CHURCH TODAY

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ON THE

INSIDE

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Deacon Ray Gibson passes away at age 77

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Deacon Ray Gibson July 29 at St. Rita Church with Bishop David P. Talley officiating. Deacon Ray, age 77, of Alexandria, passed away July 23 at his residence after a lengthy battle with cancer. Read more on page 6.

More First Communion and Confirmation pictures

After the last issue of the Church Today, a few more First Communions and Confirmations were celebrated. Turn to pages 12-13 for pictures of the last few sacramental celebrations!



Knights of Columbus planning to replace traditional uniform

(CNS) -- The Knights of Columbus, long associated with swords, capes and chapeaus, will be going through a significant uniform change.

The traditional regalia worn by fourth-degree Knights will be replaced, announced Supreme Knight Carl Anderson Aug. 1 during the international fraternal organization's 135th annual Supreme Convention in St. Louis.

Throughout the years, the regalia of the Knights' fourth degree, known as the patriotic degree, has gone through changes, Anderson said, noting that when this degree was first established, the uniform included white ties, top hats and tails.

In place of a tuxedo with a black bow tie, members will be wearing a blue blazer, an official Knights of Columbus tie and a beret, all with the fourth-degree emblem on them, along with a white shirt and dark gray slacks. There was no mention if the swords would remain part of the uniform.

"The board of directors has decided that the time is right for a modernization of the fourthdegree uniform," Anderson said. "On a limited basis, assemblies may choose to continue using the traditional cape and chapeau for color corps at public events and honor guards in liturgical processions. However, the preferred dress for the fourth degree, including color corps and honor guards, is the new uniform of jacket and beret."

Robert Earl, a member of the Father Novatus Assembly 23, in Scottsdale, welcomes the new

"I feel it is significant that the order changes to respond to changing times. The new uniform evokes an image of elite military lose a sense of the pageantry ascorpsmen in my mind, and I believe this is the intent behind the change," Earl said.

"Our former regalia was reminiscent of Navy officers and consistent with the nautical theme in the patriotic degree, but it perhaps did not have currency in the minds of the general public," he added, noting that in addition to the tuxedo, the other items collectively could cost approximately \$500. "I think the new uniform creates a positive and striking image of 'soldiers for Christ,' which is, after all, what we are meant to

Many members are not as thrilled about the pending changes, which generated some controversy among the membership. Joseph Meyer from Msgr. Bernard G. Collins Assembly 2899, in Mesa, said the new uniforms

sociated with the Knights' fourthdegree level.

"I have been a fourth-degree Knight since 1978 and we have always had this regalia," said Meyer, who was a color corps commander in Toledo, Ohio, for 13 years before moving to Arizona. "We all looked great in the fourth-degree outfits. These (new) outfits look bad."

Meyer also expressed concern for members who own the current uniform and have to spend money on the new one.

"If we get a new uniform like this, you will see a lot of Knights leave the degree. A lot of your Knights are retired and don't have over \$500 to spend," he said.

Paul Lee, a member of the Iowa delegation who spoke to The Catholic Sun from St. Louis, said the reaction on the ground was "mixed."

"The largest concern is people don't feel that they have answers for the question of why the need for the change. They want something beyond a more modern look," said Lee.

Lee said many members he's interacted with are excited about the changes because it brings the uniform "more in line with other military service organizations because it connects us as patriotic organizations."

There also are members who "don't like change, so they're already up in arms," he added.

Representatives of the Arizona State Council said it was too early to comment as program details and guidelines for implementing the new uniforms were still unavailable.



NEW KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS UNIFORM -- YEA OR NAY? A member of the Knights of Columbus is shown sporting the Knights new uniform. The traditional regalia worn by fourth-degree Knights is being replaced with the new outfit, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said Aug. 1 during the international fraternal organization's 135th annual Supreme Convention in St. Louis. (CNS photo/ Knights of Columbus)



FAMILY OF THE YEAR. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, CEO of the Knights of Columbus, Texas State Deputy Douglas Oldmixon, third from right, Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, and Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, far right, pose Aug. 2 with Larry and Beth Odom and their 10 children during the Knights' annual international convention in St. Louis. The Knights named the family from Austin as International Family of the Year for 2017 for the special care they have shown for the homeless. (CNS photo/Knights of Columbus)





With help of Catholic aid, Iraqis begin return to Ninevah

By Dale Gavlak Catholic News Service

AMMAN, Jordan (CNS) -- It's taken three years for Iraqi Christians to return home after fleeing threats of death and forced conversion to Islam, but they are starting to rebuild their homes and lives in their ancestral towns, said Catholic aid groups.

"We met Amir, his wife and five children on a road in Irbil, while they were packing up their belongings in a truck to move back to Qaraqosh," Marialaura Conte, communications director of the AVSI Foundation.

The family, along with thousands of other Iraqi Christians, sought refuge in Irbil after their hometown and other areas in the Ninevah Plain were overrun by the Islamist extremists in August 2014. The metal carpentry workshop belonging to Amir, who just provided his first name, had been used by the militants to store and fix their weapons.

"We met the family the next day in their old house; its walls had been blackened after being bombed by Islamic State militants," Conte said of the couple, whose children are ages 2-15.

"They are totally resilient and want to restart their lives. But the conditions are really terrible," she said.

"Our idea is to follow the people. We have been in Qaraqosh and see that people want to



IRAQI FAMILY RETURNS HOME AFTER THREE YEARS. Iraqi Christian Amir, center, and his family pose in their house Aug. 4 in Qaraqosh, Iraq. The family, who fled Islamic State militants, has returned home to rebuild their house and their lives with the help of Catholic aid group, AVSI Foundation. (CNS photo/AVSI Foundation)

come back to their homes," Giampaolo Silvestri, AVSI's secretary-general, told CNS. He and Conte traveled to northern Iraq to assess the current situation and see how their organization can help.

"We have seen the people very happy to return home. For sure, they are passing through a very difficult moment, but they are very happy to come back and start a new life," he added.

Qaraqosh needs reconstruction of homes, businesses and schools destroyed by Islamic State, Silvestri said.

Father George Jahola, a Syriac Catholic priest, manages and organizes the reconstruction of the houses in Qaraqosh with money from the church. Silvestri said various Catholic organizations, such as Aid to the Church in Need, are involved in the rebuilding process, but that more funds must be raised. The Iraqi government has so far provided no resources.

Qaraqosh, about nine miles from the edge of Mosul, was once

a thriving Christian commercial town of 50,000 people. The Islamic State damaged the famed bell tower of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and decapitated its many statues.

Although Iraqi forces recaptured the town from Islamic State last October, it took many months before Christians felt more comfortable enough to return, and their numbers are not huge.

"Christians admit they are fearful of the situation surrounding them because nearby villages house people who are not too open to them," Conte said. "But this fear doesn't stop them. I could also see that the children initially are a bit disoriented when coming back."

AVSI sees education as a type of "reset button" for communities that have been displaced. The Italian-based foundation works in Iraq, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, as well as more than two dozen other countries.

"It's very important for these children to have places created where they feel comfortable," Conte said.

"We are rebuilding a preschool/kindergarten in Qaraqosh for this very reason, so the children can feel safe and the adults will feel secure while they reconstruct their homes and organize their lives once again," she said, noting the school should open in September for about 300 children.

AVSI has worked on educational projects in Iraq starting after the First Gulf War in 1991. More recently, it has aided Iraqis displaced by Islamic State with a variety of initiatives, including the Catholic University of Irbil and the Baby Jesus House kindergarten in Irbil, managed by the Dominican Sisters.

So far, 200 houses have been rebuilt in Qaraqosh, with another 111 on the way. Silvestri said 1,400 houses will be reconstructed, but 6,400 need rehabilitation.





The Joy of the Gospel

As August marks the start-up of school for the children and the teens of our diocese, it can be a time for new beginnings....for all of us.

Yeshua...Jesus of Nazareth....spoke about new beginnings.....starting life over in God's love.

When the devout and scholarly Pharisee Nicodemus asked Jesus about his message, his teaching, Jesus replied, "No one can see the Kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus didn't get it, exactly... How can a person once grown old be born again (John 3. 3-4)? How indeed?

In his Apostolic Exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis writes, "I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encoun-



I am the VINE; YOU are the BRANCHES

Most Rev. David P. Talley Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria

ter with Jesus Christ, or at least openness to letting him encounter them."

The devout scholar Nicodemus wanted to understand the way Yeshua understood the Law of God, the plan of God. Jesus longed to offer him instead an encounter... being with the Son, the revelation of the Father's love... the human face that imaged the

Invisible God.

In the *Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis writes I never tire of repeating those words of Benedict XVI which takes us to the heart of the Gospel. Benedict teaches us that being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive

Superheroes and the Power of Love

direction.

The Catholic Church is a communion of many communities...and our "work" is this encounter, a personal relationship with Christ the Lord WHO LIVES in the majesty of the Trinity.

We encounter Him...in His Word (praying the scriptures through the Spirit), in and through the gift of His Sacraments, in and through the community of the Church, His Body on this good earth...in the silence of our hearts, where the Spirit longs to speak His word of mercy to each of us....in the poor and discarded and marginalized, who as St. Teresa of Calcutta reminds us....manifest the Lord.

I urge each of you to read *The Joy of the Gospel...* and as our children and teens begin again their education in school.... let each of us enter the school of charity and service...where Christ the Lord awaits us....the Vine of Life...longing to "re-connect" with each branch...that all may bear much fruit.

AMDG

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam (For The Greater Glory of God)

By Sister Constance Veit Director of Communications

Superman has his red power cape. Elijah wore a cape to manifest his divine authority. Most famously, the Virgin Mary is usually portrayed wearing a cape-like garment known as a mantle, often blue and sometimes adorned with stars, to highlight her extraordinary role in history. In the Church's oldest Marian prayer we say, "Beneath your mantle we take refuge, O Mother of God."

Little Sisters of the Poor

Medieval artists often depicted Mary under the title of Our Lady of Mercy, with her arms outstretched to reveal a crowd of tiny suppliants huddled in the folds of her mantle. All kinds of people found a place at Mary's feet — from princes and pious nuns to slaves and peasants.

Our Lady's mantle had a special significance in the New World too. As Mary appeared to Juan Diego in Guadalupe, she assured him, "Do not let your countenance, your heart be disturbed. Am I not here, I, who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more?"

Mary explained to Juan Diego that a sanctuary should be built on the hill of Tepeyac so that



she could demonstrate her merciful concern for God's people: "I will give Him to the people in all my personal love, in my compassion, in my help, in my protection," she told him.

"I am truly your merciful Mother, yours and all the people who live united in this land and of all the other people of different ancestries, my lovers, who love me, those who seek me, those who trust in me. Here I will hear their weeping, their complaints and heal all their sorrows, hardships and sufferings."

Our foundress (Little Sisters of the Poor), St. Jeanne Jugan, was also known for her mantle, a black hooded cape which billowed in the Breton winds and under which she fingered her rosary beads as she traveled on foot seeking alms for the elderly poor to whom she had given a home.

Perhaps finding inspiration in the traditional images of Our Lady of Mercy, several artists have portrayed Jeanne Jugan gathering the elderly under her mantle and holding them tightly to her breast.

I find solace imagining those I love and care for sheltered in the folds of Mary's mantle, or nestled close to the heart of Saint Jeanne Jugan. But I also sense a challenge, and I believe that is why God has inspired me to contemplate these images, which manifest the powerful yet gentle and merciful love of God himself.

I believe that God is calling the Church today, and each of us, to open our arms, reach out and draw all those on the peripheries of society into our circle of love.

"We are called to bring to everyone the embrace of God, who bends with a mother's tenderness over us ... stooped down in a ges-

ture of consolation," our Holy Father once said to consecrated women and men. These words of Pope Francis can motivate all of us. This is how we will be missionary disciples who bring the joy of the Gospel to the field hospital of today's world.

St. Jeanne Jugan's feast day is celebrated on August 30 and during these last weeks of sum-

mer we celebrate Mary's Assumption and Queenship, as well as her birthday. On these special days let's ask Our Lady and Saint Jeanne Jugan to teach us how to extend a mantle of compassion over wounded souls, creating — and becoming ourselves — sanctuaries of that powerful yet gentle love which animates the heart of Christ.

CHURCH TODAY

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How to know if your family Bible is a 'Catholic' Bible

By Jeannie Petrus CT editor

Every Christian family should have a Bible in the home. As a Catholic, you should be reading from a *Catholic* Bible. Is the family Bible in your home a *Catholic* Bible? How can you tell if your Bible is Catholic? What's the difference?

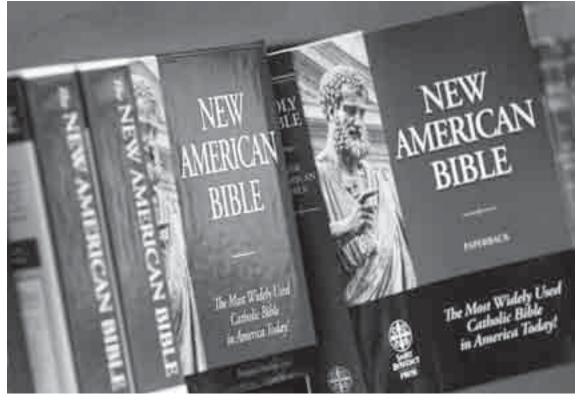
First of all, take a moment to locate the Bible(s) you have in your home. Let's take a closer look at what you have to determine if it is a Catholic version.

How to tell if you have a Catholic Bible

- 1. One of the easiest ways to tell if you have a Catholic Bible is if you see the words *Catholic Bible* on it. Of course, then, it is a Catholic Bible. But most Catholic versions are not labeled that way.
- 2. Look for the initials NAB or NABRE, which stands for New American Bible (Revised Edition) on the cover or the spine. If your Bible has the initials or this wording, it is the most widely used, most widely-accepted modern Catholic Bible in use today.
- 3. If, however, you have an old family Bible that's been in the family for years, it could have other initials that are acceptable Catholic versions, but are not as widely used today.

Some older, but still acceptable translations are the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), The Psalms, and the St. Joseph Bible. Other acceptable translations exist.

4. If, you do not see any of these initials or wording on the cover, it probably is not a Catholic Bible. Or if you see the words *King James Version* or KJV, it is definitely not a Catholic Bible, but the most widely-accepted Protestant Bible.



5. One final way to determine if your Bible is Catholic is to go to the Table of Contents. Look in the list of "books" in the Old Testament for (example) Maccabees I or Maccabees II. If you see these books listed, it is a Catholic Bible; if not, it is not a Catholic Bible.

Why is this?

Maccabees I and II are two of seven books that are included in the Catholic Bible, but are not included in the Protestant Bible. The seven books are: Maccabees I, Maccabees II, Sirach, Tobit, Wisdom, Judith, and Baruch.

To understand why there are seven books in the Catholic Bible that are not in the Protestant Bible, let's go back to the history of the Bible.

History of the Bible

The Catholic Church derives all of its teaching authority from its tradition, the doctrine which has come down to it from Christ. This tradition is preserved in written form in the "Bible" which contains the principle truths of faith taught to the Apostles by

Inspired men were moved by the Spirit of God to commit these matters to writing in the early Church. Only a short time after Christ's Ascension, perhaps within 20 years, the need to preserve these truths in a permanent form was recognized.

Before any book was accepted as "authentic" however, the authority of an Apostle was demanded by the early Christian communities. Mark's Gospel was accepted because he was Peter's companion. Similarly, though Luke was a man who had not seen Christ, his book gained acceptance through St. Paul's authority.

At the time the books of the New Testament were written, many other previous stories and legends relating to Christ and His times were also widely circulated. As a result, in the early centuries of the Church, there were some confusion and doubt as to which books were inspired and biblical, and which were not.

As far as is known, it was the Council of Hippo in 393 A.D. that first determined which books were inspired and were to be included in the Bible canon. About the same time, the first Latin translation of the Bible, known as the Vulgate, was completed by St. Lerome

In 1546, the Council of Trent formally canonized all traditional books of the Bible and affirmed the Vulgate as the Catholic Church's officially promulgated Latin version of the Bible. The Douay–Rheims Bible followed in 1582 as the Catholic Church's officially promulgated English translation of the Latin Vulgate.

Why were seven rejected?

The Jews living in the few centuries before Christ were di-

My Catholic FAITH

vided into two groups -- the Jews dwelling in Palestine and speaking Hebrew, and the large number of Jews scattered throughout the Roman Empire and speaking the Greek language, a consequence of the conquest of Alexander the Great of Greece.

In the several centuries before the coming of Christ, the Jews in Palestine re-examined and eliminated some of the books from the existing collection as not in harmony with the Law of Moses and as of doubtful inspiration.

The Pharisees set up four criteria which their sacred books had to pass in order to be included in the revised Jewish canon: 1. They had to be in harmony with the Pentateuch. 2. They had to have been written before the time of Ezra; 3. They had to be written in Hebrew. 4. They had to have been written in Palestine.

Judith was eliminated because it was written in Aramaic; Wisdom and Maccabees II in Greek; Tobit and part of Daniel and Esther in Aramaic; Baruch, written outside of Palestine; and Sirach and Maccabees I written after the time of Ezra.

From the earliest of times, the Christian Church recognized the Jewish canon of the Greek-Roman tradition as being the true bible. **Jesus Himself** quoted from the Greek-Roman Bible, and not until the Reformation was this canon seriously challenged.

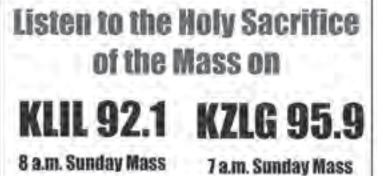
Between 1484-1536, the first Protestant Bible was translated into English by William Tyndale and the King James version in 1611. These two versions and others all followed the Palestinian Jews' decision to eliminate the seven books from the Old Testament. The Catholic and Protestant New Testament books, however, are identical.

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Deacon Assignments



Deacon Emile J. Barre III

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at St. Joseph Church, Colfax.



Deacon L.G. Deloach, Jr.

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Tioga.



Deacon Gregory P. LeBlanc

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at Sts. Francis and Anne Church in Kolin and to assist St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Rita Church in Alexandria.



Deacon Richard Mitchell

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral and coordinator of Liturgy for Steubenville South.



Deacon Ted Moulard

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes in Fifth Ward and as an advocate in the Diocesan Tribunal.



Deacon Clifford Pelto

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria.



Deacon Gary A. Schupbach

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at St. Joseph Church in Marksville.



Deacon William Travis

received a two-year extension of his appointment as deacon for pastoral ministry at St. Martin Church in Lecompte.



Deacon John L. Whitehead

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches.



Deacon Michael Young

reappointed as deacon for pastoral ministry at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville.

Deacon Ray Gibson passes away at age 77

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Deacon Ray Gibson at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at St. Rita Catholic Church with The Most Reverend David P. Talley, Bishop of Alexandria officiating.

Deacon Ray, age 77, of Alexandria, passed away on Sunday, July 23, 2017, at his residence after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Concelebrants were Rev. Craig Scott, Rev. Stephen Brandow, Rev. Daniel Hart, and brother priests assisted by the deacons of the Diocese of Alexandria.

A private interment was held at Evangeline Memorial Cemetery in Ville Platte, conducted by Deacon L. G. DeLoach.

Ray is a veteran of the United States Army. He attended USL, and received his degree in Theology from Loyola in New Orleans. Ray worked as a chaplain for the VA Hospital in Pineville for 8 years.



Deacon Ray Gibson 1940-2017

He was ordained as a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Alexandria in February of 2012. His pastoral assignments were Sacred Heart of Jesus of Pineville, and St. Rita Catholic Church of Alexandria.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years Phyllis Ann Gibson; his sons, Neal Matthew Gibson and his wife Chantel of Oakdale, and Ted Michael Gibson and his wife Denise of Denham Springs; four granddaughters, Hailey Hitt and her husband Jonathon of Abbeville, Sydney Gibson of Oakdale, Lauryn Gibson of Denham Springs, Anna Maria Gibson of Oakdale; two great grandchildren, Jonathon and Dalton Hitt; and two brothers, Michael Gibson and his wife Jill of Broussard, and Kim Gibson and his wife Melissa of Ville Platte.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ray D. and Mildred T. Gibson; and his former daughterin-law, Monique Gibson.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Rita Catholic Church at 4401 Bayou Rapides Rd, Alexandria, LA 71303.

To extend online notes of condolence to the Gibson Family, please visit www.KramerFunerals.com.

(Published in The Town Talk on July 26, 2017)





Clergy Assignments

Deacon Richard Mitchell

Deacon Richard Mitchell began serving the diocese Aug. 1 in several capacities including:

- · Assistant director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate. He will assist Father Dan O'Connor, who currently directs the office. He will become the director of the office on July 1, 2018, when Fr. Dan will step aside after serving the diaconate for 11 years.
- Contact person for the recently created Committee of Divine Worship. Under the direction of Bishop David Talley, the volunteer Committee of Divine Worship, will work together to coordinate the music and liturgy for all of the diocesan Masses held at the Cathedral throughout the year -- like ordinations, the Red Mass, and the Chrism Mass.
- Vice Chancellor of the diocese. Deacon Richard will assist the current Chancellor, Father Chad Partain, in the duties of the office.

Vicar Forane

Father Craig Scott has been appointed vicar forane (dean) of the Central Deanery, previously held by Father Dan O'Connor; and Father John Pardue has been appointed vicar forane of the Eastern Deanery, previously held by Father James Nellikunnel.

The four deans now are Fr. Rusty Rabalais, vicar forane (dean) of the Avoyelles Deanery; Fr. Craig Scott, V.F. (new dean) of the Central Deanery; Fr. John Pardue, V.F. (new dean) of the Eastern Deanery; and Fr. John O'Brien, V.F. (dean) of the Natchitoches Deanery.

Vicar for Clergy

Father Adam Travis has been appointed Vicar for Clergy and Father John Wiltse has been appointed assistant Vicar for Clergy.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

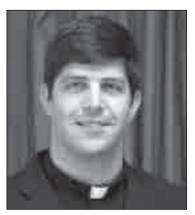
Father Rick Gremillion has been appointed diocesan coordinator of the USCCB Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Interim Pastoral Administrator

Father John O'Brien, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua in Natchitoches, has been appointed interim pastoral administrator of Our Lady of Lourdes in Winnfield and its mission of St. William Chapel in Olla. Father Stephen Soares, former pastor, has been called by his religious community to return to India.



Fr. Adam Travis, V.C. Vicar for Clergy Pastor, St. Martin, Lecompte & Our Lady of Guadalupe, Forest Hill



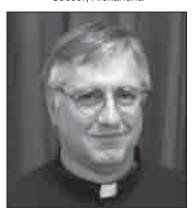
Fr. John Wiltse Assistant Vicar for Clergy Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria



Fr. John O'Brien, V.F. Interim Pastoral Administrator, Our Lady of Lourdes, Winnfield Pastor, St. Anthony, Natchitoches



Fr. Craig Scott, V.F. Vicar Forane for Central Deanery Oversee new Office of Life and Justice Pastor, St. Rita, Alexandria



Fr. John Pardue, V.F. Vicar Forane for Eastern Deanery Pastor, St. Patrick, Ferriday & St. Gerard Mission in Jonesville



Fr. Rick Gremillion Diocesan Coordinator of USCCB Catholic Campaign for Human Development Pastor, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tioga



Deacon Richard Mitchell Assistant Director, Office of Permanent Diaconate Vice Chancellor, Diocese of Alexandria Contact person for new Office of Divine Worship



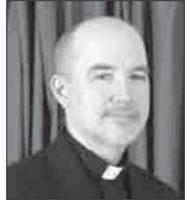
Melanie Blanchard, Broker Donald Baker, Agent Edwin "Beau" Barnes, Agent Robert Tassin, Agent

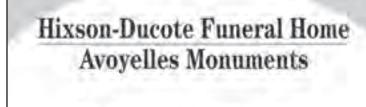
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-- Rev. Scott Chemino, Chairman

Completed burses at \$15,000.00 each:

- · Bishop Charles P. Greco
- · Monsignor Thomas F. Early (3 completed)
- · Monsignor B. A. Scallan
- Father H. Gerald Bordelon
- Father Michael P. Kammer
- Father Bruce Miller (2 completed)
- Father William B. Provosty (2 completed)
- Angelo R. and Ena F. D'Angelo
- John Dominick Driscoll
- · Miss Mary F. Early
- Irvin and Elma Moreau, Harrison P. Moreau, Michael N. Moreau, Deborah S. Moreau Bouche, Emily A. Moreau, Tom and Mary Candiotto, Ruby Moreau
- · John Gregory Simms

The following is a list of established burses and amounts each: Bishop Lawrence P. Graves 5,805.00 Monsignor Allen M. Chenevert 1,000.00 Monsignor Isidore Deceulaer......160.00 Monsignor Gerald J. Ducote560.00 Monsignor Robert C. Friend50.00 Monsignor James E. Howard50.00 Monsignor Charles M. Jekeler......325.00 Monsignor Joseph F. Kidd. 1,500.00 Monsignor William Kwaitaal.....850.00 Monsignor John V. Plauche......400.00 Monsignor F. Joseph Rateau570.00 Monsignor Russell J. Richie591.14 Monsignor Joseph M. Susi 9,706.00
Monsignor Steve J. Testa 7,205.00 Monsignor Henry A. Thompson......360.00 Monsignor Martin J. Tyrrell 4,250.00 Father Peter J. Besselaar50.00 Father Michael Bodnar50.00 Father Vernon Bordelon445.00 Father Basil Burns......100.00 Father Jules L. Claes, CICM 4,761.00

Seminarian Burses

January 1, 2017 - June 30, 2017

Father Daniel Corkery
Father Anthony N. Cumella
Father John H. Cunningham
Father Dennis A. Curren
Father Leonard Curtis, OP
Father Ferreolus D'Cruz875.00
Father Edward Deasy625.00
Father Blake Deshautelle
Father Rudolph J. Engelen
Father Richard Fale
Father James Ferguson
Father Harvey J. Fortier
Father James Foster
Father John M. Gayer
Father Serafin Glasnovic
Father Rickey Gremillion
Father William M. Hopp
Father Mark W. Horacek
Father Bartholomew Ibe
Father Tom Jezak
Father Michael P. Kammer
Father W. John Kiley
Father Francis X. Kronemeyer100.00
Father George Krosfield50.00
Father Peter Kuligowski708.00
Father Paul Kunnumpuram
Father Henri Jacquemain50.00
Father Russell J. Lemoine
Father Frederick J. Lyons
Father Bernard F. Maguire
Father Robert M. Maure
Father Jamie Medina-Cruz
Father Jack Michalchuk
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Father Joseph Montalbano
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Father Thomas O'Connors
Father Chad Partain
Father Martin L. Plauche
Father Samuel J. Polizzi
Father William B. Provosty
Father Yves J. Robitaille
Father José Robles-Sanchez350.00
Father Frederick Taylor Reynolds
Father James Roy
Father Kenneth J. Roy
Father Lloyd M. Samson
Father Craig Scott
Father Louis Sklar, III
Father Paul B. Smith
Father Ker Texada
Father August Thompson
Father Antonio E. Villaverde
Father Silvan A. Waterkotte, OFM
Father Kenneth Williams
Father Joseph Xavier
Father Bernard L. Zagst
Reverend H. Biggers
Deacon Emile "E.J." Barre, III
Deacon Rodrick "Benny" Broussard
Deacon L. G. DeLoach
Deacon Raymond J. Dunn
Deacon Ray D. Gibson
Deacon Charles A. Jones
Deacon Gregory P. LeBlanc
Deacon Todd Marye
Deacon Patrick C. McCusker

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Gerald Moreau						
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TOTAL





Generous support shown through Supper with the Seminarians

Coordinated through the efforts of the Office of Vocations, three Suppers with the Seminarians were held during July to raise funds for seminarian education.

THE CENTRAL DEANERY SUPPER WITH THE SEMINARIANS was held July 27 at the St. Rita Holy Family Center. Approximately 600 people attended the supper that was prepared by Father Louis Sklar and the seminarians. Each of the three suppers was attended by Bishop David Talley who met with the people and enjoyed the meal served by the seminarians.









(at left) NATCHITOCHES DEAN-ERY SUPPER WITH THE SEMI-NARIANS was held July 9 at Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Campti.

The **EASTERN DEANERY SUPPER** was held in July 23, but no pictures were available.

The AVOYELLES DEANERY SUP-PER is scheduled for September, although no specific date has been set yet.

Seminarian Burses

July Donations

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New boundary lines of deaneries make 'geographic sense'

After consulting with several priests of the diocese, Bishop David Talley has redrawn the boundaries of the four canonical deaneries that make up the Diocese of Alexandria.

"It made more sense, geographically and culturally, to move two church parishes into another deanery," said Bishop David.

Changes include moving:

- St. Mary's Church in Jena and its mission of St. Edward in Fishville from the Central Deanery to the Eastern Deanery
- Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Winnfield and its mission of St. William in Olla from the Central Deanery to the Natchitoches Deanery

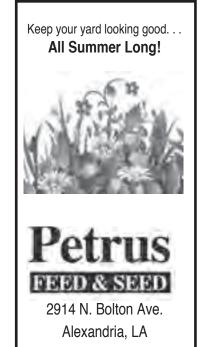
In addition to adjusting deanery boundaries, Bishop David has also appointed two new deans -- Father Craig Scott and Father John Pardue.

The four deans are Fr. Rusty Rabalais, vicar forane (dean) of the Avoyelles Deanery; Fr. Craig Scott, V.F. (new dean) of the Central Deanery; Fr. John Pardue, V.F. (new dean) of the Eastern Deanery; and Fr. John O'Brien, V.F. (dean) of the Natchitoches Deanery.

13 Civil Parishes included in 4 Canonical Deaneries

Avoyelles, Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, Franklin, Grant, LaSalle, Madison, Natchitoches, Rapides, Tensas, Vernon, Winn





442-2325





Church Today

ST. AUGUSTINE PROVIDENCE MISSION OPERATION BACK PACK. St. Augustine Church (Isle Brevelle) Providence Mission held it's first annual back pack drive. Thanks to very generous donations and contributions from St. Augustine parishioners, the Providence Mission packed and delivered 30 personalized back packs with school supplies for the kids of families that the Providence Mission currently serves. During Sunday Mass on July 30, Father Charles Ray blessed the back packs and delivered them to the students after Mass. All parishioners were thanked for their active participation in the effort with Shipley donuts, juice and fun fellowship after Mass. Pictured are Vera Severin & Theresa Morgan.







ST. MARY TRAINING CENTER 'GRECO BOWL.' Chef John Folse (standing in the back) presented a cooking demonstration June 21 for guests attending the annual St. Mary's Residential Training Facility Greco Bowl. Chef Folse has been an avid supporter of St. Mary's School and participates in the annual fund raiser for St. Mary's to raise awareness for children and young people with disabilities. All proceeds from the event benefit the St. Mary's kids.

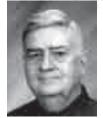


PITRE CONFERENCE BENEFITS MANNA HOUSE. More than 267 attended the one-day conference titled "Jesus, and The Jewish Roots of the Eucharist" presented by Dr. Brant Pitre, professor of Theology at Notre Dame Seminary. Through the efforts of the conference committee (Les Glankler, Layla Juneau, Claire Lemoine, Deacon Richard and Nicole Mitchell, JB and Boonie Treuting, Charlotte and Ken Wasmer) more than \$3,000 was raised and donated to Manna House. Pictured is Dr. Brant Pitre, Claire Lemoine and Jessica Viator.





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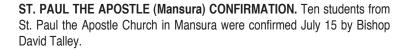
Oestriecher Financial Management Services is not a broker/dealer or independent investment advisory firm.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES (Fifth Ward) CONFIRMATION. Six students from Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Fifth Ward were confirmed recently by Bishop David Talley.



ST. MARY CHURCH (Winnsboro) FIRST COMMUNION. Three students from St. Mary Church in Winnsboro received First Communion on May 28.





STS. FRANCIS AND ANNE (Kolin) CONFIRMATION. Five students from Sts. Francis and Anne were confirmed July 12 by Bishop David Talley.



CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER (Evergreen) CONFIRMATION. Six students were confirmed at Church of the Little Flower in Evergreen in July by Bishop David Talley.





ST. PETER/ST. MICHAEL (Bordelonville) CONFIRMATION. Four students from St. Peter/St. Michael Church in Bordelonville were confirmed July 9 by Bishop David Talley.



ST. JULIANA (Alexandria) CONFIRMATION - Four students from St. Juliana Church were confirmed on July 16 by the Most Reverend Bishop David Talley.



CHRIST THE KING (Simmesport) CONFIRMATION. Five students from Christ the King Church in Simmesport were confirmed July 23 by Bishop David Talley.



HISPANIC COMMUNITY FIRST COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION. Two people from the Hispanic Community received sacraments from Father Taylor Reynolds on July 25. A Lorenzo and Juan Gonzales both received First Communion and Juan also received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Dupont) FIRST COMMUNION. Eleven students from Immaculate Conception Church in Dupont received First Communion recently.

2017 is 15th year of USCCB's child protection charter

In response to the sexual abuse crisis that came to a head in 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (US-CCB) put into effect the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. This year marks the 15th anniversary of the implementation of the Charter.

The USCCB wrote and promulgated the Charter in 2002 in order to hold accountable all Catholic dioceses, eparchies and religious orders serving in the United States their commitment to protect children and young people.

The Diocese of Alexandria has worked earnestly to create a culture of compliance and transparency to protect our children and young people as well as to provide the opportunity to heal for those who suffer from sexual abuse. Furthermore, all credible allegations are reported to law enforcement, whether or not the statutes of limitation have run out

In our diocese, Pam Delrie is coordinator of the Office of Safe Environment, under the auspices of the Vicar General, Father Stephen Scott Chemino. Dr. Lee Kneipp serves as the victim assistance coordinator (VAC). Jose

Colls is VAC for Spanish-speaking people.)

It is Delrie's responsibility to see that all clergy, deacons, diocesan employees and volunteers who work with minors and vulnerable adults, undergo background checks, receive Virtus™ specialized awareness training, and maintain continuing education through the Safe Environment online program.

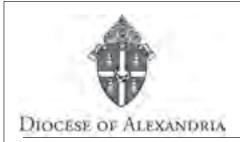
In addition, the Office of Safe Environment undergoes an annual audit performed by Stonebridge Business Partners, which is contracted through the USCCB.

The Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People continues to emphasize that the audit and maintaining zero-tolerance policies are two important tools in the Church's broader program of creating a culture of protection and healing that exceeds the requirements of the Charter.

The USCCB offers several resources on its website at www. usccb.org/issuesandaction including the 2016 Annual Report and the Charter itself.

The Diocese of Alexandria also offers several resources on its website at www.diocesealex. org/office-ministries.





Office of Safe Environment 4400 Coliseum Blvd. Alexandria, LA 71306-0417 318-445-6424, ext 213



To the people of the Diocese of Alexandria:

At the recently concluded spring meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the body of bishops reflected on this, the 15th anniversary of the 2002 Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. As most of us remember with profound sadness, the crime and sin of child sexual abuse in any Catholic parishes and schools was bought out in the open in 2002 for all to see. Following the request of the Holy Father, the bishops of the United States held a Day of Prayer and Penance during our spring gathering.

With the promulgation of the Charter, the bishops of the church and all who assist us in pastoral ministry have committed ourselves to create and maintain a culture of safety for our children and young people. I want to thank you for your continued support of the Diocese of Alexandria's Safe Environment program and for continuing to provide a safe environment for our children and vulnerable adults. Ms. Pam Delrie coordinates these efforts for our diocese (pdelrie@diocesealex.org).

We, as Roman Catholic disciples of the Lord Jesus, are called to model relationships demonstrating respect in all we do. "Human virtues acquired by education, by deliberate acts and by perseverance ever-renewed in repeated efforts are purified and elevated by divine grace." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1810).

As bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria, I hereby approve of and promulgate the following Safe Environment programs for use in this diocese:

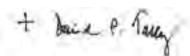
- -- VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults program for our clergy, religious, employees and volunteers who work with children.
- -- VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Touching Safety program for use in our parish religious education programs and in our Catholic school religion classes.

The Diocese of Alexandria has a zero tolerance for abuse. Let us renew our commitment to protect minors entrusted to our care from all forms of abuse and neglect; and, if you are aware of an issue that troubles you regarding a child or young adult at any of our parish, mission or school functions, please contact your local law enforcement and/or the Louisiana Child Abuse Hotline at 1-855-452-5437 immediately. This is the first step if you have a concern for the safety of a child or young person. Additionally, please know that the Diocese of Alexandria has a Victims Assistance Coordinator that may be contacted (Dr. Lee Kneipp, 318-552-9805).

I want to thank you for supporting these efforts. In all we do, let us seek the Kingdom and all righteousness, loving one another and respecting the dignity of each human life, from the moment of conception through the last breath of natural life.

In this 15th year of the Charter, please know that I will stand with you, in protecting our children, our young people and the vulnerable adults that are part of the Catholic family of central Louisiana. I am fraternally yours,

In the light and love of the Lord,



Most Reverend David P. Talley, M.S.W., J.C.D. Bishop of Alexandria

Church Today

Vacation Bible Schools!

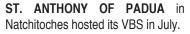
HOLY GHOST/ST. RICHARD CHA-PEL hosted Bible Fun Day on July 13. More than 40 students attended!

ST. MARTIN CHURCH in Lecompete hosted Vacation Bible School June 25-29.











OL OF LOURDES in Winnfield VBS participants raised \$200 for the Food Bank of Winnfield on July 9.





ST. GENEVIEVE in Brouillette held its Vacation Bible School June 5-8 with more than 45 students attending. The theme was "Bible Boot Camp". The kids raised \$300 for the STEPS Cenla (Striving to Ensure Pediatric Survival).

Order of Discalced Carmelites follows spirituality of St. Theresa

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites, a religious association of the Roman Catholic church composed primarily of lay persons and also accepted diocesan clergy, is active in the Diocese of Alexandria.

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCDS), who are members of the Carmelite family of the 16th century reform of St. Teresa, meet on the second Saturday of every month at Maryhill Renewal Center beginning with Morning Prayer at 9 a.m., followed by Holy Mass.

"Discalced Carmelite Seculars come from all walks of life, from every level of education and from every type of work," said Deacon Bill Travis, one of its members. "We are Catholic laypersons over the age of 18 (married or unmarried) or ordained diocesan priests or deacons."

Vocation

The Seculars' vocation is to live the Carmelite spirituality as Seculars and not as mere imitators of Carmelite monastic life. They practice contemplative prayer while living lives of charity in their common occupations.

They profess a promise to the Order patterned on the monastic vows which guides their life. The



SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES meet on the second Saturday of every month at Maryhill Renewal Center beginning with Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Anyone interested in the joining the Order is welcome to attend one of the meetings held on the second Saturday of every month.

Promise is to live according to the Rule of St. Albert and the OCDS Constitutions and to live a life of chastity, poverty, and obedience and the beatitudes according to their lay state of life.

Way of Life

The primary, daily obligations of the Seculars are to engage in at least 30 minutes of mental prayer or "recollection" daily, to pray Morning Prayer (Lauds) and Evening Prayer (Vespers) of the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office), and to attend daily Mass and pray Night Prayer (Compline) when possible. Lectio Divina and spiritual retreats are also highly encouraged.

They study the writings of the lives of the many saints of the Discalced Carmelite Order, especially St. Teresa of Jesus, St. John of the Cross, and St. Therese the Little Flower, all doctors of the Church.

They strive for holiness seeking interior silence and solitude and service to the Church.

Their primary devotion is to imitate Mary in "reflecting all things in her heart." (Luke 2:19)

They wear the brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which is the habit of the Secular

Order and the entire Discalced Carmelite Order. Larger scapulas are worn for ceremonial purposes.

They attend the monthly meetings of the local communities of which they are members, and members of each community serve terms on the community's council, which coordinates the formation of members and the other aspects of the community.

In their communities the Seculars find the fraternity necessary to advance in the spiritual life, often coupled with liturgies and lectures presided over by the Friars, where available.

Finally, the intense prayer life of Seculars is intended to flow over into many varied works of charity and justice in the world.

If you are interested, join us this Sept. 9 at 9 a.m. at Maryhill or call Mary Jo McCoy, president, at 318-481-9638 or 318-346-6860.

A Meditation Before the Blessed Sacrament Heart to Heart

O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, Open your Heart and make me Thine.

Your body was nailed
And fastened to the Cross,
You did this all for me who was lost.

Your Heart was pierced, And Your blood flowed out; By letting this happen I was given a new route.

The road to heaven was opened once more,
It would be hard for the rich, but easy for the poor.

The Humble were lifted, The proud were down cast, If I wish to be first, I must be last.

So to meet Him in Heaven on that Great Day, I must do as He does, And follow His way.

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People in the News



Sister Dale Van Gossen, CDP

Sr. Dale Van Gossen CDP celebrates 60 years

Sister Dale Van Gossen, daughter of the late Ernest and Irma Van Gossen of Alexandria, celebrated 60 years as a Sister of Divine Providence June 11 in San Antono, Texas.

She has served in Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma. She was principal at St. Rita School and taught at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria. Her first years of teaching were in Bunkie, Lafayette, Broussard and later in Shreveport. Sister was a teacher and then principal in Ennis, Texas. She was in Houston two different times and spent two years in Enid, Okla.

Her last years on mission were in Isle Brevelle, where she did substitute teaching in Natchitoches and Cloutierville and was director of Providence Mission, a program, helping the needy in the area. Sister now serves at the congregational retirement center in San Antonio. She is most grateful to God for all the people who have blessed her life.



Sandi Tarver

Sandi Tarver selected Fellow for Leadership Conference

Sandi Tarver, executive secretary in Office of Development and Public Affairs, was selected as a Fellow for the 8th Annual Catholic Leadership Certificate Program at the University of Notre Dame July 8-15.

Sandi joined 53 other leaders from more than 20 countries from North America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia. Sponsored by Nonprofit Certificate Education in the Mendoza College of Business, it was an eight-day program designed to give Catholic leaders

a deeper understanding of their role in their organizations and their responsibilities to their subordinates and colleagues.

Top experts and Notre Dame faculty educate the fellows on topics such as change management, organizational evaluation, academic and foundation leadership, state of philanthropy and charity, strength-based leadership, and strategic planning.



Sister Mary Bordelon, CDP

Sr. Mary Bordelon, CDP General Councilor

During a Eucharist Celebration on June 17, 2017 Sister Pearl Ceasar, CDP (a native of Alexandria) was installed as Superior General and Sisters Anita Brenek, Mary Bordelon and Lourdes Leal were installed as General Councilors. Sister Anita will serve as the Council's First Assistant. All will serve their congregation in this capacity for six years.

Job Opportunities

Secretary to School Superintendent Office of Catholic Schools The Diocese of Alexandria

Must be proficient in general office skills, excellent written and oral communication skills, computer usage, organizational skills, and multitasking. Works closely with the superintendent and 8 Catholic schools, as communication liaison. Mail resume to St. Joseph Catholic Center, 4400 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria or email to troque@diocesealex.org. Resumes will be accepted through August 21, 2017.

Child Nutrition Technician

Diocese of Alexandria School Cafeteria

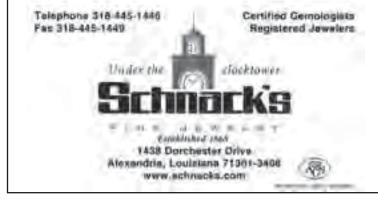
Position is a 35-hour work-week, M-F. Applicant must be drug-free and able to pass background screening. Applicant must be a reliable team player; exhibit the willingness to follow instructions, cooking knowledge, organizational skills, and ability to clean. Prior food service experience not required but a plus. High school diploma or GED required. Contact the Diocese of Alexandria Child Nutrition Office at 318-445-6424 ext. 232.

Substitute Child Nutrition Technician

Diocese of Alexandria School Cafeterias in Alexandria, Natchitoches, Avoyelles These positions are on an as needed basis. Substitute position could eventually lead to permanent full-time position. Applicant must be drug free & able to pass a background screening. If interested contact the Child Nutrition Office today at (318) 445-6424 ext. 232.

Cook at Manna House

Manna House is seeking an experienced, high energy, innovative individual to join our team as a cook. The cook is responsible for daily preparation of food, cleaning and maintenance of the kitchen. The cook must perform the tasks in a manner in keeping with the respect and consideration for the needs of the clients and in compliance with the Department of Health requirements. Qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent, two or more years of experience in food services environment, and must have ServSafe Food Handlers Certification, or the ability to complete the 15 hours ServSafe Food Handlers Certification. For more information contact Jessica Viator at (318)445-9053.









Exterior Window Creen



ECHO CENLA RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS was held July 21-25 at Maryhill Renewal Center in Pineville. ECHO is a Theology of the Body Camp put on by DumbOx Ministries. The camp includes listening to spiritual talks, hiking and swimming, jamming to live music, attending Mass and

receiving Jesus daily, ...and experiencing the love of God and community. Open to young adults who have been out of high school for at least one full year.

Attention all young people

(Ages 16-29 years old)

Tell the US Bishops what it's like to be a young person in the Catholic Church today!

Take the Survey

http://www.usccb.org/about/bishops-and-dioceses/ synod-of-bishops/synod-2018/

Last day to take survey: November 30, 2017

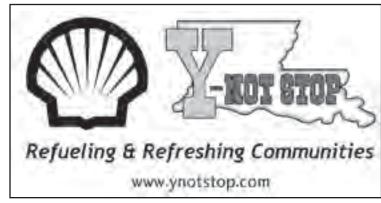
VIRTUS

- Tuesday, Aug. 29 -- 6 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria
- Wednesday, Aug. 30 -- 6 p.m., Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches
- Wednesday, Aug. 30 -- 6 p.m., St. Joseph Church, Marksville

To register,

go to www.virtus.org

Every adult who works/volunteers with children/youth in the Diocese of Alexandria's churches/schools is required to attend a VIRTUS™ *Protecting God's Children for Adults* sexual abuse awareness training.





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BRUMFIELD vs DODD POLICY.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the following statement is published:

DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA NON-DISCRIMINATORY SCHOOL POLICY August, 2017

The Diocese of Alexandria School System re-affirms its non-discriminatory policy on the basis of race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin in its educational programs, activities and employment policies in accordance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Sections 4.03(a) and 4.03 (c) Revenue Procedure 75-50.

All students, faculty members and staff, without exception, are admitted to all rights, privileges and activities generally accorded or made available at the schools which do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its employment policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.

- · Sacred Heart School, Moreauville
- · St. Anthony of Padua School, Bunkie
- · St. Joseph Elementary and High, Plaucheville
- St. Mary Assumption School, Cottonport
- St. Mary's Elementary and High, Natchitoches
- Holy Savior Menard Central High, Alexandria
- Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, Alexandria
 St. Frances Cabrini School, Alexandria

Most Rev. David P. Talley Bishop of Alexandria

1997 Menard graduate reunited with lost class ring

It was a happy reunion July 6 at Holy Savior Menard Central High School, when a handful of school administrators greeted 1997 graduate Evie Gremillion Robinson of Alexandria at the front door of the school with something she wanted.

Evie was eager to reunite with the Menard class ring she lost a decade ago.

The story began earlier this summer when the Contois family of Baton Rouge, with two seniors in high school, had purchased a used car. One of the young women, Allison, found the class ring while deep cleaning the car. Allison explained that she and her twin sister had just purchased their own class rings, so she knew how special this ring probably was to the owner.

"It never crossed my mind to not reach out to the owner and return the ring," said Allison.

A week earlier, Allison contacted the Menard development office to see if anyone could help her locate the owner. Luckily, with the name inscribed on the inside and the fact that Evie had remained in contact with Menard through the years, it was easy.

Evie was excited and grateful to learn that her class ring had been found -- and that it still fit!



Evie Gremillion Robinson, Class of 1997



The Diocese of Alexandria and Holy Savior Menard invites all students in grades 7-12 to the annual Back to School Rally on Saturday, Aug. 19 from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. at the Menard Gym. Come join us as we 'kick-start' the year with God, music, praise and worship and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. For more information, contact Jessica Sanders at 318-305-1351. Join us and bring a friend!

Holy Savior Menard kicks off 125th anniversary with Aug. 26 event

In 1887, the Sisters of Divine Leonard Menard, the pastor of St. Providence opened St. Francis Xavier Academy for girls and and then later Providence Central Academy for girls in 1919. Father

Francis Xavier, was concerned about the education of the young men in the area. So in 1892, he arranged for four Brothers of the Sacred Heart from New Orleans to come to Alexandria to staff the St. Francis Xavier Commercial College located on Second and Ogden Streets. It opened in 1893 with 87 students. In 1925 a new school was built on Elliott Street and renamed Menard Memorial.

In 1967, Providence Central Academy and Menard Memorial were merged and a new campus was built on Hwy 28 West.

One hundred and twenty-five years later, Holy Savior Menard Central High School is still in operation, with the roots of all three previous schools as its foundation.

On August 26, generations of Catholic families who have graduated from St. Francis Xavier Academy, Providence Central Academy, Menard Memorial, and Holy Savior Menard Central High School, are being invited to the kick-off of the 125-year celebration

A celebration of Holy Mass will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the Menard Gym, followed by a meal and social in the Gym and Mall

The event is free, but donations are welcome. All proceeds will help fund scholarships.

Several events are being planned for the 125th anniversary, but the main event will be held during Homecoming Weekend Oct. 5-7.

For more information about attending the Aug. 26 kick-off event, call Kathleen Adamson at (318) 445-8233, ext 212 or email kadamson@holysaviormenard. Any Menard memorabilia or photos to share at the Homecoming events are also wanted. Contact Adamson to share.



HOLY SAVIOR MENARD CLASS OF 1967 -- 50 YEAR CLASS RE-UNION. Close to 50 alumni from the Class of 1967 returned to their alma mater June 9-10 for their 50-Year Class Reunion. The weekend included dinner at Tunks Cypress Inn on Friday night, (hosted by classmate Jimbo Thiels) and a covered dish meal and social and Mass at the school on Saturday. The class of 1967 has traditionally been a very close class, meeting together informally almost every year. Pictured are 1st row: Jimmy Campo, Christine Reed Maxwell, Boony Hilton Velotta, Paul Thibeaux, Paula Gremillion DePriest, Eileen Clark Nichols, Dot Flynn Vanderlick, Anita Hebert Kerry, David Vicknair, Karen Petrus Lofton. 2nd row: Charlene Tamburo Flynn, Ann Mathews Brewer, Janice

Snow Simms, Francis Huffman, Marie Ashley Piper. 3rd row: Gary Fillette, Gary Mathews, Mark Cazes, Lucy Alonso Rivero, Margaret Berlin Distefano, Eddie Eskew, Danny Coombs, Carol Vanhoof Wester, Mary Masterson. 4th row: Terry White, Johnny Vandersypen, Paul Mayeux, Frankie Rachal, Larry Landry, August Treubig, and Charles Randall. Other classmates in attendance were Marie Bergeron Weeks, David Bruyninckx, Julia Burden, Donna Carpenter Burchfield, Liz Donaldson Stevens, Jim Holmes, Richard Jarred, Francis Mathews, Gerald "Chip" Songy, Jimbo Thiels, Bruce Wallace, Joseph Marien. Most of the originall 135-member class attending were from Louisiana, but there also some from lowa, Georgia, California, Massachusetts, Colorado, Alabama and Tennessee.

Bored Again Catholic: How the Mass Could Save Your Life

Inspiring book on Mass should be required reading for all Catholics

By Mitch Finley Catholic News Service

It's been a long, dry stretch since someone published a book on the Mass that is captivating, informative, inspirational and challenging.

Rooted in solid, intellectually honest, balanced scholarship, yet written in language that the average person will follow easily and enjoy, "Bored Again Catholic" is a book that will renew just about anyone's appreciation for the Mass. Indeed, it should be required reading for Catholics in general and priests in particular.

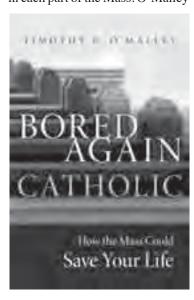
Timothy P. O'Malley is director of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy and teaches theology

at the University of Notre Dame. What's the point of the title of his book? Sometimes it seems as if what we want from the Mass is entertainment, O'Malley writes. "Yet in this desire for entertainment we distract ourselves from the contemplative encounter that each celebration of the Mass of-

When it comes to the Mass there is, O'Malley continues, good boredom and bad boredom.

"This book invites readers to learn to pray through the good boredom, as well as to avoid the bad boredom that distracts us from the heart of the personal and communal encounter with Christ that takes place at every Mass," O'Malley explains.

Logically enough, the book "unpacks" the meanings inherent in each part of the Mass. O'Malley



doesn't just comment on what the Liturgy of the Word is all about or what the Liturgy of the Eucharist is all about. Not at all.

Rather, he looks closely at each smaller part of the Mass including reverencing the altar cussion. and greeting the people, the penitential act, "Gloria in Excelsis," the word and silence, acclaiming the Gospel, the homily, the profession of faith, the Roman canon, the eucharistic prayer, the Communion rite and concluding prayers.

No matter how well you think you understand the Mass, from this book you will learn more. It also is ideal for group study purposes as each chapter concludes with questions for dis-

BOOK REVIEW

In the final chapter, appropriately on the Mass' concluding rites, O'Malley tells the story of how a homeless woman approached the altar in the middle of a wedding he was officiated. The whole assembly stopped and stared for a moment.

You'll have to get the book to find out what happened, but when you do you'll gain new insights into the meaning of the Mass and into the spirit of this wonderful book.

Movie on EWTN Aug. 30 recalls faith of Maryknoll chaplain killed in Vietnam

(CNS) -- Fifty years after he put himself between a wounded Marine and fatal enemy gunfire, the story of Maryknoll Father Vincent R. Capodanno's faith and sacrifice is being retold in a new

His memory is cherished by those who knew him, his cause for canonization is promoted by those with whom he served and a new generation of young Catholics in his old neighborhood has come to know the Staten Island

Father Capodanno's story may reach its largest audience yet when "Called and Chosen," a 90-minute movie of his life, premieres Aug. 30 on EWTN.

The priest was serving a second tour of duty in Vietnam as a Navy chaplain ministering to Marines when he was wounded during a North Vietnamese ambush in the Que Son Valley Sept. 4 1967

Despite his injuries, he went to the aid of a fellow corpsman who was pinned down by an enemy machine gunner. While he administered medical and spiritual attention, the unarmed chaplain was struck by 27 bullets and died at age 38.

He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1969, in addition to the Purple Heart, Navy Bronze Star and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

"He was an amazing man. You couldn't talk to him and ever forget it," George J. Phillips, a retired Marine Corps captain who was with the chaplain's Marines unit and "on the knoll when Father Capodanno was killed."

He is chairman of the Father Vincent Capodanno Guild, an association established in 2013 to promote the chaplain's cause for canonization.

Father Capodanno was born in New York in 1929, the 10th child of Italian immigrants. He was ordained a Maryknoll missioner in 1958 and served in Taiwan and Hong Kong before asking permission from his religious superiors to join the Navy Chaplain Corps. He was commissioned as a lieutenant in the spring of 1966 and went to Vietnam.

"He always referred to us as 'my Marines," and he lived, ate and slept in the same conditions

as the men, Phillips said.

"At the end of his first tour, Father Capodanno still saw the need for his work with 'his Marines' and asked for an extension through the Christmas holidays," Phillips said.

In 2002, Father Capodanno's sainthood cause was officially opened, giving him the title of "servant of God." In 2004, initial documentation was submitted to Vatican Congregation for Saints'

In 2013, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services presided over the formal renewal of the opening of the cause and announced at that time that the newly established Father Vincent Capodanno Guild would serve as the petitioner.

The idea for a movie about Father Capodanno's life came from the guild, according to Phillips. "We wanted to tell his whole



Father Vincent R. Capodanno

story, from growing up as a child of dedicated, practicing Catholics, through his high school and college years, to his priesthood and Vietnam experience," Phillips said. The guild partnered with EWTN to produce and distribute the film, which Phillips said cost approximately \$750,000.

James Kelty was chosen to

produce, write, direct and edit the movie. Since 2010, Kelty has produced docudramas for EWTN about Sts. Isaac Jogues, Junipero Serra and Kateri Tekakwitha, among others.

Kelty said he started with a lot of archival photos and a few minutes of Marines video and determined the most compelling way to tell the story was to intersperse interviews with family members and former Marines with dramatizations of key events in Father Capodanno's life.

Actor James Hutson portrays Father Capodanno as an adult. Kelty identified him through a traditional audition process. Damien Ferreira plays the priest as a young boy; Kelty discovered him while leading a pilgrimage tour along the Father Junipero

The website of the Father Vincent Capodanno Guild is www.capodannoguild.org.

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Strong Catholic values in The Tribunal, but filtered down

By John Mulderig Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- The annulment process provides the unusual courtroom setting for the romantic drama "The Tribunal" (Freestyle). While the movie's Catholic values are strong, they come filtered through some faulty filmmaking.

Divorced musician Joe Seacker (Chris Petty) pursues a decree of nullity so that he can wed his devout girlfriend, Emily Vanderslice (Laura Mock). But his case requires the testimony of his estranged former bandmate and best friend, Tony Mirakul (Ryan Wesley Gilreath).

Tony was once Emily's boyfriend, and still carries a torch for her while also harboring resentment against Joe for stepping into his shoes after he and Emily split. But Tony has firsthand knowledge of the fact that Joe's ex, Jessie (Victoria McDevitt), disdained the permanence of marriage as well as the prospect of having kids.

Joe's cause is represented by Emily's father, Ben (Jim Damron), and opposed by the tribu-



THE TRIBUNAL. Strong Catholic values are filtered through some faulty filmmaking in this romantic drama from screenwriter Michael C. Mergler and director Marc Leif. A divorced musician (Chris Petty) seeks an annulment so that he can wed his devout girlfriend (Laura Mock). But his case requires the testimony of his estranged former bandmate and best friend (Ryan Wesley Gilreath) who was also once the boyfriend of the bride-to-be, and still carries a torch for her. PG-13.

nals' "defender of the bond," Michael Constantino (Chuck Gillespie). Both men are permanent

Religious themes, including the countercultural message that

sex before marriage is a damaging mistake as well as a sin -- Tony's seduction of Emily was the eventual cause of their breakup -- will resonate with viewers of faith. But sometimes subpar acting, an amateurish musical score and unlikely plot developments chip away at this small-scale project's credibility.

Still, the good intentions motivating screenwriter Michael C.

MOVIE REVIEW

Mergler and director Marc Leif are as obvious as they are honorable. And moviegoers used to being immersed in the loose morals of contemporary society will find the earnest ethics surrounding this love triangle a refreshing change.

In that light, at least some parents may consider "The Tribunal" acceptable for older teens, despite the elements listed below.

The film contains bedroom scenes, including a nongraphic premarital sexual encounter, some irreverent images, a mild oath and a few crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Daughter of 2005 Menard graduate starring in Girls Trip

By Jeannie Petrus CT editor

Aadyn Encalarde, a 1st grader in New Orleans, is playing "Riley" in the new movie, Girls Trip, which opened in theatres everywhere in July.

In the movie, Aadyn plays the daughter to Jada Pinkett Smith. The cast also includes Queen Latifah, Regina Hall, and Tiffany Haddish.

Aadyn's mother is Nicole Collins, a 2005 graduate of Holy Savior Menard High School. Nicole grew up in Alexandria where she also attended St. Rita School in the 6th grade and went to St. James Church in Alexandria with her parents Donald and Jennifer Collins. The Collins' are lifelong parishioners of St. James Church and at one time, Donald was studying for the diaconate.

"I'm so proud of Aadyn," said Nicole in a phone interview from her home in Los Angeles. "I could tell from a very early age





CAST OF GIRLS TRIP. When four lifelong friends travel to New Orleans for the annual Essence Festival, sisterhoods are rekindled, wild sides are rediscovered, and there's enough dancing, drinking, brawling, and romancing to make the Big Easy blush. Girls Trip stars Queen Latifah, Reginal Hall, Jada Pinkett Smith, Tiffany Haddish, and Aadyn Encalarde, who mother, Nicole Collins, is a 2005 Menard graduate.

that Aadyn's expressive personality was something special."

At two years old she could demonstrate different emotions very convincingly on the spot and by the age of four, she was performing in her first movie.

enne" on the hit TV show, Claws, starring Neicy Nash and Aadyn also plays "Tayla" in Things With Feathers.

Nicole is no stranger to the camera either. She has a degree in Mass Communications from Dil-Aadyn also stars as "Bri- lard University and has been in

several movies, including a small part in 12 Years A Slave. She was also the on-camera announcer for the NBA New Orleans Pelicans.

Nicole is currently living in Los Angeles, where she is working on a career in film, while her daughter is back in New Orleans

evolving in the same industry.

"It's hard living away from Aadyn right now, but her father (Martin Encalarde, Jr.) and I have a great support system. Her step mother, my family and her dad's family have chipped in more ways than imaginable. We talk and Facetime every day."

Even though Aadyn is in several productions right now, most days she is still a six -year-old girl who enjoys drawing, creating stories, and dancing. She loves being outside and she is a super fan of

"She is so full of life and entertainment," said Nicole. "The world is hers and we are all so proud of her. We know that God is real and dreams do come true."

Girls Trip opened in theatres nationwide on July 21. Girls Trip

Catch Aadyn on Claws, airing Sundays at 8 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on TNT.

Prayer Brunch Workshop

St. Rita Church invites you to attend its annual brunch workshop titled The Essence of Prayer. The workshop will be held Saturday, Aug. 19 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the St. Rita Holy Family Center. Rev. Keith Pellerin, pastor of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Kinder will be the guest speaker. There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP by calling 445-7141, ext 214.

Discernment Weekend

"Hands -ON + Hearts-IN" Program provides weeklong discernment experiences for women who are considering life as a Catholic Sister. The event will be held in Holly Springs, Miss., just 50 miles from Memphis, Tenn. Other than travel arrangements, there is no other cost for participants. The next experiences are scheduled for Aug. 28 – Sept. 1 and again on Sept. 18-22. For five full days, women will be accompanied by Sisters from various orders in providing hands-on service to the needy. All will live in community for the week, sharing prayer, cooking, reflections, guidance and plenty of fun. Applicants must register one full month prior to the start of a specific weeklong program. For more information, contact Sister Sharon Glumb, SLW at sglumb@slw.org, or 847-577-5972 x 233.

Fall Festival

The Ladies Altar Society at Immaculate Conception in Dupont will host its annual Fall Old-Fashioned Festival Sept. 2 in the Church Hall after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. The festival will include Bingo, great food, homemade cakes and a raffle. Join us!

Inner Healing Retreat

Jim and Dr. Christy Gootee along with the Two Hearts Team will be offering an Inner Healing Retreat at Maryhill Renewal Center Sept. 9-10. Saturday will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. with a Saturday night Healing Service at 7:30 p.m. Sunday will start at 9 a.m. and end with Sunday closing Mass at 3:30 p.m. The cost of the weekend is \$100 with an additional charge of \$40 for those wishing to stay overnight. We will also be blessed with Mercy Beaucoup leading us in spirit-filled worship music for the weekend. Call 318-290-1642 for more information or e-mail christygootee@outlook.com to pre-register.

Our Lady of Fatima Mass

A Mass will be celebrated at Mary Mother of Jesus Church in Woodworth on the 13th of each month for the next five months, in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Times are: Aug. 13 @ 5:30~p.m.; Sept. 13 @ 6~p.m.; Oct. 13@ 6~p.m.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS



CDA COURT BISHOP GRECO #2072. Members of CDA Court Bishop Greco #2072 present a check July 26 to Bishop David Talley for the seminarian education fund. Pictured are (from left) Melody McGee, regent; Edna Smith, treasurer; Bishop David; and Nita St. Andria, secretary.

Magnificat Brunch

Cindy Scardina will be the guest speaker for the Magnificat Brunch to be held Sept. 16 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Merci Beaucoup Restaurant in Natchitoches. Adopted as an infant, Cindy just recently found her birth family. Come hear how, under God's direction, life choices have affected Cindy. Reservations are \$18 per person. Send your check or money order to Donna Reason, 4162 Bordelon St., Hessmer, LA., 71341. No tickets are sold at the door. For more information, contact Mary Wilson at 318-359-7735 or Diane Ardoin at 318-419-1547.

Celebration of Life Gala

Mike Long, a captivating prolife speaker, will be the guest speaker for the annual Women's Resource Center Celebration of Life Fundraising Gala, to be held Thursday, Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center in Natchitoches. Tickets are \$25 person and includes dinner. All proceeds from the Gala will benefit the Women's Resource Center, a Pregnancy Help Medical Clinic in Natchitoches. For more information visit www.wrcfriends.com

Christian Dream Therapy Retreat

Jim and Dr. Christy Gootee and the Two Hearts Team will be offering a retreat on Christian Dream Therapy at Maryhill Renewal Center Sept. 23 – 24, 2017, from 9 a.m. Sat. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The Retreat will look at dreams in Scripture as well as study God's symbolic language found

in our dreams. You will learn a variety of approaches to help you understand your own dreams and both heal and grow spiritually through this special gift from God. Bring a Bible and Dream Notebook. The \$120 cost includes Reference Book and Retreat Manual. If you wish to stay overnight, there is an additional charge of \$40 for a room. Call 318-290-1642 for more information or e-mail christygootee@outlook.com to preregister.

5 Million Rosaries by Oct. 13

In celebration of the 100-year anniversary of Fatima, Dynamic Catholic is inviting people all over the country to join in praying 5 million Rosaries for America on or before Oct. 13. The Rosary is an incredibly powerful prayer. It has the power to heal, to bring peace, and transform lives. Whether you pledge to pray one Rosary or 100 Rosaries, your prayers make a difference. To pledge to pray, go to www.dynamiccatholic.com.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

On a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend you will have the time you need to focus on your relationship and learn a unique communication technique which will help you to bridge any gaps you may have and bring back that spark that made your marriage so special. The next weekend is Oct. 20-22 at the Bishop Robert Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. To register, go to LAMS-wwme.org or call Jack & Angel LaBate at 470-297-8560 or jackandangel@bellsouth.net.



John De Chiaro Concert

International Classical Guitarist John De Chiaro will perform in concert on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church on Jackson Street in Alexandria. Admission is free.

The concert will include a selection of original classical guitar compositions and a brief talk by Kermit Poling, the composer of the *Concierto De Chiaro*. A special part of the concert will be listening to a portion of the recording of De Chiaro playing with the London Symphony. De Chiaro travelled to London in January to record his newest CD on Centaur Records with the London Symphony. The CD will be available for sale at the Sept. 10 concert.

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August - September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
School starts: • Menard, Alexandria • Cabrini, Alexandria • St. Mary's, Natchitoches	The ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	School starts: • Prompt Succor, Alexandria	Outdoor Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	18	Brunch Workshop "Essence of Prayer" 8:30 am-12:00 pm St. Rita Church, Alexandria Diocesan Back to School Rally 6:30 p.m.	20
PRAY FOR FR. J. RYAN	(A Holy Day of Obligation) PRAY FOR FR. C. SCOTT	PRAY FOR FR. B. SEILER	PRAY FOR FR. R. SHOURY	PRAY FOR FR. P. SIERRA POSADA	Holy Savior Menard Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. L. SKLAR	PRAY FOR FR. I. ST. ROMAIN
21	The QUEENSHIP OF MARY	23	Q4 Outdoor Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	25	Holy Savior Menard High School 125th Anniversary Mass and Meal 4:30 pm Holy Savior Menard Gym, Alexandria	27
PRAY FOR BISHOP D. TALLEY	PRAY FOR MSGR. S. TESTA	PRAY FOR FR. K. TEXADA	PRAY FOR FR. J. THOMAS	PRAY FOR FR. A. THOMPSON	PRAY FOR MSGR. J. TIMMERMANS	PRAY FOR FR. A. TRAVIS
28	VIRTUS Training 6:00 pm St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria	VIRTUS Training 6:00 pm Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches VIRTUS Training 6:00 pm	40th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving 6:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria Outdoor Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	SEPTEMBER	Fall Festival 5:30 pm Immaculate Conception Dupont	3
PRAY FOR FR. G. UZONDU	PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE	St. Joseph, Marksville PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD	PRAY FOR FR. N. VIVIANO	FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR BISHOP D. TALLEY	FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. G. VOLTZ	PRAY FOR FR. J. WILTSE
4 Diocesan Offices Closed	5	6	Outdoor Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	8	Birthday Brunch for Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 am Mass St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria Order of Discalced Carmelites 9:00 am Maryhill Renewal Center, Pineville	De Chiaro Concert 3:00 pm First United Methodist Church, Alexandria
LABOR DAY PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER	PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH	PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA	PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO	PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY	Inner Healing Retreat, I	Maryhill Renewal Center PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET
11	12	Our Lady of Fatima Mass 5:30 pm Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth	Outdoor Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	15	Magnificat Brunch 9:30 am Merci Beaucoup Restaurant, Natchitoches	17
PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO	PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO	PRAY FOR FR. D. COOK	PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY	PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM	PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE	PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS



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Dr. DeWitt

