

CHURCH TODAY

Volume LIV, No. 10

www.diocesealex.org

Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

October 23, 2023

There is joy in giving!

Manna House prepares for annual Thanksgiving Day meal for those who may otherwise go hungry. To see how you can help, go to page 15.



INSIDE

Brunch with the Bishop honors Diocese of Alexandria community members

Brunch with the Bishop will be held Nov. 4, and will honor 4 with service awards, and 1 special recipient with a humanitarian award. See pages 4 and 5 for more information.

Annual Bishop's Golf Tournament benefits Seminarian Education Fund

The Annual Bishop's Golf Tournament was held at Oakwing Golf Course in Alexandria on Monday, Oct. 9. Thank you to all of our sponsors! See pages 10 and 11 or visit www.diocesealex.org for pictures from the event.

Discover Catholic Schools Week Nov. 12-18, 2023

Discover Catholic Schools Week is dedicated to help schools connect with prospective families, donors, educators, and other community members. See pages 16 and 17 for more updates from our amazing Catholic school students and youth ministries.

INDEX

Diocese News..... 2
 National / World News3
 Features..... 4
 Vocations and Burses 8
 Picture Spread..... 10
 Social Justice12
 Multicultural 13
 Features..... 14
 Schools / Youth..... 16
 Diocesan Briefs 18
 Calendar 19



ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH ROSARY. On Wednesday, Oct. 4, St. Augustine Church youth (Cane River) began celebrating the month of the rosary by reciting the rosary gathered around the Blessed Mother statue in front of the church.



ST. EDWARD CHURCH ROSARY. On Saturday Oct. 14, St. Edward Church in Fishville celebrated the month of the rosary by reciting the rosary gathered at the church.

CHURCH TODAY



Volume LIV, No. 10
 October 23, 2023

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

Publisher:
 Most. Rev. Robert Marshall
 Publication Manager / Editor:
 Cari Terracina, ext. 255,
 cterracina@diocesealex.org
 Multimedia Manager /
 Advertising:
 Joan Ferguson, ext. 264;
 joanferguson@diocesealex.org
 Circulation: Sandi Tarver, ext. 209;
 starver@diocesealex.org

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

The office is located at 4400 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria, LA 71303. Periodicals postage paid at Alexandria, LA.

Postmaster:
 Send address changes to The CHURCH TODAY, P. O. Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306
 Website: www.diocesealex.org
 To receive a free subscription, call 318-445-6424, ext 255 or e-mail starver@diocesealex.org

Job Opening: Manna House Line Cook

Have a passion for cooking, making a difference in lives of others and teamwork? We are hiring! Line Cook position, 3 days per week. Contact us for more details: (318) 445-9053.

Job Opening:

Steubenville South Administrative Assistant

Steubenville South is hiring a part-time Administrative Assistant. If you're an enthusiastic communicator, problem-solver, and passionate about Steubenville South's mission, we want you!

See steubenvillesouth.com for the full job posting, or email your Cover Letter and Resume to info@steubenvillesouth.com by Nov. 3, 2023. We're eager to welcome you aboard in early December!

YOU GET IT ALL AT

SAYES
OFFICE SUPPLY

WWW.SAYESOFFICE.COM

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

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

mark your calendars | Giving Tuesday: Nov. 28

Ask your church parish or favorite organization how you can best support them this holiday season.

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.

Cars for a Cause Car Show - Oct. 28

Join us for the 1st Annual Cars for a Cause Car Show on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Holy Savior Menard High School. Car show winners are determined by voting among car registrants. All makes and models of cars and trucks are welcome. Entry fee is \$25 and includes one entry and a t-shirt. For more information contact Council3200@yahoo.com or Mike Jeansonne at (318) 277-1270 or Tim Ledet at (318) 624-1611 or Craig Campo at (318) 613-4461. Sponsored by the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Knights of Columbus Bishop Van de Ven Council #3200. All proceeds will support KC Charities.

In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

Psalm 131 | Responsorial Psalm for November 5 | Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jerusalem church leaders call for peace following deadly Hamas attack

By Judith Sudilovsky
Our Sunday Visitor



ISRAELI ATTACKS IN GAZA. Smoke rises following Israeli strikes in Gaza, Oct. 7. The strikes were in retaliation after Hamas breached Israeli security along the Gaza border at dawn and entered border communities amidst a barrage of over 2,000 rockets that reached into Jerusalem and the Tel Aviv. (OSV News photo/Mohammed Salem, Reuters).

JERUSALEM (OSV News) — Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem united in a call for peace and justice amid unfolding violence, following a surprise attack by Hamas in southern Israel, which has left around 600 Israelis dead, among them civilians and dozens of soldiers and police who were killed battling the Hamas fighters. Over 2,000 people were injured.

Fears of a ground invasion of Gaza are growing after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened to turn the besieged Palestinian enclave into a “deserted island,” while the latest reported death toll of Palestinians is 313. Thousands of people in Palestinian territories are injured in Israeli airstrikes, which began hours following the Hamas attack.

“The Holy Land, a place sacred to countless millions around the world, is currently mired in violence and suffering due to the prolonged political conflict and the lamentable absence of justice and respect for human rights,” The Patriarchs and Head of the Churches in Jerusalem said in an Oct. 7 joint statement.

As custodians of the Christian faith, the Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches said they “stand in solidarity with the people of this region, who are enduring the devastating consequences of continued strife.”

“We unequivocally condemn any acts that target civilians, regardless of their nationality, ethnicity or faith,” said the Patriarchs, among them Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Cardinal Pizzaballa expressed “condemnation” and great concern in an Oct. 7 interview with the Italian Catholic daily newspaper *Avvenire*.

The Latin Patriarchate announced the postponement of all ceremonies to honor the newly created cardinal due to the current situation. The patriarchate also called for all Oct. 8 Masses to be offered for the intention of a ceasefire and an end to the “ongoing war in the Holy Land to prevent further bloodshed, shattering of lives and burial of hopes.”

“May all religious leaders

work to calm the situation and calm down the spirits. In short, let no one throw fuel on the fire. And I hope for prayers for peace. And already today we will carry out an initiative in this sense in all our churches,” Cardinal Pizzaballa told *Avvenire*.

The attack took place under the barrage of thousands of rocket attacks, which were largely intercepted by the Israeli Iron Dome defense system.

Hamas breached Israel’s security gate in the early morning Oct. 7 and infiltrated dozens of Israel border communities, killing people in their cars and homes and taking others hostage, including several elderly people, a mother with her two preschool-aged daughters, young people and foreign workers. Soldiers were also taken hostage. Social media videos showed captives and bodies of dead Israelis paraded through the streets of Gaza.

The attack took place on the Jewish holiday of Simchat Torah, which marks the completion of the annual cycle of reading the Torah scroll. The attack also fell a day after the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the 1973 War, which began with a surprise attack on Israel by a coalition of Arab states led by Egypt and Syria on Yom Kippur, Judaism’s holiest day of the year.

The attack follows a year of increasing violence from both settlers and the Israel Defense

Forces after the election of Israel’s far-right nationalist government.

After the Israeli army and police gathered forces and responded to the attack, the Associated Press reported that Israeli Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari told reporters “hundreds of terrorists” have been killed and dozens captured.

In the Italian newspaper interview, the reporter noted Cardinal Pizzaballa’s pain at the violence and concern that it would escalate because of the captive Israelis.

“The extension of the attack. And the fact that there are many Israelis kidnapped, civilians too. These are decidedly new elements, also taking into account the context of great mistrust that exists. Of course, I hope I’m wrong, but I fear that the situation will get even worse. There will be retaliation for retaliation,” he said.

An Oct. 7 U.S. Department of Defense press release said U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III had spoken with Gallant by phone and had conveyed his condolences “for the victims of this appalling, abhorrent terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel,” and emphasized his “ironclad support for the Israeli Defense Forces and the Israeli people.”

“He also reaffirmed that the Department’s commitment to Israel’s security and its absolute right to defend itself from acts of terrorism is unwavering,” the

release said.

Israeli politician and former Knesset member Dov Khenin, who served with the left-wing Joint List party, called for moderation on both sides and urged for a change of direction in an Oct. 7 Facebook post.

“Today’s events are heartbreaking. A terrible attack on civilians in their homes is an inconceivable crime,” he said. “The next days will be trying days. We must not let people who want us to hate each other forever (succeed). ... Without a changing of direction we are doomed to continue living the horrors of today. Two nations live in our country, and if we can’t allow them a life of freedom and independence we will never be

able to go to sleep in peace. It won’t be easy and won’t happen soon, but only true peace can bring us the security, which is so lacking.”

The Patriarchs and Head of the Churches said that it is their “fervent hope and prayer” that all parties involved “will heed this call for an immediate cessation of violence.” They also called for dialogue “seeking lasting solutions that promote justice, peace, and reconciliation for the people of this land, who have endured the burdens of conflict for far too long.”

Judith Sudilovsky writes for OSV News from Jerusalem.

Please visit www.diocesealex.org, the Diocese of Alexandria on Facebook, or your church parish’s website for the most up to date information on ministries, parish activities, and service opportunities.

YOU ARE A SPIRIT YOU HAVE A SOUL AND YOU LIVE IN A BODY

by Marcus Descant, Leesville, LA

The Soul

If we could only see the soul,
I’m sure it would be a sight to behold.

At the moment of conception,
The soul was given to us without exception.

The Soul, a gift from God to everyone,
Even to the unborn, the little one.

The soul is also brightly white
But the sins of man can put it to flight.

So, if we confess our sins, and change
our ways,
We can be sure of eternal life in heaven
one day.

lizdescant@gmail.com

Advertisement paid for by Marcus Descant

Mr. Graham Kramer – 2023 St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award Honoree



MR. GRAHAM KRAMER, 2023 St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award Honoree.

Mr. Kramer and Mayor Jacques Roy, Fr. Chad Partain, Fr. James Ferguson, Fr. Kenneth Michiels, Fr. Craig Scott, Msgr. Bruce Miller and Mr. Jim Villard.

Graham Kramer was born July 10, 1939, the second son of Casper Kramer, Jr. and Virginia Stafford Kramer. Graham was born into an establishment of now five generations of Kramers, of John Kramer and Son, the oldest continuous single family-owned business in Alexandria started in 1875. From a very early age, he came to understand the values of empathy and compassion, and support of the most marginalized among us.

Educated at Providence Academy and Our Lady of Prompt Succor Elementary Schools, Graham was graduated from Menard Memorial High School in 1957, and continued his education at Springhill College in Mobile, Alabama, gaining a degree in Accounting and Philosophy in 1961. In 1966, he completed training at the Dallas Institute of Funeral Service. For four years, Graham served in the United States Navy on the ship the USS Independence; he spent 10 years in the Naval Reserves with the rank of Lt. Colonel.

Graham married Hope Farrar, a woman of extreme grace and talent, in August of 1965 and together they parented two daughters: Leila and Sarah.

Graham and Hope co-wrote

RAPIDES REMEMBERS: 1875 – 1975 – a chronicle of the last 100 years in Central Louisiana celebrating the 100th anniversary of John Kramer & Son.

Hope died in 2004 and Leila died suddenly in 2020. However, Graham was able to transform his grief for his first wife and then his daughter into service establishing grants through the Catholic Foundation of North Central Louisiana to assist in the education of Catholic School children. From Mathematics, to Reading, to the Arts, Graham has continued the legacy of Hope and Leila. Graham married Nell

Shehee of Shreveport in 2007 and their life together has been one of fun, devotion and service. His younger daughter, Sarah, stands beside him as the fifth generation of John Kramer and Sons.

The list of Graham’s service is exhaustive, including membership at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, where he served on the Parish Council and as Parish Council President for a number of years; the Alexandria Serra Club (52 years); and the Catholic Foundation of North Central Louisiana (38 years). His service to the community at

large includes membership in the Rotary Club of Alexandria, the Rapides Parish Arts Council, Kent Plantation House, CENLA Mental Health Association, and Handi-Work Productions, to name a few. Overriding all of this though is Graham’s commitment and generosity to all, and his quiet dedication to the poor and

marginalized, all a testament to his heart of service and with a humility that is rare.

Along with Bishop Robert Marshall, please join us in congratulating and recognizing Mr. Graham Kramer as the 2023 recipient of the St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award from the Diocese of Alexandria.

Lector Formation Workshops Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

November 11
St. Francis de Sales, Echo

November 18
St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

To sign up, please visit:
www.diocesealex.org



Upcoming Retreats:
November 9 - 12
St. Augustine, Isle Breville
Women’s Retreat

November 16 - 19
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville
Women’s Retreat

A list of ACTS Retreat dates can be found at www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/acts/. All retreats are held at Maryhill Renewal Center.

Choosing Kramer Funeral Home means choosing 145 years of compassion, respect, and dignity.

Since no two people are alike, no two funerals should be alike.

We are here for you and your family yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

KRAMER
Funeral Home and Cremation Service
Est 1875
www.KramerFunerals.com 318-445-6311

Brunch with the Bishop, Nov. 4

Diocese to honor 4 with service awards, 1 humanitarian award

Mr. Graham Kramer will be honored as the recipient of the St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award and four others will receive the Diocesan Distinguished Service Award during the 2023 Brunch with the Bishop to be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Country Inn Suites in Pineville.

Brunch with the Bishop is held to recognize people throughout the diocese who volunteer their time and/or talents to their church to and to help others in need.

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$1,000 for a reserved table of 10, or \$750 for a reserved table of 8. To purchase tickets or reserve a table, call (318) 445-6424, ext. 209.

Mr. Don Brevelle is a member

of St. Genevieve Catholic Church in Brouillette. He is retired from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and a U.S. Army veteran. Mr. Brevelle is a member of the Knights of Columbus, is Parish Council President, ACTS Retreat director, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector and Director of CCD.

When asked what doing works of charity means to him, Mr. Brevelle responded: "I hope that others can see what we are doing and want to help spread God's word, following in our footsteps."

Mrs. Betsy Crigler is a member of St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, LA. Mrs. Crigler serves on the parish council, is a

Lector, Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion and a CCD teacher. She is also a member of the Altar Society and volunteers for various events.

When asked what doing works of charity means to her, Mrs. Crigler responded: "I believe we were put on this earth to serve God and others and I feel when someone is in need I should help no matter who the person is. I love 1 John 3:17 – if anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person. Coming from a family of seven, we were taught early on to always help those in need."

Mrs. Elizabeth Kay Dalton

is a member of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Campti. She is a Lector, Trustee, a member of the Parish Pastoral Council, President of the Ladies Auxiliary and a CCD teacher.

When asked what doing works of charity means to her, Mrs. Dalton said: "Works of charity helps me to see God's plans and to help me see how he works in my life and how he accomplishes it through us. It is so humbling and rewarding knowing you are helping others to see the love God has for us who needs his mercy."

At the early age of 12 years old, I was introduced to the Catholic religion and church. I was Protestant and had never

heard of either. The moment I walked into the Nave of the Church, I was overcome with the feeling of reverence present and deserving! What is this, I thought!? I had never experienced this feeling before! I still have this same feeling as I enter the Catholic Church today! It was God's Holy Spirit surrounding me! ... I am very blessed that I am here to do his work and to help others in sharing their lives with Our Lord and God."

Mrs. Belinda Guillory is a member of St. Rita Church in Alexandria. She is a Parish Council member, a Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, chairperson of the Bereavement Committee, past president of the Altar and Rosary Society, choir member, and volunteers for Steubenville South, Wednesday Night Suppers, Sunday collections counter, and various other fund raisers.

When asked what doing works of charity means to her, Mrs. Guillory said: "I am very blessed and thankful to be able to help anyone who is in more need than myself."

I was taught early in life that following the Christian teachings that God lives in each of us, we must have FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE for each other.

Ephesians 2:10 says, 'We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.' We serve and volunteer confidently, knowing that God has prepared the way for us!"



Mr. Don Brevelle
Avoyelles Deanery
Distinguished Service Award



Mrs. Betsy Crigler
Eastern Deanery
Distinguished Service Award



Mrs. Elizabeth Kay Dalton
Natchitoches Deanery
Distinguished Service Award



Mrs. Belinda Guillory
Central Deanery
Distinguished Service Award

FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE **PETER J. LEMOINE** Social Security Disability Law

Offices in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Cottonport

MEMBER: Louisiana State Bar Association, Lafayette Bar Association, Baton Rouge Bar Association, Avoyelles Parish Bar Association, National Organization of Social Security Claimant Representatives,

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

Admitted to Practice: US District Court For Western District, Eastern District, Middle District and US Court of Appeal Fifth Circuit.

(318) 717-1995

*My soul is
thirsting
for you,
O Lord
my God.*

Psalm 63: 2b
Responsorial Psalm
for November 12
Thirty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Maryhill angel statue receives overdue TLC

If you've ever attended a retreat at Maryhill Renewal Center, you are probably familiar with the angel statue in front of the Youth Ministry Complex building on the north side. The statue has provided a serene presence for over 29 years.

But you might not know the story behind the statue. It is dedicated to Miss Brooke Hennigan, a Natchitoches Central High School student who was killed in a car accident in 1994. Brooke had just graduated high school and was ready to begin her next chapter in life attending college when it tragically ended.

Fr. Dan O'Connor wrote this about Brooke in his regular newspaper column for the August 17, 1994 issue of the Church Today:

Through our lives of faith and through the life of the Church, we live symbolically and sacramentally the life, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

We live these realities dimly – as if looking through a mirror, St. Paul tells us – as we prepare for the day when we will live them in their fullness and see God face to face (1 Cor. 13:12).

Sometimes, that day comes much sooner than we expect.

Earlier this month 18-year-old Brooke Hennigan of Natchitoches was tragically killed in a car accident. Brooke, a 1994 graduate of Natchitoches Central High School, was a member



MARYHILL STATUE RECEIVES OVERDUE TLC. A group of Boy Scouts completed a landscaping redesign project surrounding the angel statue in front of the Youth Ministry Complex on the North side of Maryhill Renewal Center. (Photo by Lisa Neely)

of the TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) retreat movement and on the Diocesan Youth Advisory Board.

Through her death, Brooke has encountered Christ in a new and powerful way. She has lived the fullness of Jesus' death and resurrection, sometimes called the paschal mystery.

This mystery, based on true friendship with Christ, is at the heart of the TEC movement and is summed up in the following words of Jesus from the gospel:

"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears

much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their lie in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father with honor" (John 12:24-26).

Brooke sought to serve the Lord in many ways, not the least of which was through the TEC movement, in which teens bring the message of Christ's love and forgiveness to their peers by word and example over a three-day weekend.

She followed the Lord by striving to die to herself each day. As St. Paul writes to Timothy, "If

we have died with him, we will also live with him: (2 Timothy 2:11). Our faith tells us that her life is changed, not ended.

Three weeks before her death, Brooke attended a TEC reunion. She took part in a skit in which she played a student away at college for the first time; it was to be her real-life role later this month. Her character was tempted by a friend to quit going to church and make her relationship with God less of a priority.

She really played herself. After receiving a listening ear and support from a friend, she not only resisted the temptation to move away from God, but in short order she had convinced the friend who was the source of temptation to go to church with her.

That's the way Brooke was. She had experienced the love, forgiveness and happiness of Christ and she was always helping others to do the same.

Like the seed Jesus talks about which falls to the ground and dies, Brooke's life will continue to bear fruit for the Lord. She will continue to bring others to Christ by her life's impact on her friends and even on those who never met her.

Following Brooke's funeral Mass, after the prayers at the cemetery were concluded, her friends stood in the rain at the side of the grave and sang several songs which Brooke loved and

meant a lot to her, among them the TEC "Blessing Song";

"The Lord let His face shine down upon you

The sun rise up to meet you on your way

The spirit of His love invades the circle of your friends

His vision keeps you changing day by day."

We pray for Brooke that the Lord now sees her face to face as she has been raised up to meet Him. We pray for ourselves that the spirit of God's love invade Brooke's wide circle of friends and continue to inspire us to let His vision change us day by day.

Extraordinary Minister Workshops

February 10, 2024

Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Natchitoches

April 6, 2024

St. Francis de Sales, Echo

July 27, 2024

St. Patrick Church, Ferriday

More information and dates will be available at www.diocesealex.org.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Psalm 128: 1
Responsorial Psalm for November 19
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

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

Website: bakeragproperties.com

We specialize in forest, recreation, and agriculture properties.



KYRLE'S
Seafood & Steak House
MANSURA, LA
318-964-2448



Brigitte Kelso
Owner/Agent
2918 S. MacArthur Dr.
Alexandria, La. 71301

Phone: 318.448.2226
Fax: 318.448.2280
bkello@kelsoinsurance.com

Auto, Home, Recreational Vehicles, Collector Cars, Commercial

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

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

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



BISHOP CELEBRATES MASS WITH OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH, MOREAUVILLE. (Above) On Sunday, Oct. 8, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass with the community of Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Moreauville. Thank you to all for the warm welcome.

BISHOP CELEBRATES MASS AT SACRED HEART CHURCH IN MOREAUVILLE. (Below) On Sunday, Oct. 8, after his visit to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Moreauville. Sacred Heart School's Fall Fest is Oct. 21-22, 2023.



ST. RITA CHURCH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR. Jean Hollier was selected for the Volunteer of the Year for 2023 for St. Rita Parish. She was honored at the Volunteer Luncheon on Sunday, Oct. 8. Jean is a volunteer in ministries such as Sacristan, Bereavement Committee, Choir, Wednesday Evening Meals, Fall Fair, and more. Thank you, Jean, for your dedication!

Hixson-Ducote Funeral Home
Avoyelles Monuments

Ray and Marie Ducote, Owners

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

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for November 2023

For the Pope //

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Petrus
FEED & SEED

2914 N. Bolton Ave. • Alexandria, LA
442-2325

COTTONPORT
CORNER DRUG
and gift boutique

Flu Shots & Vaccinations

Many gifts including large selection of religious items:

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

Follow us on Facebook @ Cottonportcornerdrug.giftboutique

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

NEBLETT, BEARD & ARSENAULT

SEVING LOUISIANA FOR CAR, TRUCK, OFFSHORE ACCIDENTS, WORKERS COMPENSATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIMS.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY ?

318-561-2500 RICHARD J. ARSENAULT ALEXANDRIA, LA WWW.NBALAWFIRM.COM LA-23-14823



NOTRE DAME CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY. Notre Dame Seminary celebrated its 100th Anniversary with a series of events. Bishop Robert Marshall was delighted to attend the Rector's Dinner with five of the seminarians of the Diocese of Alexandria, and with the extended community of educators, alumni and donors who support the ministry of priestly formation. Bishop was joined in the photo above (from left to right) by our seminarians Graham Descant, Jacob Cass, Matthew Bonner, Gabe Dowden, and Blaine Phillips.



OUR LADY OF SORROWS SISTERS RENEW VOWS. On the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Sept. 15, Sr. Sandra Norsworthy and Sr. Kalen Sarmiento renewed their congregational vows during Mass. A light reception was given by the Sacred Heart School faculty, staff, and parents' club. We wish to thank all of the OLS Sisters around the world who have served in Moreauville, for their many years of the continued ministry. Father Brian Seiler gave a blessing to the OLS Sisters.



FATHER DANIEL HART INSTALLED AS PASTOR. St. Mary's of Jena and St. Edward the Confessor of Fishville gathered Saturday evening, September 30 to celebrate Father Daniel Hart's installation as their newest pastor. Father John Pardue, the Dean of the Eastern Deanery, presided over the installation.

Seminarian Burses September 2023 Donations

Knights of Columbus Council #9217	\$25.00
Father Adrian Molenschot Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Silton Innerarity	\$25.00
Father Daniel O'Connor Burse	
Ms. Elizabeth R. Holmes	\$50.00
Father Joshua Burch Burse	
Ms. Elizabeth R. Holmes	\$50.00
Father Daniel Hart Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Marian French	\$100.00
Father Gus Voltz Burse	
Mrs. Mary Lou Thompson	
In Memory of Dr. K. P. Mauterer	\$100.00
Daryl "Pat" Mauterer Burse	
Ms. Patricia Vandersypen-Basco	\$100.00
Jerome and Audrey Vandersypen Burse	
Vocations Club of Natchitoches	\$182.00
Louis Lowrey Burse	
Mrs. Mary Ann Greiner	\$200.00
Robert L. Greiner, Sr. Burse	
Mrs. Mary Ann Greiner	\$300.00
Joseph and Lucy Costantino Burse	
Total	\$1,132.00

A Seminary Burse is an invested sum of money, the interest of which is used in perpetuity to help fund the education of men to the priesthood. A Seminary Burse may be names of anyone - bishop, priests, religious, or lay person - chosen by the original donor, and may be added to and allowed to grow. A burse is completed when it reaches \$15,000.00 but another burse of the same name can be started. Contributions to any of the burses or to establish a new burse should be sent to the

Chancery Office,
Post Office Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306-0417.
--- Very Reverend M. Craig Scott, Chairman

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.

11 prayer for priests



Special thanks to:

**Tarver Land
Development**

sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



A limited liability company

sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:



Member FDIC

sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

Special thanks to:

Lloyd N. Moreau, LLC.

sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament

2023 Bishop's Invitational Golf Tournament

Winners of the tournament



2nd PLACE GROSS AND PEORIA. Bennett Abstract Company: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Billy Bennett, Chris Woodworth, Greg Ikerd and Todd Dubea.



1st PLACE GROSS AND PEORIA. Kramer Funeral Home: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Frank Brame, Corky Yates, Charlie Weems and Bill Carstens.



3rd PLACE GROSS. Tarver Land Development: Pictured with Bishop Robert Marshall are Robby Tarver, Jarred Tarver, Charlie Flynn and Jake Bellino.



3rd PLACE PEORIA. St. Anthony of Padua Church, Bunkie: Pictured with Bishop Marshall are A.J. Juneau, Mike Newton, Johnny Riche, Don Meeker.

We're your people.

Being local means supporting great things close to home—and being part of something bigger. At Red River Bank, we don't just appreciate your commitment to the community. We also share it.



RED RIVER BANK

reddriverbank.net • 318-561-4000



Special thanks to:



St. Rita
CATHOLIC CHURCH
the hands and heart of Christ

sponsor of Bishop's Golf Tournament



Thank you to
all of our sponsors!

Platinum Sponsor

CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital

Gold Chalice Sponsor

Baker Agri-Forest Properties, LLC
Sabine Bank
Kramer Funeral Home
Mutual of America
Lloyd Moreau, Inc.
Red River Bank
Robby Tarver
Coca-Cola
Southern Chevrolet
St. Rita Catholic Church

Team Sponsor

Luhr Crosby, LLC
Priests
St. Anthony Church-Bunkie
Our Lady of Lourdes Church-Winnfield
Luneau & Beck, LLC
Northwestern Hills Golf Course
Bennett Abstract & Title Company
R. J. Dunn
Craig Pujol
St. Mary's Church-Cottonport
Jimmy & Theresa Slater
The Catholic Foundation
Afco Industries
Deacon Divots
Tarver-Walters Nursing, LLC
Knights of Columbus Council # 4156
Sacred Heart Catholic Church-Pineville

Silver Sponsor

Afco Industries
Faircloth Chiropractic Clinic
Y-Not Stop
Jeffrey Seiler, DDS

Hole Sponsor

Finney Pediatric Dentistry
Payne, Moore & Herrington, LLP
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church-Tioga
Trustland Properties, LLC
St. Rita Catholic Church-Alexandria
St. Juliana Catholic Church-Alexandria

Additional Sponsors

Mr. and Mrs. Ben St. Romain
Serra Club
St. Frances Cabrini Church
Watkins Group
Preston Jones Dentistry, LLC
Kinetix Broadband
Gold Law Firm
Mr. Gary DeBlieux

see you next year!

The Annual Bishop's Invitational Golf Tournament was held at Oakwing Golf Course in Alexandria on Monday, October 9.

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

View more photos on the photo galleries at www.diocesealex.org.



BISHOP'S GOLF TOURNAMENT. Bishop Robert Marshall with some of the seminarians of the Diocese of Alexandria. Left to right: Blaine Phillips, Graham Descant, Bishop Marshall, Jacob Cass and Gabe Dowden.

Special thanks to our
**Bishop's Invitational Golf Tournament
Platinum Sponsor:**



'Gift of Life Banquet' draws rave reviews

By Bob Tompkins
Guest Contributor

The fifth annual Gift of Life Banquet featured Leah Darrow, a former model for "America's Next Top Model (ANTM)," as its featured speaker last month, but the Cenla Pregnancy Center's top fundraising event with more than 900 guests at the Ned Randolph Riverfront Centre featured more than that.

"If anyone who came to the banquet had any doubts that what we do at this center is centered on love, you couldn't have walked away from the banquet without knowing that," said Kim Lyons, the CPC's executive director, "especially after hearing our client's testimony."

A client who had once visited the pregnancy center and still chose to have an abortion returned a second time after another pregnancy. She testified how she was so moved by the compassion she found there, how she felt loved and not judged for her previous decision, and how the staff at the CPC helped her through a successful pregnancy while helping her find her way to the Lord.

It set the tone for a night when Darrow told how, as a professional model, she received a short, compelling message from God during an international photo shoot when she was 25 years old.

Darrow was part of the ANTM show hosted by Tyra Banks in 2004. After she was eliminated from the competition, she decided to pursue a career in modeling in New York City.

"I was having a career that everyone said I should go for," she

says, "yet I realized how incredibly unhappy I was." She wasn't free. She felt she was chained to a non-stop schedule, following orders all the time to do this, do that, go here, go there. She'd mask her pain with obligatory smiles.

"As I'm blinking after a flash of a Polaroid camera, I saw a shadowy profile of a man's face," she says, noting the man took her hands in his and spoke five words to her: "I made you for more."

She says she heard the message "I made you for more" five times, concluding, "God speaks simple truths."

With that, she decided to quit and walk away, saying she didn't want this lifestyle anymore. Convinced God came to her in the photo shoot with a message she couldn't deny, she walked – a long walk -- back to her apartment. Crying, and alone, and desperate, she decided to call her father.

"I called him, and he answered the phone," she said, "and I told him, 'Dad, if you don't come get me, I'm going to lose my soul.' There was a long pause, and he said, 'OK, baby, I'm coming to get you.' He then drove 2,000 miles to pick me up."

What makes that willingness of her father to sacrifice his time and gas money to agree to her request is that Leah, at the time, was the wayward child among her siblings, the one who they feared might die young from who knows what. She had strayed from her faith. She was like a lost sheep.

While her father was hastily packing for the trip, her mother gave him some words to say to Leah when they met: "You say you want to go home? Well, Jesus is home. If you want to



GIFT OF LIFE BANQUET HELD TO BENEFIT CENLA PREGNANCY CENTER. Leah Darrow was the featured speaker at the Gift of Life Banquet in September, hosted by the Cenla Pregnancy Center.

go anywhere else, you can call Southwest Airlines. If she says no, kiss her on the forehead and come home alone."

Darrow, a Catholic speaker, wife and mother of six children, lives with her family on an 80-acre farm in the small town of Fordland, Missouri.

"I had somebody to call, to hear me and nudge me in the right direction," she says. "Having someone to call can be an absolute game changer. What you have here

at this pregnancy center – and at pregnancy centers across the country – is a person on the other end of that call. What a blessing it is to pick up the phone!"

After the banquet, Darrow said she was impressed with her experience at the center and the banquet and was happy to revisit Louisiana since her husband is from New Orleans, according to Lyons, who received generally positive feedback from people who attended the banquet.

"Almost everything I heard was positive," she said. "I heard before and after how much people appreciated a plated meal, and how that meal was phenomenal." That was a reference to the steak dinner catered by Rob and Christine Antoon and Sam Brocato. There was also praise for some 100 volunteer workers, the venue and the décor.

The event netted just under \$203,000 for the CPC, compared to \$187,000 last year. This was the third year for the event to be at the Riverfront Centre.

The main branch of the Cenla Pregnancy Center is in Alexandria (near the corner of MacArthur Drive and Jackson Street Extension), with two satellite centers in Marksville (115 Ferdinand Street) and Vidalia (4951 Hwy 84 West). It provides a variety of services for anyone with an unplanned pregnancy. Call the CPC at (318) 314-3061

Upcoming VIRTUS Sessions

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Center,
ALEXANDRIA

Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6:00 p.m.
Minor Basilica of the
Immaculate Conception,
NATCHITOCHES

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

LEGLUE NISSAN INC.

**NEW & USED CARS •
SALES • SERVICE • PARTS**

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



visit us at
DESPINOTIRE.COM



Catholic Charities welcomes interns

Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana is thankful to have social work interns from local universities work with us to provide services to the people of our Diocese. Their required field placement in a social service organization is part of their formation as future social workers. A world of gratitude is extended to these young ladies, their universities, and their

field placement directors, for trusting Catholic Charities with the formation of social work professionals.

Georgia Fannin, BSW student at LCU, shares her reflections on her internship:

“In the Social Work program at Louisiana Christian University, students must complete an internship to further their knowledge, experience, and



Georgia Fannin



Madison Smith

as interviewing, documentation, case management, and resource connection. My experience with Catholic Charities is way more than I ever thought it would be. The learning experience has been phenomenal, and I know I will be very prepared with knowledge and learned experiences to be a successful Social Worker whenever I graduate.”

May God continue to bless Catholic Charities with amazing young students and may He bless their development as professionals in service to individuals, organizations, and communities!

networking skills. Interning at Catholic Charities has allowed me to build upon these and so much more. Most internships allow students insight into only one level of social work, but Catholic Charities exposes their interns to all: micro, mezzo, and macro. This means I am learning to work with individuals, small groups, and the community!

Meeting with individuals for Basic Needs has allowed me a deeper understanding of our community’s needs. To me, these one-on-one appointments have been the greatest learning experience because I am able to practice so many values of social work such as service, social justice, and helping clients realize their inherent dignity and worth given by the Father.

My interpersonal skills as a social worker have been sharpened so much already during my short time interning at Catholic Charities. This work is preparing me to interact with individuals of sparse demographics and to treat them

each as individuals deserving of love and care.”

Madison Smith, BSW student at NSU, provides this summary:

“As Social Work students at Northwestern State University, we must complete a field placement internship to graduate with our bachelor’s degree. Whenever I decided to pursue my degree in Social Work, I had a plan to enter the mental health field. I have always had an interest in the mental health field, but it wasn’t until I came to Catholic Charities did my mind begin to shift in another direction. My internship with Catholic Charities has opened my eyes to a different side of social work I never saw myself doing. Catholic Charities has taught me so much. It has made it possible for me to put what I have learned in my social work classes into action. Through our work with basic needs, I have acquired abilities that I will be able to use in any Social Work field I decide to go into. It has taught me skills such

Raffle Fundraiser for Catholic Charities Drawing November 16

Catholic Charities is having a Raffle Fundraiser. All proceeds benefit Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana Programs (Mental Health, Basic Needs and Disaster Relief).

Tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00. The raffle will be drawn on November 16, 2023.

1st prize: Handcrafted Farmhouse table with two benches

2nd prize: Paragon Casino Overnight Package

3rd prize: Gift Card Basket

Please contact Heidi Wampler to purchase raffle tickets. 445-2401 ext. 510 or hwampler@cccenla.org

YOUR COMMUNITY STORES

Refueling & Refreshing Communities Since 1970

WWW.YNOTSTOP.COM

TERRY’S D.J. SERVICE
Music & Light Show
Country, Rock, Zydeco, Oldies, Rap

The Cajun D.J.
Terry Laborde
(318) 253-8949
Cell (318) 305-7186
E-mail: terrylaborde77@gmail.com

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

Certified Gemologists
Registered Jewelers

Under the clocktower
Schnack's
FINE JEWELRY
Established 1865
1438 Dorchester Drive
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301-3408
www.schnacks.com

American Gem Society

SABINE STATE BANK
& Trust Company
Member FDIC

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

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

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.

Visit the sign-up form at www.diocesealex.org, or email starver@diocesealex.org with your name and mailing address to receive the Church Today FREE of charge!

From Kandahar to TMIY for three Cenla Army men

By Bob Tompkins
Guest Contributor

Three men from central Louisiana who served in the same Army medical evacuation company in Afghanistan are in the same small faith-sharing group on Tuesday mornings.

Clint Giglio, Ron Cole and Matt Raines, who were part of the same Louisiana National Guard platoons in Operation Enduring Freedom in 2019, are no longer dodging bullets in flights over Kandahar.

Clint, 31, a native of Bunkie and Northwestern State graduate, retired from the military last spring after 13 years of service and is using his military experience as a civilian air evac pilot. His paternal grandfather fought in Korea. He's married and has two daughters.

Ron, 43, a native of Deville, is a Blackhawk pilot with 25 years of service, having joined the Army immediately after graduating from Buckeye High School in 1998. He's a few credits shy of receiving a bachelor's degree from Louisiana Tech.

Matt, 35, a Deville native and 2007 graduate of Grace Christian, is a flight medic. Military life is seemingly in his DNA as the son of parents who both served in the Army. One brother is in basic training, and another is an Air Force officer in Germany. He is married with

four children.

These three military guys have found themselves together in the same small faith sharing group at the weekly Catholic men's ministry, "That Man Is You (TMIY)," hosted by Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria. Although this is the second year of the ministry at OLPS, this is the first time all three are together. Clint was the first to join at the start of the program last fall, and he got Ron to come aboard last spring. Matt, who made a Cenla ACTS retreat in August with Ron, joined the group for the start of this semester.

TMIY is a Catholic-directed program (originating in Texas) open to those of any faith or no faith. There is no admission charge. There are more than 850 TMIY classes produced by "Paradisus Dei" across the nation.

It's a testament to the program's appeal that an average of 59 men of various ages attended the first three meetings that start at 6 a.m. on Tuesdays (first half hour is social, second half hour is a video presentation from one of a handful of dynamic speakers and the third half hour is for the small group sharing.)

The presentations combine research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to "develop the vision of a man fully alive," and the goal is to



"THAT MAN IS YOU" MINISTRY AT OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR IN ALEXANDRIA. Three LA National Guardsmen who served together in Afghanistan find motivation to learn more about the Catholic faith during men's program at OLPS Church. Left to right: Matt Raines, Clinton Giglio, Ron Cole.

form men who will be capable of transforming homes and societies. Independent research by a faith advisor to the Gallup Poll identified TMIY, which has spread across the country as one of the most life transforming

programs ever developed.

Matt, whose faith has been mostly with Assemblies of God, has started the OCIA process for adults who want to become Catholic. "I married a Catholic and saw how much it meant

to her," he said, noting he was motivated to do so by a desire to nurture a stronger faith in God.

"It's hard to put into words what I've experienced through this," said Clinton. "Just watching 'The Chosen,' for example, it made me crave that relationship the apostles had with Jesus, and that friendship. A lot of people don't understand the Catholic faith. They see it as maybe superstitious stuff, but it is so much deeper. There's so much to learn about it, and I want that for others."

Ron, who said he appreciated the "spark" that the Cenla August Men's ACTS retreat gave his faith, is looking forward to being part of a "different work dynamic" with his two Army buddies at TMIY. Matt made the ACTS retreat with him, and he said it answered some questions he had about the Catholic faith but triggered even more questions he wants answered.

"In the Army," Ron said, Matt's life was in my hands, and my life was in his hands, just as Clint's life was in my hands and my life was in his hands. Now we're completely independent of each other, but I anticipate this new dynamic will be instrumental in our future faith-sharing discussions."

Anyone interested in joining TMIY or getting more information can call Steve Gauthier at 318-308-3699.

Budget Blinds
a style for every point of view™

Custom Window Coverings
Shutters • Draperies • Blinds

Huge selection of the best brands!

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

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

Signature Series • Lafayette Interior Fashions
Exterior Window Screens

BU'S PIZZA HOUSE

COMPARE QUALITY - TASTE - QUANTITY - PRICE
WE DELIVER!
WITHIN LIMITED AREA • CHECKS ACCEPTABLE

Everything from cheese to our "Full House"

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

VALUABLE COUPON

Two Medium Pizzas \$22.99
Single Topping only

Additional Toppings Extra • Not valid with any other coupon
All prices subject to change

Expires 11/27/23

NEBLETT, BEARD & ARSENAULT

Need Social Security Disability Benefits?

561-2500

NBALawFirm.com

Richard J. Arsenault 2220 Bonaventure Court, Alexandria

Manna House prepares for Annual Thanksgiving Meal

With Fr. Gerard Foley leading the way, Manna House officially opened its doors on Tuesday, May 1, 1990. Nineteen people came to eat this day, and by the end of the month 4,512 meals had been served.

What started as a simple answer to God's calling to service has lived on, serving the poorest of our community for over 33 years.

Father Foley wrote a letter to his congregation in January, 1990:

"How often have you and I heard the words from scripture, 'When I was Hungry, you gave me food, and when I was thirsty, you gave me drink,' and wondered how we could adequately perform this work of mercy?"

I believe the Lord is calling us as His people to look into the feasibility of establishing a place where hungry people can come, and with dignity, receive a meal to

fill their empty stomachs and love to warm their weary hearts.

I have had moments of doubt and fear: maybe this is too big a thing for us to undertake; maybe there really aren't that many hungry and lonely people in our community; there aren't other organizations doing this, why am I getting involved? I don't have enough time or money to contribute.

In those quiet, lonely moments the Lord says, 'But who will do it if you don't?'... and MY response has to be, 'Here I am, Lord.'"

The work continues. Manna House is open 365 days a year, including Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Year's Day, serving 8,700 meals per month.

All of these years later, Manna House still continues to operate on the generosity of volunteers

and local contributions to banish hunger in central Louisiana.

Fr. Foley's vision still lives.

As Manna House's annual Thanksgiving meal for the needy in our community is a way of not only feeding those who are hungry, but also to show kindness and support to those who are feeling the pain of poverty and misfortune. We are asking for your assistance to feed those in our community who might otherwise go hungry on Thanksgiving Day. Your gift will make a difference for those who need it most.

To make a tax-deductible donation online – givetomannahouse.com or scan

our QR code:



Or by check mailed to:

Manna House
P.O. Box 6011

Alexandria, La. 71307

Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of so many in our community. Thank you for your generous support!



THE SAINTS

God chose certain people
From the earth,
To imitate Him
Through Jesus's birth.

The saints grew in grace
By suffering much pain,
Their love for God
Gave them much to gain.

Since Jesus's birth
They grew in love,
Hoping one day to be
With Him in heaven above.

We can pray
And follow their way,
Knowing it will lead us
To God one day.

So, if you kneel down and pray
And ask for His grace,
Like the saints, you will meet Him
One day face to face.

lizdescant@gmail.com
Advertisement paid for by Marcus Descant



Silent Carmelite Retreat November 10-12 Maryhill Renewal Center

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelite Community of Alexandria is hosting a Silent Carmelite Retreat at Maryhill Renewal Center, northside.

The theme is "The Face of God" with presenter Fr. Bill John Melancon, OCDS.

Check in time is Friday, Nov. 10 at 3:00 p.m.

For more information or to register:

Contact Mary Jo McCoy at
(318) 346-6860 or (318) 481-9638

B.K. ROOFING, LLC

Call the Pros!
Residential Roofing Experts

www.bkroofingllc.com

Brian Maddox, Owner
13 years experience

Licensed & insured • References available

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

Free estimates!
Most estimates in 2 days

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

318-201-9065

17 Glade St. • Pineville, LA 71460

Emergency
service
available



*The Lord
is my shepherd;
there is nothing
I shall want.*

Psalm 23: 1 |
Responsorial Psalm
for November 26
The Solemnity
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe



BETA LEADERSHIP SUMMIT. St. Joseph's Senior BETA Club participated for the first time in the National BETA Club's Regional Leadership Summit on Sept. 27, at the Cajun Dome in Lafayette. St. Joseph's Senior BETA Club sponsor, Mrs. Casey Carnicle, and six club members represented not only their club, but the gift of Catholic education spectacularly. Students in attendance



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: The Virtue of the Month for September was Charity. Students from St. Mary's Catholic School



ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL IN PLAUCHEVILLE recognized its student-athletes on Wednesday, Oct. 4, presenting letterman jackets to students who participated in a sport for a minimum of two years. Students (all juniors) recognized this year



ST. FRANCES CABRINI SCHOOL SMARTLAB. Tuesday, Oct. 10, Bishop Robert Marshall was pleased to attend the ribbon cutting of the new SmartLab at St. Frances Cabrini School in Alexandria. It is great to see that our students are learning to use and understand the latest technology. Thank you to Father Chad Partain, Sr. Nina Vincent, OLS, and the Cabrini School community for their welcome.



save the dates:

beyond the limits jr. high conference
December 2-3, 2023

steubenville south conference:
June 21-23, 2024

more information coming soon at
steubenvillesouth.com

We're hiring! Look for information on a part-time position in the Steubenville South Office at steubenvillesouth.com

LUMBER MILLWORK **Jeansonne's Millworks & Cabinet Shop**
 * Architectural Millwork
 * Custom Cabinets & Moulding
 Phone 445-5665 * FAX 445-5276
 GUY JEANSONNE Owner 1843 Sterkx Road Alexandria, LA 71301

Listen to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on
KLIL 92.1 **KZLG 95.9**
8 a.m. Sunday Mass **7 a.m. Sunday Mass**

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

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

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

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



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR 6TH GRADE RETREAT. Thursday, Sept. 28, the Holy Savior Menard MAC Team hosted the 6th grade retreat at Our Lady of Prompt Succor School. The students had a wonderful time with them and learned a lot about the MAC team's motto, "He must increase, I must decrease," John 3:30. They then had adoration and Father Thomas Kennedy stopped by for a Q&A with the 6th graders.



LUNCH AT THE CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER ON LSU-ALEXANDRIA CAMPUS. Knights of Columbus Council #3200 from St. Francis Xavier Cathedral cooked and served lunch at the Catholic Student Center on the LSU-Alexandria campus.



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL. OLPS held their annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 7 on the school's campus. It was a great day of food fellowship and fun. Thank you to all of the volunteers and to the Knights of Columbus 8029: Our Lady of Prompt Succor for all of their cooking to feed the crowds.



LUNCH AT THE CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER ON LSU-ALEXANDRIA CAMPUS. Knights of Columbus Council #1217 prepared and served hamburgers to the LSU-Alexandria students, faculty, and staff on Sept. 20, at the Catholic Center. Pictured with the Knights are Amelia Bordelon, Campus Ministry Coordinator, and Father Luke Lafleur, Chaplain.

**Autumn Awareness
Community
Connections
Saturday, Nov. 11**

Please join us on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a fun family day at the Cenla Pregnancy Center, 1254 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, for community resources, face painting, pumpkin photo station, coloring contest, door prizes. The event is free. Bring the kids!

Campus Ministry:

LSU of Alexandria:
Catholic Student Organization,
318-447-2956

Northwestern State University
Catholic Student Organization
FOCUS Ministries:
<https://nscatholic.org/focus>
evan.morley@focus.org

Louisiana College:
Catholic Student Organization,
318-447-2956



(formerly Panda Restaurant)

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

*Dine in or Take out . . . order from our extensive menu
or enjoy our all-you-can-eat buffet.*

CLOSED TUESDAYS

Lunch: Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m. - 3:30 pm.

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

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

PEST AID CO.

We Sell
Do-It-Yourself
Pest Control
Supplies



Termites • Ants
Ticks • Roaches
Mice • Fleas

COMPLETE TERMITE & PEST CONTROL.
Home Owned & Operated • Raymond J. Constantino, Sr.

473-0228
pestaiddrbellsouth.net
www.pestaideola.com
2828 Jackson St. • Alexandria, LA



Silent Directed Retreat for Everyone - Nov. 2-5

The Diocese of Alexandria is hosting a silent retreat, "Growing In Holiness," at Maryhill Renewal Center. This retreat is open to all, men and women, 18 or older, who are seeking quiet reflective prayer time. Cost of \$275 includes: private room and meals. A deposit of \$75 and a registration form is required. Limited availability. To register contact Renée Aldridge 318-542-1966 at renee.aldrige1@gmail.com or Ingrid Canella at icnewell@yahoo.com.

Native American Mass - Nov. 3

Please join us on Friday, Nov. 3 as Bishop Robert Marshall celebrates the Native American Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission Church in Forest Hill at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Brunch with the Bishop - Nov. 4

Join us for Brunch with the Bishop on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 10:00 a.m. at Country Inn & Suites, Pineville. Mr. Graham Kramer will be honored with the St. Vincent de Paul Humanitarian Award, along with four other individuals receiving the Diocesan Distinguished Service Award. Table sponsorships available: Platinum Reserved seats 10, \$1,000; Gold Reserved Seats 8, \$750; individual open seating (seating to be determined upon your arrival), \$50 each. For more information, contact Sandi Tarver at 318-445-6424, ext. 209 or starver@diocesealex.org.

St. John the Baptist Church, Cloutierville Mini Fair - Nov. 4-5

Come join us Saturday, Nov. 4 for 4:00 p.m. Mass and Blessing of the Graves immediately following. Mini Fair starts after Mass on the grounds of the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Hall, Cloutierville. Enjoy gumbo, meat pies, tamales, hamburgers, The Sweet Shop, prize bingo, kids' games, and money and basket raffles. On Sunday, Nov. 5 lunch will start being served at 11:00 a.m. Menu includes fried turkey dinners with all the fixings, gumbo, meat pies, tamales, hamburgers, and The Sweet Shop. Prize bingo and kids' games start at 12:00 p.m.

The Blue Mass - Nov. 6

The Blue Mass will be celebrated on Monday, Nov. 6 at 12:05 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. All law enforcement officers, firefighters, and medical emergency providers are invited to attend as the special honored guests. The Mass is also open to the public.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS

Internship in Spiritual Direction Informational Meeting - Nov. 8

There will be two informational meetings on Wednesday, Nov. 8 via ZOOM. The first meeting will be at 10:00 a.m., and repeated again at 6:00 p.m. Trained spiritual director and Intership Instructor, Mike Van Vranken, will facilitate these meetings announcing our next Training Program in Spiritual Direction. Over the years, this program has certified over 200 spiritual directors now serving a number of dioceses in Louisiana. At this meeting we will discuss our program, its purpose, prerequisites, and structure. Learn more by attending one of these informational meetings. To register for the Zoom meetings, visit nolacatholic.org/registration or email archspirctr@arch-no.org, or call 504-861-3254.

Silent Carmelite Retreat - Nov. 10-12

The OCDS Carmelite Community of Alexandria is hosting a Silent Carmelite Retreat at Maryhill Renewal Center, northside. The theme is "The Face of God" with presenter Fr. Bill John Melancon, OCDS. Check in time is Friday, Nov. 10 at 3:00 p.m. Contact Mary Jo McCoy for more information at 318-640-6860 or 318-481-9638.

St. Peter/St. Michael, Bordelonville Church Fair - Nov. 10-12

St. Peter and St. Michael Church in Bordelonville will have their annual fair at the site of the Old Bordelonville High School, Nov. 10-12. Begins Friday night, Nov. 10 with Corn Hole and Volley Ball Tournament. Saturday, Nov. 11: Many games for the children including a large Jupiter Jump and a live auction begins at 5:00 p.m. Good food: crawfish pistolettes, egg rolls, chicken fajitas, hamburgers, pulled pork, funnel cakes, cracklins, jambalaya, lemonade, nachos, and drinks, plus all the great homemade cakes from the Bordelonville area. Live band on Saturday evening following the 4:00 p.m. Mass in the Old Bordelonville High School gym. Sunday, Nov. 12: Cochon de Lait cost: \$13 per plate. Purchase tickets from any Knights of Columbus #12209 member, call the church office at 318-997-2151, or Moreauville Parts House at

318-985-2473, or Bordelonville Waterworks at 318-997-2122. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus #12209.

Menard Open House - Nov. 14

Holy Savior Menard Central High School will hold an Open House at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14 in conjunction with "Discover Catholic Schools Week."

Talk on Charlene Richard - Nov. 15

Join us at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 15 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria as Father Taylor Reynolds presents a talk on Servant of God, Charlene Richard. Fr. Reynolds is a Bunkie native and pastor of St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, LA. Charlene Richard (1947-1959) of Richard, LA, died of leukemia. She accepted her illness for the recovery of others or that others by converted to Catholicism. "The Little Cajun Saint" had the process of her beatification and canonization as a saint opened by the Diocese of Lafayette in 2020. Fr. Reynolds will have books about her and prayer cloths available.

Cookies to Casseroles and In-Between - Nov. 18-19

The St. Frances Cabrini Sanctuary Society will be selling sweets, casseroles, soups, hot tamales, and more on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18 and 19 after all the Masses (Sat. 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.) in the Activities Building (across from the Church). Note: Hot tamales can be pre-ordered by calling Linda Thiels at (318) 729-2658.

Come by and pick up something to add to your Thanksgiving meal.

Christ the King Mass with Eucharistic Procession - Nov. 26

Join us at 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 26 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria for our Annual Christ the King Sunday Mass with Eucharistic Procession. In event of inclement weather, the outdoor procession will be replaced by a period of indoor Adoration and Benediction. Everyone is invited to attend!

Christmas Extravaganza 2023 - Dec. 2

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Dec. 2 for a full day of activities, games for the children, pictures with Santa, Gumbo Cook-off, vendors, concessions, and much more in the Activities Building at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Pineville. For more information call (318) 445-2497.

Church Today News Deadlines

November 27
Deadline for news:
Thursday, Nov. 9

December 25
Deadline for news:
Thursday, Dec. 14



Emile P. Oestriecher, III, CPA

Anne M. Oestriecher, CPA, CFP®

Oestriecher Financial Management Services

Let us help your family pursue your financial goals.

4641 Windermere Place, Alexandria, LA 71303

(318) 448-3556

www.o-fms.com

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC



November 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>OCTOBER 30</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. MICHALCHUK</p>	<p>31</p> <p>HALLOWEEN</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. K. MICHIELS</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 1</p> <p>Sharing Your Faith Series 6:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>Financial Peace Univ. 6:30 p.m. Virtual</p> <p>ALL SAINTS DAY (a Holy Day of Obligation)</p> <p>PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL</p>	<p>2</p> <p>ALL SOULS DAY</p> <p>PRAY FOR MSGR. B. MILLER</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Native American Mass 6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission Church, Forest Hill</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. R. MITCHELL</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Brunch with the Bishop 10:00 a.m. Country Inn and Suites, Pineville</p> <p>St. John the Baptist Mini Fair -- Cloutierville</p> <p>Silent Directed Retreat for Everyone -- Maryhill Renewal Center</p> <p>FIRST SATURDAY</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. MORGAN</p>	<p>5</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. D. MOREAU</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Blue Mass 12:05 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. L. MOREAU</p>	<p>7</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. T. MOULARD</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Spiritual Direction Internship Info Meeting 10:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. via Zoom</p> <p>Sharing Your Faith Series 6:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. MULLOTH</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. NAYAK</p>	<p>10</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. S. NEWBURY</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Autumn Awareness Community Connections 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Cenla Pregnancy Center, Alexandria</p> <p>St. Peter/St. Michael Church Fair -- Bordelonville</p> <p>Silent Carmelite Retreat -- Maryhill Renewal Center</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. M. NOEL</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Discover Catholic Schools Week</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. K. OBIEKWE</p>
<p>13</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. O'BRIEN</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Open House 5:30 p.m. Holy Savior Menard High School</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. O'CONNOR</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Sharing Your Faith Series 6:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>Talk on Charlene Richard 6:30 p.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. OGBONNA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. PALAKKATTUCHIRA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. B. PALLIPARAMBIL</p>	<p>18</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. PALLIPURATH</p>	<p>19</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. PARDUE</p>
DISCOVER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK						
<p>20</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. PARTAIN</p>	<p>21</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. T. PAUL</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Sharing Your Faith Series 6:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. C. PELTO</p>	<p>23</p> <p>THANKSGIVING</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. K. PRIMEAUX</p>	<p>24</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. RABALAIS</p>	<p>25</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. RAY</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Christ the King Mass and Eucharistic Procession 10:30 a.m. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Alexandria</p> <p>SOLEMNITY of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING of the UNIVERSE</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. T. REYNOLDS</p>
<p>27</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. T. ROBICHAUX</p>	<p>28</p> <p>#iGiveCatholic Visit: https://alexandria.igivecatholic.org</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. E. RODRIGUEZ-HERNANDEZ</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Sharing Your Faith Series 6:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. K. SAYES</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. G. SCHUPBACH</p>	<p>DECEMBER 1</p> <p>PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Christmas Extravaganza Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. C. SCOTT</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1st Sunday of Advent</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. B. SEILER</p>

85% of women diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history.



It doesn't just run in the family. Get screened for breast cancer.



**Request a
mammogram
or take your risk
assessment today!**



Family history is just one piece of the puzzle. A mammogram completes the picture for every woman. Make your appointment now.

Your health. Your life. Our purpose.

