

CHURCH TODAY

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June 15, 2015

ON THE INSIDE

Priest assignments announced

Seventeen priests in the diocese will be moving to different parishes, effective in July. See page 5 for details.

Bishop Herzog ordains four to the priesthood at the Cathedral May 23

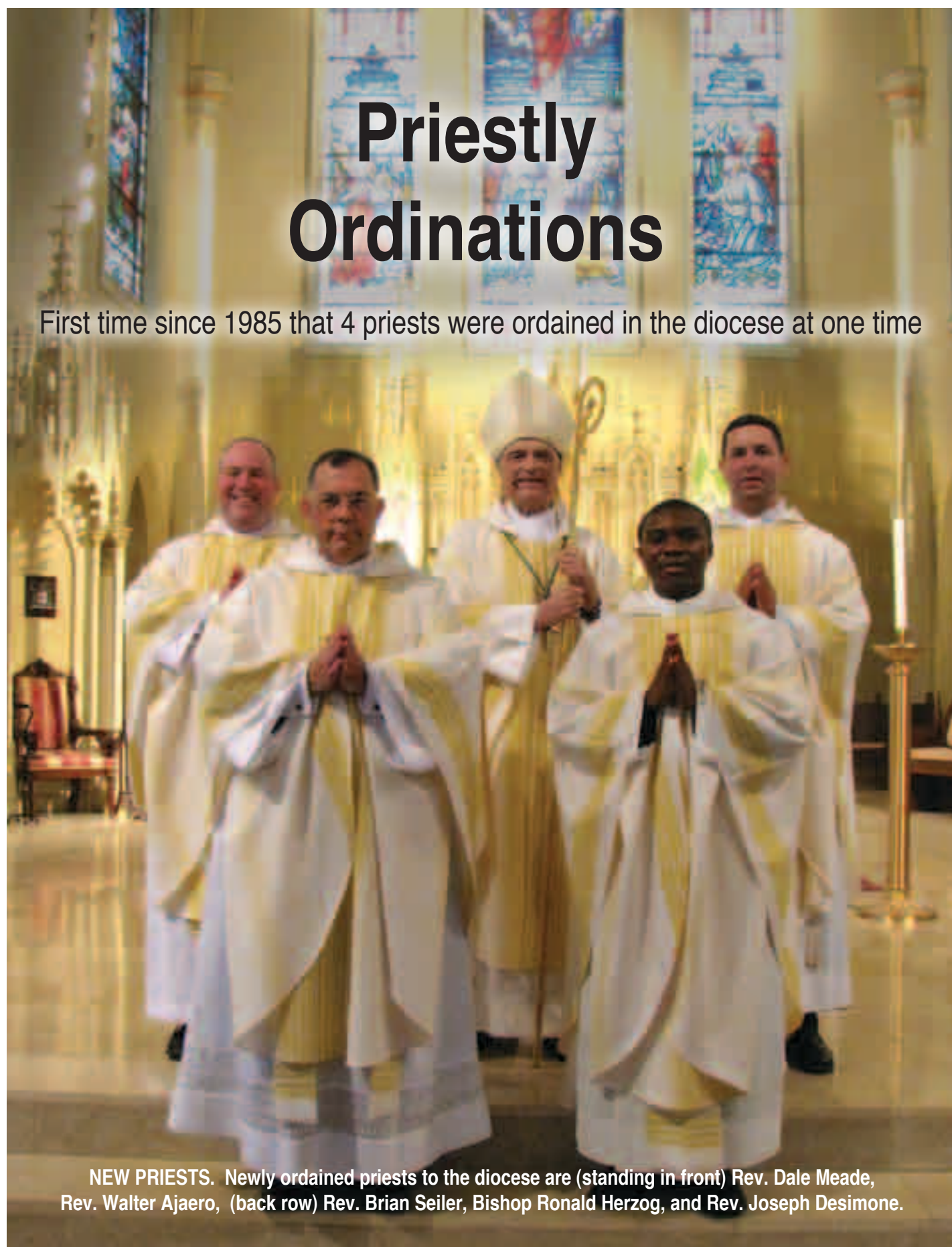
For the first time since 1985, four men were ordained in the Diocese of Alexandria at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral May 23 by Bishop Ronald Herzog. In addition, John Wiltse, a diocesan seminarian, was ordained a deacon on June 6. See pages 12-15.

Diocesan priests honored at Jubilarian Mass for significant anniversaries

Nineteen priests celebrating significant anniversaries were honored May 29 during a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Herzog at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Fr. Dan Corkery, who celebrated his 60th anniversary, gave the homily. See pages 7-9.

Priestly Ordinations

First time since 1985 that 4 priests were ordained in the diocese at one time



NEW PRIESTS. Newly ordained priests to the diocese are (standing in front) Rev. Dale Meade, Rev. Walter Ajaero, (back row) Rev. Brian Seiler, Bishop Ronald Herzog, and Rev. Joseph Desimone.



Special Collection is July 12 for Maryhill Renovations

Repairs and renovations are moving along at Maryhill Retreat Center in Pineville. So far, one of the 23 room housing units (which can accommodate 46 guests) has been completed on the outside, and is being finished on the inside. The other single-story 23 room housing unit, which will house another 46 guests, (pictured above) is still under construction on the outside. On Sunday, July 12, a Special Second Collection will be held in all church parishes throughout the diocese to help pay for this major repair and renovation project.

CARA reports says Catholic population in Africa has increased 238% since 1980

(CNS) -- Results of a study released June 1 by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate said that the highest growth rates in Catholicism are in Africa and Asia.

"Overall, the global Catholic population has grown by 57 percent since 1980. However, this growth differs by region, with Europe's Catholic population growing by just 6 percent while the number of Catholics in Africa grew by 238 percent," said the report, "Global Catholicism: Trends & Forecasts." "Differences between these two regions are largely attributable to differences in fertility rates over time."

"Over the last 50 years, the proportion of the global population who are Catholic has remained remarkably steady at about 17.5 percent. Most demographers anticipate a global population exceeding 10 billion by 2100, up from 7.3 billion now. The 'engine' of population growth is no longer increasing numbers of children -- it is extending life expectancies," said the report by CARA, which is based at Georgetown University.

"If current trends continue, we can expect the global Catholic population to increase by about 372 million from 2015 to 2050.

This would represent 29 percent growth during this period and result in the 2050 Catholic population numbering 1.64 billion."

CARA looked at five specific regions: Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Oceania.

"Since 1980, the church has had a net gain of nearly 15,300 parishes representing 7 percent growth. However, with the population growing by 57 percent dur-

ing this period, there has been a lag in constructing the brick and mortar of the church. In 1980 there were 3,759 Catholics per parish in the world. This figure now stands at 5,491 Catholics per parish."

The study added, "In Asia and Africa, where the fastest growth in the Catholic population has occurred, the number of parishes had doubled since 1980.

Vatican ready to announce decision on Medjugorje

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (CNS) -- Pope Francis said the Vatican was ready to make an announcement concerning the alleged Marian apparitions in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith met recently to discuss the issue and "we've reached the point of making a decision and then they will say," he told journalists on the flight back to Rome June 6.

The expected announcement will include "just some guidelines (the congregation) will give to the

bishops," he said in response to a reporter's question.

An international commission of cardinals, bishops, theologians and other experts, working under the auspices of the doctrinal congregation, was set up in 2010 to investigate the claims of six young people who said Mary had appeared to them daily beginning in 1981. The apparitions purportedly continue and thousands travel to the small town each month to meet the alleged seers and to pray.

After a few years, the commission completed its study in which the members "did a beautiful job, a beautiful job," Pope Francis said at the end of his one-day visit to Sarajevo.

For years the local bishop, Bishop Ratko Peric of Mostar-Duvno, has said he believes nothing supernatural is happening in Medjugorje.

While the Vatican has said dioceses should not organize official pilgrimages to Medjugorje, it has said Catholics are free to visit the town and pray there, and that the Diocese of Mostar-Duvno and the Franciscans should organize pastoral care for them.

Pope Benedict XVI had reaffirmed that the church never requires the faithful to believe in apparitions, not even those recognized by the church.



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Pope offers 'Stone Age' tips to youth for living in the digital world

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (CNS) -- Whether you still stick to books or magazines or get everything online, Pope Francis said all media should encourage and edify -- not enslave.

"Back in my day -- the Stone Age -- when a book was good, you read it; when the book was bad for you, you chucked it," he told hundreds of youth in Sarajevo June 6.

The pope ended his one-day visit to the capital of this Balkan nation meeting with young people of different religions and ethnicities who volunteer together with the archdiocesan St. John Paul II Center. He set aside his prepared text and told the young people he would rather take some questions.

One young man said he read that the pope had stopped watching TV a long time ago, and wanted to know what led him to making that choice.

The pope said he decided back in the middle of 1990 to stop because "one night I felt that this was not doing me good, it was alienating me" and he decided to give it up.

He did not give up on movies, however.

When he was archbishop of Buenos Aires, he would go the archdiocesan television station to watch a recorded film he had picked out, which didn't have the



POPE FRANCIS GREETES YOUNG PEOPLE AT JOHN PAUL II YOUTH CENTER IN SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. Pope Francis greets young people during a meeting with them at the diocesan John Paul II Youth Center in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, June 6. The pope made a one-day visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina to encourage a minority Catholic community in the faith and to foster dialogue and peace in a nation still largely divided along ethnic lines. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

same isolating effect on him, he said.

"Obviously, I am from the Stone Age, I'm ancient!"

Times have changed, he said, and "image" has become all important.

But even in this "age of the image," people should follow the same standards that ruled back

"in the age of books: choose the things that are good for me," he said.

Those who produce or distribute content, like television stations, have the responsibility of choosing programs that strengthen values, that help people grow and prepare for life, "that build up society, that move us forward, not

drag us down."

Viewers have the responsibility of choosing what's good, and changing the channel where there is "filth" and things that "make me become vulgar."

While the quality of content is a concern, it is also critical to limit the amount of time one is tied to the screen, he said.

"Choose the things that are good for you." -- Pope Francis

If "you live glued to the computer and become a slave to the computer, you lose your freedom. And if you look for obscene programs on the computer, you lose your dignity," he said.

Later, the pope said the online or virtual world is a reality "that we cannot ignore; we have to lead it along a good path" and help humanity progress.

"But when this leads you away from everyday life, family life, social life, and also sports, the arts and we stay glued to the computer, this is a psychological illness," he said.

Negative content, he said, includes pornography and content that is "empty" or devoid of values, like programs that encourage relativism, hedonism and consumerism.

"We know that consumerism is a cancer on society, relativism is a cancer on society, and I will speak about this in the next encyclical" on the environment, to be released June 18.

The pope said some parents do not allow their children to have a computer in their own room, but keep it in a common living space. "These are some little tips that parents find" to deal with the problem of unsuitable content, he said.

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As summer begins every year, I am amazed at the flurry of activities that suddenly burst into full bloom.

As soon as school ends, the parishes are opening their doors again for the little ones to start summer off with Vacation Bible School. The concept of VBS for Catholics is a relatively new one, since so many of the cradle Catholics never had this when we were growing up.

I commend all the churches who offer this to the young people of their parish. What a great opportunity to teach and learn the Catholic faith.

For the priests in the diocese,



ONE IN THE LORD

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

June is often the time of clergy anniversary celebrations and ordinations. This year, we have 19 priests in the diocese celebrating significant anniversaries. We celebrated an anniversary Mass on May 29 at the Cathedral, where most of the Jubilarians attended.

On May 23, we ordained four men to the priesthood -- something that hasn't been done in this diocese since 1985. Congratulations to Fathers Brian Seiler, Joseph Desimone, Dale Meade, and Walter Ajaero, who were all ordained from this diocese and will

be working in parishes by July.

Two weeks after the ordination of four priests, I had the honor of ordaining a seminarian to the diaconate -- Deacon John Wiltse. I look forward to next year when Deacon John is also expected to join the ranks of our fellow priests.

Steubenville South is back again this summer, with more than 3,000 students and chaperones expected to attend this year's conference June 26-28 at the Alexandria Riverfront Center.

June 21-July 4 is the 4th annual Fortnight for Freedom -- an excellent time to put more effort into praying for religious freedom

in our country. The Church is facing a devastating persecution in this country today and only prayer can help us. Please set aside some time to pray during this one-week period for the many issues we are facing today.

If you are fortunate enough to be taking a vacation this summer, please be safe and remember to attend Mass -- even on vacation!

Please remember to keep me in your prayers, as I will keep you all in mine.

Feast of Corpus Christi honors True Presence of Christ in Eucharist

By Dan Gonzalez
www.massexplained.com

Corpus Christi is not just a coastal city in southern Texas. The Latin words translate to "Body of Christ."

A week ago, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ-also known as Corpus Christi. Where the solemnity is not observed as a holy day, it is assigned to the Sunday after Trinity Sunday.

This day honors the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is one of the few celebrations that do not commemorate an event in the life of Jesus or Mary. Instead, it is dedicated to a fundamental tenet of Catholicism - Jesus' sacramental presence in the consecrated bread and wine.

This is also one of the few feasts that were promoted by laypeople and only later adopted by the Universal Church. Juliana of Liège, a 13th-century Norbertine

canoness, longed for a feast day outside of Lent to honor the Eucharist. After receiving several visions of Christ, she petitioned her bishop to institute the day which eventually propagated to nearby cities and towns.

On August 11, 1264, Pope Urban IV issued the papal bull Transiurus de hoc mundo. It declared Corpus Christi as a feast day-the very first papally sanctioned universal feast-throughout the entire Latin Rite. Curiously, the successors of Urban IV did not uphold the decree and the feast was suspended until 1311 when it was reinstated by Clement IV at the Council of Vienne.

The Solemnity is an act of thanksgiving to Christ who, by instituting the Eucharist, gave the Church her greatest treasure:

"The Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life.' The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are



bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch." Catechism of the Catholic Church #1324

On Holy Thursday the Church properly commemorates

the institution of the Eucharist. But the joy of that day is curtailed since the Lord's Passion takes place in the evening. In addition, several other key events occurred on Holy Thursday namely the washing of the disciples' feet and the institution of the priesthood. The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ focus entirely on the Eucharist.

The Collect (formerly "Opening Prayer") announces the theme of the celebration:

"O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a

memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever."

The Gospel reading tells of Jesus proclaiming to the crowds:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

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Priest Assignments



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NSU Campus Minister



Rev. Jason Gootee, Pastor
St. Francis de Sales Church
Echo



Rev. Jose Pallipurath, Pastor
Sacred Heart Church
Moreauville



Rev. Thomas Paul, Pastor
St. Genevieve Church, Brouillette
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St. John Baptist Mission, Moncla



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Rev. Louis Sklar, Parochial Vicar
St. Frances Cabrini, Alexandria
Director of Vocations



Rev. Charles Ray, Parochial Vicar
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
LSU-A Campus Ministry



Rev. Adam Travis
Assistant Vicar for Clergy
Pastor, St. Martin, Lecompte



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Rev. Emil Tirkey
Will pursue other ministry options
outside of the diocese



Rev. Jose Kumblumkal, C.M.I.
Will pursue other ministry options
outside of the diocese



WE LOVE YOU MRS. JUNE! Mrs. June Melacon, (seated, front and center) registrar at Holy Savior Menard High School for the past 40 years, was honored with a surprise Retirement Party on May 18 at the OLPS Divine Providence Center. Menard faculty and staff, as well as friends and former students and parents who worked with Ms. June over the years, attended the reception. Ms. June started work at Menard in 1975 and has been in charge of registration and record-keeping all these years. Sitting at the front desk in the office, Ms. June was usually the first person a visitor, student, or parent saw. "Everybody who ever went to Menard in the last 40 years, knew

Ms. June," said Bobby Distefano, who retired from Menard in 2009 after 40 years, but worked alongside Ms. June for 34 of her 40 years. "Ms. June always had a deep down genuine love for all the kids at Menard," he said. "She was like a mother to a lot of them. She'd fuss at them like a parent, if a student was late for school or got into trouble, but she was kind and compassionate when a student was going through a difficult time in his/her personal life. She was on a first-name basis with a lot of the parents, and was famous for always asking the students 'how's mama doing?'" Ms. June retired at the end of this school year.

Deacon Peltier celebrates 35th anniversary

Deacon Joseph Peltier, of Natchitoches, celebrated his 35th anniversary as a deacon on June 5, 2015.

Deacon Peltier began the training for the diaconate in August 1977, at the encouragement of Msgr. John Wakeman, the pastor of Holy Cross Church in Natchitoches and Msgr. Walter Walsh, V.G. of Shreveport at that time.

"As far back as high school, I can remember playing with the idea of becoming a priest," he said in an article he wrote for the Church Today in 1982. "But God had other plans for me and it wasn't until after I had been married 26 years and raised seven children that I was led to the Permanent Diaconate."

He studied for three years through a program offered in Lafayette. He was ordained on June 5, 1980 at Immaculate Conception Church in Natchitoches.

For the next 30 years, he served as an active deacon in the Natchitoches Deanery -- primarily Holy Cross Church, -- presiding at hundreds of weddings, baptisms, and funerals. He baptized most of his 17 grandchildren, 22

great grandchildren, and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Today, at age 83, Peltier is retired and attributes all the success and miracles in his life to God.

Congratulations to Deacon Peltier and his family.



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2015 Priest Anniversaries

Diocese of Alexandria

Rev. Daniel Corkery	June 5, 1955	60 Years
Rev. John Cunningham	February 20, 1965	50 Years
Rev. Thomas Fey	January 31, 1970	45 Years
Rev. Russell Lemoine	February 14, 1970	45 Years
Rev. George Krosfield	December 19, 1970	45 Years
Rev. Ronald Mathews	February 7, 1975	40 Years
Rev. David Ker Texada	May 17, 1980	35 Years
Rev. Kurian Zachariah	May 14, 1985	30 Years
Rev. James Ferguson	May 25, 1985	30 Years
Rev. Dwight de Jesus	September 28, 1985	30 Years
Rev. Daniel O'Connor	June 16, 1990	25 Years
Rev. Jose Kumbumkal	December 26, 1990	25 Years
Rev. Harold Imamshah	June 24, 1990	25 Years
Rev. Dan Cook	May 19, 1990	25 Years
Rev. Edwin Rodriguez-Hernandez	May 27, 1995	20 Years
Rev. Jose Robles-Sanchez	May 27, 1995	20 Years
Rev. Remigius Owuamanam	July 15, 1995	20 Years
Rev. Luke Melcher	May 21, 2005	10 Years
Rev. Ryan Humphries	May 21, 2005	10 Years

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Diocese of Alexandria

Fr. Daniel Corkery celebrates 60 years as a priest

Irish mother commands her son to 'be a good priest' as he leaves for America

By Jeannie Petrus
CT editor

There are some words of advice from your mother, that just stick with you for your entire life. For Father Daniel Corkery, a priest of the Diocese of Alexandria for the past 60 years, those words were "Be a good priest."

"I can still see her looking me straight in the eyes and shaking her little Irish finger in my face, as she firmly shared her advice," said Father Corkery, now age 85. "I knew I had better do as I was told!"

For the next 60 years, Father Corkery tried his best to live up to his mother's expectations, even if it meant leaving his family and native homeland of County Cork, Ireland, to bring souls to God.

It was Bishop Charles P. Greco, bishop of Alexandria back in the 50s who brought young Corkery to America. Bishop Greco was visiting St. Patrick Seminary College in Carlow, Ireland, where a class of 32 seminarians (including Corkery) were about to be ordained to the priesthood.

In Ireland at the time, there

were so many Irish Catholic priests being ordained, that most were sent to other countries to serve.

Bishop Greco spoke to the soon-to-be-priests and invited them to serve in the Diocese of Alexandria in Louisiana.

Daniel Corkery and his friend Cornelius O'Brien were eager to serve in America, especially since they had known another fellow Irish seminarian, Fr. Patrick Murphy, who a few years earlier, had also left to serve in the Diocese of Alexandria.

Shortly after Fr. Dan Corkery's ordination on June 5, 1955, he and his friend Fr. Cornelius O'Brien boarded the SS America ship to America -- to the Diocese of Alexandria.

"I was 25 years old at the time and very excited for the opportunity to go to America, yet sad to be leaving my family and my homeland behind," said Father Corkery.

Fr. Corkery was born on Aug. 25, 1930 to John and Hannah Corkery. He and his brother and three sisters lived and worked on the family farm in County Cork,



FR. DANIEL CORKERY stands by the sign outside St. Mary's Church in Winnsboro, where served as pastor for 29 years.

where they raised cattle, wheat, oats, barley, and Irish potatoes.

"It was hard work making a living at farming," he said, "but I valued those days of working on the farm because I learned the meaning of hard work and responsibility. It shaped the foundation of who I am today."

Fr. Corkery's parents were devout Irish Catholics and in-

stilled a love for the faith in their children.

In 1949, 8 years after his father passed away, 19-year-old Daniel entered St. Patrick Seminary college, where he began his studies for the priesthood.

"Other than my parents, I don't think it was any one person who inspired me to become a priest," he said. "I went to a

retreat one weekend and returned feeling a strong desire to enter the seminary."

So with the blessing of his mother, who was sad to see him leave, but told him firmly, "Go, and be a good priest," -- Father Corkery left his family and his homeland and headed to America.

Father Corkery arrived at St. Joseph Church in Marksville several days later to begin his ministry as a priest. Under the guidance of Msgr. Henry Joseph Van der Putten, the pastor then at St. Joseph Church, Father Corkery learned from "the best" about becoming a "good priest."

"Msgr. Van der Putten taught me to love and help everyone -- no distinction between rich or poor; black or white; educated or not -- treat everyone the same!" said Father Corkery. "He was kind and compassionate, yet firm, and uncompromising. I learned so much from him."

After serving in Marksville for more than 8 years, Corkery was assigned to St. Mary's in Winnsboro, where he served for 29 years -- half of his priesthood.

"My years at St. Mary's was



COMING TO AMERICA. Father Daniel Corkery (last one on the right) and his friend and fellow classmate Father Cornelius O'Brien (first one on the left) enjoy dinner aboard the ship SS America. Father Corkery was 25 years old when he left Ireland and came to America to begin serving as a priest.




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BIBLE STUDY AND CATECHISM CLASSES FOR THE CHILDREN OF WINNSBORO. It didn't matter that many of the children who attended Bible study and catechism classes in Winnsboro in the 50s and 60s were not Catholic. Father Daniel Corkery, Father Cornelius O'Brien, and the Daughters of the Holy Cross offered classes weekly to anyone in the community who wanted to know more about the true teaching of the Catholic faith.

the time of my life! I loved the people there and I loved every day I served there!" he said with a huge smile on his face.

At the first Mass he celebrated at St. Mary's there were 25 people in church. Winnsboro was a predominately Protestant community with only one Catholic church -- St. Mary's.

"I was a young priest and on a mission," he said. "I wanted everyone to know about the true teaching of the Catholic Church!"

So, Father Corkery took to the streets and began knocking on doors. He visited with his neighbors and invited them to Mass on Sunday. He began offering Bible study and catechism classes for children and adults. He provided opportunities for teens and adults to get involved in the church.

When the church began to fill up with people, it didn't matter to him that many were not

Catholic. It also didn't matter to Father Corkery that many of the children that he taught catechism classes to each week, were also not Catholic.

One day, the local radio station, asked him to host a weekly radio program titled, *Catholicism and Daily Living the Faith*. From "Teens and Dating" to "Marriage" and "The Sacraments," his program covered a wide range of topics.

Year after year, attendance at the Bible study and catechism classes began to grow and grow. One of his Protestant friends donated \$20,000 (a lot of money back then) to build a new rectory and 10 classrooms so the children could have a place to learn their catechism. Father Corkery invited an order of nuns -- Daughters of the Holy Cross -- to come and help him teach the children.

Many of those, who were



FIRST COMMUNION. Father Corkery gives First Communion to a young boy at St. Mary's in Winnsboro in this undated photo. After many people began joining the Catholic Church, Father Corkery was kept busy administering the sacraments to its newest members.

in the bible study and catechism classes, soon joined the Church and attendance at Mass was at an all-time high.

It wasn't long before Father Corkery was busy administering the sacraments -- Baptism and First Communion, -- to large groups of new Catholics at St. Mary's.

"I think people just want to know the Truth about the Catholic Church," he said. "I don't believe in telling people what they want to hear; I tell them the plain and Gospel Truth."

After 29 years in Winnsboro, Father Corkery was re-assigned to St. John the Baptist Church in Cloutierville, where he served seven and a half years; Christ the King Church in Simmesport for six years; and Church of the Little Flower in Evergreen for four and a half years.

In each of his assignments, Father Corkery continued much of the same work as in other parishes -- teaching catechism classes, offering summer Bible school, and making renovations to the parish.

In 1986, Father Corkery received a phone call from his sister in Ireland. He was told that his mother wanted him to come home.

"Is she ill?" Corkery asked.

"No, she just wants you to come home," was the reply.

When Father Corkery returned to Ireland, his mother suddenly became ill. A day after his arrival, his mother called him to her bedside.

"The minute I placed my hand in her hand, she was gone to her Eternal Rest," he said. "Despite my sadness and grief, I was happy to be there when God called her home. I hope I lived up to her expectations of me as a priest."

Father Corkery retired in 2009 and currently resides at St. Martin of Tours parish in Bellemeau.



FAREWELL TO FR. CORKERY. Winnsboro Mayor (in 1992) Billy Cobb presents a framed copy of a proclamation naming Jan. 26, 1992 as Father Daniel Corkery Day in Winnsboro. After serving almost 30 years in Winnsboro, Father Corkery was moved to another parish in 1992. His ministry there made a huge impact on the Catholics and non-Catholics alike and hundreds turned out for a farewell reception.

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Miracles still exist; Christ is still at work in our world

Pain-ridden life changed after dream and 9-hour novena to Blessed Seelos

By Bob Tompkins
The TownTalk.com
(Reprinted with permission)

Daniel Brooks of Alexandria was desperate. He couldn't take the pain any longer and he wanted to die.

Little did he know that a 19th century priest from New Orleans would have a hand in his healing.

Brooks, 58, had been through 16 surgeries in three different cities since his motorcycle accident in 1986.

"A truck hit me and knocked me into a telephone pole on Horseshoe Drive," he said of the accident that led to six spinal surgeries, five abdominal surgeries, two hips surgeries and three for the thighbone. Some surgeries were in Alexandria; others were in New Orleans and Houston.

All that led him to start taking pain pills — hard narcotics. "I got addicted," he said, "with one surgery after another."

He tried quitting the drugs, but was always overwhelmed by either the pain or the withdrawal symptoms — including nausea and diarrhea.

His worst pain, he said, was from a ruptured disc, a pinched nerve and a broken C7 vertebrae. "Very, very sharp — like being stabbed with needles deep inside me," he said. "I couldn't turn my head. I have a titanium plate in my neck, and I've had three cervical fusions and four lumbar fusions.

"I prayed and prayed and couldn't get relief," he continued.

One day last November he was desperate to be rid of the pain — pain that plagued him for so many years and had become unbearable in recent weeks.



REV. CHAD PARTAIN and DANIEL BROOKS re-create a scene from a dream last November that led to Brooks saying a 9-hour novena to blessed Father Francis Xavier Seelos, whose shrine is at Our Lady of Assumption Church in New Orleans. In the dream, Brooks was told by Father Partain to go to confession, where Brooks revealed the years of pain he suffered after an accident. After confession, Father Partain came out of the confessional and laid a hand on Brook's head and said prayers and then told him to go home and pray a 9-hour novena every hour on the hour to Blessed Father Seelos -- and he would receive what he prayed for.

Profound Dream

"I prayed harder than I have ever prayed that I could go to sleep and die," he said, noting he did go to sleep and then had a profound dream.

In his dream, he explained, he went to a Mass at St. Frances Cabrini Church with his oldest son, Daniel Jr., and his family, and they were the only ones there besides the Rev. Chad Partain, the church pastor.

"Father Chad wanted me to go to confession," he said, continuing to discuss his dream, "and

after he gave me absolution, I told him all about my problem, that I was hopelessly addicted to strong narcotics for 3-5 years and couldn't take it anymore. I said you are a Roman Catholic priest and you have the power to forgive and the power to 'bind and loose' (Matthew 18:18), and you have the power to break this narcotics passion within me. I'm asking you to pray for me."

As the dream continued, Partain came out from the confessional and laid a hand on Brooks' head and said prayers and then

told him to go home and pray a 9-hour novena every hour on the hour to Blessed Father Seelos. If he did, Partain assured him in the dream, "You will get what you ask for."

Soon after Brooks woke up, he was agitated by the dream and called his oldest son and told him about it.

"Because he had been in so much pain for two weeks and struggling with withdrawals, I thought it was pretty sensational," Daniel Brooks Jr. said. "But I figured if it was from God, he would

be delivered from the withdrawals and (his severe pain)."

'Do what he tells you'

So Daniel Jr. encouraged his father to do as Partain told him to do in the dream. Brooks did so — immediately.

He held a rosary in his hands as he told his story. Above a nearby door, a small painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus looked down on all in his living room.

He said he had never heard of Blessed Father Francis Xavier Seelos before the dream, but after receiving encouragement from his son to say the prayer, he immediately started a novena to Seelos in his own words.

"After my final prayer following the ninth hour, I felt a warmth on the back of my neck and was content and happy inside," Brooks said. "I took my pills and flushed them down the commode, just trusting in God. I went to bed and fell asleep, and slept all night, which I never do. I woke up the next morning feeling great.

"I kept waiting to go through withdrawals and didn't," he said. "I kept waiting for the pain to come back and it didn't. I told my son about it and he was in shock."

"Having studied religion and spirituality, at first I thought that perhaps this was an emotional thing — spirituality can mask certain things," said Daniel Jr. "For two weeks, I was calling him every day and asking, 'How are you doing? Have you begun to go into withdrawals? Are you having any pain?' Slowly some pain started coming back but not great pain like he'd complained about before.

(Continued on next page)

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REV. CHAD PARTAIN (left), pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria, said the next step in the “miracle” story of Daniel Brooks (right) is collecting medical reports and witness statements that can be notarized and forwarded for consideration by the Catholic Church to determine if Brooks’ healing is the second miracle Blessed Father Seelos needs to be eligible for canonization as a saint. (Photo: Bob Tompkins/The Town Talk)

“Then I thought God can do what he wants to do,” said Daniel Jr. “Perhaps this was a signal that God was relieving the stress off his neck.

Son of a Baptist minister

The son of a retired Baptist minister, Brooks became a Catholic when he was a sophomore at Alexandria Senior High. He said he was drawn to the faith by the Eucharist and by the Blessed Mother. He thought about entering the seminary after high school to become a priest but “it didn’t work out,” he said.

Instead, he met his future wife, whom he married while at LSU of Alexandria. Later, feeling called to ministry, he left the Catholic Church for “about 15 years” to become a preacher for a

now defunct nondenominational church, Omega Full Gospel Assembly, on McKeithen Drive.

“I prayed my rosary and went to Mass every day even while preaching as a protestant,” he said, noting he eventually returned to the Catholic Church.

Disabled for about two decades since his sixth spine surgery, Brooks still has some heart problems and migraine headaches. He is retired and takes care of his octogenarian parents with whom he lives. One of his past jobs, for three years, was as a teacher at the Louisiana Special Education Center for handicapped children, teaching science and algebra.

“He was an aide out here,” said Bill Dick, a social worker and tour guide at the Special Education Center. “He was a calm,

kind gentleman and very good with the children.”

Brooks, who couldn’t eat solid foods for a year because of problems with his stomach that became life threatening, said he left that job because of his pain.

He has found relief since his novena to Seelos.

Changes since the novena

Daniel Jr., who describes himself as having been “quite the pagan” earlier in his life but came back to the church in 2012, said he “certainly” believes his father’s relief from extreme pain and withdrawals — the two things he prayed to Seelos to help cure — was a miracle. “It’s been like night and day. He has personally changed. He’s a different person.

He laughs more, he’s more alert, more joyful. He comes to visit more to see his grandkids. A lot has changed.

“This was certainly an experience that showed me that the intercession of saints is powerful with God,” he continued. “Thank you, Blessed Father Seelos!”

Father Partain said he didn’t know Brooks before the incident, although he knew Daniel Jr. and his family, who were parishioners at Cabrini.

Partain said Brooks “had not been a regular parishioner due to the debilitating effect of the narcotics and the treatment he was undergoing.”

Nonetheless, he smiled when considering what Brooks did because of a dream.

“Nine hours of prayer, nine

rosaries — that custom, that tradition is long standing in the church, although normally (a novena) is for nine days,” said Partain, “but a novena of nine hours is not unheard of.

“Another aspect of healing, as we read in the gospels, when the Lord heals someone, he doesn’t just heal them: there is an aspect of faith and obedience that always comes into play that came into play with Daniel.

“It’s wonderful to see the healing power of Christ at work in our very wounded world,” said Partain. “We’re surrounded by miracles but we don’t always take the time to recognize them as such. The age of miracles is not passed, and Christ is still at work.”

Novena to Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos was born Jan. 11, 1819 in Germany and was ordained a Redemptorist priest in 1844 in Baltimore, MD.

His availability and innate kindness in understanding and responding to the needs of the faithful, quickly made him well known as a expert confessor and spiritual director, so much so that people came to him even from neighboring towns.

The themes of his preaching, rich in biblical content, were always heard and understood even by everyone, regardless of education, culture, or background.

After serving as pastor in 10 Northern states, he was assigned in 1866 to the Redemptorist community in New Orleans, La. to care for the poor and those

suffering from yellow fever. After only a few months in ministry, Father Seelos contracted the disease himself and died on Oct. 4, 1867 at the age of 48.

The Catholic Church has a 5-step process for recognizing a person as a saint. The process for Father Seelos reached the 4th step on April 9, 2000, when Pope John Paul II attributed one miracle through the intercession of Seelos.

To complete the 5th and final step, a second miracle must be attributed to the intercession of that person. Could Brooks’ story be that second miracle?

“Only the church can certify whether a given phenomenon is an actual miracle,” said Partain. “Provide the facts and the church will hold it up for scrutiny. We’ll have to wait and see.”



Prayer for Healing

Divine Physician,
You infused
Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
with the gift of Your healing.
By the help of his prayers,
sustain in me
the grace to know Your will
and the strength
to overcome my afflictions.
For love of You, make me whole.
May I learn from
the example of Father Seelos
and gain comfort
from his patient endurance.
Amen.
(Mention your intentions here)

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FOUR CANDIDATES FOR THE PRIESTHOOD. Candidates to the priesthood -- Walter Ajaero, Joseph Desimone, Dale Meade, and Brian Seiler -- are called to the altar. This is the first time four men from the Diocese of Alexandria have been ordained at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral at the same time. The last time there were four people ordained was 1985 when two were ordained at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral and two were ordained at St. John Berchman's in Shreveport, when the diocese consisted of Alexandria-Shreveport.



INVESTITURE WITH STOLE AND CHASUBLE. (above) Father Kenneth Michiels arranges the stole of Father Walter Ajaero, as it is worn by priests, and vests him in a chasuble.



PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION. (at left) The candidates prostrate themselves while the cantor Dillon Barker begins the Litany of the Saints.

God bless you

*...during
this next
phase
of the
journey
of your
calling...*



Deacon John Wiltse
...with love from all of your family.

Called to serve...



*God has called you to
share in the ministry
of Jesus. May you be
sustained by His grace.
Congratulations...*

Reverend H. Dale Meade, M.D.

...from your loving family,
Mom, Sister & family, aunts

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to

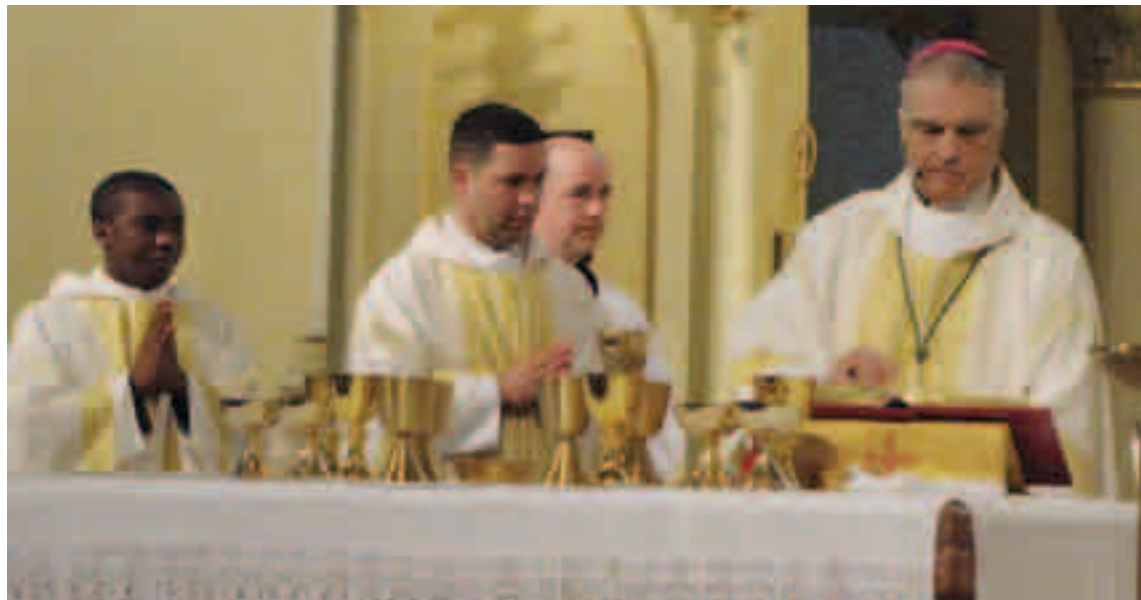
Rev. Walter Ajaero
Rev. Joseph Desimone
Rev. Dale Meade, M.D.
Rev. Brian Seiler
Deacon John Wiltse

May the Lord Bless you with every grace and blessing!

Rev. Kenneth Michiels and the parishioners of

St. Michael the Archangel Church, Leesville

Bishop Herzog ordains four men to the priesthood



CONCELEBRATING THE MASS. Newly ordained Fathers Walter Ajaero and Joseph Desimone concelebrate the Ordination Mass with Bishop Ronald Herzog.



ANOINTING OF HANDS. Bishop Herzog anoints with chrism the palms of Father Brian Seiler as a newly ordained priest.



LAYING ON OF HANDS. Members of the clergy (from right) Father Scott Chemino, Vicar General; Father Bruce Miller, Judicial Vicar; Father Craig Scott, Vicar for the Clergy; and Father Kenneth Michiels, vocations director; participate in the Laying On of Hands on each of the ordinands -- a ritual in which all of the concelebrants of the Mass participate.



PROMISE OF OBEDIENCE. Father Dale Meade places his hands between the hands of Bishop Herzog, while promising obedience to the bishop and his successors.

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Rev. Daniel O'Connor,
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Rev. Walter Ajaero
Rev. Joseph Desimone
Rev. Dale Meade, M.D.
Rev. Brian Seiler
Deacon John Wiltse

on the occasion of their ordinations



*Congratulations
on your
ordination!*

*Reverend
Joseph Desimone*



With prayerful best wishes from your loving family,
Mom, Dad, Elizabeth, Daniel and Sarah



PRAYER OF CONSECRATION. Candidates Brian Seiler, Dale Meade, Joseph Desimone, and Walter Ajaero kneel before Bishop Herzog as he sings the Prayer of Consecration. Shortly after, each of the newly ordained addressed the congregation and announced their first assignment in the diocese, as designated by Bishop Herzog. Their first assignments include:

Father Walter Ajaero -- St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport
 Father Joseph Desimone -- St. Anthony of Padua, Bunkie
 Father Dale Meade -- Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville
 Father Brian Seiler -- St. Joseph, Marksville



ORDINATION OF DEACON JOHN WILTSE. Deacon John Wiltse stands with some of his priest friends and fellow seminarians who attended his diaconate ordination. Pictured are (front row) Seminarian Luke LeFleur, Father Adam Travis, Father Charlie Ray, Father Joseph Desimone and Seminarian Austin Burns. Back row: Father Joseph Murphy, S.J., from the Josephinum; Deacon John Wiltse, Bishop Ronald Herzog, Father John Allen, from the Josephinum; and Father Brian Seiler.



Congratulations and prayerful best wishes from
 Monsignor Christopher J. Schreck, Rector,
 and the faculty, staff and seminarians of the
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 FATHER H. DALE MEADE
 FATHER BRIAN SEILER

Ordained to the Priesthood May 23, 2015

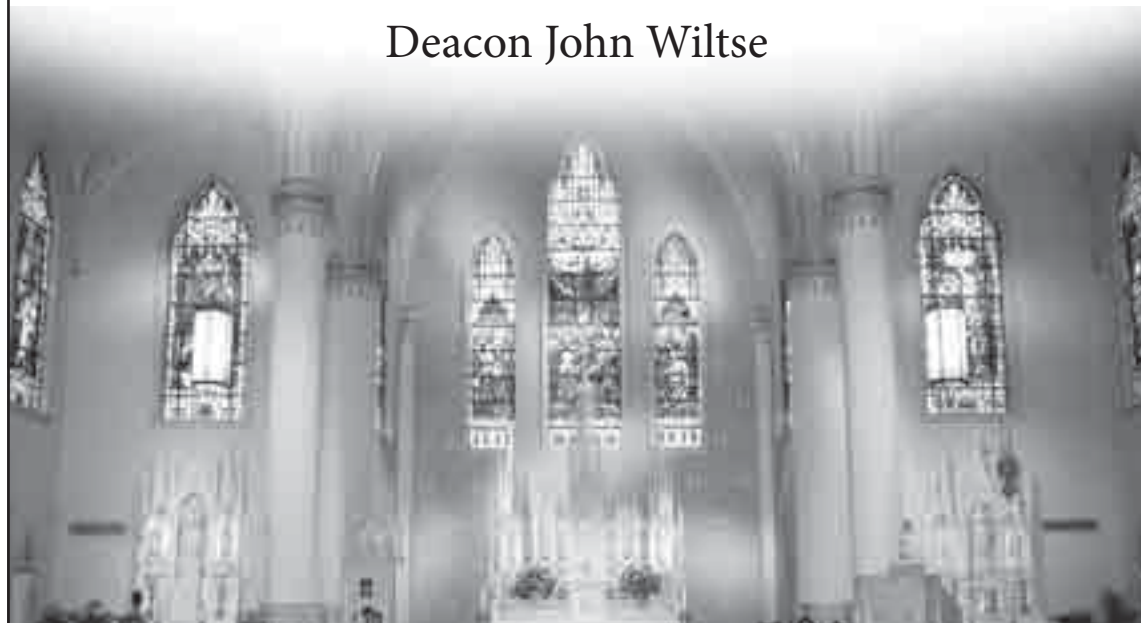
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Rev. James Ferguson, Rector, and the parishioners & staff of

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

extend a warm welcome to our newly ordained:

Rev. Walter Ajaero
 Rev. Joseph Desimone
 Rev. Dale Meade, M.D.
 Rev. Brian Seiler
 Deacon John Wiltse



Bishop Herzog ordains Wiltse as transitional deacon



DEACON JOHN WILTSE. John Wiltse, son of Tracy and the late Larry Wiltse, is ordained a deacon June 6 by Bishop Ronald Herzog at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Deacon John is expected to complete his studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Ohio next year, when he is expected to return to the diocese for ordination to the priesthood.

(top left) Bishop Ronald Herzog "lays hand" on John Wiltse during the ordination.

(top right) Deacon John Wiltse assists in the celebration of the Mass with Bishop Herzog.

All Photos on this page by Don McPeters of Sacred Heart parish in Pineville)

Give praise and thanks to God
for the blessing of the call of

Deacon John Wiltse

May God continue to bless you, your journey
and the church through your service.

From your loving parish family of
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
Pineville, Louisiana



JOHN WILTSE stands with his mother and sister on the front row of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral at the start of the ordination Mass.

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SACRED HEART (Pineville) GRADUATION MASS. Pineville graduates who participated in the Graduation Mass at Sacred Heart



ST. PETER AND ST. MICHAEL (Bordelonville) GRADUATION MASS. Fr. Shoury Ramji, pastor of St. Peter and St. Michael Churches in Bordelonville, celebrated a Mass for the recent graduates of the parish.



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Thomas Roque Jr. & Thomas Roque Sr.



Father Tommy Paul & Tanner

HONOR STUDENTS AT ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH (Isle Brevelle). At the end of each school year, the parish community of St. Augustine Church recognizes the academic achievements of parish members during a Mass.



ST. MARY SCHOOL (Natchitoches) GRADUATING CLASS OF 2015. Twenty-four seniors from St. Mary School in Natchitoches graduated May 19. New graduates are Madison Claire Ackel, Ty Braxton Barbour, Samuel

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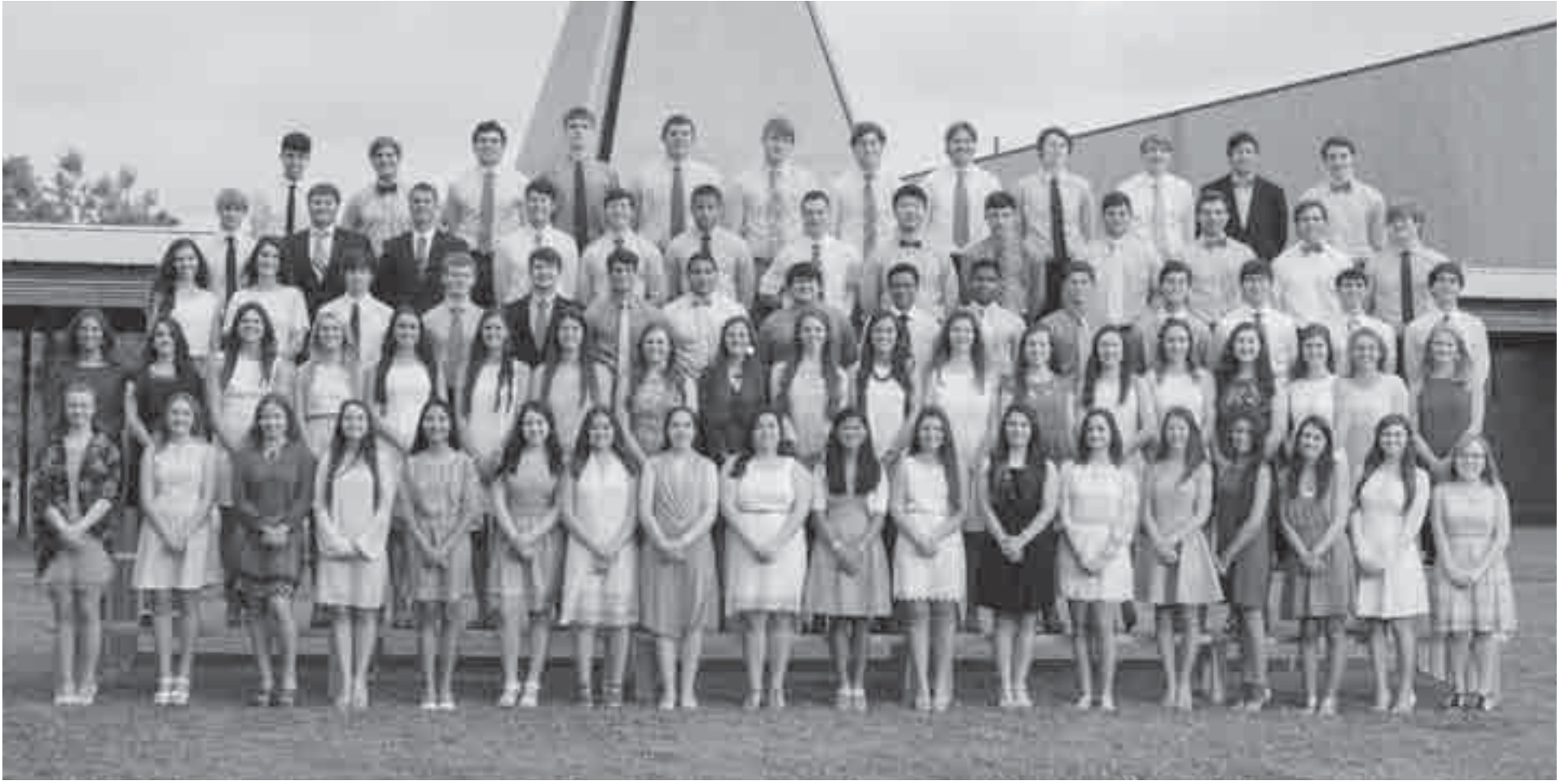
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Inadequacies of Vocational Evidence Presented at Social Security Disability
Hearings."

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HOLY SAVIOR MENARD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (Alexandria) GRADUATING CLASS OF 2015. Seventy-seven seniors from Holy Savior Menard graduated May 18 at Louisiana College's Guinn Auditorium.



ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL (Plaucheville) SENIOR CLASS OF 2015. Twenty-three students graduated May 14 from St. Joseph High School in Plaucheville.



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL (Bunkie) 8TH GRADE GRADUATION. Eight students from St. Anthony of Padua School in Bunkie graduated from the 8th grade on May 13.



WELCOME TO FINDERS KEEPERS. Employees of St. Mary's Residential Training Facility and two of its residents (Toni and Jessie) gather around a dining room set that is for sale at the new Finders Keepers Vintage & Thrift Store. The store, located on the campus of St. Mary's, is open Tuesday - Saturday, 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.



FRIENDLY FACES. Toni and Jessie, both residents at St. Mary's, help manage Finders Keepers with the help of Barbara Green (standing in the back). The store serves as a tool for teaching life skills to the residents.

St. Mary's residents ready to serve you at Finders Keepers

By Jeannie Petrus
CT editor

Maybe you've shopped at Goodwill or garage sales to find those vintage treasures, but there's a new place in town -- Finders Keepers -- and the sales clerks there are ready to serve you with smiling faces.

Finders Keepers is a vintage and thrift shop located on the

campus of St. Mary's Residential Training Facility in Alexandria. It is run by the residents and employees of St. Mary's as a means of teaching the residents life skills in the workplace.

Under the direction of Barbara Green, (resident supervisor) residents Jessie and Toni helped in setting up the store, organizing merchandise, pricing items, sweeping, and learning to greet

the customers.

"Jessie and Toni have done a great job setting up Finders Keepers for its grand opening on May 22," said Wes Bennett, work program skills supervisor. "They are learning a lot about running a store and they take so much pride in their work."

Some of the items available at the store include books, purses, furniture, stuffed animals, board

games, dishes, and clothes.

Prices are what you would expect at a garage sale. All proceeds from the store go to St. Mary's.

Right now, there are several nice furniture items including a dining room set and a complete bedroom set. However, inventory changes daily as new donations are received.

"We welcome any donations

of items for the store," said Ms. Green. "Donations of any kind, are accepted during store hours."

Store hours are 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. The store is located in a metal building on the left side (south end) of the main campus behind the clinic. The building is on the right. Outside the building is a vintage sign custom-made by Bennett.

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Masstimes.org is an easy-to-use, comprehensive website that lists almost every Catholic Church in every city, almost anywhere in the world. There is also a free app available on iTunes under the same name.

The purpose of the Mass Times ministry is to help Catholics get to Mass by helping them find churches and worship times worldwide. They do this by hosting and sharing the comprehensive database of Catholic churches and worship times in existence. Dioceses, parishes, and many volunteers help supply information to keep the database current.

Simply go to the website, Masstimes.org, and type in the name of the city or zip code you are searching for a Mass in. After pressing "search" you will need to select the name of the week you are looking for.

Say, for example, you select "Sunday." A long list of Mass times at churches in that area will appear, including the name of the church, the time, and the address



of the church, and in some cases, simple directions.

To download the free app to your iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, go to the Apple App Store.

There are several apps that offer Mass times, but one of the most comprehensive is Masstimes.org, recognized by its circular logo with a capital M and a cross on it.

Catholic Mass Times, (recognized by its logo of a pair of hands holding the Eucharist) is another good one, but for some reason, its database appears to have more European churches than American (which could be a good thing if going abroad).

So wherever you may be headed this summer -- whether for an extended getaway weekend or a far away extended destination, remember to allow time on Sunday to attend Mass.

Download one of the apps now. Don't get caught on the road without it.



Vacation Bible Schools

- **June 22-25: OL Lourdes, Fifth Ward**
6 p.m. - 8 p.m., for kids ages 3-10.
- **June 29-July 1: Immaculate Conception, Dupont**
9 a.m. - noon, Ages 4-12, \$5 per child.
- **July 5-9: Sacred Heart, Moreauville**
6 - 8 p.m., for kids entering PK3-5th grade; 6th-11th grader helpers are needed; \$15 for students attending VBS; free for helpers.
- **July 6-10: Little Flower, Evergreen**
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.; ages 3-15, free
- **July 6-10 and July 13-17: St. Frances Cabrini, Alexandria**
8 a.m. - 5 p.m., for children ages 3 to 6th grade; \$125 per child, \$100 for each additional child. 7th - 12 grade helpers needed.
- **July 13-17: St. Rita, Alexandria**
8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (children can be dropped off at 7:30 a.m.), for children entering Grades PreK - 6th; \$25 non-parishioner, free for St. Rita parishioners
- **July 13-17: St. Joseph, Marksville**
9 a.m. - noon, Ages 5-13, free
- **July 13-17: Sacred Heart, Pineville**
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., for 4 year olds - 6th grade, free
- **July 13-17: MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches**
9 a.m. - 12 noon, for children ages 4-11, \$5 suggested donation.
- **July 19-23: St. Martin Catholic Church, Lecompte**
5:30 - 8:30 p.m., for ages 4-12, free

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New from Lighthouse Catholic Media, Augustine Institute, & Ignatius Press

Beloved: A Marriage Program for use at home or in parishes

Augustine Institute, (creators of Symbolon: the Catholic Faith Explained) have partnered with Ignatius Press and Lighthouse Catholic Media to bring you a comprehensive study of marriage.

Whether you are just preparing for marriage or you've shared an anniversary or two or ...twenty, *Beloved* offers couples the option of learning more about marriage at home, through the Couple's Kit, or through their parish, where the program is offered.

In 12 sessions, *Beloved* explores the true meaning of marriage.

Here you'll discover the deepest spiritual, emotional, and practical realities of what your marriage can and should be. Through an exploration of Scripture, Tradition, and Church teaching, God's plan for your marriage will come alive.

You'll see firsthand the wonder, mystery, and joy behind that first "I do"—whether you said it last year or many years ago.

The first thing is to decide if you want the program for marriage preparation or for marriage enrichment. Each program includes a Couple's Guide that is designed to accompany the six videos in the DVD set.

Couple's Guide (Book)

The Couple's Guide included in this kit will work with the accompanying videos to help you



Beloved: 6 DVDs include:
3 for Marriage Preparation &
3 for Marriage Enrichment

discover:

- The Meaning of Your Marriage
- How Your Marriage Fits Into an Eternal Story
- The Truth About the Bonds and Commitment of Love
- God's Plan for True Spiritual and Physical Intimacy
- How to Communicate and Resolve Conflict
- The Importance of Healing and Forgiveness
- Tools for Protecting Your Marriage

Informative and inspirational, *Beloved* will help you live out the Sacrament of Marriage more profoundly, so that your love story is drawn ever more into the greatest love story of all... God's own love for us.

Beloved DVDs (Video)

In 12 video programs, *Beloved* DVDs explore the essential realities of marriage, dealing with the deepest spiritual, emotional, and practical aspects of what the sacrament means for those preparing to get married as well as those who yearn for a richer married life. Through Scripture, Tradition, and Church teaching, God's plan for marriage will come alive.

You'll see firsthand how to experience the mystery, happiness, and joy of this sacrament—from that first "I do" through the rest of your lives. Informative and inspirational, *Beloved* will help you live out the Sacrament of Marriage more profoundly, so

that your love story is drawn ever more into the greatest love story of all... God's own love for us.

The first 6 video programs deal with marriage preparation and the other 6 video programs cover topics that are designed to enrich the marriage of those who are living out their marriage.

Leader's Kit

Parishes, who may be interested in offering either program (Marriage Preparation or Marriage Enrichment) should check out the Leader's Guide or Kit. Each program includes the DVD set, the Couple's Guide, and a Leader's Guide.

For more information about these programs or how to order,

Beloved Couple's Guide: Marriage Enrichment	\$ 24.95
Beloved: 6 DVDs	149.95
Beloved Couple's Kit: Marriage Enrichment	184.95
Beloved Couple's Guide: Marriage Preparation	24.95
Beloved: 6 DVDs	149.95
Beloved Couple's Kit: Marriage Preparation	184.95
Beloved: Leader's Guide	49.95
Beloved Leader's Kit: Marriage Enrichment	214.95
Beloved Leader's Kit: Marriage Preparation	214.95
Beloved Leader's Kit: complete	234.95

go to www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org or call 1-800-777-7502.

Mystery & Meaning of Marriage

Does Marriage Matter? (34:19)
Entering the Story of Marriage (33:28)
Love Revealed (36:38)
Total Gift of Self (48:40)
A Sacramental Bond (34:32)
Real Challenges, Real Love (48:07)

Living Marriage

Christ at the Center (18:26)
A Deeper Unity (18:00)
Conflict and Communication (19:05)
Building a Thriving Marriage (18:30)
Protecting the Bond (20:41)
Sexuality and Authentic Love (20:22)



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Inside Out probes the voices of emotion inside our heads

Pixar's newest 3D animation picture is sure to be an instant Disney classic

By Gregory Ellwood
HitPix.com

CANNES — Growing up is never easy, especially for 11-year-old Riley in Pixar's newest 3D animated movie, *Inside Out*.

Director Pete Docter, who previously directed one of Pixar's best films, *Up*, takes on one of his greatest challenges of making a full-length movie out of thoughts inside a person's head.

The most important character in *Inside Out* is actually the heroine, Riley (eventually voiced by Kaitlyn Dias).

Her birth spurs the creation of the first emotion, Joy (Amy Poehler), but as she grows, Sadness (Phyllis Smith), Fear (Bill Hader), Disgust (Mindy Kaling) and Anger (Lewis Black) arrive to balance out her emotional makeup.

Each has a key role to play in Riley's life, but it's Joy who diligently makes it her responsibility to command the team and keep her as happy as possible.

The emotions live in a control room in Riley's mind and are responsible for making sure her core memories are protected. Joy believes these important core thoughts need to be happy memories and is somewhat obsessive that the timid and shy Sadness not taint them with her touch.

As Riley grows, however, the emotions begin to learn it can be harder to influence her reactions.

This first becomes apparent when Riley's parents (Diane Lane and Kyle MacLachlan) move



INSIDE OUT. The emotions of Pixar's new 3D animated movie *Inside Out*, are from left, Anger (voiced by Lewis Black), Disgust (Mindy Kaling), Joy (Amy Poehler), Fear (Bill Hader) and Sadness (Phyllis Smith). The emotions live in Headquarters, the control center inside Riley's mind, where they help advise her through everyday life. But things change when Riley moves from her country home to San Francisco and has to adapt to new surroundings and new memories. (Photo: Pixar via AP)

the family from a quiet country home in Minnesota to a townhouse in San Francisco.

Like many kids uprooted at an early age, Riley does not adjust well to her new surroundings. She starts to act out and rebel against her parents, who, unable to put two and two together, seem puzzled by her new behavior.

At the exact same time Riley takes a turn for the worse, Sad-

ness has done the unthinkable and touched a number of core memories that are contributing to Riley's sour mood.

Joy and Sadness bicker over these memories (which look like large spheres) and in a dispute find themselves sucked out of the headquarters.

This turns out to be the worst possible scenario for Riley, because now Fear, Disgust and An-

ger are at the helm. Without the influence of Joy and Sadness, Riley will be even more moody than your typically headstrong 11-year-old.

As the two emotions attempt to find their way back to Headquarters, Riley concocts a plan to escape to the one place she was happy: her old home.

Docter makes the smart choice of casting all of the emo-

MOVIE REVIEW

tions in Riley's head with comedic actors, but Poehler and Smith bring an unexpected depth to these seemingly one-dimensional emotions. Smith is particularly heartbreaking, delivering one of the finest performances of her career.

What truly makes *Inside Out* remarkable, however, is how incredibly creative it is. From Riley's abandoned imaginary friend Bing Bong (Richard Kind) to the eye-popping realization of Abstract World, there is a wealth of new ideas here that put recent Pixar and Walt Disney Animation Studios films to shame.

The dramatic elements of *Inside Out* will stick with you, but don't fear. The humor is palpable. Sure, the shtick of having an intense and loud comedian such as Black voice Anger is painfully obvious, but it's in the emotional control rooms of Riley's parents where, again, the film's creativity and the laughs really come in to play.

And when Docter depicts the emotions in people outside Riley's family? Well, you have to see it.

Pixar's new *Inside Out*, is sure to become an instant Disney classic. *Inside Out* opens nationwide on June 16.



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Worldwide Marriage Encounter: July 17-19

Married couples, spend time with each other to enrich your marriage and rekindle your love for each other in a private setting on a weekend designed to do just that, while growing closer to each other and to God as a couple. July 17-19, Tracy Center, Baton Rouge. Register at wwme.org or call Jason & Stacy Verret at 1-800-586-5469.

Tekakwitha Conference: July 22-26

The 76th annual National Tekakwitha Conference will be held July 22-26 at the Alexandria Riverfront Center in Alexandria. The public is invited to attend.

More than 900 participants from all across North America are expected to attend the Native American conference themed, "St. Kateri Embraces the Wetlands."

Keynote speakers include Bishop Sam Jacobs, retired bishop of Houma-Thibodaux; Bishop Shelton Fabre, bishop of Houma-Thibodaux; and Sister Judith Gomila, MSC, of New Orleans. Bishop Charles Chaput, OFM, Tekakwitha Conference Episcopal Moderator, will be the main celebrant at the Eucharistic celebration on Thursday and Bishop Ronald Herzog will be the main celebrant at the closing Eucharistic celebration on Saturday.

For more information, call 318-483-3908 or go to www.tek-conf.org.

Teen ACTS Retreat: July 30 - Aug. 2

Mater Dolorosa Church in Plaquemine will host a Cenla Teen ACTS Retreat July 30-Aug. 2 for high school students entering grades 10-12. Registration is currently open until June 15. To register or for more information, contact Stacey Dixon at 337-258-9650 or stacdix@yahoo.com or Rena Crooks-Saucier at 318-623-7175 or Rcrookssaucier@yahoo.com.

Refreshed in Spirit seminar: Aug. 1

CENLA Magnificat and the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Louisiana will present *Refreshed in the Spirit* on Saturday, Aug. 1 from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria. If you would like a deeper union with God, a greater love for others, and a fuller presence in your life of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, join us! There is no registration fee, but you must pre-register by July 29, 2015 - by email at cenlamagnificat@gmail.com or by mail to Diane Ardoine 1415 Creed St, Pineville, La. 71360. Open to men and women. Bring a brown bag lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS

Trip to Spain & Portugal: March 2016

Travel and Cruise With Me is sponsoring a trip to Spain and Portugal March 11-25, 2016. The trip includes a visit to Fatima! March 11 - 25, 2016 (Return on Good Friday). Cost for the trip with group discount is \$1,961.75. If paid by August 30 the cost would be reduced to \$1,806.88. Deposit is \$200 per person non refundable. Insurance is available in case you have to cancel the trip. Gratuities can be paid up front. For more information contact Marie Michael at 449-9746.

Catechist Workshops: Aug. 22 & Sept 19

Beginning this Fall (2015), and for the next five years, the Office of Religious Formation and Training will offer, for ongoing catechist formation, Catechist Workshops on the Content of Our Faith. Topics to be covered are Church History, Scripture, Liturgy & Sacraments, Spirituality of the Catechist, and Moral Teachings of the Church. All five topics will be covered, going further into depth each year. This year, two identical workshops will be held on August 22 & September 19 from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center. Registration is required. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch. To register, email: emccullough@diocesealex.org or call Emily Ann McCullough at 318-445-6424 ext. 251 and leave a voice message with your name and phone number.

Job opportunities

There are several teaching positions available in our Catholic schools around the diocese. Applicants should be certified (or working toward certification).

- 3rd and 5th Grade Teacher (all subjects) at Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, Alexandria
- 3rd Grade Teacher; 8th Grade ELA Teacher at St. Anthony School in Bunkie
- 5th Grade Teacher (all subjects) at St. Joseph School in Plaquemine
- Spanish Teacher at St. Mary's School in Natchitoches.

Send resume to Thomas Roque, Catholic Schools Office, P. O. Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306 or download a teacher application at www.diocesealex.org/schools. For more information, call Vanessa at 318-445-6424, ext 227.



CDA COURT BISHOP GRECO #2072 presents a check for the Seminarian Education Fund to Bishop Ronald Herzog. Pictured are (from left) Edna Smith, Sherry Perkins, Bishop Herzog, Murlene McKnight, and Nita St. Andria.



MENARD JR. CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS. Maddie, president of the Junior Catholic Daughters at Holy Savior Menard High School, along with Joan Lanius, regent for the Catholic Daughters at Our Lady of Prompt Succor, presents a check to Bishop Ronald Herzog for \$1,000 for the seminarian education fund. Maddie and the Menard CDA-Junior, raised \$500 at Holy Savior Menard for this fund. Also pictured is Jessica Sanders, CDA sponsor at Menard.



EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION. John Morovich of the Msgr. Piegay 4th Degree Knights, presents a check to Bishop Ronald Herzog for the Excellence in Religious Education Fund.

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
15	16 VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches	17	18 Bible Study 6:00-7:00 p.m. St. Martin of Tours Church, Belledeau	19	20 VIRTUS Training 10:00 a.m. St. Francis de Sales Church, Echo	21 <div>Fortnight for Freedom</div> <div>FATHERS DAY</div> <div>PRAY FOR FR. I. ST. ROMAIN</div>
PRAY FOR FR. J. RYAN	PRAY FOR FR. C. SCOTT	PRAY FOR FR. R. SHOURY	PRAY FOR FR. P. SIERRA-POSADA	PRAY FOR FR. L. SKLAR	PRAY FOR FR. S. SOARES	
22	23 VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria	24	25 Deadline to order a Diocesan Directory	26	27	28
Vacation Bible School -- Our Lady of Lourdes, Fifth Ward						
USCCB's Fourth Annual Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Bear Witness						
PRAY FOR MSGR. S. TESTA	PRAY FOR FR. J. THOMAS	PRAY FOR FR. A. THOMPSON	PRAY FOR MSGR. J. TIMMERMANS	PRAY FOR FR. E. TIRKEY	PRAY FOR FR. A. TRAVIS	PRAY FOR FR. G. UZONDU
29	30	JULY 1	2	3	4	5
Vacation Bible School -- Immaculate Conception Church, Dupont						
USCCB's Fourth Annual Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Bear Witness						VBS -- Moreauville
PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE	PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD	PRAY FOR BISHOP R. HERZOG	PRAY FOR FR. A. VELEZ	FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. N. VIVIANO	INDEPENDENCE DAY FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER	PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH
6	7	8	9 Adult Faith Formation 6:30 pm Our Lady of Prompt Succor Divine Providence Center, Alexandria	10	11	12
Vacation Bible School -- Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville						
Vacation Bible School -- St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria						
Vacation Bible School -- Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen						
PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA	PRAY FOR FR. T. ALLEN	PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW	PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET	PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO	PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO	PRAY FOR FR. D. COOK
13	14	15	16 Bible Study 6:00-7:00 pm St. Martin of Tours, Belledeau	17	18	19
Vacation Bible School -- St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria						
Vacation Bible School -- St. Rita Church, Alexandria						
Vacation Bible School -- Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville						
Vacation Bible School -- Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches						
Vacation Bible School -- St. Joseh Church, Marksville						
PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY	PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM	PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE	PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS	PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON	PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK	PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE

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