn profession in 1994. As a Franciscan, his assignments have included chaplain of Hales Franciscan High School, Chicago, 1994-1996; and pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Nashville, Tennessee, 1996-2002. He was a member of the provincial council for the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart from 1999-2002.

From 2002-2007, he was assigned to St. Benedict the Black Friary in East St. Louis, Illinois, and taught high school in East St. Louis. He pursued continuing education from 2007-2008, and served as director of the Office of Friar Life in East St. Louis from 2008-2009, and as associate director of campus ministry at Xavier University, New Orleans, 2010-2011.

Panel unanimous; Archbishop Romero a martyr

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A panel of theologians advising the Vatican's Congregation for the Saints' Causes voted unanimously to recognize the late Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero as a martyr, according to the newspaper of the Italian bishops' conference.

The panel declared Jan. 8 that the archbishop had

been killed "in hatred for the faith," *Avvenire* reported Jan. 9.

The decision is a key step in the archbishop's cause, following an extended debate over whether he was killed for political reasons or for his faith.

The next step in the process lies with the cardinals and bishops who sit on the Con-

gregation for Saints' Causes, who will vote on whether to advise the pope to issue a decree of beatification. A miracle is not needed for beatification of a martyr, though a miracle is ordinarily needed for his or her canonization as saint.

Archbishop Romero, an outspoken advocate for the poor, was shot and killed March 24,

1980, as he celebrated Mass in a hospital in San Salvador during his country's civil war. His sainthood was opened at the Vatican in 1993.

Pope Benedict XVI told reporters in 2007 that the archbishop was "certainly a great witness of the faith" who "deserts beatification, I do not doubt."

Monsignor Charles Dubois celebrates 50 years a priest



Monsignor Charles Dubois, pastor emeritus of St. Theodore Catholic Church in Moss Bluff celebrated the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination with a Jubilee Mass and reception in December. In photo 1, Msgr. Dubois, center in purple vestments, awaits the procession into the church. Bishop Glen John Provost, right, attended in choir and others pictured, from left, a Father John Huckaby, St. Theodore's current pastor; Abbot Justin Brown of St. Joseph Abbey and a cousin of Msgr. Dubois; and Father Whitney Miller, director of Saint Charles Center and the homilist. Also pictured is Father Derek Covert. In photo 2, Deacon George Stearns, diocesan chancellor, reads the Gospel. In photo 3, Father Miller preached the homily and even included a number of humorous anecdotes about Msgr. Dubois, much to the delight of those assembled. In photo 4, a large showing of Msgr. Dubois' brother priests attended the liturgy, including several retired clergy. Photo 5 provides a full frame view of the priests who celebrated the Jubilee Mass with Msgr. Dubois. In photo 6, Msgr. Dubois, as he is wont to do, got in the last word, thanking all those who attended, including members of his family and the many friends and clergy.

Third Annual Bishop's Gala for Communications



The Third Annual Bishop's Gala, benefitting the communications and evangelization ministries of the Diocese of Lake Charles drew a large crowd on Saturday, Dec. 13 in the Exhibition Hall of the Lake Charles Civic Center. In photo 1, Bishop Glen John Provost welcomes those in attendance and introduces the musical entertainment for the evening - The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. The band played a variety of "Big Band" sounds along with more contemporary musical selections throughout the evening. In photo 2, attendees took advantage of the smooth sounds for dancing. More than 80 items were available for bid in the silent auction. In photo 3, Bishop Provost takes the opportunity to view some pieces with Msgr. Daniel Torres, co-chairman of the Gala. During one of the band's breaks during the evening, in photo 4, Bishop Provost regaled the crowd on the piano, with a tango number. Visiting among the tables was de rigueur during the evening, with Msgr. Torres making the rounds in photo 5. The "Orange Dance," which has become a highlight of another of the band's breaks, found couples dancing while holding an orange between their foreheads. In photo 6, couples eliminated from competition were called back to the floor in an effort to make it more difficult for the remaining pairs to keep their oranges in place, as Msgr. Torres watches for transgressors. Bishop Provost joined a table to watch the "Orange Dance" action in photo 7. In photo 8, the final two couples on the floor for the "Orange Dance" are pictured with Bishop Provost - Isaac Mayard and Elizabeth Salvador (left) and Deacon Josue and Isa Canelo (right). To conclude the evening, the audience, provided with lyrics to Christmas carols, joined in rousing renditions of long remembered favorites.

Support Catholic religious in their mission, ministries, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- During the Year of Consecrated Life, all Catholics are called to thank God for the gifts members of religious orders have given the church and the world, to join them in prayer and find practical ways to support them and their ministries, Pope Francis said.

"Let them know the affection and the warmth which the entire Christian people feels for them," the pope said in a letter issued for the special year, which opened Nov. 30 and will close Feb. 2, 2016, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

The Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court, issued a note Nov. 28 specifying that both lay and consecrated people can receive an indulgence for participating in events related to the Year of Consecrated Life, going to confession, receiving the Eucharist and offering prayers for the intentions of the pope.

In his letter, Pope Francis also offered greetings to Orthodox communities of monks and nuns, and to members of Protestant religious orders, who also take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and are "expressions of fraternal communion and service." Dialogue between Catholic religious and those of other traditions "can prove helpful for the greater journey toward the unity of all the churches," he said.

The bulk of the pope's letter and video messages he sent for a prayer vigil in Rome and the year's opening Mass in St. Peter's Basilica were addressed specifically to the world's more than 900,000 Catholic religious priests, brothers, sisters and consecrated virgins.

"Leave your nests and go out to the peripheries," he told those at the vigil in the Basilica of St. Mary Major. "Live on the frontiers" where people are waiting to hear and understand the Gospel.

"Wake up the world, enlightening it with your prophetic and countercultural witness," he said in the message to those at Mass in St.

Peter's the next morning.

"Being joyful," he said in the message, "being courageous" and "being men and women of communion" are the common traits of the founders of religious orders and are the key to their future.

The pope's letter for the year explained that while he was writing as pope, he was also writing as a Jesuit, "a brother who, like yourselves, is consecrated to the Lord."

Knowing the gifts and challenges of religious life from the inside, Pope Francis urged religious to "look to the past with gratitude," rediscovering the way their predecessors read "the signs of the times" and responded with creativity. However, it also involves recognizing the difficulties and inconsistencies resulting from human weakness and learning from them.

Religious are called "to live the present with passion" and "embrace the future with hope," he said, knowing that the Holy Spirit continues to inspire new responses to the needs of the church and the world and to give religious the strength to be faithful servants of God.

Within communities, within dioceses and within the church, he said, religious are called to be "experts in communion," a call that is prophetic in the modern world. "In a polarized society where different cultures experience difficulty in living alongside one another and where the powerless encounter oppression, where inequality abounds, we are called to offer a concrete model of community which, by acknowledging the dignity of each person and sharing our respective gifts, makes it possible to live as brothers and sisters."

"Don't be closed in on yourselves," he said, "don't be stifled by petty squabbles, don't remain a hostage to your own problems."

A person's attitude reflects what is in his or her heart, the pope said, and for consecrated

people that means "to know and show that God is able to fill our hearts to the brim with happiness."

"None of us," he said, "should be dour, discontented and dissatisfied, for a 'gloomy disciple is a disciple of gloom.'"

Countering the decline in the number of people entering religious life in the West will not be the "result of brilliant vocations programs," the pope said, but of meeting young people who are attracted by the joy they see in religious men and women.



When poverty is a daily struggle, Christmas presents are not an option for many of the poor in Southwest Louisiana. The Christmas Adoption Project of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana provided gifts for 100 people at that most holy season of the year - 55 seniors, 26 disabled veterans, and six families. The gifts were purchased by local families, who were provided a wish list filled out by the individuals. Pictured in the top photo, along with some of the gifts, are Deacon Edward Lavine, Secretary for the Ministry of Pastoral Services; Terri Oeder; Barbara LeBlanc; Wayne Espree; Shirley Walker, Sr. Mary Vianney Walsh, R.S.M., Director of Catholic Charities; Rosita Thibodeaux; Gloria Hypolite; and Blanche Landry. In the bottom photo, Bishop John Provost visited Catholic Charities on Dec. 16 to celebrate Mass for staff members and volunteers.

FarmAid provides grants to LIC to help advocacy efforts for farmers

BATON ROUGE, LA — Through the generosity of Willie Nelson and Farm Aid, the Louisiana Interchurch Conference (LIC) has received a grant to continue the Farm Advocacy Program that the LIC began almost 30 years ago. The LIC operates a hotline with a farm advocacy worker, Betty Puckett, who offers counsel to farmers facing difficulties with discrimination and/or financial hardships.

The program also has limited funds to help farmers with small grants for household needs when disasters, medical issues, or other uncontrollable financial hardships strike. A grant application form is available online at www.lainterchurch.org/resources/index.htm#Farm-Aid.

To learn more about the Farm Advocacy Program, please call the Louisiana Interchurch Conference at 225-

344-0134 or send an email to LaInterchurch@aol.com.

The Louisiana Interchurch Conference is a 16-member group of Christian denominations established in 1970 to further the aims of Christian unity, service, and witness in Louisiana and the region. To learn more about Farm Aid, Inc., visit their Web site at www.farmaid.org or call 1-800-FARM-AID.

Scholarship grant made for Jefferson Davis Parish seminarians

LAKE CHARLES – The Fred B. and Ruth B. Zigler Foundation of Jennings, has announced that it has awarded a grant of \$48,000.00 to the Diocese of Lake Charles to assist four men from Jefferson Davis Parish studying for the priesthood for the diocese.

The grant will provide tuition assistance totaling \$12,000 each at the respective seminaries.

Included in the four is Ruben Villarreal, in his final year of theological studies at the Pontifical North American College in Rome and a parishioner of St. Lawrence in Raymond. He is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 27.

The remaining three are Michael Caraway of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings in his second year of pre-theology studies at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland; Joseph Caraway of St. John the Evangelist Mission in Lacassine, in his first year of pre-theology studies at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans; and Randall Edwards, a parishioner of Our Lady Help of Christians in Jennings in his first year of pre-theology at Notre Dame Seminary.

Msgr. Daniel A. Torres, Vicar General of the Diocese and pastor of St. Henry Catholic Church in Lake Charles, also serves as the Director of Vocations and Seminarians.



Deacon Ruben Villarreal



Michael Caraway



Joseph Caraway



Randall Edwards

World Meeting of Families

LAKE CHARLES -- The Diocese of Lake Charles along with the dioceses of Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Houma-Thibodaux, Lafayette, Shreveport and the Archdiocese of New Orleans, along with the Diocese of Memphis, Tenn., in conjunction with Peters Way Tours, Inc., are offering a number of travel packages to the Eighth World Meeting of Families set for September in Philadelphia.

Costs for land package options and additional costs may be levied for single traveler supplement and airfare from home gateways.

For additional information, download the tour brochure found with the article – World Meeting of Families Trip – at live.lcdioocese.org. Information is also available from petersway.com or by calling 1-800-225-7662.

There is a pre-tour option of one additional hotel night if departing home gateway on Monday, Sept. 21. For those who wish to attend the Opening Ceremony on Tuesday, this option will assure being in Philadelphia on time. Participants choosing the option will be assigned to the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel.

The general schedule for the remaining seven days is as follows: Day 1, Sept. 22, Tuesday - Opening Ceremony for World Meeting of Families

(WMOF), followed by Keynote Session A, Living as the Image of God: Created for Joy and Love, evening Mass, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia.

Day 2, September 23, Wednesday – WMOF scheduled, Mass, Keynote Session B - The Light of the Family in a Dark World, breakout sessions, free time/independent lunch, Keynote Session C - Creating the Future: The Fertility of Christian Love; breakfast, independent dinner, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia.

Day 3, September 24, Thursday: WMOF, Mass, Keynote Session D - A Gift From God: The Meaning of Human Sexuality, breakout sessions, free time/independent lunch, Keynote Session E - The Family: A Home for the Wounded; breakfast, independent dinner, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia.

Day 4, September 25, Friday - WMOF Closing, Mass, Keynote Session F - The Joy of the Gospel of Life, breakout sessions, Closing Ceremony, closing Events include Festival of Families Afternoon Optional Touring: Philadelphia Museum of Art, The

Barnes Foundation, The Liberty Bell Center at Independence Hall, City Hall, National Constitution Center, The Franklin Institute, Please Touch Museum (for children), Fairmount Park, Philadelphia Zoo, Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel, independent dinner, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia.

Day 5, September 26, Saturday - Festival of Families, WMOF events include Festival of Families, an intercultural celebration of family life around the world.

Afternoon optional visits to Places of Worship: Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, The Archdiocesan Shrine of Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, National Shrine of St. John Neumann, National Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel, National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia, Miraculous Medal Shrine, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia.

Day 6, September 27, Sunday - Papal Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in the heart of Philadelphia, afternoon at leisure, and overnight at hotel in Philadelphia or King of Prussia. Day 7, September 28, Monday - Depart for home.

Catholics in Congress: There are more of them!

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The numbers don't lie. Once again, there are more Catholics in Congress than members of any other religious denomination. And the numbers stay strong term after term.

Even though Catholics account for only about 22 percent of the U.S. population -- admittedly the largest body of religious belief in the country -- they make up 31 percent of the House and the Senate.

If you're looking for differences between the two major parties, there's indeed some -- but Catholics are still overrepresented in both the Democratic and Republican parties. There are 83 Catholics among the 234 Democrats

in the House or Senate, good for 35 percent of the Democrats' total, and 81 Catholics among the 301 Republicans in Congress, or 27 percent of the GOP's total, according to figures issued in a Pew Research Center study issued shortly before the 114th Congress was sworn in Jan. 6.

What makes Catholics so eager to want to serve in electoral office, and what makes them so electable? Daniel Philpott, director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the University of Notre Dame, speculated there is a "strong tradition of social thought in the Catholic Church, more developed than in the mainline Protestant churches."

Marriage preparation class set March 21

LAKE CHARLES – The next Together for Life marriage preparation class in the Diocese of Lake Charles is Saturday, March 21, in the Chancery Building at 414 Iris Street.

Remaining dates for 2015 are: April 11, May 16, June 20, August 1, September 12, October 10, and November 21.

Couples may secure a registration form by contacting the Office of Family Life, 411 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601, by phone at 337-439-7400, or register on-line at live.lcdioocese.org by clicking the "Support the Diocese"

button and then the Together for Life, Prepare-Enrich link, and pay by either credit card or e-check.

Registration fee is \$100 per couple and includes the Prepare/Enrich Online Assessment, lunch and materials.

Classes fill quickly; therefore couples should not delay in securing and mailing in the registration form. If a couple's requested date is full, they will be automatically placed in the next available class. Contact Office of Family Life with questions 337-439-7400 Ext 304.

Did you know...
 Revisions to the sainthood process were approved by St. Paul II in 1983. The biggest change was to eliminate the "devil's advocate," who was charged with trying to poke holes in a person's sanctity.
 St. John Paul II was canonized only nine years after his death but others in history were made saints more quickly. Can you name some of them? Find out in our next Catholic Calendar, published on February 20.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



In celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass was celebrated in the Extraordinary Form by Father Rommel Tolentino in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8. Following the mass, a Marian Procession took place through the streets of downtown Lake Charles carrying a statue of Our Lady of Fatima. In photo 1, Father Tolentino stands at the altar preparing to incense it along with priests who participated, Father Nathan Long and Father D.B. Thompson, in the Mass. In photo 2, with Bishop Glen John Provost at left, Father Thompson reads the Gospel. Father Tolentino raises the host during the Eucharistic Prayer in photo 3. Following the conclusion of Mass, in photo 4, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima is carried out of the Cathedral to begin its journey through the streets of the city. In photo 5, the procession turns south on to Bilbo Street. Photo 6 has the procession on Iris Street at the diocesan Chancery. A turn on to Hodges Street before making another left back to Iris by the procession is shown in photo 7. The procession completed its journey back to the Cathedral westward on Kirby Street in photo 8. At the conclusion of the procession after returning to the Cathedral, Fathers Tolentino, Long and Thompson lead the Litany of the Saints in front of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

DRAWING NEAR

Teacher vs. Teaching

I began attending Catholic schools at the ripe old age of 8 weeks at the Our Lady Queen of Heaven Early Childhood daycare center. From there I went on to OLQH School, graduated from St. Louis Catholic High School in 2007, and then earned my B.A. in Theology from the University of Dallas, the Catholic University for Independent Thinkers, in 2011. I was raised in the Catholic school system and have never known anything else, but it was never my intention to become a Catholic school teacher myself...

I considered myself "too free" to be locked down by the structure of an 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. classroom, nor did I like the idea of grading papers and quantifying success by a number logged in a grade book. Plus, I'm far more comfortable in jeans and t-shirts than in "business casual classroom attire." But, here we are, three years into my unexpected teaching career and 160 plus 9th graders call me "Miss Prejean" every day.

In my brief, yet seemingly eternal, time in the classroom, here's what I've figured out: I hate being a teacher. I love teaching. What's the difference exactly? "Being a teacher" means my priority is the classroom. "Teaching" means my priority is the students.

While the difference is subtle and perhaps even unnoticeable to those not in the thick of the "school game" day by day, it has become glaringly obvious over the past three years that the purpose of education is not to force kids to memorize facts, but to form them into independent, critical thinkers that know what it means to be a person. It is not my job to just make sure they can write a coherent sentence so they'll get accepted to a top-notch university. I should first focus on whether or not they're decent human beings capable of carrying on a conversation with their elders and peers. Completing homework assignments shouldn't be about earning points to boost a GPA. It should illustrate to the student the necessity of diligence and obedience in work. Taking a test is about making sure they know the information and the way it can be applied, not just a chance for them to regurgitate facts in rote fashion. If my students can recite the Beatitudes and list off the 10 Commandments from memory, they will pass my 9th grade Theology class. But if my students are not living the Beatitudes and abiding by the Commandments, then I have failed them as a teacher.

In a lecture at Yale University in 1943, Jacques Maritain

said the following: "...the prime goal of education is the conquest of internal and spiritual freedom to be achieved by the individual person, or, in other words, his liberation through knowledge and wisdom, good will, and love."



Katie Prejean

If our schools equip students to speak well, write thoroughly, solve equations, and recite facts, then our students have been taught to pass a test. And yes, while tests must be passed in order to survive, it is not the end all be all of education. The classroom must be in service to the formation of the human person, as a whole. If we can prepare our students to make a presentation and converse with a perfect stranger, write a 10 page paper on Gatsby and pray to the infinite God who wants to listen, solve the equation and find solutions to the numerous struggles they will face, perform the experiment and remember the information necessary to complete various tasks, in all walks of life...then, and only then, will the Catholic school have succeeded. Then we will have truly taught and not just "been a teacher."

Earning a degree and getting a job and forming a career and making money are all important...but that comes and goes. The degree will fade in the frame, the job will end, the career will be over, and the money will be spent, all in service of what never stops: being a person. Personhood is a never ending experience, and forming good people should be the business of a teacher. The soul is eternal, and so as teachers, we must care for, protect, form, and pray for that soul to become what the Creator has always intended. The point of our Catholic schools, and the reason I get up every morning to teach in the same one I once attended, is to witness to and be a model of the Truth and to help form the young people within into saints. We must help them discover who they are, why they exist, and what matters most in life. We have the amazing opportunity to truly teach them, not just "be a teacher."

Katie Prejean is the ninth grade Theology teacher at St. Louis Catholic High School. Her first book, Lessons from Room 24, is being released by Ave Maria Press in the spring of 2016.



Pope Francis accepts the gift of a rose while greeting newly married couples during his general audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Jan. 7. In his talk, which was a continuation of his series of talks about the family, to some 4,000 people, the Holy Father noted that mothers are indispensable to society and the church, showing the world what it means to generously give oneself for others, to respect life and to display tenderness and moral strength even in times of trouble. In a brief address to German and Polish-speaking groups attending the audience, the pope also greeted a delegation of people who survived the Auschwitz concentration camp and were freed 70 years ago in January. He also gave a second talk about beauty and harmony when he thanked a group of circus performers at the end of the audience and was treated to a short circus show performed in front of him on stage while a jazz band played "All of Me." (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas



A Mass celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe took place in St. Henry Catholic Church on Friday, Dec. 12, the feast day of the Patroness of the Americas followed by a fiesta in the parish center. A group of Mariachi musicians (photo 1) from Beaumont, Texas, played before the liturgy. Photo 2 shows the group of priests who concelebrated the Mass with Bishop Glen John Provost – Fr. Carlos Garcia, Msgr. Daniel Torres, Fr. Jenesh Joseph, H.G.N., Father Charles Okorougo, Fr. Derek Covert, Fr. D.B. Thompson, Fr. Rommel Tolentino, Fr. Rojo Antony Koonathan, H.G.N., and Fr. Nathan Long. Deacons who attended, shown in photo 3, were Deacon Chris Gregory, Deacon Erroll DeVille, Deacon Keith Ellender, Deacon Leo Hebert, and Deacon Jesse Menard. Deacons attending Bishop Provost were Deacons Josue Canelo, who proclaimed the Gospel, and Deacon Patrick Hebert, both assigned to St. Henry. In photo 4, the children attending, some in native costumes portraying St. Juan Diego brought roses to place before the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In photo 5, the gifts of roses continue to grow as they are reverently placed before Our Lady. In photo 6, Bishop Provost, aided by Fr. Ruben Buller, the bishop's master of ceremonies, incenses the altar during the Preparation of the Gifts. In photo 7, Deacon Canelo incenses the congregation. In photo 8, Bishop Provost raises the chalice during the Eucharistic Prayer with the priest concelebrants at the altar. Following the Mass, the crowd dispersed to the parish center for the fiesta. In photo 9, the Mariachis played as the crowd of people enters.

Spring schedule of events at Saint Charles Center

MOSS BLUFF – The program of spring events at Saint Charles Center will include the February 18 Ash Wednesday Evening of Reflection – "Our Call to Lenten Grace" – with Fr. Whitney Miller and Fr. Don Piraro as well as Good Friday Meditations with Fr. Miller and Fr. Piraro on Friday, April 3.

The Ash Wednesday program, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., will consist of Holy Mass and the Distribution of Ashes, a

simple supper and a presentation on Lenten spirituality. There is no cost for the evening, but a free will offering will be accepted. Funds procured benefit the Maintenance Account for the Center.

The Good Friday Meditations, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., honor these Holy Hours of Quiet Spirit and solemn reflection throughout one of the most sacred days of the liturgical year by spending some time in prayer at the Saint Charles

Center. A brief meditation will be given by Fr. Miller at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and Fr. Piraro at noon and 2 p.m. After each, a contemplative silence will be observed until the next hour meditation. Those attending should bring their own lunch and beverage. There is no fee for this event, but pre-registration is appreciated.

Registration and donations for most programs can be accepted at the Center's

website - scharlescenter.com - or by calling (337) 855-1232.

In February, a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, led by Fr. Nathan Long, Margie Long and the Diocesan Team, for those healing after abortion will be Friday, Feb. 13 to Sunday, Feb. 15. The weekend combines discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Participation

is strictly confidential. Cost is \$210 for meals, a private room and private bath with all retreat materials. For those with a financial burden, assistance is available. For more information or registration contact: Rachel's Vineyard of Southwest Louisiana (337) 439-7400, Ext. 317 or e-mail rachel.vineyard@lediocese.org.

Sr. Diane Depwe will lead "Let Go, Let God" on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. Reg-

istration deadline is Friday, February 20. The suggested donation of \$20 includes supper.

A Lenten Silent Preached Retreat, sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church in Ragley, closes February and opens March at the Center. "Finding the Tiny Whispering Sound," presented by Fr. Tim Goodly is Friday, Feb. 27 to Sunday, March 1.

Pontifical Knights Chapter presents annual awards

LAKE CHARLES – Two distinguished members of the laity, one residing in the Diocese of Lake Charles and one in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston received awards at the Christmas luncheon of the Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of the Pontifical Knights and Dames.

The group's *Pro Deo et Pontifice* Award, given in even numbered years to a Knight or Dame of another diocese who has rendered outstanding service to the Church and to mankind, went to Consuella Marie Broussard. She is a native of Port Arthur, Texas.

She graduated from Sacred Heart School in Port Arthur. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Xavier University in New Orleans, her Masters of Education and Mid-Management Certification from the University of Houston, and completed additional studies at Texas Southern University, Prairie View A&M and the University of Maryland.

Her professional career of 37 years was in secondary education, teaching Science, English and German. The last 17 years were spent in administration at Jessie H. Jones High School in the Houston Independent School District with eight years as Assistant Principal and nine years as Dean of Instruction.

She is a Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and has served in many volunteer capacities since 1958, as a member of St. Mary of the Purification Catholic Church.

Mrs. Broussard has also served in numerous religious, including and secular organizations in Houston and been honored for her work by numerous cities around the U.S. as

well as the State of Texas and U.S. Congress.

She is married to Edmund C. Broussard and she and her husband are the proud parents of four children and six grandchildren.

The Msgr. Irving DeBlanc Fellowship Award, conferred upon an individual of outstanding service to the civic community and to the Church for which he or she has not been recognized or only slightly recognized, was presented to Robert Piper. He has lived in Lake Charles for 30 years and married to Dr. Eileen Piper for 31 years. They have four children.

In 2005, after Hurricane Rita, Piper assisted in various hurricane relief efforts throughout the Lake Charles community. In 2006, he became the Executive Administrator of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, where he currently serves.

He was one of the organizers and current Vice Chairman of the Board of Lakeside Bank, coaches the St. Louis Catholic High School boys and girls tennis teams, operates he and his wife's commercial real estate firm, and volunteers at several non-profit organizations in the area, including the board of directors at Abraham's Tent. He was instrumental in spearheading the new Abraham's Tent facility. He also played a major role in the building of the \$3.5 million middle school facility at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic School.

Officers serving the second year of their term for the group were introduced: President: Robert Chaisson, Knight of St. Gregory; Vice President/President-Elect: Gayle Zembower, Knight of St. Sylvester; Secretary: Gayle Marshall, Knight of Saint Yvester; Treasurer: Chester Jones, Knight of St. Gregory.



Bishop John Provost, right, stands with the 2014 recipients of awards from the Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of Pontifical Knights and Dames. At left is Robert Piper, the recipient of the Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc Fellowship, and, at right, is Consuella Marie Broussard of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, the recipient of the *Pro Deo et Pontifice* Award.

SCHEDULE

Continued from Page 5

This annual retreat is a silent, preached retreat is open to any who wish to participate. Suggested donation is \$180.00 for a private room, and \$160 each for a shared room.

Lenten Private Directed Retreats will be led by Fr. Miller, Fr. Piraro, Judy Savoie and Gloria Villegas from Monday, March 9 to Sunday, March 15. A directed retreat is a form of silent retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola focusing on the personal prayer of the individual. The retreatant may choose to do three or five days. For more information or to register, you must call the Center at (337) 855-1232. Suggested donation is \$265 for three days or \$440 for five days. Scholarship information is available upon request.

A Lenten Introduction to the Directed Retreat is Friday, March 13 to Sunday, March 15. This weekend helps the retreatant learn the prayer technique and prepares them for a longer retreat. You must call the Center to register at (337) 855-1232. Suggested donation is \$265.

"Saving America," presented by Sr. Diane is Tuesday, March 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. Registration deadline is Friday, March 13 and the suggested donation is \$20 per

person.

Father Piraro will lead the spring Book Club from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17. The selection is "Backpacking with the Saints, Wilderness Hiking as Spiritual Practice" by Belden Lane. In this book, Dr. Lane uses backpacking as a metaphor for the spiritual journey, utilizing the insights of Therese of Lisieux, John of the Cross, Thomas Merton, the author of "The Cloud of Unknowing," Hildegard of Bingen, Dag Hammarskjöld, and others. The suggested donation of \$20 includes supper. Registration deadline is Friday, March 13.

Penance Night in the Assumption Chapel of the Tabor Retreat House is Thursday, March 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. with Fr. Miller and Fr. Piraro.

A Women's Lenten Silent Retreat, sponsored by the women of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, is Friday, March 27 to Sunday, March 29. "The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus in Light of Human Experience: Praying the Third and Fourth Weeks of the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola" is presented by Fr. Steve Kimmons, S.J. and open to all women. Suggested donation is \$190 for a private room, \$170 each for shared accommodations, and \$75 for commuters. Contact Elaine Trahan at (337) 474-0178 or the Center for more information.

Father Miller facilitates "Catholicism: A Journey through the Heart of Faith" Friday, April 10 to Sunday, April 12, using Father Robert Barron's "Catholicism" series as the basis for the experience. Suggested donation is \$170 for a private room and \$150 each for shared accommodations. Scholarship assistance available upon request.

Sr. Diane moderates "How to Control My Tongue" (So I Don't Get into Trouble) from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28. The retreat reveals practical ways based on enduring principles from Scripture that will help you communicate more effectively as well as living in harmony with others and God. The suggested donation is \$20 per person and includes supper. Registration deadline is Friday, April 24.

"Spiritual Warfare," presented by Sr. Diane is Tuesday, May 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. Register by Friday, May 8. Suggested donation is \$20 per person.

Gay Gomez, Ph.D. and Father Miller present "Creation Meditation: A Nature Evening of Reflection" on Tuesday, May 19 from 6 to 9 p.m., an evening of prayer that focuses upon attentiveness to God via the flora and fauna of this holy ground at Saint Charles Center. Registration deadline is Friday, May 15 and the suggested donation is \$20 a person.

"9 Days for Life' ends Sunday

WASHINGTON - The period of prayer, penance, and pilgrimage that began last Saturday, Jan. 17, and ends this Sunday, Jan. 25 marks the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion throughout pregnancy. The "9 Days for Life" novena encourages nationwide solidarity in prayer for daily intentions, including for couples experiencing infertility, those mourning the loss of a child through abortion, children in need

of adoptive homes, and for an end to abortion and use of the death penalty. Resources for the novena are available in numerous ways, including an app.

The initiative is part of the 2014-15 Respect Life Program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) with the theme "Each of Us is a Masterpiece of God's Creation," which is adapted from the words of Pope Francis' 2013 Day for Life prayer intentions, each day of the

program raises awareness on issues such as domestic violence, post-abortion healing, pornography addiction, and end-of-life matters.

"Pope Francis reminds us constantly of the loving concern Christians have for all people at any stage of life who've been cast aside or forgotten by society," said Cardinal Seán O'Malley, archbishop of Boston and chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities. "The 9 Days for Life novena offers a chance to join in prayer and solidarity with the unborn, victims of violence, those suffering from addiction, and those whose hearts ache to be part of a family."

CARDINALS

Continued from Page 1

With the list, the pope continues a movement he started with his appointments of a year ago, giving gradually more representation at the highest levels of the church to poorer countries in the global South.

The Feb. 14 consistory will bring the total number of cardinals under the age of 80 to 125.

Three of the new cardinal electors hail from Asia, three from Latin America, two from Africa and two from Oceania.

Of the five Europeans on the list, three lead dioceses in Italy and Spain that have not traditionally had cardinals as bishops -- another sign of Pope Francis' willingness to break precedent.

None of the new cardinals hails from the U.S. or Canada. The U.S. currently has 11 cardinal electors and Canada three. The continuing geographic shift is incremental in nature. With the new appointments, cardinals from Europe and North America will account for 56.8 percent of those eligible to elect the next pope, down from 60 percent on Jan. 4.

One of the Italian cardinals-designate, the archbishop of Agrigento in Sicily, leads the Italian bishops' commission on migration, an issue on which Pope Francis has placed particular importance.

Pope Francis said he had chosen to honor five retired bishops "distinguished for their pastoral charity in service to the Holy See and the church," representing "so many bishops who, with the same pastoral solicitude, have given testimony of love for Christ and the people of God, whether in particular churches, the Roman Curia or the diplomatic service of the Holy See."

The five new honorary cardinals hail from Argentina, Colombia, Germany, Italy and Mozambique.

Here is the list of the new cardinals:

- French Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, prefect of the Apostolic Signature, 62.
- Portuguese Patriarch Manuel Jose Macario do Nascimento Clemente of Lisbon, 66.
- Ethiopian Archbishop Berhaneyesus Demerew Souraphiel of Addis Ababa, 66.
- New Zealand Archbishop John Dew of Wellington, 66.
- Italian Archbishop Edoardo Menichelli of Ancona-Osimo, 75.
- Vietnamese Archbishop Pierre Nguyen Van Nhon of Hanoi, 76.
- Mexican Archbishop Alberto Suarez Inda of Morelia, who turns 76 Jan. 30.
- Myanmar Archbishop Charles Bo of Yangon, 66.
- Thai Archbishop Francis Xavier Kriengkrajikul of Bangkok, 65.
- Italian Archbishop Francesco Montenegro of Agrigento, 68.
- Uruguayan Archbishop Daniel Fernando Sturla Berhouet of Montevideo, 55.
- Spanish Archbishop Ricardo Blazquez Perez of Valladolid, 72.
- Spanish-born Panamanian Bishop Jose Luis Lacunza Maestrojuan of David, 70.
- Cape Verdean Bishop Arlindo Gomes Furtado of Santiago de Cabo Verde, 65.
- Tongan Bishop Soane Mafi, 53.
- Colombian Archbishop Jose de Jesus Pimiento Rodriguez, retired, of Manizales, who turns 96 Feb. 18.
- Italian Archbishop Luigi De Magistris, 88, retired pro-major penitentiary at the Vatican.
- German Archbishop Karl-Joseph Rauber, 80, a former nuncio.
- Argentine Archbishop Luis Hector Villalba, retired, of Tucuman, 80.
- Mozambican Bishop Julio Duarte Langa, retired, of Xai-Xai, 87.



Archbishop Dominique Mamberti attends New Year's Eve vespers in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican in this Dec. 31, 2013, file photo. Archbishop Mamberti, 62, was one of 20 new cardinals appointed by Pope Francis Jan. 4. (CNS photo/Alessia Giuliani, Catholic Press Photo)

Diocesan Briefs.....

February Prayer breakfast, luncheon

LAKE CHARLES – The next men's prayer breakfast is Friday, Feb. 13, in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception office complex.

Call 337-439-7400 to register.

The breakfast and presentation is preceded by a 6:30 a.m. celebration of the Mass in the Cathedral.

The next women's luncheon has been set for Wednesday, Feb. 11, in Ave Maria Hall.

Women should mail a check in the amount of \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Gaynell Carrier, 414 Iris Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601, and include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Sacred Heart clothing outreach

LAKE CHARLES -- Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church continues its outreach ministry for women in the area. "Gently Used Business & Dress Attire" was opened in anticipation of job creation and hiring due to the growth of the area in the future;

Open for donations or free shopping for women's business attire on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 5 to 7 p.m. it is located at 1024 Division Street.

For more information, contact Deneen Sweet at gently-usedbusinessdressclothes@gmail.com

First Friday, Saturday Devotions at Cathedral

LAKE CHARLES – First Friday and Saturday Devotions have begun at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, according to Rev. Rommel Tolentino, pastor.

Following the First Friday 12:05 p.m. Mass, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar of the Sacred Heart for Adoration.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the Altar of Our Lady from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. on each First Saturday, followed by Benediction and celebration of the Extraordinary Form of the Liturgy starting at 8 a.m.

Masses in the Extraordinary Form

LAKE CHARLES – The celebration of Mass in the Extraordinary Form in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception takes place each Sunday at 5 p.m., at 8 a.m. on each First Saturday, and on Mondays at 5:30 p.m.

Theresians sponsoring day of reflection

LAKE CHARLES – The Fleur de Lis Theresians of Southwest Louisiana are sponsoring "The Woman Within: Women's Day of Reflection" on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Msgr. Irving A. DeBlanc Family Life Center.

Father Whitney Miller, Gwin Miller-Cronin, and Vicki Schmidt, Executive Director of Theresians International will be the presenters. The retreat is open to all women. Registra-

tion by February 14 is \$25 and \$30 after that date, with lunch included.

Call Rose Viau to register or for more information at 337-802-2487.

Vocare on First Saturday at Vianney House

LAKE CHARLES – Young men ages 16 to 25, seeking to know God's will in their lives, are invited to attend Vocare, a ministry of the Office of Vocations, on the first Saturday of each month at Vianney House, 1624 Bank Street, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Call Father Nathan Long at 337-477-1434 for more information.

Special Needs Mass on Feb. 8

LAKE CHARLES – A Mass for Individuals with Special Needs and their families will be celebrated Sunday, Feb. 8, by Father Whitney Miller at 11 a.m. in St. Louis Catholic High School.

All denominations are invited to join the celebration, which is offered as an opportunity for all to worship despite difficulty, embarrassment, or frustration. Family members and friends are welcome.

Call Karen Duhon at 337-478-0243 or Shari Cormier at 337-478-0043 for more information.