

# CHURCH TODAY

Volume XLVII, No. 3

[www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org)

Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

March 21, 2016

## ON THE INSIDE

### **Holy Week, Easter Triduum, Easter Sunday, and Divine Mercy Sunday**

At the height of the busiest liturgical season of the year, parishes are offering a variety of services throughout the diocese. Check out some of the services on pg. 5 and 19, and on our website at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org).

### **Cleanup continues after historic statewide flooding**

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) continues to coordinate the state's response to the current historic flood event that began March 9. People in churches, schools, homes, and businesses continue to wait for the waters to recede and for the roads to clear. Read more on pg. 11.

### **Report says Catholic population is growing faster than world population**

The number of baptized Catholics worldwide has grown at a faster rate than that of the world's population, according to Vatican statistics. Read more statistics from the Vatican on pg. 3.



# HE IS RISEN!

## Bishop Douglas Deshotel appointed new bishop of Lafayette diocese

WASHINGTON — Pope Francis has named Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel, 64, as bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette, La., and accepted the resignation of Bishop C. Michael Jarrell, 75, from pastoral governance of that diocese.

Bishop Deshotel has served as an auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Dallas since 2010.

The appointment was publicized in Washington, February 17, by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

John Douglas Deshotel was born in Kinder, La., January 6, 1952. He attended the University of Dallas, where he earned Bach-

elor of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Dallas on May 13, 1978.

Assignments after ordination included parochial vicar, St. Patrick Parish, Dallas, 1978-1980; parochial vicar, St. Anthony Parish, Longview, Texas, 1980-1982; parochial vicar, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, 1982-1983; parochial vicar, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Longview, 1983-1988; pastor, St. William Parish, Greenville, Texas, 1988-1992; pastor, St. John Nepomucene Parish, Ennis, Texas, 1992-1995; and pastor, St. Luke Parish, Irving, Texas, 1995-2001.

He also served as vice-rector,



**Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel**  
New bishop of Lafayette

Holy Trinity Seminary, Irving, 2001-2005; pastor, St. Monica



**Bishop Michael Jarrell**  
Retired bishop of Lafayette

and St. Juan Diego Parish, Dallas, 2006-2008; pastor, St. Joseph

Parish, Richardson, Texas, 2008-2012; and vicar general and moderator of the curia, 2008-present. Other responsibilities include the diocesan prebyteral council, priest's personnel board and diocesan review board. Pope Benedict XVI appointed him an auxiliary bishop of Dallas on March 11, 2010. He was ordained a bishop April 27 of that year.

Charles Michael Jarrell was born May 15, 1940 in Opelousas, La., and ordained a priest of Lafayette on June 3, 1967. Pope John Paul II named him bishop of Houma-Thibodaux on December 29, 1992. He was ordained a bishop March 4, 1993. He has served as bishop of Lafayette since 2002.

## 4 Missionaries of Charity, 14 others murdered in Yemen

(CNS) -- The four Missionaries of Charity (order founded by Blessed Teresa of Kolkata) murdered March 4 in Yemen "are the martyrs of today," Pope Francis said. "They gave their blood for the church."

After reciting the Angelus with thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square March 6, Pope Francis publicly offered his condolences to the Missionaries of Charity and prayed that Blessed Teresa of Kolkata would "accompany to paradise these daughters of hers, martyrs of charity, and that she would



**FOUR MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY MURDERED** in Yemen while working in a home for the elderly and disabled. Fourteen others were also killed in the attack. The Mother Superior survived by hiding.

intercede for peace and a sacred respect for human life."

The four Missionaries of Charity and 12 other people were killed by uniformed gunmen, who entered the home the sisters operate for the elderly and disabled in Aden.

The superior of the Missionaries of Charity at the home survived by hiding, according to the Vatican's Fides news agency. Father Tom Uzhunnalil, an Indian Salesian priest who had been living at the home since Holy Family Parish in Aden was sacked and burned in September, was miss-

ing after the attack.

Although the sisters would not make news headlines, Pope Francis said, the martyred sisters "gave their blood for the church."

The sisters and the 14 others killed "are victims of the attack by those who killed them, but also (victims) of indifference, this globalization of indifference that just doesn't care," the pope said.

Yemen has been experiencing a political crisis since 2011 and is often described as being in a state of civil war with members of the Shiite and Sunni Muslim

**Continued on pg. 4**

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# Report says Catholic population is growing faster than world's population

By Junno Arochio Esteves  
Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- The number of baptized Catholics worldwide has grown at a faster rate than that of the world's population, according to Vatican statistics.

Although the number of priests has increased globally, the number has decreased slightly in Europe and Oceania, according to the Vatican's Central Office for Church Statistics.

The figures are presented in the "Annuario Pontificio 2016," the Vatican yearbook, and will appear in the Statistical Yearbook of the Church, which gives detailed figures on the church's workforce, sacramental life, dioceses and parishes as of Dec. 31, 2014.

The number of baptized Catholics reached 1.27 billion or 17.8 percent of the global population, the statistics office reported March 5.

Despite the increase of Catholics worldwide, the yearbook noted a "less dynamic" growth of only 2 percent in Europe. While the continent is home to almost 40 percent of the Catholic global population, the percent of the world's Catholics living in Europe has slowly decreased over the past nine years, it said.

However, with the exception of Oceania, the number of baptized Catholics has grown faster than the general population



## New figures on the Catholic Church as of Dec. 31, 2014

Global Catholic Population			Global Catholic Workforce		
Baptized Catholics world-wide	1.27 billion	18% of global population	Bishops	2014: 5,237	2013: 4,841
Number of baptized Catholics has grown faster than the general population growth on every continent.			Priests	415,792	
Africa saw a 41% increase in baptized Catholics; Asia saw a 20% increase.			Permanent Deacons	44,566	43,100 *
Highest percentage of Catholics is in North and South America.			Religious Brothers	54,559	55,253
			Candidates for Priesthood	116,939	118,251

growth on every continent.

"The African continent remains without a doubt the one with the highest growth," the report said; the number of Catholics in Africa increased by 41 percent, while the number of Catholics in Asia grew by 20 percent.

The percentage of baptized Catholics as part of the general population remains highest in North and South America where they "make up almost half" of the world's Catholics, it said.

The number of bishops of the world continued to increase,

reaching 5,237 worldwide compared to 4,841 a year earlier.

The total number of priests -- diocesan and religious order -- around the world was 415,792, which the report said was statistically "stable." There was a steady increase of diocesan priests in Africa, Asia and Central and South America, while numbers in North America, Europe and Oceania continued to decrease.

The number of permanent deacons reported -- 44,566 -- was an increase of more than 1,000 over the previous year.

The number of religious brothers was down slightly, going from a total of 55,253 at the end of 2013 to a total of 54,559 at the end of 2014.

The number of women in religious orders continued to decrease, dropping by 10,846 in 2014. The biggest decreases were seen in North and South America, Europe & Oceania while numbers in Africa & Asia continue to rise.

The number of candidates for the priesthood -- both diocesan seminarians and members of religious orders -- who had reached

the level of philosophy and theology studies showed a slight downturn. The number of candidates fell to 116,939 men at the end of 2014 compared to 118,251 men at the end of 2013.

The variation in the number of men training to become priests varies by continent, the report said. There is an "evident decline" in the numbers from Europe and North America, while "Africa and Asia show great vitality," it said.



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# The flagellation and crucifixion of Jesus Christ explained

By Dan Gonzalez  
www.massexplained.com

During Lent, the readings and prayers of the Church focus on the Passion of Christ. Collectively, the last two weeks of Lent are called Passion Time. The first week is called Passion Week, while the second, is known as Holy Week. Part of Christ's suffering commemorated during Holy Week is the Scourging or Flagellation of Christ.

Before crucifixion, the condemned would often endure flagellation. A whip with leather strands called a flagrum or flagellum in Latin—scourge in English—was fashioned with pieces

of metal or bone and used to lash the back, shoulders and legs of the convict. At first, the skin and underlying fat were torn. Then the muscles and tendons were slashed, including the vessels that supply blood to the tissues.

## 39 lashings

There was no Roman law limiting the number of flagrum blows the condemned received, and the Bible does not reveal how many Jesus endured. Tradition, however, holds that Christ received 39 lashings. There are several reasons for this odd number. The Law of Moses states:

*"Forty lashes may be given, but no more; or else, if more lash-*



stripes. Thirteen hits rendered 39 stripes. Adding another lashing would exceed the number by two. There is no evidence, however, that the Romans had any set limit to how many lashes were given.

## A devastating punishment

The vast amount of blood loss during the scourging, however, would often send the victim into circulatory shock and unconsciousness—leading many to death. The historian Eusebius of Caesarea describes the flagellation of Christians who were martyred:

*"...their bodies were frightfully lacerated. Christian martyrs in Smyrna were so torn by the scourges that their veins were laid bare, and the inner muscles, sinews, even entrails, were exposed."* —Eusebius of Caesarea

Our 40-day Season of Lent is nearing completion leading us into the shortest season of the year: The Easter Triduum. The solemn liturgies of Holy Week lead us into the fifty days of Easter. It is interesting to note that the Easter Season is longer than Lent, helping us recall that Easter is the great victory feast.

I offer my congratulations and welcome to all who were received into the sacramental life of the Church this Easter. May the joy of our risen Lord be a great source of strength and encouragement to you..

Our 2016 Annual Diocesan



## ONE IN THE LORD

Most Rev. Ronald P. Herzog  
Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria

Appeal has begun very well. Thanks to all of you who have already made your gift or pledge.

I will soon be celebrating confirmation throughout the diocese. The clear faith of these young people is an inspiration to us all.

I pray that you will experience the great joy of Easter as we continue on our path of faith during this jubilee Year of Mercy.

*es are added to these many blows, your brother will be degraded in your sight."* —Deuteronomy 25:3

Some scholars say that, for fear of exceeding God's limit, Jewish practice by Jesus' time had reduced the number to 39, in case the person administering the blows were to lose count. The Apostle Paul received this number:

*"Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one."* —2 Corinthians 11:24

It is also believed that a Roman flagrum had three bands of leather, making every strike three

## Crowning with thorns

After the scourging, the Scriptures say that Christ was taken by soldiers into the praetorium—the palace of Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator of Judea. Jesus was surrounded by a cohort of soldiers (300 to 600 soldiers) and a crown woven of thorns was placed on his head.

While the Bible does not

Continued on next page (pg 5)

## Missionaries of Charity murdered

Continued from pg. 2

communities vying for power; in the midst of the tensions, terrorist groups have been operating in the country, including groups believed to be associated with the so-called Islamic State and al-Qaida.

Although most Christians have fled the country, a handful of Salesian priests and about 20 Missionaries of Charity chose to stay and continue their ministry.

In a condolence message released March 5 by the Vatican, Pope Francis described the Aden murders as an "act of senseless and diabolical violence."

The pope "prays that this pointless slaughter will awaken consciences, lead to a change of heart, and inspire all parties to lay down their arms and take up the

path of dialogue," the message said. "In the name of God, he calls upon all parties in the present conflict to renounce violence, and to renew their commitment to the people of Yemen, particularly those most in need, whom the sisters and their helpers sought to serve."

Bishop Paul Hinder, head of the vicariate of Southern Arabia, which includes Yemen, told AsiaNews, a Rome-based missionary news agency, that at 8:30 a.m. March 4, "persons in uniform" broke into the Aden compound, killing the guard and all employees who tried to stop them. "They then reached the sisters and opened fire."

Two of the sisters killed were Rwandan, one was from India and one was from Kenya, the bishop said. Father Uzhunnalil apparent-

ly was kidnapped, he added.

"The signal was clear: This has to do with religion," Bishop Hinder said.

In a statement released March 8, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Administrative Committee said that, through their sacrifice, the "martyrs of charity" were "transformed into signs of Christ's victory over sin, violence and death." They echoed the remarks of Pope Francis and invited people to join in solidarity with people "who see their lives threatened by evil, indifference, hatred, and terrorism."

The bishops also urged the U.S. State Department to issue a declaration that genocide is occurring against Christians, Yazidis and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

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specify what kind of plant was used, any size thorn would cause blood loss as it forced its way through the scalp. Jesus was also forced to carry a reed and wear a scarlet robe—attire reserved for royalty. With an improvised crown, imperial robe and mock scepter, Jesus was ridiculed, spat upon and struck by soldiers who knelt before him saying, Hail, King of the Jews.

#### Fulfilling prophecy

After a vicious scourging, Jesus was mocked while wearing a crown of thorns and a scarlet robe—a cruel parody of the regalia worn by the emperor. The actions by the Roman soldiers unwittingly carried great symbolism and fulfilled prophecy.

Thorns represent man's disobedience. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve were told by God that they could eat from any tree except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, but they were persuaded by the serpent to eat the forbidden fruit.

God then tells Adam that the ground is cursed, and, despite his great labor in cultivating it:

*"thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to you."* —Genesis 3:18

The color of the cloak placed on Jesus—scarlet—represents sin:

*"Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow..."* —Isaiah 1:18

By wearing the crown of thorns and the scarlet robe, Christ is taking on himself the icons of the fall of man and of humanity's sin. In addition to having symbolic meaning, Christian writers see the scourging as fulfilling prophecy.

Isaiah's prophecy is realized by Christ's stripes—the marks on his back left by the flagrum:

*"...with his stripes we are healed."* —Isaiah 53:5

By hitting Jesus, the soldiers fulfill Micah's Messianic vision:

*"With the rod they strike on the cheek the ruler of Israel."* —Micah 4:14

#### Sacrifice Typology

Christ's flagellation also has a typological aspect. In Biblical typology, a story from the Old Testament (type) prefigures one found in the New Testament (antitype). In the story of the sacrifice of Isaac, theologians see Christological typology.

In the narrative, God provides a ram (a male sheep) as a replacement for the sacrifice of Abraham's only son. The ram was found caught by his horns (head) in a thicket (thorny bush), foreshadowing the crown of thorns worn by Christ, the lamb of God.

Three of the four Gospels tell of the scourging of Christ. The accounts do much more than merely relay historical events. The flagellation is full of symbolism and fulfilled prophecy: it was the antitype to Old Testament types.

The soldiers spat on Jesus, knelt before him and jeered:

*"Hail, King of the Jews"* —Matthew 27:29

The words, intended as a mockery, express an eternal truth.

## Holy Week & Easter

### Holy Thursday, March 24

- 5:30 p.m. -- Mass of the Lord's Supper, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria (Note: no 12:05 p.m. Mass on Holy Thursday)
- 5:30 p.m. -- Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Washing of the Feet, Adoration until midnight, St. Rita Church, Alexandria
- 6:00 p.m. -- Mass of the Lord's Supper and Mandatum (followed by Parish meal and Adoration), Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville
- 6:00 p.m. -- Mass of the Lord's Supper (followed by Adoration until 10:00 p.m.), Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
- 6:00 p.m. -- St. Louis Church, Glenmora
- 6:00 p.m. -- St. Peter Church, Bordelonville
- 7:00 p.m. -- Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Solemn Adoration until midnight, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria
- 7:00 p.m. -- Mass, MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches
- 7:00 p.m. -- Mass followed by Adoration, St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

### Good Friday, March 25

- 9:00 a.m. -- Living Stations Walk, Mater Dolorosa Church, Plaquemine
- 10:00 a.m. -- Outdoor Way of the Cross, MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches
- 12:05 p.m. -- The Way of the Cross, St. Rita Church, Alexandria
- 12:40 p.m. -- Passion Walk (Way of the Cross) from Cathedral up Elliott St. to Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria
- 3:00 p.m. -- The Passion of the Lord, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria (Note: no 12:05 p.m. Mass on Good Friday)
- 3:00 p.m. -- Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria
- 3:00 p.m. -- Way of the Cross, Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
- 3:00 p.m. -- Good Friday service, MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches
- 3:00 p.m. -- St. Peter Mission, Elmer
- 3:00 p.m. -- St. Gerard Mission, Jonesville
- 3:00 p.m. -- Good Friday service, St. Peter Church, Bordelonville
- 5:30 p.m. -- Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion, St. Rita Church, Alexandria
- 6:00 p.m. -- Stations of the Cross, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria
- 6:00 p.m. -- Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville
- 6:00 p.m. -- Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
- 6:00 p.m. -- St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

### Holy Saturday, March 26

- 3:00 p.m. -- Confessions, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria
- 7:53 p.m. -- Great Vigil of Easter, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville
- 8:00 p.m. -- Easter Vigil, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria (Note: no 4:00 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday)

Continued on pg. 19



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# Go and Make Disciples

*"Go, therefore, and make disciples  
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the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit..."*



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# 71 to enter into full communion of the Catholic Church this Easter

Seventy-one people, from 15 parishes in the diocese, are expected to be received into full communion of the Catholic Church this Easter.

The 19 catechumens (never been baptized) and the 52 candidates (validly baptized in another faith), along with their sponsors, participated in a Rite of Election Feb. 14 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. As each of them declared their intention to become Catholic, Bishop Ronald Herzog accepted them as chosen in the Lord (the Elect).

"I now declare you to be members of the Elect, to be initiated into the sacred mysteries at the next Easter Vigil," said the bishop during the Rite.

At Easter, the Elect will be fully initiated into the Church and will participate for the first time in the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

Those who are expected to enter into Full Communion are:

**Holy Cross**, Natchitoches: Mark Vernon II, catechumen; and Joseph Taitano, Haley Nicole Blount, Marissa Shontel Morris, Clayton Leo Carr, and Kaitlyn

McCullough, candidates.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary**, Tioga: Duke A. Goudeau and Nikol Perez, catechumens; and Ronnie Thompson and Joycelyn Lorio, candidates.

**Mater Dolorosa**, Plaquemine: Madelyn Dupuis, catechumen; Alexis Barker, Aaron Barker, and Avery Lemoine, candidates.

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor**, Alexandria: Scott Woodcock, catechumen; and Lee Broom, Anthony Murray, Aimee Butler, Sarah McDaniel, Kirk Hallquist, Johnny Cheek, Brad Blackwood, and Noel Fontane, candidates.

**Our Lady of Lourdes**, Winfield: Dustin Procell, candidate.

**Sacred Heart**, Pineville: Juan Anaya, Miguel Anaya, Gabriel Clark, Sean Cross, Carolyn Glaze, Maddie Glaze, Carlene Hunton, Triston Newcomb, Gabriel Witty, catechumens; Brandi Bell, Grace Bell, John Mark Bell, Riley Bell, Joe Dessens, Dwayne Falks, Josh Newcomb, and Benjamin Spruill, candidates.

**St. Augustine**, Isle Brevelle: Michelle Demery and Kathleen Dunlap, candidates.

**St. Edward**, Fishville: Martin Collins, Kori Chelette, and Jordon Boyette, candidates.

**St. Frances Cabrini**, Alexandria: Heather Anne Bandy, Lawrence Hobdy, and Lavena Sherrod, candidates.

**St. Francis Xavier Cathedral**, Alexandria: Alex Davis, catechumen.

**St. Joseph**, Cheneyville: Allen Hoyt and Charles Harper, candidates.

**St. Joseph**, Marksville: Paige Lucas, catechumen; and Kryssi Threeton and Robert Schexnayder, candidates.

**St. Juliana**, Alexandria: Dondre Head and Gavin Patterson, candidates.

**St. Michael the Archangel**, Leesville: John Haynes II, catechumen; and Lauren Breau, Cory Burggraff, and Lindsey Burggraff, candidates.

**St. Rita**, Alexandria: Daylien Cloessner and Hunter Howell, catechumens; and Shannon Alford, Michael Boatner, Taylor Courville, Linda Faraldo, Mary Habig, Matthew Hill, Sonya Hill, Donald Mote, and Alish Sylvia, candidates.



## Director of Vocations blesses Air Evac helicopter

FR. LOUIS SKLAR, director of vocations, blessed the air ambulance for Air Evac Lifeteam in Kinder. The grand opening was held Mar. 15 for the newest Air Evac base in Kinder, Base 125. Many of the helicopters receive an unofficial name given by their crews and many local supporters. The name for the helicopter of Base 125 is Talokka' Coba which is translated from Coushatta as EAGLE. The Diocese of Alexandria is also served by Base 99 in Natchez who flies ELVIS and Base 100 in Rayville who has not named their helicopter. Air Evac Lifeteam is a major sponsor of the Bishop's Invitational Golf Tournament which benefits Seminarian Education. Pictured are Rhonda Williams, Mack McKinsey, Michael Dore, Fr. Louis Sklar, Kiarha Walker and Sandy Roberts (Manager of Base 125 and Base 99)

## Seminarian Burses

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## Mark your Calendar: Upcoming Ordinations

Mark your calendars now for two upcoming ordinations this summer:

### Saturday, June 11

Deacon John Wiltse will be ordained a priest on Saturday, June 11 at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.

### Saturday, July 9

Seminarians Derek Ducote, Daniel Hart, and Gus "Dutch" Voltz will be ordained as deacons on Saturday, July 9 at 10 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.

More information will be provided later.

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# Novena to the Divine Mercy begins on Good Friday, March 25

## Day 1 -- Good Friday, March 25

Today bring to Me **ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY ALL SINNERS**, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

## Day 2 -- Saturday, March 26

Today bring to Me **THE SOULS OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS**, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My mercy flows out upon mankind.

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service,\* that they may perform worthy works of mercy; and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in heaven.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard—upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.

## Day 3 -Easter Sunday, March 27

Today bring to Me **ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS**, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. The souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness.

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to



each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wondrous love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

## Day 4-Easter Monday, March 28

Today bring to Me **THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD\* AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME**. I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are the Light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who do not believe in God and of those who as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy; and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in You, and of those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls

do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

## Day 5 -- Tuesday, March 29

Today bring to Me **THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE SEPARATED THEMSELVES FROM MY CHURCH,\*** and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is, My Church. As they return to unity with the Church, My wounds heal and in this way they alleviate My Passion.

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring



it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Son's Church, who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they, too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

## Day 6 -- Wednesday, March 30

Today bring to Me **THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN**, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels, who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.

Most Merciful Jesus, You yourself have said, "Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart." Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy and they are the heavenly Father's favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God Himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most Compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek souls, upon humble souls, and upon little children who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

## Day 7 -- Thursday, March 31

Today bring to Me **THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY**, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over my Passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities they go forward, confident of Your mercy; and united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy, and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy, and their hearts, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God:

Show them Your mercy according to the hope and trust they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He, Himself, will defend as His glory. Amen.

Continued on pg. 9



## Divine Mercy's Message

The message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

In 2002, Pope John Paul II officially established Divine Mercy Sunday and set it as the second Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Easter).

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

**A - Ask for His Mercy.** God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B - Be merciful.** God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C - Completely trust in Jesus.** God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

In the Diary of St. Faustina, Our Lord made 12 promises to anyone who prays the DM chaplet and venerates the image.



## Divine Mercy Schedule

### Sunday, April 3

11:30 a.m. Mary, Mother of Jesus (Woodworth) DM Chaplet after 10:30 Mass  
 2:00 p.m. OLPS (Alexandria) Confessions  
 3:00 p.m. OLPS (Alexandria) Divine Mercy Sunday Service  
 2:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini (Alexandria) Confessions  
 3:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini (Alexandria) Divine Mercy Holy Hour  
 3:00 p.m. Holy Ghost Church (Marksville) Divine Mercy Chaplet  
 3:00 p.m. St. Anthony Church (Natchitoches) Divine Mercy Chaplet  
 3:00 p.m. St. Peter Church (Bordelonville) Divine Mercy Chaplet  
 3:00 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes (Fifth Ward) Divine Mercy Chaplet  
 3:30 p.m. Minor Basilica Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
 High Mass (Latin) followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet

Throughout the Year of Mercy (Dec. 8, 2015 - Nov. 20, 2016), St. Louis Church (Glenmora) prays the Divine Mercy Chaplet 15 minutes before EVERY Mass celebrated -- even in its missions of St. Peter in Elmer and St. Jude in Sieper.

For an updated list of Divine Mercy Services, go to [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org)

## Divine Mercy Novena From page 8

### Day 8 -- Friday, April 1

Today bring to Me **THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY**, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to My justice.

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls who are very dear to You, and yet, who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of Purgatory, that there, too, the power of Your mercy may be celebrated.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls suffering in Purgatory, who are enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. I beg You, by the sorrowful Passion of Jesus Your Son, and by all the bitterness with which His most sacred Soul was flooded: Manifest Your mercy to the souls who are under Your just scrutiny. Look upon them in no other way but only through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly beloved Son; for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness

and compassion. Amen.

### Day 9 -- Saturday, April 2

Today bring to Me **SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKEWARM**, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: 'Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.' For them, the last hope of salvation is to run to My mercy.

Most compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion Itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love, let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love, and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg You by the bitter Passion of Your Son and by His three-hour agony on the Cross: Let them, too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen.

*During the Solemn Novena leading to Divine Mercy Sunday, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy should be offered each day for the day's intentions.*

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**VIANNEY HALL**, the resident hall where diocesan seminarian Thomas Kennedy lives, was flooded March 11. St. Joseph Seminary spent \$5 million on renovations to the residential hall in 2014.



**BENET HALL**, a six-hundred seat auditorium with modern stage and equipment on the campus of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, was one of several buildings on campus flooded by the recent stormwater. Classes were cancelled, as well as the annual Abbey Youth Fest, an event expected to draw more than 4,000 youth to the campus.

## Flood waters fill St. Joseph Seminary; Abbey Youth Fest cancelled

**By Thomas Kennedy**  
Diocesan seminarian  
St. Joseph Abbey & Seminary

Louisiana faced crippling floods during the month of March. Many families have been displaced and their lives changed forever. Sadly, there have also been fatalities.

The severe weather forecast caused Saint Joseph Abbey and Seminary College in Covington to cancel its annual Abbey Youth Fest which has been celebrated for the past 15 years. The seminarians (including those from the Diocese of Alexandria) were disappointed that the event which we have been planning for the past year had to be canceled 48 hours before it was to take place on March 12. Four thousand teens were scheduled to attend.

As a result of the cancellation we (seminarians) were expecting a relaxing four-day weekend to catch up on homework and prepare for the remainder of the semester.

On Friday, March 11 around noon, water began to rise on campus. I was in the refectory eating lunch when an announcement was made for all students to move their vehicles to higher ground. At this point no one knew what was coming.

Students and faculty began moving vehicles and the water rose quickly. I had to jump in knee deep water to move one professor's vehicle for her and drive it to higher ground. Andrew Flynn had to do the same. One

of my friends was nowhere to be found so I called him to tell him to move his SUV. He was in the woods for a walk and the water from the Bogue Falaya rose and overflowed so quickly that he had to swim in rushing neck deep water to get back to the campus. He made it back just in time to save his vehicle.

I returned to my room to change out of my soaked clothes when it became apparent that my building was about to flood. I lived on the first floor so I made a phone call to a friend of mine who lived on the second floor of another building and he and a few others came to my rescue.

We were able to get most of my important things upstairs into my storage area before two and a half feet of water rushed into my room.

Over the next few minutes the first floor of the monastery, the refectory, gym, basement of the Abbey Church, auditorium and the majority of the cars that were moved to higher ground were flooded.

By 1 p.m. all of the seminarians evacuated to the upstairs of one of the dormitories through torso deep water that was a rushing river at this point. The river did not crest until 8 p.m. and when I woke up at 4 a.m. on Sat-

urday the water had receded but unfortunately not before destroying my room, many other rooms and facilities on campus and a majority of the seminarians' cars.

We (seminarians) met to pray the Divine Office throughout the disaster in the Oratory which was well above the floodwaters.

Each of us learned the value of the words from Psalm 43:2a

"When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you."

Our Lord protected our lives though we lost material possessions. Our comfort was stripped from us and we are learning to

walk more closely with him and each other as we discern priesthood.

Priesthood is a life of letting go of our will and putting others and their needs before our own. This flood, as bad as it was, is a great opportunity for us to grow in our love for Jesus and our neighbors.

The seminary will be closed for a week and recovery for the seminary and monastery will take a long time. Please pray for us as we try to recover the remainder of this semester academically, and for those who lost life or property around the state.

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MARCH 2016



# Thousands begin cleanup after '100-year flood' covers the state

By Jeannie Petrus  
CT editor

The flood of 2016.

It's being called "historic." It's the flood that surpassed the records of the worst flood in Louisiana history last recorded on Jan. 5, 1946.

Reports supplied by parishes indicate 6,143 structures (homes, businesses, structures) have received flood damage across the state. The total is expected to climb as more parishes compile data. New problems are still being reported in some regions as river levels continue to climb.

Thousands of people have been forced from their homes. This number also continues to climb. Thousands of rescues have been reported since March 9 including 4,255 by the Louisiana

National Guard and 700 by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Governor John Bel Edwards, key cabinet members and a representative from FEMA have traveled to many of the hardest hit areas for site visits.

State agencies manning the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) continue round the clock work to meet requests for resources from parishes impacted by the floods.

## Diocese of Alexandria

Probably the hardest hit area in the Diocese of Alexandria was in the north-central part which includes Natchitoches and Winnfield.

Schools and businesses were closed for a week due to the storm and then the flooding waters that



**ST. AUGUSTINE'S FLOODED CEMETERY.** The almost 200-year-old cemetery at St. Augustine Church in Isle Brevelle was flooded by backwater from Cane River, but no damage was reported.



**RESIDENTS IN NATCHITOCHES,** wait for storm waters to recede so cleanup can begin. There were several reports of rescues in Winnfield.

resulted. Farmers lost their crops and cattlemen lost many of their livestock.

According to Father Charlie Ray, pastor of St. Augustine Church at Isle Brevelle, the church stayed high and dry, but part of the almost 200-year-old cemetery located behind the church was covered with water.

"The cemetery behind the church did have some water, but there was no damage," he said. However, a few miles down the road at his mission church of St. Anne's at Old River, water cov-

ered the roads, making travel there impossible. At presstime, Fr. Charlie had not yet been able to assess the damages at the church, but local residents said the church hall had received 2-3 feet of water.

TV reports showed several water rescues in Winnfield.

According to Father Christian Ogbanna, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Winnfield said the church was fine, although the town itself experienced flooding. He said he had to cancel Mass in Olla last weekend because he could not get to the mission church due to closed roads.

In Natchitoches, Father John O'Brien, pastor of St. Anthony Church and head of the Natchitoches deanery, said, the heavy flooding in Natchitoches shut down schools and businesses, but the three Catholic churches in Natchitoches, remained dry.

"It will take time and prayer for so many to recover from the damage done to their homes," he said.



**INSIDE BORROMEO HALL,** a residential hall at St. Joseph seminary.



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**ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE.** Second graders from St. Anthony School in Bunkie visited The Bailey Place and Bayou Vista Nursing Home on Feb. 4. They had a great time playing board games, card games, and coloring with the residents.



**ST. FRANCES CABRINI PRE-K & K VISIT NURSING HOME.** Pre-K and K students from St. Frances Cabrini School visited Naomi Heights Nursing Home as a way to serve in the community for Catholic Schools Week. Kelly Lombardi teaches kindermusic and led them in song for the residents. The students also brought the residents flowers.

**ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL'S CDA POSTER WINNERS.** Students in grades 4-8 from St. Anthony School in Bunkie competed in the Catholic Daughters Poster contest. The topic was "How do we care for the environment?"



**STUDENT OF THE YEAR FIRST RUNNER-UPS.** First runner ups are 5th grader [redacted], St. Mary's Assumption School in Cottonport; 8th grader [redacted], Alexandria Country Day School in Alexandria; and 12th grader [redacted] from Holy Savior Menard High School. Pictured in back are Wendy and Matt Marchand, [redacted]; and Lori DeWitt, [redacted].



**STUDENT OF THE YEAR WINNERS FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** District winners in the Non-Public school category for the state-wide Student of the Year competition were announced Feb. 17 by Thomas E. Roque superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Alexandria. The competition is open to students in grades 5, 8, and 12.





**SCOUT SUNDAY.** Bishop Ronald Herzog presented Light of Christ Awards and Parvuli Dei Awards, to local scouts Feb. 7 after a special Mass held on Scout Sunday at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Both awards recognize scouts who have learned about their relationship with Jesus, his people and his Church.



**ST. MARY'S CHANNEL ONE VIDEO.** Students in Paula Thompson's class at St. Mary's in Natchitoches, put together a video that was aired Feb. 26 on Channel One News.



**SACRED HEART CLASS HATCHING EGGS.** Sacred Heart kindergartener

watch their teacher Ms. Barbara Lang, check the chicken eggs in the incubator. Using an incubator donated by Avoyelles Farm Bureau, the students have taken care of the eggs and can't wait for them to hatch!



**AVOYELLES AUTHOR BRENDA JUNEAU** visited the Pre-K and kindergarten classes at Sacred Heart School during Catholic School Week. She presented a power point presentation of the artwork as she read one of her stories to the children. The three books she has authored -- *SanTaa Kroupee: A New Year's Eve Tale*; *SanTaa Kroupee and Paquin' Eggs on the Bayou*; and *SanTaa Kroupee and the Shod De Vod De Parade*, were donated to the Sister Marisa Ricci Media Center. Ms. Juneau attended Sacred Heart for awhile when she was child.





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## Menard's top football recruit signs with Jacksonville State

Holy Savior Menard's top football recruit is going to Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Ala.

made his decision official Signing Day.

a 6'2, 290 lb. powerhouse on both offensive and defensive line, was highly sought after by four university football programs. His senior year alone, recorded 53 tackles and his runs racked up 1200 running yards. says he ultimately choose Jacksonville State for the school's strong academic program and respected reputation both on and off the football field.

"I'm the baby in a family of ten,"

said "My parents have always stress the importance of getting a good education. That is why they choose to send us to Menard and it is why I've chosen Jacksonville State."

Jacksonville State's offensive line coach, Matt Jones, said the same.

"You can find great football players," said Jones. "It's when you find great men that your football program really succeeds. I wanted to play for us because he is more than a good player on the field. He comes from a disciplined household and he's a young man of strong character. It made him a perfect candidate for our football program."



, a senior at Holy Savior Menard, signs a letter of intent Feb. 3 to play football at Jacksonville State next fall.



SCOTT MAGGIO, a St. Mary's senior distance runner, wins the state title in the Division II, 1600 meter run at the LHSAA State Indoor Track and Field Championship held Feb. 13 at LSU.

## St. Mary's senior distance runner wins state title in 1600 meter run

St. Mary's senior distance runner, used a 62 second last 400 run away with the Division II, 1600 meter run at the LHSAA State Indoor Track and Field Championships held Feb. 13 on the LSU campus.

Seeded fourth coming into the race, knew that he would have to run a critical race to garner a state championship. As the race unfolded, used his experience and a strong finish to win his first state championship.

"We came through the first half mile split in 2:16 and the two Episcopal HS runners surged to the leads. I knew that if I could stay with them for the next 400

meters, I would make my move with 400 meters to go."

And go he did.

He covered the last half of the race once second faster than the first half to out-distance the field by 4 seconds.

"I have had five state runner-up finishes over the past two years," he said. "I really wanted to win this one for me and my school. I am glad that everything worked out."

is an eight-time All-State runner in cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field. He is an altar server and member of the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches.

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### LHSAA ALL ACADEMIC COMPOSITE TEAM.

, a senior from St. Mary's School in Natchitoches, receives the LHSAA All-Academic Award from Jeffery Sampson and Eddie Bonine, both representatives from the LHSAA. was recently recognized as a member of the LHSAA All Academic Composite Team (all 4.0 students) at the 2016 Girls' Top 28 Tournament Finals. The LHSAA All-Academic Award Program recognizes the academic excellence of senior student-athletes. To earn composite team honors, a student-athlete's six-semester GPA must be one of the 18 highest in all seven classifications.

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**INMATES** from the Rapides Parish Detention Center spent 50 hours of free labor on the project.



**VOLUNTEERS** Charlie Thiels, Jacob Hebert, Al Mathews, Sean Tucker, and John Robichaux replaced the door and door seal of the backside of St. Cyril Chapel in Flatwoods.



**FATHER DAN COOK** stands on a ladder to sand and repaint the iron pipes of the bell stand outside the front of St. Cyril Chapel in Flatwoods.



**VOLUNTEERS** from KC Council 1134, ACTS, Menard, and other places came together to repair, replace, and repaint the church hall at St. Margaret Mary in Gorum. Father Taylor Reynolds pitched in to help as well.

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**BEFORE ST. CYRIL CHAPEL RENOVATIONS.** The small rural chapel of St. Cyril in Flatwoods has been seriously in need of repairs for a long time. Maintenance and repairs were put off for years, due to lack of funds, until recently, thanks to KC Council 1134, ACTS team members, and other volunteers.



**AFTER ST. CYRIL CHAPEL RENOVATIONS.** After a small group of volunteers worked four weekends in February to repair, replace, and re-paint the small rural chapel in Flatwoods, St. Cyril looks alive and new again.

## Volunteers renovate St. Cyril, St. Margaret Mary Chapels

By Jeannie Petrus  
CT editor

There's nothing a handful of hard-working men can't accomplish when they pool their skills and talents together to get a job done.

That's exactly what happened on four weekends in February when members of KC Council 1134, ACTS team members, Menard students, and other local volunteers came together to renovate St. Cyril Chapel in Flatwoods and St. Margaret Mary Chapel in Gorum -- both in bad need of repair.

It all began back in December of 2015, when Al Mathews, the Grand Knight of the Bishop Greco, Knights of Columbus

Council #1134 attended the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Cyril Chapel after a weekend of great deer hunting in the local area.

Father Dan Cook, chaplain of Manna House, was the celebrant.

After the Mass, which included a small gathering of local people, Al and Father Dan noticed some maintenance issues around the small chapel -- rotten boards around windows, chipped paint all over the exterior, and many other areas of disrepair.

"I remember us both looking at each other and saying 'This looks like a job for the Knights of Columbus (Council 1134),' said Father Dan.

Together, the two made a list of the most urgent repairs needed and then enlisted the help and

support of KC Council 1134 as well as some ACTS friends, and local volunteers.

"Everyone brought family and friends who were all willing to pitch in and help. Even Sheriff Hilton sent some inmates up here for a few days to help."

Renovations to St. Cyril in Flatwoods included repairing the roof, replacing windows, doors, and the seals around the doors and windows. The entire building was scraped, primed, and re-painted. Even the rusted iron pipes for the church bell were sanded and re-painted.

While the group was on a roll, the volunteers decided to do some work at another local chapel, St. Margaret Mary in Gorum.

At St. Margaret Mary, the

volunteers scraped and painted the church hall -- inside and out.

On the final day of work, the volunteers brought food to cook and enjoyed a celebration of food and fellowship after both projects were completed.

"It was wonderful to see so many people out there helping out," said Father Dan. "We had professional painters, carpenters, firemen, students, and even a few doctors who volunteered their time to paint, scrape, and repair."

In addition to physical labor required for these projects, it was good to know that several groups were out there praying for the success of the project -- local nursing home residents, our seminarians, Carmelite nuns in California, as well as a couple in Kentucky.

"I can't thank everyone enough for all of the hard work of those who gave up their weekends to work on these projects," said Father Dan. "It was a project that was very much needed, but was put off for so many years due to lack of funds. We could not have done this project without the generous donors and hard-working volunteers who provided free labor.

According to Father Dan, more than \$4,000 and 120 hours of labor have been donated so far.

Anyone wishing to donate funds to finish paying for the supplies that were used can mail a donation to "St. Cyril Renovation Project" c/o Father Dan Cook, 340 Park Place Drive, Alexandria, LA 71301.



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**ST. JULIANA CHURCH BLACK HISTORY MONTH HONOREES.** St. Juliana celebrated Black History Month Feb. 28 by honoring several of its members for their work and dedication in the Church. After the presentation, a reception and program were held in the church activity building. Pictured are (from left) Emily Boswell who is standing in for her husband honoree Percy Boswell, Tommy Milo assisting honoree Janice Clay, Juanita Boyd, Vanessa Louie, Hilda Cooper, and Darryl Davis. Father Remi Owuamanam, SMMM, pastor of St. Juliana, is standing with the honorees in the back.



**ST. JULIANA JR. KNIGHTS.** Congratulations to eight young men initiated Jan. 17 into the Jr. Knights Council #268 at St. Juliana Church in Alexandria.

On Sunday, Feb. 14 at the 10 a.m. Mass, they were officially presented as Jr. Knights of the Church.



**IMMIGRATION SEMINAR.** CLIIC (Central Louisiana Interfaith, Immigration Center), the Central Louisiana Pro Bono Project, and the Louisiana State Bar Association hosted a Continuing Legal Education seminar Feb. 18 at the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria. Pictured are Glenda McGraw Regnart, executive director of CLIIC, and Tinashe Chimwaza, legal services attorney. Glenda presented *Naturalization 101: A Primer for Non-Immigration Practitioners*. Roughly 30 attorneys and legal professionals attended the seminar, which was designed to introduce local attorneys to the practice of immigration law.

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**SIMMESPORT'S KC COUNCIL 10564 TASTE OF FAITH** annual fundraiser was held March 5 in Christ the King Church hall. Pictured above are members of the KC Council who worked the fundraiser. Friends and parishioners cooked their favorite dishes and served samples to those 200 people who purchased tickets for the event. At left are winners of the "People's Choice Award" with the best dish. Pictured are Belinda Rabalais, Crystal, Jade, and Paul Marsh, and Kenneth and Donna Marsh.



**SECRETARY OF THE YEAR.** Bertha Lavalais, secretary at Holy Ghost Church in Marksville receives a plaque from Father Edwin Rodriguez, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Hessmer for being named Secretary of the Year in the Avoyelles area. Father Rodriguez hosted the 12th annual Catholic Church Secretary Appreciation Dinner on Feb. 2 at the St. Alphonsus Church rectory. Secretaries from 10 Catholic churches in the Avoyelles area and their guests attended.



**SECRETARY APPRECIATION DINNER.** Secretaries from the Avoyelles area who attended the 12th annual Catholic Church Secretary Appreciation Dinner on Feb. 2 at the St. Alphonsus Church rectory are Gilda Augustine, Julia Voinche, Susan Poche, Beatrice Bordelon, Stacy Chesne, Shirley Mayeux, Juliette Linzay, Delilah Aymond, Bertha Lavalais, Danita Coco and guest.



## 70 years ago on March 19, 1946 Bishop Greco installed as Bishop

On March 19, 1946 --70 years ago -- the Most Reverend Charles P. Greco was installed as the 6th bishop of the Diocese of Shreveport/Alexandria by Archbishop Joseph Rummel of New Orleans and Bishop Charles Jeanmard of Lafayette. He was 51 years old.

## Easter Mass Schedule

Continued from pg. 5

8:00 p.m. -- Easter Vigil, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria  
8:00 p.m. -- Solemn Vigil of Easter, Service of Light, St. Rita, Alexandria  
8:00 p.m. -- Paschal Vigil Mass, MB Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
8:00 p.m. -- Easter Vigil, St. Peter Mission, Elmer  
8:00 p.m. -- St. Peter Church, Bordelonville  
8:00 p.m. -- St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

### Easter Masses, Sunday, March 27

7:00 a.m. -- Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria  
8:00 a.m. -- St. Rita Church, Alexandria  
8:00 a.m. -- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville  
8:00 a.m. -- St. Michael Church, Rexmere  
8:30 a.m. -- St. Louis Church, Glenmora  
9:00 a.m. -- St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria  
9:00 a.m. -- Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria  
9:00 a.m. -- Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
9:30 a.m. -- Mass followed by Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 7 and under, St. Rita Church, Alexandria  
9:30 a.m. -- St. Peter Church, Bordelonville  
10:00 a.m. -- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville  
10:30 a.m. -- Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria  
11:00 a.m. -- St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria  
11:00 a.m. -- St. Rita Church, Alexandria  
11:00 a.m. -- Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
11:00 a.m. -- St. Jude Mission, Sieper  
11:30 a.m. -- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville  
12:30 p.m. -- Spanish Mass, St. Rita Church, Alexandria  
4:30 p.m. -- Holy Vespers, Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
5:00 p.m. -- Traditional Latin Mass, Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches  
5:30 p.m. -- St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria  
5:30 p.m. -- Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria  
6:00 p.m. -- St. Rita Church, Alexandria  
7:00 p.m. -- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville



# St. Mary's Residential Training School opens new behavior unit

By Jeannie Petrus  
CT editor

St. Mary's Residential Training School held an open house March 3 for a new, one-of-a-kind residential unit designed specifically for individuals diagnosed with intellectual and developmental disabilities and who also display significant problem behavior.

The new 10-bed "behavior" unit is designed to provide ample personal space for each of the residents, many of whom will have their own bedroom.

According to Tony L. "Bo" Vets II, programs director at St. Mary's, individuals diagnosed with intellectual disabilities and autism may exhibit different types of problem behavior, such as physical aggression, self-injury, or pica (digesting inedible objects).

"Giving these individuals their own personalized space with plenty of opportunities to engage in habilitative active treatment and leisure activities may help them learn more appropriate forms of behavior," he said.

This is why St. Mary's recently converted the old on-campus convent, which was most recently used as office space, into the new behavior unit.

Bishop Ronald Herzog blessed and dedicated the new facility March 3 with many parents, employees and benefactors pres-



**9 BEDROOMS** at the new behavior unit feature single bed accommodations, except one, (pictured) that will accommodate two residents in one room.



the first resident to move in to the new behavior unit at St. Mary's Residential Training School, sorts letters with his aide.

ent for the open house.

The new behavior unit includes 10 bedrooms, of which nine are single rooms and one is large enough for two residents. Each bedroom shares a full bathroom with another bedroom.

The unit houses a library and quiet area for the residents who prefer this type of setting, while on the other end of the unit a movie and activity room is set up for the residents who prefer noise and stimulation.

The unit also has a gated outdoor pavilion and a common dining area, as well as office space for unit staff and nurses.

The goal of the behavior unit is to incorporate and utilize principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) to teach activities of daily living and replace the problem behaviors with skills that serve the same function.

This will be accomplished through a lower resident to staff ratio (one staff person to one or two residents, depending on the residents' needs) and specialized training and assistance from St. Mary's onsite ABA Learning Center.

The unit was made possible through grants and generous donors including the Virginia Mar-

tin Howard Foundation, Community Network Inc., The Fore! Kids Foundation, Mr. Robert Hecker, The Front Foundation, Mr. Ron Chauffe, ElectriMech, Mr. Thomas and Lisa Long, Mr. James "Jim" Rives III, Proctor & Gamble Company, and The Thomas H. & Mame P. Scott Foundation.

The behavior unit was also dedicated in loving memory of David Courville, who lovingly gave of his time and talent to help draft the plans for the renovations and guiding it through the mountains of red tape before becoming ill and passing away after only a

few short months.

"David Courville had a big heart and was passionate about providing the best care for the residents at St. Mary's", said Christi Guillot, interim administrator at St. Mary's. "We dedicate this behavior unit in his memory."

Family and friends of David Courville were present for the dedication, blessing, and open house.



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Legal Services for Purposes of Disability Committee (Louisiana State Bar Association).

PUBLISHED ARTICLES: "The Worn-Out Worker Rule Revisited,"  
"Significant Work-Related Limitations of Function Under §12.05C,"  
"Questionable Retirement and the Small Business Owner," "Crisis of Confidence: The Inadequacies of Vocational Evidence Presented at Social Security Disability Hearings."

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## Miracles from Heaven tells remarkable story, even skeptics can't dismiss

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- The fact-based drama "Miracles From Heaven" (Columbia) tells a remarkable story.

Though director Patricia Riggan's screen version of Christy Beam's 2015 memoir is clearly designed for believers -- and sometimes feels padded -- even dedicated skeptics may have trouble dismissing its underlying narrative.

A wife and the mother of three daughters, Christy (Jennifer Garner) is going about her everyday life in the Fort Worth area of Texas when tragedy strikes without warning: Her 10-year-old middle daughter Annabel (Kylie Rogers) develops an unexplained but seemingly unshakable illness.

Alarmed, Christy refuses to accept the series of more or less casually delivered misdiagnoses from unfocused doctors with which she's presented. And eventually, the grim truth emerges. Annabel's symptoms are identified as stemming from pediatric chronic intestinal pseudo-obstruction, or CIPO, a rare, painful and incurable condition that prevents the body from digesting food.

Persistent Christy now fo-



**MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN.** Jennifer Garner, Queen Latifah and Kylie Rogers star in a scene from the movie "Miracles From Heaven." The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children. (CNS photo/Columbia Pictures)

cuses on obtaining the care of one of the few specialists in CIPO, Dr. Samuel Nurko (Eugenio Derbez). However, although kindly and caring, Dr. Nurko proves powerless to combat the disease -- and Annabel's death sentence stands.

Although Christy and her

easygoing veterinarian husband, Kevin (Martin Henderson), are dedicated churchgoers -- John Carroll Lynch plays their good-humored pastor -- Christy's faith crumbles in the face of Annabel's current torment and impending demise. She finds herself unable

to pray. She's also deeply angered by the misguided notions of some fellow parishioners who seem to entertain a pre-Christian understanding of the connection between sin and misfortune.

Yet a startling, almost inexplicable, turnaround awaits

### MOVIE

## REVIEW

Christy -- one which is certainly providential if not indeed miraculous.

Though it may be aimed at a self-selecting audience of the already convinced, screenwriter Randy Brown's script minimizes neither its protagonist's crisis of doubt nor the larger mystery of innocent suffering.

The dialogue also takes a wide view of what counts as a divinely inspired marvel, highlighting the above-and-beyond kindness shown to Christy and her clan by an ensemble of secondary characters. The most significant of these is Angela (Queen Latifah), a gregarious waitress who takes an instant -- and cheering -- shine to Annabel.

While squeaky clean as far as the normal array of objectionable elements is concerned, "Miracles From Heaven" nonetheless includes both subjects and sights that make it inappropriate for the youngest viewers.

The film contains mature themes as well as potentially upsetting incidents and medical procedures. Rated PG.

## Spotlight wins Oscar for Best Picture of the Year

### Vatican says movie about clergy abuse scandal is not 'anti-Catholic'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican newspaper said the Oscar-winning film, "Spotlight," is not anti-Catholic.

"It is not an anti-Catholic movie, as has been written, because the film succeeds in giving voice to the alarm and deep pain" experienced by the Catholic faithful when a team of investigative newspaper reporters in Boston revealed the scandal of clerical abuse, said the article published Feb. 29 in L'Osservatore Romano.

The paper said it was also a "positive sign" when Michael Sugar, the movie's producer, said he hoped the film would "resonate all the way to the Vatican."

In his acceptance speech at the 88th annual Academy Awards



Feb. 28, Sugar said the movie "gave a voice to survivors, and this Oscar amplifies this voice." He then expressed hopes this voice would "become a choir that will resonate all the way to the

Vatican."

The fact there was such an appeal, the Vatican newspaper said, was "a positive sign" because it shows "there is still trust in the institution (of the church),

there is trust in a pope who is continuing the cleanup begun by his predecessor."

"There is still trust in a faith that has at its heart the defense of victims, the protection of the innocent," said the article, written by Lucetta Scaraffia, a professor of contemporary history and a frequent contributor to the Vatican newspaper.

"Spotlight" won two awards: one for best picture and one for best original screenplay. The film documents the Boston Globe's investigation into the scandal and cover-up of the sexual abuse of minors by clergy in the Archdiocese of Boston.

The Vatican newspaper said the film does not touch on the "long and tenacious fight" by

then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in launching action against abusers in the church.

"But a film can't say everything, and the difficulties that Ratzinger encountered only confirm the premise of the film, that is, that too often the church institution did not know how to respond with the necessary determination before these crimes," the article said.

While children are vulnerable to abuse in many other places, like in the family, school or sports teams, it said, "it is now clear that too many in the church were more worried about the image of the institution than the seriousness of the act."



## Diocesan Steubenville South group

Steubenville South and the Diocese of Alexandria are excited to offer a Diocesan Steubenville South Group this year. If your parish does not have an active youth ministry program, the youth of your parish can attend Steubenville with this group. Clayton Cobb and his wife Carrie, will be the group leaders. The package price of \$200 per person includes:

- hotel room at Holiday Inn Express (4 to room) for Friday and Saturday night
- all meals
- all conference registration fees

To register, individuals should go to: <https://form.jotform.com/50477174098160>

-- Fr. Jose Robles Sanchez, Steubenville South

## April 1-3: Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held April 1-3 in Lafayette. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is an extraordinary opportunity for any person who struggles with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. The weekend is a unique and effective process designed specifically to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God. The weekend will help your soul find a voice and transform the pain of the past into hope! For more information and to register, contact Trista at 337.261.5607 or email [tlitell@diolaf.org](mailto:tlitell@diolaf.org). All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

## April 9: Catechetical Quiz Bowl

The Catechetical Quiz Bowl will be held Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m. at Maryhill Renewal Center. Registration is \$10 per team. The Bible Quiz Bowl, (for students in grades 6-8), is sponsored by the Office of Religious Formation and Training. For more information, email [emc-cullough@diocesealex.org](mailto:emc-cullough@diocesealex.org) or call 318-445-6424, ext 251.

## CDA 2029 selects CDA Kid

Catholic Daughters (Msgr. Van der Putten) Court #2029 of Mark elected 11-year-old as CDA kid for the second year. and her family, Don and Aimee Dupuy, attend St. Genev Church in Brouillette, where is an altar server.

The CDA Kids program enables each diocese to chose one child, 12 years or younger, who has a life-threatening illness or is underprivileged. Throughout the year, the child is remembered with gifts



## DIOCESAN BRIEFS

on holidays and with prayers.

suffers from scoliosis infantile and Allgroves Synd which causes trouble with her eyes, body glands, and swallowing. She has had 12 surgeries to correct her spine.

## April 10: Queen of Mercy Sunday

Come celebrate Queen of Mercy Sunday, a local private devotion, on Sunday, April 10 at the Maryhill Retreat Chapel. Confessions will be at 2 p.m., Rosary and Chaplets at 2:30 and Sunday Mass at 3:15. All are welcome. Priests are asked to bring their own albs.

## April 13: Josh Blakesley concert

The Diocese of Alexandria and St. Joseph Church in Marksville will host a Josh Blakesley Band Concert on April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Church Hall. The cost is FREE and open to everyone. Come enjoy the Catholic music of our own local award-winning recording artist, who is widely known across the country.

## April 14: Adult Faith Formation Series

The Spirituality and Education Commission at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria will offer an Adult Faith Formation series once a month, throughout 2016.

- The April presentation will be held April 14 from 6:30 -7:30 p.m. at the Divine Providence Center. Officer Chad Gremillion will speak on "Keeping Our Kids Safe: The Real Dangers of the Internet." The series is free and open to the public. Childcare is provided for newborns through 8 years old in the church nursery.

## April 15-17: Camp Joshua

Louisiana Camp Joshua (LCJ), a weekend pro-life camp to train high school students to be pro-life leaders,

Dates for Camp Joshua 2016

- Baton Rouge: April 15-17
- Covington: April 29-May 1

At Camp Joshua, you will experience top-notch workshops, classes, and activities, and you'll learn from the nation's leading pro-life experts. You'll also make great pro-life friends and have a ton of fun! More than just listening and observing, you'll get hands-on interac-



## THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF NATCHITOCHES

served seafood gumbo as their annual Lenten meal this year. Gumbo was on sale at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in February and March. The gumbo was served hot every other Friday night and frozen to take home on alternating Fridays. Pictured are L-R: Ray Ponthieux, Joe Roque, John Vercher, Micheal Yankowski and Rob Watson. Not pictured are: Buford Grappe and Charles Lee.

tion and experience in pro-life work. Contact Alexandra Seghers of LA Right to Life, at [alex@prolifelouisiana.org](mailto:alex@prolifelouisiana.org) or 1.866.463.5433.

## April 23: Magnificat Brunch

CENLA Magnificat will host a brunch April 23 from 10 a.m. -noon at St. Mary's Assumption Church Hall in Cottonport.

The guest speaker will be Dorinda Bordlee, a pro-life lawyer dedicated to the protection of life from conception to natural death. She will share her story of how God moved in her life and her heart to protect His people. She has dedicated her law practice to sanctity of life constitutional issues since 1994.

Tickets are \$18 in advance and must be purchased by April 10. No tickets sold at the door. For tickets call Mary Wilson @ 318-359-7735.

## April 23: Cabrini Crawfish Boil

St. Frances Cabrini Church invites you to help celebrate Fr. Chad Partain's 40th birthday with a Cabrini Crawfish Boil on Saturday, April 23 from 5:30 -9 p.m. on the church grounds. \$100 provides crawfish with sides and non-alcoholic beverages for two adults. Tickets are \$30 for children ages 12-16. (No children under 12 will be admitted due to space limitations and alcohol.) Live auction and door prizes given throughout the evening. Tickets are available for purchase at [www.cabrinischool.com](http://www.cabrinischool.com) or through the school office. Proceeds benefit the school.

### Correction

Bishop Ronald Herzog was presented with a check Feb. 9 for the Priests Retirement Fund (not the seminarian fund) by John Morovich, past Grand Knight of Bishop Charles Greco 3rd Degree Council #1134.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<div>21</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. A. THOMPSON</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Chrism Mass 11:00 a.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR MSGR. J. TIMMERMANS</div>	<div>23</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. A. TRAVIS</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Lenten Series with Fr. Chad Partain 6:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria</div> <div>HOLY THURSDAY PRAY FOR FR. G. UZONDU</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Start Novena for Divine Mercy</div> <div>GOOD FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE</div>	<div>26</div> <div>HOLY SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD</div>	<div>27</div> <div>EASTER SUNDAY PRAY FOR FR. N. VIVIANO</div>
<div>28</div> <div>DIOCESAN OFFICES CLOSED</div> <div>EASTER MONDAY PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER</div>	<div>29</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH</div>	<div>30</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Pro-Life Oratory Contest 6:00 p.m. Westside Library, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO</div>	<div>1</div> <div>APRIL</div> <div>FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR BISHOP R. HERZOG</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Confirmation 4:30 p.m. St. Alphonsus Church, Hessmer</div> <div>FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. T. ALLEN</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Confirmation 5:30 p.m. St. Mary's Assumption Church, Cottonport</div> <div>SUNDAY of DIVINE MERCY PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY</div>
<div>4</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW</div>	<div>5</div> <div>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Mary's Assumption Church, Cottonport</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Confirmation 6:00 p.m. St. Michael the Archangel Church, Leesville</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO</div>	<div>7</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO</div>	<div>8</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. D. COOK</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Catechetical Quiz Bowl 10:00 a.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Confirmation 6:00 p.m. St. Rita Church, Alexandria</div> <div>Queen of Mercy 2:00 p.m. Maryhill Renewal Center</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM</div>
<div>11</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE</div>	<div>12</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Josh Blakesley Band FREE Concert 6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Adult Faith Formation Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE</div>	<div>15</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Confirmation 5:30 p.m. St. Edward Church, Tallulah</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. T. FEY</div>
<div>18</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. A. FIGREDO</div>	<div>19</div> <div>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. R. GARRIONE</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Menard Fine Arts Night 5:00 p.m. Holy Savior Menard High School, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. GOOTEE</div>	<div>21</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. W. GEARHEARD</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Holy Cross Church, Natchitoches</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. R. GREMILLON</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Confirmation 5:00 p.m. St. Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura</div> <div>Cabrini Crawfish Boil 5:30-9:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. J. HASIEBER</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Confirmation 11:30 a.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville</div> <div>PRAY FOR BISHOP R. HERZOG</div>



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**Open Bass  
Tournament**

Presented by:

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**DATE: TBA**

Due to recent Red River Flooding,  
Tournament dates will be announced  
as soon as possible

LAUNCH SITES & CHECK-IN: Safe Daylight - 3pm  
Natchitoches / Grand Ecore Landing  
Shreveport / Red River South Landing  
Alexandria / Levee Park - Third Street  
Weigh-in 3:00pm (ONLY) at Grand Ecore Landing, Natchitoches



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