

CHURCH TODAY

Volume LIII, No. 6

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

June 27, 2022



*Revival's
in the air!*

Thank you to the parishioners of St. James Memorial Church for welcoming the people of the Diocese of Alexandria who joined our Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, June 19. May this National Eucharistic Revival renew all of us in faith! See inside this issue for more information on the National Eucharistic Revival initiative.

INSIDE

National Eucharistic Revival

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is initiating a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, culminating in the first National Eucharistic Congress since 1975. See pages 2 and 3 for more information.

National Tekakwitha Conference comes to Alexandria

The 83rd Annual Tekakwitha Conference will be held at the Randolph Riverfront Center July 20-24. See page 17 for more on this year's speakers and how to register.

How monitoring all environments contributes to safety

The Diocese of Alexandria has policies and procedures and many documents that keep our diocese up to date concerning Safe Environment Policies. For more information, see pages 18-19 or contact the Safe Environment Office.

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

Publisher:

Most. Rev. Robert Marshall
Publication Manager / Editor:
Cari Terracina, ext. 255,
cterracina@diocesealex.org

Multimedia Manager /

Advertising:

Joan Ferguson, ext. 264;
joanferguson@diocesealex.org
Circulation: Sandi Tarver, ext. 209;
starver@diocesealex.org

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Eucharistic revival: An exciting journey ahead

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This has been an exciting time in the Diocese of Alexandria. Over the past three months, I celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation in 28 churches – sealing 284 young people from 34 parishes and missions with the gift of the Holy Spirit. I ordained a transitional deacon who will continue his formation for his ordination to the priesthood next year, and on Saturday, June 4th, I ordained 13 new permanent deacons to serve throughout our diocese. Yes, it has been an exciting time, but what kind of a church will these deacons serve? Will these newly confirmed disciples of Jesus Christ find welcome and encouragement in their parishes? Do we gather eagerly for Mass each Sunday? Are we hungry for the Word of God and for the gift of Christ's presence in the Eucharist?

A year ago, we invited you to "Come to the Table." After months of isolation and social distance, we encouraged those who were physically healthy to return to the celebration of Mass, to the source and summit of our Catholic faith, to the privileged encounter with the Lord which is present when we worship Christ in the Eucharist. Thankfully, many of you have responded. Our crowds have now almost returned to pre-pandemic levels, but that is not the whole story. Even before the pandemic, many of our parishioners only came to Mass every once in a while. Over the years, many people have drifted away from their religious heritage – some were too engaged in the demands of the world, others did not experience the presence of the living God in our liturgical celebrations. In the

**HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS
for July 2022**

Elderly

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.



Eucharist, we hold in our frail hands the Incarnate Word of God – but he remains hidden from our sight in the form of ordinary bread and wine. For too many, the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist is only a doctrine contained in a catechism, not a lived experience, not a personal encounter with the Lord.

For the next three years, the bishops of the United States are calling us to a **National Eucharistic Revival**. In this time, we are invited to walk with the Lord as did two disciples walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus on Easter Sunday afternoon. Though the Lord joined them, these disciples did not recognize the risen Christ.

Instead, this stranger began to explain the Scriptures to them and eventually joined them at table. Finally, their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. As they reflected upon their encounter after the Lord had disappeared, they could not believe that they had not recognized Jesus when he instructed them along the road. "Were not our hearts burning within us?" they said. Brothers and sisters, in this National Eucharistic Revival, we are seeking to start a fire, not a program. Yes, there will be events, gatherings, online learning opportunities, prayers and devotions, but those are only means to a more important

end – the goal of this revival is to enkindle in the hearts of the faithful the fire of God's love which is most perfectly nourished and nurtured in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, in an encounter with the real presence of Jesus Christ.

Here in the Diocese of Alexandria, we began this Eucharistic Revival with our celebration of Masses on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – more commonly called Corpus Christi – which this year fell on Sunday, June 19. I celebrated the 11:00am Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. At the conclusion of Mass, we had a period of exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral as we prepared for a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Our route will take us through the streets of downtown Alexandria and will conclude at St. James Memorial Catholic Church at the corner of Winn and 8th Streets. You are invited to join us for Mass at the Cathedral, to join us for the procession from beginning to end, to join us anywhere along the route, or to meet us at St. James. This is an opportunity for the Catholic community to give visible witness to our faith in the Eucharist and our desire to share that faith with the world that surrounds us. Yes, this year Corpus Christi Sunday falls on Fathers' Day, but Fathers, do you need another neck tie or another sleeve of golf balls? Is there any better way of celebrating as a family than by encouraging your children to walk with the Lord?

May our celebration of this Eucharistic Revival fill our hearts with the love of God and fill our churches with disciples whose hearts burn for the Lord.

Most Reverend
Robert W. Marshall, Jr.
Bishop of Alexandria

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

11 John 6: 51

Eucharistic processions on feast of Corpus Christi will launch revival

By Gabriella Patti
Catholic News Service



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

DETROIT (CNS) -- Belief in the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist is waning among professed Catholics, and the U.S. bishops are trying to do something about it.

According to a 2019 Pew Research Center study, roughly two-thirds of U.S. Catholics do not believe that the bread and wine at Mass become Christ's body and blood during the consecration -- a core dogma of the Catholic faith and the "source and summit" of the church's life, according to the catechism.

In response, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is initiating a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, culminating in the first National Eucharistic Congress in the United States since 1975. The congress will take place in Indianapolis in 2024.

On June 19, the feast of Corpus Christi, the National Eucharistic Revival will be launched with eucharistic processions taking place in archdioceses and dioceses around the country.

In the Detroit Archdiocese, Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron will lead a two-mile eucharistic procession from the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament to Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Mercy Sister Esther Mary Nickel, director of worship for the archdiocese, said this "is an opportunity for Jesus to draw people to himself, and so we take Jesus to the streets, and we pray."

Sister Nickel told Detroit Catholic, the archdiocesan news outlet, that she remembers participating in Corpus Christi processions in Rome with St. John Paul II, when onlookers would join as the congregation moved through the streets.

More than a month ahead of the archdiocesan procession, it

was drawing interest, she said.

"One of the (Detroit police) officers from the precinct who will help us with safety asked, 'What is this about? What are we really doing?'" Sister Nickel said. "I responded and said, 'It's a pilgrimage, and we're not here to stay. We're on our way to heaven, and this is a symbolic representation of how we're on our way to heaven together as we go to the streets.'"

Following these eucharistic processions, U.S. dioceses will develop parish teams of revival leaders to help their fellow Catholics reflect deeper on the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of the church.

In the Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee, for example, parish initiatives will begin immediately June 20, said Jenny Haug, assistant director of catechesis for the Office of Faith Formation.

The office, which is leading the revival initiative for the diocese, will be collaborating with parishes and the priests in the diocese to find a point person in each parish, she told the Tennessee Register, Nashville's diocesan newspaper.

"The only prerequisite is that they have this beautiful devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist already and that they are willing to encourage those that they know within their parish that we need to do this together," Haug explained.

"It is going to be three years diving deeper into the meaning of

the Eucharist through catechesis, liturgical celebrations and prayer," she added.

Catechetical resources will be made available throughout the diocese, said Brad Peper, director of the Office of Faith Formation.

In addition, there will be retreats for lay leaders and a catechetical conference each year "focusing on different consecutive themes regarding the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist -- presence, sacrifice and communion/consummation," he said.

There also will be collaboration with religious education directors and the Catholic schools to plan curriculum that focuses more on the teaching of the Real Presence.

"The Eucharist is at the very heart of our faith," Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre of Louisville, Kentucky, told The Record, the archdiocesan newspaper. "It is the real presence of Jesus Christ, how the Lord strengthens us to do everything he has entrusted us to do."

And we are called to share the Eucharist with others, he said. The Corpus Christi procession provides a literal way to do so. It will start at the Cathedral of the Assumption after a noon Mass and travel several blocks in downtown Louisville and return to the cathedral.

"We are called to take Christ to the world," said the archbishop. The procession "is a manifestation of how we are

called to bring Christ to the world, as we take the eucharistic Lord to the streets, we take the word of the Lord into the world to all the places we go, as well."

The U.S. bishops approved plans for the revival and the congress last November during their fall general assembly in Baltimore. Both are being spearheaded by the USCCB's Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, chaired by Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota.

"We are really aware in these times that we live that the church needs to become more missionary. The culture itself doesn't support what we do anymore as Catholics," Bishop Cozzens said in a statement. "All Catholics are invited into a renewed encounter with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, especially those Catholics who don't fully understand the power of the Eucharist."

As people are seeking deeper connection more than ever before, "this is a time not to be ashamed of the Gospel but to proclaim it from the rooftops," he added.

Los Angeles Archbishop José H. Gomez, USCCB president, called the Eucharist "the gateway key to the civilization of love that we long to create."

"Jesus promised that he would be truly present in the sacrament of the altar -- but also in the flesh and blood of our neighbors, especially those who

are poor and suffering," he said. "If we ever hope to end human indifference and social injustice, then we need to revive this sacramental awareness."

"In every human person we meet -- from the infant in the womb to our elderly parents drawing their dying breaths -- we must see the image of the living God."

Among other components of the National Eucharistic Revival is the selection of 58 priests as National Eucharistic Preachers. They will soon be fanning out to dioceses across the country.

Representing individual dioceses and religious orders, the priests are hoping to inspire people to become better aware of the Eucharist in daily life, said Father Jorge Torres, a priest of the Diocese of Orlando, Florida, who is working as a specialist for the revival at the bishops' conference.

The preachers will begin to respond to invitations from dioceses to speak at clergy convocations, gatherings of diocesan and Catholic school leaders, diocesan holy hours and youth and young adult events to help build interest stronger connections with the Eucharist and build interest in the congress.

In about a year, Father Torres said, the priests will begin speaking at parishes and smaller gatherings.

"The preachers have been asked to enter into this role because of their love for the Eucharist, their ability to communicate, their schedule for allowing flexibility," Father Torres told Catholic News Service in early May.

"The goal is to not only speak about the Eucharist but to eventually share the testimonies of who Jesus in the Eucharist is to me and how that affects me whether I am a pastor at a parish or a mom on the way to the soccer game," he explained.



How to obtain relics? / Leave altar during recessional

Q: Why is it so hard to obtain first-class relics? (Also, do I need permission from my bishop to obtain them?)

I am now 65 years old and virtually bedridden, a convert to the Catholic Church in my teens. There are two saints to whom I have special devotion, and to have their relics would be a great comfort to me: St. Rita of Chascia, and St. John Mary Vianney. I appreciate any advice you might offer. (Tell City, Indiana)

A. First, a primer on the three classes of relics. As explained by Catholic News Service: “A first-class relic is the physical bodily remains of a saint or blessed like bones, blood and hair; a second-class relic is a personal possession, such as clothing, devotional objects, handwritten letters or even furniture; and a third-class relic is an object that has touched a first-class relic. These -- usually small snips of cloth that have touched a blessed or saint’s tomb -- often end up in public distribution fixed onto prayer cards.”

Relics have been venerated in the church since the earliest centuries of the Christian era because they evoke the memory



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

of the person honored and are thought to put one in closer contact with the virtues of that saint.

The largest collection of relics belongs to the Vatican and is kept at a convent adjacent to the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome. The practice of making relics generally available to the public, particularly first-class relics, ended about 20 years ago at the insistence of the Vatican.

Today, you can apply to the Vatican for a specific relic only with a letter of permission from your bishop and only if the relic will be used for a church altar or other public purpose. The private ownership, especially of first-class relics, is highly discouraged since it is seen as limiting the evangelizing effect of the saint’s memory.

Occasionally, second- or third-class relics can be obtained by contacting the religious order or shrine of a particular saint.

(The national shrine of St. Rita of Cascia is in Philadelphia, and the shrine of St. John Mary Vianney is in Ars-sur-Formans in France). If these shrines are unable to provide you with relics, they can at least offer you devotional material on the saints and information about their lives.

The church’s Code of Canon Law says specifically and strongly (in No. 1190) that “it is absolutely forbidden to sell sacred relics.” When relics are obtained, there is often a charge for the metal container encasing the relic and for mailing costs, but not for the relic itself.

Q. Why do so many priests leave the altar as soon as the final hymn begins? The choir practices the hymn for hours, and then the priest hurries off right after they start. So other people begin to leave, too, and nobody pays any attention to the music. I think it’s rude. (Bound Brook, New Jersey)

A. I agree. The guidelines of the church (the General Instruction of the Roman Missal) are silent on the matter of a recessional hymn, and some parishes choose not to use one at all -- their thinking being that the congregation is sent forth immediately to “glorify the Lord by their lives.”

But if a hymn is used,

common courtesy and liturgical propriety ought to keep the priest at the altar for the greater part of it. Since it is a “recessional,” the final part of the hymn may

accompany the priest back down the aisle; but he should encourage the congregation to sing (and respect the choir) by not moving too soon.



SEASON OF SERVICE. (ABOVE) Angie Champ, Mary L. Ford, Deacon Ted Moulard, Baby Penny, Betty and John Augustine, Jayce Augustine, Stella Bonton, Mariah Simon, Rose Noel, Veronica and Harold Barton, and Father Abraham Varghese, pastor.

(BELOW) St. Richard’s Chapel, Hickory Hill Community Prayer Warriors got together each Friday during lent to pray the rosary for the sick and shut-in and for the people of Ukraine. The team plan to continue to render their service to the community once a month. Team members: Adrianna Lonzo, Patricia Lavallais, Geraldine Lavallais, Frances Guillot, and Mary L. Ford. Team captain Velma Gearheard.



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He dreams of holiness in every nook of the cosmos

Keynote speaker for CMC will urge communicators to pursue truth wherever it leads

By Ed Langlois
The Catholic Journalist

To help retain and bring people to the church, Catholic communicators ought to present the truth and avoid propaganda. That's the view of Timothy O'Malley, a professor at the University of Notre Dame and an expert in disaffiliation - people leaving or staying away from the church.

O'Malley, director of education at the McGrath Institute for Church Life and academic director of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, will give the keynote address for July 6 at the Catholic Media Conference in Portland.

Mass attendance has dropped over the years and plummeted during the pandemic. It has yet to return to pre-2020 levels and people often ask O'Malley what is happening.

"The temptation is to think about disaffiliation as reducible to a problem of communication," he says. "If we only more clearly articulated all the doctrines or restored the integrity of the church in the public sphere, everything will be okay. But this ignores the wider social and cultural changes linked to institutions as a whole."

In his talk in July, O'Malley will point out those social changes and suggest how journalists might



CATHOLIC MEDIA CONFERENCE. Timothy O'Malley, director of education at the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame and academic director of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, is pictured above discussing Pope Francis and the Catholic Church with NBC's Anne Thompson (McGrath Institute for Church Life). O'Malley is keynote speaker for July 6 at the Catholic Media Conference in Portland, Oregon.

engage in a process of social and cultural renewal that will enable the church to flourish anew.

"I suspect the best thing that Catholic journalists can do is to pursue the truth," O'Malley says.

"Institutional distrust is so high right now, often because rather than seek truth, institutions engage in the production of propaganda. This is what so much journalism has become. We only focus on our tribe, our

ideas, whatever comforts us. Journalism - religious or not - should raise questions. It should be an eruption of seeking truth."

O'Malley said that Catholics need not fear the truth, since Jesus is the Logos, the truth become flesh.

"The more that we pursue the truth, the more we conform ourselves to Christ," says O'Malley. "And that, in the end, is attractive."

O'Malley is a cradle Catholic who says he has fallen more in love with Catholicism over the years. But he has observed young people become more and more suspicious of the church. In his course on marriage, which draws almost 300 students, he takes their concerns seriously.

O'Malley's dream for the church is that it pursue holiness, but not in a secretarian way, cut off from the world. He dreams of a holiness "that enters into every crack and crevice of the cosmos."

Originally from Knoxville, Tennessee, O'Malley is married and has two children. He received his undergraduate degree at the University of Notre Dame, majoring in theology and philosophy. He holds a master's

in liturgical studies also from the University of Notre Dame and completed a doctorate at Boston College in theology and education, focusing on an Augustinian approach to liturgical formation.

He is the author of a number of books, most recently "Off the Hook: God, Love, Dating, and Marriage in a Hookup World" (Ave Maria Press, 2018), and "Lift Up Your Hearts: Liturgical Formation in the RCIA" (Liturgical Press, 2019).

O'Malley loves to hike and will likely find some good paths in Oregon. He's loyal to Notre Dame sports and, beware Yankess fans, all the professional sports teams of New England.

FATHER PETER FAULK. Father Peter Faulk, the Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Alexandria graduated on May 31, 2022 from the Pontifical University of Mexico with a Doctorate in Canon Law. He was joined in Mexico City by his parents and a large group of parishioners from St. Rita Church Spanish speaking Catholic community. Fr. Faulk serves as the Pastor of St. Margaret Church in Boyce.



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Eucharistic preachers seek to inspire the faithful to encounter Jesus

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Priests soon will be fanning out to dioceses across the country to inspire deeper reflection on the gift of the Eucharist to the church.

The National Eucharistic Preachers are part of a new initiative under the National Eucharistic Revival being organized by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In all, 58 priests make up the group of preachers, said Father Jorge Torres, a priest of the Diocese of Orlando, Florida, who is working as a specialist for the revival at the bishops' conference.

Representing individual dioceses and religious orders, the priests are hoping to inspire people to become more better aware of the Eucharist in daily life, Father Torres said.

"They will be inviting people to pray for the revival, pray that each one of us would grow closer to Jesus and the Eucharist through the revival," he explained.

Father Torres is working on the initiative with Sister Alicia Torres, a member of the



FATHER JORGE TORRES. Father Jorge Torres, a priest of the Diocese of Orlando, Fla., is co-coordinator of the eucharistic preaching team involving 56 priests speaking around the country about the Eucharist and the National Eucharistic Revival set for July 17-21, 2024. (CNS photo/courtesy National Eucharistic Revival, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Franciscans of the Eucharist in Chicago. They are not related.

The revival is set to launch June 19, the feast of Corpus

Christi. The opening will begin two years of events and activities ahead of the USCCB National Eucharistic Congress,

which is planned for July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis.

The preachers will begin to respond to invitations from dioceses to speak at clergy convocations, gatherings of diocesan and Catholic school leaders, diocesan holy hours and youth and young adult events to help build interest stronger connections with the Eucharist and build interest in the congress.

In about a year, Father Torres said, the priests will begin speaking at parishes and smaller gatherings.

"The preachers have been asked to enter into this role because of their love for the Eucharist, their ability to communicate, their schedule for allowing flexibility," Father Torres told Catholic News Service.

"The goal is to not only speak about the Eucharist but to eventually share the testimonies of who Jesus in the Eucharist is to me and how that affects me whether I am a pastor at a parish or a mom on the way to the soccer game," he explained.

Priests were chosen "because of the relationship

the priest has to the Eucharist," the priest said. Eventually, though, Father Torres said, laypeople and others entrusted by the bishop in a diocese will be speaking on the Eucharist at local gatherings in advance of the congress.

The preachers were selected by asking bishops and religious superiors to submit names of candidates, and as their names came in they were vetted, Father Torres said. Each priest received an invitation to join the team with an explanation of their role, the time commitment and with information about a retreat during which they would be asked to discern whether to join the effort.

Interested priests gathered for the retreat April 3-6 at the Mission of Our Lady of Angels, located in the West Humboldt Park, one of Chicago's poorest neighborhoods. During their time together, they heard from Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, and others.

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.

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

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

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

For updated information, news articles, and documents regarding ongoing activity and planning for securing and maintaining a Safe Environment for all, visit www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/healing (visit www.diocesealex.org and look for "A Safe Environment For All" under the "Our Faith" tab). Here, you can find more information, 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."

Father Torres already has started the visits, completing a test run of sorts during a preaching trip to the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia, in late April. He is planning another venture to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

He said he and the other

priests plan to focus on the joy of the Eucharist “and invite us, as the psalm would say, to taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”

“I know what a consecrated host tastes like and I know what an unconsecrated host tastes like. The difference is known in

the soul, not just in the physical senses,” he said.

The USCCB will begin accepting invitations for preacher visits in June, Father Torres added.

Supper with the Seminarians

Supper with the Seminarians is an opportunity to meet the men in priestly formation for the Diocese of Alexandria as well as enjoy a delicious meal they have prepared for you! Reserve your space at www.diocesealex.org.

The last event of the year will be held:

Thursday, June 30
St. Rita Church,
Alexandria

“Be who God meant you to be,
and you will set the world on fire.”
// Saint Catherine of Siena

Adoration Chapel // Daily

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville, Perpetual Adoration Chapel will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in the Community Center. You will need to call the office during office hours to obtain the code to the chapel: 318-445-2497.

Grief Support Group // 1st Wednesday of the month

Sacred Heart of Jesus in Pineville’s Grief Support Group meeting dates for June, July, and August will only meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month, in the Community Center at 6:00 p.m. We will have a potluck dinner and fellowship. The next meeting will be July 6. For more information, call Tammy Magnano at 318-229-7455.

The Real Presence Prayer Group // every Wednesday

The Real Presence Prayer Group will meet every Wednesday evening at Maryhill Renewal Center in Pineville. Rosary begins at 7:00 p.m. with Charismatic Praise & High Worship at 7:20 p.m., and Healing Prayer at 8:00 p.m. (Closing by 11:00 p.m.) Wheelchair accessible. For more information, call Joey LaFossee at 318-332-2234 or Bob Weeks at 318-442-1794.

Outdoor lighted rosary, Marksville // every Thursday

St. Joseph Church in Marksville has begun its weekly outdoor lighted rosary every Thursday now through October. The rosary begins at 8:00 p.m. in the parking lot next to the church hall. In inclement weather, the rosary is prayed in St. Joseph church. Participants may bring chairs to sit outside or remain in their vehicles. The lighted rosary is facilitated by St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council #1217.

Divine Mercy Hour // every Friday

Sacred Heart Church of Moreauville has a weekly Divine Mercy Hour at 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. There will be adoration with benediction, recitation of the divine mercy chaplet, and confessions available. Everyone is invited.

Seminarian Burses

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-- Very Reverend Stephen Scott Chemino, Chairman

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Let all the earth cry out
to God with joy.*

Psalm 66: 1 | Responsorial Psalm for July 3
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Diaconate Assignments

Effective July 2, 2022

The Most Reverend Robert W. Marshall, Jr., Bishop of Alexandria, has made the following deacon assignments. All assignments are effective on July 1, 2022:

Dcn. Bill Aldridge, reappointed to CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital.

Dcn. Fidel Andrade, assigned to St. Michael the Archangel, Leesville.

Dcn. E.J. Barre, reappointed to St. Joseph, Colfax and St. Patrick, Montgomery.

Dcn. Roger Christopher, assigned to Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tioga.

Dcn. L G Deloach, reassigned to St. Francis de Sales, Echo.

Dcn. Darrell Dubroc, reappointed to Our Lady of Lourdes, Fifth Ward and St. Martin of Tours, Belledeau.

Dcn. Reggie Ducote, assigned to Sacred Heart, Moreauville.

Dcn. Bill Endris, reappointed to St. Michael the Archangel, Leesville.

Dcn. Larry Feldkamp, reappointed to St. Frances Cabrini, Alexandria.

Dcn. Les Glankler, assigned to Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria.

Dcn. Stephen Gramigna, reappointed to St. Michael the Archangel, Leesville.

Dcn. Mark Guidry, assigned to St. Augustine, Isle Brevelle.

Dcn. Sam Jones, assigned to St. Patrick, Ferriday.

Dcn. Jason Lavergne, assigned to St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria.

Dcn. Greg LeBlanc, reappointed to Sts. Francis and Ann, Kolin.

Dcn. Alex Mangini, assigned to St. Margaret, Boyce.

Dcn. Richard Mitchell, reappointed to St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria.

Dcn. Doug Moreau, assigned to St. Mary's Assumption, Cottonport.

Dcn. Lee Moreau, assigned to Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville.

Dcn. Ted Moulard, reappointed to Holy Ghost, Marksville.

Dcn. Steven Newbury, reappointed to St. Anthony of Padua, Natchitoches.

Dcn. Ken Primeaux, assigned to St. Joseph, Marksville.

Dcn. Tommy Robichaux, reassigned to St. James Memorial, Alexandria.

Dcn. Kenny Sayes, assigned to St. Rita, Alexandria.

Dcn. Gary Schupbach, reappointed to St. Joseph, Marksville.

Dcn. Paul Sunderhaus, reappointed to Mary, Mother of Jesus, Woodworth.

Dcn. Chad Thibodeaux, assigned to Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Campti.

Dcn. Bill Travis, reassigned to Rapides Regional Medical Center.

Dcn. Luke White, reassigned to St. Juliana, Alexandria.

Dcn. John Whitehead, reappointed to MB of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches.

Dcn. Mike Young, reassigned Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria.

Assignments are effective from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025.

Thank You deacons for your ministry and service to the Church! Thank You pastors for accepting these men and their family into your parish!



Dcn. Bill Aldridge
CHRISTUS St. Frances
Cabrini Hospital, Alexandria



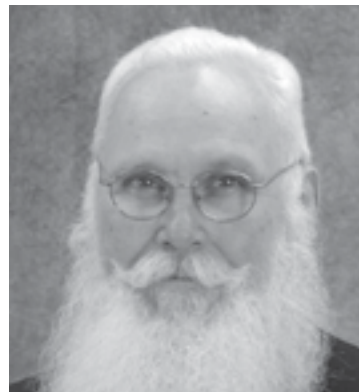
Dcn. Fidel Andrade
St. Michael the Archangel
Leesville



Dcn. E.J. Barre
St. Joseph Church
Colfax



Dcn. Roger Christopher
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Tioga



Dcn. L G Deloach
St. Francis de Sales Church
Echo



Dcn. Darrell Dubroc
Our Lady of Lourdes
Fifth Ward



Dcn. Reggie Ducote
St. Mary's Assumption Church
Cottonport



Dcn. Bill Endris
St. Michael the Archangel
Leesville



Dcn. Larry Feldkamp
St. Frances Cabrini Church
Alexandria



Dcn. Les Glankler
Our Lady of Prompt Succor
Alexandria



Dcn. Stephen Gramigna
St. Michael the Archangel
Leesville



Dcn. Mark Guidry
St. Augustine Church
Isle Brevelle



Dcn. Sam Jones
St. Patrick Church
Ferriday



Dcn. Jason Lavergne
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
Alexandria



Dcn. Greg LeBlanc
Sts. Francis and Anne
Kolin



Dcn. Alex Mangini
St. Margaret Church
Boyce



Dcn. Richard Mitchell
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
Alexandria



Dcn. Doug Moreau
St. Mary's Assumption
Cottonport



Dcn. Lee Moreau
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Pineville



Dcn. Ted Moulard
Holy Ghost Church
Marksville



Dcn. Steven Newbury
St. Anthony of Padua
Natchitoches



Dcn. Ken Primeaux
St. Michael the Archangel
Leesville



Dcn. Tommy Robichaux
St. James Memorial Church
Alexandria



Dcn. Kenny Sayes
St. Rita Church
Alexandria



Dcn. Gary Schupbach
St. Joseph Church
Marksville



Dcn. Paul Sunderhaus
Mary, Mother of Jesus
Woodworth



Dcn. Chad Thibodeaux
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Campti



Dcn. Bill Travis
Rapides Regional Medical Center
Alexandria



Dcn. Luke White
St. Juliana Church
Alexandria



Dcn. John Whitehead
MB of the Immaculate Conception
Natchitoches



Dcn. Mike Young
Our Lady of Prompt Succor
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Parish Spotlight: Christ the King Church, Simmesport established 1953

In the early 1900's, Bishop Cornelius Van de Ven established a mission chapel on Yellow Bayou south of Moreauville in Avoyelles Parish. The area along the Atchafalaya River had been devastated by the Union Army during their retreat from the area in 1864 and it had been slow to recover from the effects of war and reconstruction. Catholics in the area donated materials for the project and built the small chapel which was assigned as a mission of Sacred Heart Church in Moreauville.

In 1923, the chapel was torn down and a new one was built in the small community of Odenburg where it was dedicated in honor of the Most Holy Family. Fr. Bernard Sice was assigned the duty of attending to the chapel together with mission stations at LeBeau, Melville and Palmetto.

By the mid 1930's, after the completion of the railroad bridge in 1928, Simmesport had grown rapidly, outpacing the isolated Odenburg location. In June of 1934, a hurricane damaged Holy Family chapel and the decision was made to rebuild in the town of Simmesport. Bishop Daniel



CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, SIMMESPORT.

Desmond received funds from the Catholic Extension Society with the stipulation that the new church must be dedicated in honor of Christ the King.

In 1955, Bishop Charles Greco established Christ the King as an independent parish and appointed Fr. Vincent Couvillion as the first pastor.

In 1964, ground was broken

for a new church begun under the direction of Fr. Lawrence Bonin and was finally completed on October 30, 1966. The church stands 48 feet high and seats over 500. The bell tower stands 60 feet tall.

Under pastor Fr. Daniel Corkery, a new church hall was completed and the rectory was renovated.



INTERIOR OF CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, SIMMESPORT.



ANNIVERSARY. The parishioners of St. Charles Mission Church in Goudeau, Mr. Ronnie and Geraldine Link, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 23.



BLESSING OF THE BOATS. On May 30, Father Taylor Reynolds offered a blessing of the boats at Netterville Landing on Lake Bruin in St. Joseph, LA. The blessing is an annual event.

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

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

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(LEFT) CONFIRMATION, HOLY GHOST AND ST. RICHARD, MARKSVILLE. Wednesday, June 8, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the last Mass of the 2022 Confirmation Season. Appropriately, the season ended in the parish of the Holy Spirit, historic Holy Ghost Church in Marksville. Joining us were parishioners of St. Richard Chapel in Hickory Hill. Six young parishioners were confirmed. Thank you to Father Abraham Varghese, Father Abraham Palakkattuchira of St. Genevieve Church in Brouillette, Deacon Ted Moulard, Deacon Richard Mitchell and all of the community of Holy Ghost/St. Richard for their welcome and support of these Confirmandi.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 9753, TIOGA. Immaculate Heart of Mary's Third Degree Knights gathered together Sunday, June 12, for their parish "Coffee and doughnut breakfast." This was the first time in two years that the Knights served their monthly doughnut breakfast. Pictured left to right: James Scarborough, Al Rafferty, Ed DeSoto, Anthony Weatherford, Fred Daigrepoint, Bob Wagner, Clyde Todd, Jacob Kerry, Doug Chenevert, John DeSlatte, Larry Foster, Larry Irons.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest lay Catholic family service organization. IHM Knights of Columbus 9753 stands side by side together with our parish families as we work, through acts of charity and fulfilling needs around the church and community. Knights of Columbus support their priests and bishops in any way possible. We are thankful for the dedication of our Council, and encourage all men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See to consider joining the Council. If you are interested, call the church office at (318) 640-9446.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Psalm 19: 9 | Responsorial Psalm for July 10 | Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

You're invited to join us at the table.
To see available Mass times near you, visit www.masstimes.org.



FATHER RUSTY RABALAIS CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION. Father Rusty Rabalais celebrated 25 years of priestly service on Sunday, May 22. A nice luncheon was served in the Divine Providence Center after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Thank you, Fr. Rusty, for 25 years of priestly ministry!



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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," "An Unsolved Mess: Analyzing the Social Security Administration's Methodology for Identifying Occupations and Job Numbers."

318-717-1995

Behold, I make all things new

The Mass of Ordination of Deacons was held at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Saturday, June 4. Thirteen men were ordained to the permanent diaconate. Those in attendance were family and close friends. These new deacons will join the current deacons in ministry throughout the diocese. The Diocese of Alexandria now currently has 32 deacons in active ministry. To learn where our deacons are assigned, see pages 8-9.



(All photos: John Ballance/john ballance photography)

We began the Eucharistic Revival with our celebration of Masses on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – more commonly called Corpus Christi, on Sunday, June 19. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. At the conclusion of Mass, a period of exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was held before a procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of downtown Alexandria. The procession concluded at St. James Memorial Catholic Church at the corner of Winn and 8th Streets. It was an opportunity for the Catholic community to give visible witness to our faith in the Eucharist and our desire to share that faith with the world that surrounds us.

Revival's in the air



Photo: Melinda Martinez/The Town Talk



(All photos: Joan Ferguson/Church Today, unless specified.)





CDA COURT NOTRE DAME #1452. The Catholic Daughters Court Notre Dame #1452 presented a check for the seminarian education fund. Pictured left to right: Mrs. Dee Gilbert, treasurer, Father Luke LaFleur, director of vocations, Mrs. Susan Harrison, Regent, Bishop Robert Marshall, and Mrs. Marlene Sawrie, Regent Emeritus.



ENTHRONEMENT OF THE SACRED HEART. Recently, Roisin and Charles Renz of Leesville had their business consecrated by enthrone-ment of the Sacred Heart. C.A.R.S. or Certified Auto Repair Specialists, has been in business for approximately 3 years. They were joined by Deacon Steve Gramigna and their friends and family. The Renz's are parishioners of St. Michael the Archangel Church. Pictured left to right: Deacon Gramigna, Roisin Renz, Charles Renz.



THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM. The Southeastern Lieutenancy of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem Annual Meeting and Investiture was held in New Orleans at the Ritz Carlton Hotel and at the Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church from May 27-30. Investees this year were The Most Reverend Robert W. Marshall, Jr., Sir David Spence and Dame Marilyn (Katie) Spence. Those in attendance were Bishop Robert W. Marshall, Jr.; Sir Pierre Allemond, KGCHS, our Alexandria Diocese Section President; Dame Rosalind (Roz) Allemond, DGCHS who is the Lieutenancy Newsletter Editor; Sir Leonard Wilson, KC*HS; Dame Ona Wilson, DC*HS; Sir David Spence, KHS; and Dame Marilynn (Katie) Spence, DHS. Promotees this year were Sir Leonard Wilson to KC*HS and Dame Ona Wilson to DC*HS.

SEASON OF SERVICE, FIFTH WARD. Twenty-six members of Our Lady of Lourdes Altar Society participated in a "Secret Pal" project for Season of Service during Lent. Members chose a person from a list of parishioners who are in a nursing home or homebound and unable to attend mass. Each participant sent a card weekly to the individual with a personal note, words of encouragement or a favorite Bible verse and initially a Daily Devotional for Lent booklet. Each person also said a weekly rosary with special intentions for that person. The "Secret Pal" revealed themselves to the recipient Easter week. Pictured left to right, First row: Lisa Couvillion, Elaine Bordelon, Faye Borell, Sharon Flash, Crystal Chatelain, Pat Guillot, Debra Brouillette, Janis Ducote and Pat Ussery. Second row: Charlotte Dubroc, Amy Bonnette, Carolyn Guillot, Helen Carmouche, Joyce Guillot, Marjorie Guillot, Krystle Reynaud and Cynthia Romano. Back row: Gail Moulard, Lurline Neck, Lilly Dubea, Martha Bringol, Hollie Greathouse, Charlotte Pflugsten and DD Lamartiniere, President. Not pictured are Sondra Andes and Mitzi Smith.



SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES. On Saturday May 14, 2022, Fr. Louis Sklar celebrated mass for the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites of Alexandria at Maryhill Renewal Center. During the ceremonial mass, Holly Wilson made her Definitive Promise as a Carmelite Secular and Kenneth McDaniel made his 1st Promise.





FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, DEVILLE. First Communion Mass was celebrated April 24.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, MOREAUVILLE. Sacred Heart Church in Moreauville held its First Communion Mass on Saturday, May 7.



THE MINOR BASILICA OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH (NATCHITOCHE) celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, as well as the Basilican Feast Day at the 6:30am mass. Fr. John Cunningham joined Fr. Derek Ducote with three

Back row: Fr. Derek Ducote and Fr. John Cunningham.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WINNFIELD. On Sunday, May 22, [redacted] made her First Communion. [redacted] and Father Wade DeCoste.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, CAMPTI. Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary, Campti. Celebrated Baptism and two First Holy Communion on May 15. [redacted] was baptized and made his First Communion with his brother [redacted]. In the picture from left to right are [redacted] and Father Gus Dutch Voltz, III.



FIELD CROP PLANTING. Local farmer and St. Joseph Church parishioner, Mr. Donald Vandeven, planned this particular field's crop planting to include the "chi rho" symbol. Mr. Vandeven has been known to lay out various messages in his fields before but this time, Father Taylor Reynolds, pastor of St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, LA, was able to get a birds-eye view of it while he was flying over the area to bless the crops for the feast day of St. Isidore the Farmer on May 16.

St. Joseph, LA is located on the banks of the Mississippi River in the eastern deanery of the diocese in the civil parish of Tensas, and is approximately 50 miles southwest of Vicksburg, MS.

Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there.

If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration.

|| *St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

As DACA marks 10th anniversary, recipients voice frustration over inaction

By Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Standing outside the U.S. Capitol pleading with lawmakers to grant her and her peers a path toward citizenship is not how Zuleyma Barajas pictured her life 10 years after she was granted a temporary solution to remain in the U.S.

Barajas believed her future included permanent residency, then citizenship, after President Barack Obama announced, through an executive order June 15, 2012, he was extending protections for young adults who, like her, were brought into the country illegally as minors -- via the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

The program, commonly known as DACA, gave her a reprieve from deportation, documents to work and drive, and hope that Congress would soon work together to find a permanent fix. Obama announced it as temporary "stopgap" measure.

"I expected we'd be fighting another fight," Barajas told Catholic News Service June 15 outside the U.S. Capitol, saying she was "definitely frustrated" that absolutely nothing has happened in 10 years.

She said she wanted to ask lawmakers: "What is it that you



AUXILIARY BISHOP MARIO E. DORSONVILLE. Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville of Washington, chairman of the U.S. bishop's migration committee, addresses the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship in Washington Feb. 27, 2020. Bishop Dorsonville expressed solidarity with "Dreamers" in a June 15, 2022, statement marking the 10th anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, created by President Barack Obama via executive action. (CNS photo/Tyler Orsborn)

need to hear? We've taken the necessary steps."

A politically divided Congress, however, has not been able to agree on a comprehensive

immigration plan, nor a bill to offer the approximately 760,000 DACA recipients a path to citizenship.

Auxiliary Bishop Mario

E. Dorsonville of Washington, who is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, said on the anniversary of DACA

that in the years that have passed "its beneficiaries have come to be known for their abundant contributions to our society."

"But after a decade of temporary relief, most DACA recipients still face uncertainty about their future in this country, to say nothing of their families, including hundreds of thousands of U.S.-citizen children, employers and the communities that depend on them," he said in a statement.

"For those confronted by this reality, the church remains committed to walking with you and seeing this injustice remedied, furthering God's plan," he said.


While DACA "was never a cure for the underlying challenges" recipients faced, Bishop Dorsonville said, "it was a welcome step toward recognizing their inherent dignity and unrealized potential."

"Only Congress can ensure the full integration of this population. We therefore urge legislators to make this moment the long-awaited inflection point that leads to a permanent solution ... one of many steps to address an immigration system in desperate need of reform," Bishop Dorsonville said.

Via Twitter, President Joe Biden, who was vice president during the Obama administration,

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said DACA was “one of our proudest accomplishments.”

“On this 10th DACA Anniversary, we celebrate the transformational impact it’s had on hundreds of thousands of young people. It’s time for Congress to make this permanent now,” he said.

Fran Eskin-Royer, executive director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, speaking in favor of DACA recipients, said in a June 15 news release that it was time to “end their nightmares; give them back their dreams.”

“Children embody our hope; our dreams. And dreams embody the American spirit and opportunity. What does it say if we rip away the dreams of our children?” she asked.

Most Americans want them to stay in the U.S., she said.

In June 2020, a poll by the Pew Research Center showed that close to three-quarters of U.S. adults said they favored granting DACA recipients permanent legal status.

Neil Bradley, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s executive vice president and chief policy officer, said in a statement that it was “outrageous and unacceptable that after a decade of debate, Republicans and Democrats in Congress have not been able to come together and enact legislation” to protect them.

Business groups such as the American Business Immigration Coalition echoed the call from Bradley in demanding that Congress do something.

“Brought here as children, the vast majority of these young men and women know no other home than the U.S.,” he said. “They have been educated here and they contribute to their communities and the businesses where they work. Some have even started their own business where they employ other Americans. That is the American dream.” accepting invitations for preacher visits in June, Father Torres added.

National Tekakwitha Conference comes to Alexandria

Tekakwitha was born in 1656 of a Catholic Christian Algonquin mother and a traditional Mohawk Chief in a village called Ossernenon along the Mohawk River.

A smallpox epidemic swept through the Mohawk village and claimed the lives of Tekakwitha’s parents and baby brother. She survived the disease but it left her eyesight impaired and her body scarred. It also left her physically weak for the rest of her life. Orphaned at age 4, she was adopted by her aunt and uncle.

In 1670, St. Peter’s Mission was established in Caughnawaga (now Fonda, New York). Four years later, Father James de Lamberville became responsible for the new mission. Tekakwitha met Father de Lamberville and expressed her desire for baptism. On April 5, 1676, she was baptized and was given the name Catherine, “Kateri,” in Mohawk.

In August 1677, Kateri was encouraged and assisted to leave her Mohawk village and live at Sault St. Louis, St. Francis Xavier Mission near Montreal, Canada. After a long and strenuous trip, she arrived at the Sault with the help of friends. Finally, she would be able to practice her Christian ways with greater openness and freedom.

On Christmas Day, 1677, Kateri received her first Holy Communion. On March 25, 1679, Kateri pronounced her vow of perpetual virginity. Her life was devoted to teaching prayers to children and helping the sick and aged until she



became very frail and weak.

On April 17, 1680, she died at the age of 24. Her last words were: “Iesos konoronkwa,” (Jesus, I love you). A few minutes after her death, those around her bedside witnessed the ugly scars on her face suddenly disappear.

On January 3, 1943, she was declared Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha by Pope Pius XII.

On June 22, 1980, she was declared Beatified-Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha by Pope John Paul II in Rome.

On October 21, 2012, she was Canonized-Saint Kateri Tekakwitha by Pope Benedict XVI.

The 83rd Annual Tekakwitha Conference will be held at the

Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria this summer! Scheduled for July 20-24, the conference will feature Most Rev. Joseph Strickland, Bishop of Tyler, TX; Sister Kateri Mitchell, SSA; and Jacob and Elsa Finkbonner.

Throughout the 4-day event, participants will hear dynamic speakers, participate in breakout sessions, attend regional membership meetings, and catch a glimpse of the intersection between the vibrant Native American cultures and the Catholic faith.

To register, visit tekconf.org, or call 318-483-3908.



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Heart of Saint Kateri Circle

Do you have a devotion to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha?

Do you have a desire to learn and become more involved with this vital ministry to and with our indigenous brothers and sisters?

Are you looking for new opportunities to pray, serve and grow alongside believers right in your own community?

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By The VIRTUS Programs

In addition to understanding the warning signs of inappropriate adult behavior and screening and selecting employees and volunteers, it is up to each of us as caring adults to monitor all environments, including activities involving technology. All environments and activities with children and youth should be supervised to ensure that proper policies and procedures are being followed to keep children and youth safe.

It is important to monitor all environments because child abusers look for ways to spend time alone with children. While grooming often happens in the open, abuse is more likely to occur in private. Effectively monitoring all ministries eliminates any opportunity for an adult to be alone with a child in an isolated area while in-person or online. Monitoring all ministries also provides the opportunity to be vigilant in identifying any behaviors or situations that must be addressed before they can escalate to abuse, or problematic situations that could condition children to more easily be abused.

How can we, as caring adults, monitor all in-person environments?

- Maintain a healthy caution about any environment in which children are entrusted.
- Identify secluded areas; lock empty rooms.
- Develop policies (with the organization's leadership) and follow policies regarding the use of any area (open, secluded, off-site, etc.)
- Don't permit children to enter staff-only areas.
- Only meet with children where other adults can have



open access (such as, in the sight or hearing of other adults, with the invitation that they check-in at any time for safety.

- Perform consistent and random status checks (if status checks are performed at the same time every day, then people who do not have the best intentions could learn to anticipate that timeframe).

- Make sure enough adults are involved in programs so that you have an appropriate ratio of adults to children.

- Don't start new programs without the appropriate approval of the organization or leadership.

- Encourage parental involvement, allowing parents to have proper access to all programs to evaluate safety.

How can we, as caring adults, monitor technology?

- Always use sanctioned devices and accounts to communicate with youth - these should be sponsored by the organization.

- Never "friend," "follow," or communicate with youth using your own personal accounts.

- Always communicate with youth during appropriate timeframes; i.e., if you wouldn't

call the home at specific times, then you shouldn't text, call, message, or email the youth, either.

- Never take or post photos of youth without the proper approvals of both the organization and the youth's family - typically this is resolved through photo releases that are kept on file at the organization (even with permission, photos should only be posted on an organization-approved forum).

- Install and use appropriate blocking/filtering software.

- Include additional adult oversight for any communication or online meetings with children or youth - this helps to ensure that the interaction online doesn't become isolated.

We must maintain a healthy caution about any environment that involves children and youth - whether it is on the organization's property, at another location, or online. Meetings with children and youth should occur only in designated areas, open to the sight or hearing of others, where the observation of others is welcomed and encouraged. Proper oversight for all meetings and events must have adequate

*He who does justice will live
in the presence of the Lord.*

Psalm 15: 1 | Responsorial Psalm for July 17 | Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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supervision and transparency. Even for an online meeting where minors will be participating, other adults should have the permission and ability to drop in safely and check-in, just as they would in person.

Furthermore, one of the best security measures we can take is to frequently and openly maintain communication with children and youth about the latest evolving technology. It's important to discuss the risks, benefits, and how they can help keep themselves safe when using technology. Prior to learning how to drive, youth are taught the rules of the road and how to safely operate a vehicle. The

same should be true when it comes to the use of technology. Youth should be taught how to use it in a safe manner, to protect themselves and others, and what to do if they need help, or feel scared or uncomfortable.

Recall the spirit of the five steps from the Protecting God's Children Program:

1. Know the warning signs of adults (or, also referred to as, Know the warning signs)
2. Screen and select employees and volunteers (or, Control access through screening)
3. Monitor all environments, including activities involving

technology (or, Monitor all ministries and programs)

4. Be attentive to children and youth (or, Be aware of child and youth behavior), and,

5. Communicate your concerns.

Each of us can help prevent inappropriate situations and technology threats if the entire environment is being monitored at all times, and the remained of the five steps are also being followed. Thank you for all that you do to contribute to a safe environment both within your organization and within your entire community.

Save Environment Office Information

The Diocese of Alexandria has policies and procedures, a *Code of Pastoral Conduct* and many other documents, including the *Charter for the Protection of Children & Young People*, plus many other resources and information available on the diocesan website (www.diocesealex.org) – under Safe Environment.

Please know that the diocese submits paper audits every year and every third year

auditors come to the diocese to conduct an onsite audit of our safe environment records; and, while here, make several church parish/mission and school visits to audit their safe environment records.

Every adult who works with minors is required to be background-checked (every 5 years) – and – they must initially physically attend one *VIRTUS Protecting God's Children* “live session” of child sexual abuse

awareness training, which is followed by required ongoing online training.

Children/Youth in our Catholic schools and in our CCD classes also receive training (*VIRTUS Empowering God's Children program*).

If you would like more information, please contact Mrs. Pam Delrie, Safe Environment Coordinator, at pdelrie@diocesealex.org or call 318-445-6424 ext. 213.

Please continue to visit your church's Facebook page (you do not need a Facebook account, just click “not now” and view the content), or the diocesan website for updated live-streamed Mass times.

- How to find a church parish near you
- How to find Mass times at churches near you
- Divorce and annulments in the Catholic Church

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Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Psalm 138: 3
Responsorial Psalm for July 24
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Lord is hidden there in the Blessed Sacrament, waiting for us to come and visit Him, and make our requests to Him

11 Saint John Vianney

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It's time for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Vacation Bible School, Leesville

July 10-14, 5:30 p.m.

St. Michael the Archangel Church in Leesville will hold their Vacation Bible School for kids ages K-6th Grade from July 10-14 starting at 5:30 daily with dinner. There is no charge. Older kids may volunteer. For more information contact the church office at (337) 239-2656.

Vacation Bible School, Bunkie

July 10-14, 8:30 a.m. - 12: 00 p.m.

St. Anthony of Padua Church in Bunkie will hold their Vacation Bible School for ages 4-11 from Monday, July 10 to Thursday, July 14, 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon. There is no charge. For more information, contact the church office at 318-346-7274.

Vacation Bible School, Moreauville

July 17-21, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville will hold their VBS for ages PK3-6th Grade. This year's theme: "Monumental: Celebrating God's Goodness!" Lots of music, singing, dancing, praising, crafting, bible stories and more! Supper served every night. Cost: donations appreciated. Kids in 7th grade and up and adult volunteers needed. For more information contact Andre' Spruill at (318) 359-7542 or andrespruill@gmail.com

Vacation Bible School, St. Joseph, LA

July 18-22, 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, LA will be hosting their VBS July 18-22 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Register at church office by calling (318) 766-3565. No cost but donations accepted.

Vacation Bible School, Deville

July 18-22, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

"He Has The Whole World In His Hands" VBS will be held the week of July 18-22 for grades Pre K-6th at St. John the Baptist in Deville from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Supper served every night. There is no charge. Kids in 7th grade and up and adult volunteers needed. For more information, contact Sheri Paul, Parish Manager at sheripaulstjohn@gmail.com or call (318) 466-5587 ext. 3.

Vacation Bible School, Kolin

July 18-22, 5:30 p.m.

Sts. Francis and Anne Church in Kolin will host their VBS "Celebrating God's Greatness" July 18-22 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Open to ages 4-10 years. Come join the fun with us! For registration information, contact the church office at 318-767-2078.

(right) **OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL 6TH GRADE FAREWELL.** (RIGHT) On Wednesday, May 18, we celebrated our 6th graders for the final time. We celebrated a final Mass together with families and friends, and had an awards ceremony after. There was a reception provided by the 5th grade parents in the Divine Providence Center following Mass and awards.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL D.A.R.E. GRADUATION. Sacred Heart School held its annual D.A.R.E. graduation on May 12. The year-long program is for fifth graders. The D.A.R.E. Program works to promote safe and healthy living for students, and gives students skills and information needed to avoid drugs, gangs, and violence. It is sponsored by the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Department.

Sacred Heart School D.A.R.E. Graduates:



**Catholic Campus Ministry is provided at
LSU of Alexandria, Louisiana College,
and Northwestern State University.**

LSU of Alexandria:

Catholic Student Organization, 318-447-2956

Northwestern State University

Catholic Student Organization

FOCUS Ministries: <https://nscatholic.org/focus>

Louisiana College:

Catholic Student Organization, 318-447-2956

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OUR LADY OF LOURDES END OF YEAR CCD PARTY. The catechism classes of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Winnfield celebrated the end of their catechism year with a waterslide party. The children enjoyed hours of playing in the water.



FAMILY FUN DAY. Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary annual CCD Family Fun Day. The students, parents, and teachers enjoyed a fun filled afternoon at Lost Treasure Mining. At our outing on May 15, the children received certificates, played games, enjoyed lunch, and learned how to mine and identify the gemstones they found.



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL PRAYER SERVICE. On Thursday, May 5, 2022, the school gathered together for a prayer service for our 2nd grade students in honor of their receiving their First Communion! It was a beautiful day with school and family celebrating our 2nd graders on the occasion of receiving the Most Blessed Sacrament.

a note from the catholic schools office

- Counselors have been actively working with seniors to apply for and receive acceptance to various colleges and universities. If your high school student needs assistance with applying for acceptance, please contact your school guidance counselor.
- Looking to register your child at one of our Catholic schools? Now is the time! Contact the individual school or the Catholic Schools Office for more information. Please also contact us for information on financial assistance and scholarship opportunities.
- Our Catholic schools are always searching for teachers, staff, and lunchroom personnel to join us! Check with individual schools for more information on how to apply for specific positions.



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR CDA WINNER. Mrs. Andree Leddy from the local Catholic Daughters Court, presented awards to the winners of their yearly art, poetry, and essay contest.

Discalced Carmelite Meeting - July 9

The Order of the Discalced Carmelites holds its monthly meeting at 9:00 a.m. every second Saturday, at Maryhill Renewal Center. Anyone is invited to attend morning prayer followed by Mass and then the meeting. If you are interested in Carmelite spiritual studies, please contact Mary Jo McCoy at 318-346-6860 or 318-481-9638.

Youth Group Garage Sale Fundraiser - August 6

Sacred Heart of Jesus Youth Group, Pineville will have a Garage Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, August 6 from 6:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Youth Center, Pineville on Sanders/Lakeview Streets. For more information, contact Dawn Parker at 318-446-6557 or angelicdawnparker@gmail.com, Laura Luneau at 318-447-0510, or the Church Office at 318-445-2497.

Men's Silent Retreat, Grand Coteau - August 25-28

Join us at Our Lady of the Oaks Jesuit Retreat House, located in Grand Coteau, LA for a men's silent retreat. Take time to reflect, refresh, and renew! You may even discover the inner strength to help with issues that may be facing you. Spiritual counseling will be available or just the sympathetic ear of someone else who has been where you are now. If you've considered a retreat in the past, don't miss this opportunity for an uplifting and fulfilling experience! The retreat weekend suggested offering is \$310.00 which includes a \$50 non-refundable fee at the time of application. If you need financial assistance, please contact either of the retreat coordinators. Jason Lavergne, 318-446-0217 or jasonlavergne@aol.com or Gary Bonnette at 318-793-9063 or gbonnette@suddenlink.net.

Adoration Chapel - Daily

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville, Perpetual Adoration Chapel will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in the Community Center. You will need to call the office during office hours to obtain the code to the chapel: 318-445-2497.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS**Grief Support Group - 1st Wednesday of the month**

Sacred Heart of Jesus in Pineville's Grief Support Group meeting dates for June, July, and August will only meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month, in the Community Center at 6:00 p.m. We will have a potluck dinner and fellowship. The next meeting will be July 6. For more information, call Tammy Magnano at 318-229-7455.

The Real Presence Prayer Group - every Wednesday

The Real Presence Prayer Group will meet every Wednesday evening at Maryhill Renewal Center in Pineville. Rosary begins at 7:00 p.m. with Charismatic Praise & High Worship at 7:20 p.m., and Healing Prayer at 8:00 p.m. (Closing by 11:00 p.m.) Wheelchair accessible. For more information, call Joey LaFossee at 318-332-2234 or Bob Weeks at 318-442-1794.

Food Pantry Distribution, Pineville - every other Wednesday

Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 600 Lakeview Street, Pineville. Food distribution will be Wednesdays, July 6 and 20 from 8:00 a.m. - noon in front of the church office. Please call Linda Boniol if more information is needed: 318-623-1492.

Outdoor lighted rosary, Marksville - every Thursday

St. Joseph Church in Marksville has begun its weekly outdoor lighted rosary every Thursday now through October. The rosary begins at 8:00 p.m. in the parking lot next to the church hall. In inclement weather, the rosary is prayed in St. Joseph church. Participants may bring chairs to sit outside or remain in their vehicles. The lighted rosary is facilitated by St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council #1217.

Divine Mercy Hour - every Friday

Sacred Heart Church of Moreauville has a weekly Divine Mercy Hour at 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. There will be adoration with benediction, recitation of the divine mercy chaplet, and confessions available. Everyone is invited.

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If interested, please contact the Office of Catholic Schools at 318-445-6424, ext. 227, or fill out and submit an application on the diocesan website: <https://www.diocesealex.org/our-diocese/catholic-schools/job-applications/>

Holy Savior Menard High School Now Hiring

Make an impact with your talents and abilities through a teaching career at Holy Savior Menard High School. HSM is seeking Junior High and High School professionals with a love for teaching and a desire to share their passions with students. Join our team!

To apply, visit our website at <https://www.holsaviormenard.com/join-our-team>, or email Assistant Principal Laura Davis at ldavis@holsaviormenard.com.

Serra Club of Alexandria invitation:

Serra Club is an international lay apostolate of men and women whose goal is to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and show appreciation to priests, deacons, religious, and especially seminarians. Serra Club members each "adopt" a seminarian to pray for daily and acknowledge on special occasions throughout the year. An annual end of summer BBQ and Christmas party are hosted by Serra Club for the seminarians and their families. For more information about joining, contact Billie Flynn at billieflynn5@gmail.com.

Church Today News Deadlines

June 27
Deadline for news:
Thursday, June 16

July 25
Deadline for news:
Thursday, July 14



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July 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>JUNE 27</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. THOMAS</p>	<p>28</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. TRAVIS</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. W. TRAVIS</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. VARGHESE</p>	<p>JULY 1</p> <p>Divine Mercy Hour 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL</p>	<p>2</p> <p>FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. V. VEAD</p>	<p>3</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. G. VOLTZ</p>
<p>4</p> <p>INDEPENDENCE DAY PRAY FOR DCN. L. WHITE</p>	<p>5</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. J. WHITEHEAD</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Grief Support Group, 6:30 p.m. Sacred Heart Church, Pineville</p> <p>The Real Presence Prayer Group, 7:00 p.m., Maryhill</p> <p>Food Pantry, 8:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Church, Pineville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. WILTSE</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. XAVIER</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Divine Mercy Hour 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. M. YOUNG</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. ZACHARIAH</p>	<p>10</p> <p>VBS, Bunkie</p> <p>VBS, Leesville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. AELAVANTHARA</p>
<p>11</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. AJAERO</p>	<p>12</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. W. ALDRIDGE</p>	<p>13</p> <p>The Real Presence Prayer Group, 7:00 p.m., Maryhill</p> <p>VBS, Bunkie, July 10 - 14</p> <p>VBS, Leesville, July 10 - 14</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. F. ANDRADE</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>MEMORIAL of SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Divine Mercy Hour 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville</p> <p>PRAY DCN. E.J. BARRE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW</p>	<p>17</p> <p>VBS, Moreauville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET</p>
<p>18</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO</p>	<p>19</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Real Presence Prayer Group, 7:00 p.m. Maryhill Food Pantry, 8:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Church, Pineville</p> <p>VBS, Moreauville, July 17 - 21</p> <p>VBS, St. Joseph, LA / Deville / Kolin / July 18 - 22</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. R. CHRISTOPHER</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church Marksville,</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Divine Mercy Hour 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE</p>	<p>24</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS</p>
<p>25</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. L G DELOACH</p>	<p>26</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE</p>	<p>27</p> <p>The Real Presence Prayer Group, 7:00 p.m., Maryhill</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. DHARMARAJ</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Divine Mercy Hour 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. D. DUBROC</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. DUCOTE</p>	<p>31</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. R. DUCOTE</p>

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