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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

June 13, 2016

INSIDE

Bishop Ronald Herzog announces clergy assignments

New clergy assignments, effective June 29, have been announced by Bishop Ronald Herzog. See pages 6 and 7.

Diocese celebrates ordinations and anniversaries

With the ordination of Father John Wiltse this past weekend, and the upcoming ordination of three deacons, the diocese has a lot to celebrate. At the same time, several clergy and religious women in the diocese are celebrating major anniversaries this year. See pages 8-10.

What's in Your Wallet?

As a Catholic, there is a very good chance you have a Holy Card somewhere in your house, in your wallet, or maybe boxed away in some musty closet. What is the story behind these beautiful works of art and why are you still holding on to them? Read all about it on pages 16-17.



2015 Annual Report on Charter for the Protection of Children:

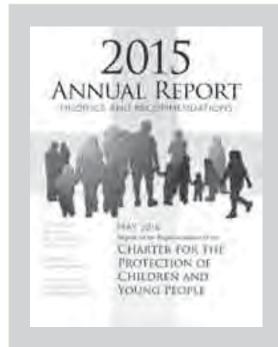
Charter requires proof that dioceses are implementing training programs, conducting background checks

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and the National Review Board released its 2015 Annual Report on the Implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People May 20.

Protection and prevention efforts continue being a priority. Over 4.3 million children and 2.4 million adults have been trained to identify the warning signs of abuse and how to report them. Over 99 percent of priests (35,987), deacons (16,251), educators (162,803), and 98 percent volunteers (1,930,262) and candidates for ordination (6,473), and 97 percent (260,356) of other employees received training.

Over 2.4 million background checks were performed on adults at parishes and schools. These include, background checks performed on 99 percent of priests (35,720), deacons (16,257), 98 percent of volunteers (1,935,310) and other employees (263,690), and 96 percent of educators (158,556).

189 dioceses and eparchies were compliant with the Charter and one diocese was partially compliant specifically with Articles 12 and 13, which require proof that training programs are in place and that background checks are conducted on employ-



• 4.3 million	. children trained to identify the warning signs of abuse
• 2.4 million	.adults trained to identify the warning signs of abuse
• 2.4 million	. background checks on adults at parishes and schools

For full report go to:
http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection
/upload/15-118-CYP-Annual Report.pdf

ees, clergy and volunteers. Ongoing efforts continue toward full participation of the one diocese and five eparchies that did not participate in the last cycle. Next year all dioceses and a majority of the eparchies will be involved in data collection or an on-site audit for the 2016 evaluation.

Between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015, a total of 26 allegations against clergy received were from current minors, of those, seven were substantiated. All allegations were reported to local civil authorities.

"When the U.S. Confer-

ence of Catholic Bishops (US-CCB) approved the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in 2002, we made a pledge to heal and a promise to protect. These promises remain essential priorities for our Church," said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the USCCB. "We remain ever vigilant in the protection of children and the outreach to those most harmed by sexual abuse. The Church cannot become complacent with what has been accomplished. We look for new ways of addressing the issue

and showing others a model of protection."

Out of the 838 people who reported to have suffered past abuse as minors, 46 percent or 386 accepted diocesan outreach and healing. Continued support has been provided to 1,646 victims/survivors. All dioceses and eparchies have offices and personnel whose primary role is to assist victim/survivors, treating them with respect and offering them pastoral care.

The information in the report was gathered between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015. The re-

port on the response of the Catholic Church in the United States to clergy sexual abuse includes an annual survey conducted by Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) and an annual audit to numerous dioceses and eparchies.

The full report is available at: http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/upload/15-118-CYP-Annual-Report.pdf.

FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE

PETER J. LEMOINE Social Security Disability Law

Offices in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Cottonport Adjunct Professor (1994-1997), Northwestern State University

MEMBER: Louisiana State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Avoyelles Parish Bar Association, National Organization of Social Security Claimant Representatives, 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."

318-876-3174



VIRTUS

• Wednesday, June 22 -- 6 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center

Every adult who works/volunteers with children/youth in the Diocese of Alexandria's churches/ schools must attend the VIRTUS™ Protecting God's Children for Adults sexual abuse awareness training. The session lasts 2 -3 hours. Ongoing-training is part of the training component.

A background check must be conducted – and the results received - before an adult may volunteer/work with our children/youth.

To register, go to www.virtus.org.

For more information, call Pam Delrie, Safe Environment Coordinator at 318-445-6424 x 213.

'Witnesses to Freedom' is focus of annual Fortnight prayer event

By Archbishop William Lori Diocese of Baltimore

On his visit to the U.S., Pope Francis encouraged us to nurture, promote, and defend the precious gift of religious freedom. To this end, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has continued to encourage Catholics, other Christians, and all people of good will to set aside two weeks to reflect on religious freedom.

The Fortnight for Freedom runs from June 21 (the vigil of the feast of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher) to July 4 (when we celebrate our national Independence Day).

The theme for this year's Fortnight is "Witnesses to Free-

dom." The Conference is lifting up for reflection the stories of 14 women and men-one for each day-who bear witness to freedom in Christ, such as Oscar Romero, the Little Sisters of the Poor, the Martyrs of Compiègne, and the Coptic Christians who were killed by ISIS last year. (Stories can be found at www.usccb.org/issues)

Reflecting on the lives of these great men and women can show us how we might serve as witnesses to freedom today.

They love their country, yet this love does not surpass their love for and devotion to Christ and his Church. It is remarkable to see the witness of so many martyrs throughout the history of the Church who love the land and



people of their birth, even as they are being persecuted.

We can emulate this in our work today to promote religious freedom in the U.S., as it is of a piece with our efforts to contribute to the good of all Americans. We are dedicated to protecting and building up civil society precisely so that we-and so many

others-may remain free to provide education, to care for the sick, the poor, and the migrant.

The witnesses remind us as well that the struggle for religious freedom is not new. In the history of the Church, both globally and in the United States, religious freedom disputes have arisen frequently.

Our challenges did not begin with a particular government regulation or Supreme Court decision; they began instead when our capacity for knowing the truth and loving the good were damaged in the Fall. All people overstep their bounds from time to time, and the people who establish and run governments are no different.

In short, by pondering the lives of these exemplary Christian witnesses, we can learn much of what it means to follow Jesus in today's challenging world.

We pray that over these two weeks, the grace of God will help us to grow in wisdom, courage, and love, that we too might be faithful witnesses to freedom.

U.S. Supreme Court sends Zubik case back to lower courts

By Carol Zimmermann Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The U.S. Supreme Court May 16 sent the Zubik v. Burwell case, which challenges the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive requirement for employers, back to the lower courts.

The justices' unanimous decision, explained in a nine-page unsigned opinion, was based on the information that both sides submitted a week after oral arguments were heard in the case about how and if contraceptive insurance coverage could be obtained by employees through their insurance companies without directly involving religious employers who object to this coverage.

The court made clear that it is not expressing an opinion on the merits of the cases that are challenging aspects of the federal government's health legislation and it also was not ruling on the

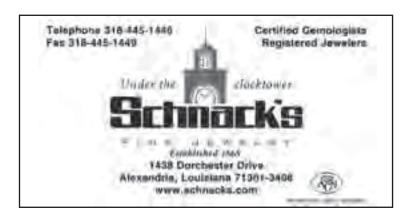


VICTORY FOR LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR. Women religious and others demonstrate against the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive mandate earlier this year near the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington. The U.S. Supreme Court May 16 sent the Zubik v. Burwell case, which challenges the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive requirement for employers, back to the lower courts. (CNS photo/Jaclyn Lippelmann, Catholic Standard)

issue of a potential violation of religious freedom.

Because of the "gravity of the dispute and the substantial clarification and refinement in the positions of the parties," the court stated that religious employers and the government should be "afforded an opportunity to arrive at an approach going forward that accommodates petitioners' religious exercise while at the same time ensuring that women covered by petitioners' health plans receive full and equal health coverage, including contraceptive coverage."

The court stressed that this approach is "more suitable" than addressing the refined positions submitted by both sides and added that "although there may still be areas of disagreement between the parties on issues of implementation, the importance of those areas of potential concern is uncertain, as is the necessity of this court's involvement at this point to resolve them."



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Happy
Father's
Day!

I do believe that the months of April through June are truly the busiest months of the year for most priests and for the Catholic community in general.

Starting with Holy Week and the Initiation of new Catholics at Easter, the busy "season" is then filled with Confirmations, First Communions, Graduations, Ordinations, Jubilarian celebrations, Mother's Day and Father's Day, Vacation Bible Schools, and finally at the end the of June, Steubenville South.

While the schedule is crazy and hectic, it still makes me so



ONE IN THE LORD

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

proud to see how active and vibrant our faith community is in this diocese. What a blessing and honor it is to serve and shepherd in this faithful diocese!

Congratulations to Father

John Wiltse on his recent ordination at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, and to the three seminarians who will be ordained as deacons on July 9. Please remember to pray for these new leaders in the church as they move forward in their vocation.

The Year of Mercy is half over. How have you taken advantage of this special time? If you haven't spent some time in prayer with Jesus, or been to confession, or learned more about God's infinite Mercy, I encourage you to do so. It's not too late!

Last weekend, a crowd of almost 100 people attended a special viewing of a Divine Mercy video series that explained the history and the graces of Divine Mercy. If you missed it, you can check out the DVDs from the Of-

fice of Religious Formation and Training. It's an excellent series by Father Michael Gaitley.

As the "hectic" season comes to a close, use the summer to relax and to spend time with your family. If you go on vacation, check out Masstimes.org to find a Sunday Mass nearby!

May you have a peaceful, enjoyable summer and remember to keep me in your prayers, as I will for you.

& Could P. Heyey

'Not to us, O Lord, but to Your Name give the glory'

This past weekend one of my parishioners congratulated me on my 25th anniversary and asked how I was chosen to preach at the May 27 Jubilarian Mass indicating it must be quite an honor.

I related to her the phone call from the vicar general a few weeks ago:

"Uh Kenneth, this is Scott (Father Chemino). Look we've asked everybody else and no one can do it - this one is too old, that one is too sick, another one is out of town, this one said NO - so you're our last hope."

I said, "Well if you've asked everyone else and I'm your last choice I will go ahead and give it a shot-- so don't expect too much!!"

In 1978 Bishop Charles Greco celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The Mass was in the then new (Our Lady of) Prompt Succor Church, and the theme of his sermon was based on Psalm 115:

"Not to us 0 Lord, Not to us, But to your name give the glory."

The bishop devoutly reminded the priests gathered that they owed their priesthood and good esteem and success to the Lord and to the church, and not to our own cleverness and charm and finesse.

Bishop Greco possessed such a dignity and spoke with such sincerity that you could not help but be moved to want to live and emulate his words, especially if you were aspiring to be a priest:

"Not to us 0 Lord, Not to us, but to your name give the glory."

Even today, almost 40 years later, we should not take his admonition too lightly because it's



GUEST EDITORIAL

Father Kenneth Michiels Homilist for Jubilarian Mass May 27, 2016 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

too easy to fall into the trap of thinking it is all about us, that the priesthood depends on my talents and my personality and my abilities

I am often reminded of this rather humorous selection from the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* concerning the Apostles. It goes like this:

Look at all my trials and tribulations

Sinking in a gentle pool of wine. Don't disturb me now

I can see the answers

Till this evening is this morning life is fine.

Always hoped that I'd be an Apostle

Knew that I could make it if I tried.

Then when we retire we can write the Gospels

So they'll still talk about us when we've died.

It is not for any self-promotion that the gospel of Jesus Christ is passed on to us.

"Not to us 0 Lord, Not to us, but to your name give the glory."

As an 18 & 19 year old teenager I regularly mowed the retired Bishop Greco's lawn, and on occasion drove him to his office at St. Mary's, which he had founded in 1954. As a young seminarian I was spiritually moved by the framed motto behind the bishop's

desk, (It probably came from St. Ignatius of Loyola), but it was Bishop Greco's daily rule of life, and the framed words were these:

"Work as though everything depends on you and Pray as though everything depends on God."

I was so impressed with the saying that I quickly adopted it as my own spiritual mantra.

Well that didn't last very long! It may have worked for Bishop Greco, but it was not going to work for Kenneth Michiels!!

Which brings me to the second point I want to make to-day. We do not all have to be the

same type priests. God will work through us in spite of ourselves! Other priests do not have to be made in my image and likeness!

I personally prefer to wear the ancient clerical garb of the church -that is the Roman cassock - it is a personal choice. Another priest told me he used his last cassock to wash his car with! (That would be Father Bruce Miller, if you are wondering). We don't all have to be the same! Father (Chad) Partain can wear the biretta while Father Sklar wears his cowboy hat. (Even to the most sacred sites in Rome, I may add!) Fa-

See TO YOUR NAME, page 5



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Woman from Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches still missing

Family begs others to pray fervently to bring their daughter back home

By Jeannie Petrus CT editor

Rosa and Alejandro "Alex" Zacarias, whose 22-year-old daughter Diana has been missing since April 2, are asking for fervent prayers to bring their daughter back home.

The Zacarias are parshioners of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches. A large group of parishioners gathered June 7 at the Basilica to pray a Rosary with the family.

Originally from Michoacan, Mexico, Alex described his daughter as quiet, studious, and a perfectionist. Zacarias was a junior industrial engineering student at the Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, where she won recognition for her academic excellence.

"My daughter is an angel, always at home with us. She was a very quiet girl. She did not have much of social life, always very studious. She got straight A's in college," said her father.

Diana departed from Natchi-

toches March 31 to embark on the "trip of her dreams" to the Grand Canyon.

After several days of visiting the tourist sites in the area, her trip was coming to an end and her flight was scheduled to leave at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2. She never arrived at the airport.

Earlier that morning, Zacharias wanted to return to visit a few more sites at the Grand Canyon. The mother reminded her that she had to be on time at the airport for her departure at 5:30 p.m.

Records show she reached the South Rim of the Grand Canyon that day and made two transactions with her credit card: one to pay Arizona Shuttle for a ride to go to the Grand Canyon at 7:45 a.m. and another at the park's store where she bought a t-shirt.

She took photos and video of the sites that morning and posted a new profile picture on

Later that day, according to an Arizona newspaper article, her mother texted her.

"Dianita, are you already on



DIANA ZACARIAS, a 22-year-old engineering student from Northwestern State University and a parishioner at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Natchitoches has been been missing since April 2, while she was on a trip to the Grand Canyon.

your way to the airport?" wrote her mother via text message.

"No, I am not going," was the reply without giving any ex-

At that moment, her parents thought that perhaps she had changed her plans and decided to stay a few more days. When they

tried to call her to check out the new plans, they were not able to reach her. All the calls were going to the voicemail.

"We thought that the battery of her phone had died. On Sunday, we were waiting for her message, and nothing," said Alex.

They called the park that

same day to report the disappearance of her daughter to the authorities. That night around 7 p.m., the mortified couple embarked on the 20-hour drive from Louisiana to Arizona to look for their daughter.

They discovered that Diana had never checked in with the airline and never changed the reservation. Authorities traced her cell phone and began an intense search and rescue operation by land and air April 3 focusing in the area where her cell signal was last recorded.

In the meantime, the parents rented a helicopter to search by air, circulated "missing" posters, and searched for her at the edge of the Grand Canyon, screaming her name all week long.

It's been more than two months now since the disappearance of Diana and there have been no leads and no clues.

Trish Miller, a friend of the family, has set up a GoFundMe. com account to help the family in their search

The family asks for prayers.

To your name give the glory

Continued from page 4

ther Humphries can say Mass in Latin, while Father Ferguson can

say Mass in broken English! No, it's true, we don't have to be the same. It's not about us anyway.

And my last point - Donald



Martha Neil Anthony

Trump may or may not make a good president, but one thing is for sure: we don't need any Donald Trump's in the priesthood! By that I mean- and it might be the only really valuable advice I

People will forget 90% of what you say, 95% of what you teach and 99% what you preach - but they will never forget how you make them feel.

We need to try with all our might, not to be sharp with people, not to be bullies and at all times to give people permission to bother us. -

Look, I went to the seminary 39 years ago - and I can tell you from that long experience the people do not demand very much of us- they really don't. A little patience, basic kindness, at least pretending like we care- as Craig Scott says, it ain't rocket science! It's just basic manners! And look, it doesn't really matter how many vacations we take or breviaries we miss or mistakes we make - you treat people like they matter and they will not forget it and they will always remember how important you made them feel.

Lastly, Bishop Herzog will be submitting his resignation next year so no matter whether you have experienced his blessing or his wrath it doesn't really matter. So I have nothing to gain or lose by saying this- but personally I would like to offer a tribute to Bishop Herzog - you have been a priest's Bishop for us. Your reign has been sort of a soft despotism. You have left us alone, but you fully expect us to do our jobs - and there is heck to pay if we do not! You did not have to be the Pastor of every parish. I think most of us have flourished under this approach, and I want to acknowledge and thank you Bishop

Herzog. It is truly not about us. We do not all have to be the same.

People will forget most of what we teach and preach, but they will never forget how we make them feel.

Bishop Greco had it right all those years ago: "Not to us, 0 Lord, Not to us but to your name give the glory."





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Deacon Assignments

Deacon William Travis
Appointed parish ministry at St.
Martin Church, Lecompte



Clergy Assignments

Effective June 29, 2016

Pastoral Administrators



FATHER AND SON. Deacon William Travis has been assigned parish ministry at St. Martin Church in Lecompte, which is actually the parish where his son, Father Adam Travis is the pastor. For the first time in the history of the Diocese of Alexandria, father and son will be serving together as Pastor and Deacon of a parish. "I'm thankful to have the help of a deacon," said Father Adam Travis. "The fact that he is also my dad is a special blessing." Pictured above is Deacon William Travis, Bishop Ronald Herzog, and Father Adam Travis.



Rev. Blake Deshautelle, Pastoral Administrator Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches



Rev. William Gearheard, Pastoral Administrator OL of Lourdes, Fifth Ward St. Martin of Tours, Belledeau



Rev. Stephen Soares, Pastoral Administrator OL of Lourdes, Winnfield and Hispanic Ministry



Rev. Jose Pallipurath
Pastoral Administrator
OL of Sorrows, Moreauville &
Pastor: Sacred Heart, Moreauville



Rev. Rusty Rabalais, Pastoral Administrator St. Genevieve, Brouillette & Pastor: St. Joseph, Marksville



Rev. Irion St. Romain Pastoral Administrator OLPS, Mansura and Pastor: St. Paul, Mansura

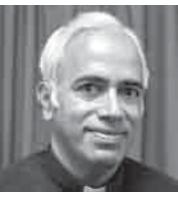
Parochial Vicars



Rev. Brian Seiler
Parochial Vicar
Minor Basilica of the Immaculate
Conception, Natchitoches



Rev. Thomas Paul Parochial Vicar St. Joseph Church, Marksville



Rev. Abraham Palakkattuchira Parochial Vicar St. Joseph, Marksville Sacramental minister: St. Genevieve, Brouillette



Rev. David Braquet
Parochial Vicar
St. Rita Church, Alexandria
Sacramental assistance:
Radio Maria



Rev. Taylor Reynolds
Parochial Vicar
St. Rita Church, Alexandria
Relieved of Menard chaplain;
Serve in Diocesan Tribunal 1 year

Pastors



Rev. Silverino Kwebuza, Pastor St. Joseph, Colfax & its 1 mission St. Margaret, Boyce & its 2 missions



Rev. Kenneth Obiekwe, Pastor St. Louis Church, Glenmora and its 2 missions



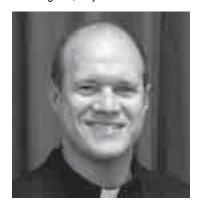
Rev. Christian Ogbonna, Pastor St. John the Baptist, Cloutierville and its 2 missions



Rev. Binochan Pallipparambil, Pastor Sts. Francis & Anne Church, Kolin



Rev. Kurian Zachariah, Pastor St. Mary Church, Jena and its 1 mission



Rev. Martin Laird, Pastor Mater Dolorosa Church Plaucheville



Rev. Rickey Gremillion, Pastor Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tioga and present diocesan assignments



Rev. Charles Ray, Pastor St. Augustine Church, Isle Brevelle Relieved of LSU-A chaplain



Rev. Wade DeCoste, Pastor St. John Baptist Church, Deville and its 2 missions



Rev. Bartholomew lbe, Pastor Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen



Rev. Peter Kuligowski, Pastor St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph and its 1 mission



Rev. Kenneth Michiels, Pastor St. Michael the Archangel Church, Leesville



Rev. James Ferguson, Rector St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria & Tribunal Office



Rev. George Krosfield, Pastor Immaculate Conception Church, Dupont



Rev. John O'Brien, Pastor St. Anthony of Padua Church, Natchitoches

Other Assignments



Rev. Joy Antony Chaplain at St. Frances Cabrini Hospital; in addition to Director, Office of Religious Formation and Training



Rev. Dan Cook
Sacramental minister: St. Cyril & St.
Margaret Mary. Parochial Vicar: nursing homes; chaplain: Manna House



Rev. Paul Kunnumpuram
Granted one-year medical leave of absence; while retaining assignment as pastor of St. Patrick, Ferriday



Rev. Edwin Rodriguez-Hernandez Pastor, St. Alphonsus, Hessmer Sacramental minister, LSU-A student center



Rev. Ryan Humphries, Pastor St. Edward Church, Tallulah Pastoral administrator pro tem St. Patrick Church, Ferriday and its 1 mission (for 1 year)







Derek Ducote

Daniel Hart

Gus "Dutch" Voltz

3 seminarians to be ordained deacons on July 9 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

Diocese of Alexandria 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. The public is invited.

Following the ordination Mass, a reception will be held in Xavier Hall.

Derek Ducote

Derek Ducote and his parents Kelly and Chris Ducote, are members of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria.

After attending St. Frances Cabrini School and graduating from Holy Savior Menard Central High School in 2001, he entered seminary at St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, La. Four years later, he graduated from St. Joseph Seminary with a B.A. in Philosophy.

But shortly after graduation, Derek stepped out of formation for a few years to better discern his vocation. During his 8-year hiatus from formation, he worked for a law firm in Baton Rouge for a year and taught for seven years in the classroom, -- five of those seven years at Holy Savior Menard. In early 2013, he returned to the seminary, this time at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

In the summer of 2014, he interned with Father Ron Mathews at St. Edward Catholic Church in Tallulah. In the summer of 2015, he attended a Spanish immersion program outside of the diocese, and then interned for six weeks with Father. Craig Scott at St. Rita Catholic Church in Alexandria.

Daniel Hart

Daniel Jude Hart, the son of Johnnie and Timothy Hart, is a parishioner of St Martin Church in Lecompte. He attended St. Frances Cabrini Elementary School and graduated from Holy Savior Menard Central High School in 2009.

After graduation he attended Louisiana State University in Alexandria for a year before entering seminary at St Joseph Seminary College in Covington. There he completed three years of studies in philosophy.

From 2013-2016, Hart attended the Pontifical North American College in Rome and has completed three years of studies in Theology at the University of Santa Croce.

He is an Eagle Scout of Troop 6 in Alexandria and is a member of the Knights of Columbus in Lecompte Council 12103. His hobbies include photography, cooking, and biking.

Dutch Voltz

Gus "Dutch" Aloysius Voltz III, son of Kathleen Voltz and the late Gus A. Voltz Jr., is a lifelong resident of Alexandria.

He attended Our Lady of Prompt Succor School and graduated from Holy Savior Menard Central High School in 1970. After graduation he attended Northwestern State University in Natchitoches and in 1974 he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from LSU in Baton Rouge.

Later, he received a law degree from Loyola University in New Orleans and practiced law in Alexandria for more than 30 years. For several years, he served as an advocate and auditor for the Diocesan Tribunal.

In 2011, Voltz entered Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. He has completed two years of studies in philosophy and three years of studies in Theology.

He was a member of the Serra Club of Central Louisiana and the Knights of Columbus. He has worked with non-prophet organizations including Caring Peoples Free Pharmacy (now Health Worx), the Exchange Club, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Mary's Residential School and taught CCD and RCIA at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria.

His hobbies include photography, hunting, and flying.

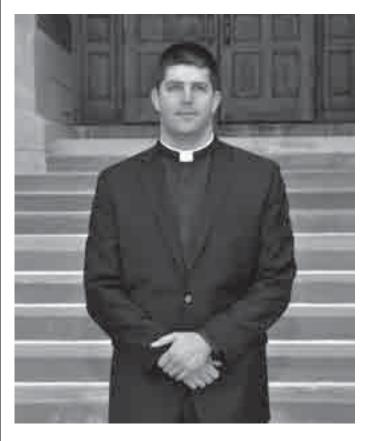
Now you can publicly congratulate our new priest (Father John Wiltse) and our new deacons (Derek Ducote, Daniel Hart, and Dutch Voltz) with a

Congratulatory Ad in the Church Today!

Special prices start at only \$30 for a small (4 in. X 2 in.) ad

Call Joan Ferguson today at 318-445-6424, ext 264 or email her at joanferguson@diocesealex.org

Deadline is Thursday, July 7



MASTER OF DIVINITY. Deacon John Wiltse was one of 12 graduates to receive the Master of Divinity degree May 14 from the Pontifical College Josephinum. Members of the graduating class of 2015 numbering 49 students from 23 diocese inn the United States, were awarded degrees from the College of Liberal Arts, Pre-theology Progam or School of Theology, and thereby became alumni of the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy. This past weekend, June 11, Deacon Wiltse was ordained to the priesthood at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. (Editorial note: the Church Today went to the printer before June 11, therefore coverage of his ordination will not be covered until the July issue.)

Seminarian Burses

May Donations

Knights of Columbus Council 9217	\$25.00
Father Adrian L. Molenschot Burse	φ20.00
Mrs. Rodrick Broussard	\$50.00
Monsignor Milburn Broussard Burse	
Father Peter Kuligowski	\$50.00
Father Peter Kuligowski Burse	,
Bayou Chateau Nursing Center	\$100.00
Floyd J. LaCour, Sr. Burse	
Tri-Community Nursing Center	\$100.00
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller	\$200.00
Father Daniel Corkery Burse	
Mr. Dwight E. Beridon	\$250.00
Msgr. John Timmermans Burse	
Mr. Dwight E. Beridon	\$250.00
Harold and Lillie Beridon Burse	
Total	\$1,025.00

Donations to Seminarian Burses should be sent to:
Diocese of Alexandria Chancery Office
P.O Box 7417 • Alexandria, LA 71306-0417

2016 Priest Anniversaries

Diocese of Alexandria

Rev. Terry E. Allen	June 3, 1961	55 years
Rev. James Roy	June 3, 1961	55 years
Rev. John Paul Kunnumpuram	May 6,1976	40 years
Rev. Pedro Sierra Posada	June 29, 1976	40 Years
Rev. Jacob Thomas	October 21, 1976	40 years
Rev. Jack Michalchuk	May 26, 1991	25 years
Rev. Kenneth Michiels	June 1. 1991	25 years
Rev. Michael Craig Scott	June 1, 1996	20 years
Rev. Stephen Brandow	June 1, 1996	20 years
Rev. John O'Brien	June 14, 1996	20 years
Rev. Peter Faulk	June 3, 2006	10 years





FATHER LOUIS BERTRAND LEMOINE, O.P. (formerly Adam Lemoine of Bunkie) was ordained a Dominican priest May 21 at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Native son of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Bunkie is ordained to Dominican priesthood

Eleven friars of the Province of St. Joseph were ordained May 21 in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. as new Dominican priests.

The former Adam Lemoine, from St. Anthony of Padua parish in Bunkie was one of the eleven ordained and will take on the name Father Louis Bertrand Lemoine, O.P.

Father Bertrand is the son of Ralph and Cindy Lemoine. He grew up in Bunkie where he attended St. Anthony of Padua Church and grade school. Following high school, he began studies for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he studied for four years. After his studies at the Josephinum, he entered the Dominican novitiate

in Cincinnati, Ohio. He then continued his studies at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC. Following his Solemn Profession and ordination to the diaconate, he was ordained May 21 by Archbishop Augustine Di

Noia, O.P., adjunct secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Father Bertrand will engage in various ministries for the summer, and then will return to Washington to complete his studies.



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ATTENDING THE ORDINATION.

Rev. Scott Chemino, vicar general for the Diocese of Alexandria and pastor of St. Anthony Church in Bunkie; and Rev. Taylor Reynolds, a priest for the Diocese of Alexandria and former member of St. Anthony parish, attended the 9:30 a.m. ordination Mass along with Father Bertrand's parents Ralph and Cindy Lemoine.

Sister Romaine Bell celebrates 80 years of Consecrated Life

Sister Mary Romaine Bell, a teacher at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria for 31 years, is celebrating her 80th anniversary of consecrated life as a Sister of Divine Providence (CDP).

Sister Romaine has two other familial sisters who are also CDPs, and are also celebrating significant anniversaries this year.

Sister Ann Linda Bell, CDP is celebrating her 81st anniversary this year; Sister Mary Romaine is celebrating her 80th anniversary; and Sister Mary Jane Bell is celebrating her 75th anniversary -- bringing a combined total of 236 years of service to the congregation!

The three sisters were born and raised in Broussard, La during the Great Depression to French-Canadians Paul and Carmelite Bell. The girls grew up speaking French and did not learn English until they started school.

Though staunch Catholics, the Bells could not afford tuition for the Catholic school, so their children (six girls and one boy) first attended public school but eventually were taught by the Sisters of Divine Providence, who were a major influence in the lives of the three who joined the congregation after graduating from high school.

Her oldest sister, Ann Linda, was the first to join the order. One

year later, Mary Romaine followed in her sister's footsteps and joined the congregation at the age of 16.

"When I was in Grade 6 preparing for First Communion, Sister Rose told us that when we receive Jesus, we should ask Jesus for something special," recalled Sister Romaine.

"One of us asked her what she had asked for. She said, 'I asked Jesus to make me a Sister.'

"Right then I decided that was what I would ask – I never changed my mind. Every time I received Jesus, I would ask Him again and again to make me a Sister. And here I am 80 years later."

Sister Romaine Taught first through Fourth grades for 69 years in schools located in Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

Thirty-one of those years were teaching at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria, where she taught grades 1 and 2, singing, and religion.

She also served a stint as principal.

"I was principal for three years and I was perfectly miserable," she said.

Happily, she returned to teaching in classrooms again.

"I loved the children and I liked to work with them," she said, noting that none of them in her care ever left the first grade



SISTER ROMAINE BELL CELEBRATES 80 YEARS OF CONSECRATED LIFE. Sister Romaine, now 98, was only 16 years old when she entered the convent of the Congregation of Divine Providence (CDP). She spent --- years teaching at Our Lady of Prompt Succor School in Alexandria.

without knowing how to read.

She retired from teaching in the classroom at Prompt Succor School in 2003 and moved to San Antonio, where she now lives with the other retired sisters in McCullough Hall.

Today, at the age of 98, she stays busy these days creating

handmade craft items that she sells.

"This is my ministry now, along with prayer and enjoying God's great goodness," she said. "I couldn't be more thankful to God for all the blessings he has granted me."

Anniversaries of Other Sisters who have Served in the Diocese

Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word Houston, Texas (CCVI)

- Sister Mary Tobin, CCVI
 St. Frances Cabrini Hospital
 90 years of Consecrated Life
- Sister Yvonne Pratka, CCVI St. Frances Cabrini Hospital 60 years of Consecrated Life
- Sister Katrina LeGrand, CCVI Children's Orphanage
 St. Frances Cabrini School
 years of Consecrated Life
- Sister Celeste Trahan, CCVI St. Frances Cabrini Hospital 50 years of Consecrated Life

Sisters of Divine Providence, San Antonio, Texas (CDP)

- Sister Romaine Bell, CDP
 Our Lady of Prompt Succor
 School in Alexandria
- 80 years of Consecrated Life
 Sister Pat Kimball, CDP
 Our Lady of Prompt Succor
 School in Alexandria
 60 years of Consecrated Life







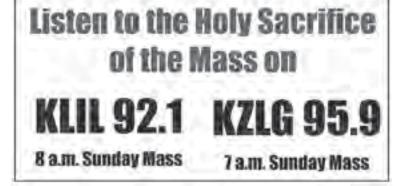


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Deacon Alex Jones: How a Pentecostal preacher became Catholic

Hear his extraordinary conversion story June 24-26 at St. John the Baptist Church in Cloutierville

Eighteen years ago, Alex Jones was the charismatic preacher of a thriving black independent Pentecostal congregation, Maranatha Christian Church in Detroit.

Today, he still preaches, but as an ordained Roman Catholic deacon.

Jones doesn't like to use the word "convert" when it comes to his experience, but his story makes him one of the Catholic church's rarer flowers – a black evangelical Protestant who has wholeheartedly embraced the faith.

"There is spiritual conversion and ecclesial conversion. I was the latter. I was a Christian before I became Catholic," says Jones.

Jones will speak at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Cloutierville during a three-day mission June 24-26. The mission is free and open to the public.

"It was never about going to heaven or knowing the Lord. Those things were accomplished while I was in the Pentecostal church. It was simply coming into the fullness of the Christian faith."

Indeed, Jones says he's still often asked why he would want to be Catholic.

"No one wants to be Catholic where I come from. Not even Catholics," he says with a laugh. "It was almost like you were leaving Christianity."

Jones says his journey is one from which the church – which has 130 million Catholics in Africa but only 24,000 blacks among his Detroit diocese's 1.3 million members – can learn.

His conversion began, he

says, when he began looking at early Christian worship with a congregational study group. That led to a reading of the early church fathers, including St. Ignatius of Antioch, a friend of the apostle John, and St. Clement of Rome, the third successor to St. Peter as head of the church.

"I wasn't looking for truth," he says. "But I saw the continuity from the apostles to the church today, and that necessitated a further look."

As he continued to pursue his questions, he instituted a Liturgy of the Word and a Liturgy of the Eucharist on Easter Sunday. He took the Bible from front and center on the Communion table as it morphed into an altar.

He began to see that as a pastor, he was missing apostolic succession and a hierarchy that



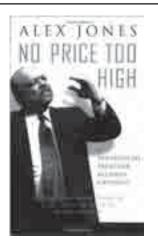
ensured continuity of teachings. It took a two-year journey during which he sought help from other Catholic converts, but after he saw what he needed to do, "it was clear as a bell," he says.

Jones joined the church in 2000. His wife, family members and 54 of his church's members followed. Some of those people have "returned to their Pentecostal roots," he says, but many have remained.

He now is a deacon for St. Suzanne/Our Lady Gate of Heaven Catholic community, two congregations that share one priest.

He also has written a book and produced a documentary about his experiences and speaks at Catholic events nationwide.

For more information, go to his website at www.alexjones-ministries.com





No Price Too High is available in both book and CD formats.

Deacon Alex C. Jones Three-Day Mission: June 24-26

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 423 Hwy 495, Cloutierville Celebrating its 200 year anniversary!

Friday, June 24

Saturday, June 25

Sunday, June 26

6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

10 a.m.





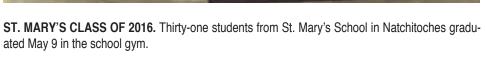
Senior High).

Congratulations and best wishes to our graduates!

Class of 2016 Graduates



ST. JULIANA HONORS GRADUATES. During Mass on Sunday, May 15 at St. Juliana Catholic Church in Alexandria, 2016 graduates received a monetary gift from the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #268. Pictured are (Pineville HS), (Pineville HS), (Peabody Magnet HS), Father Remi (pastor), (Peabody Magnet HS), (Alexandria Senior HS) and (Alexandria





ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL (Bunkie) KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION. Nineteen kindergarten students recently advanced to the first grade at St. Anthony School in Bunkie.



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA (Bunkie) 8TH GRADE GRADUATION. Nineteen students from St. Anthony of Padua School in Bunkie graduated from the 8th grade recently.



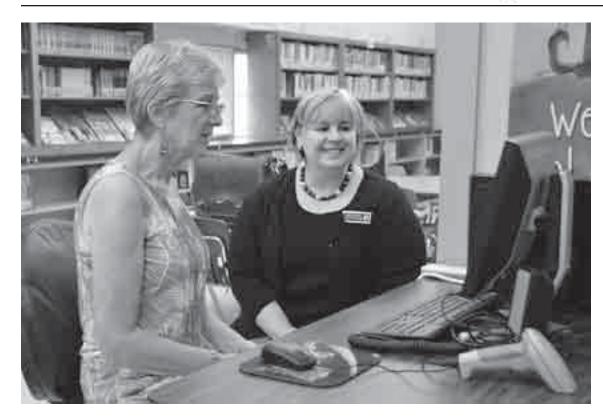
ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL (Plaucheville) 2016 SENIOR CLASS. Sixteen students from St. Joseph High School in Plaucheville graduated May 11.



ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION 8TH GRADE GRADUATION. Ten students from St. Mary's Assumption School graduated from the 8th grade May 14 in Cottonport.



HOLY SAVIOR MENARD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (Alexandria) SENIOR CLASS. Sixty-four students from Holy Savior Menard High School graduated May 10 at Guinn Auditorium on the campus of Louisiana College.



MATHLETICS PROGRAM. Jo Tassin, principal at Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, and Sarah Kramer of Kramer Funeral Homes, go online to check out the math program Mathletics. The new program will be implemented at OLPS this fall, thanks to the Hope Farrar Kramer Educational Trust of the Catholic Foundation of North Central Louisiana.

Kramer Education Trust helps establish math program at OLPS

The Hope Farrar Kramer Educational Trust of the Catholic Foundation of North Central Louisiana has awarded a grant to Our Lady of Prompt Succor School establishing a Mathletics program to enhance the mathematic skills of the students in the first six grades of the school.

The school will purchase the Mathletics program to be implemented in the fall semester of the 2016-2017 school year.

"We haven been searching for a program that will help our students build their math fluency and skills," said Jo Tassin, principal at Our Lady of Prompt Succor School. "We believe that Mathletics is the program that will help us achieve that goal."

The Hope Farrar Kramer Educational Trust was established in 2004 and has contributed to many extra academic programs within the school system of the Diocese of Alexandria. These programs are not in the school budgets, but were funded through the trust.

The requests for grants were initiated through the leadership of dedicated educators to do more for their students than their budgets allowed. Requests were submitted and judged on their merits with grants awarded.

The work of the Catholic Foundation of North Central Louisiana appears to be one of the best kept secrets within the Diocese of Alexandria," said Graham Kramar. "The Foundation is an outstanding vehicle to establish a living memorial for the benefit of a specific need within the Diocese, in this case, education."

For more information about the Foundation contact Joe Hebert, president of the Foundation, at 318-487-9222.

named 2016 Menard's Louisiana Gatorade Player of the Year

By Lamar Gafford The Town Talk

Just like she collected strikeouts and no-hitters this season, the awards continue to pile up for

ard right-handed pitcher was named as the 2016 Louisiana Gatorade Player of the Year in softball June 2, after leading the Lady Eagles to the Class 2A championship game for the third straight season.

She becomes the first Menard player and the second Central Louisiana player to win the award. Pineville's Kelee Grimes won the award in 2008.

"It doesn't seem real," said. "This morning w oke up from the messages on my phone, it just seemed like a dream. But it's an honor and I just can't thank my parents, teammates, coaches and God enough for all they have done.

Taking over as the Lady Eagles' unquestioned ace,

went 21-3, posted a 1.60 d struck out 240 batters en route to being named as the 2016 All-Cenla MVP. smacked eight hom s and drove in 32 runs.

was aweach Michelle some. Morris said. "She controlled the game in the circle and was a home run hitter at the plate."

The Ole Miss commit also showed marked improvement from 2015, as she went 13-3 and recorded a 0.80 ERA and 143 strikeouts, while taking All-Cenla and LSWA Class 2A All-State MVP honors. She finished that season with a remarkable postseason run where she tossed two no-hitters, gave up just six hits and did not surrender a run, while winning the Most Outstanding Player of the Class 2A championship game.



earned the 2016 Louisiana Gatorade Player of the Year award June 2. (Photo by Kim Stalsby)



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Menard graduate is one of 10 in US to win Stamps Scholarship to LSU

What's it like to attend LSU for four years for free -- and then some?

> Just ask Menard graduate recipi-Stamps

Leadership Scholar Award, valued at approximately \$139,080!

daughter of aBorde from Our Lady of Prompt Succor parish, received notification that she had received the award through a letter dated May 15, 2016.

"This academic honor recognizes outstanding academic success as well as leadership, service and innovation. It is the highest academic honor LSU can award an entering freshman and you should be proud of your achievements," it was stated in the letter.

"We are so very proud of said Missy

50 students from throughout the U.S. invited to LSU in February to be interviewed and consiered for the scholarship

"There were so many students with great credentials and are not able to receive these really big scholarships. We are thrilled to say the least," said Missy.

As a Stamps Scholar, your total scholarship package is equal to the total cost of attendance as defined by federal regulations. This award can be used in conjunction with the TOPS award and the Flagship Scholars award and includes tuition, fees, room and board, books, and a stipend for personal expenditures and is currently valued at \$31,270 per year. In addition, you have the opportunity to participate in the President's Future Leaders in Research Program.

The award also includes was one of the Stamps Leadership Scholars



STAMPS LEADERSHIP SCHOLAR.

, a 2016 graduate of Holy Savior Menard High School, has been awarded the prestigious LSU Stamps Leadership Scholarship valued at approximately \$139,000. Only 10 students from across the U.S. are chosen to receive the highest ranking academic honor that LSU can award. will be attending the LSU Manship School of Mass Communications to pursue a double major

in Mass Communications and Business. She is the daughter of Robbie and Missy LaBorde.

Enrichment Fund, which holds a scholarship value of \$14,000. The enrichment fund can be used to participate in experiences such as undergraduate research, unpaid internships, and participation in academic or co-curricular confer-

As a product of the Catholic school system for the past 14 has been nd church. She was a member of the Menard Apostles for Christ (MAC) peer ministry team; OLPS Youth; Menard Music Ministry; Drama Club and the spring musicals, May Crowing Court the inaugural year, Student Council executive secretary, VP and then parliamentarian; National Honor Society, captain of the Swim Team; LH-SAA All-State Academic Composite Team; Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council, and other organizations.

Superintendent of Catholic schools Thomas Roque wins top education honor



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THOMAS ROQUE, SR., superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Alexandria, was awarded the Allen G. Nichols Educational Award May 31 at a luncheon in Tunk's Cypress Inn.

This is the highest honor that an educator or former educator in Rapides Parish can receive.

Roque has served as superintendent of Catholic Schools for the past five years. Prior to that he served as assistant superintendent of Rapides Parish Schools for 13 years, and as an administrator of the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts, in Natchtichitoches for 12 years. He has also served as principal at Cloutierville High School and St. Matthew High School in Natchitoches parish and served for 10 years on the Natchitoches Parish School Board.

Pictured are (from left) Tony Autremont, superindent of Rapides Parish Schools; Vanessa Pichon, secretary in Catholic Schools office; Jamie Henegan, principal at Peabody High School; Thomas Roque, Sr, Father Charlie Ray, pastor of St. Augustine Church in Isle Brevelle; Connie Steward, (Tommy's sister), Bruce Steward, (brother in law, and Renee Steward







HOLY CARDS

BLACK INK ETCHED HOLY CARDS with paper lace, circa 1900-1910

Centuries-old Catholic tradition may still be buried in musty boxes in closets today

By Jeannie Petrus CT editor

A few years ago, I ran across a box of religious articles my parents had kept in their closet for years. Amid all the rosaries and crucifixes scattered in the box, I discovered a small plastic pouch filled with the most treasured holy cards in our family.

The oldest card is dated 1880, and depicts the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Printed in Paris in 1880, the prayer on the back is in French. The most treasured cards are those that belonged to my mom and dad, and from April 21, 1963 when I made my First Communion at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church.

Holy cards, also known as

prayer cards or Mass cards, is a centuries old tradition of the Catholic Church. Holy cards are about the size of a playing card and bear a religious image or saint on the front and a prayer, novena, or favorite bible verse on the back. They are used to commemorate special events such as First Communion, Confirmation, or liturgical seasons such as Christmas and Easter, or as gifts to honor special accomplishments such as getting good grades or winning the classroom spelling bee.

Today, prayer cards ("in memoriam cards") are commonly distributed at funerals with a picture and the name and date of the deceased on the front and a prayer on the back as a reminder to pray for the deceased.

History

The first holy cards appeared in the early 15th century. Inspired by stunning paintings of Jesus and the saints, the early holy cards provided those who could not afford to own custom artwork a way to have their image of their patron saint. In those times, it was considered very important to have an image of one's patron saint.

The oldest surviving holy card is from 1423, probably from southern Germany, and depicts Saint Christopher. It was made from a cheap process called wood cut and was hand-colored.

As time passed, engraved or etched cards were more commonly used. These holy cards were typically handmade with black etched portraits on parchment and were often decorated around the edge with a bit of lace, paper lace, or ribbon, or stuck onto a backing of lace. These were called devotes dentelles in France.

In 1796, the invention of color lithography made it possible to reproduce colored images cheaply, leading to a much broader circulation of the cards. An early center of their manufacture was in Paris, where they were done in delicate pastel colors. By the 20th century, other centers of manufacture of holy cards included Belgium, Germany, and Italy.

The most popular of all holy cards is the Head of Christ, which comes from a 20th century artist, Warner Sallman, who painted the original painting. It has been

printed more than one billion times. During World Ward II, millions of cards featuring the Head of Christ were distributed through the USO by the Salvation Army and the YMCA to members of the American armed forces stationed overseas. During the Cold Ward, both Catholics and Protestants helped to popularize these cards, presenting "a united front against the menace of godless Communism."

Prayer & Teaching Aids

A great thing about a holy card is that it is not only a lovely keepsake or piece of art, but typically is conveniently portable and can be carried with you in your wallet or purse, by your bed or office space, to pick up and pray



MOST POPULAR HOLY CARD: The Head of Christ, from the original painting by Warner Sallman. More than one billion copies have been distributed, mostly during the years of WWII.



St. Christopher card first appeared in 1423. Made from woodcutting and handcolored.

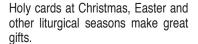






EARLY LITHOGRAPH HOLY CARDS first manufactured in Belgium, Germany, France and Italy were characterized by light pastel colors and continued use of paper lace around the edges. Circa 1890s-1900s.







ETCHED AND PAPER LACED HOLY CARD (CIRCA 1880S): This holy card of the Blessed Mother was etched and paper laced. Printed in Paris around 1880, indicates it could be more than 130 years old.





HOLY CARDS OF ANGELS, SAINTS, AND DEVOTIONS: Perfect for distribution to CCD, RCIA, or on special feast days of saints, these holy cards are excellent tools for learning about angels, saints, Our Lady, special devotions, and novenas.

at any time.

A novena card has a special novena prayer on the back and is especially handy to carry around with you for the nine days or nine weeks as you pray the novena.

Prayer cards also serve as a way to teach prayers to children or new Catholics. They are handy to distribute at CCD, RCIA, or after special Masses in your parish to teach others about prayers, saints, novenas, or special devotions.

Once, between 1921 - 1939, when Father Clement Innocent Neudling was rector of the Cathedral, a mission was given by Rev. McCreary and Rev. Courtney. All parishioners at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria were given holy cards with this message: "Christians -- only one thing is necessary: SAVE YOUR SOUL."

It then listed eight things that every Christian should do like go regularly to confession and communion, say your prayers, attend Mass, join "societies" in your parish, support your parish financially, avoid the occasion of sin, and practice daily devotion to Our Blessed Mother. The last one says, "Remember: Death -- Judgment -- Heaven -- Hell -- and you will perserver unto the end."

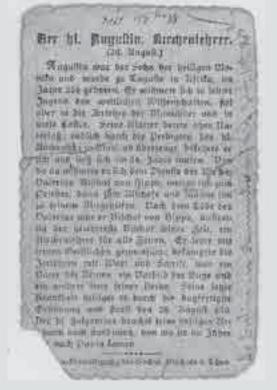
Collecting

Collecting holy cards can be a beautiful way to keep family keepsakes, so finding a way to display and preserve the cards is essential. An easy, inexpensive way is to place them in plastic photo album sheets or even baseball card holders. Remember to always date the card on the back and indicate the event for which it was received.

For more information about holy cards, go to www.aquinasandmore.com or look for two coffee-table books Holy Cards and Patron Saints: A Feast of Holy Cards, both by Barbara Calamari and Sandra DiPasqua.



On the back of this holy card, (distributed at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral between 1921-1939 after a mission was given by Rev. McCleary and Rev. Courtney) are instructions for "Saving Your Soul," -- the one thing necessary in this life.



On May 2, 1906, this holy card was given to "Eveline" (my grandmother) in remembrance of her First Holy Communion. The text is in German.

Church Today





NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Campti)
MAY CROWNING. crowns the Blessed
Mother during the May Crowning celebration held May 8
at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Campti.

ST. FRANCES CABRINI CHURCH (Alexandria) CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION. St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi with a Eucharistic Procession following the 9 a.m. Sunday Mass on May 29.



ST. PETER CHURCH (Bordelonville) MAY CROWNING. St. Peter Church in Bordelonville held its May Crowning May 7.



NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CCD YOUTH GROUP recently made a handmade altar in their class-room while studying about the importance of the altar and the function of each item used during Mass. The students designed, constructed and painted each item.



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REGISTRATION

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Church Today



ST. RICHARD (Hickory Hill) MAY CROWNING. St. Richard in Hickory Hill celebrated May Crowning May 22 with their pastor Father Abraham Varghese.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES (Winnfield) MAY CROWNING.

crowns the statue of the Blessed Mother May 1 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Winnfield. All of the children of the parish brought flowers.

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Holy Savior Menard Central High School

4603 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria, LA 71303

HOLY SAVIOR MENARD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (318) 445-8233



ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION (Cottonport) MAY CROWNING. St. Mary's Assumption Catholic School in Cottonport held May Crowning May 6.



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This month, we recommend two special CDs. *The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet* is the most popular Rosary recording in the U. S. *Knowing Jesus* is a lifechanging recording that will deeply influence how you view your relationship with Jesus

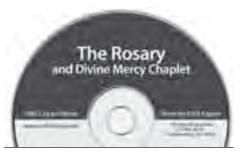
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Delivered by an extraordinary priest in a Protestant church filled with non-Catholics, this talk will deeply influence how you view your relationship with Jesus.

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This powerful, proven tool for evangelization is the perfect gift for family, friends, and fellow parishioners.

The presenter, Fr. John Riccardo is the pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, Michigan--one of the largest, most dynamic churches in the country.



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These simple, easy to read Catholic booklets are 16-24 pages and come in packs of 5 or 10 on a wide range of topics. The booklets are especially designed for parish and school distribution, but are perfect for individuals as well.

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- Seven Daily Habits for Faithful Catholics
- -- Designed to enhance your relationship with Jesus on a daily basis.
- Why Go Back to Confession (For adults only)
- Bright Future for the Catholic Church

THE DIARY OF
SAINT
FAUSTINA

From St. Faustina's Diary, 1385

The words of Jesus to St. Faustina: I desire to unite Myself with human souls; My great delight is to unite Myself with souls. Know, My daughter, that when I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, My hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul. But souls do not even pay any attention to Me; they leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. Oh, how sad I am that souls do not recognize Love! They treat Me as a dead object (Diary, 1385).





Romantic comedy or endorsement for euthanasia?

Storyline of Me Before You goes from pro-life to endorsement of euthanasia

By Joseph McAleer Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- The folks behind the grand-scale weepie "Me Before You" (Warner Bros.) clearly intend their audience to come to the multiplex armed with an abundant supply of tissues. Regrettably, though, any tears shed by viewers of faith will turn out to be bitter ones.

What begins as a charming love story with a strong pro-life message veers off course toward a climactic endorsement of behavior no one committed to scriptural values can accept. That's a pity, because director Thea Sharrock's adaptation of the 2012 novel by Jojo Moyes (who wrote the screenplay) initially has a lot going for it: an attractive, talented cast and a poignant Cinderella story that tugs at the heartstrings.

Louisa "Lou" Clark (Emilia Clarke) is a vibrant 26-year-old with a single goal in life: to support her tight-knit family. Her father, Bernard (Brendan Coyle), is out of work, so it's up to Lou to bring home the bacon in the quaint English town they call home

Despite her total lack of relevant experience, Lou throws caution to the winds by becoming caretaker and companion to wheelchair-bound local resident Will Traynor (Sam Claflin). Handsome, wealthy and adventurous, Will was on top of the world until he was struck by a motorcycle in an accident that left him paralyzed from the neck



ME BEFORE YOU. Despite her total lack of relevant experience, Lou Clark (Emilia Clarke) throws caution to the wind by becoming caretaker and companion to wheelchair-bound local resident Will Traynor (Sam Claflin). Handsome, wealthy and adventurous, Will was on top of the world until he was struck by a motorcycle in an accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down. A romantic drama quickly turns into a movie about euthanasia. The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.(CNS photo/Warner Bros.)

down.

Now, two years later, he's become withdrawn, bitter, and cynical. Needless to say, Lou provides a much-needed breath of fresh air. Slowly but surely, she wins her charge over with her quirky style and appealing demeanor.

"I have become a whole new person because of you," Will says.

Predictably, the couple fall in

love, and Lou envisions their future together.

So far so good. Lou's sincere, tender devotion to Will is exemplary, reminding viewers that life is to be cherished in every circumstance -- all the more so where disability has rendered it vulnerable.

Some of the dialogue expresses an equally positive outlook. "You only get one life,"

Will admonishes Lou. "It's actually your duty to live it as fully as possible."

With all that to the film's credit, accordingly, it comes as a perplexing shock when Will, who has already attempted suicide once, persists in a plan to travel to Switzerland where he can "die with dignity" and no longer be a burden to society.

Not everyone, of course, is

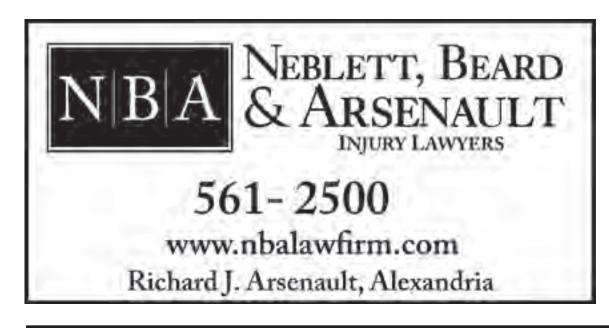
MOVIE REVIEW

supportive of Will's death wish. Lou is devastated, whisking Will off to the tropics in an effort to convince him that life is worth living. Her mother, Josie (Samantha Spiro), calls Will's plan murder

Yet Will's supportive but smothering parents, Stephen (Charles Dance) and Camilla (Janet McTeer), are resigned to losing their son. And the script ultimately puts an unmistakable seal of approval on Will's blatant rejection of the gift of life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is crystal clear on this topic: "We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to dispose of." (2280) With an active movement afoot to legalize so-called euthanasia, it's as distressing as it is surprising that a romantic drama intended as popular entertainment should so flatly contradict that fundamental truth.

The film contains a positive view of assisted suicide, implied nonmarital sexual activity and a couple of profanities. The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.





Church Today



a student of Avoyelles Public Charter School, was the recipient of the Catholic Daughters Graduating High School Senior Scholarship. She is pictured receiving her award with her parents and brother. Pictured from left to right is Sue White, CDA Regent of Court Padre Pio #2141 of Cottonport, , Laurie Gauthier, Jacob Gauthier, and .

Support our Local Homeless Housing Resource Center

A practical way to help the homeless is to support the renovation of the building at 1515 Jackson Street -- the future site of the Virginia Soprano Housing Resource Center. When renovations are completed, homeless will be able to take showers, wash clothes, receive mail, make telephone calls, and receive case management or other support services all at this one location. Support the Housing Resource Center throughout June by:

- Eating at Wildwood Pizza on the corner of Jackson St. and Texas Ave. in Alexandria on Tuesdays in June. Owner Gary Perkins has generously pledged to give 10% of the profits on those days toward the renovation.
- Buying chances on an I-Pad Mini to be given anyone holding a ticket whose numbers match the last three picked in the Louisiana lottery each Wednesday night from July 13 through Sept. 28. That's 12 chances to win per ticket! (The CENLA Homeless Coalition will keep track of the winning numbers and tickets just in case you miss you big night!) Tickets are \$25/each and can be purchased by calling John R. Amos at 318-451-8042 or e-mailing jra373@aol.com. He will deliver them to you.

Vacation Bible Schools

• June 13-17: St. Anthony, Bunkie

8:30 - 11:30 a.m. for kids entering PreK - 4th grade. The cost is FREE. To register call Karson Coulon at 318-305-0667

• June 13-17: Sacred Heart, Pineville

8 a.m. - noon for kids entering K-6th. The cost is FREE.

• June 20-23: OL Lourdes, Fifth Ward

6 p.m. - 8 p.m., for kids ages 5-10. Free. Registration forms

DIOCESAN BRIEFS

are available in the back of church or from the church of-

• June 27-July 1: St. Joseph Church, Marksville.

9 a.m. - noon, for ages 5-13 years old, held at St. Joseph Church Hall. Cost is FREE.

• July 11-15: Mary, Mother of Jesus, Woodworth

8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., for Pre-K through 6th grade. Upper classes can attend as assistants to instructors. Cost is \$12 per child. For more info, call 318-487-9894.

$\bullet\,$ July 11-15: Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. for ages 4-16. The cost is FREE. The theme is "On a Mission." Pick up a registration form in the back of church or call 318-346-2840.

• July 11-15 and July 18-22: St. Frances Cabrini School, Alexandria

8 a.m. - 5 p.m., for children ages 3 to 6th grade; \$150 per child includes breakfast, lunch, snack, and activities like water slides, games, crafts, movies, swimming, obstacle course and more! The theme this year is "Year of Mercy."

June 18: Marriage Enrichment

Please join us on Saturday, June 18 at 10 a.m. in the Madonna Room at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church when Father Charlie Ray will give a marriage enrichment talk on the "Mission of Marriage." Childcare will be provided, free of charge, for all ages in the church nursery.

June 19: Father's Day 5K Fun Run

Holy Savior Menard's boys' basketball team is hosting a special Father's Day 5k and Fun Run. The event will be held Sunday, June 19. Registration begins at 12 noon at Menard's Gym. Kids 5 and under run for FREE! Individual runners cost \$20 and Father & son/daughter combos are \$30 each. For more information, contact Menard Boys' head basketball coach, Brian Terwillinger at 860-485-5347 or bterwilliger@holysaviormenard.com.

July 14-17: Women's ACTS Retreat

A Women's ACTS Retreat will be held July 14-17 at Maryhill Renewal Center. Registration is open to all church parishes. To register, call St. Joseph's Church office at 318-253-7561 or stop by the office located at 141South Washington Street in Marksville to obtain a registration form. A \$50 deposit is required when your completed registration form is returned to the office. This deposit will be applied toward the total payment of \$175 due.



a student of Sacred Heart school in Moreauville, was the recipient of the Catholic Daughters 8th grade Scholarship. She is pictured with her mother, Kristie, receiving her award. Pictured from left to right is Sue White, CDA regent of Court Padre Pio #2141 of Cottonport; and her mother, Kristie.

July 22-24: Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Rekindle your love for another on a get-away weekend. What better way to celebrate the gift of your unique love than to make time to focus on each other and your marriage? Consider attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to renew those feelings you had during your first few years together. The next two weekends are July 22-24 and Oct 14-15 at the Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. You can get more information or register online at LAMS-wwme.org or by calling 470-297-8560.

June 22-July 27: Eagles Basketball Camp

Keep your kids active this summer with Holy Savior Menard's basketball team. Each Wednesday from June 22 through July 27, kids ages 5 to 12 are invited to participate in a special basketball clinic that will include skills sessions, player evaluations, 5 on 5 games and basketball contests. The cost to participate is \$20 per child per session. For more information, contact Menard Boys' head basketball coach, Brian Terwillinger at 860-485-5347 or bterwilliger@holysaviormenard.com.

July 25-29 Summer Dance Camp

Young dancers, entering Kindergarten through 6th grade, are invited to attend a Summer Dance Camp July 25-29 at Holy Savior Menard, sponsored by the Golden Eaglettes and Emerald Eaglettes dancelines. The camp will be held from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. daily, with a final dance performance for parents on July 29 at 1 p.m. Extended daycare is available until 4 p.m. for only \$25 per day. Cost is \$85. For more information or to register, email Sandy Oestriecher at nurseso@aol.com.

Pray Rosary outdoor every Thursday

Join St. Joseph Church in Marksville every Thursday, at 8:15 p.m. to pray the Rosary before an illuminated Rosary located outside on the grounds of the parish hall. In case of inclement weather, the Rosary is prayed in the church.



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June - July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Illuminated Rosary 8:15 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	• •	Marriage Enrichment 10:00 a.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria	Father's Day 5K Fun Run 12:00 noon Holy Savior Menard High School, Alexandria
	VACATION DID	LE SCHOOL St. Anthony	of Padua, Runkia			
		E SCHOOL Sacred Heart	1			FATHERS DAY
PRAY FOR FR. I. ST. ROMAIN	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. D. TRAVIS
20	21	VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria	Illuminated Rosary 8:15 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	24 Deacon Alex Jones spe	Mother-Daughter Tea, 10:00 a.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria eaking St. John the Baptis	26
		Eagl	। es Basketball Skills Nights	Holy Savior Menard High Sc	1	Condition, Clouder vine
			Fortnight fo	r Freedom		
VAC PRAY FOR FR. G. UZONDU	CATION BIBLE SCHOOL (PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE	Our Lady of Lourdes, Fifth W PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD	ard Pray for Fr. N. VIVIANO	PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER	PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH	PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA
27	28	29	Illuminated Rosary 8:15 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	JULY 1	2	3
	VACATION BIBI	ı LE SCHOOL St. Joseph Cl	hurch, Marksville			
PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO	PRAY FOR FR. T. ALLEN	PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY	Fortnight for Freedom PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW	PRAY FOR BISHOP R. HERZOG	PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET	PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO
THAT FORTH, W. AGALITO	THAT FORTH, I. ALLEN	THAT FOR THE U. ANTON	THAT FORTH. 3. BHANDOW		THAT TOTT II. B. BIIAGUET	PRATTOR PR. U. BROCKATO
4	5	6	Illuminated Rosary 8:15 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	8	9	10
Fortnight for Freedom INDEPENDENCE DAY 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	PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE
11	12	13	Illuminated Rosary 8:15 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville	15	16	17
	VACATION DIDLE		No Flourey France	Women's ACTS Retreat	Maryhill Renewal Center	
		SCHOOL Church of the Litt HOOL St. Frances Cabrini				
		SCHOOL Mary, Mother of	1			
PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE	PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK	PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON	PRAY FOR FR. T. FEY	PRAY FOR FR. R. GARRIONE	PRAY FOR FR. W. GEARHEARD	PRAY FOR FR. J. GOOTEE

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