



## Voting in Perplexing Times: A Statement by Bishop Provost

Among candidates for elected office, the choices for voters can be perplexing. In any election, a Catholic is obligated to vote according to the judgment of correct conscience. This requires the Catholic voter to be informed about Church teaching found in definitive sources, such as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Sacred Scripture, and Sacred Tradition, as well as the positions held by candidates and their party platforms.

The more fundamental the issue, like human life, marriage or religious freedom, the greater priority the issue possesses in the judgment of correct conscience. The exercise of a correct conscience requires that a Catholic vote for the candidate whose positions best correspond to the Church's moral teaching on such fundamental issues.

The authentic teachings of the Catholic Church are timeless realities that defy being categorized as fossilized relics of a remote past. They are the legitimate expression of the teachings of Jesus Christ, and when lived out, they define us as Christians. These teachings exist because God cares about how we live and what happens to us.

The question to ask is fundamental. In voting for a candidate, to what end am I contributing? What goal am I seeking to accomplish? Simply stated, voting both endorses a candidate's goals and contributes to accomplishing them.

This statement is made without prejudicing to any candidate or political party. It is intended rather to remind the Catholics of this Diocese that voting is a serious matter and can have immediate as well as eternal consequences, for we will ultimately stand before God for the decisions we make and the actions we take (cf. Romans 14:12).

## Respect Life Banquet Jan. 17

LAKE CHARLES – The annual Diocese of Lake Charles Respect Life Banquet on Tuesday, Jan. 17, in the Lake Charles Civic Center features guest speaker Dr. Jennifer Roback Morse and the presentation of the “Pro Vita” awards, recognizing the work and service of people of the diocese in pro-life activities, will also take place.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with silent auction items available for bid. The dinner is 6:30 p.m. and Morse will speak at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 each and a table for eight can be purchased for \$400.

Call 337-439-7400 for Caroline Matt; or e-mail, rachel.vineyard@lcdiocese.org or caroline.matt@lcdiocese.org for more information. Tickets can be purchased by going to the website of the Diocese of Lake Charles – live.lcdiocese.org – clicking the “Support the Diocese” button and then the Respect Life Banquet link.



Jennifer Roback Morse, Ph.D.

A number of diocesan pro-life ministries, including Rachel's Vineyard, The Gabriel Project, youth pilgrims traveling to the annual March for Life gathering in Washington DC, and a new pro-life project Grief to Grace, which will be introduced at the banquet, are beneficiaries of the proceeds from this event.

Dr. Morse is the founder and president of the Ruff Institute, a global non-profit organization, dedicated to

creating a Christ-like solution to family breakdown. She earned her doctorate in Economics at the University of Rochester in 1980 and taught economics at Yale University and George Mason University. She has served as a Research Fellow for the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty and has held fellowships at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, Cornell Law School, and the University of Chicago's Economics Department.

She has authored several books and spoken around the globe on marriage, family and sexuality and was named one of the “Catholic Stars of 2013” by Our Sunday Visitor – a list that also included Pope Francis and Pope Benedict XVI.

Awards will be given in the categories of the laity – adult man or woman – and a youth. The winners will have exemplified the characteristics of carrying out this important reality.

# Catholic

## Camp Karol Groundbreaking



Groundbreaking for the first structure at the Youth Retreat Center at Camp Karol of Saint Charles Center – the entrance gate to the property – in Moss Bluff took place on Saturday, Oct. 22. Shown above are from left, David Grove (former president of Camp Karol, Inc., which donated 89 acres of property and other related assets to the Diocese for use as a Youth Retreat Center), Father Whitney Miller (Director of Saint Charles Center), Bishop Glen John Provost, and Randall Broussard (project architect). A crowd of nearly 100 people were on hand for the groundbreaking. A rendering of the entry gate as well as a site drawing of The Lodge, what will be the main building on the site, were available for viewing. The location of The Lodge was also staked out for viewing. The Lodge is to be the second part of the project to be constructed with groundbreaking hoped for in 2017. Camp Karol is one of the projects aided by the ongoing diocesan wide capital campaign – *Return to the Lord*.

## Deacon Lapoint named National Adviser

LAKE CHARLES – Deacon Patrick Lapoint, director of the Stella Maris Seafarers' Center of the Diocese of Lake Charles at the Port of Lake Charles, has been re-appointed as National Adviser of the Apostleship of the Sea Apostolate Ministry in the United States. Deacon Lapoint's appointment continues until November 2018.

The appointment was an-

nounced by The Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson, Bishop of Yakima, Washington, and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers.

One primary responsibility of an Adviser is to communicate the pastoral experience of his particular apostolate, especially best practices in continuing evangelization and participation

in the life of the Church. Moreover, Deacon Lapoint is expected to convey to the Subcommittee pastoral needs and concerns affecting the Apostleship of the Sea community so that it can support initiatives that might address these needs. He is also responsible for providing an annual report to the Subcommittee, which captures that information.

## Bishop's Gala Tickets available

LAKE CHARLES – Tickets remain available for the Fifth Annual Bishop's Gala on Saturday, Dec. 10, in the Lake Charles Civic Center featuring Rory Partin, a native of Southwest Louisiana.

Tickets are \$125 each and a table for 10 is \$1,250 and available in the parishes of the Diocese, at the Chancery - 414 Iris Street - and at www.lcdiocese.org. To buy tickets online, using a credit card or e-check, click on the “Support the Diocese” button on the front page, then click the “Bishop's Gala Tickets” link.

Partin, originally from Moss Bluff, has made a name for himself around the country – from New York to Los Angeles – with his smooth crooning style and “big band” sound.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for a VIP social with general admittance at 6:30 p.m.

Special sponsorship opportunities include one Bishop's Table for a contribution of \$30,000. For the donation, eight individuals receive dinner with Bishop Glen John Provost at the Gala with Concierge Service; special individual gifts; and special mention in the Gala Program and during the bandstand during the evening; and attendance at the VIP social from 6 to 6:30 p.m. before the Gala opens to the public and includes a photograph with the Bishop. In addition, they will be honored at a special Thank You dinner on a to-be-determined date at *L'Évêché*, the Bishop's Residence.

Several other levels of

sponsorship are also available – Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Crystal. Multiple numbers of these sponsorships will be offered. For information on these opportunities, please call 337-439-7400, Ext. 220.

The communications ministry of the Diocese is aided through the Gala proceeds. Particular aspects that receive funding include the *Glad Tidings* television program each Sunday morning on KPLC-TV, the *Catholic Calendar* in five regional newspapers, the diocesan website – www.lcdiocese.org, and the radio of the 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on two local AM radio stations.

## 45th annual Catholic Charismatic Conference

LAKE CHARLES – Catholic Charismatic Conference 2016 – Grace and Mercy – is today and Saturday, Nov. 4-5, in St. Louis Catholic High School. There is no registration fee to attend, though love offerings will be taken up during the General Sessions.

This 45th annual Conference begins today with on-site registration at 4:30 p.m. followed at 6 p.m. with Prayer and Praise, Word Gift and announcements. Father Arvind Minz, diocesan chaplain for Catholic Charismatic Renewal will celebrate the opening Mass at 6:30 p.m. with the first general session of Grace and Mercy, led by Father Bill Halbing following. Prayer teams will be available after all general sessions.

Saturday opens with registration at 8:30 a.m. with Prayer and Praise, Word Gift and announcements at 9:30 a.m. At 10 a.m., Father Halbing will lead the general session – Aspects of Grace. Confessions will be available beginning at 11 a.m.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will provide lunch starting at noon with Prayer and Praise, Word Gift and announcements at 1:30 p.m.

Ted Nelson will provide testimony at 2 p.m. followed at 3 p.m. with Prayer and Praise, Word Gift, announcements, and a collection.

Father Halbing will continue Aspects of Grace at 3:30 p.m. and prayer teams will be available after the session starting at 4:30 p.m.

Participants will break for supper, which will be on their own, beginning at 5 p.m., with Prayer and Praise, Word, gift, and announcements at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Closing Mass with Father Minz and the final General Session - Requirements of Grace with Father Halbing.

Father Minz will direct a Prayers for Healing Service.

Father Halbing is a priest of the Catholic Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, and known for his gift of Bible teaching. He was ordained in 1982.

Active in Charismatic Renewal since 1975, Fr. Halbing has spoken at national charismatic conferences in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, New Jersey, Denver, Florida, New Hampshire and Idaho and has traveled as far as Canada, Guyana, Eastern Europe and the Philippines to preach God's Word.

Ted Nelson has been involved in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal for many years, but really came alive when he made the ACTS Retreat. He is a delightful speaker and will share his wonderful story of giving his life to God when he said he told God “If you want me, you gonna have to come and get me!” Come, find out what happened. Ted is married to Elizabeth Thomas and they have eight children and members of St. Martin DePorres Catholic Church.



The Bishop Jude Speyrer Chapter of the Pontifical Knights and Dames of Pius IX, St. Gregory the Great, and Pope St. Sylvester is using its excess cash to make two gifts. The first gift, shown in Photo 1, is a check for \$750 to Catholic Charities Southwest Louisiana to aid its “Beat the Heat” program. The program provides elderly individuals or those with a physical handicap without air conditioning in their home to receive a window unit. Eligible individuals and families received 91 units this summer, which were installed by members of Vernon W. Joseph Assembly #22, Knights of St. Peter Claver. Making the presentation to Sister Mary Vianney Walsh, RSM, center, director of Catholic Charities, were Gayle Marshall, left, and Chester Jones, right. The summer of 2016 concluded the seventh year of the program. In Photo 2, the second gift of \$750 went to Pearl Cole of Abraham's Tent, center, the facility's administrator, to aid in the construction of shelving for the clothing room for donated garments. Marshall, left, and Jones, right, presented the check to Cole.





## Deceased Companions of Honor remembered at Mass

LAKE CHARLES – Bishop Glen John Provost was the celebrant and homilist of the annual Memorial Mass for deceased members of the Companions of Honor, held Tuesday, Oct. 18, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Rev. Luke Krzanowski, M.S., pastor of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus in Carlyss concelebrated. Very Rev. Ruben Buller served as Master of Ceremonies to Bishop Provost.

Twenty-nine members of the organization died in the previous year and each was remembered during the Prayer of the Faithful, as were all Companions who had previously gone to their eternal rest. Those lost in the past year include: †Thelma V. Theriot, †Rosalie Karam, †Lessie Verleen Fuselier, †Mabel Pearce, †Donald W. Keller, †Charles Fuselier, †Robert J. Chiasson, †Grace Savoie, †Philip Abshire, Sr., †Patricia Trunick, †Gabriel Bar-kate, †Kathy Coleman, †Joseph Harry Fruge, †Andrew John Betz, †The Reverend Archimandrite Herbert J. May, †Anna Jane Evans, †Rose Octavia McMillin, †Catherine Navarra, †Billy Navarre, †Roxie Stewart, †Jeannette “Dena” Nodier, †Yvonne Pharr, †Charles Onxley, †Sandra Pousson, †Robert Dale Herbert, Ph.D., †Wilma Richard Lawless, †Anna Lee Patin, †Jan LeBlanc, †Daniel McGee.

The Companions of Honor is an organization, established by Bishop Jude Speyrer in December 1982, that is composed of clergy, religious, and laity honored by the Diocese, the Holy See, or those who are members of recognized orders of chivalry residing in the Dio-

cese. These include members of The Sovereign Military Order of Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta; The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; The Pontifical Order of St. Gregory the Great; The Pontifical Order of Pope St. Sylvester; The Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem; The Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem; The Sacred Military Constantinian Order of St. George; Order of the Fleur de Lis; Bearers of The Pontifical Cross *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*; Bearers of The Pontifical Medal *Benemerenti*; Members, Officers, and Companions of The Order of St. Charles of the Diocese of Lake Charles; Bearers of The Devoted Service Medal of the Diocese of Lake Charles; and Bearers of The Bishop’s Medal of the Diocese of Lafayette.

The purposes of the Companions of Honor, as outlined in its constitution and bylaws, are to uphold and to encourage the support of Papal teachings, documents, and directives as well as those of the Diocese of Lake Charles and its Bishop; to make an annual voluntary offering to the Evangelization Program of the Diocese of Lake Charles; and to pray for and to promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood and the religious life.

During the last fiscal year, contributions from members of the Companions of Honor totaled \$14,225.00, bringing the overall total of donations from the organization since its establishment to nearly \$500,000.



**Bishop Glen John Provost, center, greets members of the Companions of Honor following the celebration of the Memorial Mass for Deceased members held in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Fr. Luke Krzanowski, MS, pastor of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Carlyss, right, concelebrated with the Bishop.**

## Saint Charles Center events

MOSS BLUFF – The final November event at Saint Charles Center is “Meditation and Mercy: How Prayerfulness Can Transform Our World” Evening of Reflection with Father Whitney Miller on Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. Suggested donation for the event is \$20 with a registration deadline of Friday, Nov. 11.

“Mercy During the Holidays” is presented by Sr. Diane Depwe on Tuesday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. with a suggested donation of \$20 and a registration deadline of Friday, Dec. 2.

A “Domestic Church” Married Couples Retreat is Thursday, Dec. 8 to Sunday, Dec. 11.

“Domestic Church” is an officially recognized lay movement that provides lifelong formation for sacramentally married couples for the sake of achieving sanctity together, growing in mutual love, and providing an environment where children can thrive and grow in union with Christ, so they may truly be called a Domestic Church! For information and/or to register, please call Blaine or Denise Wyninger at (337) 764-1562.

Private Directed Retreats led by Msgr. Ronald Groth, Judy Savoie, Gloria Villegas and Fr. Miller are Monday, Dec. 12 to Sunday, Dec. 18. 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. A retreatant may choose to do three or five

days. For more information or to register, call the Center at (855) 855-1232. Scholarship assistance available upon request.

An Introduction to the Directed Retreat is a weekend introduction to the directed retreat. It is set for Thursday, Dec. 15 to Sunday, Dec. 18. Scholarship assistance available upon request.

Call the Center at (337)

855-1232 to for more information on any of these programs and to register or go to [www.stcharlescenter.com](http://www.stcharlescenter.com).

Saint Charles Center stands as a place apart, offering an atmosphere of serenity and peace, where one can achieve spiritual renewal and growth – rediscovering life’s meaning in quiet reflection.

## Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, Bishop of Lake Charles, has asked that during the hurricane season of 2016 the people of the Diocese of Lake Charles pray the following prayer, composed in 1957 by The Most Reverend Maurice Schexnayder, Second Bishop of Lafayette, following Hurricane Audrey:

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 former 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 Glen John Provost accepts the gifts of bread and wine from Winfield Little, left, and Sid Rosteet, right, both members of the St. Thomas More Society, Judge Henry Yelverton Chapter, at the annual Red Mass held in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, Oct. 21. Assisting the Bishop is the Very Rev. Ruben Buller, Master of Ceremonies. The Mass is celebrated at the opening of the judicial year and requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the God-given power and responsibility of all in the legal profession. The Mass is so named because of the color of the vestments worn by the Bishop and priests, donned in symbolism of the tongues of fire that descended on the Apostles. Additionally, Judges of the High Court of England and all doctors of law wore red robes or academic hoods.**

## Diocesan Briefs.....

Mexico City-New York Torch Run Nov. 7-8

LAKE CHARLES – The annual International Run Carrera Antorcha Guadalupana Mexico-New York Torch Race connecting Mexico and the United States makes its annual visit to the Diocese of Lake Charles with two stops - St. Henry Catholic Church in Lake Charles and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Jennings – Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 7 and 8.

On Monday morning, the Torch arrives from its overnight stop in the Diocese of Beaumont and commences it Southwest Louisiana relay at U.S. 90 and Toomey Road running through Vinton, Edgerly, Sulphur, and into Westlake. At 2 p.m. the run continues from the Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau east down Lakeshore Drive to Broad Street and to St. Henry Catholic Church at 1021 Eighth Avenue, where the torch and images will remain overnight. Mass will be celebrated at St. Henry at 5 p.m.

The Tuesday leg of the relay begins at 9 a.m. from the St. Henry church parking lot east on U.S. 90 through Chloe, Iowa, Lacassine, Welsh, Roanoke, and to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Jennings., where Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m.

### Eucharistic Procession Nov. 19

LAKE CHARLES – Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church will sponsor a Eucharistic Procession from the Lake Charles Civic Center Amphitheatre to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, Nov. 19, according to Msgr. Daniel A. Torres, pastor.

The procession is being held to highlight the conclusion of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, called for by Pope Francis.

Walkers should to meet at 8:15 a.m. at the amphitheatre for Exposition of the Holy Eucharist, Adoration and Benediction before the walk, which starts at 9 a.m. from the Civic Center parking lot, up Kirby Street, to the Cathedral, entering the Holy Doors. Closing prayer is at 10:45 a.m.

In case of inclement weather, all should meet at the Cathedral at 8:15 a.m.

Call 337-477-1236 for additional information.

### Second Annual Quiz Bowl, Dec. 10

LAKE CHARLES – The Second Annual Quiz Bowl – Where the Game Begins with Truth – sponsored by the Office of Religious Education of the Diocese of Lake Charles is Saturday,

Dec. 10, in St. Louis Catholic High School.

Last year more than 100 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students took part in the inaugural event.

Four-person teams can be formed from diocesan parishes or Catholic schools in the diocese, according to Sr. Mary Elizabeth Ann McCullough, RSM, interim director of Religious Education. The top two squads will be awarded prizes.

Questions have been available to study at [https://quizlet.com/\\_1nngfj](https://quizlet.com/_1nngfj) with the password: dolc since last year’s competition.

Last year a team from Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Jennings captured the top spot with the runner-up group hailing from St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in Lake Charles.

Call 337-439-7400, Ext. 305 for more information.

### Center for Catholic Studies Spring classes

LAKE CHARLES – Three classes are offered in the Spring at the Center for Catholic Studies at the Catholic Student Center of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

Students may receive college credit for these courses through the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans and also the courses may qualify as electives in many McNeese degree programs.

Theology 104: Origins Of the Catholic Faith will be taught from 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Mondays, beginning January 23; Theology 290: History of Blacks in The American Catholic Church is 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, beginning January 17; and Theology 290: Spiritual Theology is on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning January 17, from 12:30 a.m. to 1:50 p.m.

Registration forms are available through the diocesan Office of Religious Education (337-439-7400), the Newman Center, and at [www.lcdiocese.org](http://www.lcdiocese.org) by clicking Forms on the front page and scrolling to Center for Catholic Studies.

### Thanksgiving dinner at Immaculate Heart

LAKE CHARLES – The 19th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, sponsored by Vernon W. Joseph #22, Fourth Degree Knights of Peter Claver along with Knights of Saint Peter Claver Council and Court # 14, is Thanksgiving Day, Thursday Nov. 24, in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Founder’s Hall.

Honorees for 2016 are Sir Knight Claude Syas and Sir Knight Wilson Semien.

Those dining-in begin arriving at 9 a.m. to music from the 50s to the 80s and two sessions of bingo – 10-11 a.m. and 2:15-3:30 p.m.

Lunch is served beginning at 11:15 a.m

### St. Louis Catholic High School Open House

LAKE CHARLES – The annual Open House at St. Louis Catholic High School is Wednesday, Nov. 16, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with tours of the school.

Everyone must enter through the St. Louis High School gym, located on Seventh Street. Call 337-436-7275 or visit [www.slchs.org](http://www.slchs.org) for more information.

### Luncheon and breakfast dates

LAKE CHARLES -- The next Women’s Luncheon and Men’s Prayer Breakfast with Bishop Glen John Provost are Wednesday Jan. 4, and Friday, Jan 6, respectively, in Ave Maria Hall of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Office Building. The events will not take place in December.

Women should send a check for \$15, payable to the Diocese of Lake Charles, to Gaynell Carrier, 414 Iris Street, and include a stamped self-address envelope.

The breakfast starts at 7 a.m. and is preceded by Mass beginning at 6:30 a.m. in the Cathedral. Men should call 337-439-7400 to register.

### Marriage Preparation class for 2017

LAKE CHARLES – Openings for the next Marriage Preparation class, offered by the Office of Family Life of the Diocese, is Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017.

The class is from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Chancery of the Diocese, 414 Iris Street. Registration is \$100, which includes the Prepare/Enrich online assessment, lunch, and materials. It can be accomplished online at [live.lcdiocese.org](http://live.lcdiocese.org)

Other dates of classes for the first six months of 2017 are February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, and June 24.

### “Work of Human Hands” sale at Christ the King

LAKE CHARLES – A Catholic Relief Services/Fair Trade “Work of Human Hands Advent Sale” is December 1 to December 6 at Christ the King Catholic Church.

The sale will follow each Mass on the weekend of Dec. 3 and 4 in the parish hall and in the parish office from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1; Monday, Dec. 5, and Tuesday, Dec. 3, as well as from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Dec. 2.