

CHURCH TODAY

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

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ON THE INSIDE

A pilgrimage can enhance faith

Want to visit the Holy Land? Is a trip to experience Ireland's rich Catholic heritage on your bucket list? There is a lot to consider if you want to get the most for your time and money. Several from our diocese share their experiences and may help you decide if a pilgrimage is right for you. See page 16.

Catholic Schools Office rolls out new curriculum

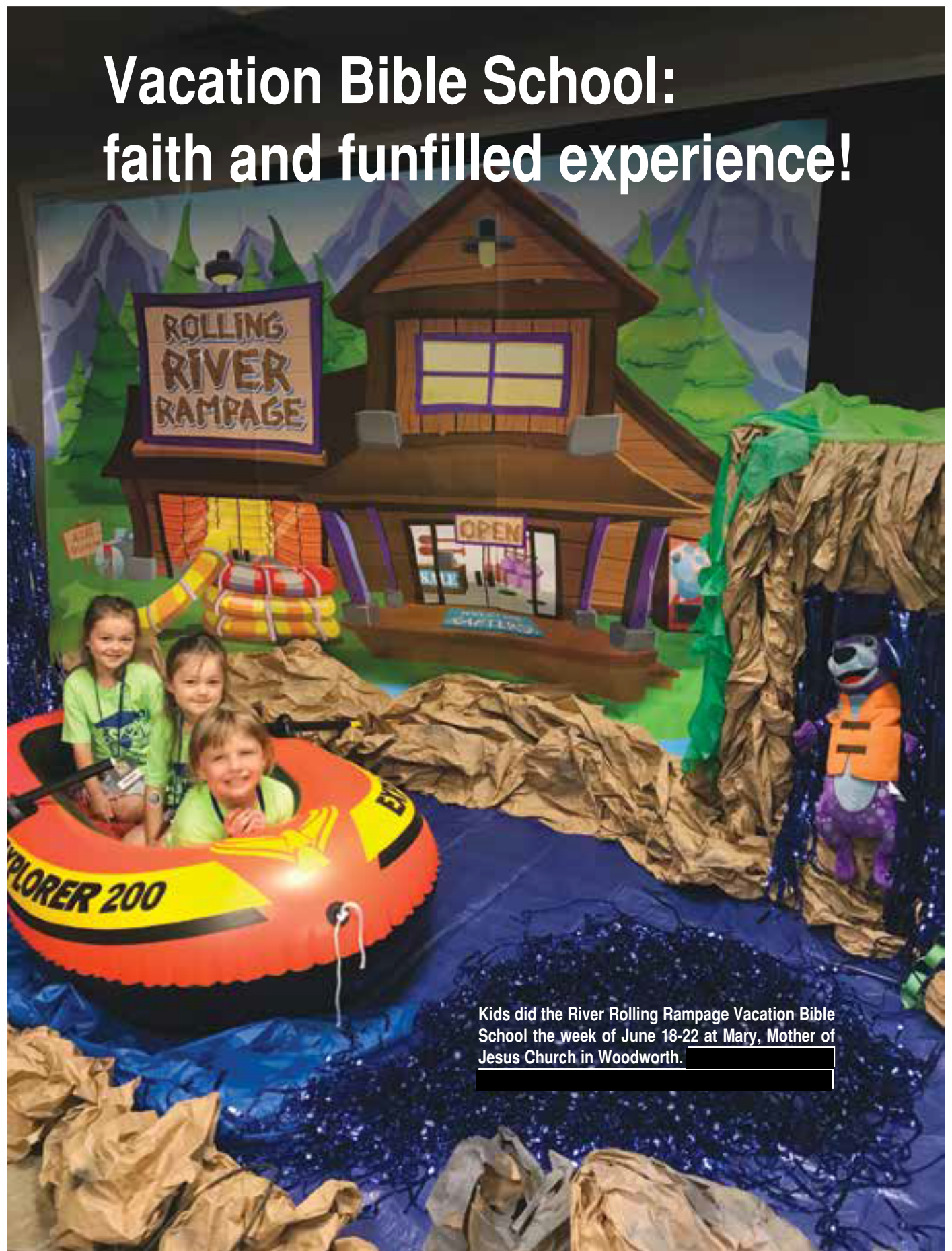
The Catholic schools of the diocese have never had a standard curriculum that incorporated Catechism for our Catholic School teachers to follow. Under the Superintendent's guidance, the diocese now has a comprehensive curriculum framework. See page 14 for details.

Back-to-School!

New Deacon aspirants, seminarians and school clean up days are indicators that it's back-to-school time. See what's happening on pages 7-15.

To view more news and photos, you can always visit www.diocesealex.org

Vacation Bible School: faith and funfilled experience!



Kids did the River Rolling Rampage Vacation Bible School the week of June 18-22 at Mary, Mother of Jesus Church in Woodworth. [REDACTED]

Cardinal Wuerl Reflects on How Our Church Can Move Forward

Below is an excerpt from the blog of Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, entitled 'A Pastoral Reflection on How Our Church Can Move Forward':

The initial shock, confusion, anger, and frustration when the allegations against Archbishop Theodore McCarrick came to light were the focus of our immediate response. In our pain, we also turned to all survivors of abuse, whose burdens are greater than our own. We must confirm our commitment to them with actions even more than words, that we are resolved to respond effectively in every way to these offenses. I addressed this initial period of the past few weeks in my interview in the Catholic Standard and El Pregonero archdiocesan newspapers entitled: "Cardinal Wuerl Reflects on Next Steps in Wake of Allegations against Former Archbishop."

Dear brothers and sisters, I bring these pastoral reflections to you as Shepherd of this portion of God's flock, knowing that much of what we are discussing necessarily engages the bishops since it is our responsibility to provide oversight to the Church. As Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) noted in his August 1 statement on the McCarrick matter, he



CARDINAL MCCARRICK In 2013, Rome - Boston Catholic. In the wake of McCarrick scandal, Cardinal Wuerl reflects on how our Church can move forward.

intends to invite all of the bishops of our country in discussions, "oriented toward discerning the right course of action for the USCCB." That being said, I feel it is also important to share these reflections with you.

What is particularly disheartening, certainly for me, is the sense that we had already gone through this traumatic scandal in 2002 with not only the pain of priests abusing young people but the realization that bishops were not properly attentive to the dimensions of the problem. In response to this situation, the Bishops' Conference gathered in Dallas, Texas and promulgated the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

What we are not facing, in the media and from many of our people, is the question: "Has anything changed?"

The answer, I believe, is, "Yes." We are encouraged by our Holy Father's determination to hold accountable those who violate the obligations of their ordination, who go so far as to abuse the young and vulnerable among us, or to use their power and influence in a harmful way.

In his strong and decisive response to the allegations against Archbishop McCarrick, Pope Francis is leading the way in calling bishops to greater accountability. The Pope has demonstrated a keen awareness of the feelings of betrayal, the disappointment, the

not-unreasonable anger felt by so many of our faithful people as these accusations come to light.

Just as our Holy Father has provided us with an example of how to begin to heal these deep wounds, we, the bishops of our country, are presented with an opportunity to reflect on what has come to light, to minister to the pain and to respond as best we can to questions that have been raised by this scandal, while moving forward to address in practical ways the very real and legitimate concerns for this accountability.

I think everyone recognizes that words, good intentions, and new policies, while important, are not enough. We must not only denounce abuse and take steps to stop the abusers. We must remove even the appearance of coverups as we investigate and address allegations.

It seems that one practical and direct way in which we bishops can move into a more active posture is to work with our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and his representatives to ensure greater accountability at the level of the local episcopacy in addressing and reporting issues of concern. This can also be a time, as Cardinal DiNardo urges, that, "We, bishops, recognize that a spiritual conversion is needed as we seek to restore the right relationship among us and with the Lord." It is an occasion to renew our own personal commitment to holiness, to constant conversion of heart, to

generosity and fidelity, and to the highest standards of ministry - and exhort our brother priests to do the same. This obviously calls for that fortitude that has always been essential to fraternal correction.

On April 23, 2002, in the midst of those difficult days, Pope Saint John Paul II spoke to the Cardinals of the United States and emphasized the duties of bishops. "It must be absolutely clear to the Catholic faithful," he said, "and to the wider community, that bishops and superiors are concerned, above all else, with the spiritual good of souls. People need to know that there is no place in the priesthood and religious life for those who would harm the young." He then continued with a strong sense of hope. "We must have confidence," he insisted, "that this time of trial will bring a purification of the entire Catholic community, a purification that is urgently needed if the Church is to preach more effectively the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all its liberating force."

As we, bishops, unite ourselves to the reforming efforts of Pope Francis, it is essential that we be able to address any allegations of abuse by a bishop, even if the allegation is later proved to be unsubstantiated. Let us pray that our children and our people will see in us, their bishops, through our actions as well as our words, their brothers and companions.

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CRS student ambassadors stress need for human dignity to Congress

By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

Denise Ssettimba just began her brief presentation to an aide to Sen. John Kennedy, R-Louisiana, on the need to maintain U.S. funding for global anti-hunger efforts when two congressional dining staffers with food carts in tow asked to squeeze by in a busy hallway in the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The 18-year-old Xavier University of Louisiana student stepped a little closer into the tight circle around the aide, Kaitlyn Dwyer, staying on message.

“We want to share that there are a lot of ways that this aide helps people avoid migration,” Ssettimba said.

Fellow Xavier University students Ja’Che Malone and Sarah Bertrand and Madeleine Woolverton, a student at Tulane University, picked up the call as Ssettimba finished.

“The issues of global hunger and migration are intimately linked because hunger is one of the causes of migration,” Woolverton said. “When we can provide funding for programs that can provide sustainable solutions... not creating dependency but creating systematic change in farming



CRS STUDENT AMBASSADORS MEET WITH SEN. BILL CASSIDY, R-LA. Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., meets with students from Tulane University during the Student Ambassador Leadership Summit of Catholic Relief Services July 18 on Capitol Hill in Washington. (CNS photo/Dennis Sadowski)

communities, we can prevent some of these problems.”

The four students asked Dwyer to be sure to share with Kennedy their concern that no funding be cut from international poverty-reducing programs.

Preserving current spending levels for disaster relief, health care, nutrition, anti-human trafficking efforts, migration and refugee assistance is a major priority of Catholic Relief Services and the U.S. Conference

policy adviser to the Louisiana Republican.

They joined more than 150 students from 58 Catholic and non-Catholic colleges and universities who participated in the four-day Student Ambassador Leadership Summit, July 15-18 organized by CRS.

The students spent their last day of the summit visiting members of Congress, sharing the same message that Archbishop Paul D. Etienne of Anchorage, Alaska, and Cardinal Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato, Philippines, brought to Capitol Hill a day earlier.

The programs they addressed were targeted for an overall 36 percent cut in federal spending in the White House Office of Management and Budget’s proposed fiscal year 2019 spending outline. The OMB plan seeks to reduce funding to \$15.1 billion from nearly \$23.8 billion authorized for the current fiscal year, which ends September 30. Such spending comprises about 0.5 percent of the federal budget.

Having so many young

people bringing a consistent message to Congress was sure to have an impact, Kathleen Kahlau, senior adviser at CRS, told the students before they fanned out across Capitol Hill.

“You’re bringing some good news. Not the Gospel in the religious sense, but the good news in the sense that you’re sharing with these staffers the fact that what America does through its aid is effective, is efficient, does really save lives,” Kahlau said.

Three days preparing for the congressional visits served to create broader awareness of the work of CRS and deeper understanding of the importance of U.S. aid for that work, students said. Several students who are CRS campus ambassadors told Catholic News Service they were willing to step away from jobs, summer internships and research projects to advocate for people without a voice.

“Coming here has shown me how everything is so connected,” said Emily Baca, a student at St. Martin’s University in Lacey, Washington. “I think this program can really help by bringing together different people who are passionate in different ways.”

Students also said they planned to return to their campuses this fall ready to share what they learned about the global work of CRS and encourage others to join them in promoting the agency.

“We want to bring more attention to global issues,” said Carla Aguirre Puerto, a student at the University of San Diego, following a meeting with an aide to Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-California.

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Greetings! My name is Cari Terracina, and I'm the new Publications Manager for the Diocese of Alexandria. It's a pleasure to formally meet you! Thank you for allowing me to meet you here in this space as Bishop Talley takes time to rest and begin to settle into his new residence.

Like so many of you, I have been a long-time reader of the Church Today newspaper, and supporter of the Diocese. I began my work for the Diocese of Alexandria in the fall of 2001, as a part-time worker in the Steubenville South Youth Conference Office, and quickly fell in love with ministering to, and alongside, God's people in our area. I've been stretched as I've traveled the diocese in various forms of youth, young adult, and adult ministry over the years, and have drawn inspiration and strength from the people of our Diocese.

My honor and challenge as the newest member of the recently



Letter from the Editor

Mrs. Cari Terracina

Publications Manager for the Diocese of Alexandria

restructured Communications Office is to continue growing the local Church's influence and reach, and to build relationships with each of you, so that we can continue to deliver content for years to come. I'm humbled to be taking this next step with the Diocese, so that we can continue to share the beauty and goodness present in the lives of those who live here and share our faith.

Hundreds of you were so generous to give your time, input, and creativity to our recent reader feedback survey. We are taking the time to re-read through every response, and you've made it clear

to us that seeking your feedback will be a critical part of our work. We have already incorporated many of your ideas into our plans for the coming months and years.

We want our readers and community to be a bigger part of the conversation in our publications, in print, on the website, and through social media. To meet that goal as well as to serve as small steps to begin incorporating some of your ideas, you will begin to see more interactive options through our printed publications. You will also see more multi-cultural aspects to our diocesan communications to better serve the diocese as a whole,

including a Spanish article found further in this issue of the Church Today.

The Communications Office is working diligently to build our vision and goals for the upcoming months and years, and I, especially, thank you for your continued patience as I continue to settle in. We will check in every

few weeks to share a bit more of our vision, provide sneak peeks of new content, and ask for your feedback.

My sincere thanks again to all of you as you welcome me into yet another aspect of Diocesan work! You have given us here in the Communications Office the confidence in the need for the printed Church Today, fresh perspective for the future, and energy to ensure that the Church Today continues to be a publication that empowers and uplifts the people of our Diocese.

Yours, Cari

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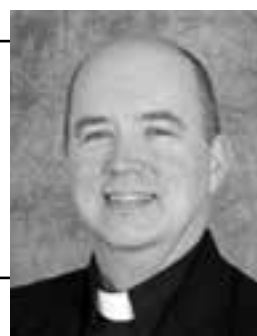
Importance of Extraordinary Ministers

It is said the best way to stay engaged in an activity is to be involved in the operations of it. This is true whether it is with a project at work, your involvement with a volunteer organization, or a hobby you would like to master. The more you put into it, the more you will get out of it.

The same can be said about the liturgy of the Mass. We are more likely to continue attending Mass if we are an active participant and feel as if we are part of the liturgy. Sure, we are all called to participate in singing the songs, responding to the prayers, and being mentally and spiritually prepared to meet our Lord in the Liturgy of the Word and Eucharist... but there are other opportunities. So, this month's question is about a special ministry seen during the Mass.

The question: "I have noticed there are times my church parish does not have enough ministers to distribute communion. I would like to volunteer, but need to know more about it. Are there special requirements and training?"

There are two types of



Embracing the Liturgy

By Deacon Richard W. Mitchell

ministers who distribute Holy Communion. The first are priests and deacons who are considered "Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion." If your parish has multiple stations for Holy Communion during Mass, a priest/deacon should fill those positions. However, there are typically not enough priests and deacons to fulfill that need. For those circumstances, the Church allows for the second type of ministers to assist... the "Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion."

These are members of the lay-faithful who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, are in good standing with the Catholic Church and have received training from their pastor (or designated trainer). This special ministry extends to

more than what you see at Mass. Sure these men and women have the honor and responsibility of distributing the Body and Blood of Jesus at the Church. However, many volunteer to travel to those who are unable to get to the church. By visiting the sick and shut-ins, these ministers bring Jesus to them in two ways: the sacrament of the Eucharist; and with face-to-face personal contact with those in need of prayer and companionship.

So what are some of the things you will learn during the training? Each program is a little different regarding when to approach the altar, where to stand when distributing... but other issues you will learn are what to do if a Consecrated Host is dropped or what to do if the Precious Blood spills. You will

learn the proper way to transport the Eucharist to the sick and shut-ins and prayers to say with those you visit. If you see the need and feel the calling for

this ministry, the more you will "Love the Liturgy!"

Send your questions about the liturgy to: whydowe@diocesealex.org.



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Clergy Assignments effective August 1, 2018

Father Anthony "Raj" Dharmaraj, MSFS is returning to our diocese after a seven year absence. Fr. Dharmaraj has been serving as Provincial leader of his order, the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, Southeast India Province.

Fr. Dharmaraj previously served as pastor at St. Mary's Assumption Church, Cottonport. In his assignment as pastoral administrator of St. John the Baptist Church in Deville, he

will also oversee the missions of St. Winifred Chapel, Effie and St. John the Baptist Mission in Moncla. Welcome back Fr. Raj!

Father Wade DeCoste has been appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Anthony in Natchitoches at his request in order to live in a life of prayer and community with his brother priests in the Natchitoches Deanery.

Father John Wiltse has been appointed Vicar for Clergy to serve alongside Father Adam

Travis, VC.

As Vicars for Clergy, they will work collaboratively with priests and senior chancery officials to address the personal and professional needs of priests. They will also work to provide formation and educational opportunities for clergy.

Fr. Wiltse will remain as pastoral administrator of St. Mary's Assumption Church and its school in Cottonport.



Rev. Anthony Dharmaraj, MSFS
Pastoral Administrator
St. John the Baptist, Deville



Rev. Wade DeCoste
Parochial Vicar
St. Anthony of Padua,
Natchitoches



Rev. John Wiltse, VC
Vicar for Clergy
for the diocese

Staff changes at the St. Joseph Catholic Center



Lucy Pearson

Lucy Pearson, CPA, has joined the Diocese of Alexandria business office staff as chief accountant. Lucy replaces long time diocesan employee, Virginia Miller, who retired in July. Lucy was previously with Daenen Henderson & Co., Alexandria. She is married

to Brent and they have three grown children. She and her family are parishioners of St. Rita Church.



Kelly Hatcher

Kelly Hatcher joins the business office as Administrative Secretary.

Ms. Hatcher was previously district sales manager for Avon and also worked at Radio Maria as assistant program director and operations manager. Kelly is also active in Girl Scouts as

a Girl Scout Junior Leader at St. Frances Cabrini Church.

2-yr Spiritual Director internship information meeting to be held Sept. 12

There seems to always be a need for good Spiritual Directors - those men and women who have a special gift and are trained to guide the People of God on their faith journey. The Diocese of Alexandria is no different and is in great need of Spiritual Directors for its people.

Therefore, the Diocese has partnered with the Archdiocese of New Orleans Spirituality Center Formation Program in offering a certification course for those interested in this type of ministry. This program is a two-year Spiritual Director internship that is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Classes will be one day per month, on either weekdays or weekends.

An informational meeting will be held for those interested in the ministry of spiritual direction on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center. Information will be presented by Mike Van Vranken, spiritual director and co-author of *Faith Positive in a Negative World*.

This informational meeting will further define spiritual direction, as well as the roles of both the spiritual director and the directee.

Anyone interested in beginning the journey to

become a certified spiritual director must complete an application process with prerequisite requirements and pay a fee for the program costs. Prerequisites include living a life of prayer, being a member in good standing within one's own church parish, having the gift of discernment, as well as having personally experienced ongoing spiritual direction. Applicants must also attend a directed retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, make one of two Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius "30-Day Retreat" or "19th Annotation," have an adequate background in the study of theology, currently be involved in or plan to be involved in a ministry which includes some form of spiritual direction as a component, and have the ability to attend all aspects of the program and complete the required course materials. The fee for the two-year program is \$2,000.00, which does not include textbooks or housing if it is required.

For more information or to register for the informational session on Sept. 12, please contact Deacon Richard Mitchell at dcnrmitchell@diocesealex.org or 318-445-6424 ext. 206.

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Un buen cristiano comparte el Evangelio, dice el papa

Por Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) -- Todos los cristianos están llamados a ser misioneros, más preocupados por compartir el Evangelio que por ganar dinero o hasta conversos, dijo el papa Francisco.

“Un bautizado que no siente la necesidad de anunciar el Evangelio, de anunciar a Jesús, no es un buen cristiano”, dijo el papa el 15 de julio antes de recitar la oración del Ángelus con unas 15,000 personas reunidas en la

Plaza de San Pedro.

El papa Francisco comentaba sobre la lectura del día del Evangelio, la cual contaba sobre cómo Jesús envió a los discípulos de dos en dos a predicar y sanar en su nombre.

“Es una especie de práctica de lo que estarán llamados a hacer después de la resurrección del Señor con el poder del Espíritu Santo”, explicó el papa.

Él dijo que solo hablando del nombre de Jesús “los apóstoles no tenían nada propio que anunciar, ni habilidades para demostrar,

sino que hablan y actúan en cuanto enviados, en cuanto mensajeros de Jesús”.

“Este episodio evangélico también nos concierne, y no solo a los sacerdotes, sino a todos los bautizados llamados a testimoniar en los diversos ambientes de sus vidas el Evangelio de Cristo”, dijo el papa.

Él dijo que los cristianos cumplen su misión cuando su proclamación es motivada solamente por el amor por, y la obediencia a, Cristo y cuando el único mensaje que comparten es

Cristo.

Jesús le dice a sus discípulos en la lectura del evangelio según San Marcos que no lleven para el viaje “nada más que un bastón: ni pan, ni alforja, ni dinero en sus fajas”.

El papa dijo que la pobreza y la simplicidad de estilo de vida que pide Jesús lleva la intención de hacer a los discípulos de ayer y hoy “libres y ligeros”.

Jesús, él dijo, llama a sus discípulos a salir como “mensajeros del reino de Dios, no gerentes todopoderosos, no

funcionarios intratables, no divos (superestrellas) de gira”.

Aunque todos los bautizados son enviados por Cristo en misión, ellos salen sin garantías de éxito, dijo el papa. “Eso también es pobreza: la experiencia del fracaso”.

El papa Francisco oró para que María, “primera discípula y misionera de la palabra de Dios, nos ayude a llevar al mundo el mensaje del Evangelio en una exaltación humilde y radiante más allá de todo rechazo, incompreensión o tribulación”.

A good Christian shares the Gospel, pope says

The following is an English translation of the above article.

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- All Christians are called to be missionaries, concerned more with sharing the Gospel than with earning money or even with being successful at winning converts, Pope Francis said.

“A baptized person who does not feel the need to proclaim the Gospel, to announce Christ, is not a good Christian,” the pope said July 15 before reciting the

Angelus prayer with an estimated 15,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square.

Pope Francis was commenting on the day’s Gospel reading, which told about how Jesus sent the disciples out two-by-two to preach and to heal in his name.

“It was a kind of apprenticeship for what they would be called to do with the power of the Holy Spirit after the resurrection of the Lord,” the pope explained.

Speaking only in the name of Jesus, he said, “the apostles had nothing of their own to proclaim

and none of their own abilities to demonstrate, but spoke and acted as emissaries, as messengers of Jesus.”

“This Gospel episode concerns us, too, and not only priests, but all the baptized, who are called to witness to the Gospel of Christ in all the situations of life,” the pope said.

Christians fulfill their mission, he said, when their proclamation is motivated only by love for and obedience to Christ and when the only message they share is Christ’s.

In the reading from St. Mark’s Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples “to take nothing for the

journey but a walking stick - no food, no sack, no money in their belts.”

The poverty and simplicity of lifestyle Jesus asks for, the pope said, were meant to make the disciples of yesterday and today “free and light.”

Jesus, he said, calls his disciples to set out as “messengers of the kingdom of God, not powerful managers, not unmovable functionaries (and) not stars on tour.”

Although the baptized are sent out on mission by Christ, they go with no guarantee of success, the pope said. “This, too, is poverty: the experience of failure.”

Pope Francis prayed that Mary, “the first disciple and missionary of the word of God, would help us bear the message of the Gospel in the world with a humble and radiant exultation that goes beyond every refusal, misunderstanding or tribulation.”

As the kids get back to school, so should you!

Below are just a few adult education options to help you grow in your knowledge of our rich Catholic faith.

New Saint Thomas Institute: www.newsaintthomas.com

The New Saint Thomas Institute is an innovative member community for those who passionately desire to become better defenders of the Catholic Faith through the study of philosophy and theology. It provides training through video and audio lessons, recommended reading, and community support.

St. Paul Center: www.stpaulcenter.com

The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology is a non-profit research and educational institute that promotes life-transforming Scripture study in the Catholic tradition, through means such as their flagship Bible study program, *Journey Through Scripture*.

Ascension Press: www.ascensionpresents.com

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from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
Pineville



Jacob Cass
from St. Joseph Church
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Thomas Kennedy
from Minor Basilica of the
Immaculate Conception
Natchitoches



David Keran
from Minor Basilica of the
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Donnie Kuzma
from St. Anthony of Padua Church
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John Mohn
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Grant Rabalais
from Mater Dolorosa Church
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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."

318-717-1995

Diocese to send ten men to seminary

The Diocese of Alexandria is excited to have ten men in priestly formation. With the support of their home parishes, they will begin or continue their formation to priesthood. They will attend orientations at their respective seminaries before beginning classes at the end of this month, according to director of vocations, Father Louis Sklar.

Please keep them in your prayers.

**Catechetical Sunday
is September 16**

Thank you for joining us for Supper with the Seminarians!



SUPPER WITH THE SEMINARIANS. Above: With assistance from the seminarians, Father Louis Sklar, director of vocations, prepares chicken for fettucini to be served at St. Mary's in Winnsboro for the Eastern Deanery's seminarian benefit held on June 30.

Left: Seminarians Thomas Kennedy, Jacob Cass, Chase Masters and Matthew Bonner serve guests at the supper held at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Campti on July 2 for the Natchitoches Deanery.

View more photos from these events and more at www.diocesealex.org/our-diocese/all-photo-galleries/

Seminarian Burses

July Donations

| | |
|---|------------|
| Knights of Columbus Council 9217 | \$25.00 |
| Father Adrian Molenschot Burse | |
| Father Peter Kuligowski | \$30.00 |
| Father Peter Kuligowski Burse | |
| Mrs. Nelwyn Broussard | \$50.00 |
| Monsignor Milburn Broussard Burse | |
| Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schupbach | \$50.00 |
| Deacon Gary Schupbach Burse | |
| Mrs. Barbara Rigby | \$50.00 |
| Leo P. Dobard Burse | |
| Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schupbach | \$100.00 |
| Monsignor Steve Testa Burse | |
| Mrs. Nelwyn Broussard | \$100.00 |
| Deacon Rodrick "Benny" Broussard Burse | |
| Mr. and Mrs. Dan F. Vanderlick | \$100.00 |
| Sister Virginia Lee Vanderlick Burse | |
| Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Miller | \$200.00 |
| Father Daniel Corkery Burse | |
| Bayou Chateau Nursing Center | \$200.00 |
| Floyd LaCour Burse | |
| Ms. Elizabeth S. Arthur | 1,000.00 |
| Sadie Stroud Burse | |
| Total for July | \$1,905.00 |



MEET OUR SEMINARIANS. Above: The seminarians take turns introducing themselves at the supper held at Christ the King Church in Simmesport for the Avoyelles Deanery event on July 5.

Below: Seminarians serve a hungry crowd at the St. Rita Holy Family Center in Alexandria for the Central Deanery fundraiser on July 27. All proceeds from all of these events benefit the seminarian education fund. Over \$30,000 was raised this year! THANK YOU!



Seminary Burses

A Seminary Burse is an invested sum of money, the interest of which is used in perpetuity to help fund the education of men to the priesthood. Contributions to any of the burses or to establish a new burse should be sent to the Chancery Office, Post Office Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306-0417. – *Very Reverend Stephen Scott Chemino, Chairman*

Completed burses at \$15,000.00 each:

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

The following is a list of active burses and amounts of each:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Saint Damien de Veuster | 175.00 |
| Bishop William Friend | 100.00 |
| Bishop Lawrence P. Graves | 5,805.00 |
| Bishop Charles P. Greco | 1,400.00 |
| Bishop Ronald P. Herzog | 100.00 |
| Bishop Sam G. Jacobs | 1,100.00 |
| Bishop David P. Talley | 450.00 |
| Monsignor Marcel J. Anderson | 100.00 |
| Monsignor Leon R. Aycock | 1,535.00 |
| Monsignor Henry F. Beckers | 13,657.50 |
| Monsignor Milburn J. Broussard | 8,350.00 |
| Monsignor Norman C. Buvens | 100.00 |
| Monsignor Paul E. Conway | 825.00 |
| Monsignor Allen M. Chenevert | 1,000.00 |
| Monsignor Isidore Deceulaer | 160.00 |
| Monsignor S. J. Dekeuwer | 650.00 |
| Monsignor Gerald J. Ducote | 560.00 |
| Monsignor Robert C. Friend | 50.00 |
| Monsignor Ronald C. Hoppe | 950.00 |
| Monsignor James E. Howard | 50.00 |
| Monsignor Charles M. Jekeler | 325.00 |
| Monsignor Joseph F. Kidd | 1,500.00 |
| Monsignor William Kwitaal | 850.00 |
| Monsignor Warren T. Larroque | 800.00 |
| Monsignor Terrence J. Lennon | 125.00 |
| Monsignor George W. Martinez | 500.00 |
| Monsignor Patrick Murphy | 2,304.00 |
| Monsignor William C. O'Hanlon | 5,000.00 |
| Monsignor Aloysius O. Olinger | 865.00 |
| Monsignor Mozart Pelletier | 100.00 |
| Monsignor John V. Plauche | 400.00 |
| Monsignor F. Joseph Rateau | 570.00 |
| Monsignor Russell J. Richie | 591.14 |
| Monsignor B. A. Scallan | 10,085.90 |
| Monsignor Matthew J. Scanlon | 310.00 |
| Monsignor Joseph M. Susi | 9,706.00 |
| Monsignor Steve J. Testa | 8,205.00 |
| Monsignor Henry A. Thompson | 360.00 |
| Monsignor John M. Timmermans | 7,570.00 |
| Monsignor Martin J. Tyrrell | 4,250.00 |
| Monsignor Henry Van der Putten | 1,291.89 |
| Monsignor John C. Vandegaer | 1,350.00 |
| Monsignor Nicholas F. Vandegaer | 1,350.00 |
| Monsignor John J. Wakeman | 100.00 |
| Monsignor Julius G. Walle | 2,170.00 |
| Father William G. Allison | 160.00 |
| Father Peter J. Besselaar | 50.00 |
| Father Michael Bodnar | 50.00 |
| Father Lawrence Bonin | 70.00 |
| Father H. Gerald Bordelon | 13,885.00 |
| Father Vernon Bordelon | 445.00 |
| Father Gilles Boyer | 85.00 |
| Father Basil Burns | 100.00 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Father Scott Chemino | 325.00 |
| Father Jules L. Claes, CICM | 4,761.00 |
| Father Wilbur G. Cloutier | 3,690.50 |
| Father Daniel Cook | 2,500.00 |
| Father Daniel Corkery | 100.00 |
| Father Anthony N. Cumella | 1,250.00 |
| Father John H. Cunningham | 1,475.00 |
| Father Dennis A. Curren | 650.00 |
| Father Leonard Curtis, OP | 1,050.00 |
| Father Ferreolus D'Cruz | 875.00 |
| Father Edward Deasy | 625.00 |
| Father Blake Deshautelle | 25.00 |
| Father Derek Ducote | 350.00 |
| Father Rudolph J. Engelen | 550.00 |
| Father Richard Fale | 5,700.00 |
| Father James Ferguson | 600.00 |
| Father Harvey J. Fortier | 1,475.00 |
| Father Joseph Alfred Fortin | 200.00 |
| Father James Foster | 280.00 |
| Father Louis Gagnard | 50.00 |
| Father John M. Gayer | 870.00 |
| Father Serafin Glasnovic | 150.00 |
| Father Rickey Gremillion | 9,965.00 |
| Father Daniel Hart | 50.00 |
| Father William M. Hopp | 10.00 |
| Father Mark W. Horacek | 50.00 |
| Father Bartholomew Ibe | 200.00 |
| Father Tom Jezak | 400.45 |
| Father Michael P. Kammer | 921.00 |
| Father W. John Kiley | 625.00 |
| Father Francis X. Kronemeyer | 100.00 |
| Father George Krosfield | 50.00 |
| Father Peter Kuligowski | 1,068.00 |
| Father Paul Kunnumpuram | 475.00 |
| Father Henri Jacquemain | 50.00 |
| Father Russell J. Lemoine | 425.00 |
| Father Frederick J. Lyons | 1,600.00 |
| Father Bernard F. Maguire | 105.00 |
| Father Robert M. Maure | 10.00 |
| Father Jamie Medina-Cruz | 200.00 |
| Father Jack Michalchuk | 150.00 |
| Father Bruce Miller | 300.00 |
| Father Adrian Molenschot | 3,925.00 |
| Father Joseph Montalbano | 400.00 |
| Father Govie J. Moraus, Jr. | 200.00 |
| Father Christudas Nayak | 100.00 |
| Father Peter T. Norek | 400.00 |
| Father Dan O'Connor | 1,525.00 |
| Father Thomas O'Connors | 10.00 |
| Father Chad Partain | 100.00 |
| Father Martin L. Plauche | 50.00 |
| Father Samuel J. Polizzi | 1,000.00 |
| Father George Pookkattu | 50.00 |
| Father William B. Provosty | 105.00 |
| Father Charles Ray | 100.00 |
| Father Frederick Taylor Reynolds | 1,080.00 |
| Father Yves J. Robitaille | 1,900.00 |
| Father José Robles-Sanchez | 350.00 |
| Father James Roy | 100.00 |
| Father Kenneth J. Roy | 3,505.00 |
| Father Sheldon Roy | 200.00 |
| Father Lloyd M. Samson | 50.00 |
| Father Craig Scott | 2,000.00 |
| Father Louis Sklar, III | 250.00 |
| Father Paul B. Smith | 250.00 |
| Father Ker Texada | 200.00 |
| Father August Thompson | 1,240.00 |
| Father Antonio E. Villaverde | 1,300.00 |
| Father Nino G. Viviano | 200.00 |
| Father Silvan A. Waterkotte, OFM | 160.00 |
| Father Kenneth Williams | 880.00 |
| Father Joseph Xavier | 100.00 |
| Father Bernard L. Zagst | 1,275.00 |
| Reverend H. Biggers | 158.50 |
| Deacon Emile "E.J." Barre, III | 100.00 |
| Deacon Rodrick "Benny" Broussard | 2,000.00 |
| Deacon L. G. DeLoach | 450.00 |
| Deacon Darrell Dubroc | 100.00 |
| Deacon Raymond J. Dunn | 300.00 |
| Deacon Ray D. Gibson | 100.00 |
| Deacon Charles A. Jones | 1,150.00 |
| Deacon Gregory P. LeBlanc | 100.00 |
| Deacon Todd Marye | 100.00 |
| Deacon Patrick C. McCusker | 100.00 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Deacon Richard W. Mitchell | 100.00 |
| Deacon Ted A. Moulard | 300.00 |
| Deacon Clifton "Kip" J. Pelto | 100.00 |
| Deacon William E. Schaidnagle | 100.00 |
| Deacon Gary A. Schupbach | 200.00 |
| Deacon William "Bill" M. Travis | 200.00 |
| Deacon John L. Whitehead | 100.00 |
| Deacon Michael L. Young | 200.00 |
| Sister Margaret McCaffrey | 300.00 |
| Sister Marie Therese McGee, OP | 100.00 |
| Ismael and Libby Agosto | 250.00 |
| Shirley Alexander | 1,125.00 |
| Charles P. and Florence C. Anastasio | 880.00 |
| Germaine Armand | 550.00 |
| Virgie D. Aymond | 225.00 |
| Bobby D. Basco | 4,690.00 |
| Delores Basco | 150.00 |
| Harold and Lillie Baridon | 5,750.00 |
| John M. Bauer | 150.00 |
| Dr. Lamar and Jean Boese | 50.00 |
| Will Bollich | 100.00 |
| J. V. Bonnette | 50.00 |
| Carolyn Brouillette | 50.00 |
| Nathan Cannella | 225.00 |
| Frank V. Cariere | 175.00 |
| Dylan Michael Cashio | 400.00 |
| T. W. Clark | 50.00 |
| Charles D'Amico | 50.00 |
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| Gerald Flynn | 100.00 |
| Mr. and Mrs. Philip Flynn | 50.00 |
| Anne Barry Gallagher | 2,025.00 |
| Anthony and Mary Glorioso | 100.00 |
| Toby Guedry | 1,000.00 |
| Gail T. Gutierrez | 100.00 |
| William J. Hamlin | 500.00 |
| Madeline Jeansonne | 100.00 |
| Leonard Johnson | 1,050.00 |
| Maria S. Keran | 1,000.00 |
| Floyd J. LaCour | 7,500.00 |
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| Huey and Neen Lemoine | 150.00 |
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| Huey and Ethel Mathews | 1,000.00 |
| Louis "Dump" Henry Mathews, Sr. | 100.00 |
| Daryl "Pat" Mauterer | 3,000.00 |
| Ethel Miller | 100.00 |
| Odis James Miller | 190.00 |
| Gerald Moreau | 215.00 |
| Helen Morgan | 12,000.00 |
| Marge Murrin | 315.00 |
| Alcide A. Nassif | 522.29 |
| Kitty Treadway Nassif | 100.00 |
| Maurice Noel | 295.00 |
| N. J. and Hannah Nolan | 10,000.00 |
| Harvey Miller "Buddy" Normand | 100.00 |
| W. D. O'Neal | 8,159.00 |
| Danny O'Quinn | 100.00 |
| Albert and Elsie Poche | 900.00 |
| Kathleen Pool | 375.00 |
| Edna Rabalais | 1,375.00 |
| Dr. Sidney Rud | 50.00 |
| Luis R. Robles-Cortez | 125.00 |
| Dr. Brenda V. Seiler | 100.00 |
| Josephine G. Serio | 275.00 |
| John Gregory Simms | 4,275.00 |
| Joseph T. Simms, Jr. | 11,475.00 |
| Sadie Stroud | 9,000.00 |
| Robert Upton | 100.00 |
| Patsy DeKeyzer Vincik | 200.00 |
| Gus Voltz, Jr. | 4,020.00 |
| Larry Lee Wiltse | 1,925.00 |
| Tracy P. Wiltse | 1,825.00 |
| Mary Virginia Young | 100.00 |
| Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence | 100.00 |
| Deceased Member of Catholic Daughters of the Americas | |
| Court Regina Pacis #1372, Natchitoches | 775.00 |
| In Honor of Providence Central High School Class of 1959 | 1,450.00 |
| St. Edward the Confessor Parish, Tallulah | 100.00 |
| St. Mary's Assumption Parish, Cottonport | 700.00 |
| General Fund | 2,000.00 |

TOTAL **\$566,597.17**



2018 NATIONAL DIACONATE CONGRESS, NEW ORLEANS. The diocese was well represented at the 2018 National Diaconate Congress held in New Orleans on July 22-26. This year, the Congress celebrated the 50th anniversary of the renewal of the Order of Diaconate as a permanent ordained ministry of the Catholic Church in the United States. The theme this year was "Christ the Servant: Yesterday, Today and Forever." The 2018 Congress was planned by NADD with support of the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations and the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Pictured are: Father Dan O'Connor, Bishop David Talley, Deacon Richard Mitchell and his wife Nicki, Deacon Gary Schupbach and his wife Diane, Deacon Bill Endris and his wife Florence and Deacon Bill Aldridge and his wife Renee.

Fifteen accepted as Deacon aspirants

Bishop Talley has accepted fifteen men to begin their discernment and formation for the Diaconate. They will begin their formal formation mid-August of this year.

"The fifteen aspirants are excited to begin this journey of

faith formation. The diaconate office has worked closely with Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans to tailor the program to ensure the men are formed to meet the needs of our diocese," according to Deacon Richard Mitchell, director of the

Diaconate Program for the diocese.

They will meet monthly with Notre Dame Seminary professors here in Alexandria for a period of four years.

After one year of aspirancy, they will be accepted into candidacy until ordination.



NEW DEACON ASPIRANTS. A series of socials were held throughout the diocese in order for people to meet the new deacon aspirants. The last social was held at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria on Sunday, July 15. The new aspirants are pictured left to right, back row: Les Glankler, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria; Kenny Sayes, Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth; Doug Moreau, St. Mary's Assumption Church, Cottonport; Lee Moreau, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville; Sam Jones, St. Patrick Church, Ferriday. Middle row: Jason Lavergne, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral; Jody Byrd, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral; Ken Primeaux, St. Winifred Chapel, Effie; Reggie Ducote, Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville. Front row: Fidel Andrade, St. Michael the Archangel Church, Leesville; Roger Christopher, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tioga; Chad Thibodeaux, Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches; Alex Mangini, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Not pictured: Marc Barrett, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria and Mark Guidry, St. Anthony of Padua, Natchitoches and St. Augustine, Isle Brevelle.

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6:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
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• Aug. 27

6:00 p.m.

St. Anthony of Padua,
Bunkie

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Excerpt from *Devotion to the Holy Spirit*, TAN Books, Charlotte, NC
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Jesuit aims to stem decline of faith with launch of catechetical website

By Maureen Pratt
Catholic News Service

ANAHEIM, Calif. (CNS) -- Jesuit Father Robert J. Spitzer, former president of Gonzaga University, launched a cutting-edge catechetical website to confront the rising tide of unbelief spurred by an increasingly skeptical, science-saturated society.

Developed through Father Spitzer's Magis Center, based in Garden Grove, Credible Catholic offers 20 downloadable "modules" that equip Magis Center learners with evidence-based arguments for core Christian beliefs. The catechetical website is www.CredibleCatholic.com.

"The Credible Catholic modules correspond to fundamental apologetics in light of modern scientific methods," said Father Spitzer, author and co-host of the Eternal Word Television Network program, "Father Spitzer's Universe."

Each module is available in animated PowerPoint or document format in three levels of complexity, from highly detailed to a "Cliff Notes" version, with a separate teaching.

Interactive resources on the website include a robust search engine for navigation to key words or phrases, and a "contact us" click-through to enable direct contact with Credible Catholic staff. The modules, downloadable files and all supporting resources, including Magis Center staff support, are free.



CREDIBLE CATHOLIC OFFERS MODULAR RESOURCES FOR CATECHISM. Catechetical website www.crediblecatholic.org, offers catechists easy to use modules that correspond with sections of The Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Based on Father Spitzer's books and other work in apologetics, modules include contributions from astrophysicists, historians, theologians, physicists, and other experts. Each module aligns with specific sections of The Catechism of the Catholic Church, so it can easily be used to supplement sacrament preparation or for individual study.

Father Spitzer's foray into a multidisciplinary catechetical website sprung from his growing concern that religious affiliation is declining, due in large part, he believes, to the influence, particularly on youth, of "secular myths that misstate and/or misrepresent the facts."

These myths include

"science has proven God does not exist," "humans are just a bunch of conglomerated atoms and molecules," "suffering proves God does not exist," and Jesus was "a very special person but he certainly was not divine."

Older Catholics can find these arguments challenging, but particularly vulnerable, Father Spitzer said, are many young people whose faith is tremendously shaken or dissipates when confronted with the stresses of academic and peer pressures.

The Credible Catholic's "7 Essential Modules," the first modules developed by Father Spitzer, give students and catechists tools to meet the challenges of skeptics. They cover

core Christian beliefs and offer science-based evidence to support them.

"Kids demand proof," said the priest. "The more validated it is, the more they like it. '7 Essential Modules' is the inoculation that we give to students so they can go through their college years without getting their faith knocked out from under them."

A discussion of terminal lucidity, for example, is included in the module regarding proof of the soul. In another, research in Near Death Experiences, or NDEs, help illuminate the reality of life after death. And an explanation of the physical properties of light and heat transference is used to explain how the image on the Shroud of Turin could not have been humanly possible at the time it was made.

Anne Steinemann, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Melbourne, Australia, an early supporter of Credible Catholic, has seen the positive impact Credible Catholic has on students.

"Science can explain 'what,'" Steinemann told CNS, "but it cannot answer the question, 'Why?' Credible Catholic is effective, easy and exciting. It answers, head on, the typical objections to the Catholic faith."

The modules' format also helps facilitate learning.

"Students," said Steinemann, "can view the presentations on their own time, on their own device, in their own way. In the

age of information overload, and trying to get students' attention, this does."

Michael O'Hara, executive director for Credible Catholic, works with teachers, clergy and staff of dioceses and parishes to understand how the unique material can work with existing ministries, departments or catechetical classes.

Parents benefit from the modules' content, too.

"The problem for the parent," said O'Hara, "is that their kids are growing up in a world unlike anything that they grew up in. They don't have a counter to the arguments. The modules help the parent cope, and help them feel confident to counter the arguments."

In November 2017, Father Spitzer and his team from Magis Center debuted "7 Essential Modules" at an event attended by U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, retired head of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation, and 34 other U.S. Catholic bishops.

In June of this year, the priest presented the modules to 75 archbishops and bishops during the spring assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Florida. He now has 80 dioceses lined up to use the modules in their religious education or sacrament preparation programs, or as independent study add-ons.

Father Spitzer also plans to continue adding modules, eventually covering all of the catechism.



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A fun summer full of Vacation Bible School

... and other activities!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, June 11-15. The theme was "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus." Over 300 kids, teens and volunteers attended!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, ST. FRANCES CABRINI CHURCH (Alexandria). St. Frances Cabrini School teacher, Sister Porimolla Murmu, engages a group of young girls during the "Superhero Saints" Vacation Bible School held at St. Frances Cabrini Church, July 23-27.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH (Bunkie). St. Anthony of Padua in Bunkie hosted its VBS July 9-13 for kids entering PreK - 4th grade.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS CHURCH (Woodworth). Mary, Mother of Jesus Church hosted Vacation Bible School June 18-22 for kids entering Pre-K through 6th grade. They had a lot of fun with the theme, "Rolling River Rampage."



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, SACRED HEART OF JESUS CHURCH (Pineville). Sacred Heart of Jesus held their Vacation Bible School July 16-20 in the Activities Building for ages K-6. This summer's theme was "Rolling River Rampage."



LEFT: CAMP COVECREST, ST. RITA LIFE TEEN. Teens and adults from Saint Rita Youth Ministry traveled to Tiger, Georgia for Camp Covecrest, July 30-Aug. 4, where they participated in retreat and summer camp activities.



THE ST. MARY'S TIGER LINE ATTENDED UDA DANCE CAMP JUNE 4-7 IN RUSTON. The Lady Tigers had a great time, learned a lot and brought home several awards including: Sweepstakes Winners as a Team; 2nd place Home Routine; Drill Down 2nd place winner [redacted]; All Americans: Captain [redacted], Co-Captain [redacted], Lieutenant [redacted]. The Tiger Line was invited to compete at The 2019 National Dance Team Championship that will be held at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando Florida in February. [redacted]



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, HOLY GHOST CHURCH (Marksville) AND ST. RICHARD'S CHAPEL (Hickory Hill). Holy Ghost Church and St. Richards Chapel recently held its annual Vacation Bible School on July 11-13, 2018. Twenty (20) children from the church and community, ages 5-13, attended and had an awesome experience! The theme this year was taken from Ephesians 6:11-18. "Put on the Whole Armor of God." Everyone enjoyed the songs, arts and crafts, and bible readings to help them understand their responsibility as soldiers in God's Army. Members from the church volunteered as well as the pastor Father Abraham Varghese and seminarian David Keran.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH, MANSURA. A one-day VBS was held on June 30 at St. Paul in Mansura. The children enjoyed crafts and had fun on two big water slides. At the end of the day they received t-shirts for attending. The theme was "Splash Canyon". The Ladies Altar Society and Knights of Columbus volunteered.



CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTERS ASSOCIATION. Lynn Ray, Campus Ministry Coordinator for LSUA and LC (pictured center with two friends), attended the Catholic Campus Ministers Association (CCMA) Conference in Minneapolis, MN held May 29-June 1, 2018.



NEW TEACHER IN-SERVICE HOSTED BY THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE. An in-service was held at St. Joseph Catholic Center for new Catholic school employees prior to the opening of school. Superintendent Thomas Roque, Sr., welcomed new teachers, para-professionals and other support personnel and gave an overview of the services and resources available from the Diocese.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND PASTORS MEET. Sr. Carol Cimino, retired Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Buffalo, New York, conducted a round table discussion about the roles of the pastor and principal during a luncheon at the St. Rita Holy Family Center.

Catholic Schools Office rolls out new curriculum for diocese

Thomas Roque, Sr., Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Alexandria, recently announced plans to transition to a standard Catholic curriculum for all Catholic schools in the Diocese.

Work on the new curriculum began in 2017, when a team of experts in both public and Catholic school education began developing the curriculum, to be used for grades K-12. The team included Tracy Bock - Assistant Principal, Rapides Parish School System; Denese Carter - Retired Administrator, Rapides Parish School System; Barbara Forest, retired teacher, Rapides Parish School System and Courtney Gistorb - Lead Teacher, Rapides Parish School System.

"There was previously no set curriculum for Catholic schools," states Roque. This new framework is meant to pace a teacher's instruction, breaking

down the skills that students should be taught and giving a path for instruction. The curriculum also includes tutorials for teachers, as well as additional instructional resources.

The curriculum correlates to the ACT/Aspire standardized test to ensure that students in the Catholic schools are meeting all state requirements. However, the curriculum developed was independently designed for our diocese, allowing and encouraging students to exceed these minimum standards in English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science.

A curriculum overview was provided to principals on July 19. The curriculum is expected to be released to teachers in late August or early September, with representatives from each school asked to attend a special teacher in-service to discuss the curriculum and how it can be implemented

across age groups.

This new curriculum framework will serve as a living document, to be updated and modified as necessary, and released through several meetings with all Catholic school principals, pastors, new teachers, faculty, and staff.

A new-teacher in-service was held August 8 at St. Joseph Catholic Center with Sr. Carol Cimino as the presenter on "Teaching in a Catholic Setting." Following this presentation, principals and pastors met for a round-table discussion regarding their roles in schools and how they can work together.

A back-to-school Mass was also held August 9 at St. Frances Cabrini Church to welcome back all teachers, faculty, and staff who work in our diocesan Catholic schools.

School begins Tuesday, August 14 for all Catholic schools in the diocese.



DIocese OF ALEXANDRIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE INTRODUCES NEW CURRICULUM FOR K-12. The Catholic Schools office hosted a presentation on July 14 at the St. Joseph Catholic Center to introduce the new curriculum which will be implemented this coming school year. Those in attendance were Diocese of Alexandria Catholic School principals and other members of their administrative team.



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TEACHER SUMMER INSTITUTE HELD JUNE 11-12 AT HOLY SAVIOR MENARD. A variety of workshops were offered during this optional teacher in-service. Keynote speaker was John Findlater, former Catholic School principal from the school system in Detroit, MI.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS LEADERSHIP RETREAT, May, 2018. The 2-day retreat at Cypress Bend Resort in Many offered teambuilding and leadership sessions.



THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE FOR THE DIOCESE HOSTED AN INFORMATION SEMINAR at the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria. The focus of the meeting was "Equitable Services – for Federal Funds designated to Non-Public Schools," a collaboration between LEA (local education agencies) i.e. parish school boards, federal program directors and administrative teams from non-public schools. Daphne Flentroy, State Ombudsman for the Louisiana Department of Education's Division of Federal Programs, made the presentation to approximately fifty attendees consisting of non-public school personnel from throughout the state of Louisiana as well as representatives from area school boards.

New leadership at two schools



PRINCIPAL, ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL, BUNKIE. Aimee Hays joins St. Anthony of Padua School as principal. Aimee is from Plaquemine. Previously, she was an Early Interventionist with the Avoyelles Parish School Board.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL (NATCHITOCHE) CLEAN UP DAY. On Saturday, July 28, St. Mary's held a work day. Several parents and students came out to help work and clean up around the school. The awnings were repaired and the poles painted; windows, gutters, and sidewalks were cleaned and branches were hauled away; exercise equipment was assembled in the weight room. St. Mary's thanks those who came out to help. (To see more pictures go to www.diocesealex.org.)



ASST. PRINCIPAL, OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL, ALEXANDRIA. Jessica Lemoine joins the staff at OLPS School. Previously, Jessica was guidance counselor at Holy Savior Menard Central High School.

BRUMFIELD vs DODD POLICY.

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

**DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA
NON-DISCRIMINATORY SCHOOL POLICY
August, 2018**

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

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

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

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A spiritual pilgrimage: what is it all about?

Is this type of journey something you'd like to know more about? Read these testimonies to find out...

Wikipedia says: "A pilgrimage is a journey or search of moral or spiritual significance. Typically, it is a journey to a shrine or other location of importance to a person's beliefs and faith, although sometimes it can be a metaphorical journey ..."

There are many opportunities to satisfy one's spiritual wanderlust. A pilgrimage always seems available through various group travel trips offered by different entities within, as well as outside, the diocese. Going with a group offers some advantages: the planning is already done! Many times there will be someone who serves as a spiritual leader for the trip such as a priest or deacon. Once at your destinations, knowledgeable guides will highlight the significance of sites. Group travel takes some of the stress of planning away so you can focus on the spiritual aspect of the trip. Some of these group tours are listed at the end of this article.

But for some, group travel is not their personal choice and therefore go on their own, such as Father Ryan Humphries, pastor of St. Edward the Confessor Church in Tallulah, who has just embarked on a three-month personal spiritual pilgrimage to Europe. The main feature of his trip will be to hike the Camino de Santiago that traverses the length of Spain. The Camino de Santiago is also known as "the Way" and is a popular route for pilgrims.

Before leaving, Fr. Ryan said his day-to-day life as a pastor is relatively predictable and stable but that in the last few years, he has noticed a clear change in the world and in the Church and that change means that priests move around more. It means that priests are less stable and have to be more ready to adjust rapidly to changing situations. His hope is to build up his capacity for the unexpected. He believes he will be in a near-constant state of instability, staying in a different village every night and meeting new people every day.

"There's a lot to be said for the value of hiking in itself," Fr. Ryan says. "A journey is a journey, after all. The Camino is



SEMINARIAN, THOMAS KENNEDY, MAKES PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND in May. Left: Thomas Kennedy and seminarian, Adam Shimek, from Victoria, Texas, at the site of the Tyburn Tree Gallows where hundreds of Catholics were martyred during the Protestant Reformation in London. Right: The Shrine Tomb of Saint Edward the Confessor in Westminster Abbey, London, England. Thomas Kennedy's summer assignment was at St. Edward the Confessor Church in Tallulah, LA.

different for it's over religious themes, it's historicity, it's hikers and it's destination(s). Religiously speaking, basically all of Northern Spain is Catholic and every little village has an historic Church with strong ties to some specific and unique saint or event in Church history. There are hundreds of buildings along the Camino dating to the 13th and 14th centuries."

Diocese of Alexandria seminarian, Thomas Kennedy, spent a few weeks this past May on a pilgrimage to Ireland, Scotland and England where he was able to visit Saint Andrews, Durham Cathedral and the relics of Saint Bede and Saint Cuthbert, and the site of the martyrdom of his patron, Saint Thomas Becket,

in Canterbury Cathedral.

"For me, this was a significant spiritual journey in which I brought many prayer intentions, including those for family, friends, our diocese, and my summer assignment at Saint Edward's in Tallulah. It was also significant for me because the last time I was in England I was an Episcopalian, so to be there now as a Catholic is a special opportunity. It was also a genealogical journey for me, as many of my ancestors are from these three countries."

One of the spiritual highlights of his pilgrimage was the opportunity to pray Morning Prayers in the chapel in Scotland where his ancestor, Bishop James Kennedy is buried and though,

not planned, was there on the anniversary of Bishop Kennedy's death.

Another moment of grace which he said was unplanned happened when kneeling to pray vespers on the site of the martyrdom of Saint Thomas Becket, they saw a sign that indicated that on that very

day, May 29, 1882, Saint Pope John Paul II knelt and prayed at that same spot asking for the intercession of Saint Thomas Becket.

When asked how his trip influenced his faith he replied: "Yes, I think the pilgrimage made a great difference in my faith. It really solidified to me, who I am as a person. My family and my faith come from these countries and the Catholicism as it was practiced there at that time and seeing my faith and family roots helps me know who I am in a more profound way."

Another seminarian of the diocese, John Upton, travelled alone to Europe this past June.

"I chose to go on my pilgrimage alone. This particular pilgrimage is not as famous as others (such as the Camino in Spain), and I only met four other pilgrims on my entire trip. This led to quite a bit of solitude.

"I truly cherish the opportunity for solitude for a couple of reasons. The first, and probably most obvious reason, is so that I could open my ears to the Lord and spend ample time in prayer and meditation. The solitude also allowed me to truly cherish the human interactions that I experienced. It reminded me not to take my relationships at home, which are truly gifts from God, for granted.

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“Probably the biggest take away from my pilgrimage, as a whole, was the realization that our entire lives should be viewed as a pilgrimage. We should live for God in everything that we do during our short time here on earth. Our entire lives should be viewed as a journey that is undergone completely for the sake of our devotion to Christ.

“My trip was in many ways a metaphor for life. Things didn’t always go as planned. I was uncomfortable at times. I got lost on several occasions. However, God always provided in unexpected ways. I truly felt like I was often walking by faith and not by sight. One memorable example of this would be when I walked into the small town of Piedeluco. I was looking for the pilgrim’s hostel in town, but I did not know where to go and the hostel was not answering their phone. Not knowing where I’d stay that night, I decided to seek out the Church in town. Above the church, I noticed a statue of the Blessed Virgin, so I walked towards it, fully confident that my heavenly mother would take care of me (even if not on my terms). As soon as I reached the statue, a priest from Romania appeared out of a building nearby and seeing that I was a pilgrim, asked if I needed a place to stay.”

So, for those seeking to enrich and strengthen their



FATHER RYAN HUMPHRIES SHARED THIS PHOTO of Bishop's Chapel in the Diocese of Reykjavik, Iceland taken on Aug. 4 this past weekend. He concelebrated Mass with several other priests and a seminarian from that diocese.

faith, perhaps a pilgrimage is the answer. Length of time, destinations and especially cost are things to consider but ultimately it would no doubt be a trip of a lifetime and the spiritual benefits will extend far beyond the end of the journey.



THE WAY OF ST. FRANCIS BETWEEN FLORENCE AND ROME, ITALY. This route passes through many holy sites, including cathedrals, basilicas, convents, and monasteries. It also brings the pilgrim to many beautiful forests, mountains, and landscapes that St. Francis of Assisi traveled through during his lifetime. Seminarian, John Upton, hiked over 100 miles (mostly between Assisi and Rieti). He pauses for a selfie outside the Cathedral in Spoleto, Italy.

Opportunities for group travel pilgrimages to several destinations

Pilgrimage to Ireland October 1-10, 2018

Heart of Ireland! Take a spiritual adventure through our Catholic heritage in the Emerald Isle. October 1-10, 2018 with Fr. Kenneth Michiels. To receive an information packet with application please contact St. Michael the Archangel in Leesville: 337-239-2656.

Pilgrimage to Holy Land Nov. 5-15, 2018

ALMOST FULL! The Equestrian Order of The Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is offering a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from November 5-15, 2018.

For more information contact Roz or Pierre Allemond at 318-452-6443 or email eojsalexandria@gmail.com, or go to sleohs.com, and at the news/events dropdown and click *pilgrimages*.

Journey to Holy Land Jan. 28-Feb. 6, 2019

Join Magnificat Travel and Father Martin Laird for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land Jan. 28-Feb. 6, 2019. See the Mount of the Beatitudes, Nazareth, Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Holy Sepulcher, Dead Sea Scrolls, and so much more. For more information, call 337-291-1933 or email info@holyltravels.org or visit the website at www.holyltravels.org.

Pilgrimage to Italy February 18-29, 2019

Join Rev. Charles Ray for a pilgrimage to Italy from Feb. 18-29, 2019. Trip includes air transportation from Alexandria, La. to Rome; 9 nights hotel; 2 meals a day; private motor coach; private Mass daily. For more information contact Mary Wilmore, 318-451-3206 or Elizabeth Metoyer, 318-379-2521.



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Holy Cross Parish kicks off new youth ministry program

Holy Cross Catholic Church in Natchitoches is proud to continue the Life Teen youth ministry program it started last year.

Life Teen is a Eucharist-centered movement within the Catholic Church that leads teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. With the Blessed Virgin Mary as intercessor, Life Teen seeks to unleash the fullness of the sacramental power present within the young church.

Holy Cross will kick off this year's Life Teen program on August 26, with their social night, "Illuminate!," and will continue the year using the Life Teen formula of choosing from one of three basic youth

ministry nights: Catechetical, Issue, and Social.

Holy Cross Life Teen has been very blessed, says Youth Minister Dustin Dauzat.

"We started the Life Teen program in our parish at this time last year, at which point the Natchitoches area did not have a Catholic Youth group. I had attended Steubenville South as a volunteer in June last year, and felt that God was calling for a youth group in our area."

Upon returning, Dauzat met with Fr. Marc Noel, pastor of the parish, and with Father Marc's support, the program took shape. Several volunteers offered to be a part of the parish's youth ministry team, and 45 youth from the area attended the parish's first kick-off event.

The parish youth group plans to meet on Sundays after 5 p.m. Mass, from 6 -8 p.m. They will kick off the new academic year on August 26, with their social night, take a break on Labor Day, then begin meeting again for their High School Retreat, "Search." The retreat will take place at Maryhill Renewal Center in Pineville on Sept. 8-9, 2018, and is open to all high school youth in the area.

For more information on the retreat or the new Life Teen program at Holy Cross parish, please contact Dustin Dauzat at 318-332-6367 or dustin.dauzat@gmail.com.

More information can also be found at www.nsucatholic.org or on social media @ [holycrosslt](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosslt).



LEFT: CAMP COVECREST, HOLY CROSS LIFE TEEN. Thirteen from Holy Cross Youth Ministry traveled to Tiger, Georgia for Camp Covecrest on July 30-Aug. 4, where they participated in retreat and summer camp activities. Covecrest is one of five summer camp locations where teens and adults gather for weeks of adoration, community, teaching, and service.

New parish youth ministers in the area

Several parishes in the diocese have welcomed new youth ministers to their staff, including St. Rita and Our Lady of Prompt Succor, both in Alexandria.

Mr. Chris Auzenne officially joined St. Rita's on Aug. 1, and is now responsible for Junior and Senior High Youth Ministry. Chris is a native of St. Rita Church, and is currently enrolled at Louisiana Tech University, from which he will graduate in 2019. Chris is known to the youth of the parish, after having worked with them at past Steubenville conferences and Covecrest retreats. He can be reached at (318) 445-7120.

Chris takes over this ministry opportunity from Mr. James Opdenhoff, who left St. Rita's at the end of July. After serving the parish for 14 years through youth and music ministry, James was offered an incredible opportunity to serve as Youth Director of St.

Pius X Parish in Lafayette, LA.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria welcomes two new staff members to their ministry team, including Ms. Jessica Sanders and Ms. Felicia Schneider.

Jessica joins Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church with twenty years of ministry experience, and will serve concurrently as the Campus Minister and MAC Team Coordinator of Holy Savior Menard Central High School. She will plan and implement the Life Teen EDGE curriculum for 7th and 8th graders, meeting on Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:30 p.m. in the Divine Providence Center Youth Room.

Felicia Schneider will serve as the new Director of Youth Ministry (Junior and Senior High), and Confirmation Coordinator for OLPS.

She joins the parish staff with 15 years of combined experience as a teacher, tutor, coach, and MAC Team assistant at Holy Savior Menard Central High School, and has served as an active member of OLPS Youth Ministry program for the last six years.

Felicia will plan and implement the Life Teen curriculum for the parish's Senior High students in grades 9 - 12, meeting on Sundays in the Divine Providence Center Youth Room, as well as trips to Life Teen Covecrest, Steubenville South, Catholic Heart Work Camp, and other Diocesan youth events. Beginning this fall, the Our Lady of Prompt Succor Youth Ministry will focus on the hope we have in Jesus Christ that he won for us through High death and Resurrection. Both Jessica and Felicia can be reached at (318) 445-3693.

For college news see the **Campus Ministry Calendar** at www.diocesealex.org



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I praise you O Lord from your birth
You are the king of heaven and earth

You came down from heaven to help us all,
Because we have sinned, on account of the fall.

Through your goodness you gave us new life,
To handle problems that would cause us strife.

Because of your mercy and love of the cross,
Another chance was given to all who were lost.

We all have to confess and say from the heart,
Forgive us Lord, and "thanks" for a new start.

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Blaze bible study program for girls

Are you ready to see the hearts of your daughters and granddaughters set on fire with love for Christ?

Walking with Purpose is a Catholic ministry that transforms the hearts and lives of women by providing Bible studies that enable women to know Christ through Scripture and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Offering personal study and small group discussion to women of all ages, Walking With Purpose links everyday challenges and struggles with the solutions given through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.

Walking with Purpose meets women where they are – regardless of age – giving them practical Biblical teaching that is consistent with Church doctrine and using the Catechism of the Catholic Church as an additional resource. Caring about women at every stage of their development, the ministry has introduced offerings for Young Adults, and most recently, Middle School girls.

In September 2018, Walking With Purpose will introduce *Blaze*, its new ministry for middle-school girls, offering resources to help reach the hearts of these pre-teens with the love of Christ and the truths of our Catholic faith. The selection of *Blaze* offerings is versatile

enough to be used in a variety of settings: in school or after school, as part of a youth parish program, in a small group setting at home, or one-on-one with a single girl. Two years of curriculum, a kit full of take-home gifts and icebreakers, a mother/daughter devotional, retreat guides, Bible studies, and prayer journals provide everything needed to engage with middle school girls as they navigate truth and lies in their everyday life.

Individual study options include *Between You and Me*, a 40-day conversation guide for mothers and daughters to read together, comparing a lie of our secular culture with the truth found in Scripture; *Discovering My Purpose*, a six-lesson Bible Study completed one time per week aiming to open girls' eyes to their unique purpose, gifts, and God's love; and the *Blaze* Prayer Journal featuring Bible verses and the acronym, "ACTS: Adoration, Confessions, Thanksgiving, and Supplication," with space to record prayers after Scripture reading and reflection.

Walking with Purpose was founded by Lisa Brenninkmeyer in Annapolis, Maryland in 2002. A convert to Catholicism herself, Lisa noticed a lack of fresh, relevant Catholic Bible Studies to attract and meet the needs of young mothers, and decided to

offer a Bible Study to help fill this need in her own community.

Finally, in the fall of 2008, the program was given the name Walking With Purpose and became a fully independent non-profit organization with 501 c (3) status, and a Board of Directors. At this point, the ministry began

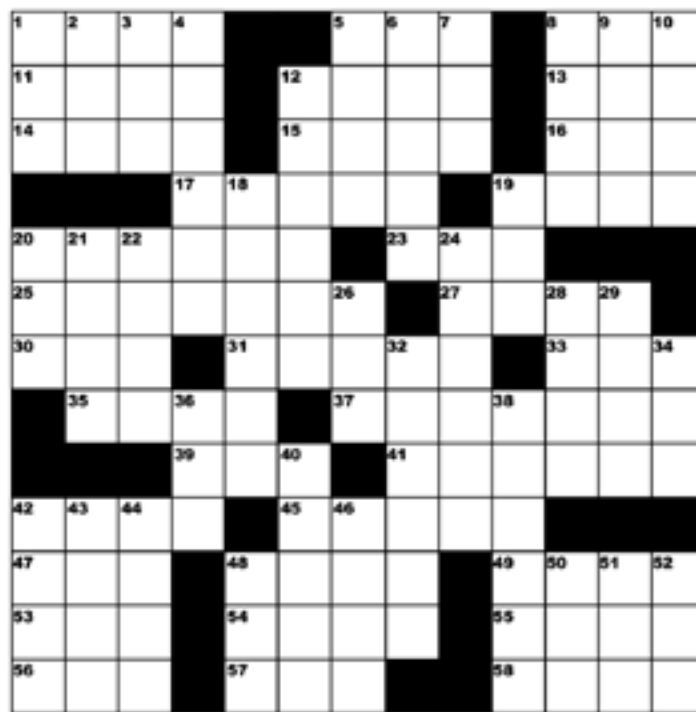
its expansion to other locations in earnest.

Today, over 250 parishes are involved in the Walking With Purpose program in the United States, and the organization has helped thousands of women deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

For more information on the Walking With Purpose organization, and their keystone Bible Study for adult women, *Opening Your Heart*, please visit www.walkingwithpurpose.com.

The Cross Word

August 19 and 26, 2018



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Readings: Prov 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58 and Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

ACROSS

- 1 Jewish month Moses died
- 5 Nathan's parable animal
- 8 Imitate
- 11 "... served beyond the ___"
- 13 Pencil's pal
- 14 Obnoxious noises
- 15 Latin for "creed"
- 16 Alternative (abbr.)
- 17 Not New Testament
- 18 Santa helper
- 20 Israel had 12
- 22 "Heavenly" host

26 Monastery brews

- 27 Explosive sound
- 28 "___obstat"
- 30 Stop
- 31 # of columns in Wisdom's house
- 32 Possessive pronoun
- 35 String instrument need
- 36 Wisdom mixed this
- 37 Postal stuff
- 39 Sailed
- 41 Universe
- 43 "___ time to go"
- 44 "___ & ye shall receive"
- 45 Cut grass
- 47 Tally (2 wds.)

- 51 Hive dweller
- 52 Lyric poem
- 53 Wisdom built
- 54 South southwest
- 55 Snatch
- 56 Wisdom served this

DOWN

- 1 Joan of ___
- 2 Director (abbr.)
- 3 "Hail" Mary
- 4 Jesus came to ___ us
- 5 Environmental agency (abbr.)
- 6 Weal
- 7 Go aboard a train
- 8 Mud brick
- 9 Heaps
- 10 A story ___
- 12 Dinner bread
- 19 Parking tickets
- 21 Queasy
- 22 Lincoln
- 23 Not (prefix)
- 24 The Lord ___
- 25 Municipal
- 29 Saint-___, Montreal
- 31 Traditional author of Proverbs
- 32 Possessive pronoun
- 33 Vane direction
- 34 Cardinals' hue
- 35 Jar's lip
- 36 31D known for his ___
- 37 Hebrew liberator
- 38 Lopsided
- 40 Beehive state
- 41 Taxis
- 42 Cola
- 46 Spider's net
- 48 What's owed
- 49 North American nation
- 50 Kitten

Answers on page 14

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL (ALEXANDRIA), Left: Four children made their First Communion at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on May 6, 2018. [redacted] are pictured with Father James Ferguson, Rector. Right: On July 22, [redacted] made his First Holy Communion with Father James Ferguson.

Order of Discalced Carmelites



Above: On May 12, Becky Healy made her "definitive promise." Pictured are Fr. Abraham Palakkattuchira, Deacon Bill Travis, Becky Healy, Fr. Adam Travis, Fr. Jim Moran (Diocese of Shreveport).

Left: Spring of 2018, Sharon Burgoyne is clothed (receives) in her Carmelite Scapular. Pictured are Fr. Adam Travis, Sharon Burgoyne, Deacon Bill Travis.



View more photos at www.diocesealex.org

KNIGHTS DONATE TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB The Knights of Columbus of Natchitoches presented a donation to board members of the Boys and Girls Club thanks to the loyal supporters of their weekly charity bingo. Pictured are some of the 110 children who attended the club's summer program.



St Mary's Residential Training Groundbreaking

On June 28, St. Mary's Residential Training School hosted a ground-breaking ceremony for 15 new group homes to support the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

The \$9.5 million-dollar project will eliminate dormitories

on St. Mary's campus and transition more than 120 residents from a congregant living environment to a true home of their own.

Pictured from left to right are: Mark Loya, Federal Home Loan Bank; Christi Guillot, St. Mary's Administrator; Bishop

David Talley; Ben St. Romain, Red River Bank; Deacon Darrell Dubroc, St. Mary's Director of Capital and Strategic Initiatives.

Quiz Answer: (D) Pope Francis ???



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION WAS CELEBRATED AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH (Moreauville) on May 13. Pictured from left to right: Jaylen Gilbert, Father Jose Pallipurath, Khylee Joshua, and Kimora Hill.

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SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY LEADERSHIP TEAM attended Mass in the chapel at St. Joseph Catholic Center, in Alexandria on July 18. The Sisters of the Holy Family elect their leadership team every four years. New leaders are pictured left to right with Deacon Richard Mitchell and Bishop David Talley: Sr. Jean Martinez, Fifth Counsellor; Sr. Leona Bruner, Congregational Leader; Sr. Alicia Costa, Third Counsellor and Treasurer; Sr. Rosalind Barbeneaux, Sixth Counsellor; Sr. Richard Francis Daigle, First Assistant; Sr. Judith Therese Barial, Fourth Counsellor; Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, Secretary; Sr. Geneva James, Second Counsellor. The Sisters of the Holy Family Convent is located in New Orleans on Chef Menteur Hwy.

QUIZ: Who Said the Following?

“Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful. And this occurs through a rich path made up of many ingredients. This is why there are so many subjects - because development is the result of different elements that act together and stimulate intelligence, knowledge, the emotions, the body, and so on.

If something is true, it is good and beautiful; if it is beautiful; it is good and true; if it is good, it is true and it is beautiful. And together, these elements enable us to grow and help us to love life, even when we are not well, even in the midst of many problems. True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life.”

Was it....

- A. St. Francis Xavier
- B. St. Luke the Evangelist
- C. Pope Saint John Paul II
- D. Pope Francis



Answer on page 20

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Support SSVM’s New Monastic House of Formation

The religious community, Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará (SSVM), has just opened a new Monastic House of Formation! This monastery is dedicated to forming women who wish to enter directly into the contemplative branch of

the order, as well as apostolic sisters of the order who request to enter. After receiving monastic formation, they enter one of their 14 monasteries currently founded around the world. These cloistered sisters dedicate their lives to the “Unum Necessarium”

(The Only Necessary Thing) which is union with God, praying for the priests, the missions and especially for the holiness of families.

Contact them for more information or if you would like to send them your prayer intentions: Email: Info.sp@servidoras.org.

Regular mail:
Monastic House of Formation
Via del Monastero 3,
01017 Tuscania (VT), Italy

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ACTS

Upcoming ACTS Retreats

- Sept. 13-16, 2018
St. Joseph ACTS for Women
For more information, contact John Gary Dautzat at 972-333-3490 or jdautzat@crcins.com.
- Oct. 4-7, 2018
St. Marys Assumption ACTS for Men
For more information, contact Luke Welch at 318-359-3372 or www.thestmarys.com.

Church Fair, Evergreen – Sept. 8-9

Church of the Little Flower will hold their annual fair on Sept 8 and 9. Festivities kick off after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Bingo, children's games, sweet shop, country store, hamburgers, jambalaya & Cokes are on Saturday night's agenda. Sunday, bingo continues all day. Sunday dinner consists of roast beef with all the trimmings for \$8.00 a plate. We recommend purchasing tickets in advance. Also have a cash raffle: 1st and 2nd prize, \$200; 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th is \$100 each, and a second raffle with 1st place, a bed swing and 2nd place, a wooden plant stand.

Ladies Day Retreat – Sept. 15

All ladies are invited to attend the "Ladies Day Retreat" sponsored by the Catholic Daughters #1459 and Women of Grace. The retreat will be held at St. Rita Holy Family Center and begins at 9:00 a.m. and closing with 4:00 p.m. Mass.

The retreat's reflection will be "The Greatest Commandments" with keynote speaker, Father Derek Ducote, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church along with special guest, Sister Judith Gomila, MSC. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with a light breakfast. Lunch and snacks will be provided. There is no charge for this retreat but reservations are required. Deadline to register is Sept. 12. Call (318) 445-7120 or Mrs. Ona Wilson at (318) 640-2159 or (318) 880-5245 or Mrs. Desi Martin (318) 277-5015.

Grillin & Chillin – Sept. 16

The Cenla Homeless Coalition's Virginia Soprano Resource Center is currently serving some 20 to 30 clients daily, many more than ever expected. While not a shelter, the Resource Center provides clients with access to personal hygiene, laundry services, and internet access. A fundraiser is being held at Spirits on Sept. 16 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Tickets, limited to 200, are available for \$50 per person and include gourmet burgers and Silent Auction. Silent Auction donations are being accepted now. Sponsorships are also available. Contact Kendra Gauthier at 318-443-0500 or kendra@cenlahomeless.org for more information.

Annual Pro-Life Chain – Oct. 7

Join pro-life citizens in Alexandria in this peaceful public witness against abortion. We will gather under the Riverfront Center next to the Jackson Street Bridge from 2:00-3:00 p.m. We will be joined during the event by a volunteer musician who will keep us focused with his music. Bring your whole family and some clean aluminum cans as a donation for the Cenla Pregnancy Center. For more information contact Donna Domzalski, (318) 445-7525.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS**Bishops Golf Tournament – Oct. 8**

Join us for the annual Bishop's Golf Tournament, Monday, Oct. 8 at Oakwing Golf Course, Alexandria. The 4-person scramble format includes green fees, cart, mulligans, range balls, refreshments and dinner following the tournament. Lunch will be served at 11:00 a.m., tee off time is 12 noon. Team sponsorship cost is \$540. Sponsorships still available and begin at \$100. For information, please contact Sandi Tarver at starver@diocesealex.org or 318-445-6424 ext. 209.



THE CHRISTIAN MOTHERS ORGANIZATION AT ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ISLE BREVELLE celebrated their 95th Anniversary on Saturday, May 12. The agenda for the day included their annual meeting, installation of new members and a reception.



SACRED HEART OF JESUS (Pineville) SELF DEFENSE/SELF AWARENESS MINISTRY that was held last night. This is the 4th year that Sacred Heart has provided this service to educate people about how to be more aware of their surroundings and what to do or not do in a threatening situation.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1357 (Natchitoches) made a donation of \$1,000 to Holy Cross Life Teen. Dustin Dautat, director of youth ministry at Holy Cross Church (on the right) said the donation helped cover their expenses at youth camp "Covecrest" in Tiger, GA recently.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #1134. John Morovich presents Bishop David Talley and Diaconate director, Deacon Richard Mitchell, with a donation for the Diaconate program. The 3rd Degree Knights of Columbus Bishop Charles Greco Council 1134 of St. Rita Church collected donations during their monthly breakfast on June 24.



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT based on Acts, Chapter 2 was held on July 21 at the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria. It was attended by 60 people from throughout the Diocese. Shown is Mike Lofton, one of the speakers.

Church Today News Deadlines

Next issue: Sept. 17
Deadline for news:
Friday, Sept. 7



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August - September

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>13</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE Holy Savior Menard HS</p> <p>OPEN HOUSE Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. PARTAIN</p> | <p>14</p> <p>First day of class: ALL Catholic Schools</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. T. PAUL</p> | <p>15</p> <p>LSUA Welcome Dinner 5:00-8:00 p.m. LSUA Catholic Student Center, Alexandria</p> <p>SOLEMNITY of the ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (a Holy Day of obligation)</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. G. POOKKATU</p> | <p>16</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. SJCC, Alexandria</p> <p>Back to School Night 5:30-7:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini School</p> <p>Illuminated Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. RABALAIS</p> | <p>17</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. RAY</p> | <p>18</p> <p>IGNITE Back2School Rally 6:00-8:30 p.m. Holy Savior Menard HS</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. T. REYNOLDS</p> | <p>19</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. ROBLES SANCHEZ</p> |
| Cenla ACTS Retreat for Men -- Maryhill Renewal Center | | | | | | |
| <p>20</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. E. RODRIGUEZ-HERNANDEZ</p> | <p>21</p> <p>Parent Night 6:00-8:00 p.m. Holy Savior Menard HS</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. RYAN</p> | <p>22</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. SCOTT</p> | <p>23</p> <p>NSU BBQ 6:00-8:00 p.m. NSU Catholic Student Center, Natchitoches</p> <p>Illuminated Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. B. SEILER</p> | <p>24</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. SHOURY</p> | <p>25</p> <p>FRESH Fire 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Metairie</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. P. SIERRA-POSADA</p> | <p>26</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. L. SKLAR</p> |
| Hands-ON + Hearts IN Discernment for Women -- Holly Springs, MS | | | | | | |
| <p>27</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. St. Anthony of Padua, Bunkie</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. I. ST. ROMAIN</p> | <p>28</p> <p>PRAY FOR BISHOP D. TALLEY</p> | <p>29</p> <p>NSU Men's & Women's Night 7:00-9:00 p.m. NSU Catholic Student Center, Natchitoches</p> <p>PRAY FOR MSGR. S. TESTA</p> | <p>30</p> <p>High School Football: St. Mary vs. Lakeview at St. Mary's School, Natchitoches</p> <p>Illuminated Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. THOMAS</p> | <p>31</p> <p>High School Football: Menard vs. Bolton at Bolton High School, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. THOMPSON</p> | <p>1</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR BISHOP D. TALLEY</p> | <p>2</p> <p>PRAY FOR MSGR. J. TIMMERMANS</p> |
| <p>3</p> <p>LABOR DAY PRAY FOR FR. A. TRAVIS</p> | <p>4</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE</p> | <p>5</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Illuminated Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. N. VIVIANO</p> | <p>7</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. G. VOLTZ</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Church Fair - Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen PRAY FOR FR. J. WILTSE</p> | <p>9</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER</p> |
| <p>10</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. K. ZACHARIAH</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Patriotic Rosary for the needs of our Country 6:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA</p> | <p>12</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Illuminated Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Solemn Vespers Holy Sepulchre 6:00 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Ladies' Day Retreat 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. St. Rita Holy Family Center, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Grillin' & Chillin' Fundraiser for the Cenla Homeless Coalition 4:00-7:00 p.m. Spirits Restaurant, Alexandria</p> <p>CATECHETICAL SUNDAY PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO</p> |
| St. Joseph ACTS Retreat for Women -- Maryhill Renewal Center | | | | | | |
| Hands-ON + Hearts IN Discernment for Women -- Holly Springs, MS | | | | | | |

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Lydia's Story

"I had ulcerative colitis for about 13 years. At work, the pain was so bad I would have to curl up under my desk. I wasn't myself. Since my surgery I'm back to me. I'd been other places, but Dr. Cole was the only one who seemed to care. He has been a blessing, I don't know what I would have done without him."

Lydia

"While we can care for the patient's physical needs, I think their spiritual and emotional needs are just as important and really aid in their recovery. Lydia is a great example. She's active and healthy. I'm thrilled I could play a small part to help her get her life back."

Dr. Cole

