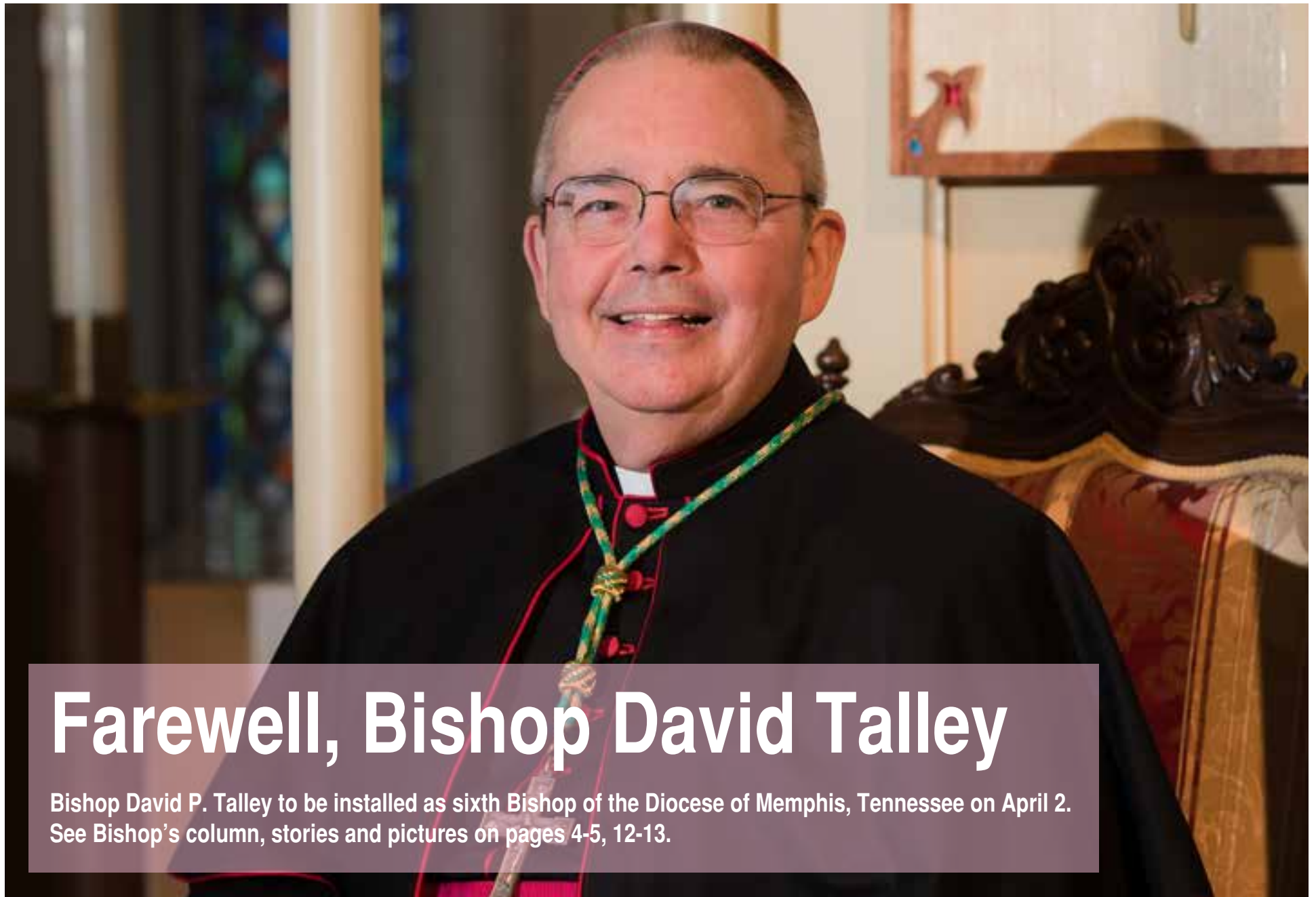

CHURCH TODAY

Volume L, No. 3

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

March 18, 2019



Farewell, Bishop David Talley

Bishop David P. Talley to be installed as sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Memphis, Tennessee on April 2. See Bishop's column, stories and pictures on pages 4-5, 12-13.

INSIDE

How to have a fruitful Lent... Three ways to open your heart.

Each Lent we have the opportunity to enter into Christ's passion and suffering in a real and deep way. For three ways that we can open our hearts to Christ to help lead us to the Resurrection this Lent, see page 6.

Holy Week, April 14-20 What is Holy Week?

What is Holy Week? Specifically: what happens on each day of this week that makes us consider it Holy? Turn to page 7 to learn about each of these days and for Holy Week schedules across the diocese, see page 16.

Parish Spotlight: St. Paul the Apostle, Mansura.

The second oldest parish in our diocese is located in Mansura, and was established in 1796, three years after the Diocese of Louisiana was established. Read about the rich history of this church on page 10.

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Looking back



March 2006:

Left: Via Dolorosa Garden at Holy Cross Church, Natchitoches

John Denny, of Holy Cross Church, volunteers every Thursday to work in the Way of the Cross Via Dolorosa Garden in Natchitoches. Fifteen wooden crosses mark the stations placed among life-size statues and beautiful landscaping.

March 2019:

Right: Via Dolorosa Garden today.

The beautifully mature landscaping of the Way of the Cross at Holy Cross Church, Natchitoches, invites visitors to stop and reflect all year round.



CHURCH TODAY



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Feast of the Month: St. Natalia Tulasiewicz

By *Emily Ann McCullough*
 Guest Contributor

**Perserverance of the Saints:
 The Story of
 Blessed Natalia Tulasiewicz**

“I have the courage to become a saint.”

Natalia Tulasiewicz was a Catholic girl who grew up in Poland in the early 1900's. She attended Catholic school and gained a great love of God and love of life. She did not feel called to religious life, but instead wanted to serve God as a laywoman, perhaps even married. She fell in love and was engaged for seven years but eventually broke off the engagement because he was not a Christian.

After this, she said that the love of God had made her heart so strong that nothing could break it. “It seems to me that I am on the path to a new era in my life, a path that is difficult but worthwhile. Now I love life more than ever before. I have always loved it in God, today I desire in the fullest sense to live in God!”

She loved music and literature and poetry and so she began a career as a school teacher.

But in November, 1939, German soldiers invaded her family's home. Her whole family was forced onto a crowded freight train, and sent to live altogether



in one room. Natalia was ordered to work in Germany. She found a job there in a factory where others were doing forced hard labor. She wrote to her sister that she wanted to go out into the streets with the holiness in her soul to help her fellow workers.

She bravely taught Religion secretly. The Germans discovered this and arrested her. She was tortured and beaten, and yet every night she prayed and loved God more and more. She wrote that this injustice did not make her give up, but taught her to be modest and happy. She said that the Germans could not humiliate her; she felt God supporting her.

Soon she was sent to Ravensbrück camp, where she was sure she would die. She fully believed this was God's will and would bring about great good. Because no priests were there, she herself led a religious service on Palm Sunday. That week she became so weak that

on Good Friday was sent to be killed in the gas ovens. She died on Easter Day, March 31, 1945, only a few days before that camp was liberated.

Blessed Natalia gave herself completely to God and practiced holiness in her every day life. She wrote: “I have the courage to become a saint. Only holiness is the fullest form of love, and so I don't just want, but must, become a saint, a modern saint...” That she did, and so can we.

Natalia Tulasiewicz was Beatified by John Paul II on June 13, 1999.

Prayer and Action

- Make your own prayer card with a picture (cut out this one) of Blessed Natalia and write a prayer on it asking for her intercession and that God will also make you a Saint.

- Pray that God will show you the best way to use the gifts He has given you further the Kingdom of God on earth (hint: the things you love doing may be a clue to some of your gifts)

- Light a candle at your parish as a prayer for all Christians who are imprisoned for their faith

- Look up the word ‘Perseverance’ and begin to practice this virtue that helped Blessed Natalia become a Saint.

**St. Natalia Tulasiewicz's
 Feast Day:
 Sunday, March 31**

“Only holiness is the fullest form of love, and so I don't just want, but MUST, become a saint, a modern saint.”

Emily Ann and her husband, a former Protestant minister, became Catholic in 1998. She has worked in Religious Education ever since, and at present teaches Religion to third graders at St. Frances Cabrini School, Alexandria.

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2019 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL



I will give you a new heart

“... and a new spirit I will place within you.” Ezekiel 36:26

The 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal has begun; letters were mailed to all households the week of February 18-22. If you did not receive a letter from Bishop David and would like to give to the 2019 ADA, please call 318-445-6424 ext. 209 and we will send you a pledge card, or, go online to diocesealex.org and click the “donate” link. Our sincere thanks in advance to all you have done and will continue to do for the Annual Diocesan Appeal.



DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA

The 5th of March 2019: a new appointment

From the very first day of my service here, *it has been a joy*. As you might remember, the announcement of my appointment came on the Feast of St. Matthew, the 21st of September, 2016. I moved in with Fr. Jim Ferguson at our Cathedral in late October and on the 7th of November, was introduced to all at a Mass of Welcome. From that day until now, I have been embraced by our people, as they have shown me their love for Christ's Church and their love for those of us who serve them as ordained clergy; and I have come to love our priests and deacons and sisters...and the small group of disciples that work at the Chancery.

I was told of this new appointment, as the 6th Bishop of Memphis, on the evening of the 9th of February. I was in Fifth Ward, at Our Lady of Lourdes, celebrating the Vigil Mass and the



I am the VINE; YOU are the BRANCHES

(John 15:5)

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

Golden Jubilee of their beautiful church and the Confirmation of eleven of their teens. After holy Mass, as we were all in the fellowship hall for photos and the reception, I checked my voice-mail and heard the message of the Apostolic Nuncio asking me to contact him. After arriving back in Alexandria, I called the Nuncio and heard...that the Holy Father had appointed me Bishop of Memphis. The Nuncio then asked...*will you accept the appointment?*

Will you accept the appointment? For two and a half years, I have spent most every waking moment thinking and praying about our faith life in central Louisiana. I have received your counsel and the counsel of our priests and deacons and women Religious. For two and a half years, I've tried to work collaboratively with our clergy and religious and lay-leaders, looking to develop a plan for the evangelization of those who do not know Christ the Lord and

a plan to *re-evangelize* those "cultural Catholics" who were baptized as infants but have yet to embrace with intention and resolve the ONE who has embraced us first...THE LORD. The Diocese of Alexandria has so many gifts to share and we have some challenges to face. And, with all of my heart, I was ready to offer it to you, the people of central Louisiana...for the rest of my life. *But then*, this call on the 9th of February, *and the judgment* by the Holy Father and by all who

assist his oversight of the worldwide Episcopacy, that the Diocese of Memphis would be served by the Episcopal ministry I am able to offer, by God's grace.

The Nuncio asked me... *Bishop Talley, will you accept the appointment?* For each of us who follow the Lord Jesus, we are asked the same question...*will you be obedient to the Way of the Lord as He calls you by name?* I...we...answer...YES.

It has been a joy, and I am broken hearted in having to leave you. But I go to Memphis with a great desire to shepherd Christ's Church there in sanctity and in service. You have my love, and I ask for your prayer. I will carry you in my heart.

AMDG

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

Sights and Sounds during the season of Lent

I readily admit that Lent is my favorite liturgical season. It is during Lent when we have the Rite of Election for those adults who are joining the Church; it is the time we have the Chrism Mass when the Bishop blesses the oils and consecrates the Chrism. These oils are used throughout the diocese for anointing the sick, those being baptized, and for confirmation. Lent is also the time the Church gives us to commemorate Jesus' journey in the desert for 40 days and 40 nights. It is during these days we are called to more intense fasting, prayer, and penance.

To help remind us of the importance of Lent, there are distinct differences in the Church, both in the simplicity of decorations and in the liturgy. These lead us to this month's question: "What are the major differences in Mass during Lent and what are their meanings?"

Let's start with the more obvious changes, those things we see (or do not see) when entering the Church during Lent. When envisioning a journey through the desert, you likely think of dry/dusty simplistic terrain with no greenery or flowers. Likewise, we are to reflect on this simplicity of life as we are reminded when we receive our ashes at the beginning



Embracing the Liturgy

By Deacon Richard W. Mitchell

of Lent (on Ash Wednesday): "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return" (or "Repent and believe in the Gospel").

Just as there are no flowers in the desert, there are to be no flowers on the altar except on Laetare Sunday and possibly feasts days or solemnities (GIRM 305). Some church parishes will

substitute the flowers with bare sticks or some other visual to help remind us of the season. Another obvious visual is the purple vestments worn by the priest (and deacon), with purple representing a sign of penance.

We are approaching the end of Lent, so you may see the cross (and statues) veiled from the fifth

Sunday of Lent through Good Friday. This is not a liturgical requirement, but is a tradition known in the old liturgical calendar as *Passiontide*. Some see this veiling as a way of "fasting with our eyes".

Just as we visually see a shift to the simplicity of the Mass, there are also auditory changes during Lent. For example, the *Gloria* is not said or sung on Sundays; nor is the *Alleluia* before the proclamation of the Gospel because these are songs of exaltation and joy (GIRM 53 & 62). If music is played, it will likely be solemn and only played to support the singing during Mass (GIRM 313).

All the sights and sounds (or lack of) are in place to aid us in our spiritual formation. Intensifying our prayers during Lent and experiencing the simplicity of sights and sounds during Mass will strengthen our faith. If we walk faithfully with the Lord during this time in the desert, we will come to appreciate the celebration found in the glory of the Easter celebration and in turn come to **Love The Liturgy**.

Send your questions and/or share your comments with Deacon Mitchell via email to: WhyDoWe@diocesealex.org.

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Bishop David P. Talley named Bishop-elect of Memphis

In November 2016, during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, we welcomed Bishop David P. Talley as our co-adjutor Bishop. He took up residence in the Cathedral rectory with Father James Ferguson, rector. And then on February 2, 2017, Bishop Talley became Bishop of Alexandria when Bishop Ronald Herzog retired.

Immediately, Bishop Talley began the arduous process of visiting each of our church parishes and schools, traveling to all corners of the diocese to celebrate Mass and meet the people of the diocese in churches big and small. He made sure to visit even our tiniest mission chapels, finding them down dirt roads in the remote piney woods and along the little bayous in our diocese.

Bishop Talley developed the habit of taking a lot of pictures with his phone during these visits. He took care to include the young and not-so-young in these photos which we have used extensively in the Church Today newspaper, the diocesan website and on our social media platforms.

After each Mass, there was often time for fellowship and a potluck dinner. The people of our diocese made sure Bishop sampled all of the wonderful foods of our region: Avoyelles Cajun dishes, Natchitoches Creole cuisine and meat pies, and Brocato's muffulettas are among Bishop's favorites.

In his humble way, he allowed us to teach him how (and what) to throw from a parade float,



BISHOP DAVID TALLEY NAMED BISHOP-ELECT OF MEMPHIS. Bishop David Talley addresses the Diocese of Memphis Chancery staff and local media during a press conference on March 5 at the Catholic Center for the Diocese of Memphis, TN. Also in the picture is Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of the Archdiocese of Louisville, KY. (Photo courtesy Gragg Higgenbotham)

how to eat crawfish properly and we even introduced him to LSU's Mike the Tiger. Though he is a native Georgian, we tried hard to make a Louisianian out of him, all the while, he was bringing us closer to the Lord, shepherding us through our ups and downs as we strengthened our faith.

Some have said that Bishop Talley has a reputation as a "whirlwind" or is compared to the cartoon version of the "Tasmanian devil," with his habit of getting to work before the roosters crow and keeping meetings moving quickly by setting his watch in front of him on the conference room table. But as a complement to this

work ethic, he has the ability to positively motivate people and is able to accomplish a lot of good in a short time.

Some of Bishop's projects in the Diocese of Alexandria include expanding the Office of the Diaconate and beginning a new "cohort" in 2018, of fifteen aspirants, to add to the nine men who were already in diaconate formation when he arrived in Alexandria.

The well-being of his priest-brothers was always one of his top priorities, therefore, he created an annual priests' convocation and the Committee for the Ongoing Formation of Clergy.

Bishop Talley had the opportunity to ordain four priests and nine permanent deacons and shepherd our seminarians in formation.

He helped St. Mary's Residential Training School begin a capital campaign that will enable them to transition their residents from living in the original dormitories into newly built homes on the campus of the facility.

Bishop Talley has been instrumental in the expansion of the ACTS Retreat program within our diocese and has led to the establishment of the ACTS Mission Chapter Alexandria.

The ACTS Mission Chapter is a support branch of ACTS Missions dedicated to guiding the process of Catholic communities seeking to bring the ACTS retreat to their parish.

Social justice is close to Bishop Talley's heart. He created the Office of Life and Justice, staffed by volunteers who help collaborate with social service resources in our area in order to meet the needs of our marginalized populations.

In all things, Bishop Talley fostered a spirit of unity and hope in planning for the future of the diocese while building on its long history. As a diocese, we wish him well in his new appointment as we give heartfelt thanks to God for his time and work among us here in Central Louisiana.

Bishop David Talley will be installed as the sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Memphis on April 2, 2019 at an invitation-only Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Memphis, TN.

The Diocese of Memphis, Tennessee, was established in 1971 by Pope St. Paul VI. It includes 21 civil counties. There are over 61,000 Catholics with 42 parishes, 6 missions, one university, 6 high schools and 18 elementary schools with a total number of 11,266 students under Catholic instruction including parish faith formation. The total number of priests in the diocese of Memphis is 91 with 61 active within the diocese; 74 permanent deacons, 38 religious brothers, 37 religious sisters and 71 lay ministers.

A message from the Diocese of Alexandria's Safe Environment Program

If you have reason to believe that a child is being abused or neglected and that the abuse is by a parent or caretaker, please call: Louisiana Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437).

If suspected abuse is related to a diocesan/church/school program, or if abuse occurred by anyone acting in Church services, a report also should be made to the diocesan victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Lee Kneipp at 318-542-9805.

For updated information, news articles, and documents regarding ongoing activity and planning for securing and maintaining a Safe Environment for all, visit www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/healing (visit www.diocesealex.org and look for "A Safe Environment For All" under the "Our Faith" tab). Here, you can find Bishop Talley's message for November 2018, as well as updates from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Also found on this page is the letter from Pope Francis to all Bishops in the United States regarding a meeting in February 2019 at the Vatican entitled "The Protection of Minors in the Church."



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Three ways to have a fruitful Lent

By Claire Couche

As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.

-Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Lent is a beautiful time to grow in deeper love with Christ. We have just entered into the greatest love story—a divine romance—with the King of our heart. He who loves us so completely wants our love and the chance to love us. Let Him love you this Lent.

During these weeks leading up to Easter Sunday, the Church invites us to self-reflect and honestly ask God how He sees us and the ways that we can better ourselves for Him. Each Lent we have the opportunity to enter into Christ's passion and suffering in a real and deep way. We have the chance to ask Christ to make our hearts more like His: merciful, attentive, generous, and eager to love.

Yet for a transformation to take place within us, we must put in the effort. For our lives to bear fruit, we must plant the seeds and nourish the garden of our body and soul. This may seem overwhelming, but when we realize that Christ is our love and that He is our soul's spouse, we can rest in the knowledge that He will lead us, just as a husband leads a wife.



LENTEN ALTAR AT ST. PETER IN BORDELONVILLE. Pastor, Fr. Ramji Shoury at the altar of St. Peter Church, Bordeloville.

Here are three ways that we can open our hearts and give permission to Christ to lead us to the Resurrection this Lent.

1. Delve Into Your Parish Family

Our parish is our family and needs the gifts we have to offer. Talk to your pastor or read your bulletin to see what volunteer opportunities your parish is offering this Lent. Introduce yourself to someone you have yet to meet: someone who sits alone every Sunday, a mother in the

cry room, or a catechumen. Just as Christ was aided by people through simple acts of love during the Way of the Cross, let us help those within our parish family this Lent. We have the opportunity to be Saint Simons and Saint Veronicas to others. We can help people within our parish carry their crosses, and wipe away their tears and pain.

2. Go to Confession

Confession is such a beautiful, healing Sacrament. It allows us

to be transformed into vessels of grace. When we leave the confessional, the gifts of grace and peace are bestowed upon us. We become more in-tune and open to the Holy Spirit, who desires us to flourish. Lent is a time of reflection and healing and this is the best way to reflect on our lives and let God heal us.

3. Return to the Scriptures

Christ prepared for His ministry in His youth. He was constantly surrounded by the Scripture. He was clearly well-versed enough to teach and amaze others when Mary and Joseph found Him in the temple. Familiarizing ourselves with the Scriptures is a great way to prepare our minds, our hearts, and our souls for what God has in store for us. We can do this by committing to reading the Bible each night,

trying our best to attend daily Mass, or bringing a Mass journal with us on Sunday to reflect on each Sunday's readings. There are many Lenten devotionals, and some parishes even supply their own. Reflecting on the Scriptures, and deriving new insights from them, is nourishing to the soul. It is thus because it is the very Word of God, Jesus Himself, that nourishes us. *God bless your Lent!*

Claire Couche is a wife and mother. She graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville where she studied history and theology. She later received her B.S.N. and worked as an oncology nurse before becoming a stay-at-home mother. For more writings from Claire and her husband, Michael, visit their website at www.findingphilothea.com.

**HOLY WEEK
APRIL 14-18**

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In Praise of St. Joseph

Good St. Joseph, guardian of the Most High,
A soul who wandered, but never asked why.
An Angel came down from heaven one night,
And told him he would aid him on his flight.

The night was cold with no place to stay,
The only bed was one of hay.
To the glorious Mother, a Child was born.
Into the world He came, and would
receive much scorn.

His name was Jesus, a Savior for all,
He was protected by Joseph, a mighty wall.
An Angel led them to safety one night,
With Joseph always there during the flight.

Thanks to St. Joseph, who was led by the dove.
He protected the Savior, the God of Love.
So I praise You, O Lord, from Your birth,
You, the King of Heaven and Earth.

You came down from heaven to help us all,
We who have sinned, because of the fall.
Through Your goodness, You gave us new life,
To handle problems, grief and strife.

Because of Your mercy and love for the lost,
Another chance was given to all who were lost.
We all confess and say from the heart.
Forgive us Lord, and thanks for a new start.

lizdescant@gmail.com
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What is Holy Week?

What is Holy Week? Specifically: what happens on each day of this week of the year that makes us consider this entire week "Holy?"

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday which commemorates Jesus's entry into Jerusalem, noted by the crowds who celebrated and waved palm branches and placed them on the ground in front of him. Today, it is customary to have a ceremony of blessing palm leaves before a solemn procession into the church for Mass with participants holding the blessed palms in their hands. The Passion narrative of Jesus' capture, read on this day, is from the Gospel of Matthew.

On Monday of Holy Week, some observe the anointing of Jesus at Bethany. Other events that may have occurred on this day are cursing the fig tree and cleansing of the Temple.

On Tuesday of Holy Week, some observe Jesus' predictions of his own death as described in John 12:20-36 and John 13:21-38. Some read the Passion according to Mark.

On Wednesday of Holy Week (Spy Wednesday), some observe the story of Judas arranging his betrayal of Jesus. For this reason, the day is sometimes called Spy Wednesday. Some read the Passion according to Luke. Other events that may have occurred on this day include anointing of Jesus by Mary of Bethany, and the events which directly preceded the betrayal by Judas to the Sanhedrin.

The Chrism Mass, normally

celebrated on Holy Thursday, may be brought forward to one of these days to facilitate participation by as many clergy of the diocese as possible with the bishop. Here in our diocese, we celebrate the Chrism Mass on Holy Tuesday. During the Chrism Mass, the bishop blesses the separate oils that are used for anointing of the sick, for Baptism of catechumens and the chrism—used in Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders as well as rites such as dedication of an altar or a church.

Holy Thursday is also known as Maundy Thursday and commemorates the Last Supper. On this day, besides Chrism Mass, the only Mass permitted is the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, which begins the period of three days called the Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday up to the Easter Vigil. The Mass of the Lord's Supper commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus with his Twelve Apostles, the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood, and the commandment of brotherly love that Jesus gave after washing the feet of his disciples. During this Mass, an additional number of hosts are consecrated for use the next day—Good Friday.

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his subsequent death. Commemorations are often solemn and mournful, Stations of the Cross may be performed or other commemoration of the Passion. It is a day of fasting. The

only sacraments on Good Friday are Penance and Anointing of the Sick. While there is no celebration of the Eucharist, Holy Communion (the consecrated hosts from the previous evening) is distributed to the faithful only during the service of the Passion of the Lord. The altar remains completely bare without altar cloth, candles or cross. The Celebration of the Passion always takes place in the afternoon, about three o'clock, the estimated time that Christ died on the cross.

Holy Saturday is the day between Jesus' crucifixion and his resurrection. The Liturgy begins after sundown on Holy Saturday as the crowd gathers inside the unlit church. In the darkness, a new fire is kindled and blessed by the priest. This new fire symbolizes the light of salvation and hope that God brought into the world through Christ's Resurrection, dispelling the darkness of sin and death. From this fire is lit the Paschal candle, symbolizing the Light of Christ. The candles of those present are lit from the Paschal candle. As this symbolic "Light of Christ" spreads throughout those gathered, the darkness is decreased.

Easter, which immediately follows Holy Week and begins with the Easter Vigil, is the great feast day and apogee of the Christian liturgical year: on this day the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is celebrated. It is the first day of the new season of the Octave of Easter, which runs from Easter Day to the following Sunday: Divine Mercy Sunday.



Distribution of oils that were blessed during Chrism Mass.

Food Pantries need your help

Social services outreach is an important ministry within our diocese. If you are searching for community service to participate in this Lent, please consider volunteering or donating to your church parish's food pantry or ministry. Here is a partial list of food pantries in our diocese that operate year round:

- Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria
- Sacred Heart of Jesus (Pineville) Church Food Pantry
- St. Rita Church, St. Vincent de Paul Store, Alexandria
- St. Anthony of Padua Church, Bunkie
- St. Anthony of Padua Church, Natchitoches
- St. Mary Church, Winnsboro
- St. Joseph Church, Marksville
- Servant House, Marksville

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in...”
 ~ Matthew 25:35



RECOGNIZING ADDICTION PRESENTATION. A “Recognizing Addiction” presentation was held at the St. Rita Holy Family Center on Mar. 11 which was open to the general public. William Schmidt, Ph.D., LPC, from the Shalom Center in Splendor, TX, talked about the stigma associated with attending events such as this, the myths and misconceptions and ways to recognize addiction as well as ways of intervention.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT A CHILD IS BEING ABUSED:

If you have reason to believe that a child is being abused or neglected, and that the abuse is by a parent or caretaker, please first call the Louisiana Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437) and/or your local law enforcement agency. If suspected abuse is related to a diocesan/church/school program, or if abuse occurred by anyone acting in Church services, a report should then also be made to the diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Lee Kneipp, Clinical Psychologist at 318-542-9805.

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Clergy assignment

Father Derek Ducote is appointed Assistant Director of Steubenville South effective March 1, 2019, in addition to his assignment as Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria. Father Ducote will assist Fr. Jose Robles-Sanchez, Director of Steubenville South.



THE SAINT MEINRAD DAY OF SERVICE was held on Saturday, Mar. 9 in the Diocese of Alexandria. Maryhill received some maintenance from a group of deacons and their wives. Pictured front row left to right: Deacons Richard Mitchell and Todd Marye, Mrs. Sammie White, Dcn, Luke White. Back: Dcn. Gary Schupbach, Mrs. Donna Young, Dcn. Mike Young, Mrs. Joy Broussard and Dcn. Bill Endris.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. Amen.



CLERGY STUDY DAY. Bishop David Talley kicks off the first Clergy Study day of 2019 at Maryhill Renewal Center on March 12. A licensed professional counselor from the Shalom Center in Splendora, TX gave a presentation on signs of addiction. Clergy Study Day is part of Bishop Talley's ongoing clergy education initiative.



CLERGY STUDY DAY. Dr. William Schmidt, licensed professional counselor from the Shalom Center in Splendora, TX gave a presentation on signs of addiction. Clergy Study Day is part of Bishop Talley's ongoing clergy education initiative.

Seminarian Burses

February 2019 Donations

Knights of Columbus Council #9217	\$25.00
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Mrs. Nelwyn Broussard	\$100.00
Deacon Rodrick "Benny" Broussard Burse	
Bayou Chateau Nursing Center	\$100.00
Floyd LaCour Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller	\$200.00
Father Daniel Corkery Burse	
Father Derek Ducote	\$250.00
Our Lady of Prompt Succor Burse	
Total	\$830.00

GET TO KNOW OUR PRIESTS, DEACONS, RELIGIOUS, AND SEMINARIANS

We asked our Priests, Deacons, Religious, and Seminarians:

What do you normally suggest for people to give up for Lent if they are stumped for ideas? Why?

Father Ryan Humphries, St. Edward the Confessor, Tallulah:

The real value of Lent is in consistency of penance. It's nothing to give up meat for 24 hours or even to skip all your meals on a special day of penance. Lots of us are doing "intermittent fasting," after all. Lent gives us an opportunity for sustained penance.

And so when someone asks me what they should give up, my first answer is something you haven't given up before. It shouldn't be Coke or pizza or chocolate like it is every year. It shouldn't be automatic. It should be something that causes you to be deliberate and that reminds you of what you're doing and why.

For example, if you usually enjoy a latte every morning, don't give up coffee, rather drink a black drip coffee. It will taste disgusting. It will continue to taste disgusting through Holy Week. It will be a penance and you will be able to connect that small suffering with Jesus on the Cross. You can do the same thing by skipping salt or pepper or - God forbid - your cajun seasoning of choice. Whatever you do, it shouldn't be something that you can just not keep in the house (like chocolate or alcohol).

Penance isn't just about unpleasantness or the lack of something, it's about being reminded and directed toward the Lord's cross so that we can embrace that suffering in hope of His Resurrection.

Check back here and on the diocese website each month for a new Q&A with our priests, deacons, religious, and seminarians!

Parish Spotlight: Saint Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura Established 1796



The Diocese of Louisiana was established in 1793, because the area could not effectively be served from Havana, Cuba. Bishop Don Luis Ignacio Penalver was appointed its first bishop. In order to find out the needs of his vast Diocese, Bishop Penalver set out on a journey in **1796** to survey the situation.

In the same year, the civil and military official of the Poste des Avoyeles prevailed upon Baron de Carondelet, the Spanish Governor, to grant in the name of the Crown, two hundred forty arpents of land for the establishment of a church and cemetery. Bishop Penalver decided to establish a Church there, since the area was growing in importance and population.

It was dedicated October 31, 1796 to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, with Fr. Juan Maguire, an Irish-born Carmelite friar, appointed as the first pastor.

Fr. Maguire remained until 1798; Fr. Juan Brady whose missionary work lasted until 1803 replaced him and after that, Fr. Jean Emile Martin was pastor from 1824-1832.

Troubled by many difficulties, dissension reached such a point in the parish that Bishop de Neckere was obliged to place the parish under interdict--a canonical penalty which limits the celebrations of the

sacraments in a parish. Reconciliation was not effected until 1834 when the interdict was raised.

It was under the pastorate of Fr. C. Dalloz in 1845 that a new church was built and dedicated under the invocation of St. Paul the Apostle.

During the pastorate of Fr. Jean Marie Chauvin, an electrical storm destroyed the church. The congregation decided to rebuild the church in Mansura where it would be more centrally located. The new church was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1871. Fr. Chauvin suffered painfully from arthritis and was confined to a wheelchair. His condition deteriorated and in early 1906, he died after a pastorate of 38 years.

Fr. Achilles A. Anseeuw, a native of Belgium, was his successor. Fr. Anseeuw spent 15 years making improvements to the church building, opening schools and shepherding his flock. He died in 1921 and was succeeded by Fr. Michael Paul Nothofer.

In 1948, Fr. Nothofer assembled a committee to oversee the building of a new brick church to replace the deteriorating old one. Ernest Rabalais of Bunkie was hired as the general contractor. The new church was built at a cost of \$102,000 on the site of the old church, which was dismantled and sold.

The large Romanesque edifice seats 350 and is constructed of block faced with cream-colored brick. The slate roof is supported by cantilever trusses and rafters. The burial vaults of Frs. Chauvin and Anseeuw are still located under the center aisle of the new nave. The new church was dedicated on February 15, 1951 by Bishop Charles Greco.

For 68 years the current church has been the scene of great joys and countless celebrations. It is here, too that strength has been found by many in times of confusion and pain, while countless sorrows have been consoled. Because of its age and historic

significance in the history of the Church in Northern Louisiana, St. Paul the Apostle Church was named a Proto-Parish of the Diocese of Alexandria by Bishop Sam Jacobs in 2003 during the sesquicentennial celebrations marking the anniversary of the erection of the Diocese of Natchitoches in 1853. During the Year of St. Paul called by Pope Benedict XVI in 2008, Bishop Ronald Herzog designated this parish as a place of pilgrimage for the diocese.

Today, St. Paul the Apostle is a thriving and vibrant church community which has survived the test of time by the grace that comes from God alone.



ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, MANSURA. LEFT: Bishop David Talley celebrated Mass at St. Paul's on Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019. Pictured with him are Father Irion St. Romain, pastor, and the Children's Choir. ABOVE: The current church building in Mansura. BELOW: The church on Leglise Street in Mansura as it looked in 1910, which is the same year the Diocese of Natchitoches became the Diocese of Alexandria.





ST. FRANCES CABRINI CHURCH (ALEXANDRIA) MEN'S NOCTURNAL ADORATION. Cabrini's Men's Nocturnal Adoration begins at 7:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the First Friday of every month. Two or three adorers are requested for each hour of this devotion that ends at 7:00 a.m. First Friday morning.. If you would like to participate or would like more information contact the church office at (318) 445-4588.



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH (MARKSVILLE) HOSTS WOMEN'S WORSHIP NIGHT. A worship night for women was held Monday, Feb. 25 at St. Joseph Church in Marksville. The night included worship music led by Angela McCann and a talk by Mary Wilson. Fellowship and refreshments followed in the Church hall.

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12TH ANNUAL AVOYELLES SECRETARY APPRECIATION SOCIAL. Bishop David Talley had the pleasure of attending this year's Avoyelles Secretary Social hosted by Father Edwin Rodriguez-Hernandez, pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Hessmer. Bishop shared this photo on his social media and said, "Last evening, the secretaries from our parishes and missions in our Avoyelles Deanery came together in Hessmer. Fr. Edwin Rodriguez-Hernández organizes this Appreciation meal every year. Every lady you see (in the picture) has a family. Every lady you see ... has her own walk in faith. But each of them works in support of the mission of Christ's Church....locally, personally. Many parts...one Body (1 Corinthians 12.12-13.13). AMDG" Search Facebook: *Bishop David Talley* and join him on Facebook!

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Farewell Bishop David! Bishop leaves behind a story in pictures



St. Frances Cabrini School

On these two pages are just a small fraction of the large amount of photos we are fortunate to have that document Bishop David's time as our shepherd.

We will miss you dearly and wish you the best ... praying for you in your journey and new ministry as the bishop of the Diocese of Memphis.



St. Juliana Church and members of St. Peter Claver



The St. Joseph Catholic Center staff.



St. Francis Xavier Cathedral servers for Midnight Mass, 2018.



St. Francis of Assisi Mission, Waterproof



Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Mansura



St. Francis de Sales Church, Echo



LSUA Campus Ministry



Holy Ghost Church, Marksville



Scout Sunday at the Cathedral, 2018



Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows



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Priests of the Diocese of Alexandria, Convocation 2018



Deacons of the Diocese of Alexandria, Retreat 2019

How to prepare for confession

By Rachel Penate

It felt as though the world had stopped, as though time stood still and was holding its breath for me — my sweaty hands clasped in front of my jittery body, waiting for what felt like eternity. I was in line for confession and what should've been a rewarding anticipation, felt more like a punishing dread.

I'd love to tell you that this was a singular event in my life — that as a 27-year-old, I've graduated from the nervousness that is stereotypically reserved for first time confessions or mortal sins, but this is the story of pretty much every confession I've encountered since I was seven. To some degree, I've anticipated every confession with gravity as to the weight of my sin. But, over the years, I've learned that the nervousness I encounter is more a recognition of a deep desire to apologize and move forward in my relationship with God than a fear of expressing my sins to a priest.

The day I recognized that the priest is merely a vessel of God's love and mercy, everything changed. The day I recognized that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is solely about amending an active and living relationship instead of (what I felt was) a "one-time exam" that I will either pass or fail, the whole entire process became less daunting. Confession is meant to be frequented and approached with great joy! And, the Sacrament of Reconciliation



is one of the best ways to grow in our relationship with the Lord.

It is truly in the preparation that we set ourselves up for a fruitful confession. So, how do we ensure the confession of a lifetime? We continue to pursue it for a lifetime.

Make a Daily Change

1. Make a daily examination. The first step in pursuing this beautiful sacrament with regularity is to start examining your relationship with God regularly. When you take time each day to examine your gratitude and short-failings, the process of examining your conscience before confession will feel less laborious and more of a natural extension of your life.

2. Research and have the local confession times on hand. Start by checking your home parish's confession times on its website or bulletin, and then make a list of confession times at three or four other parishes

near you. Pick parishes near your school, workplace, or home that will be easy to hit up after school or work. Even better, pick a parish that works best within your schedule and stick to a regular confession time.

Approach the Sacrament with New Conviction

1. Schedule the time into your day/weekend. As soon as you feel the pull to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, schedule the best confession time into your week. Make it non-negotiable and consider asking a friend to hold you accountable or go with you.

2. Make a good examination. The day before or morning of your pre-planned confession, take at least 30 minutes to ask yourself how (since your last confession) you have closed yourself off from God's grace and chosen your will over His. Reflect not so much on which "rules you've broken," but pray for the clarity to know how you have chosen yourself over

God and others.

3. Approach Jesus in the Sacrament with a contrite heart. It is ideal that you approach the Sacrament not solely out of a sense of duty or obligation, but with a true heart of sorrow for your sins and a desire to never sin again. If you were to approach a friend and apologize for spreading a rumor about him but weren't truly sorry, only apologizing because your parents told you to, would that be an honest apology? God deserves honesty when we approach Him in the Sacrament. Approaching the Sacrament with a contrite heart also heightens our disposition to avoid sin again.

4. Go to confession.

Approach the Sacrament with peace and courage! Once you've taken time to examine your heart and actions, go confidently to the Sacrament! If you haven't been in a while or have forgotten the steps, here they are:

- Once you enter the confessional, kneel or sit wherever it is designated.

- Begin with the Sign of the Cross and then say: "Bless me father for I have sinned. It has been ____ (list the time — weeks/months/years) since my last confession and these are my sins."

- State your sins honestly and freely. Make sure to name any mortal sins and number of times you've committed them. Remember, this is not about confessing to the priest, it is about admitting your guilt to God through the ministry of the priesthood, and seeking your

heavenly Father's forgiveness, which He gives so generously and freely when we ask Him.

- When you have stated all of your sins, indicate to the priest you are finished by saying something like, "for these and all of my sins I am truly sorry."

- Listen with an open mind and heart to the priest as he offers you any words of counsel and assigns you a penance (a prayer or an act to make reparation for your sins).

- Make a good act of contrition. Often the priest will ask you to pray that act of contrition or to answer if you are truly sorry for your sins. A good act of contrition is as follows: "My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do my penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Amen." Try to memorize this or a similar prayer, otherwise print it out and keep it in your wallet or Bible. If you happen to forget the prayer or paper, do not fret, simply ask the priest to help guide you in making your act of contrition.

- Listen attentively as the priest prays the prayer of absolution and close with the Sign of the Cross.

5. Follow through on your penance. It is ideal to schedule ten extra minutes into your day to remain in the church to pray your penance. If you were assigned an

Continued on the next page.



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2019 Rite of Election

act of charity or something that will need to be acted upon over multiple days, write it down or set an alert in your phone as a reminder until that penance has been completed. Offer these prayers or actions with a grateful heart, praising God for His great mercy and love.

6. *Go forth and pursue a life of virtue.* You've come seeking forgiveness. Now that you've received the Sacrament, go forth with joy and gratitude in knowing that God has poured out His great mercy and love on you! But don't forget to keep your eyes wide open to sin. Pray for the grace each day to avoid sin and the near occasion of sin. Remember the Sacrament isn't just a "one time deal"; the grace God offers through the confessional is available to you no matter how long it's been since your last confession. The Church requires practicing Catholics frequent confession at least once a year, but a good healthy practice is to frequent the confessional once a month.

"Christ Himself is waiting for you. He will heal you, and you will be at peace with God" (St.

John Paul II). Today is the day, my friends! Christ's Sacrament is not meant to frighten or deter, but to heal, mend, and grow. Satan would rather you stay quaking in your boots unable to move forward, but Christ tells us in truth that this is the way to good, the way to truth, and the way to everlasting peace.

Rachel currently resides in Arizona, serving as Assistant to the Executive Vice President of Life Teen. She loves her job, the ocean, running half-marathons, her sweet daughter Cecilia, husband Robbie, and above all, the Lord. Follow Rachel on Instagram at @r_penate and Twitter at @LT_rachelp.

For a printable "Examination of Conscience" visit www.diocesealex.org to access the USCCB's "What Must I Do? The Sacrament of Reconciliation and Young Adults"



RITE OF ELECTION: THE ELECT. Father Scott Chemino, V.G. and the Elect of the diocese at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Sunday, March 10, 2019.



(ABOVE) THE RITE OF ELECTION CANDIDATES. Father Scott Chemino, V.G. and the candidates ready to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Sunday, March 10, 2019.

**Position Available:
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See our website for job details www.catholiccharities.org

The deadline to apply is Friday, **March 29, 2019 at 5pm (CST).**

Submit your application package as attachments via EMAIL to:

hadmin@catholiccharitiesjackson.org

Attn: Hiring Committee – Executive Director

or MAIL to:

Catholic Charities

Attn: Hiring Committee – Executive Director

850 East River Place

Jackson, MS 39202

Please note that incomplete submissions will not be considered. Applications will not be accepted by fax, or hand-delivery. No phone calls please. Catholic Charities would like to thank all applicants for their interest, but only candidates being considered for an interview will be contacted by the hiring committee. Catholic Charities is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from qualified candidates.

“Jesus then said to his disciples: ‘If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and begin to follow in my footsteps. Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would a man show if he were to gain the whole world and destroy himself in the process?’ ”

Matthew 16:24-26

lizdescant@gmail.com

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???

Quiz Answer:

Christ made seven statements while suffering on the Cross.

ANSWER D.

Lenten Missions and Bible Studies

Lenten Missions presented by Deacon Paul Murphy

Deacon Paul's topic is "Forgiveness Through Reconciliation and Mercy." Deacon Paul Murphy is from the Diocese of Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. For more information contact Deacon Ted Moulard, (318) 447-2746 or tedmoulard@att.net. Check with these church parishes for specific times:

- March 20-21, Holy Ghost Church, Marksville
- March 22, St. Richard Chapel, Hickory Hill
- March 24-26, Christ the King Church, Simmesport

St. Rita Church, Alexandria

Mark your calendars now for "The Deep Heart of God: Finding Redemption, Healing and Restoration," Mar. 25-27, 6:30 p.m. at St. Rita Holy Family Center. The mission ends with Penance Service Thursday, Mar. 28, 6:30 p.m. Mission director will be Mr. Ken Kneipman of the John Paul II Healing Center in Tallahassee, Florida, author of "Lenten Healing: 40 Days to Set You Free from Sin."

St. Frances Cabrini Church, Lenten Reflection Series

Fr. Chad Partain will lead a Lenten Scripture Study every Thursday evening during Lent at Cabrini's Ducote Hall at 6pm. All are welcome!

Lenten Bible Study, Cottonport

St. Mary's Assumption Church will have a Bible Study every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Church during Lent. No charge and all are welcome.

Bible Study, St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

Join us for a 4-part Bible Study: "The Passion According to John," 6:30 p.m., Thursdays in the church hall beginning March 7 through April 4. Except on March 21, Father Ryan Humphries will have a presentation on his sabbatical pilgrimage: "One Priest's Journey Learning to be Docile to the Holy Spirit." For more information contact the church office at 318-757-3834.

Bible Study, St. Juliana Church, Alexandria

St. Juliana Church will have a Bible Study every Tuesday during Lent from 5:50-6:40 p.m. All are welcome.

Spring Adult Faith Series, Marksville

All are invited to eight weeks of "The Bible Time Line ~ The Story of Salvation" Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.-12 noon beginning March 12, and repeat on Thursdays at 6:30-8:00 p.m., at St. Joseph Church Hall in Marksville. Please call 318-253-7561 to sign-up. Come join in this fascinating Faith Journey through the Bible!

Adult Education Series, Woodworth

Please join us every Tuesday evening from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Mary, Mother of Jesus Church in Woodworth beginning March 12 for a 6-part Adult Education series "Bishop Robert Barron's - The Mass." Deacon Paul Sunderhaus will be the presenter. For more information, contact the church office at 318-487-9894.

Penance services

Mar. 27, 6:10 p.m. – Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville
Mar. 28, 6:30 p.m. – St. Rita Church, Alexandria
Apr. 17, 6:00 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays:

5:00 p.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro (also on April 17)
6:00 p.m. – St. Juliana Church, Alexandria

Thursdays:

1:05 p.m. – Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria
4:30 p.m. – St. John Chapel, Columbia (also Tuesday, April 16)

Fridays:

8:00 a.m. – Our Lady of Prompt Succor, MANSURA
2:00 p.m. – St. Rita Church, Alexandria
2:30 p.m. – (for Students) St. Anthony of Padua Church, Bunkie
5:15 p.m. – MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches
5:00 p.m. – St. Anthony of Padua Church, Bunkie
5:00 p.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro
5:30 p.m. – St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria (meal after)
5:30 p.m. – St. Rita Church, Alexandria
5:30 p.m. – St. Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura
6:00 p.m. – Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria
6:00 p.m. – St. Juliana Church, Alexandria
6:00 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
6:00 p.m. – Christ the King Church, Simmesport
6:00 pm. – St. Mary's Assumption Church, Cottonport

Fish Frys

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville: Knights of Columbus Council 1457 will serve a Lenten Fish Plate: fish, fries, hush puppies and corn on the cob. Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Mac's Fresh Market, 3005 Hwy 28E, Pineville. Cost: \$8.00

St. Rita Church, Alexandria: Knights of Columbus Council 1134 will hold their Friday Fish Fries on these dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the St. Rita Holy Family Center. Cost: \$8.00

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral: Knights of Columbus Council 3200 will have their annual Lenten Fish Fry in Xavier Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, March 6, and each Friday during Lent from March 12 through April 12. Dine-in or take-out. For take-out delivery call 447-3663 with a minimum of four orders. Menu includes fried fish, french fries, hush puppies, and coleslaw. Cost: \$7.00

Sts. Francis & Anne Church, Kolin will be serving catfish plates on Ash Wednesday and then each Friday during Lent from 5:00-7:00 pm. – eat in or take out. Everyone is invited! Cost: \$8.00

For an up-to-date list of events for Lent, Holy Week and Easter, please visit: www.diocesealex.org

?? Catholic Trivia ??

How many times did Christ speak when on the Cross?

Was it:

A. 8 times C. 5 times

B. 6 times D. 7 times

Answer on page 15.

Holy Week: April 14-21

(Known schedule at press time, check www.diocesealex.org for an up-to-date list of Mass and service times.)

April 18: Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper

6:00 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
6:00 p.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro

April 19: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

10:00 a.m. – Outdoor Way of the Cross, MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches

3:00 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
7:00 p.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro

April 20: Holy Saturday Vigil

8:00 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
8:00 p.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro

April 21: Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. – St. Mary Church, Winnsboro
8:00 a.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth Breakfast 9:00 a.m.; Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 a.m.)
10:30 a.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
5:30 p.m. – Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth

***Lenten Regulations:** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.*

The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. For more frequently asked questions about Lent, visit www.usccb.org.

Maryhill Wish List

Please contact Deacon Luke White, Maryhill Facilities Manager, if you are interested in donating any of these items and to make sure the list is up-to-date. He can be reached at: dclwhite@diocesealex.org or (318) 542-1707.

Replace the tables in the Youth Building

Need 12 Commercial Grade 8' Tables
Can be purchased at Sam's Club for \$80.00 each

Dry Erase Boards - Need 2 - 72" x 40" at \$230.00 each

Sidewalk Edger (Model 8.1 Ft HP) (DR Power / DR Trimmer)

Need 1 at \$499.00

Walk behind string trimmer (Model 8.75 Pro XL) (DR Power / DR Trimmer) - Need 1 at \$930.00

Thank you to all those who have responded and donated! And as always, monetary donations of any amount are welcome!

Filipino Ministry going strong



FILIPINO MASS. Father Dwight de Jesus celebrates Mass in Filipino at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria.

Every first Sunday at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria, at 2:00 p.m., Father Dwight DeJesus celebrates Mass for the Filipino Catholics of the diocese. It is a regular Mass but spoken entirely in Filipino and Fr. Dwight, pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church in Echo, says attendance typically averages anywhere from 50-100, but at Christmas time upwards of several hundred, some of them from other dioceses and even other religious denominations attend!

Filipino Mass started in July, 2006 at St. Frances Cabrini Church with the commitment from Fr. Dwight de Jesus, who is from the Philippines, to be the celebrant and the blessing from Fr. Jose Robles-Sanchez, pastor at the time, to use the church and activity building. Since then, the Filipino Mass has been celebrated every 1st Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. followed by fellowship and meal at Cabrini's activity building.

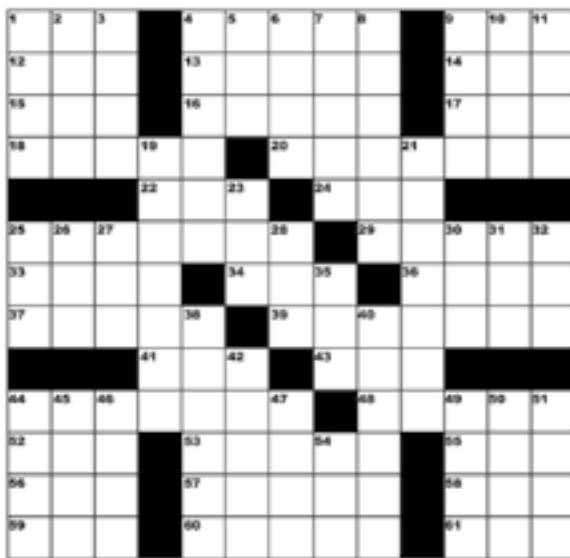
The Filipino Mass is open to all Catholics in the area. During advent season, three night masses are celebrated followed by a traditional Filipino light meal. With the blessings of Fr. Chad Partain, current pastor of Cabrini church, this Filipino Ministry continues to serve the Filipinos of our diocese.



FILIPINO MASS. Father Dwight de Jesus (laying on the ground in front) and his Filipino faithful.

The Cross Word

March 17, 24
and 31, 2019



- 53 Single
55 Central processing unit
56 Eastern state
57 Attaches to spinal column
58 That woman
59 Viper
60 Washer's partner
61 Extension (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Bass horn
2 Arrogant person
3 The Lord hears their cry
4 The River _____
5 Electroencephalograph
6 Hitch
7 Strove
8 "Father, I have ____"
9 Wields
10 Rice wine
11 Sight organs
19 Con
21 "____ of the cross"
23 Angels use for fish
25 Clock time
26 Ten Commandments
27 Time period
28 Director (abbr.)
30 "____, Who Am"
31 Second day of week
32 Yang's partner
35 Chief executive officer
38 Standing on holy ____
40 Hang ____
42 Part of the car
44 Pater
45 "The end of the ____"
46 Bark in pain
47 Cockeyed
49 Hurt
50 The top
51 Short in words
54 Adam's wife

Readings: Gn 15: 5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 8:28b-36 & Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9 & Jos 5:9, 10-12; 2Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

ACROSS

- 1 Cooking measurement
4 Student's dread
9 Avail
12 One in Spanish
13 ____ Matisse, painter
14 "What shall I ____ to your people?"
15 Ghost's greeting
16 Do over
17 Stretch to make do
18 Abraham's original name
20 First Bible book
22 Genesis abbr.
24 "A fox has a ____"
25 God was not ____
29 Divinity
33 India wrap
34 Facial twitch
36 Hawaii Island
37 Snap a guitar string
39 Program
41 ____ Lanka
43 Bullfight cheer
44 ____ 500, NASCAR race
48 God of Abraham, ____ and Jacob
52 "I am with you, until the end of the ____"

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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF CHERISE RINO

What it means to be a Godparent

By Ragan Savedra

I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.
(3 John 1:4)

I was 20-years old the first time I was asked to be a godmother. I was honored, thankful and also quite intimidated. I was excited to be a special part of that baby's life although I really didn't know what it meant to be a godparent. Without hesitation I accepted. I remember attending Baptism classes with his Mom and feeling the weight and joy that came along with this special invitation and privilege. Grant's baptism was one of the sweetest days of my life. I felt a connection with him and a responsibility to him.

What I learned in that first Baptism class, and in others I've attended since, is that being a godparent is a "yes" to walking a faith quest alongside the child that has been entrusted to you. It's an opportunity to nurture and support their life-long Catholic journey. The Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it like this, "Godparents "must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized - child or adult - on the road of Christian life. Their task is a truly ecclesial (church) function." (CCC, 1255). Our role is to help their parents to raise them in the teachings and beliefs of the Church. That can include things like annually



celebrating their Baptismal date and their patron Saint's feast day. If you're local to the child, attending Mass together is always a great way to encourage and support, not only the child, but the parents too.

My husband, Michael, and I do not have biological children, but combined, we have nine godchildren. We know through our own experience that God can use other avenues to bless the lives of couples facing infertility. Being godparents has not been a replacement for our own babies but we have recognized it as the Lord showing us that we are not forgotten and that we have not been overlooked. We have experienced the love of the

Father through the invitations we have received to be godparents. My advice to parents who may be wondering who to choose as a godmother or godfather is simple... who will lead, love and support your child in their relationship with Jesus and the Church? Be willing to lay out the expectations and hopes you have for your child's godparents as you invite them into this special role. One couple in particular really brought this home for my husband and me when they asked us to be their baby's godparents. We were invited over to dinner and after we ate they asked if they could share a few thoughts with us. At that time we knew this particular family fairly well. We

went to the same church and had some things in common. We had not known them for more than a couple of years and we had not spent an enormous amount of time together. What Michael and I did know though is they were a couple intentionally living their lives for Christ and took the education and formation of their kids very seriously. Once seated, they shared with us that they wanted us to be the godparents of their soon-to-arrive baby girl. What they said next is what has stuck with me on a regular basis since that evening. They asked if we were willing to be this baby's spiritual support system, in partnership with them. Were we willing to be a part of her life no matter what our relationship with the two of them looked like? Would we be steadfast in praying for their little girl and would we be an active presence in her life? At that point I had been asked eight other times to be a godparent but never had it looked like this. I was blown away by their willingness to ask direct and tough questions. They presented their hearts' desire to us and then invited us, based on that information, to make a decision. They understood that being godparents was not about gifts at holidays or being at every birthday party. Being a godparent was about being a source of prayer, love, and spiritual support for their child. It was an easy "yes" for us to give!

There is no such thing as a perfect godparent. My oldest godson will be 20 this year and we have not seen each other nor talked since he was a little kid. I share that because it is important that I am honest and transparent that this journey is not always easy. What I offer each of these precious souls on a daily basis is a covering of prayer. I also ask their Moms to please let me know when their child has specific prayer needs. I do not make most of the out of town birthday parties and I stopped sending Christmas gifts a couple of years ago. What I have learned on this road as a godparent is that the Lord is using it to form and mold me just as much as the kids he has entrusted to me. The best thing I can do is to be available and to pray for their souls, their struggles, their futures and their vocations. I am just as honored today to be asked to be someone's godmother as I was twenty years ago. It's my prayer that these little ones, who are not so little anymore, will come to know the Lord, the beauty of His Church and the love that He has for them. My hope is that the Lord will use me in their lives as much as He has used them in mine.

Ragan lives in Houston, Texas with her husband of ten years, Michael. They have two fur babies, Sofie and Sadie.

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Sacred relics traveling show

Back in April of 2016, we ran a story about Mr. Marcus Descant, semi-retired pharmacist, and his Holy Water ministry and also highlighted his holy relic collection. Since that issue, Mr. Descant has added to his collection and now has over thirty relics that he enjoys showing to others.

A relic usually consists of physical remains of a saint or personal effects of a saint or other venerated person preserved for the purpose of veneration as a tangible memorial to that person.

In the Catholic religion, relics are classified in this way:

- **First-Class Relics:** items directly associated with the events of Christ's life (manger, cross, etc.) or the physical remains of a saint (a bone, a hair, skull, a limb, etc.).
- **Second-Class Relics:** items that the saint owned or frequently used, for example, a crucifix, rosary, book, etc.
- **Third-Class Relics:** any object that is touched to a first- or second-class relic (and not the container that it is encased in)

The sale or disposal by other means of relics without the permission of the Apostolic See is strictly forbidden by canon 1190 of the Code of Canon Law.

Some of the first class relics in Mr. Descant's collection:

- St. James the Greater, died 44 A.D.
- St. Marietti (Maurice), died 287 A.D.
- St. Anthony of Padua, died 1231
- St. Francis of Assisi, died 1226
- St. Martin de Porres (2), died 1639
- St. Claude de LaColombiere, died 1682
- St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque, died 1690
- St. Junipera Serra, died 1784
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, died 1821
- St. Terese of Lisieux of The Little Flower (2), died 1897
- Two first class relics of the True Cross

To some, the relics help bring to life the people and events in the Bible.

Mr. Descant says most of the relics were given to him and others were acquired over the years. He and his wife Liz take the collection from place to place and display it to

schools, groups, meetings, churches.

Mrs. Descant says she can see the excitement of the students when they can connect what they've learned spiritually with something physical.

When asked how to tell if they are authentic, Mr. Descant explained that many have papers of authenticity and/or they are sealed with wax and a bishop's embossed crest on the back. They are then put in a clear glass and metal capsule for protection.

Mrs. Descant says they travel around the diocese showing the collection only part of the year but they are excited to have a display scheduled at a school in Lake Charles soon as well. If you would like to have the collection displayed for an event or group, you can contact Mr. and Mrs. Descant at (337) 238-9642 or lizdescant@gmail.com.

TRAVELING SACRED RELICS. Marcus Descant shows a first class relic of the True Cross to one of the young attendees of the Beyond the Limits Jr. High Conference held at the Holiday Inn Downtown Alexandria this past February.



Catholic Daughters Quarterly Mass



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS, COURT NOTRE DAME #1452.

The ladies of Court Notre Dame #1452 of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria, came together for their CDA Quarterly Mass on March 3. The Quarterly Masses are part of the Circle of Love Projects to pray for families, pray together and to pray with church members and is a special time for Court Notre Dame ladies to come together in service to the church and community. After Mass, the first Sunday of the Month Hospitality Breakfast hosted by the OLPS Hospitality Committee was served for all to attend. Pictured are: (Left to right front row) Elsie Campbell, Donna Young, Janet Tompkins, Regent Marlene Sawrie. Second row: Spiritual Chairwoman Bea Jones, Anna Ryland, Joy Broussard, Simmie Anderson, Susan Singleton. Third row: Evelyn Mayeux, Suzanne Evans, Debbie Butler, Linda Gauthier, Marie Weeks, Rose Walker, Nora Penney, Cheryl Verzwyvelt, Tina Hebert. (Not shown: Mary Bush, Janie Pias, Jean Searcy.)

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

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ST. FRANCES CABRINI SCHOOL (ALEXANDRIA) STATE SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR IN LAKE CHARLES. Cabrini students participated on March 1. Pictured with principal Sister Nina Vincent: [redacted]



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR (ALEXANDRIA) Ten OLPS 6th grade students participated in the Louisiana State Regional Science Fair at LSUA on Feb. 16. OLPS won the Sweepstakes Award for having the most wins of any school at the Regional level. The winners move on to the State Science Fair in Baton Rouge on March 19.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL (MOREAUVILLE) JR. BETA CLUB. (Right) The Sacred Heart School Jr. Beta Club participated in the Louisiana State Beta Convention at the Cajun Dome in Lafayette in January. Students competed in Robotics, Living Literature, Academic Testing, Performing Arts and Visual Arts.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, NATCHITOCHES. St. Mary's School (Natchitoches) student, [redacted] has been accepted to the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He follows student SMS Jeremy Friedel who was accepted last year. Pictured: Andrea Harrell, principal, [redacted] and Christie Griffin, guidance counselor. Congratulations!

SCOUT SUNDAY. (Below) Cub Scouts received awards from Bishop David Talley during Scout Sunday at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Mar. 3.

See more photos and information from Catholic Schools Week at www.diocesealex.org.



Upcoming **VIRTUS sessions**

- **Apr. 4**, 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Center
ALEXANDRIA
- **Apr. 8**, 6:00 p.m.
St. Paul the Apostle Church
MANSURA

To register, go to www.virtus.org

Steubenville South Catholic Youth Conference

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For information:
Advance.nsula.edu
318-357-4500
NSUAdvance@nsula.edu

[/pages/Advance-Program](https://facebook.com/Advance-Program)

Campus Ministry and Young Adult Faith Development

CAMPUS MINISTRY SCHEDULES

LSUA Catholic Center Event Calendar through April 26

Mondays:
 7:45 a.m. -- Women Faculty and Staff Bible Study, LSUA Catholic Center
 9:15 a.m. -- Rosary, LSUA Catholic Center

Tuesdays:
 3:00 p.m. -- Ladies Bible Study, LSUA Catholic Center

Wednesdays:
 11:00 a.m. -- Holy Mass at the LSUA Catholic Center
 12:00 p.m. -- Free lunch at the LSUA Catholic Center

Thursdays:
 2:00 p.m. -- Adoration, LSUA Catholic Center
 3:00 p.m. -- Theology Study, LSUA Catholic Center
 Every 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m. -- Young Adults meeting, OLPS Church.

• April 29, 6:00 p.m.--Midnight Breakfast for Finals Week.

Join us on Facebook @ Isuacatholiccenter

LC Catholic Organization Event Calendar through Apr. 26

Tuesdays:
 11:00 a.m. -- LC Catholic Organization Meeting, Student Union

Wednesdays:
 6:35 p.m. -- Rosary, at the Fountain



Theology on Tap for Young Adults

There was a good turnout for Theology on Tap for young adults at Finnegan's Wake in downtown Alexandria on Wednesday, Feb. 27. Father Chad Partain facilitated a lively discussion about running the race of Lent as mature adults. Fr. Chad remarked, "it was great to see so many striving for holiness in everyday life!"

The next Theology on Tap is scheduled for the fourth week of Lent. Time and location TBA.

Catholic Campus Ministry is provided at LSU of Alexandria, Louisiana College, and Northwestern State University. Contact any University for more information.

LSU of Alexandria:
 Catholic Student Organization
 Phone: 318-473-6494
 lray@diocesealex.org

Northwestern State University
 Catholic Student Organization
 Phone: 409-749-9971
 dylan.browning@nsucatholic.org

Louisiana College Catholic
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 Phone: 318-613-0634
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Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training - March 22-23

Widely used by professionals and the general public, ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) will teach you how to reach out and save a life. Learn and practice a life-saving intervention model. This 2-day session will be held at the LSU AgCenter in Mansura, LA from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To be certified in ASIST, you MUST attend both 8 hour sessions. Cost is free. To register, go to www.savecenla.com or for more information call (337) 519-1888 or (337) 288-0973.

Italian Night - March 23

Join us for Italian Night on Saturday, Mar. 23 at 6:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Activities Building, Pineville. Dinner will include your choice of chicken parmesan or spaghetti and meatballs with Italian sausage, salad, garlic bread and a wonderful dessert created by our Italian cooks. There will also be a bottle of wine at the table. Tickets: \$50 a couple or \$25 a person. Babysitting is included. Music is provided by Blind-Fold Blues Band. Join us for a wonderful night for fun, not fundraising, but any donations will go to our church ministries. For more information contact Katherine Marino at (318) 542-9178, after 3:00 p.m.

Catechetical Quiz Bowl - March 30

The Annual Catechetical Quiz Bowl for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades is scheduled for Mar. 30, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at St. Frances Cabrini Church Activities Building (location changed from Maryhill). Cost is \$10 per 4-person team. First prize: \$500/trophy; second prize: \$200/trophy. Pizza lunch is included. Questions will be generated from Genesis and Matthew. To register or for a copy of the questions and answers, email emcullough@cabrinischool.com or call 318-448-3333.

Spring Fling, Simmesport - April 6-7

Christ the King Church Kaycee Ladies Auxiliary will host a "Spring Fling" (small Festival) on Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7. on Saturday starting after 5:00 p.m. Mass, join us for a few youth games, Bingo, hamburgers, hot dogs, nachos, etc. On Sunday beginning around 10:00 a.m. enjoy Sunday Dinner and Bingo!

"Anything Goes" Menard Theatre Production - April 10-14

Holy Savior Menard Theatre Arts presents Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" April 10-14 at the Coughlin Saunders Performing Arts Center in Alexandria. This charming comedy features iconic songs like "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "You're The Top." General admission is \$15. Tickets may be purchased at ticket-central.org or call (318) 445-8233 for more information.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS

Come and See Weekend, St. Joseph Seminary - April 12-14

Any young man in 10th, 11th or 12th grade who is interested in a Come and See visit to St. Joseph Seminary College please contact this Office of Vocations at 318-445-6424 Ext. 260. Step into the life of a college seminarian and see how our young men in formation live, pray and prepare to serve the Church. This retreat is offered at no cost for those who would like to attend. Attendees depart from the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria on Friday morning April 12 and return on Sunday afternoon April 14. For more information contact Father Louis Sklar at frlsklar@diocesealex.org



SACRED HEART (MOREAUVILLE) JR. BETA CLUB. Sacred Heart School Jr. Beta Club sponsored a Mardi Gras Parade for the entire school on February 15. It was enjoyed by all of our students, faculty, and staff.



LSUA MARDI GRAS PARADE. LSUA Catholic Center students participated in the annual LSUA Mardi Gras parade on Feb. 27. Each year numerous university organizations and sports teams create floats and line up behind the softball field to parade through campus. The parade ends at the Oaks dormitories where gumbo and king cake is served to all. The parade is enjoyed by elementary school kids who field trip to LSUA, University Academy students, and LSUA students, faculty, and staff.



ANNUAL OLPS PRE-K MARDI GRAS PARADE. Our Lady of Prompt Succor School in Alexandria held their annual Pre-K Mardi Gras Parade on Mar. 1. The entire student body, faculty and parents line up to catch beads and trinkets as the Pre-K classes parade down the street with their wagon floats in front of the school. Also participating were the Penny Kings, Queen, Prince, and Princess from Fall Festival, and the 2018 ReProm King and Queen Chris Soprano and Lesley Moran.

Church Today News Deadlines

Next issue: April 29
Deadline for news:
Friday, April 18

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Upcoming Retreats

The following ACTS retreats will be offered:

• Mar. 21-24
St. Joseph ACTS for Men
Contact John Gary Dautat
at 972-333-3490
or jdautat@crcins.com

ACTS

• Mar. 28-31
OLG Spanish ACTS for Women
Contact Javier Molinary
actschapteralexandria@gmail.com

March - April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Bible Studies: 10:30 a.m.-12 noon: St. Joseph, Marksville 5:50 p.m.-6:40 p.m. St. Juliana, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: Mary, Mother of Jesus, Woodworth	Campus Ministry Mass 11:00 a.m. LSUA Catholic Center St. Joseph's Mass and Altar Blessing 6:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria	Bible Studies: 6:00 p.m.: St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport 6:30 p.m.: St. Joseph Church, Marksville	Fish Frys: 10:30 a.m.: Mac's Fresh Market Hwy 28E, Pineville 11:00 a.m.: St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria 4:30 p.m.: St. Rita, Alexandria 5:00 p.m.: Sts. Francis & Anne, Kolin	Bishop Talley's last public Mass 4:00 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria Italian Night 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville	Lenten Mission: Christ the King, Simmesport
Lenten Mission: Sts. Francis & Anne, Kolin		St. Joseph ACTS Retreat for Men -- Maryhill Renewal Center				
PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE	SOLEMNITY of ST. JOSEPH PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE	Lenten Mission: Holy Ghost, Marksville PRAY FOR FR. A. DHARMARAJ	PRAY FOR FR. D. DUCOTE	ASIST: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK	PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON	THIRD SUNDAY LENT PRAY FOR FR. T. FEY
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
SOLEMNITY of the ANNUNCIATION of the LORD	Bible Studies: 10:30 a.m.-12 noon: St. Joseph, Marksville 5:50 p.m.-6:40 p.m. St. Juliana, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: Mary, Mother of Jesus, Woodworth	Campus Ministry Mass 11:00 a.m. LSUA Catholic Center Penance Service 6:10 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville	Penance Service: 6:30 p.m. St. Rita Church, Alexandria Bible Studies: 6:00 p.m.: Cabrini Church, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport 6:30 p.m.: St. Patrick Church, Ferriday 6:30 p.m.: St. Joseph Church, Marksville	Fish Frys: 10:30 a.m.: Mac's Fresh Market Hwy 28E, Pineville 11:00 a.m.: St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria 4:30 p.m.: St. Rita, Alexandria 5:00 p.m.: Sts. Francis & Anne, Kolin	Catechetical Quiz Bowl 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church Activities Bldg. (not at Maryhill)	Feast Day of St. Natalia Tulasiewicz FOURTH SUNDAY LENT
Lenten Mission: Christ the King, Simmesport		OLG Spanish ACTS Retreat for Women -- Maryhill Renewal Center				
PRAY FOR FR. W. GEARHEARD	PRAY FOR FR. J. GOOTEE	PRAY FOR FR. R. GREMLION	PRAY FOR FR. D. HART	PRAY FOR FR. J. HASIEBER	PRAY FOR BISHOP EMERITUS R. HERZOG	PRAY FOR MSGR. R. HOPPE
APRIL 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DIOCESAN OFFICES CLOSED Bishop David Talley Installed as Bishop of Memphis, TN	Bible Studies: 10:30 a.m.-12 noon: St. Joseph, Marksville 5:50 p.m.-6:40 p.m. St. Juliana, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: Mary, Mother of Jesus, Woodworth	Campus Ministry Mass 11:00 a.m. LSUA Catholic Center	Bible Studies: 6:00 p.m.: Cabrini Church, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport 6:30 p.m.: St. Patrick Church, Ferriday 6:30 p.m.: St. Joseph Church, Marksville VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. G. KROSFIELD	Fish Frys: 10:30 a.m.: Mac's Fresh Market Hwy 28E, Pineville 11:00 a.m.: St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria 4:30 p.m.: St. Rita, Alexandria 5:00 p.m.: Sts. Francis & Anne, Kolin FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. P. KULIGOWSKI	Spring Fling: Christ the King, Simmesport	Filipino Mass 2:00 p.m. St. Frances Cabrini Church, Alexandria
PRAY FOR BISHOP D. TALLEY	PRAY FOR FR. R. HUMPHRIES	PRAY FOR FR. H. IMAMSHAH			FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. P. KUNNUMPURAM	FIFTH SUNDAY LENT PRAY FOR FR. S. KWEBUZA
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Paul the Apostle Church, Mansura		Campus Ministry Mass 11:00 a.m. LSUA Catholic Center	Bible Studies: 6:00 p.m.: Cabrini Church, Alexandria 6:00 p.m.: St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport 6:30 p.m.: St. Patrick Church, Ferriday 6:30 p.m.: St. Joseph Church, Marksville	Fish Frys: 10:30 a.m.: Mac's Fresh Market Hwy 28E, Pineville 11:00 a.m.: St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria 4:30 p.m.: St. Rita, Alexandria 5:00 p.m.: Sts. Francis & Anne, Kolin Come and See Weekend, St. Joseph Seminary, Covington, LA		Menard Theatre's "Anything Goes" 2:00 p.m. Coughlin Saunders Performing Arts, Alexandria
PRAY FOR FR. M. LAIRD	PRAY FOR FR. P. LAPALME	Menard Theatre Arts presents: "Anything Goes" -- 7:00 p.m. Coughlin Saunders, Alexandria			PALM SUNDAY PRAY FOR FR. A. MESSINA	
PRAY FOR FR. L. LAFLEUR	PRAY FOR FR. R. MATHEWS	PRAY FOR FR. D. MEADE	PRAY FOR FR. L. MELCHER			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
===== HOLY WEEK =====						
	Chrism Mass 10:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathdral, Alexandria	Penance Service 6:00 p.m. Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth	DIOCESAN OFFICES (St. Joseph Catholic Center) CLOSED until April 23 HOLY THURSDAY of the LORD'S LAST SUPPER	ALL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS Easter Holiday Classes resume April 29. FRIDAY of the PASSION of the LORD (Good Friday)		
PRAY FOR FR. J. MICHALCHUK	PRAY FOR FR. K. MICHIELS	PRAY FOR FR. B. MILLER	PRAY FOR FR. C. MORGAN	PRAY FOR FR. C. NAYAK	HOLY SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. M. NOEL	EASTER SUNDAY PRAY FOR FR. K. OBIKWE



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