



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.

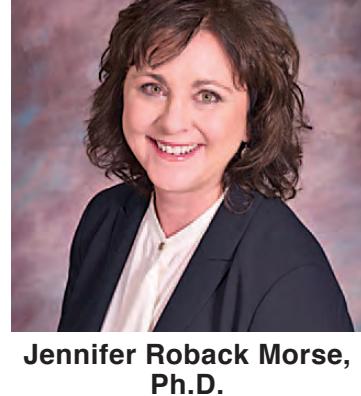
The more fundamental the issue, like human life, marriage or religious freedom, the greater priority the issue possesses in the judgment of correct conscience. The exercise of a correct conscience requires that a Catholic vote for the candidate whose positions best correspond to the Church's moral teaching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



**Jennifer Roback Morse,
Ph.D.**

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.

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

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 Caro-

line Matt; or e-mail, rachels.

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

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Calendar



The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles

November 4, 2016

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 co-celebrated. 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 Barkate, †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 Hebert, Ph.D., †Wilma Richard Lawless, †Anna Lee Patin, †Jan LeBlanc, †Daniel McGee.

The Companions of Honor is an organization, established by Bishop Jude Speyer 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 Di-

ocese. 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.

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 its 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 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> 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 squad 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 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.slchhs.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

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.