

# CHURCH TODAY

Volume L, No. 8

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

Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

August 26, 2019



## Back-to-school season!

The start of the new school year brings a whirlwind of excitement and new activity, including the Bulldog Triathlon, held on the LSUA Campus on Saturday, Aug. 17. Kids participated in swimming, biking, and running.

See pages 12 and 13 for pictures from back to school and end of summer activities from around the Diocese.

### INSIDE

#### Diocese sends eleven men to seminary this fall

The Diocese of Alexandria is proud to support our seminarian Class of 2019! Cut out page 5, and post it somewhere in your home or office as a visible reminder to pray for our seminarians in formation this fall.

#### Father August Thompson passes away

Father August Thompson, a retired priest of the Diocese of Alexandria, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 11 in Houston, Texas. See page 9 or visit the diocesan website to read about Father Thompson's life and ministry to the people of our diocese.

#### Keep your Catholic faith alive!

As the kids get back to school, so should we! See inside this issue for tips on signing up for R.C.I.A. classes (page 6), finding a spiritual director (page 7), and one way to foster the sacramental grace of marriage (page 18).

INDEX

National / World News .....3  
 Embracing the Liturgy.....4  
 Diocesan News.....5  
 Feature .....6  
 Feature .....7  
 Social Justice.....8  
 Vocations / Clergy .....9  
 Parish News .....10  
 Picture Spread.....12  
 Feature .....14  
 News and Events.....15  
 Multicultural .....16  
 Marriage and Family.....18  
 Schools / Youth .....20  
 Diocesan Briefs .....22  
 Calendar .....23

# Looking back



**September 2005:**

**Left: SEMINARIANS LEAVE FOR JOSEPHINUM.**

On August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. Notre Dame Seminary was flooded and suffered extensive roof damage and was not expected to reopen for at least a year. Six seminarians from the Diocese of Alexandria, who were attending Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, left Sept. 6 to go to the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio to continue their education. The seminarians were to spend the next year at Josephinum, the alma mater of Bishop Ronald Herzog. As it turned out, most of our seminarians since then attended and graduated from the Josephinum until this year, as they are now all back at Notre Dame Seminary, or attending St. Joseph's Seminary in Covington. Bidding farewell to the seminarians in the photo are Father Kenneth Michiels, then-director of Vocations, and Bishop Herzog. The seminarians were Adam Travis, Blake Deshautelle, John Wiltse, Peter Faulk, Tommy Paul, and Irion St. Romain.

**Today:**

Eleven men are in priestly formation for the Diocese of Alexandria. See page 5 for the Seminarian Class of 2019!

# CHURCH TODAY



Volume L, No. 8  
 August 26, 2019

P. O. Box 7417  
 Alexandria, LA 71303  
 churchtoday@diocesealex.org  
 318-445-6424

Publisher: Diocese of Alexandria  
 Publication Manager / Editor:  
 Cari Terracina, ext. 255,  
 ctterracina@diocesealex.org  
 Multimedia Manager / Advertising:  
 Joan Ferguson, ext. 264;  
 joanferguson@diocesealex.org  
 Circulation: Sandi Tarver, ext. 209;  
 starver@diocesealex.org

The CHURCH TODAY (USPS 393-240) is published by the Catholic Diocese of Alexandria, once a month, free of charge to members of the parishes in the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana. Out of diocese subscriptions are \$20 a year.

The office is located at  
 4400 Coliseum Blvd.,  
 Alexandria, LA 71303.  
 Periodicals postage paid at  
 Alexandria, LA.  
 Postmaster:  
 Send address changes to  
 The CHURCH TODAY, P. O. Box  
 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306

Website: www.diocesealex.org  
 To receive a free subscription,  
 call 318-445-6424, ext 255 or  
 e-mail starver@diocesealex.org

# Feast of the Month: Michaelmas

*By Emily Ann McCullough  
 Guest Contributor*

On Sept. 29, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Michael and the Holy Archangels. Scripture calls St. Michael an archangel, and the other two angels named in the Bible, Gabriel and Raphael, are assumed to be archangels, as well. (“Archangel” means “high-ranking angel” just like “archbishop” means a high-ranking bishop.) The feast has also been called “Michaelmas,” which means the Mass of St. Michael.

As pure spirits, surely these beings are most beautiful. Having said that, perhaps it is a terrifying beauty, for there appearance in scripture is usually accompanied by their exclamation, “Do not be afraid!”

Most of us do not keep a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church handy, but paragraph 336 explains: “From infancy to death human life is surrounded by [the guardian angels’] watchful care and intercession. Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life. Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God”. And the Bible says: “He has given his angels charge over you to guard you in all your ways.”



(Psalm 91:11), and “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?” (Hebrews 1:14)

But let’s learn a little more about them from the Catechism:

“As purely spiritual creatures angels have intelligence and will: they are personal and immortal creatures, surpassing in perfection all visible creatures, as the splendor of their glory bears witness” (CCC, 330).

“Angels have been present since creation and throughout the history of salvation, announcing this salvation from afar or near and serving the accomplishment of the divine plan: they closed the

earthly paradise; protected Lot; saved Hagar and her child; stayed Abraham’s hand; communicated the law by their ministry; led the People of God; announced births and callings; and assisted the prophets, just to cite a few examples. Finally, the angel Gabriel announced the birth of the Precursor and that of Jesus himself” (CCC 332).

They protect Jesus in his infancy, serve him in the desert, strengthen him in his agony in the garden, when he could have been saved by them from the hands of his enemies as Israel had been. Again, it is the angels who “evangelize” by proclaiming the Good News of Christ’s

Incarnation and Resurrection. They will be present at Christ’s return, which they will announce, to serve at his judgment. (CCC 333)

“In the meantime, the whole life of the Church benefits from the mysterious and powerful help of angels” (CCC 334).

St. Bernard wrote that we should have “respect for the presence of angels, devotion because of their loving service, and confidence because of their protection. And so the angels are here; they are at your side, they are with you, present on your behalf. They are here to protect you and to serve you. But even if it is God who has given them this charge, we must nonetheless be grateful to them for the great love with which they obey and come to help us in our great need.”

***Michaelmas is pronounced “MICKel-mus”, and is observed on September 29***

*Emily Ann and her husband Leland, a former Protestant minister, became Catholic in 1998. She has worked in Religious Education ever since, and at present teaches Religion full-time at St. Frances Cabrini School, Alexandria.*

# 'So many funerals,' says El Paso priest who comforted grieving kin

By Mark Pattison  
Catholic News Service



WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Father Fabian Marquez was the right priest at a very wrong time.

He was among several priests in El Paso, Texas, summoned to help out where they could in the hours following the brazen Aug. 3 assault at a Walmart store in the Texas border town that left 22 dead and dozens of others wounded.

Father Marquez's role was to go to an elementary school in the city that had been set up as a "reunification center" for the loved ones of those who might have been in harm's way during the massacre.

And as for how many "hours following" the rampage? Father Marquez, by his own count, was there for 48 hours.

It fell upon him to console family after family when police told them that a spouse, child or parent was among the dead.

As a result, Father Marquez has celebrated many funeral Masses, even of Catholics who were not members of his church, El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) just outside El Paso in Sparks, Texas, where he has served as pastor for the past four years.

When reached by Catholic News Service Aug. 16, he was hours away from presiding

**COMFORT FOR THE GRIEVING.** Father Fabian Marquez encourages a woman during a vigil service for Andre Pablo Anchondo at Perches Funeral Home in El Paso, Texas, Aug. 15, 2019. Anchondo died along with his wife Aug. 3 as they protected their 2-month-old baby from the mass gunman at Walmart. Anchondo was buried the next day, following his funeral Mass celebrated by Father Marquez. (CNS photo/Ivan Pierre Aguirre)

at the funeral Mass of Andre Anchondo. He and his wife, Jordan, were killed -- allegedly by Patrick Crucius, according to police -- as they were shielding their infant son, Paul, just 2 months of age, from the hail of gunfire.

Asked what was going to make Andre Anchondo's funeral different, Father Marquez

replied: "The difference with this one is, after having so many already -- I've been to so many funerals -- we get to experience and share with the family the loss of a young man, a young man who showed us the greatest sacrifice, the greatest love. The message I sent yesterday (is) there is no greater love than to give your life for one's friend --

and that's basically what he did. He protected his wife and his young child."

Yet there was one thing that links Anchondo's funeral to those of the other victims. "The tragedy," Father Marquez said. "It's very tragic because anybody who died in this massacre in El Paso had to go this way."

Anchondo's family is "a

family that's grieving, that's hurting. A loving family, a caring family," the priest said. "When we're with them and we see not only their pain and suffering for their son, but the family is so focusing on forgiveness, focusing on being better people, that the death of their son helps us to come together as a community, as a faith community, as a city and a nation, instead of promoting hate, but promoting more love."

Father Marquez said he has been bearing up fairly well in the two weeks since the mass shooting.

"It's been hard for all of us. Hard for all of us to see this tragedy come to our society. It really shook us. The shooter came to our city to divide. But we're stronger than ever. We've united in prayer, united in faith. We are stronger. El Paso strong," he told CNS.

"With Christ, everything has been stronger. It's been long days. Ministering to people, journeying with people, praying with people, but very rewarding to see that in the midst of our tragedy, God is with us. It is truly a blessing to see that God is with us as we journey together in this tragedy."

See COMFORT, page 16

## POLITICAL ACTIVITY

As the 2019 Election draws nearer, pastors and principals are reminded that any parish, school, or other Church-owned facility is not to be used for any activity related to the support of or opposition to any candidate for political office, nor as places for partisan debate. The pulpit, especially, is never to be used by candidates or incumbents to advance their political views or their positions. Moreover, the pulpit is not to be used as a forum by any individual -- even a priest or deacon -- to support or oppose a candidate, public official, or political position.

For a full explanation of diocesan policy regarding political activity, please refer to Article 1400 on page 15 of the Diocesan Policy Manual, located at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org), under "The Diocese - Policies and Structures." If you have any further questions, please contact David Brook at 318-445-6424, ext 215.

Do you know someone who wants to receive the Church Today FREE of charge?

Visit the sign-up form at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org), or email [cari.terracina@diocesealex.org](mailto:cari.terracina@diocesealex.org) with their name and mailing address.

## 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](http://www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/healing) (visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://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."

# New Catholic needs annulment? / More on crying babies

**Q.** A neighbor of ours, age 66, just completed the RCIA program to become a Catholic. She has been told that she cannot receive Communion or be confirmed until she secures an annulment.

She was not married in a Catholic church and has been divorced for over a decade. She states that she has “no intention of getting married again.” Does she really need an annulment? (Columbus, Ohio)

**A.** No. If she has no intention of marrying again, there is no need for her to have an annulment before she is received into the Catholic Church and able to share in the sacraments. If the time ever came, however, when she wanted to enter into a new marriage, she would first have to have that earlier marriage examined by the church.

Some Catholics think -- mistakenly -- that when two non-



## Question Corner

Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service

Catholics marry, that marriage doesn't “count” with the Catholic Church. That is untrue. So whether the first marriage of the woman in question was to a Catholic or to a non-Catholic, that marriage would still have to be declared null for her to enter a new marriage with the church's blessing.

**Q.** A follow-up question on the “crying babies” issue: My children were very fussy during Mass and always at their worst. They would scream and wail, and there is not a “cry room” in our

church. I would go to the gathering area and stand there (there's no place to sit) -- feeling more alone than ever -- for the entire Mass. I felt like such a failure as a parent and as a Catholic. I had postpartum depression, and this Sunday experience only served to deepen it.

I desperately searched the internet looking for permission to skip Mass and recover some semblance of mental health, but the only opinions I could find said that I should be able to make Mass

work even with a struggling child.

I spent my Masses wondering why I should even continue to be Catholic. So my question is this: When is it acceptable for a parent to miss Mass to care for children who are healthy but who create turmoil in church? (Missouri)

**A.** It seems to be that while you were going through postpartum depression, you could well have been excused from Mass while recovering -- especially if your attendance needed to be compromised by bringing very

active young children.

Generally, though, I would counsel a mother to seek out ways to be faithful to Sunday Mass -- not only because it is a serious obligation for Catholics, but also since it provides important moments of respite and peace in the difficult job of raising children.

I know parents who attend separate weekend Masses while the other stays home with little ones; others seek out a parish with a “cry room” or -- even better -- with volunteers who offer babysitting during Mass. The Eucharist, after all, is the one way that Jesus said he wanted us to keep his memory alive, so I don't think we should feel lightly dispensed.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com).

## R.C.I.A. and the Real Presence



### Embracing the Liturgy

By Deacon Richard W. Mitchell

We have made it to the Fall Season. A time of “somewhat” lower temperatures, seeing the excitement of our young people beginning a new school year, and of course FOOTBALL! In the church, Fall is also a popular time to begin a new session of religious formation and catechetical programs such as R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) and C.C.D. (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine). The R.C.I.A. program has a special place in my heart since I was a product of that program. In 1993, I was baptized, confirmed, and received my first communion by Bishop Sam Jacobs at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria.

That experience set the wheels in motion for my faith formation and spiritual life, which eventually led to my being ordained a deacon. It was during the R.C.I.A. program that I learned the teachings of the Church, and more importantly “WHY” we believe and practice what we teach (and preach). My experience was so life changing, that I have been involved with the program ever since.

One of the aspects of R.C.I.A. is for each participant to have a Catholic sponsor. This person is to assist them through prayer, answer questions about the faith that may not be covered in the

classes, and to journey along with them. One interesting thing I have experienced in the program is that many times the Catholic sponsor will come to me and admit that they are learning so much about their faith and the meaning behind the actions and words spoken during the liturgy.

There are other signs and information that point to the need for all of us to be involved in continuing religious education and faith formation. None more eye-opening than a recent article published by “*The Catholic Spirit*.” The article reports on results of a study conducted by the Pew Research Center which showed a majority of those who self-identified as “Catholic” do not believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Since the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist is the foundation of our Catholic Church, that would certainly explain one of

the reasons there is an overall decline in those attending Mass. I probably would not attend either if I did not believe I was receiving Jesus in the Eucharist. “*I can hear great homilies online or on television; I can pray and read scripture in the comfort of my own home...why would I need to go to Mass?*”

Well, I go to Mass because I came to believe through my R.C.I.A. classes and additional studies that the sacrament of the Eucharist IS the true body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus. Armed with this knowledge and belief, how could I NOT go to Mass on a regular basis?

I am sure we can all agree that continued education and religious formation is needed at all levels. So what are some ways we can help Mother Church and her leaders catechize those around us? A few suggestions may include:

- Make a commitment to

educate yourself more about the Catholic Church. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is a great resource to have readily available. The more you learn about the Church, scripture, and the sacraments, the stronger your faith will be and the better equipped you will be in spreading the truth and teachings of the Church.

- Become an evangelizer by inviting those in your circle of friends and family to enroll in your Parish's R.C.I.A. program and offer to journey with them. Do not be afraid to ask: “Would you be interested in learning about the Catholic Church?” You may be surprised when they answer “Yes!”

We should all see ourselves as the ones to spread the Good News of Jesus and invite our people to (or back into) the Church. The more of our friends and relatives attend Mass, the more people will have the opportunity to encounter Jesus and *Love The Liturgy!*

*This month's column is dedicated to the late Mrs. Paula DePriest who was the R.C.I.A. Coordinator when I went through the program at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Her patience, love for the Lord and his Church, and her support of me in my journey is something I will always remember.*

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



Diocese of Alexandria Website  
[www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org)



Diocese of Alexandria  
Facebook  
[facebook.com/DioceaseofAlexandria](https://www.facebook.com/DioceaseofAlexandria)



Diocese of Alexandria  
Instagram  
[@dioceaseofalexandria](https://www.instagram.com/dioceaseofalexandria)



Diocese of Alexandria  
on Spotify

# 2019 Diocese of Alexandria Seminarians



**Thomas Kennedy**  
from Minor Basilica of the  
Immaculate Conception,  
Natchitoches



**Robert Johnson**  
from St. Anthony of Padua,  
Natchitoches



**David Keran**  
from Minor Basilica of the  
Immaculate Conception,  
Natchitoches



**Joshua Burch**  
from St. Anthony of Padua,  
Natchitoches



**Chase Masters**  
from St. John Chapel,  
Columbia, LA



**Derrick Rials**  
from St. John Chapel,  
Columbia, LA



**Donnie Kuzma**  
from St. Anthony of Padua,  
Natchitoches



**Matthew Bonner**  
from Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
Pineville



**John Mohn**  
from St. Mary Church,  
Winnsboro



**Sean Grappe**  
from St. Anthony of Padua,  
Natchitoches



**Blaine Phillips**  
from St. Mary Church,  
Winnsboro

## Diocese to send eleven men to seminary

The Diocese of Alexandria is proud to support our seminarian Class of 2019!

We have eleven men in priestly formation, and with the support of their home parishes, they will begin or continue their formation to priesthood. They will attend orientation at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans or St. Joseph's Seminary in

Covington, before beginning classes this fall according to director of vocations, Father Louis Sklar.

Thank you to everyone for your support for these men through the Suppers with the Seminarians. Please cut out this page and post it in your home or office as a visible reminder to pray for our seminarians!

## *Prayer for the Appointment of a New Bishop*

**Please begin praying publicly and privately in anticipation of the appointment of a new Bishop for our Diocese.**

Praise to you, Lord our God, our eternal shepherd and guide. In your faithfulness, grant to the Diocese of Alexandria a new bishop whose watchful care will serve to continue the good work of his predecessors. In Your love, give us a shepherd who will lead us in being Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up your holy Church. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

*God, in your goodness,  
you have made a home for the poor.*

Psalm 68: 11  
Responsorial Psalm  
for September 1

### HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for September

The Protection of the Oceans - That politicians, scientists, and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

## How to join R.C.I.A.

By Claire Couche  
Guest Contributor

I love the Catholic Faith. I love the richness of its history and the courage of its Saints. There are so many inspiring stories of men and women who have accomplished great things and embody the spirit of beauty, truth, and goodness. Some of my favorite Saints are those who experience the deep call from Christ later in life through the gift of conversion.

I recently watched the new movie *Paul, Apostle of Christ* and was struck by the beauty of his conversion experience. I wept as I watched the courage, humility, and bravery of St. Paul as he transformed into Christ's disciple. We are all called to have moments of "daily conversion," where we draw closer to Christ in our everyday moments. Yet some people are invited by Christ in a very special way to enter into full communion with the Church, much like St. Paul.

### How to Join the Catholic Church

My dear friend, Father Sam Giangreco, recently sat down with me to explain the process of the R.C.I.A. R.C.I.A. stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—a beautiful process for men and women to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. Father Sam is an incredible priest who consistently shows me the beauty of the mercy and love of God. If you're wondering how to join the Catholic Church, start with the information from our conversation below.

### What is R.C.I.A.?

The R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process that engages prospective converts to Catholicism who are



beyond the age of reason (older than seven years, but often older than 18). It is designed specifically for those who are unbaptized, but often and legitimately used for those who are baptized (Catholic or non-Catholic), but un-catechized.

For example, some R.C.I.A. candidates were baptized Catholic, but were never raised in the Faith. Other candidates may be baptized non-Catholic Christian and never catechized as a Catholic. For those who have been baptized Catholic and raised in the Faith at home, through religious education, or Catholic schooling, a Confirmation program may be a more fitting program.

### What does the process look like?

Often, the R.C.I.A. program is organized and run by lay members of a parish and overseen by its pastor. The R.C.I.A. team members (those who run the program) and candidates (those wishing to become Catholic and/or fully initiated) typically gather in a room around a table on the parish grounds.

These are usually weekly

meetings that begin late summer or fall, and conclude at or shortly after Easter Sunday. Each meeting will involve a different lesson about the Catholic Faith.

During the Season of Lent, in the few weeks before the Easter Vigil Mass, candidates undergo what are called "scrutinies." It's a scary word, but it simply involves the candidate making a progressively deeper commitment to the Faith that they are about to profess.

It does not involve any type of speech, but simply standing before the congregation at a Sunday Mass for a brief moment as the priest recites a few prayers on your behalf and asks you to affirm your decision with very simple responses.

### How do I join?

If a person who wishes to become Catholic, or fully initiated (i.e., Confirmed), the first thing they should do is to call their local Catholic parish.

Often, parishes already have their own R.C.I.A. programs. If your parish doesn't, they should easily be able to direct you to a neighboring parish to enroll.

Sometimes, the pastor may even

be willing to tutor candidates if there isn't a nearby R.C.I.A. program. Joining R.C.I.A. requires effort, especially (and unfortunately) if a parish does not call you back or "leaves you hanging," waiting for them to direct you to a nearby program. Please do not be discouraged; just move forward and find another Catholic parish.

### What if I enroll, but then realize I'm not ready to join the Catholic Church?

It is not uncommon that candidates enroll in the program, attend a session or two, and drop out. There is no pressure to remain in the program. The R.C.I.A. team is usually seasoned enough to respect and expect all persons who approach the R.C.I.A. program.

### What happens after R.C.I.A.?

If you have remained in the

R.C.I.A. through Easter, it should be a time of great joy, because you have learned, prayed, and grown a lot in the Faith. Depending on which Sacraments you have yet to celebrate, you might receive Baptism, profess your faith in the Catholic Church, be Confirmed, and receive Our Lord in Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil Mass, which is the evening Mass prior to Easter Sunday morning.

### What do I do now?

Many R.C.I.A. programs start in this month of August. If it has been pressed upon your heart to learn more about the Catholic Church—and if you have a desire to join the Catholic Church—let this month be the time!

The R.C.I.A. program will help you to practice your faith and use the gifts God has given you. You have an important place, you have a home, within the Catholic Church.

Are you hoping to join the Church? Ask a friend or talk to a priest - there are no silly questions! See you at Church!

*Claire 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. You can find more writings from Claire and her husband, Michael at [www.findingphilothea.com](http://www.findingphilothea.com).*

### HURRICANE PRAYER OF PROTECTION

Our Father in heaven, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us from all harm during this hurricane season, and protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to our help. Amen.

*In every age, O Lord,  
you have been our refuge.*

Psalm 90: 1  
Responsorial Psalm  
for September 8

**ProximoTravel**  
*Pilgrimages for Catholics and people of all faiths*

Prices starting from \$2,499 ~ Airfare Included in this price  
from anywhere in the USA

Several trips to different destinations: the Holy Land; Italy; France, Portugal, & Spain; Poland; Medjugorje, Lourdes, & Fatima; Ireland & Scotland; England; Austria, Germany, & Switzerland; Greece & Turkey; Budapest; Prague; Our Lady of Guadalupe; Domestic Destinations; Colombia; Brazil; Argentina; etc...

**We also specialize in custom trips for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.**

Call us 24/7 713-393-7161  
Hablamos Español 855-842-8001  
[www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com)  
[anthony@proximotravel.com](mailto:anthony@proximotravel.com)

# What is a spiritual director and how to find one

By Cari Terracina  
Publications Manager

## What is Spiritual Direction?

Spiritual direction is the process through which a person explores and deepens his relationship with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the context of confidential ongoing conversation with a guide (spiritual director). Spiritual direction helps us to become aware of the ways in which we cooperate with, ignore, or in some cases, actively hinder the Holy Spirit's work within us.

*"As she has never failed to do, again today the Church continues to recommend the practice of spiritual direction," Pope Benedict XVI said in 2011, "not only to all those who wish to follow the Lord up close, but to every Christian who wishes to live responsibly his baptism, that is, the new life in Christ."*

## What is a Spiritual Director?

A spiritual director is a person whom we have chosen after prayerful consideration to accompany us, hold us accountable, encourage us, challenge us, and, when necessary, engage us in fraternal correction. He or she helps us to notice God's presence and activity in our life, and can encourage us to explore our personal reactions and responses to the Holy Trinity's presence and activity within and around us.

He or she directs you, sometimes over a short period of time (like at a retreat) and sometimes long-term.

Getting guidance at retreats is good, but having a long-term spiritual director who knows your interior life and your spiritual goals is even better. St. Francis de Sales puts it simply in his classic *An Introduction to the Devout Life*:



*"Do you seriously wish to travel the road to devotion? If so, look for a good man to guide and lead you."*

A spiritual director will usually have some training in the ministry of direction. This guide need not be a man, but priests certainly come to mind as apt spiritual directors. Many active and some contemplative religious sisters can also be directors. There are also institutes dedicated to forming lay people in the art of spiritual direction.

A spiritual direction session can cover any number of things: your prayer life, movements of consolation and desolation, spiritual joys and difficulties. All this, of course, requires a great deal of trust, humility, and honesty, which can be scary! But if you're serious about holiness, finding a spiritual director is a great step to take.

## How Do I Find a Spiritual Director?

*Pray!*

Ask God to guide your search and to provide the right spiritual director for you.

*Start with who you know.*

If you like your parish priests or know other priests in your area, consider asking one of

them to be your director. Or, if you know any faithful religious sisters in your area, they might be able to help, too. Having a pre-existing relationship with someone before asking them to be your spiritual director is helpful, but is not necessary.

*Ask around.*

If your priest is unable to offer spiritual direction, ask him who he knows. Or, if you have friends who have a director, ask them about their experience with that director and reach out to him/her yourself!

## Meeting with Your Spiritual Director

When meeting with a potential director for the first time or two, don't be afraid to ask questions of them and their experience, including how long they've been offering the service of spiritual direction. This can help weed out directors who might give you less-than-orthodox spiritual guidance, or those whose personality might not be best suited to mentor you.

Ask them, in person or via email, about their own prayer life or about their favorite devotions. If they are a lay person, ask them where their training came from and do your research on the place that formed them.

A spiritual direction session typically lasts one hour, and is held in a space prepared by the director, perhaps at his or her office or at a retreat center. The session begins with a quieting of some sort as both the director and directee enter into the sacred time and space.

A spiritual direction meeting is normally a one-on-one meeting during which the director and individual discuss the person's spiritual life. Typical questions that might be asked during a meeting include,

*How were you called to trust God in this past month?*

*What do you desire?*

*What does this have to say to you about God? What does God have to say to you about this?*

*Is God nudging you to some action in your life? Is God asking you to wait?*

*For what are you most grateful?*

As the session ends, the director may summarize what he or she has heard in your story or may emphasize an insight that the Spirit has brought forth in the session. He or she may recommend specific prayers, scripture, spiritual reading, or spiritual practices for the next month. It is expected that the directee will prepare for the upcoming session with some reflection; reviewing one's journal if applicable, or simply taking a quiet time of reviewing the past month can be helpful preparation for the next session.

## What if We Don't Click?

If you feel a director isn't right for you, it's okay to look for another. It is up to both the director and directee to discern whether they are a good fit, or whether another person or ministry altogether might be needed. Prayerful discernment and honesty are key.

That said, be aware of the

growing pains that can come with having a new director. Discussing serious issues of your interior life can be scary, especially if you did not previously know your director or if you are new to spiritual direction. But, when you have found a good spiritual director, continue to develop that relationship: If your first session goes well, show initiative and interest by requesting another meeting. Follow their advice when given. Pray how they ask you to pray. If they give book recommendations, read them. Be honest and open with your director, and take their guidance to heart!

## Compensation and Spiritual Direction

Most priests and religious do not ask for compensation for spiritual direction. It's part of their vocation and ministry. That said, while compensation might not be expected, it is always appreciated! If you are unable to give a monetary payment, assure your director of your prayers. A spiritual bouquet (offering to pray a novena or a certain number of rosaries or certain number of Masses said for your director) is also a thoughtful gift.

Or give something other than money. Most priests appreciate gifts such as gift cards for gas, groceries, or personal items, or gifts such as coffee, snacks, books, or movies.

May God bless you in your search for a spiritual director!

**Download the Spotify app and search for "Diocese of Alexandria" to listen to our top picks for your family's #BacktoSchool playlist for more peaceful mornings.**

## 2-Year Spiritual Director Internship Information Meeting: September 9

There will be two information meetings on Monday, Sept. 9 for those interested in becoming a spiritual director. The first meeting will be 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and repeated again 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center, 4400 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria.

The Diocese will partner with the Archdiocese of New Orleans Spirituality Center Formation Program to offer a certification for those interested in this ministry. This program is a two-year Spiritual Director Internship, based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Classes are one day per month, and available during either weekdays or weekends. There is an application process with prerequisite requirements, and a \$2,000 fee for the 2-year program. Learn more by attending one of the information meetings listed above. For more information about the meetings, contact Deacon Richard Mitchell at [dcnr Mitchell@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcnr Mitchell@diocesealex.org).

## Modeling Good Behavior Every Day

By Paul Ashton  
Guest Contributor

*“Let us all remember this: one cannot proclaim the Gospel of Jesus without the tangible witness of one’s life.” - Pope Francis*

Our work together to protect children is ongoing and never ending. That is what Love is all about. It is the message of the Gospels and the clear and certain teaching of Jesus: “Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19: 14).

For adults, living out the message of Christianity is a way of life. It is not only words, but also actions. It permeates the presence of each person so that what remains after an encounter is reminiscent of the “odor of sanctity,” said to have been emitted from the Saints who led lives of extraordinary holiness. For example, after an encounter with another person, our presence, good deeds and kindness leave a pleasant odor behind, and the people we speak to are left feeling good about themselves and their life. When we act in this way, we become



“manna personalities” defined as “divinely supplied spiritual nourishment.” We feed others through nourishing them with our good words, actions and deeds. It is a good way to look at how we live—do you leave behind a good odor? Do we feed the people we encounter? Even when we have a difficult duty or obligation to perform, there is always a kinder

way to do so. With just a little reflection and thought, we can change the way we affect others. The old song from the 1960’s comes to mind: “They’ll Know We are Christians” by our Love (written by Fr. Peter Scholtes and inspired by John 13:35). Being a witness for our Faith in many ways makes us first responders to the situations we encounter along the way. Protecting children is one of those ways in which we

all take part. While we may not always think of the ways in which this happens, the small things that we do make a big difference. Consider the following times you may be protecting children each and every day:

- Following rules, without trying to break them or go around them in places where children and minors gather. This sets a good example and goes a long way in offering kids safe spaces.
- Watching and being alert to the behaviors of other adults when there are gatherings of children, serves to protect youth.
- Listening to the children in your life, attending to the details, being interested in their stories—this form of paying attention gives them confidence in the way they communicate with you.
- Talking to kids about safety rules, modeling good behaviors: putting your seat belt on, respecting the environment, being safe when crossing streets—all lead to good practices for kids to follow.
- Helping children who appear lost and getting them to a safe person in charge, and waiting with them until their parents come forward (lost children in stores, etc.).
- Having another adult present with you when you are in a

position of trust with kids.

- Being the other safe adult for someone who is ministering to children.
- Making sure you don’t curse or act inappropriately in the presence of children and within their earshot.
- Speaking positively about the efforts and programs the Church and other groups are undertaking to protect children.
- Supporting child protection efforts by participating and volunteering.
- Educating children, teaching them and being positive in the way you help them.
- Helping parents when they have their arms full of their children, baby carriages and other things.
- Smiling, nodding with understanding and a kind look when a parent is in a tough situation with their kids and trying to manage.
- Reporting any suspicions of inappropriate behaviors of people you know or don’t know to the appropriate leadership, and even the authorities.
- Being present, not ignoring others in need.
- Coaching kid’s sports.

See BEHAVIOR, page 17



Melanie Blanchard, Broker  
Donald Baker, Agent  
Robert Tassin, Agent

Licensed in Louisiana, USA  
Phone: 318-473-8751  
3306 Giamanco St. Alexandria, LA

Website: bakeragproperties.com

We specialize in forest, recreation, and agriculture properties.

### DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA OFFICE OF LIFE AND JUSTICE

The Diocese of Alexandria Office of Life and Justice now lists a Social Service Directory on the Diocese website!

The Office of Life and Justice lists this directory as a public service. It does not recommend, support, or guarantee any of the mentioned services. Each consumer should be vigilant and ask questions of each provider, including costs (if any), confidentiality of medical or personal information, and to whom they can address complaints if necessary.

Please visit [www.diocesalex.org/office-of-life-justice](http://www.diocesalex.org/office-of-life-justice) for a directory of utilities assistance, mental health, legal, and other services.

### 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.

# NEBLETT, BEARD & ARSENAULT

561-2500 • NBALawFirm.com

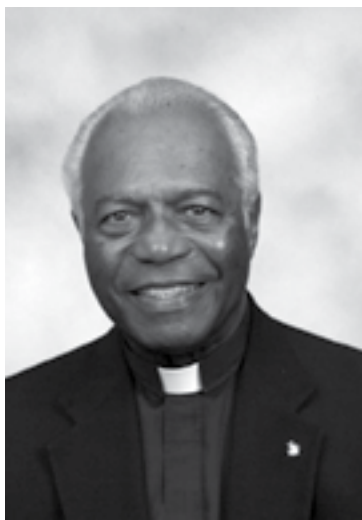
Richard J. Arsenault

2220 Bonaventure Court, Alexandria



# Father August Thompson passes away

Father August Louis Thompson, a retired priest of the Diocese of Alexandria, passed from this life on Sunday, August 11, 2019 in Houston, Texas. Fr. Thompson was born in Baldwin, Louisiana on July 7, 1926, the son of Louis D. Thompson and Eunice Barard. He graduated from Willow Street High School in Franklin, Louisiana and began his seminary formation at St. Augustine Seminary in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi in 1941. Fr. Thompson studied at St. Mary's Seminary in Illinois and St. Paul Seminary in Iowa before finishing his B.A. degree at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans in 1957. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Alexandria at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans on June 8, 1957. Fr. Thompson was a well-respected priest of the diocese for 62 years and achieved significant recognition in areas of social justice throughout his priestly service.



of Prompt Succor Church in Mansura, Louisiana. During his 16 years in Mansura, Fr. Thompson built the Uganda Center and served as a voice for Black Catholics on a local and national level. In 1985, Bishop Friend appointed Fr. Thompson as rector of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. In 1991, Fr. Thompson was appointed as pastor of St. James Memorial Church and St. Juliana Church in Alexandria. Fr. Thompson retired from active ministry in 1997.

Fr. Thompson served as parochial vicar at St. Anthony's Church in Cottonport and as administrator and pastor of St. Charles' Church in Ferriday. In 1969, Fr. Thompson was appointed pastor of Our Lady

In over fifty years of priestly service, Fr. Thompson served the Church and the community

in a variety of ways. He served as a notary public for Concordia and Avoyelles Parishes. He served as a member of the Board for the National Black Catholic Clergy caucus from 1968-1980. He served as diocesan spiritual director for the Legion of Mary, Vicar for Black Catholics, as a member of the Presbyteral Council, the College of Consultors and on the Diocesan Liturgical Commission for the Diocese of Alexandria. He was the first black priest to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Priests' Councils as a provincial representative. Fr. Thompson founded a rent-subsidy housing project in Mansura known as Imani Court for which work he received a national award from the National Black Catholic Convention in 1973. Fr. Thompson was awarded the Outstanding Citizen Award from the Black Students Union of Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois in 1980.

In his retirement, Fr. Thompson served on the board for St. Mary's Residential Training School.

Rosary and visitation was held in Alexandria at Saint

Frances Xavier Cathedral on Monday, Aug. 19. The Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, Aug. 20, with priests of the Diocese of

Alexandria concelebrating, and Father James Ferguson serving as the Homilist.



## Sr. Anita Bianchini, OLS dies



Sister Anita Bianchini of the Congregation of Our Lady of Sorrows passed away on July 31. Sister was to be 100 years old within weeks, and was one of the earliest Sisters to arrive with the community to teach, and to staff St. Mary's Residential Training School. She came to Louisiana from Italy in 1948 to join the first group of Our Lady of Sorrows sisters, teaching at Our Lady of Sorrows School in Pineville, and St. Anthony School in Cotton-

port. She was the first principal of Holy Rosary School in Shreveport, and served as both teacher and principal at Sacred Heart School in Moreauville, and Christ the King School in Bossier City. Sister continued very successful flower and small vegetable gardening at the convent on Brown's Bend Road. She was known for her smile and immediate hospitality for guests. The funeral Mass was held on Saturday, Aug. 3, with interment at Forrest Park Cemetery in Shreveport.

### 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. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

## Seminarian Burses July 2019 Donations

<b>Mr. and Mrs. Silton Innerarity</b> .....	<b>\$25.00</b>
Father Chad Partain Burse	
<b>Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schupbach</b> .....	<b>\$50.00</b>
Deacon Gary Schupbach Burse	
<b>Mr. and Mrs. Michael M. Rabb</b> .....	<b>\$100.00</b>
Father Peter Kuligowski Burse	
<b>Mrs. Barbara Rigby</b> .....	<b>\$100.00</b>
Leo P. Dobard Burse	
<b>Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schupbach</b> .....	<b>\$150.00</b>
Monsignor Steve Testa Burse	
<b>Bayou Chateau Nursing Center</b> .....	<b>\$300.00</b>
Floyd LaCour Burse	
<b>Mrs. Nelwyn Broussard</b> .....	<b>\$500.00</b>
Deacon Rodrick "Benny" Broussard Burse	
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$1,225.00</b>

(Correction from total contribution from January – June, 2019)  
**Harold and Lillie Beridon** .....

**\$500.00**

# Parish Spotlight: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Campti

## Established 1831

Land for a chapel in the town of Campti was donated by Miss Frances Crichton in 1831. The new chapel was blessed and dedicated in honor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin by Father Jean Baptiste Blanc of Natchitoches on September 8, 1831.

In 1850, construction began on a new church under the direction of Father Philbert Jourdain, later named as pastor on October 19, 1851. Difficulties with the contractors forced Father Jourdain to retire to a monastery in France. A mortgage was negotiated and the church remained as a mission of Natchitoches until 1856 when Father Jean Baptiste Avenard was assigned as pastor. He succeeded in paying off the debt, and helped to see his parish through the dark days of war and reconstruction. Campti was burned by Federal troops in 1864, but the church survived intact.

In 1894, the Sisters of Divine Providence established St. Cecilia's School which continued in operation into the 20th century. Under Bishop Desmond, the parish was placed under the care of the Dominican Fathers in 1940. Today it is staffed by diocesan clergy.

Today, the church is the last remaining wood-frame antebellum church in the diocese. In 2003, Bishop Jacobs designated the church in Campti as a 'Proto-parish' in the Diocese of Alexandria.

Nativity Church also serves the missions of Our Lady of the Rosary, Black Lake, and St. Joseph's, Trichel.



**Hixson-Ducote Funeral Home**  
**Avoyelles Monuments**

*Ray and Marie Ducote, Owners*

*Bunkie*                      *Plaucheville*  
**(318) 346-6346**        **(318) 922-3200**

**COTTONPORT**  
**CORNER DRUG**  
*and gift boutique*

**Flu Shots & Vaccinations**

**Many gifts including large selection of religious items:**

- My Saint My Hero religious jewelry
- Holy Medals
- *Jesus Calling* & other inspirational books
- Rosaries
- ACTS bracelets
- First Communion, Confirmation & Baptism gifts

Follow us on Facebook @ Cottonportcornerdrug.giftboutique

**(318) 876-3665**  
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
206 Choupique Lane • Cottonport, LA 71327  
**Kim & Stewart Wixson, Owners**

**For updated contact information and Mass times for our diocesan churches and missions, please visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org)**

**Lacombe**  
**Floor Finishing**  
**310 N. Briarwood, Bunkie, LA 71322**  
Specializing in installation

- Floor Finishing
- Hardwood Floors
- Ceramic Tile Floors
- Reseal Tile Floors

**Ph: (318) 481-0950**  
*Morgan Newton, Owner*

*I will rise and go to my father.*

Luke 15: 18  
Responsorial Psalm  
for September 15

**Listen to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on**

**KLIL 92.1      KZLG 95.9**

**8 a.m. Sunday Mass      7 a.m. Sunday Mass**



# Christ the King project nears completion

Parishioners of Christ the King Catholic Church in Simmesport anxiously await the completion of their new rectory and chapel which is under construction. Designed by Architect and parishioner Wayne Coco, work began in November of 2018. After numerous rain setbacks, the complex is expected to be completed by the end of August 2019. Parishioners raised over \$440,000 over the past 16 years for the project. Upon completion, the campus will be unified with connecting arched breezeways from all five buildings on the site. It is the final building project as part of the Master Plan in the church's 84 year history as Christ the King Parish in Simmesport.

The chapel, to seat approximately 30 people, is especially inspiring. A beautiful stained glass, in the design of a cross, is the focal point of the chapel. It was designed by artist, Stephen Wilson, of Baton Rouge. Wilson designed all of the stained glass at the new \$25 million St. George Catholic Church in Baton Rouge as well as other works throughout

Louisiana, Texas, and the south.

The title of the stained glass is "The Golden Christ": The crucifix design is full of symbolism and is explained by Wilson in his concept narrative. "I took my inspiration from the 9th and 10th chapters of Hebrews, regarding the veils of golden altars in the older covenant worship, separating us from the Holy of Holies, but now, in the new covenant through Jesus' crucifixion, His flesh becomes the veil through which we enter His Kingdom.

He also drew inspiration from the words of Luke 23:39-47: To the thief who hung on a cross to the right of Christ, who rebuked the other saying, "this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom." Jesus said to him, "This day you will be with me in paradise." In Revelation 4:2-3, around Christ's throne is an emerald rainbow, and this is the reason for using the greens on Jesus' right arm, as if to cast the glow of redemption on the sinner to his right.

The crown of thorns on His

head are topped by an abstracted Kingly crown with jewels. Depicted in the stained glass are minute and hour clock hands pointing to 3:00 p.m., the hour of Christ's death. The hour hand pointing to the left hand of Christ symbolizes the time of darkness recorded in the Gospels before Christ breathed His last breath, so the absence of colors, therefore greys and multiple clock hands illustrate this.

**"THE GOLDEN CHRIST"**. Artist Stephen Wilson (left) and assistant Warren Simmons (right) pose in front of a stained glass window in the new chapel of Christ the King Church in Simmesport.

To see "The Golden Christ" in color, please visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org), or visit Christ the King Church in Simmesport.



**LOUISIANA CHEF JOHN FOLSE PRESENTS:**

*St. Mary's*

**GRECO BOWL**

Authentic Cajun Cuisine • Cooking Demonstrations • Live & Silent Auctions



Chef John Folsie's  
**WHITE OAK**  
ESTATE & GARDENS



**CHRISTUS.**  
ST. FRANCES CABRINI  
Hospital



**PAT WILLIAMS**  
CONSTRUCTION



**CCS**  
FUNDRAISING



**SWB**  
SOUTHWEST BEVERAGE CO., INC.



**ELLIOTT**  
CONSTRUCTION, LLC  
507-462-4636



**CLECO**  
Connecting Louisiana's Future



**FIRST FEDERAL**  
BANK  
OF LOUISIANA



**AE**  
Anticon  
Enterprises

August 27, 2019  
Alexandria Convention Hall  
Doors open at 6pm

Tickets \$75  
Limited seating available!  
Contact us at 318.445.6443

# Back to School!



**“EMPOWERED” BACK TO SCHOOL YOUTH EVENT.** Youth from a number of churches across the Avoyelles Deanery attended the St. Joseph EMPOWERED back-to-school event on August 3. Under the guidance of Adult Volunteers, High School youth assisted in ministering to Jr. High youth during the day event, which concluded with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions and Mass. It was wonderfully successful in bringing Avoyelles Youth together in Prayer, the Sacraments, Learning, Friendship and Fun!



**RITE OF CANDIDACY FOR HOLY ORDERS.** Archbishop Gregory Aymond celebrated the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders during the midday Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Thursday, Aug. 1. During this Mass, Diocese of Alexandria seminarians Chase Masters, Derrick Rials, Josh Burch, and Robert Johnson publicly made a resolution to complete their formation in preparation for the priesthood.



**KC CHECK FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.** John Morovich, Alexandria Diocesan Coordinator for the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, presents a check to Father Scott Chemino for the Excellence in Religious Education Program. The funds are collected from the extra money that 4th Degree members give when they pay their annual dues. Six Assemblies in the Diocese of Alexandria are included in this donation.



**BULLDOG TRIATHLON.** The annual Bulldog Kids Triathlon was held on the LSUA Campus, Saturday, Aug. 17. Kids participated in swimming, biking, and running. Father Derek Ducote was present to kick off the day with the blessing of the kid athletes.



The start of the new school year brings a whirlwind of excitement and new activity. Below, students from St. Mary's School in Natchitoches, St. Frances Cabrini, and Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria successfully complete the first week of school! Visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org) for more pictures from the first days of school, and back to school activities around the diocese.



## Keep your Catholic faith alive!

### Sign up today for Religious Education Classes



As the kids get back to school, so should we! Below are just a few ideas to help us stay active in the life of our church parishes, and to help us grow in our knowledge of our rich Catholic faith.

#### Catechism (CCD) Classes:

Catechism class (or CCD: Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) is a parish-based religious education program for Catholic children (grades K-12) attending public schools. These classes not only educate chil-

dren about Jesus and the Catholic faith, but prepare children to receive the sacraments, and are considered by Vatican officials to be vital to children's development as Catholics. Contact your church parish to volunteer as a CCD teacher or class aide

this year.

#### Confirmation Classes:

The sacrament of Confirmation is conferred on baptized individuals who have the desire to deepen and strengthen the union between God and their soul through the powers of the Holy Spirit, as was once granted to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost. Generally, Confirmation classes begin for students entering the 10th grade. Contact your church parish to help teach, sponsor a student, or simply commit to praying for your church's confirmation class.

#### RCIA Instruction:

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process through which interested adults are gradually introduced to the Roman Catholic faith and way

of life. The RCIA process involves a number of stages punctuated by liturgical rites to aid and assist the potential convert toward the final rite at the Easter Vigil, at which time they will become full members of the Roman Catholic Church. The entire process takes several months, but participants are invited to proceed at a pace that suits them individually.

#### Volunteer to help!

At most churches, CCD, First Communion, Confirmation, and RCIA education are provided by both members of the clergy and lay staff. Parishes are almost always in need of qualified persons to teach these classes. To volunteer, you must be a practicing Catholic with a strong background in the Catholic faith.



**CENLA MAGNIFICAT INTERNATIONAL LEADER'S CONFERENCE.** CENLA Magnificat was well represented at the 15th Magnificat International Leader's Conference held in Kenner, LA on July 18-21. The conference agenda included 4 Masses (each concelebrated by the 20 Spiritual Advisors from around the world in attendance), praise and worship, workshops which provided needed Chapter and Ministry information, and general session presentations by Monsignor David Toups, Dr. Carol Razza, Patti Mansfield, Jackie France, and Donna Ross. A Mass followed by a Healing Service was celebrated, with the main celebrant being Father Lou Cerulli, on Saturday morning at St. Mary's Assumption Church in New Orleans, site of the Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos. The Presentation of Chapters Rose Procession, with each of the Chapters presenting a rose to Our Lady, took place on Friday night. Each Chapter received the book "How It All Began - A Brief History of Magnificat" from Marilyn Quirk, the author of the book and foundress of the Magnificat Ministry. The Saturday night meal included a personal testimony by Barbara Heil, a lay Catholic evangelist.

CENLA Magnificat will host their next breakfast in Natchitoches on Sept. 21, starting at 9:30 a.m. at Merci Beaucoup in Natchitoches. For more information, email [cenlamagnificat@gmail.com](mailto:cenlamagnificat@gmail.com).

Pictured above are: Vivian Myers, Mary Moore, Donna Reason, Debbie Diddier, and (Back Row) Sue Dauzat, Mimi Hardy, Diane Ardoin, and Sharon Bourgoyne.



### Grief

My soul is sad beyond belief,  
As I lay here crying in my grief.

I lost the person, my one true love,  
But, I can look to heaven and see them above.

My heart aches, and sometimes I cry,  
But, I know someday I too must die.

Our time is short, we do our best.  
I know with God's help, we can accomplish the rest.

He gives us graces throughout the day,  
Helping each other along the way.

As I close out with HIS words of love,  
You will be with me in heaven above.

Marcus Descant, Leesville, La.

[lizdescant@gmail.com](mailto:lizdescant@gmail.com)  
Advertisement paid for by Marcus Descant

All volunteers in the Diocese of Alexandria must be certified in the VIRTUS Safe Environment program. Resource materials are provided for volunteers as well.

To sign up for any of the above religious education classes, or to volunteer to help, please contact your church parish office or your nearest Catholic church. Contact information for all churches can be found at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org).

#### Go back to school yourself!

There are numerous options to help you grow in your knowledge of our rich Catholic faith, including:

##### St. Paul Center

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*. Find more about the St. Paul Center at [www.stpaulcenter.com](http://www.stpaulcenter.com).

##### Ascension Press

Ascension Press is an evangelistic platform bringing entertaining, faith-filled, and dynamic presenters, including Father Mike Schmitz, straight to your newsfeed at no cost. By providing engaging content that reflects the good, the true, and the beautiful, Ascension Press hopes to bring hearts closer to Christ. Sign up for Ascension Press emails at [www.ascensionpress.com](http://www.ascensionpress.com).

##### Dynamic Catholic

Do you have a sense that something is missing in your life? Are you ready to grow spiritually? Are you hungry

to learn more? Wherever you are in your journey, Dynamic Catholic wants to meet you right there, helping you to discover God and the best way to live. Offering parish events, free books and CD's, and daily reflections, Dynamic Catholic's mission is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. Order Matthew Kelly's newest book *Rediscover the Saints* at [www.dynamic-catholic.com](http://www.dynamic-catholic.com).

##### FORMED

Offering thousands of movies, video programs, audios, and ebooks, FORMED On Demand is an online subscription service. Discover great media from over 40 of the best Catholic content producers including the Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, the USCCB, Catholic Answers, EWTN, St. Paul Center, Marian Press, Sophia Press, Knights of Columbus, FOCUS, and many more. From personal study to children's catechesis to sacramental preparation, Formed offers something for everyone. Sign up for you free trial at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) to view programs like *St. Giuseppe Moscati: Doctor to the Poor*, *All or Nothing: Sister Clare Crockett*, and *The Wild Goose: Discovering A Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit*.

Whether you volunteer, enhance your personal prayer life, or further your Catholic education, aim to make this academic year the best year yet by seeking out ways to prioritize your faith and family.



## Fall Fairs and Festivals

### • Sept. 6-8: Holy Ghost Church, Marksville

Holy Ghost Church along with St. Richard's Chapel will host its annual Fall Fair Sept. 6-8 at Holy Ghost Church in Marksville. The fair will begin on Friday with the opening of the Country Store / Garage Sale 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Country Store / Garage Sale continues from 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., and on Sunday, Sept. 8, the Cake and Sweet Booth opens at 8:00 a.m., the Country Store / Garage Sale opens at 10:00 a.m., and dinner sales begin at 11:00 a.m. consisting of a Pork / Chicken combo dinner with dirty rice, green beans, sweet potatoes, and a roll for \$10 per plate. The Special Bingo games begin at 3:00 p.m. followed by the Church raffle drawing. The first prize is \$500, second prize is \$300, third prize is \$150, and the fourth prize is \$50. For more information, call the church office at 318-253-7131.

### • Sept. 14-15: Annual Fall Fair, Evergreen

Church of the Little Flower's annual Fall Fair will be held Sept. 14-15 beginning after 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday. There will be Bingo all weekend, children's games on Saturday evening, sweet shop, country store, silent auction, Jambalaya and hamburgers will be available on Saturday. Sunday dinner will be roast beef plates with all the trimmings for \$9. There will be a big raffle: 1st place \$200; 2nd place \$200; 3rd place \$150; 4th place \$100; 5th place \$100; 6th place \$100. Please come out and join the fun!

### • Sept. 21-22: St. Peter/St. Michael Annual Fair

Great food to enjoy at the Bordelonville Volunteer Fire Department Training Facility (Old School Site), including cracklins, crawfish piroettes, burgers and fries, egg rolls, jambalaya, lemonade, nachos, cold drinks, and beer. Mass will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday in the gym, with activities following, including children's games, Jupiter Jump, novelty booth, and bingo. First place prize for the raffle is \$1,000, second prize is a guided Toledo Bend fishing trip, and third prize is \$250. Call 318-997-2151, 318-997-2310, or 318-240-3312 for tickets or more information, or contact Moreauville Parts House, His & Hers Mansura, or the church office. Fr. Shoury Ramji and parishioners invite everyone to come passer un bon temps in Bordelonville!

### • Oct. 12-13: St. Joseph School Fair, Plaquemine

The St. Joseph School Fair will be held in Plaquemine on Oct. 12-13, starting after 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday. We will continue our tradition of fried fish plates on Saturday night for \$8 per plate, and Cochon de Lait lunch plates on Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Come out and enjoy games, food, and fun for all ages!



CALL IN YOUR ORDER - WE WILL HAVE IT READY IN 20 MINUTES  
**COMPARE QUALITY - TASTE - QUANTITY & PRICE**  
**WE DELIVER** EVERYTHING FROM CHEESE TO "FULL HOUSE"  
 WITHIN LIMITED AREA SUN-THUR 11AM-10:30 PM  
 CHECK ACCEPTABLE FRI & SAT 11AM-11 PM

#1 ALEXANDRIA	#2 BALL	#3 PINEVILLE
902 VERSAILLES BLVD. 448-4104	6301 MONROE HWY. 640-2983	CORNER HWY. 28 EAST & STILLEY RD. 445-9249

VALUABLE COUPON  
**Two Medium Pizzas \$17.99**  
 Single Topping - Additional Toppings Extra  
 Not valid with any other coupon  
 Coupon Expires 9/23/19  
 All prices subject to change



### Upcoming Retreats

The following ACTS retreats will be offered:

• **September 5 - 8**  
**St. Joseph ACTS for Women**  
 Contact John Gary Dauzat  
 at 972-333-3490  
 or [jdauzat@crcins.com](mailto:jdauzat@crcins.com)

• **September 26 - 29**  
**St. Mary's ACTS for Women**  
 Contact Luke Welch  
 at 318-359-3372  
 or [www.thestmarys.com](http://www.thestmarys.com)

### Upcoming VIRTUS sessions

• **August 29**, 6:00 p.m.  
 St. Joseph Catholic Center  
 ALEXANDRIA

• **September 17**, 6:00 p.m.  
 St. Anthony of Padua Church  
 BUNKIE

• **September 19**, 6:00 p.m.  
 Minor Basilica of the  
 Immaculate Conception  
 (Church Hall)  
 NATCHITOCHE

To register,  
 go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).

### Catechetical Sunday is September 16

*Praise the Lord  
 who lifts up  
 the poor.*

Psalm 113: 1 |  
 Responsorial Psalm  
 for September 22

**White Mass  
 is October 11**

# COMFORT

(continued from pg. 3)

At Father Marquez's parish, where he says it is "standing-room only" in the 325-capacity church for all four weekend Masses, "we were very vulnerable. We were not ready for something like this. We never felt it would happen in a community that is so welcoming, so loving, so caring, so willing to give their best to anyone who comes to our city, who lives in our city. We are always a community that welcomes the stranger," he said.

Parishioners at the overwhelmingly Hispanic parish had grown more wary of stricter immigration policy and enforcement over the past two years.

"My community, we're all concerned. Everybody's concerned about what's been happening. It couldn't have happened at a worse time -- Mexican people being targeted by a shooter in our community to take the lives of our loved ones," Father Marquez said. "It creates more fear, it creates more anxiety, and (those are) the feelings my parish community is experiencing."

Regardless of the fears and anxieties affecting its members, he loves his parish.

"My parish is a beautiful, vibrant community that is willing to sacrifice its own needs for others. We do live the Gospel to serve God, to serve

others, to give the best that we can for our community, not just for us but the entire city of El Paso," Father Marquez said.

"We go out in search of that wounded sheep and they care for them, they nurture it and they celebrate. They also believe that when we help the poor and help the sick, we help Jesus," he added. "We try to be a good example of that to others."

Father Marquez said he received many supportive messages from parishioners for his role in counseling grieving kin, but said he thought to himself, "I'm only doing my job. I'm only doing what a priest needs to do."

That job has not ended. Before the day would turn to night, Father Marquez was headed to the wake service of another massacre victim, 63-year-old Marge Reckard, before a funeral the following day.

"That one is also very special, because this is a couple. The husband, Tony, has no family. They both have no family in El Paso. Our family is going to be with him. The funeral has been opened to the community to join them, to share with them," Father Marquez said.

"We're going to go as a church, we're going to be there with him and pray with him, and for his wife. The venue has changed. It was going to be at a very small funeral home, it's been moved to a much bigger funeral home so the people of El Paso can be with him."

## LEGLUE NISSAN INC.

NEW & USED CARS •  
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS



6400 COLISEUM BLVD.  
WWW.LEGLUENISSAN.COM  
318-767-3300



### Oestriecher Financial Management Services



Emile P. Oestriecher, III, CPA



Anne Oestriecher, CPA, CFP®

Let us help your family  
manage your financial goals.

- \*Education Funding
- \*Retirement Planning
- \*Family Risk Management
- \*Mutual Funds
- \*Small Business Planning
- \*Annuities

4641 Windermere Place, Alexandria, LA 71303  
318-448-3556 • www.o-fms.com

\*Securities offered through HD Vest Investment Services<sup>SM</sup>, Member: SIPC  
Advisory services are offered through HD Vest Advisory Services<sup>SM</sup>  
6333 North State Highway 161, Fourth Floor, Irving, Texas 75038, 972-870-6000  
Oestriecher Financial Management Services is not a broker/dealer or independent investment advisory firm.

*Praise the Lord, my soul!*

Psalm 146: 1 | Responsorial Psalm for September 29

**Budget Blinds**  
a style for every point of view™

Custom Window Coverings  
Shutters • Draperies • Blinds



Huge selection of the best brands!

**(318) 443-9730**  
FREE In-Home Consultation  
& Estimates

Professional Installation • Low Price Promise  
Each Franchise Independently Owned and Operated  
www.budgetblinds.com

Signature Series • Lafayette Interior Fashions  
Exterior Window Screens

**Brigitte Paul Kelso Insurance, LLC**

**Brigitte Kelso**  
Owner/Agent

2918 S. MacArthur Dr.  
Alexandria, La. 71301

Phone: 318.448.2226  
Fax: 318.448.2280  
kelsoins@yahoo.com



Brigitte Paul Kelso Insurance, LLC

?? Catholic Trivia ??

**Archangels**

What do the individual names of the archangels  
Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael mean?

**Answer on page 19.**

YOU GET IT ALL AT



**WWW.SAYESOFFICE.COM**

Alexandria: 318.448.4225 • Ville Platte: 337.363.6322 • Toll Free: 800.766.4819

OFFICE SUPPLIES • OFFICE FURNITURE • OFFICE MACHINES  
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS • BREAKROOM & FOOD SERVICE SUPPLIES  
JANITORIAL SUPPLIES • JANITORIAL EQUIPMENT • PRINTING



# BEHAVIOR

(continued from pg. 8)

- Donating money to agencies that support children and families.
- Praying for the safety of all children and vulnerable persons.
- Being involved in family activities where you can show your leadership.
- Acting on the adage, "if you see something, say something."
- Being trained in safe environment programs, first aid classes, emergency drill protocols, etc.

Proclaiming the Gospels

isn't relegated to those ordained to the priesthood. Each person who hears God's word and takes it into their heart and acts on it, does this effectively and boldly no matter how small the gesture may seem. We contribute to the good of the world and the safety of those entrusted to us by being fully alive and present to God working within us. You don't have to be certified in anything to do this.

It is the time of year when schools are coming back into session and children face new experiences and environments. Why not lend a little support by being aware of how we, as

individuals and collectively, can make their world happier, safer and brighter?

*Dr. Ashton presents workshops, courses, retreats, and training seminars in Catholic dioceses across the country. Paul is the founder of OPEN HEARTS HIV/AIDS Ministry and has supervised support and bereavement groups for over 20 years. Dr. Ashton holds a B.A. degree in religious studies, an M.A. in clinical pastoral counseling, a D.Min. in counseling and marriage and family therapy and a doctorate in psychology (Psy.D.).*

## The Cross Word

September 1 and 8, 2019



© 2019 www.tri-c-a-publications.com

**Readings:** Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14 and Phm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

### ACROSS

- 1 Saint-\_\_\_, Haiti
- 5 Recede
- 8 **Did at Last Supper**
- 11 Blue ribbon
- 13 Thai
- 14 Not high
- 15 Ditto (2 wds.)
- 16 "\_\_\_ and you shall receive"
- 17 IOU part
- 18 Spider home
- 20 "My friend, move up \_\_\_"
- 22 Water between Jordan and Israel (2 wds.)
- 26 Close by

- 27 Loch \_\_\_ monster
- 28 Electronic mail
- 30 Every
- 31 "Carry his own \_\_\_"
- 32 "\_\_\_ Father"
- 35 **Mediator of the new covenant**
- 36 Expert
- 37 "I, \_\_\_, an old man"
- 39 "Do not \_\_\_ at place of honor"
- 41 "If you hold a lunch or \_\_\_"
- 43 Also
- 44 Writing liquid
- 45 "Just as"
- 47 Doesn't win

- 51 Volume (abbr.)
- 52 Teaspoon (abbr.)
- 53 Entertain
- 54 Compass point
- 55 Precedes an alias
- 56 Gym place

### DOWN

- 1 "Yes, \_\_\_"
- 2 Reverence
- 3 Rodent
- 4 **Travelled with Jesus**
- 5 Airport abbr.
- 6 Tear down
- 7 Swimsuits
- 8 Hawaiian 'hello'
- 9 **Expensive to construct one of these**
- 10 Water pitcher
- 12 Bucks' wives
- 19 Ales
- 21 Harden
- 22 Genetic code
- 23 Conger
- 24 Sign language
- 25 'Love' (French)
- 29 Strength
- 31 Small keyboard instrument
- 32 French "yes"
- 33 Vase
- 34 Regret
- 35 Kombucha-like drink
- 36 Dismal
- 37 Type of pine tree
- 38 Foot joint
- 40 Type of soda
- 41 Plunge into water
- 42 Peril
- 46 Accountant
- 48 **Tally the \_\_\_ of 9D**
- 49 Escape key
- 50 Galilee lake

**PEST AID CO.**

We Sell Do-It-Yourself Pest Control Supplies

Termites • Ants  
Ticks • Roaches  
Mice • Fleas  
Mosquitoes

**COMPLETE TERMITE & PEST CONTROL**

6 Month Service Agreements

Home Owned & Operated • Raymond J. Constantino, Sr.

473-0228  
1-800-256-0450

2828 Jackson St. • Alexandria, LA

FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE

**PETER J. LEMOINE**

**Social Security Disability Law**

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

MEMBER: Louisiana State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Avoyelles Parish Bar Association, National Organization of Social Security Claimant Representatives, Legal Services for Purposes of Disability Committee (Louisiana State Bar Association).

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

**318-717-1995**

**SABINE STATE BANK**

& Trust Company

Member FDIC

Call your local branch for information.  
(318) 256-7000

**TIRE SERVICE**

**DESPINO'S**

visit us at **DESPINOTIRE.COM**

facebook

## The Domestic Church movement

Would you and your spouse enjoy a relaxing and revitalizing weekend to spend time together with no distractions? Do you want to grow in your spiritual life together with your spouse and family? Couples around the United States are seeking those same things, and have found the answer in a somewhat unlikely place.

Domestic Church is a branch of the Light-Life Movement, a ministry founded in Poland by Father Franciszek Blachnicki, with the guidance, support, and influence of his bishop, Karol Wojtyla (Pope Saint John Paul II). In 1973, Fr. Blachnicki combined several elements, including the formation of his Light-Life Movement, originally for the youth of Poland, with the structure of Teams of Our Lady, a movement for married couples founded in France, along with the recently written Church document on the Catechesis of Adults to provide the timeline and structure necessary for married couples and their families to truly come to grow in the knowledge and experience of Christ and His Church.

In 2011, the leaders of Domestic Church in Poland graciously agreed to begin translating the formation

materials into English, and sent a married couple and a priest from Poland to Lake Charles, Louisiana to lead what the movement calls an "Evangelization Retreat," and start the first English-speaking Domestic Church community in the world. Starting with only 13 couples in attendance at that first retreat, the Domestic Church community in the United States has since grown to more than 300 couples in 12 dioceses who have attended a retreat and begun formation. These couples continue to express immense gratitude for the opportunity to take advantage of this simple, beautiful gift of formation, accountability, and growth in the graces of their sacrament.

"Do this for your marriage," says Chris and Jenay Franco, the contact couple for the Diocese of Alexandria. "There are many other benefits to this ministry, but the main point is to strengthen our marriage."

### What is Domestic Church?

Domestic Church is, simply, a way to access the treasures of the Church's teachings on marriage, family life, prayer, Scripture, the Sacraments, and community, specifically as a spouse and a parent, utilizing the grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony.

### What's the commitment?



**DOMESTIC CHURCH MOVEMENT.** Blachnicki (right) with Wojtyla (middle) on a hike in the mountains of Poland with members of the Light-Life Movement.

### Attend a retreat.

Each couple in Domestic Church typically starts off by attending an Evangelization Retreat. After the retreat, the couple then has the opportunity to join a Circle of 4-7 other couples and a priest.

### Join a circle.

Each circle meets once a month in the homes of its

members to share together, pray, to review their progress in spiritual, and to go over the new formation materials for the month, which are simply printed off the movement's membership page of the website. Each Domestic Church circle includes a priest, serving as a paternal role to the group.

"There are 3 circles in the

Alexandria area at the moment, with several additional priests ready to lead when more circles are formed," says Franco. Retired priests are also welcome.

### Continue formation.

After joining a circle, a couple has 9 months to decide if they will commit to continued formation, and another 2 years of formation, all building toward giving back to the parish what the Holy Spirit has grown in each couple during those first few years.

### Ready to become a Domestic Church couple?

Just come. The first step is to attend an Evangelization Retreat, designed specifically for sacramentally married couples providing them with an opportunity to begin their spiritual journey together, or deepen it if it already exists. This retreat also serves as an introduction to Domestic Church for those interested in beginning formation in a Domestic Church Circle.

The next retreat will be held Sept. 12-15 at the Wesley Center in Woodworth. Visit [www.domesticchurchfamilies.com](http://www.domesticchurchfamilies.com), or contact Chris and Jenay Franco for more information or to register.

*In our own time, in a world often alien and even hostile to faith, believing families are of primary importance as centers of living, radiant faith. For this reason, the Second Vatican Council, using an ancient expression, calls the family the Ecclesia Domestica.*

• Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1656 •



**Panda Restaurant**  
Chinese Cuisine & Mongolian Grill

*Dine in or Take out . . . order from our extensive menu or enjoy our all-you-can-eat buffet and Mongolian grill . . . We do party trays . . . all major credit cards accepted.*

**2401 S. MacArthur Dr. • Alexandria, LA**  
**Ph: (318) 767-8596/Fax: (318) 767-2250**

**Lunch:**  
Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Dinner:**  
Mon.-Thurs. 4 p.m.-9:30 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat. 4 p.m.-10 p.m.

**Sunday:**  
11 a.m.- 9 p.m.



## Make more than a decision - make an informed choice in funeral homes

<b>John Kramer &amp; Son</b> 2905 Masonic Dr. Alexandria, LA (318) 445-6311	<b>Kramer of Colfax</b> 128 Second Street Colfax, LA (318) 627-3511	<b>Kramer of Fifth Ward</b> 1924 Highway 1 Fifth Ward, LA (318) 240-8305
--	--	---



**KRAMER**  
Funeral Home & Cremation Service  
Est. 1875

 Find us on Facebook



# 5 Ways to Celebrate Grandparents on Grandparents' Day

Everyone knows about Mother's Day and Father's Day, but National Grandparents' Day is a lesser-known holiday worthy of celebrating as well. Falling on the first Sunday after Labor Day (that's Sunday, September 8 this year), Grandparents' Day was started by Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade, a senior rights advocate, mother of 15, grandmother of 43, and great-grandmother of 15. Her goal was to keep grandparents connected to the younger generations, while encouraging grandchildren to get to know their grandparents better. The day was recognized as a holiday in 1973, and President Jimmy Carter issued a Grandparents' Day proclamation in 1978.



It's fun to imagine Jesus with grandparents, isn't it? He would have loved and revered Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mary and Jesus' grandparents. What they taught Mary would have been passed on to Him. What a beautiful legacy of faith and love they prepared for the

Savior!

It's no wonder, then, that Saints Joachim and Anne are given some significant patronages: Saint Joachim is the patron saint of grandfathers, grandparents, and marriages, while Saint Anne is the patron of unmarried women, housewives, women who long to be pregnant, grandmothers, educators, and a long list of cities and countries.

Below are just a few ways to

honor Saints Joachim and Anne, and to celebrate the grandparents in your life!

• *Thank God for your grandparents.* Offer a Rosary, Holy Hour, or act of charity in thanksgiving for the gift of your grandparents. If your grandparents are living, consider visiting them or calling them to catch up.

• *Use religious art in your prayer.* There are beautiful works

of art depicting Saints Joachim and Anne. Print an image, and post it alongside a picture of your own grandparents, using them as a guide for your prayer time.

• *Celebrate with a simple, but intentional, feast!* Red (for divine love), and green (for eternal life) are the traditional colors of Saint Anne. Plan a meal using as many red and green foods as you can (watermelon, strawberries, kiwis, spinach, tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, and more), and invite your grandparents over or bring the feast to them.

• *Say thanks!* Saint Anne's daily work of raising Mary and tending to the needs of their family and home may have felt mundane, but she was forming the woman who God entrusted Himself to. Is there a grandparent or someone in your life who makes your house a home? Someone who prepares meals and keeps your home tidy

and welcoming? If so, take time to thank her or him today.

• *Creative fun!* Nobody loves a handmade gift like a grandparent. Find or print out a coloring page of the family of the Blessed Virgin for the little ones (or yourself!) to color for the grandparents in your life. This is a great activity to do with the kids, and would also be a meaningful craft to do with an elderly friend or relative.

Today, we thank God for the gift of grandparents and the roles they play in our lives. We are grateful for Sts. Joachim and Anne, who, in their own unique way, prepared the way of the Lord.

**National Grandparents Day is September 8**

**Petrus**  
FEED & SEED

2914 N. Bolton Ave. • Alexandria, LA

**442-2325**

**LEARN ROSARY MAKING**  
Call for catalog & introductory offer or visit [www.rosaryparts.com](http://www.rosaryparts.com)  
LEWIS & COMPANY  
P.O. Box 268-K, Troy, NY 12181 • 800-342-9400



**Quiz Answer:**

ANSWER: Scripture calls St. Michael an archangel, and the other two archangels named in the Bible, Gabriel and Raphael, are as-summed to be archangels as well.  
Michael means "Who is like God?"  
Gabriel means "God is my strength."  
Raphael means "God is my health."

M	A	R	C		E	B	B		A	T	E		
A	W	A	R	D		T	A	I		L	O	W	
M	E	T	O	O		A	S	K		O	W	E	
		W	E	B		H	I	G	H	E	R		
D	E	A	D	S	E	A		N	E	A	R		
N	E	S		E	M	A	I	L					
A	L	L		C	R	O	S	S		O	U	R	
		J	E	S	U	S		G	U	R	U		
		P	A	U	L		R	E	C	L	I	N	E
D	I	N	N	E	R		T	O	O				
I	N	K		S	I	C		L	O	S	E	S	
V	O	L		T	S	P		A	M	U	S	E	
E	N	E		A	K	A		Y	M	C	A		

**B.K. ROOFING, LLC**

**Call the Pros!**  
Residential Roofing Experts

[www.bkroofingllc.com](http://www.bkroofingllc.com)

**Brian Maddox, Owner**  
13 years experience

Licensed & insured • References available

"It doesn't cost any more to get it done right!"

**Free estimates!**  
Most estimates in 2 days

Experienced in dealing with Insurance Companies  
Let us handle the details!

**318-201-9065**  
17 Glade St. • Pineville, LA 71460

**Emergency service available**



# Books to walk with you: A booklist for your college senior year

By Molly Walker  
Guest Contributor

I wish I could look back on my senior year of college without any regrets as this shining moment in my life where everything came together and it all made sense.

Instead, when I look back on that time of my life it was just a mess. Oh, it was fun and filled with great memories, but I was a bit of mess.

Trying to figure out what to do after I had that diploma in hand, trying to understand how to really be an adult, navigating some major changes in life from long term relationships and major breakups. Looking back, the one thing I wish I had had was more guidance, and of course, the sense to listen to that advice.

Sadly, most of us are going through those years with wonderful people who are navigating, succeeding and failing at many of the same things—sometimes they're wise beyond their years and sometimes we should have known better. I wish I had had a few more resources to not only inspire but guide me—to push me not only to be a great student but to push me to be a great person, and especially a great Christian.

One of the great things about moderating the Blessed is She communities is that I get to see that support there for the girls currently striving for more in those last college years. They have the



resources I didn't through social media to reach out to women who are more than ready to with lists of "I wish I had" and "Don't do what I did." Recently, we had a great discussion about books to read during that pivotal senior year. It was filled with excellent resources and we've collected them here to share with you.

## **Story of a Soul by Saint Therese of Lisieux**

Her life in her own words and probably the most recommended book on our list. It is filled with wonderful gems from a woman convinced that her ordinary little life was destined for great things. "God would never inspire me with desires which cannot be realized; so in spite of my littleness, I can hope to be a saint." If Saint Therese interests you, also consider "I Believe in

Love: A Personal Retreat Based on the Teaching of St. Therese of Lisieux."

## **In the School of the Holy Spirit by Jacques Phillippe**

A much-recommended book focusing on the interior life and awareness of the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life. "One of the petitions we make to God most often should be: "Inspire me in all my decisions, and never let me neglect any of your inspirations."

Also, recommend by Jacques Phillippe "Interior Freedom" and "Searching for and Maintaining Peace."

## **Abandonment to Divine Providence by Jean-Pierre de Caussade**

A Catholic classic focusing on living in the present moment

and learning to trust in God. Though it was written over 300 hundred years ago this practical guidebook still offers much to the modern reader.

"All simple souls must admire and respect one another, saying: 'Let us proceed each one along our path to the same goal, united in purpose and by means of God's order which, in its great variety, is in us all.'"

## **The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence**

A guide to opening yourself to and feeling His presence in your life every day.

"He does not ask much of us, merely a thought of Him from time to time, a little act of adoration, sometimes to ask for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sufferings, at other times to thank Him for the graces, past and present, He has bestowed on you, in the midst of your troubles to take solace in Him as often as you can. Lift up your heart to Him during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be the most pleasing to Him. One need not cry out very loudly; He is nearer to us than we think."

## **Letters to a Young Catholic by George Weigel**

A journey through Catholic landmarks from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to G.K. Chesterton's favorite pub this

book takes you through not only some of the most important places in Catholicism, but through some of the most important ideas in Catholicism.

## **Sober Intoxication of the Spirit: Filled with the Fullness of God by Raniero Cantalamessa**

A reflection the incredible power of the Holy Spirit with reflection on the examples given to us by Scripture and the Church Fathers.

## **True Devotion to the Holy Spirit by Luis M. Martinez**

Another practical guide book for listening to and responding to the call of the Holy Spirit in your life and how the Holy Spirit helps one grow in virtue.

From our member's recommendations, it seems to be clear there's a theme in the books they'd recommend for a well-rounded year—focus on listening to and discerning the Holy Spirit while learning to experience God in the present moment. That sounds like a tall order with final tests and thesis projects on the horizons, just remember you don't need to read all at once. Pick the one that seems to call to where you are at in your personal development and see where the Holy Spirit leads you this year.

Find more about Molly at [www.amerrierworld.com](http://www.amerrierworld.com).

Breakfast and lunch menus for Catholic schools in the Diocese can be viewed on the School Calendar on the Diocese of Alexandria website at [www.diocesealex.org/events/category/school/](http://www.diocesealex.org/events/category/school/).

Lunch menus are updated monthly.

Now currently accepting applications for Lunchroom Technician Substitutes for each of our 8 schools. Applications are available from the Child Nutrition Office at the St. Joseph Catholic Center or online at [www.diocesealex.org/our-diocese/catholic-schools](http://www.diocesealex.org/our-diocese/catholic-schools).



**Jeansonne's Millworks & Cabinet Shop**

\* Architectural Millwork  
\* Custom Cabinets & Moulding

Phone 445-5665 \* FAX 445-5276

GUY JEANSONNE  
Owner

1843 Sterkx Road  
Alexandria, LA 71301

## Louis Lowrey, M.A.

Licensed Professional Counselor

Offices located at 207 Church Street, Natchitoches  
(318) 332-8422 • [lowrey@cp-tel.net](mailto:lowrey@cp-tel.net)  
Mail: 109 Royal Street, Natchitoches, LA 71457




**Refueling & Refreshing Communities**

[www.ynotstop.com](http://www.ynotstop.com)

Telephone 318-445-1446  
Fax 318-445-1449

Certified Gemologists  
Registered Jewelers



**Schnack's**

FINE JEWELRY  
Established 1865  
1438 Dorchester Drive  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301-3408  
[www.schnacks.com](http://www.schnacks.com)



# 'You cannot be a Catholic and sit on the sidelines,' archbishop says

By Josephine von Dohlen  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In a crowded bar, bustling with young adult Catholics from the Washington area for the monthly Theology on Tap, Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory shared his pain over what this archdiocese suffered in the past year due to priestly abuse scandals, and encouraged the young adults to turn to the Eucharist as a source of healing.

"I'm not quite as young as you, but I, too, am let down by the leadership in the church," Archbishop Gregory said. "I've been embarrassed. I've been embarrassed as a Catholic, as a priest, and as a bishop, because of the behavior by some of my fellow clerics."

"When the family has been embarrassed, everyone in the family feels embarrassed, and I do too," said the 71-year-old archbishop. "I know this past year has been an extraordinarily painful year for Washington."

Hundreds attended Theology on Tap Aug. 13 to hear from the archbishop, who answered questions ranging from his daily prayer life and his favorite restaurants in Rome, to his conversion story as a young boy in Chicago. He also answered questions about the abuse crisis, inclusivity and sensitivity within the church, and evangelization.

"You cannot be a Catholic and sit on the sidelines," Archbishop Gregory told the young



**THEOLOGY ON TAP.** Washington Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory answers questions and listens to the young people of the archdiocese Aug. 13, 2019, as the special guest speaker at DC Catholic's monthly Theology on Tap. (CNS photo / Andrew Rozario, Catholic Standard)

people. "To be a member of the church means you've got to get in and get your hands dirty in the mix of the whole arena of faith from what we believe and profess to how we live and treat one another. ... You can't not invest yourself into this family.

"To belong to a family means that you are invested in the life, the struggles, the pain, the joys that belong to being a member of this

family, and that includes our faith, what we hold as true, and also it involves our investment in social justice dimensions of our faith. You can't be a good Catholic invested in eucharistic adoration, but unconcerned about the poor, those waiting to be born, those on death row. You've got to buy the whole lot."

Sponsored by DC Catholic, the young adult ministry of the Archdiocese of Washington, Theology on Tap invites young adults ages 21 to late 30s into monthly discussions about living out the Catholic faith in the world.

Pope Francis appointed Archbishop Gregory to head the Archdiocese of Washington in April. He was installed May 21. He had been Atlanta's archbishop since January 2005.

The appointment, he said, came as a surprise, as he expected to remain in Atlanta until retirement.

"I was stunned for a couple of reasons," he told the young people. "I was 71 and that's not usually the age you get a new job. ... But I can also say, since coming here -- even with the challenges, which there are many -- I feel energized, I feel like I have a new lease on life. I'm just glad that (Pope) Fran-

cis couldn't find anybody better."

The archbishop made a commitment during the evening to restore the trust in his archdiocese, mainly by being an "ordinary member of this local church," he said.

"That is, someone who identifies with the people, demonstrates that he is comfortable with his people, enjoys being with his people and I will try to the best of my ability to continue doing that, to be available and immersed in the life of this local church," Archbishop Gregory said.

He also shared his hope to bring a "Laudato Si'" action plan to the archdiocese, similar to what he helped form in the Atlanta alongside the University of Georgia.

"I would like to see it and would be willing to adapt it to the Archdiocese of Washington," he said, adding that he would like to be in conversation with the local universities.

The archbishop also encouraged parish churches to be open for more times of eucharistic adoration, with the hope the Eucharist can bring healing to the local church.

Many young adults said they were encouraged by the archbish-

op's answers to their questions.

"It's a tough time to be Catholic," Nadia Barnett, a member at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Silver Spring, Maryland, said, noting how she appreciated the archbishop's emphasis on the family of the church.

"His commitment to being the listener is refreshing," Barnett told the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington. "Especially here, at a bar."

Jaime Narbon, who has been in the area for the past seven years, said the archbishop "seemed to me to be a person that knows how to reach out to communities."

"He acknowledged the pain the church faces, acknowledging the fault and culpability that the clergy has had in the whole crisis," Narbon continued. "He didn't put away blame or sugar-coat it."

Narbon said he was thankful for the archbishop's answers to questions on social justice issues, particularly his emphasis on the dignity of the human person and being created in the image and likeness of God.

"But more importantly about the Eucharist as a source of healing," Narbon said. "The church stands by the teaching of the Real Presence. He encouraged priests, religious and laity to be engaged."

Von Dohlen is a reporter at the Catholic Standard, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Washington.

## NEBLETT, BEARD & ARSENAULT

### Need Social Security Disability Benefits?

# 561-2500

## NBALawFirm.com

Richard J. Arsenault

2220 Bonaventure Court, Alexandria

**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  
Student Organization  
Phone: 318-613-0634  
lray@diocesealex.org

**Nocturnal Adoration - Sept. 5**

Calling all men to adore the Lord! St. Frances Cabrini Church will host a nocturnal period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation for sins committed by clergy, to pray for priests and victims and for the Church. We ask all Catholic men of good will, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Peter Claver, ACTS Men, Members of the Holy Name Society, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, of all parishes and organizations to consider keeping watch with us on Thursday, Sept. 5, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. We are asking for two volunteers per hour. If interested, please contact Michelle at (318) 445-4588.

**Holy Ghost/St. Richard Church Fair - Sept. 6-8**

Holy Ghost Catholic Church along with St. Richard's Chapel will host its annual Fall Fair Sept. 6-8. For more information, call the church office at (318) 253 - 7131.

**St. Rita Annual Brunch Workshop - Sept. 7**

Join us for "Trauma, Transition & Transformation, A Spiritual & Practical Guide to Facing Life's Changes" Saturday, September 7 at the Holy Family Center of St. Rita Church from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Presented by: Fr. Craig Scott and Fr. John Brocato. Life is filled with change; some of our choosing, and some that is thrust upon us. From the death of a loved one, to the loss of a job, to the decision to make a positive move...change, even when chosen, is difficult and challenging. How do we adjust to life's expected and unexpected changes in the light of our faith? Please RSVP by calling 318-445-7141, ext. 214 if you plan to attend.

**2019 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - Sept. 7**

The Heart of St. Kateri Circle and the Associates of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word at Cabrini Hospital are joining together for the "2019 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation" promoted by Pope Francis on Saturday, Sept. 7 at 10:00 a.m. at Cabrini Hospital Chapel, breaking for lunch in the cafeteria. We want everyone who can, to come join us in this joint effort.

**2-yr Spiritual Director Internship Information Meeting - Sept. 9**

There will be two informational meetings on Monday, Sept. 9. The first meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. to noon and repeated again from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center, 4400 Coliseum Blvd, Alexandria.

The Diocese will partner with the Archdiocese of New Orleans Spirituality Center Formation Program to offer a certification for those interested in this ministry. This program is a two-year Spiritual Director Internship that is based on the Spiritual Exercise of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Classes are one day per month and available during either weekdays or weekends. There is an application process with prerequisite requirements and a \$2,000 fee for the

**DIOCESAN BRIEFS**

2-yr program. Learn more by attending an information meeting. For more information about the meetings, contact Deacon Richard Mitchell at [dcrnmitchell@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcrnmitchell@diocesealex.org).

**Heart of Kateri Circle Meeting - Sept. 12**

Join us for our monthly meeting of the Heart of Kateri Circle on Thursday, Sept. 12 at 5:30 pm at the Tekakwitha Conference Center on 2225 N. Bolton Ave., Alexandria. We will hold our 3-year elections for officers at this meeting.

**Domestic Church Families - Sept. 12-15**

Evangelization is the first step of any real faith journey. We must experience the reality of who Christ is, who we are, and what His love for us is capable of doing before we can make any real progress. And, since Domestic Church provides for this journey to be undertaken in union with our spouses, we must experience Christ anew, together, before we can begin to grow together toward sainthood. Come, receive the Good News, and stir up the grace of your Sacrament! Sacramentally married couples interested in joining Domestic Church typically do so by attending an Evangelization Retreat as an introduction to formation. Please pray about joining us Sept. 12-15 in Woodworth, and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to Jenay at 337-258-4155 or Chris (504-666-2019). We'd love to have you.

**Annual Fall Fair, Evergreen - Sept. 14-15**

Church of the Little Flower's annual Fall Fair will be held Sept. 14-15 beginning after 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday. Please contact the church for more information.

**Catechetical Sunday - Sept. 15**

This year, the Church is celebrating Catechetical Sunday September 15, 2019, at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Those designated to serve as catechists of the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Parish will be commissioned for their ministry, which includes those teaching RCIA and CCD. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Classes for both RCIA and CCD will begin Sunday, September 15, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

**Scholarship deadline - Sept. 15**

Catholic laymen and women pursuing a graduate degree in theology or religious studies to serve their church in a professional capacity may now apply for a \$2000 scholarship to help offset the cost of tuition. Catholics who are not ordained clergy or women religious, who serve their parishes as Parish Coordinators or administrators as Pastoral Associates, Directors of Religious Education, Youth ministers, Liturgists, etc, may be eligible. Details can be accessed at <https://www.cliu.com/giving-back/fair-based-scholarships/msgr-droll-scholarship-for-catholic-laity/>

**Beginning Experience - Sept. 20-22**

Separated or divorced? Don't know where to turn? Struggling with grief or loss? Beginning Experience of Alexandria is registering now for a weekend away that provides an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope and purpose. The weekend will be held at Maryhill Renewal Center on Sept. 20-22. Cost is \$185.00 which includes two night's lodging and meals. For more information, visit [www.beginningexperience.org](http://www.beginningexperience.org) or to register contact: Anna at (318) 448-1990 or (318) 452-2678 [asweat7@aol.com](mailto:asweat7@aol.com) or Kim at (337) 884-3688 [kredman988@gmail.com](mailto:kredman988@gmail.com).

**Pre-Cana Day for Engaged Couples - Sept. 21**

PreCana Day of Reflection for Engaged Couples will be held at St. Frances Cabrini Church on Saturday, Sept. 21, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Cost for the day is \$50 per couple. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. To register contact Ashley at 318-445-4588 or [ashley@cabrinichurch.com](mailto:ashley@cabrinichurch.com).

**Magnificat Brunch, Natchitoches - Sept. 21**

Join us for breakfast at Merci Beaucoup Restaurant, 127 Church Street, Natchitoches from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to hear Elissa Constance's journey of faith and how she answered God's call for her life. For ticket information, please check out the website at [www.magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-l-m/](http://www.magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-l-m/) then click on Alexandria LA Chapter. You can also send an \$18 check or money order to CENLA Magnificat, 4162 Bordelon St., Hessmer, LA, 71341, postmarked no later than Sept. 16, 2019. Emails for information can be sent to [cenlamagnificat@gmail.com](mailto:cenlamagnificat@gmail.com) You may call Diane at (318) 419-1547 or Mary at (318) 359-7735 for more information.

**St. Peter/St. Michael Annual Church Fair - Sept. 21-22**

Join us for the Annual St. Peter/St. Michael Church Fair at the Bordelonville Volunteer Fire Department Training Facility located at the Old School Site. Call (318) 997-2151, (318) 997-2310, or (318) 240-3312 for tickets or for more information.

**Church Today News Deadlines**

**Next issue:  
September 23  
Deadline for news:  
Friday, September 13**

**Mardel Products Co.**

Custom Millwork  
Residential/Commercial Woodworking  
[www.mardelproducts.com](http://www.mardelproducts.com)  
(318) 253-7730

**Martha Neil Anthony**

Feline Canine Coach

- Behavior Modification
- Obedience and Therapy
- Pet Training
- 30-day Money Back Guarantee
- In home, Individual, and Group Sessions Available
- Phone Consultations and Phone Assessments

**985.226.6458 • [www.felinecaninecoach.com](http://www.felinecaninecoach.com)**

# September 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>AUGUST 26</b> PRAY FOR FR. R. GREMILLION	<b>27</b> St. Mary's Greco Bowl PRAY FOR FR. D. HART	<b>28</b> PRAY FOR FR. J. HASEIBER	<b>29</b> VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center PRAY FOR MSGR. R. HOPPE	<b>30</b> PRAY FOR FR. R. HUMPHRIES	<b>31</b> PRAY FOR FR. H. IMAMSHAH	<b>SEPTEMBER 1</b> PRAY FOR ARCHBISHOP G. AYMOND
<b>2</b> DIOCESAN OFFICES CLOSED LABOR DAY PRAY FOR FR. G. KROSFIELD	<b>3</b> PRAY FOR FR. P. KULIGOWSKI	<b>4</b> PRAY FOR FR. P. KUNNUPURAM	<b>5</b> Nocturnal Adoration, St. Frances Cabrini Church PRAY FOR FR. S. KWEBUZA	<b>6</b> PRAY FOR FR. L. LAFLEUR FIRST FRIDAY	<b>7</b> Annual Brunch Workshop, St. Rita Church World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Cabrini Hospital Chapel PRAY FOR FR. M. LAIRD FIRST SATURDAY	<b>8</b> National Grandparents Day PRAY FOR FR. P. LAPALME
				Holy Ghost / St. Richard Chapel Fall Fair		
				St. Joseph ACTS Retreat for Women		
<b>9</b> Spiritual Director Internship Information Meeting, St. Joseph Catholic Center PRAY FOR FR. R. MATHEWS	<b>10</b> PRAY FOR FR. D. MEADE	<b>11</b> PRAY FOR FR. L. MELCHER	<b>12</b> Heart of Kateri Circle Meeting, 5:30 p.m. National Center, Alexandria PRAY FOR FR. A. MESSINA	<b>13</b> PRAY FOR FR. J. MICHALCHUK	<b>14</b> PRAY FOR FR. K. MICHIELS Annual Fall Fair, Evergreen	<b>15</b> Catechetical Sunday Catholic Laity Scholarship Deadline PRAY FOR MSGR. B. MILLER
<b>16</b> Catechetical Sunday PRAY FOR FR. C. MORGAN	<b>17</b> VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Anthony of Padua, Bunkie PRAY FOR FR. C. NAYAK	<b>18</b> PRAY FOR FR. M. NOEL	<b>19</b> VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. Minor Basilica, Natchitoches PRAY FOR FR. K. OBIEKWE	<b>20</b> PRAY FOR FR. J. O'BRIEN	<b>21</b> Pre-Cana Day for Engaged Couples, St. Frances Cabrini Magnificat Brunch, Natchitoches St. Michael / St. Peter Fair, Bordelonville	<b>22</b> PRAY FOR FR. C. OGBONNA Beginning Experience Retreat, Maryhill
<b>23</b> PRAY FOR FR. A. PALAKKATTUCHIRA	<b>24</b> PRAY FOR FR. B. PALLIPARAMBIL	<b>25</b> PRAY FOR FR. J. PALLIPURATH	<b>26</b> PRAY FOR FR. J. PARDUE	<b>27</b> PRAY FOR FR. C. PARTAIN	<b>28</b> PRAY FOR FR. T. PAUL	<b>29</b> PRAY FOR FR. R. RABALAIS
				St. Mary's Cottonport ACTS for Women		

# Exceptional cancer treatment that includes personalized care and **time with your best friend.**

With all the new innovations and treatment options available to you, one of the most powerful is actually your normal routine. By caring for cancer right here at CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini, you'll not only have access to nationally accredited facilities and a personalized care plan – you'll also have your friends, family, and neighbors in your corner. You'll get the emotional and spiritual lift you need, along with the powerful and personalized care you deserve.

Treat your cancer where your life is.

866.581.3627 | [ChristusHealth.org/StFrancesCabrini](http://ChristusHealth.org/StFrancesCabrini)

