

# CHURCH TODAY

Volume LIII, No. 10

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

October 24, 2022



## *Feast for Good*

Bishop Robert Marshall was delighted to attend the “Feast for Good,” benefitting St. Mary’s Residential Training School, which serves our neighbors with special needs. Renowned Chef John Folse prepared the meal and demonstrated preparing Bananas Foster with the assistance of two clients from St. Mary’s. The event was held at the England Airpark Community Center and also featured a live and silent auction. St. Mary’s has been a ministry of the Diocese of Alexandria for 68 years. Thank you to Christi Guillot, Administrator, and the wonderful team at St. Mary’s for such an enjoyable event that is also a successful fundraiser.

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#### Living in the presence of God

“Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God...” See page 2 for a letter from Bishop Robert Marshall, along with questions for reflection and discussion.

#### Diocese of Alexandria participates in the eighth annual #iGiveCatholic on #Giving Tuesday

Kick off the charitable season on #GivingTuesday, November 29, with #iGiveCatholic. See page 4 for a list of churches, schools, and ministries in our Diocese currently participating in this popular fundraiser.

#### The Annual Bishop’s Golf Tournament

The Annual Bishop’s Golf Tournament was held at Oakwing Golf Course in Alexandria on Monday, October 10. Thank you to all of our sponsors, and everyone who participated in this year’s event. All proceeds benefit the Seminarian Education Fund. See pages 12 and 13 for more pictures from the day.

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In the tradition of St. Jean-Baptiste de la Salle, each period of public prayer begins with the sentence, "Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God." In a high school classroom – where I first heard it – the invocation is a very effective way of quieting a room full of students frantically finishing homework or anticipating the test they were about to take. As a priest, and now as a bishop, I have learned that it is also a sensitive way to begin prayer in an interfaith setting. Yet this simple Lasallian phrase is much more than useful – it carries with it an important theological concept. Too often, we human beings begin our prayer with the attitude of a detective – "I am searching for you, God; help me to find you." We look for the path that will lead us to God as though we were on an exploratory expedition – seeking the North Pole or the wreck of the Titanic or the Lost Ark. We imagine that God is somewhere out there and that it is our job to find him.

When we pray, "Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God," we are reminding ourselves that God is not lost – though often we are. God is not in some far distant land – though he is there too. God is right in front of us and behind us and beside us, surrounding us with his love. As Pope Francis recently pointed out, well before our interest or desire for God, the Lord's love and desire for us always comes first (Desiderio desideravi, 6). What prevents us from recognizing God's close and abiding presence at all times is our own limited view. We believe in something only when we can see it and hear it, taste it, touch it or smell it. Our senses fail us when we try to capture God and hold on to him. We cannot possess God – we can only dwell in his presence.

Yes, God is all around us, as we have been told since our childhood, but how does that change anything? We can't seem to feel his presence, to keep our minds and our hearts fixed on him. Again, the Lasallian phrase is full of wisdom. All we need to do to become aware of God's presence is to "remember" where we are. Remembering is not only a calling to mind, it can evoke an emotional connection. Try to remember your 16th birthday, for example, without thinking about when you got your driver's



*Live, Jesus, in our Hearts Forever*  
The Joy and Promise of  
the Most Holy Eucharist

By Bishop Robert W. Marshall, Jr.

## Living in the Presence of God

license. Try to remember a wedding without smiling again at the joy of the newly married couple. Try to remember the funeral of a loved one without feeling again the ache of that person's absence. Yes, our memories are often filled with emotions. They transcend time and take us back 10 or 20 or 50 years to a time when we were younger and, perhaps, more impressionable. So it should be with our experiences with God. As St. de la Salle once wrote, "Apply yourself often to remember the presence of God. Look upon this practice as your greatest happiness." (Letter 87 – To an unknown Brother). When we remember that we are in God's holy presence, we may indeed be filled with happiness, with joy or peace or love. From time to time, we might also experience some anxiety, trepidation, or guilt – a clear signal that something about me or my life needs to change. When we remember that we are in the holy presence of God, that memory should be more than a fact check – as though we were picturing God as one more student in the classroom or one more dinner guest. God is never just "one more." God is always the One.

Remembering that we are in God's holy presence should enable us to stand again in the shadow of the Almighty, should help us to feel the embrace of God's love and fill our hearts with his peace. But what "should" happen is very rarely what "does" happen. Our minds are often cluttered with the distractions of this world – with thoughts of work responsibilities and preoccupations, skewed by our own desires and biases, and, yes, by our sinful inclinations that lead us away from God. So at every moment of every day we are in God's holy presence, but experiencing that closeness is difficult for us. We may find that we need assistance with our

prayer lives.

Maybe we need a visual focus to enable us to avoid distractions in prayer. We might find it difficult to pray in parts of our world – or even in parts of our very busy homes – for they may seem to be as chaotic as Times Square. It is often a good practice to find a "prayer corner" in our home – a quiet place with a crucifix or other religious images. Others may find that a space in a garden or elsewhere in God's creation is more conducive to prayer. Maybe we need some auditory assistance – a recording of a hymn or piece of instrumental music or just some "white noise" that will drown out the constant dings and beeps from our electronic devices. Perhaps we need an intellectual focus for our prayer – a Bible passage or prayer book or spiritual reading that can get us started. Or maybe we just need to clear our minds completely and concentrate on listening for God.

Any or all of these techniques can assist our daily prayer, but sometimes we need to go to the source. We need to pray where we can be assured of God's presence. We need to pray in the real, physical presence of God. We need to go to church and place ourselves in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Yes, when the distractions of the world become too much, when we are overwhelmed by the busyness of our lives, we can go to our parish church and sit before our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. We can look for an adoration chapel where the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in a monstrance, or we can just be content praying before the tabernacle, where the nearby flickering sanctuary lamp assures us of Christ's real presence. Think about "making a visit" to the Lord – by remembering his holy presence wherever we are, or by entering a Catholic Church

where we know that the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ is physically, tangibly present. How comforting to be in Christ's presence!

Our times of private prayer can deepen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If we have neglected prayer for some time, it may seem as though we are reintroducing ourselves to the Lord every time we remember to pray. If we develop the habit of daily prayer – at home or in church – then each day we can resume an ongoing conversation, not begin anew each time. Of course, prayer should be more than going through the motions, reciting or reading prayers as quickly as possible. Our goal is to open our hearts to the Lord and allow him to fill our hearts with his love and mercy. In future chapters we will reflect upon how the Eucharist will both deepen our personal relationship with the Lord and open our eyes and hearts to one another.

### Questions for Reflection or Discussion

- How often are you aware that you are in the presence of God? Only when you are in church or only when you pray or at other times as well?
- Does your awareness of God's presence make a difference in your mood, your outlook on life? Does it bring you reassurance and peace? Does it help you to avoid sin and seek beauty and truth?
- How often do you stop by your parish church (or a Catholic church near where you work) just to visit with the Lord? Perhaps this week you could give it a try.

## Pope prays for unity of church as he celebrates anniversary of Vatican II

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Second Vatican Council was the universal Catholic Church's response to God's love and to Jesus' command to feed his sheep, Pope Francis said, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the council's opening.

The council reminded the church of what is "essential," the pope said: "a church madly in love with its Lord and with all the men and women whom he loves," one that "is rich in Jesus and poor in assets," a church that "is free and freeing."

Pope Francis presided over the Mass Oct. 11 in St. Peter's Basilica, where the council sessions were held in four sessions from 1962 to 1964. The date is also the feast of St. John XXIII, who convoked and opened the council; the glass urn containing his body was moved to the center of the basilica for the liturgy.

The Gospel reading at the Mass recounted Jesus asking St. Peter, "Do you love me?" and telling him, "Feed my sheep."

In his homily, the pope said the council was the church's response to that question and marked a renewed effort to feed God's sheep, not just those who are Catholic, but all people.

The debates that followed the council and continue today are a distraction from the church's mission, Pope Francis said.

"We are always tempted to start from ourselves rather than from God, to put our own agendas before the Gospel, to let ourselves be caught up in the winds of worldliness in order to chase after the fashions of the moment or to turn our back the time that providence has granted us," he said.

Catholics must be careful, he said, because "both the 'progressivism' that lines up behind the world and the 'traditionalism' that longs for a



**BISHOP IN ROME.** Bishop Robert Marshall with the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Bishop Marshall was in Rome for the "Course of Formation" for new bishops from Sept. 1-8. This course has been postponed for two years due to the pandemic. This session included bishops from throughout the world who had been ordained from late 2019-2020. You can read Bishop Marshall's account of his entire trip in last month's issue of the Church Today.

bygone world are not evidence of love, but of infidelity," forms of "selfishness that puts our own tastes and plans above the love that pleases God, the simple, humble and faithful love that Jesus asked of Peter."

"A church in love with Jesus has no time for quarrels, gossip and disputes," the pope said. "May God free us from being critical and intolerant, harsh and angry. This is not a matter of style but of love."

Jesus, the good shepherd, "wants his flock to be united under the guidance of the pastors he has given them," the pope said, but the devil loves to sow division; "let us not give in to his enticements or to the temptation

of polarization."

"How often, in the wake of the council, did Christians prefer to choose sides in the church, not realizing that they were breaking their mother's heart," the heart of their mother, the church, Pope Francis said.

How often, he asked, did they prefer "to be on the 'right' or 'left,' rather than with Jesus? To present themselves as 'guardians of the truth' or 'pioneers of innovation' rather than seeing themselves as humble and grateful children of Holy Mother Church?"

The council, he said, taught the church to see the world around it and to share God's love with all, knowing that "if

it is fitting to show a particular concern, it should be for those whom God loves most: the poor and the outcast."

With Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant representatives present, as they were at the council, Pope Francis also prayed that "the yearning for unity" would grow within each Christ, "the desire to commit ourselves to full communion among all those who believe in Christ."

Thanking God for the gift of the council, the pope asked the Lord to "save us from the forms of polarization that are the devil's handiwork. And we, your church, with Peter and like Peter, now say to you: 'Lord, you know everything; you know that we

love you.'"

Pope Francis, who was ordained to the priesthood in 1969, is the first pope ordained after the Second Vatican Council. His immediate predecessor, now-retired Pope Benedict XVI, attended all four sessions of the council as a theological adviser -- a "peritus" -- to the archbishop of Cologne, Germany. St. John Paul II participated in all four sessions as a full member of the body, first as auxiliary bishop of Krakow, Poland, and then as archbishop of the city.

Among the more than 400 priests concelebrating the Mass, the Vatican liturgical office said there were five who were present at Vatican II.

According to the websites GCatholic.org and catholic-hierarchy.org, there are six bishops alive in the world today who participated in at least one session of the Second Vatican Council. Among them is Nigerian Cardinal Francis Arinze, an 89-year-old former Vatican official who was ordained a bishop in 1965 and attended the council's last session; he was one of the concelebrants at the anniversary Mass.

Before the Mass, passages were read from the speech St. John XXIII gave at the council's opening. Known by its opening words in Latin, "Gaudet Mater Ecclesia," the speech begins: "Mother Church rejoices."

Selections from the council's four constitutions also were read. Pope Francis has asked Catholics to prepare for the Holy Year 2025 by re-reading and studying the documents: Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy ("Sacrosanctum Concilium"); Dogmatic Constitution on the Church ("Lumen Gentium"); Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation ("Dei Verbum"); and Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World ("Gaudium et Spes").



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# Diocese of Alexandria participates in the eighth annual #iGiveCatholic on #GivingTuesday



#iGIVECATHOLIC  
November 29, 2022

#GIVINGTUESDAY

Kick off the charitable season on #GivingTuesday, November 29, with #iGiveCatholic - a crowdfunding event that brings the Catholic community together to give thanks and give back. The Diocese of Alexandria is joining the arch/dioceses and Catholic foundations across the country for the eighth annual #iGiveCatholic campaign this year. The #iGiveCatholic Giving Day is held annually on #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and generosity.

This program was created by our neighbors in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, but has become popular throughout the country

over the last few years, and we are excited to be a part of its success.

Over the past several years, our Catholic community, despite COVID and other challenges, has embraced #iGiveCatholic and helped to raise funds to support our local Catholic church parishes, schools, and ministries. Despite many great challenges, together with the support of our community through #iGiveCatholic, we will be able to accomplish great things in our local community and beyond.

Last fall, 40 partnering dioceses and the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) raised over \$16.5 million for 2,600+ participating parishes,

schools, and ministries.

This is an incredible opportunity for Catholic communities nationwide to unite to promote generosity and celebrate our Catholic heritage. Every donation makes an impact and has a positive effect on the life of the Church as a whole.

#iGiveCatholic is a very easy and safe way to donate, and help our schools and parishes accomplish their missions in spreading the Good News of Jesus. Individuals, families, community groups, businesses, and organizations are asked to get involved, ensuring the success of their favorite parish, school, or ministry by hosting and personalizing individual fundraising pages on behalf of their favorite organization, and/or by providing a gift that can be used to match other donations during the course of the event.

You can visit the #iGiveCatholic website at any time to view the countdown to the opening of the campaign. The Diocese of Alexandria is usually the first on the list, and from there it is easy to find the church parish, school, and/or ministry within our diocese that you would like to contribute to and support.

For more information about supporting the Diocese of Alexandria on November 29 for the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day, please visit the Diocese of Alexandria website at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org), and share the link on Facebook.

We hope you'll join us and "Give Catholic" to support your favorite parish, school, or ministry on November 29! If we all give a little, it will add up to a lot.

## Churches, Schools, and Ministries currently participating in this year's #iGiveCatholic campaign include:

- Sacred Heart School
- St. Mary's Assumption School, Cottonport
  - St. Anthony of Padua School, Bunkie
  - St. Frances Cabrini School, Alexandria
- St. Joseph Elementary and High School, Plaquemine
  - Holy Savior Menard High School
- Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, Alexandria
  - Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth
    - Mater Dolorosa Church, Plaquemine
  - Steubenville South Youth Conference
    - St. Mary's Church, Jena
    - Seminarian Education
  - St. Francis Xavier Cathedral
  - Christ the King Church, Simmesport
    - St. Rita Church, Alexandria
- St. Michael the Archangel Church, Leesville
  - St. Joseph Church, Marksville
- Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana

Contact the individual church parish, school, or ministry for more information on their specific needs.

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### PRAYER FOR PROTECTION DURING HURRICANE SEASON *for November 2022*

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor spare us, O loving Father, 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.

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# 40 Hours Devotion set for each Deanery throughout the Diocese

## What is the Forty Hours Devotion?

The Forty Hours Devotion is an opportunity to gather as a community before the Blessed Sacrament and to pray before the Lord in solemn adoration. It gives us time to deepen our appreciation of the importance of the mystery of the Eucharist in our lives. Traditionally, it begins with a celebration of Mass. At the end of this opening Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and over a period of a few days the faithful are given the opportunity to assemble in prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. The form of prayer to be prayed can be done in diverse ways. The celebration then normally ends with the celebration of the Mass.

In the celebration of the Forty Hours Devotion, we are able to witness a fuller



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

expression of our theology of the Eucharist. It is first and foremost about our participation in the Paschal Mystery through our celebration of Mass. In the celebration of Mass, we participate directly in the saving acts of Christ and by the grace of the Holy Spirit unite the sacrifices of our lives with the one sacrifice of Christ on the cross. It is in this way that we give praise and thanksgiving to God for Jesus and participate in the true worship of our God by which we are sanctified as His holy people. This leads us then to live out our lives more fully in Christ. This devotion also gives an opportunity to give voice to our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharistic elements. As the community gathers in prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament, it witnesses to our belief, as a Church, that what is before us is bread no longer but truly the Body of Christ.

### What is the history of the Forty Hours Devotion?

The exact origin of the Forty Hours devotion is not known. The first clear attestation of its occurrence comes from Milan in 1527. In its inception it was celebrated as reparation for the sins of the community, and was motivated to offer prayers to God for protection during the crisis of war. The practice of celebrating Forty Hours Devotion spread rapidly from this point. This may be attributed to various reasons

such as the quick approval granted to it by Pope Paul III in 1539. Furthermore, the support of St. Anthony Maria Zaccaria and Saint Philip Neri, who introduced its celebration into Rome in 1550, helped to extend its celebration beyond Milan. Finally, as it was introduced to more places this practice rapidly became popular with the lay faithful.

In time, the purpose for celebrating the Forty Hours Devotion started to be transformed. This change is witnessed in 1560 by the bull promulgated by Pope Paul IV. He states that the devotion is an imitation of the forty days of fasting of the Lord in the desert, and the time of unceasing prayer called for in scripture and by the early church. This transformation continued so that by the time of the eighteenth century, this devotion became primarily eucharistic in nature and centered on thanksgiving for the mystery and gift of the eucharist.

From the eighteenth century onward, the rules for celebrating the Forty Hours devotion were heavily influenced by Pope Clement XII who published the *Instructio Clementina* in 1731. This document gave detailed instructions for how this devotion was to be celebrated in the city of Rome. The *Instructio* became the basis for the further development of Forty Hours throughout the Church. It was very detailed in how the

celebration was to occur and what the expectations around its celebration would entail. These rules for celebration did not change until the Second Vatican Council. The present rules for celebrating Forty Hours devotion can be found in the Order for the Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1992.

### Why are we celebrating the Forty Hours devotion now?

The Holy Father has designated this year as the Year of the Eucharist. With this, Pope Francis is presenting the Church with a wonderful opportunity to explore, develop, and deepen our appreciation of the Eucharist. The primary setting for the promotion of a life centered in the Eucharist is, of course, the celebration of Mass, but the Church also offers other means of deepening a Eucharistic-centered faith. One such practice is adoration,

where we gather to pray before the Lord as his presence is revealed to us in the mystery of the eucharistic bread which is truly the Body of Christ. The Forty Hours Devotion gives us the opportunity to come as a community to pray before the Lord in solemn adoration. The date of the celebration within each deanery are listed below. You can sign up for an hour or more by visiting the Diocese of Alexandria website at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org).

### Dates of the celebration within each deanery:

#### Central Deanery

• Nov. 3-5, 2022

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria

#### Eastern Deanery

• Dec. 8-10, 2022

St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph, Louisiana

#### Natchitoches Deanery

• Jan. 12-14, 2023

Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches

#### Avoyelles Deanery

• February 23-25, 2023

St. Joseph Church, Marksville

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### National Eucharistic Revival - sign up for the newsletter!

The Diocese of Alexandria is participating in the National Eucharistic Revival. The mission of this three-year revival is “to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.” Stay current with the National movement by registering to receive the weekly “Heart of the Revival Newsletter.” To do so, follow this link and scroll down the provide your name and email address: <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/> - Bishop Robert Marshall

*The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.*

Psalm 98: 9 | Responsorial Psalm for November 13 | Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Bishop Marshall is homilist at Red Mass in New Orleans

By Peter Finney Jr.  
Clarion Herald

Before entering Notre Dame Seminary in the 1990s, Alexandria Bishop Robert W. Marshall Jr., a Memphis native, earned a law degree at the University of Memphis and then worked for 12 years as an attorney in Memphis and St. Louis.

So, as the homilist at the 70th annual Red Mass that traditionally marks the beginning of the judicial year, Bishop Marshall told the judges, attorneys and law clerks assembled in St. Louis Cathedral Oct. 3 that he had some insight into the challenges of their shared profession.

One of the major concerns of the last three decades, Bishop Marshall said, was the coarsening of public debate that seemingly has grown more vicious with each passing year.

“Our common ground should draw us together, but over the last three decades, and certainly in the past few years, we have become an increasingly divided nation,” Bishop Marshall said. “We have always had our disagreements, of course, but often with the help of members of the legal profession, we settled those disagreements with civility in negotiations or in court. Now, it seems, the civility



**RED MASS, ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL, NEW ORLEANS, OCT. 3.** Bishop Robert Marshall was the homilist at this year's Red Mass held at St. Louis Cathedral in the heart of the French Quarter in New Orleans. Amongst those attending Mass were judges who were in the city attending a judicial conference. (Photo by Peter Finney, Jr., Clarion Herald)

of the past is but a forgotten memory.”

Bishop Marshall drew on the second reading from the fourth chapter of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, in which he made a plea to Christ's followers to “live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience,

bearing with one another through love.”

“Of all the things they taught us at law school, I dare to say that patience, gentleness and humility were not at the head of the curriculum,” he said. “Indeed, these are not the virtues that are valued at all in our throwaway culture.”

Bishop Marshall said the Red Mass calls the judicial establishment together to remain humble and “hear the voices that the Holy Spirit will make manifest.”

“Are we truly prepared to hear the cries of those affected by crime, victims and perpetrators alike, when each seeks only to be accorded human dignity?” he

asked. “Are we truly prepared to hear the cries of the sick, the elderly, the child in the womb, the immigrant, the refugee or displaced person who seeks only our protection of their fundamental, God-given right to life?”

Responding to people in need with humility, gentleness and patience should be “the blueprint of our response.”

“We must recover the civility and mutual respect that were once the hallmarks of the legal profession,” Bishop Marshall said. “Too many in our time are following the examples of politicians and cable news pundits – yes, many of whom are lawyers – as they deride and belittle those

with whom they disagree.

“They seek not to persuade opponents with facts and rational arguments but rather attack with lies and innuendo those they view as enemies. These days, it seems, victory is not achieved through persuasion but through annihilation. As officers of the court, as children of God and as disciples of Jesus Christ, we must be better than that.”

Eric Derbes, president of the St. Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association, said he was pleased the fall judges' conference, which honored the memory of late LSU law professor Frank Maraist, could be held in person for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The judges concluded the Mass by reciting a Prayer to St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, asking for his help “to be a little more like you.”

The prayer, in part, read: “For the greater glory of God and the pursuit of justice, help me to be accurate in analysis, strict in study, correct in conclusion, candid and kind, honest with adversaries, able in argument and steadfast in my faith. Sit with me at my desk ... and stand beside me in court, so that today, I shall not lose my soul in order to win a point.”

*Read the full transcript of Bishop Marshall's homily on the next page.*

### 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 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.”

### Hixson-Ducote Funeral Home Avoyelles Monuments

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### HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for November 2022

Children Who Suffer //

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

## 2022 Red Mass for the Archdiocese of New Orleans

### Cathedral-Basilica of St. Louis King of France – October 3, 2022

by *Most Reverend*  
*Robert W. Marshall, Jr., J.D.*  
*Bishop of Alexandria*

Archbishop Aymond, brother priests and deacons, distinguished members of the judiciary, those who serve in public office, attorneys, legal assistants, and all involved in the administration of justice, and members of the St. Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association, thank you for the invitation to deliver the homily at this Red Mass. My former profession gives me some insight into what many of you do each day – though I must confess that as a native Tennessean, almost all of you know more than I do about the Napoleonic Code. Nonetheless, our common ground as citizens of this great republic should draw us together as we seek to overcome the problems that beset our nation and the world. Yes, our common ground should draw us together, but over the last three decades, and certainly in the past few years, we have become an increasingly divided nation. We have always had our disagreements, of course, but often with the help of members of the legal profession, we settled those disagreements with civility – in negotiations or in court. Now, it seems, the civility of the past is but a forgotten memory. We have the impression that no two people – certainly no two lawyers – can agree on anything. That is, of course, an exaggeration. Indeed, I suggest to you that this roomful of attorneys can certainly agree that whatever courses our individual careers may take – and mine has taken quite a detour – we can all rejoice that we will never again face another law school exam. Oh, it is not that we didn't enjoy law school. We were thrilled to learn that Mrs. Palsgraf took the train to Blackacre on a frolic of her own – or something like that

– but we are quite happy to have that period of our lives behind us. Yet, I think we realize that, as much as our legal training has helped us and continues to serve us well each day, we have not exactly learned everything we need to know. Each new case that comes before us sends us back to the library or online or to our partner's office – on, in my case, to call the archbishop – for advice or to research and ponder the implications of this unique new fact situation. In order to serve our clients and the justice system well, we must humbly acknowledge and accept that our learning must continue. Law school was the beginning of our legal education, not the end of it.

In a similar way, many of us learned our basic moral and religious principles in our childhood. We formed and informed our consciences based upon the lessons and examples set by our parents, our grandparents, our teachers and many others who cared for us and, in their own way, showed us the face of God. Yet just as none of us would ever imagine going to court without researching the current state of the law, or without interviewing our witnesses, so none of us should assume that our moral and religious compass is functioning appropriately unless we are continually involved in a spiritual updating, unless our hearts are in perpetual, prayerful dialogue with the Spirit of God.

That is the purpose of our celebration today. Each year judges, lawyers, clerks, and others involved in our judicial system come together at this Red Mass to renew our communication with God's Spirit, to ask God's blessing on our system of justice and all who participate in it – and just as importantly, to listen to God's Spirit with humility, gentleness and patience. Now of

all of the things that they taught us in law school, I dare to say that patience, gentleness and humility were not at the head of the curriculum. Humiliation, on occasion, but not humility. These are not the virtues that the public customarily associates with the legal profession. Indeed, these are not virtues that are valued at all in our throwaway society, our cancel culture, our winner-take-all world. But as Saint Paul told the Ephesians in our second reading today, these three virtues of humility, gentleness and patience are vital to living a life worthy of the calling we have received – not our professional calling, mind you, but the basic calling of faith that resounds in the hearts of all believers.

Often, we resist communicating with God's Spirit out of impatient frustration. The answers that we seek do not come either instantaneously or clearly. When we pray, we want the Spirit to provide us with a blueprint, with a course of action, with a definitive ruling, when, in fact, authentic prayer often confuses the situation more. You see, the Spirit of Truth frequently gives us another perspective – God's perspective. The Spirit of the living God always gives us a bigger picture, if not a clearer one. The Spirit gives us a broader perspective, one not limited by our own biases and life-experiences. The Holy Spirit permits us to hear the voices that the world drowns out. We all know that the voices of the rich and powerful have no problem being heard. Those whom the world respects always manage to grab our attention. God's Spirit points us to those whom the world disregards. If we but listen with humility, the Spirit of God will enable us to discern, through all of the hue and cry of our legal conflicts, the tiny small voices of

the poor and the persecuted, the injured and the insulted, the meek and the merciful – indeed all of those of whom Jesus spoke in our gospel passage today, all of those whom our Lord called blessed, all of those who comprise the company of heaven. God's Spirit will increase in us our own hunger and thirst for holiness – for righteousness and justice – and our ability to hear those who call for them.

And so we are invited today – at this Red Mass – to pray for an outpouring of the Spirit of God upon our legal system. But, as the old saying goes – Be careful what you pray for, you just might get it. We must ask ourselves if we are sufficiently humble, if we are truly prepared to hear the voices that the Holy Spirit will make manifest? Are we truly prepared to hear the cries of those affected by crime – victims and perpetrators alike – when each seeks only to be accorded human dignity? Are we truly prepared to hear the cries of the sick, the elderly, the child in the womb, the immigrant, refugee or displaced person who seek only our protection of their fundamental, God-given right to life? Are we truly prepared to hear from the impoverished, the undocumented and the weak who seek only to be given equal footing with the corporate special interests and the power brokers of the world? Are we truly prepared to receive a share of God's omniscient perspective on our frail human problems?

Yes, the Holy Spirit can give us a broader perspective on the issues that confront us – permitting us to hear the voices that the world drowns out – but how are we to respond to those voices? How are we to adjust our eyes and our hearts to the perspective made manifest by the Spirit? I suggest to you that

the three attributes highlighted by St. Paul in our second reading not only enable us to ask for God's Spirit, but should also be the blueprint for our response. When confronted with the needs of others, we should respond with humility, gentleness, and patience. In humility, we recognize the God-given dignity of each human person. Too often, we shrink from gentleness for fear of being perceived as weak by our opponents, but St. Francis de Sales reminds us that “nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as true strength.” As Christians and as attorneys, we also embrace patience, particularly with our adversaries. Brothers and sisters, we must recover the civility and mutual respect that were once the hallmarks of the legal profession. Too many in our time are following the examples of politicians and cable news pundits – yes, many of whom are lawyers – as they deride and belittle those with whom they disagree. They seek not to persuade opponents with facts and rational arguments but rather attack with lies and innuendo those they view as enemies. These days, it seems, victory is not achieved through persuasion, but through annihilation. As officers of the court, as children of God and as disciples of Jesus Christ, we must be better than that. We must be leaders who speak with gentleness, persuade with patience and love with sincere humility. Each day we are bombarded with examples of hostility and disrespect. As attorneys, as disciples, we can and should set a positive, respectful, life-giving example for our fractured society. May the Holy Spirit fill our hearts with the love of God and grant us all the humility, gentleness, patience and wisdom to listen with respect and compassion to all voices.



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- The ability to work on your feet for most of the day and lift 50 pounds at a time several times a day.
  - Ability to place cases, pans, utensils, and plates on both low and high shelves.
- Manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination to handle tools, such as knife techniques for chopping, slicing, cutting, and dicing.
  - Accuracy and speed in executing tasks.
  - Valid Louisiana driver's license.
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## Off Campus Mass Schedule

**Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville would like to share their off campus Mass schedule for the following locations:**

**Tuesday of the 1st week of the month:**  
Hilltop Nursing Home at 10:00 a.m.

**Wednesday of the 2nd week of the month:**  
The Oaks Care Center at 9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday of the 3rd week of the month:**  
St. Christina Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at 9:30 a.m.

**Tuesday of the 4th week of the month:**  
Pine Grove Apartments at 9:00 a.m.

If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.

*// saint mother teresa*

### REMINDER: *Political activity*

This election season, 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 13 of the Diocesan Policy Manual, located on the Diocesan website. If you have any further questions, please contact David Brook at 318-445-6424, ext. 215.

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*Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

Psalm 122: 1 | Responsorial Psalm for November 20  
The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe



## 40

As I sit here pondering over my time,  
The number 40 comes to my mind.

For 40 days Moses stayed away  
Coming back, he found his people had gone astray.

The Hebrew people spent much time alone  
After 40 years, they found a place to call home.

In the time of Noah, he brought his family together  
The others on earth were destroyed by bad weather.

After 40 days, rising from the dead  
Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to move his people ahead.

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**BISHOP MARSHALL INVITED TO GIVE INVOCATION IN MEMPHIS.**

Bishop Robert Marshall had the pleasure of giving the invocation at the Bell Tower Gala celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Christian Brothers University in Memphis. on Sept. 24. The event was held at the Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis. Also in the photo is Joe Birch, Master of Ceremonies of the evening and the news anchor of the NBC affiliate, WMC-TV5.

**Seminarian Burses**

**September 2022 Donations**

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<b>Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Miller</b> .....	<b>\$200.00</b>
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**November 3-6**  
**St. Augustine Church**  
**Women's ACTS**  
  
**November 17-20**  
**Sacred Heart of Jesus**  
**Women's ACTS**  
  
 A list of ACTS Retreat dates can be found at [www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/acts/](http://www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/acts/). All retreats are held at Maryhill Renewal Center.

*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.

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*Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.*  
 Psalm 17: 15 | Responsorial Psalm for November 6  
 Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

*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.

## Parish Spotlight: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tioga established 1971



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH, TIOGA.

In 1952, the original plot of land was donated for the construction of a mission church in the Tioga area. For almost 20 years, Immaculate Heart mission served the Catholic population of

Tioga as a mission of Sacred Heart in Pineville. In 1971, Immaculate Heart mission was established as an independent parish by Bishop Greco. Fr. Wilbur Cloutier served as the first pastor. Soon after the

bishop's announcement, plans were initiated to form a building committee to undertake the construction of a rectory and a hall adjacent to the church. From the beginning, a sense of community spirit has characterized the progress of the church. The basic construction work was accomplished almost totally by the men of the parish who invested their time and talents in the challenge. Allen Hall and the new rectory were completed one year later and the hall was formally dedicated in 1973. The church was extensively remodeled in 1975-1977. In 1981, a new vestibule was added and two new stone altars and a stone lectern were built in the sanctuary. The grounds surrounding the church have been landscaped with flowerbeds and a rose garden.



**ST. RITA CHURCH VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON.** St. Rita Church's Volunteer luncheon was held on Sunday, Sept. 25 where the staff served the volunteers lunch. Carl and Cheryle Verzwylt were recognized as volunteer of the year for 2022. Pictured with pastor, Father Anthony Dharmaraj.



**NEW ST. RITA CHURCH OFFICE IS BLESSED.** Bishop Robert Marshall was on hand to bless the newly constructed St. Rita Church office building, now adjacent to the Holy Family Center on Bayou Rapides Rd.

### Upcoming VIRTUS Sessions

November 15, 6:00 p.m.  
St. Joseph Catholic Center  
Alexandria

November 29, 6:00 p.m.  
St. Joseph Church  
Marksville

NOTE: Minors are not allowed to attend because of the adult content of the videos and discussions. To register, go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). For more information, call 318-445-6424, ext. 213.

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PUBLISHED ARTICLES: "The Worn-Out Worker Rule Revisited,"  
"Significant Work-Related Limitations of Function Under §12.05C,"  
"Questionable Retirement and the Small Business Owner," "Crisis of  
Confidence: The Inadequacies of Vocational Evidence Presented at  
Social Security Disability Hearings," "An Unsolved Mess:  
Analyzing the Social Security Administration's Methodology  
for Identifying Occupations and Job Numbers."

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## Blessing of the Animals Feast of St. Francis of Assisi



**ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, LEESVILLE.** Fr. Kenneth Michiels had a “blessing of the pets” ceremony Saturday, Oct. 1, at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Leesville in honor of the feast day, October 4, of St. Francis of Assisi.



**ST. RITA CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA.** Oct. 2, Fr. Anthony Dharmaraj with parishioners and their pets during Blessing of the Animals in the Prayer Garden at St. Rita Church, Alexandria.



**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH, BUNKIE.** Annual Blessing of the Pets at St. Anthony of Padua School, Bunkie. Fr. Scott Chemino blesses the pets for the students.



**CCL CLUB OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WINNFIELD.** Some of the members of CCL- Crazy Catholic Ladies of Winnfield, Louisiana-attended the Women’s Resource Center Gala held on September 29 in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The CCL raised over \$2500 for the pro life center and was recognized as a Platinum Sponsor. The CCL members from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church who attended the gala were Chris Walker, Laure Derr, Dona Gresham and Vicki Rockett.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH, WINNFIELD.** On Sunday Sept. 25, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Winnfield, celebrated Catechetical Sunday. Reverend Wade DeCoste gave a special blessing to the students, parents and teachers.



**NURSING HOME ROSARY.** After saying the Rosary at The Oak Haven Nursing Home, the St. John the Baptist Church of Moncla Rosary Group enjoyed the beautiful weather, coffee and muffins outdoors at the home of Wayne & Barbara Cole. Pictured: Sandra Diver, Faye Borrel, Barbara Cole, Margaret Borrel. Back row: Edna Gauthier and Mariella Hollis.



**OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA.** Annual Blessing of the Animals at OLPS took place on Saturday, Saturday, Oct. 1. This year, Fr. Thomas Kennedy blessed the pets.

### 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.

# Bishop's Annual Golf Tournament



**2nd PLACE GROSS.** Kramer Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Stan Bollinger, Corky Yates, Charlie Weems and Frank Brame.



**3rd PLACE GROSS.** St. Joseph Church, Cheneyville Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Fr. Dwight DeJesus, Clarence Book, Josh Book and Herbert Bruce.



**1st PLACE GROSS.** Tarver Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Robby Tarver, Jarred Tarver, Ryan Kinder and Ryan Wilmore.

**Special thanks to:**

**Tarver Land Development**



Team Tarver Land Development: Robbie Tarver, Jarred Tarver, Ryan Kinder and Ryan Wilmore with Bishop Robert Marshall.

**Special thanks to:**



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**1st PLACE PEORIA.** R.J. Dunn Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are R.J. Dunn, Chris Dunn, Tom Phillips and David Moses.

The Annual Bishop's Golf Tournament was held at Oakwing Golf Course in Alexandria on Monday, October 10.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and everyone who participated this year. All proceeds benefit the Seminarian Education Fund.



**2nd PLACE PEORIA.** St. Rita Church Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Robert Flowers, Ryan Flowers, John Jewell and Walt Brown.

**Special thanks to:**



Team Southern Chevolet: Jeff Basco and Mike McCann with Bishop Robert Marshall.

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**3rd PLACE PEORIA.** Craig Pujol Team: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Craig Pujol, Frank Giglio, Scott Pousson and Greg Prudhomme.

**View more photos on the photo galleries at [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org).**

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*see you next year!*

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**Special thanks:**

The Serra Club and the Knights of Columbus of OLPS for cooking dinner for the golfers and volunteers.

**2022 GOLF TOURNAMENT.**

Bishop Robert Marshall and Father Luke LaFleur, director of vocations, and the seminarians and golfers pray before the shotgun start of this year's Annual Bishop's Golf Tournament held on Oct. 10 at Oak Wing Golf Course, Alexandria.



**Special thanks to:**



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Those who are called to the table of the Lord must glow with the brightness. // *saint john capistrano*

### 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.

### Insights Prayer Group // every Tuesday

The Insights Prayer Group (formerly Tuesday Afternoon Prayer Group) has resumed its weekly meetings every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. in the **Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Community Center, Pineville**. Anyone interested in gaining insight into the role of Sacred Scripture and power of prayer as tools to navigate Catholic life in the present is invited to attend. For more information, contact Melba LaCaze at 318-445-6851 or Rhonda England at 318-452-9739.

### Food Pantry Distribution, Pineville // Wednesdays

**Sacred Heart of Jesus Church**, 600 Lakeview Street, Pineville. Distribution bags are for “cook” and “non cook,” bread, sandwiches, personal hygiene items (when in supply) will be available. Food distribution will be every other Wednesday, from 8:00 a.m. until noon, in front of the church office. Please call Linda Boniol for more information at 318-623-1492.

### Book Study on Saints // every Wednesday

Every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m., Father Taylor Reynolds will lead a book study on his recently published book titled, “*No Longer Strangers*.” Discussion will follow 5:00 p.m. Adoration and confession, and 6:00 p.m. Mass at **St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, LA**. For more information or to acquire a book, contact Fr. Taylor at [stjosephinstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephinstjoe@gmail.com) or 318-766-3565.

### A Guide to Catholic Devotion series // every Wednesday

Father Thomas Kennedy invites you to join him for this weekly series of presentations titled, “*Lord, Teach Us to Pray: A Guide to Catholic Devotions*.” Meetings will take place every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the **Madonna Room at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria**. Reinvigorate your prayer life through this reintroduction to devotional practices.

### Maryhill 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 and High Worship at 7:20 p.m. and Healing Prayer at 8:00 p.m. (Closing by 11:00 p.m.). Wheelchair accessible. Directed by Jim Gootee. For more information, call Joey LaFossee at 318-332-2234 or Bob Weeks at 318-442-1794.

### Food Pantry // every 2nd and 4th Thursday

The St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry is open every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. It is a walk-in style pantry, located on the backside of **St. Francis of Assisi Church in Waterproof, LA**. All are welcome to come and receive or to donate.

### 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.

### St. Timothy Food Pantry // last Saturday every month

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria** conducts its St. Timothy Food Pantry distributions on the last Saturday of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the St. Timothy Center, 409 21st Street. Anyone in need of food is welcome to come. For more information, contact Chris Bayonne at 318-955-1222.

### Holy Hour with Benediction, Moreauville // every weekend

**Sacred Heart Church in Moreauville** has Holy Hour with Benediction every weekend before Mass. The times are: before Saturday Vigil Mass, starting at 3:00 p.m., and before Sunday evening Mass starting at 4:00 p.m.

**Special thanks to:**

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# Communion of saints

By Father Taylor Reynolds

*“I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints...”*

Every Sunday we profess in our creed a belief about the saints. However, most Catholics can barely defend why the Catholic Church honors saints. What is it about the saints that is so important that we profess belief in them as part of our universal faith, but that also keeps them so misunderstood?

First, our belief in the saints is not in isolation; we don't just believe ‘in the saints’ but in the *communion* of saints. The “communion” is a term that means to “become one with.”

Also, we profess belief in the saints immediately after we profess we believe in the Holy Catholic Church. We say that the Catholic Church, though it is Universal, is still one. It is the Body of Christ, there is one Body! What that means is that all the members of that Body are always united in the



one Church. The members in heaven did not leave or separate from, the Church when they went to heaven; rather, they became ever more united to it since they became more united with Jesus in heaven! This union with Jesus naturally draws them deeper into union with the Church that is His body!

*So what is the role of the saints in the Church now?*

There are three ways the saints remain present in the Church and that we are called to grow in devotion to them: Example, Intercession, Companionship.

*Example:* The saints' lives are not just a memory lost in the past of something a good person did, but they are a living image of the power of God active in our human weakness. They offer a living translation, in every time,

place, situation, and occupation of what is the meaning of faith, of holiness and love.

*Intercession:* The saints offer prayers to God for us. We see many times in scripture where holy men and women stood before God on behalf of others and prayed for them and God was moved by humility and love. There were times when fathers and centurians would go and ask Jesus for a healing and when Jesus wanted to go himself to them, He was actually blocked and simply asked to say the word of healing.

Jesus was moved by this humility and granted the request because of their faith. If, while on earth Jesus acted this way with people, how much more in heaven with those who stand with him and love his children as he does?

*Companionship:* This last area is not only a sum of the other two but it is a crowning reality. It is based on the fact that, as St. Paul says, “you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints in heaven!”

As a citizen, you have a full right and share in all the benefits and goods of the city. The Church in Acts was said to “have had everything in common”; all the merits, strength and virtue that the saints had on earth are for us to share in. The love they obtained on earth, the virtue and graces they grew in while on earth were not

lost or taken away when they got to heaven. No, “the gifts of God are irrevocable!” Once in heaven, they have an ever great love for us and have all their virtues they want to share with us! Like the men with the talents, they were faithful in small matters but now are given a greater responsibility. As they share the Master's rest, they also activate an even greater mission. They want nothing more than to help us get to heaven since “there is more

than to help us get to heaven since “there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents”

So let us grow in our relationship with the saints, these friends of God and friends of us. Let us remember that the saints love us, and still actively look after us!

All you holy men and women, saints of God, pray for us!

Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us.

*11 Hebrews 12: 1*

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Psalm 122 | Responsorial Psalm for November 27  
First Sunday of Advent



# The Synod on Synodality (+ ways to pray)

By Katie Cassidy  
*Blessed is She Ministry*

Confused about the current “Synod on Synodality” you have seen in your parish bulletin and maybe heard about in passing?

The meaning of the ten-dollar word “synodality” is “mutual collaborative listening, guided by the Holy Spirit, in which all of the faithful have something to learn from each other, in order to know what God is saying to the Church.”

*This Synod // A Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity*

Traditionally, synods have referred to an assembly of

bishops who gather to discuss matters pertaining to the Church and the faithful. The gathering of the Second Vatican council broke new ground in seeking to include the input of theologians, scholars, vowed religious, laity, and ecumenical representatives in a new way.

In the case of the current synod, the bishops will consult uniquely with lay Catholics worldwide to get a sense of their lived experience as well as their needs (where the Church is meeting the needs of the people, and what growing edges exist to meet Catholics living lives of faith in this contemporary).

“Both before and after

Vatican II, a theology of the laity was developed. It “emphasized that ‘the Church’ is not identical with her pastors; that the whole Church, by the action of the Holy Spirit, is the subject or ‘organ’ of Tradition; and that lay people have an active role in the transmission of the apostolic faith” (Sensus Fidei 41). The synod of bishops provides an important channel for the voice of the faithful to contribute to the lived experience of a Church still in search of a response from her Risen Lord on those difficult matters that present themselves from time to time” (source).

Under Francis’ papacy, several synods have been called: Synod on the Family (2014), on youth (2018), and the Church in the Pan-Amazon region (2019).

“Consultation of the faithful must be followed by discernment on the part of the Bishops chosen for the task, united in the search for a consensus that springs not from worldly logic, but from common obedience to the Spirit of Christ. Attentive to the sensus fidei of the People of God—‘which they need to distinguish carefully from the changing currents of public opinion’—the members of the Assembly offer their opinion to the Roman Pontiff so that it can help him in his ministry as universal Pastor of the

Church.... When it is therefore a question involving the faith itself, the consensus ecclesiae ... is the outcome of the working of the Spirit, the soul of the one Church of Christ’ ” (Apostolic Constitution *Episcopalis communio* 7).

The “Synod of Synodality” is a two-year process that began in October of 2021 and will last through mid-October 2023. During this time, Pope Francis has opened a process for both listening and dialogue amongst the hierarchy and the laity of the Catholic Church. Bishops around the world are invited to lend an ear to the experience of Catholics everywhere. As our pastor says, to be invited to participate in the work of a Synod is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

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Synodality is what  
God expects of the  
Church in the  
21st century.

*11 pope francis*

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*An Epic Compilation*

All Catholic parishes have been invited and encouraged to host gatherings of prayer and reflection for parishioners to share their input on questions pertaining to the life of the parish community. In most cases, gatherings have been scheduled and delegates from each parish are assigned the task of compiling and condensing input for submission to the Archdiocese.

The Archdioceses, in turn, have been tasked with reading through the specific parish feedback and creating a document that reflects the themes and input from the archdiocese as a whole. When these documents have been compiled, they will be submitted to the Vatican to help illustrate the strengths and needs of the Church by world-region.

As we might imagine, liturgies and worship have a particular flavor in urban cites that differs significantly from rural parishes. Parishes with schools and lots of young people have different needs than those with an aging population. Catholics in Europe where the church is waning experience community in a much different way than the burgeoning global south. Church communities in areas of poverty have a different lived experience than those with tremendous affluence. Parishes who lean more heavily on the Corporal Works of Mercy have something to share with parishes who lean heavily on Spiritual Works of Mercy, and vice versa.

*We Have the Same Goal*

As the largest church in the world, it is good and necessary to have the opportunity to gather and communicate about the wants/needs/hopes/stirrings of the Church that serves and guides us. In her wisdom, the Church provides that to us, and we are all better for it. Synods, though not new, afford us a fantastic way to work collaboratively as a body of believers who are diverse and plentiful.

Have you participated in your parishes synod discussion groups?



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# Bringing children to the Holy Table

By Dr. Zachary Keith  
Eucharistic Revival

“And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, ‘Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs

to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.’ Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them” (Mark 10:13-16).

When Pope St. Pius X lowered the age for First Holy Communion from twelve to the age of discretion (around seven)

in his 1910 *Quam Singulari*, he expressed his hope that children who have received First Holy Communion would be regularly admitted to the Holy Table, to be embraced by Christ, preserved from corruption, and nourished by the food of interior life. One of the hopes of the National Eucharistic Revival is that it will foster recognition and devotion to Our Lord who gives himself to us in the Blessed Sacrament, not only in today’s Catholic adults, but in our children as well.

When I was a teenager, my pastor once announced to the parish that parents needed to stop bringing Cheerios into Mass to feed their children. I remember hearing parents grumble that the pastor didn’t know what it takes to keep little kids quiet, especially those who were too young to be left in the nursery. I can’t speak to the pastor’s intentions at the time, since many parents seemed to think his concern was Cheerios being crushed into the carpet under the pews, but I must confess that the whole conversation changed my heart about Mass and inviting children to participate.

*“Let the Children Come to Me”*

I used to think that we needed to entertain young children during Mass so that adults could pray while children are kept quiet or outside of the liturgy. As a young adult I was fully in support of nurseries, packing books or snacks, or other measures used to keep children from disturbing the liturgy. Even so, the priest’s words continued to stick with me and have given me reason to reconsider my attitude. If we spend all of the liturgy distracting our children from the greatest act of worship on earth in order to keep the church quiet, how are we different from the disciples who turned the children away from Jesus? Doesn’t he desire them to come and participate as well?

As a parent I realize that helping children enter into the liturgy is not an easy task. Sometimes we must take out

the screaming child or feed the hungry baby. Nevertheless, we have a responsibility to help our children pray the Mass with us. Years ago, when my first daughter was only about two years old, I took her to a daily Mass in a small chapel. This chapel presented a few obstacles for a parent. First, it was a side chapel in a larger church and was just off the main sanctuary. Second, the pews were open on only one side. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, it was entirely covered in marble and was the worst possible echo chamber. My daughter spent much of the homily chattering, and while she was speaking quietly, I know the priest and everyone at Mass could hear her. I ended up taking her out to keep her from being disruptive, but as I did so, she started repeating the homily back to me! Somehow, in spite of her jabbering, she had managed to catch some words from the homily! I was struck then, and continue to be amazed, by how much even the youngest children can be aware of what’s happening around them. We, the whole Church, need to be better at engaging them, not through distraction techniques, but as a meaningful part of our Church.

### *Ideas for Your Family*

I would like to offer a few suggestions that have worked for my family or families that we have known:

1) Be willing to bring children to Mass, even at a young age. This is not always easy or even possible, but children must regularly attend Mass if we want them to know what it means to approach the Holy Table.

2) Make Mass a positive experience. I like to joke that I bribe my children after Mass. (They get a donut if they behave and lose bites of it to me when they don’t). It might be silly, but my youngest anticipates her reward and understands the expectations I have during Mass, offering positive reinforcement to the activity of praying at Mass.

3) Try not to distract children

away from the liturgy; rather, help them understand what is happening. Perhaps whisper quietly into a child’s ear to help him or her know why the priest is incensing the altar or raising the chalice. Avoid toys, books, or other activities meant to quiet children. It might be embarrassing, but a child who belts out “Alleluia” after the Gospel Acclamation has concluded should not be quickly shushed, but should be commended for paying attention!

4) Speak to children about Mass before and after. Spend time in the car talking about the readings for the day or the different parts of the Mass. For the youngest children, discuss the colors of the day! This can go a long way to helping the child pay attention during the Mass, even if only briefly.

5) Pray daily. It is important that you pray with your children outside of Mass. If praying as a family is limited to Mass only, then praying the Mass will remain foreign to young kids.

6) Consider taking your children to adoration. If you know of a place that has Eucharistic adoration that works with your schedule, consider taking your children to a 15-minute block to introduce them to the practice. If you have multiple children, you might find that taking the children one at a time is easier.

7) Be patient with children. Their attention span is often much shorter than ours. They struggle to keep focused on the Mass, especially with all its different parts. Maybe your child can only focus for a minute or two at a time. That’s fine! Work with that.

8) Be patient with yourself. Offer your sufferings as a parent to Christ and let him know that you are trying. He will offer you the grace you need to be a good parent: you need only be willing to accept it.

9) Find time to pray by yourself. Some Sundays it will be nearly impossible to pray at Mass in the way we want or need. Find time to pray without the children.

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### Marriage Prep Day (Pre-Cana) - November 12

Pre-Cana Day of Reflection for Engaged Couples will be held at Cabrini Church in Alexandria on Saturday, Nov. 12 beginning at 8:00 a.m. in Ducote Hall. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Cost is \$50 per couple. To register please call Emily Ann at 448-3333 or Michelle at 445-4588.

Daily Mass, during lunch breaks or other times, can be a wonderful opportunity for this prayer without the children interrupting.

10) If you don't have children or if your children are older, offer to help other parents with several young children (or even just one baby) with whatever they need. Younger children often do well with a "mentor," an older child who is more familiar with the Mass and can remind them how to behave during the liturgy.

11) Help pastors and those without children understand the needs of parents. Sure, a child should not be yelling out during Mass, but sometimes a cry lasts only a minute or two and it is easier to quiet the child than to take him or her out. If we always rush to get parents out of Mass any time their child makes a noise, we risk actively discouraging parents

from bringing children to Mass.

These suggestions are just that: suggestions! You might have found that other ideas work for your family. As a parent, I know how difficult it can be to take my children to Mass and have them participate. Even now that my children are all in elementary and middle school, we still have trouble from time to time with them arguing or finding ways to misbehave during Mass.

**Moments of Grace**

As a parent, I have had many moments of grace reminding me why it is important to bring our children to Christ through the Mass. I'd like to share two: the first occasion happened on the road. Each time my family drives to visit my wife's parents, we take the opportunity to visit the parish where we were married. On one

visit, my son, who was very young at the time, misbehaved almost all of Mass. It seemed like I was constantly taking him to the back of the church into the tiny narthex with doors that couldn't really contain the sounds. At one point, an older gentleman approached me to say something. I thought for sure that he was about to scold me for trying to bring such an unruly child to Mass. As this gentleman approached, I saw only kindness in his eyes. He told me that I was doing well dealing with my son and it was good that I had brought him to Mass. Until that moment, I had been judging myself for my unsuccessful parenting strategies and was horrified by my son's behavior. If I'm honest, I was angry and embarrassed with him (and with myself). Worst of all, my son was the only one who was causing a scene! The kindness of this gentleman, though, reassured me that our presence was a good thing. His actions made me feel

more welcome at Mass as a family than anything else could have. This gentleman reminded me how important it is not to give up because my children don't always behave the way I want.

The second moment of grace happened in the last couple of years, when public Masses had been suspended in our area. Our parish devised a way to have Eucharistic adoration a couple of days a week where families could sign up and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. I tried to take my oldest girls every Friday morning, and we would go as a family on Sunday. Before this point, I must admit that I had not considered taking my family to regular Eucharistic adoration, since I thought the children were too young. The first few times we went, they were not sure what they were supposed to do, so I spoke to them about why we were there, the practice of adoration, and suggested some different prayers

and reflections they might offer. I also encouraged them just to sit quietly and let Our Lord speak to them. Very quickly, our Friday mornings before the Blessed Sacrament became a highlight of our week. In many ways, though we yearned to go to Mass, these moments sustained us until we could once again participate in the Holy and Divine Liturgy.

**Accompany Them**

During this Eucharistic Revival, we need to be mindful of the needs of our children. Not only are they the future of our Church, they are her very present. Pope Pius XII admonishes us, "If the faithful strive to live in a spirit of lively faith ... they will take to their hearts those members who are the object of our Savior's special love: ...children whose innocence is so easily exposed to danger in these days, and whose young hearts can be molded as wax..." (Mystici corporis 93). As baptized Christians, our children belong to the Body of Christ and the youngest can anticipate the day that they, too, will receive Christ's Body and Blood in Holy Communion. We need to accompany them so that they recognize and come to Jesus, present in the Bread of Life, who wants to nourish them and pour out his graces upon them.

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**BISHOP ROBERT MARSHALL SHARED SOME PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK OF THE OLPS FALL FEST:** "This afternoon at the Fall Festival of Our Lady of Prompt Succor School in Alexandria. I visited with Father Rusty Rabalais, Pastor, and Mr. Thomas Roque, Superintendent of Schools. I watched the Cookie Eating Contest, saw the train move around the grounds, enjoyed watching students play a number of clever games, had a delicious cheeseburger, and saw Father Thomas Kennedy, Parochial Vicar, blessing pets (in anticipation of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Tuesday). I even met a turtle named Tommy (same name as one I had when I was a child). Great to see so many people supporting Catholic education!" (Above) Cookie eating contest underway. (Below) Fr. Rusty Rabalais, OLPS pastor, Thomas Roque and Bishop Marshall.



**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL, BUNKIE.** Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass for the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Bunkie with the students, faculty, and staff of St. Anthony School. Thank you to Father Scott Chemino and all of the liturgical ministers for such a wonderful celebration. After Mass, Mr. Allen Warnersdorfer, Principal, took Bishop to visit some of the classrooms to see the students engaged in learning.



**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA SCHOOL, BUNKIE.** (Above) SAS 4H club proudly celebrates National 4H week!

(Below) 3rd and 4th grade students at SAS have been learning about economics in social studies. They worked together to create businesses where they had to plan, name, advertise and sell their product. Students raised over \$300 during this project and they donated it to Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana to purchase food for the needy.



**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, PLAUCHEVILLE.** On Wednesday, Oct. 12 our St. Joseph seniors received their letterman jackets. In order to be eligible to receive one, athletes must participate at least two years in a sport.

# Open communication creates happy school campuses

By Beth Donze  
Clarion Herald

At their 2022 back-to-school conference in Biloxi, elementary and high school administrators from the Archdiocese of New Orleans were reminded of some simple tools they could use to enhance communication with the three main groups with whom they interact: students, faculty/staff and parents.

“You (as an administrator) must exude what you hope to create,” said Kim Bearden, a 36-year teaching and administrative veteran from Georgia, delivering the conference’s Sept. 20 keynote. “So, if you want enthusiastic, joyful learners, then you’d better get enthusiastic and joyful! If you want a staff that is kind and supportive and lifts up others, you’ve got to be kind and supportive and lift up others!”

Bearden, the co-founder of The Ron Clark Academy, a non-profit Atlanta middle school renowned for its loving and dynamic learning environment and record of academic excellence, advised the school presidents, principals and assistant principals to resist the tendency to overreact to every negative email that comes their way; to be sensitive to the known – and unknown – stresses a family might be undergoing; and to speak with adults personally or on the phone, rather than communicating with them exclusively by email or text.

“The words you say (to others) are never as important as the sincerity with which you say them,” she said.

#### Open-door policy

Bearden said she encourages



**ADMINISTRATORS' CONFERENCE.** Sr. Nina Vincent (St. Frances Cabrini School), Sr. Sandra Norsworthy (Sacred Heart School, Moreauville), Mr. Allen Warnersdorfer (St. Anthony of Padua School, Bunkie), Mr. Blain Dauzat (St. Mary's Assumption School, Cottonport), Mr. Jason Lachica (St. Mary's School, Natchitoches), Mr. Thomas Roque (Superintendent of Catholic Schools), Mrs. Sylvia Davis (Curriculum Specialist for Middle and High Schools/Administrative Secretary for the Catholic Schools Office), and Mr. Chris Gatlin (Holy Savior Menard High School), pictured above, attended the 54th Administrators' Conference, Sept. 20 - 22 in Biloxi, MS.

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of New Orleans' Office of Catholic Education and Faith Formation, the theme of this year's conference was “Transforming Leadership and Education,” and featured speakers such as Kim Bearden, and Sister Michelle Geiger.

her own parents and faculty to come to her directly when they have a concern, rather than to unproductively discuss the problem with others on or off campus.

“If you can project that you're the kind of person who can take complaints, it goes so far. They just need to feel somebody is listening,” Bearden said, adding that she always thanks people for

coming to her with any critiques or ideas they might have.

The author of three books inspired by her more than three decades of experiences as an educator, Bearden identified a host of “culture killers” in the lives of school administrators – for example, when they fail to speak to staff and smile; when they fail to communicate quickly and clearly after observing a

problem; and when they fail to admit that they don't know an answer.

#### Daily teacher appreciation

She said one of her “game-changing” practices is to “listen first” – a habit she cultivates daily on her campus by going into a random classroom to ask the teacher to “tell me something good” that is happening in class today.

Showing genuine interest in a teacher's daily work and acknowledging his or her achievements is a win-win that fosters mutual respect between the administrator and the faculty member. Proud and self-confident teachers promote a school culture of positivity and learning rather than one mired in negativity, Bearden said.

“Intentionally surround yourself with people who feed your soul,” she urged the school leaders.

Finally, Bearden reminded the administrators that they will never know the full “ripple effect” their vocation will have on students long after they have graduated. Something as small as a hug or taking time to quietly listen to a student's worries just might be remembered by the recipient for years to come.

“It's not what happens to you that defines who you are; it's what happens through you,” Bearden said. “It could be in the millions of lives that have been exponentially affected by yours!”

The annual conference is coordinated by the archdiocesan Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation. Kim Bearden is the author of “Crash Course: The Lessons My Students Taught Me,” “Talk to Me: Find the Right Words to Inspire, Encourage and Get Things Done” and “Fight Song: Six Steps to Passion, Power, Peace and Purpose.”

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## Evening Prayer, All Souls Day - November 2

Please join us for Vespers (Office of the Dead) on All Souls Day, offered for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed, Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 6:00 p.m. in St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Bishop Robert Marshall will preside, and choral music will be provided by the Cathedral choir.

## Forty Hours Devotion in each Deanery - begins November 3-5

As part of our diocesan observance of the National Eucharistic Revival, we have arranged to present the Forty Hours Devotion in each of our four deaneries. This devotion is an opportunity for a community to focus its prayer on the Most Holy Eucharist.

You will be able to sign up for specific hours to participate in adoration as well as schedules of Masses, Liturgy of the Hours celebrations, rosaries, and other periods of public prayer. These will be determined by each location and published in advance.

## Divorce support group - November 3, 10, 17

Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana is sponsoring a group for those experiencing divorce as a part of "Our Lady Queen of Peace Ministry of Healing Life Wounds." Processing loss is an important component to living a more integrated and peaceful life. Join us as we unite together in God's grace and support one another. Each session will be led by trained facilitators and professionals. Sessions will begin Thursday, Sept. 29 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Catholic Center, 4400 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria. Groups will be capped at 15 participants. Registration opens Sept. 1. Visit [www.cccenla.org](http://www.cccenla.org) to register. The cost of the group will be \$50 for nine sessions. Sessions are scheduled for: Nov. 3, Nov. 10, Nov. 17, and Dec. 1. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Silent Directed Retreat - November 3-6

The Diocese of Alexandria will offer a Silent Directed Retreat: *Building Relationship with God*, Nov. 3-6 at Maryhill Renewal Center. A silent directed retreat differs from a "preached" retreat and offers an environment of both inner and outer silence to foster a closer relationship with Christ through prayer, meditation, journaling, adoration, and the sacraments. Discussions with retreatants are confidential. The assigned director will assist you in discerning the movement of God during your prayer and

# DIOCESAN BRIEFS

reflections. All spiritual directors are trained and certified. Space is limited. Cost is \$275, including room and meals. To register please contact Ingrid Cannella 318-792-3331 or [icnewell@yahoo.com](mailto:icnewell@yahoo.com) or Renee Aldridge 318-542-1966 or [renee.aldrige1@gmail.com](mailto:renee.aldrige1@gmail.com).

## Come and See Weekend at St. Joseph Seminary - November 4-6

St. Joseph Abbey Seminary College, Covington is scheduled to have its Fall Come and See weekend from Nov. 4-6. This is a great opportunity for any male 16 years old or older to come and see the seminary campus and what seminary life is like. For more information, please contact the Director of Vocations, Fr. Luke LaFleur at [frllafleur@diocesealex.org](mailto:frllafleur@diocesealex.org).

## National Vocations Awareness Week - November 6-12

National Vocations Awareness Week is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. If you are interested in becoming a priest, please contact Fr. Luke LaFleur at [frllafleur@diocesealex.org](mailto:frllafleur@diocesealex.org).

## Native American Mass - November 9

Please join us for Holy Mass in Thanksgiving for Native American Heritage Month on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral with Bishop Robert Marshall as principal celebrant for this Holy Mass. All are welcome to attend, and we encourage all Native Americans to wear their regalia.

## Marriage Prep Day (Pre-Cana) - November 12

Pre-Cana Day of Reflection for Engaged Couples will be held at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria on Saturday, Nov. 12 beginning at 8:00 a.m. in Ducote Hall. The day will include a series of presentations on the

theology of marriage, prayer and communication, financial management, sexual ethics and family planning, as well as panel discussion and Q&A. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Cost is \$50 per couple. To register please call Emily Ann at 318-448-3333 or Michelle at 318-445-4588.

## Holy Savior Menard Open House - November 15

Holy Savior Menard in Alexandria will host an Open House during Discover Catholic Schools Week. All prospective 7th-12th grade students and parents are invited Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 5:30 p.m. Come meet students and faculty, tour the campus, and explore the many opportunities at HSM. Email [tcrooks@holysaviormenard.com](mailto:tcrooks@holysaviormenard.com) or call 318-445-8233 with any questions.

## Day of Recollection - November 12

The Carmelite Community of Alexandria will host a DAY of RECOLLECTION on November 12 at Maryhill Renewal Center. Father Ryan Humphries will present talks on "Stress, Anxiety, and the Practical Spiritual Life in our Times". More information will be sent to those who would like to attend. Contact Mary Jo McCoy at (318) 346-6860 or (318) 481-9638.

## Christ the King Procession - November 20

A Christ the King Eucharistic Procession will take place at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria on Sunday, Nov. 20 following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The route will go the entire city block around the parish and school. In the event of inclement weather, we will have the Eucharistic Benediction only in place of the full procession. Please invite your friends. For more information, contact Fr. Thomas Kennedy at [frtkennedy@diocesealex.org](mailto:frtkennedy@diocesealex.org).

## 2nd Annual March for Life, Natchitoches - January 28, 2023

The Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Church and St. Mary's Catholic School will host the second annual Natchitoches March for Life on Saturday, January 28, 2023. The keynote speaker for the event will be Abby Johnson, an outspoken pro-life advocate and author of the book, *Unplanned*. The Josh Blakesley Band will perform prior to the Rally and March. The day will begin at 10:00 a.m. on the riverbank stage in downtown Natchitoches.

## Church Today News Deadlines

**November 28**  
Deadline for news:  
**Thursday, Nov. 17**

**December 26**  
Deadline for news:  
**Thursday, Dec. 15**



Emile P. Oestrieche, III, CPA

Anne M. Oestrieche, CPA, CFP®

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# November 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>OCTOBER 31</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Guide to Devotions</b> 6:30 p.m. OLPS Madonna Room  <b>Study on the Saints</b> 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph, St. Joseph, LA  <b>Evening Prayer</b> 6:00 p.m. Cathedral	<b>3</b> <b>Blue Mass</b> 12:05 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral  <b>Divorce Support Group</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Ctr.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Forty Hours Devotion -- St. Anthony of Padua, Bunkie		40 Hours Devotion -- St. Francis Xavier Cathedral			Come and See Weekend -- St. Joseph Seminary	
ALL SAINTS DAY Holy Day of Obligation PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM		ALL SOULS DAY PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE		FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR FR. B. DESHAUTELLE		PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Guide to Devotions</b> 6:30 p.m. OLPS Madonna Room  <b>Native American Mass</b> 6:00 p.m. Cathedral	<b>10</b> <b>Divorce Support Group</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Ctr.  <b>Heart of Kateri Circle Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Tekakwitha Center	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Pre-Cana Day</b> 8:00 a.m., Cabrini  <b>Post-abortive Healing Support Group</b> 10:00 a.m. Location TBA  <b>Day of Recollection</b> Maryhill	<b>13</b>
PRAY FOR FR. A. DHARMARAJ		PRAY FOR DCN. D. DUBROC		PRAY FOR DCN. W. ENDRIS		PRAY FOR DCN. L. FELDKAMP
National Vocations Awareness Week						
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Guide to Devotions</b> 6:30 p.m. OLPS Madonna Room  <b>Study on the Saints</b> 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph, St. Joseph, LA	<b>17</b> <b>Divorce Support Group</b> 5:30-6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Ctr.	<b>18</b> <b>Divine Mercy Hour</b> 3:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Moreauville	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Christ the King Procession</b> 10:30 a.m. OLPS, Alexandria  SOLEMNITY of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING of the UNIVERSE PRAY FOR FR. D. HART
PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON		PRAY FOR DCN. L. GLANKLER		PRAY FOR DCN. M. GUIDRY		
Novena for the Solemnity of Christ the King						
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Guide to Devotions</b> 6:30 p.m., OLPS Madonna Room  <b>Study on the Saints</b> 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph, St. Joseph, LA	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
PRAY FOR FR. J. HASIEBER	PRAY FOR FR. R. HUMPHRIES	PRAY FOR FR. H. IMAMSHAH	THANKSGIVING DAY PRAY FOR FR. R. JOHNSON	PRAY FOR DCN. S. JONES	PRAY FOR FR. T. KENNEDY	PRAY FOR FR. P. KULIGOWSKI
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>DECEMBER 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
PRAY FOR FR. P. KUNNUMPURAM	iGiveCatholic Giving Tuesday VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville PRAY FOR FR. L. LAFLEUR	Guide to Devotions 6:30 p.m. OLPS Madonna Room PRAY FOR FR. M. LAIRD	PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL	FIRST FRIDAY PRAY FOR FR. P. LAPALME	FIRST SATURDAY PRAY FOR DCN. J. LAVERGNE	2nd Sunday of Advent PRAY FOR DCN. G. LEBLANC

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