



The Job of a Lifetime: Taking the Archbishop's Official Portrait

by Kim Roberts



Photo Credit: Hannah Darcy/Romaguera Photography

As Archbishop Checchio is seated for his formal portrait photo shoot, photographer Ralph Romaguera, Jr. and archdiocesan communications director Sarah McDonald view real time proofs on Romaguera's laptop.

When Ralph Romaguera, Jr., of Romaguera Photography on Metairie Road, received the phone call from Sarah McDonald, archdiocese of New Orleans director of communications, asking if he was available to take the official photograph of the new archbishop, he could hardly believe his ears.

"I am pretty sure I heard every other word after the original ask about the job because I was so honored to be considered for this amazing task," he said. "I was in awe that I would be the one to photograph Archbishop Checchio for his official portrait. I really could not believe it; I am so humbled to be given this opportunity."

"As a practicing Catholic, I have been lucky to be able to work with the archdiocese on other shoots, but this job was truly a dream come true," he said. "To be able to capture a moment in the history of the Archdiocese of New Orleans is something I will always remember. Anything I can do to assist the church and further my faith is important to me and my family."

Romaguera's day-to-day work includes photographing several Catholic and faith-based schools from Lafayette to Pensacola as well as family and business shoots. "I believe God should always be in the classroom as part of the process and that's why I like taking the school pictures," he said. "When I received the call from Sarah for this job and I sat down and started breathing again, I called my father, Ralph Sr., and said 'Dude we have something special to photograph.'"

Romaguera and his father have been working together in the family photography business for 40 years with junior starting his career at the ripe age of 13 shooting weddings with his father. "The art of photography has always been important to us," he said. "I wanted everything to be perfect for this shoot with the archbishop, (see **PORTRAIT** p. 15)

THE CLARION HERALD

7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125
(504) 596-3035
clarionherald@clarionherald.org
http://clarionherald.org



Archbishop James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Publisher
Sarah C. McDonald
Executive Editor
Kim Roberts
Content Development Associate/
Staff Writer

The Archdiocese of New Orleans has zero tolerance for abuse. God has chosen you to protect his children. If you have cause to believe a minor has been abused, contact the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (1-855-452-5437) or local law enforcement.



Honoring faith and traditions.

Each one of us is unique and deserves to be remembered in a special way. The professionals at Lake Lawn Metairie are dedicated to honoring the little details that make each of us unique and irreplaceable. Let us help you create a meaningful service that honors the Catholic beliefs, customs and traditions you cherish.



A Dignity Memorial® Provider

5100 Pontchartrain Blvd. | New Orleans

(504) 486-6331

LakeLawnMetairie.com



Photo Credit: Chris Wiseman

Archbishop Checchio stands at the Baptismal font at St. Louis Cathedral with the candidates and catechumens from the cathedral parish preparing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 4.

From Holy Week to Easter: Reflections from the Archbishop



Most Reverend James F. CHECCHIO, JCD, MBA
Archbishop of New Orleans

Blessed Easter to everyone! This is truly a season of joy and hope as we move towards the Feast of Pentecost.

What a blessed Holy Week and beautiful celebration of Easter! From Palm Sunday Masses, to the beautiful Chrism Mass and Triduum, the live Via Crucis with our school children, the delicious Gumbo and enjoyable visit at Dooky Chase's, to the Nine Church Walk on Good Friday, all of Holy Week was such an uplifting time for me as we accompanied Jesus on His way to Calvary and finally participated in His glorious resurrection! Yes, He is truly Risen and He has risen for you and me! What wonderful, beautiful traditions we have here in the archdiocese and it was so nice to participate in them with so many of you. Thank you to all who made this Holy Week so special. In particular, how grateful we are in the Archdiocese to welcome almost 800 new converts who joined the Church this Easter. I'm told it is the largest number of converts in our history! What a beautiful sign of renewal and so grateful for this.

Then on Divine Mercy Sunday, we began our archdiocesan-wide preparation for the consecration to the Sacred Heart this June. In the nine weeks leading up to the consecration, all of our parishes have been asked to pray in preparation for this important moment of grace. I encourage each of you to take part as fully as you are able – especially through prayer at Mass. This act of consecration continues a long

and beautiful tradition in our local Church as we ask the Lord to guide and strengthen us today. As we continue this Easter season, this is another way for us to turn anew to our Lord for His protection and love.

Now, looking back a bit further I want to share some reflections from a very beautiful experience on my trip to Rome. We went to meet with our Holy Father, Pope Leo in his private library. It was a heart warming experience too, as he generously spent 35 minutes with our delegation from New Orleans. It is still hard to believe that we have an American Pope! I had been blessed to have meetings there before with Pope Francis and Pope Benedict on a number of occasions while serving in Rome, but to have the Pope speak English as his native tongue and to be so familiar with what is going on in our country and Church here in the US, is truly amazing. I think he will be able to guide us in our work of evangelization, preaching and shepherding in ways that will greatly assist us.

The Holy Father's connection with us here in New Orleans runs deep. Pope Leo's fourth great-grandfather, Pedro Dionisio Panquinet, served as a sexton in the colonial parish of St. Louis which would become our cathedral. Along a parallel ancestral line, his fourth great-grandmother, Maria Catalina Guesnon Morales, who died in childbirth, rests with her premature infant just beneath our Cathedral. The Pope's great-grandmother, Eugenie Grambois, was baptized in our current baptismal font in St. Louis Cathedral on January 8, 1840. Her parents, Eugene Grambois and Odile Coppel, were among the faithful who brought their child to that sacred font, joining generations of New Orleans families whose faith was formed in that holy place. His maternal grandparents, Joseph and Louise Martinez, made their home in the French Quarter, residing at the Upper

Pontalba Building on St. Peter Street, overlooking Jackson Square – in the very shadow of our Cathedral where his family's faith took root. The Holy Father spoke to us about his grandparents and parents sharing stories about New Orleans and about subsequent visits here.

We are certainly proud to have the first American Pope in Leo XIV! And proud that his family called New Orleans home for 200 years. During our visit last week, he was grateful for the spiritual bouquet we took to Rome with us in which you all showed him our love, prayers and support, and he was so grateful for that.

We had three requests of our Holy Father as part of our meeting. As part of our capital campaign and restoration of St. Louis Cathedral, "Our City, our Cathedral", we asked if we could name a renovated space in the current rectory to be the Pope Leo XIV Center for Evangelization to honor him and his family's heritage here. He gave us permission!

Our hope is to use the renovated space to help tourists become pilgrims, where Catholics can deepen their faith and friendship with Jesus and others can learn more about Him. Our second ask was to assist with the canonization of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos and beatification of Henriette Delille. The Holy Father was very interested in both of these and you can't help but wonder what his family's interactions were with these two holy people! Our third ask was that he come visit us! So please join in praying that these requests will all become realities for us.

I think the Holy Father is prepared well for his role in our times. The three pillars of the Augustinian order are Unity, Truth and Love. Pope Leo has embodied these in his life and ministry, being an Augustinian and their major (see [CHECCHIO](#) p. 17)

The Archbishop's Schedule

Saturday, April 18 - 10:30 a.m. - Annual soccer game – Notre Dame Seminary vs. St. Joseph Seminary College, Rummel High School Field, Metairie

Saturday, April 18 - Hope and Purpose Ministries Gathering, Divine Mercy Church, Kenner

Saturday, April 18 - 4 p.m. Mass, Immaculate Conception Church, New Orleans

Sunday, April 19 - 10 a.m. Mass, St. Peter Claver Church, New Orleans

Sunday, April 19 - 4 p.m. Mass, St. Benilde Church, Metairie

Sunday, April 19 - 6:15 p.m. Opening Reception, National Association of Church Personnel Administrators Convocation, New Orleans

Monday, April 20 - 10:45 AM. Mass, St. Paul High School with St. Scholastica, Covington

Tuesday, April 21 - 10 a.m. College of Consultors Meeting, private event

Wednesday, April 22 - 9 a.m. Listen Teach Send Workshop, Notre Dame Seminary

Sunday, April 26 - May 3 Travel to Rome for Papal Foundation Pilgrimage and meetings



Photo Credit: Frank J. Methe

Archbishop Checchio blesses the oils and Sacred Chrism that will be used in all parishes of the Archdiocese of New Orleans this year at the Chrism Mass on March 31.

Personalized care in the comfort of home.



Personalized and trusted in-home care for aging adults.

- Personalized Care
- Alzheimer's & Dementia Care
- Hospice Support
- Chronic Illness Care
- Home Helper
- 24hr & Live-in Care



504.455.4911
homeinstead.com/339

Each Home Instead® office is an independently owned and operated franchise of Home Instead, Inc., an Honor company. © 2025 Home Instead, Inc.

The Spirituality of Aging

by Becky Goff

Aging is often described in terms of what is lost - productivity or physical capacity. Yet within the Christian tradition, it is understood as a time of profound spiritual invitation. If we are attentive, the later years of life can become a season not of diminishment, but of deepening. The urgency to prove oneself begins to fall away, and many find themselves with more time as the responsibilities of career and raising a family ease. With time comes perspective – and a quieter freedom. This stage of life invites a shift from doing to being. One begins to ask more essential questions: What truly matters? Where is God inviting me now?

Over time, many discover that their greatest gift is not productivity alone, but presence – in the ability to be attentive to the moment and to the person before them. Mature adults often carry a deeper capacity for patience, for listening without needing to fix and for remaining with another in a steady, compassionate way.

This is the practice of accompaniment. To accompany another is not to solve or direct, but to walk alongside – to reflect God’s abiding love. In a world marked by speed and distraction, the willingness to slow down and be with another becomes a profound expression of care.

And in a beautiful reciprocity, this practice becomes a path for one’s own spiritual growth. In being present to others, we more readily recognize Christ in them and God’s presence and grace in daily life. Relationships deepen, and fellowship takes on new meaning as shared sacred space.

In the Ignatian tradition, this stage of life is especially rich with possibility. The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) offers a path for mature adults to live this spirituality in a concrete way. Through its spiritual programs, Service Corps



Photo Credit: IVC



Or call 504-264-3438

Members are supported with:

- Discernment tools that deepen awareness of how God is calling them now
- Placement with a partner agency where, for 8 or 16 hours per week, they serve those experiencing poverty in assignments aligned with their skills and experience
- Prayer resources, text study, one-on-one spiritual direction and group reflection and retreats to deepen the meaning of their service
- Fellowship and mutual support within a community of like-minded individuals seeking to live this stage of life with purpose and faith.

At IVC, aging is not an ending, but a calling – an invitation to live with greater depth, presence and love.

Becky Goff is Region Director of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps – New Orleans, where she connects retired professionals with meaningful service opportunities that support nonprofits addressing poverty and social justice. She is passionate about fostering purpose-driven engagement and community for retirees through Ignatian spirituality.

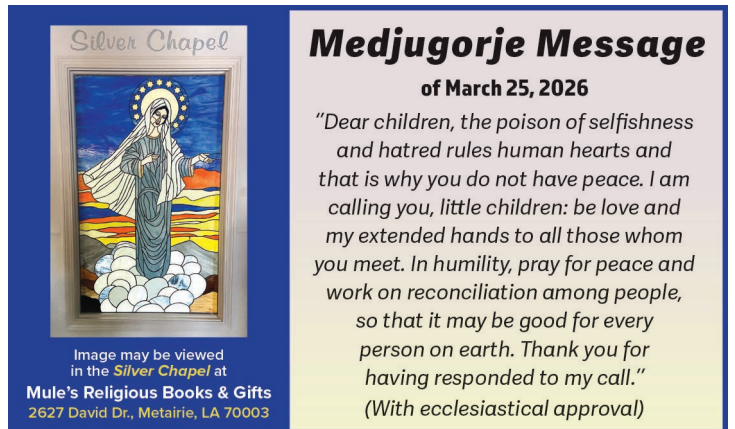


Mule's Religious Books & Gifts, Inc.
(Founded 1973)

Gold Baby Medals & Crucifixes

Tues. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

2627 David Drive, Metairie, LA 70003
504-889-1708
mulesreligious@att.net



Medjugorje Message
of March 25, 2026

“Dear children, the poison of selfishness and hatred rules human hearts and that is why you do not have peace. I am calling you, little children: be love and my extended hands to all those whom you meet. In humility, pray for peace and work on reconciliation among people, so that it may be good for every person on earth. Thank you for having responded to my call.”
(With ecclesiastical approval)

Image may be viewed in the *Silver Chapel* at Mule's Religious Books & Gifts 2627 David Dr., Metairie, LA 70003



THE BASILICA OF ST. STEPHEN
1025 Napoleon Ave. – Seats 700



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH
1307 Louisiana Ave. – Seats 500



ST. HENRY CHURCH
803 General Pershing St. – Seats 300

The Basilica of St. Stephen ❖ Our Lady of Good Counsel Church ❖ St. Henry Church

Three Historic Churches For Your Wedding Beyond Compare

Your wedding ~ Your perfect choice in New Orleans
A trio of beautiful Garden District and Uptown Catholic Churches

For more information • Contact Ivy Rohr, Sacramental Coordinator • 504-899-1378

GoodShepherdParishNOLA.com

PRINCIPAL POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Cletus Catholic School - Gretna, Louisiana

SCHOOL PROFILE:

St. Cletus Catholic School is seeking a dynamic leader who will foster a strong Catholic environment which places our faith in every aspect of school while overseeing the school's financial needs, operational vitality, academics, and governance. St. Cletus was founded in 1978, and has served the spiritual, academic, and physical education needs of its students ever since. St. Cletus educates approximately 350 students between Prek3 through 12th grade.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The ideal candidate possesses the following qualifications and experience:

- Be a practicing Catholic
- Holds a graduate-level degree in a field of Education or related discipline (School Administration preferred)
- Minimum of five years of leadership experience preferred

SALARY: Based on qualifications and experience **CLOSING DATE:** Applications accepted until **April 24, 2026**

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Submit an Administrator Application form, résumé, references, transcripts and three current letters of recommendations
 - a. The Administrator Application form may be downloaded from the **Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation** website as follows:
 - Go to noladceff.org website
 - Click on tab "Career"
 - Click "Administrator Application"
 - b. Submit three **current** letters of recommendation
 - Current Pastor who can attest to moral character and parish involvement
 - Someone who can attest to prior teaching experience
 - Someone who can attest to educational administrative ability
2. Submit the above and any additional supporting materials to:



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS
Catholic Education and Faith Formation

CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION

Mike Buras, Associate Superintendent

mburas@arch-no.org

7887 Walmsley Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125-3496

Partnership Brings Carmelite Opera to Old Ursuline Convent

by Kim Roberts

A new partnership brought the beauty of the art of the opera to the French Quarter recently as the Catholic Cultural Center and the New Orleans Opera Association came together to present Francis Poulenc's "Dialogue des Carmélites" at the end of March. The performances were part of the New Orleans Opera Association's Opera Festival and were presented as part of the Janice Foulks Catholic Culture Series, in the St. Mary Chapel at the Old Ursuline Convent Museum located at 1112 Chartres St. in New Orleans.

Originally "Dialogue des Carmélites" was slated for four performances at St. Mary's Chapel, but the last one was replaced with another musical as part of a pilgrimage organized by the Opera Association inspired by the Nine Church Walk.

"The partnership came about when I was sitting by myself in my office on a hot August day last summer," said Chris Wiseman, executive director Catholic Cultural Center New Orleans, St. Louis Cathedral and Old Ursuline Convent Museum. "I received a call from a woman I never met before, Lila Palmer, and she said she was the artistic director of the New Orleans Opera Association and asked if she could stop by because she had an idea. Within an hour she, her husband and young child were on site with me."

Palmer said she had done the Nine Church Walk the previous spring and was inspired by the convent and thought, "we have to bring an opera here, we have to bring the opera to the streets of New Orleans because the city was the first place of opera music in North America."

"The idea to host an opera started with that spontaneous first meeting and not long after we sat down with our rector Father Pat Williams and shared the vision to make the convent more active in the city and showcase faith, beauty and truth, and leave the city with a sense of wonder. Things took off quickly from there," Wiseman said.

"Dialogue des Carmélites" is an opera from the early 20th century which has been performed many times before in other parts of the country. Our own Sarah Jane McMahan Briscoe, St. Louis Cathedral cantor and director of music, has even performed the lead over the years," Wiseman said. "We thought this opera would be a perfect fit for the Cultural Center since it is a former convent, the Carmelites have a rich history in the city and New Orleans has cultural and historical ties to France."

Directed by Valentina Ceschi and conducted



Courtesy of the New Orleans Opera Association

The cast of "Dialogue des Carmélites" perform in the sanctuary of St. Mary's Chapel at the Old Ursuline Convent Museum. The orchestra can be seen behind and flanking the vocalists.

by Joshua Anand Slate, the opera is based on the true story of 16 Carmelite sisters executed during the French Revolution for their refusal to renounce their vows or disband. They are arrested as enemies of the state and condemned to death by guillotine.

According to the Catholic Cultural Center, the themes of conscience and courage align strongly with the Catholic cultural tradition, as well as the Catholic Cultural Center's mission of highlighting beauty and creativity within our city and our faith community.

"More than 1,000 audience members came through the Old Ursuline Convent for the sold-out performances," said Wiseman. "Working with the Opera Festival has been a wonderful partnership in sharing the story of our sites and getting the Catholic Cultural Center of New Orleans active on the cultural map of the city."

He added, that to his knowledge, this is the first time the site has hosted an opera and an event with such an elaborate set up. "There were a lot of logistics involved with the performances," he said. "Our small staff worked incredibly hard for rehearsals, set up and tech aspects and the opera staff could not have been easier to work with. They were so respectful of the space and the fact that we are a consecrated church of St. Mary's."

Very minimal changes were made to the space to accommodate the performances – a small riser was added to the front of the church so everyone could better view the show and a bit of extra lighting needed to be added. "The opera staff were just so happy with the

acoustics of the church," Wiseman said. "They wanted to have as light a touch as possible with the site and that is what they did."

Performances took place in the aisle and front of church with the last act bringing everyone outside near the garden for the climax of the show, the tragic executions complete with an actual guillotine.

"We are happy we can provide a ministry for a wider population while staying true to the mission of the church through the Cultural Series. The Catholic Church has been a patron of the arts since almost the beginning and we want to continue that in a contemporary way now," Wiseman said. "We are in early talks for future events that include staged plays, poetry readings, music and even culinary events to reflect the broad base of culture of the city. We are interested in events that promote community building and encourage those participating to hear the Holy Spirit."

Founded in 2004 as the Catholic Cultural Heritage Center, the Catholic Cultural Center of New Orleans creates programs, exhibits and experiences that educate, inspire and deepen people's attention to culture, heritage, truth, beauty and faith. Located in the heart of the historic French Quarter, the CCCNO includes the Old Ursuline Convent Museum and St. Louis Cathedral, two of the oldest and most significant religious and cultural landmarks in the United States.

For more information on the Catholic Cultural Center and upcoming events in the Janice Foulks Catholic Culture Series, please visit www.stlouis cathedral.org/catholic-cultural-center-of-new-orleans.

Little Wonders: Easter is a Season of Joy!

by **Betty-Ann Hickey**
Office of Worship

When we think about Easter, we often think about just one very special Sunday. But did you know Easter is actually a whole season?

In fact, Easter is such an important celebration that one day just isn't enough! That is why the Church celebrates Easter for 50 whole days.

Easter Sunday is just the beginning. It is the first day of the Easter Octave. An octave means eight days. During these eight days, the Church celebrates each day like a little Easter Sunday. That means we are still celebrating Jesus rising from the dead with the same joy as on Easter Sunday.

In Italy, the day after Easter has a special name: "Pasquetta," which means "Little Easter." Sometimes it is called "Angel Monday" to remember how the angel told the women at the tomb that Jesus was risen." On this day, families often spend time together outside. Many have picnics



Easter Vigil Mass at Most Holy Trinity, Covington, Photo credit: Betty-Ann Hickey

or cookouts and enjoy being together. It is a joyful way to keep celebrating the Resurrection.

During the Easter season, we also remember something very important. After Jesus rose from the dead, he did not immediately go to heaven. Instead, he stayed with his apostles for 50 days. During this time, Jesus helped them understand that he was truly alive.

He talked with them, ate with them, and taught them. Imagine how happy the apostles must have felt seeing Jesus again! They learned to trust him even more and prepared for the mission he would give them.

At the end of the 50 days, Jesus returned to heaven in an event we call the Ascension. But he did not leave his friends alone. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to help them, and he promises to be with us too.

Easter reminds us that Jesus is alive, He loves us, and he wants us to live with joy. So when Easter Sunday is over, remember the celebration is not finished. It has only just begun! One easy way to keep celebrating the Easter season is by adding "Amen. Alleluia!" to the end of your prayers. That means "I believe. Praise the Lord."

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

BEGIN YOUR
**FOREVER
HERE** at **ST. AGNES
CHURCH**

NOW BOOKING WEDDINGS FOR 2026 & 2027



St. Agnes Church is a beautiful, sacred space to **celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony**. Our faith community would be honored to share in your special day and help you prepare a **meaningful, prayerful celebration**.

Wedding Coordinator Provided • Bride's Room
Convenient Off Street Parking
Reserve Early!

St. Agnes Church - Old Jefferson
3310 Jefferson Highway,
Jefferson, LA 70121

Rectory Office (For bookings or info)
504-833-3366 | parish@stagnesjefferson.org
stagnesjefferson.org/weddings.html



Holy Name of Jesus Church Weddings

6367 St. Charles Avenue
* Free Parking Garage for Guests *

(504) 865-7430

www.hnjchurch.org



HOLY NAME of JESUS CHURCH

A Community for Others

Henriette Delille's Legacy Comes Alive Through Institute



The participants in the 2025 Venerable Henriette Delille Institute pose in front of St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans. St. Mary's has hosted the summer institute for the past five years to encourage young women to live inspired by the legacy of Venerable Henriette Delille.

by Kim Roberts

For the past five summers, St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans has been preparing youth leaders to think critically, live Christian values, give their time in service and act responsibly through the Venerable Henriette Delille Youth Leadership Institute. The thought-provoking four-day program held in June draws 30–50 young women locally and from around the country hailing from states including New York, Mississippi and Alabama to name a few.

The summer institute was named in honor of the school's foundress, Venerable Henriette Delille who, according to school leadership was known as a "born leader possessing vision and determination to change the world in her local community." She was a native New Orleanian, who founded the Sisters of the Holy Family and her goal was to have access and equality for all people.

"The program is held on St. Mary's campus June 15-18 from 9 a.m.–3 p.m.," said Sasha Bourne, St. Mary's director of communications. "Applications are due by May 15. To qualify to participate, young ladies must be rising eighth–twelfth grade students, have a minimum 2.5 GPA and hold a current, previous or future leadership role at their school, church or a community organization."

The institute is offered free to participants. Organizers hope each girl leaves empowered as youth to define their role in the community as servant leaders.

Tamiko Massey-Haynes, St. Mary's director of strategic initiatives and admissions, said, "The institute is open to the community and each year we have an array of students that attend. We want to build leaders. This is also a way for us to honor our foundress and her leadership ability."

"She set the example for taking care of the

marginalized, poor and orphaned by starting the school and leading the young women when she started the Sisters of the Holy Family," she added. "This is what we want our young leaders to take away from these four days." During the daily sessions, the students learn about communication, social media, speaking and marketing. They conclude with a capstone project centered on creating an idea to take and use in their community or school – something they can see through from beginning to end. The sessions are led by former students and student leaders; St. Mary's Academy administration including Head of School Pamela Rogers; and Sisters of the Holy Family.

"We put women in front of the girls so they can see women leaders," Massey-Haynes said. "Young alums are able to connect with them on a personal level."

Bourne added that most of the students say their favorite part of the institute is working on (see [INSTITUTE](#) p. 17)

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE INTERNATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. JUDE

2026 SPRING NOVENA APRIL 25TH – MAY 3RD

Theme: Easter Is a Living, Active Event • Guest Speaker: Fr. Tom Ovalle, OMI

Schedule of Devotions

Saturday, April 25th and Saturday, May 2nd

7:00 AM Mass and Novena • 12:00 PM (LIVE STREAM) Mass and Novena
4:00 PM Mass and Novena

Sunday, April 26th and Sunday, May 3rd

7:30 AM Mass and Novena • 9:30 AM (LIVE STREAM) Mass and Novena
11:30 AM Mass and Novena • 1:30 PM (Spanish) Mass and Novena
6:00 PM Mass and Novena

Monday-Friday April 27th-May 1st

7:00 AM Mass and Novena • 12:00 PM (LIVE STREAM) Mass and Novena

Anointing of the Sick after each Mass on Friday. Homily is given during each Mass and the Novena immediately after the Mass.

Even though we remember Easter as a past event, we celebrate it as a present event in which God continues to work in and through us. No matter what our past looks like, God wants to meet us in the present moment to transform our future.

Fr. Tom is a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate. He is a native Texan and will be celebrating his 50th year in religious ministry and his 49th year of priestly ministry during this solemn Novena.

He has been a pastor, high school teacher, campus minister and retreat house director. Currently he is ministering at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas-working with seasoned clergy and religious men and women who are taking a four-month sabbatical.

Fr. Tom is no stranger to the Pelican State and the Crescent City, he was campus minister at LSU in Baton Rouge in the late 1980s. This will be his fifth time preaching at the St. Jude's Novena in New Orleans.



St. Jude Shrine - Our Lady of Guadalupe | 411 N. Rampart Street, New Orleans, LA 70112 | www.judeshrine.com | 504-525-1551

Jubilarians Honored For Decades of Ministry

Staff Report

On April 12, Archbishop James Checchio presided over the annual Jubilarian Mass at St. Rita Church in New Orleans. Seventy priests, deacons and religious men and women were honored for their dedicated service in ministry to the people of God. Following Mass, a reception was held at St. Mary's Dominican High School.

80 years

Sr. M. Carolyn Leslie, SSF and Sr. Denis Rodrigue, O.Carm.

75 years

Sr. M. Hilary Daigle, SSF, Sr. Lorraine Landry, SSND and Sr. Beulah Marie Sam, SSF.

70 years

Sr. Gemma Dittle, SSND, Sr. Joyce Hanks, MSC, Sr. Angeline Magro, OP, Sr. Maureen Therese Mueller, SSND, Sr. Agnes Marie Sampia, SSF, Sr. Sylvia Thibodeaux, SSF and Br. Jerry Vincent.

65 years

Sr. Suzanne Anglim, DC, Sr. Kateri Battaglia, MSC, Sr. Elvira Brown, MSC, Br. Gale Condit, FSC, Rev. Msgr. Lanaux J. Rareshide and Br. Bill Ray, FSC.

60 years

Sr. M. Regina Amos, SSF, Rev. Louie Arceneaux, CM, Br. Peter Dudenheffer, FSC, Rev. George Hanna, SDB, Sr. Geneva James, SSF, Rev. Justin Kauchak, OP, Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Massett, Rev. William O'Donnell and Rev. Scott Underwood, OSB.

55 years

Br. John Mai, FSC.

50 years

Rev. Charles Andrus, SSI, Rev. Patrick Gannon, Sr. Rosa Hoang, FMA, Sr. Elizabeth Ann Holmes, SSF, Rev. Robustiano Morgia, Sr. Mary Beth Mouch, MSC, Rev. Michael O'Neill and Sr. Kathy Overmann, DC.

45 years

Br. James Joost, FSC.

40 years

Rev. Alberto Bermudez, Rev. Kenneth G. Davis, OFM Conv., Sr. Christella Emano, SFCC and Rev. Dennis Hayes III.

25 years

Dcn. S. Roberto Angeli, Rev. Charles Benoit, Sr. Catherine Bussen, S.deM., Rev. Basil Burns, OSB, Dcn. David E. Caldero,

Dcn. Larry L. Calvin, Rev. Paul Binh Cao, SDD, Dcn. Cesar C. Carrillo, Dcn. J. Glen Casanova, Dcn. Walfredo Corral, Rev. Kyle Dave, Dcn. Uriel A. Durr, Jr., Dcn. John J. Finn, Dcn. Thomas J. Guntherberg, Dcn. Edward F. Kelley, Br. Peter Le, OSB, Sr. Dorian Salvador Mercado, S.deM., Rev. Nelson O. Ogwuegbu, Rev. John Payne, Rev. Anton Ba Phan, Dcn. Carlos A. Ramirez, Rev. Luis F. Rodriguez, Dcn. Garland J. Roussell, Jr., Dcn. Reginald J. Seymour, Sr., Dcn. Thomas J. St. Pierre, Br. Simon Stubbs, OSB, Rev. Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ, Rev. Hoang M. Tuong and Sr. Maria Sheila Undang, O.Carm.

Find a full coverage of the Jubilee Mass and celebration online at clarionherald.org.

"The Church and the world need men and women consecrated to Jesus to reveal God's presence and his 'great plan of peace and salvation' for humanity."

- Pope Leo XIV



Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church

Original Church Established 1857

Within walking distance to Historic French Quarter and Downtown Hotels

For information access

www.jesuitchurch.net

Julie Vanderbrook
Wedding Coordinator

130 Baronne Street NOLA 70112
504-529-1477



One Parish, two beautiful Historic Landmark Churches

St. Patrick's Church

St. John the Baptist Church

Both Churches in the CBD near the French Quarter, Superdome, Convention Center, Garden District & downtown hotels.

For more information on both churches contact

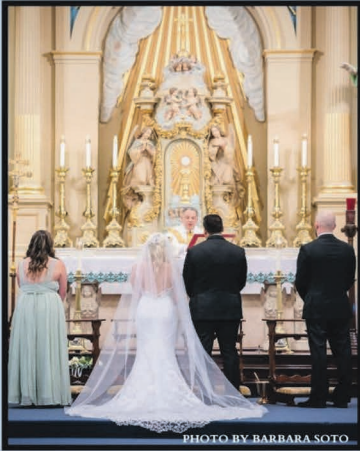
Cheryl Toy

ctoy@arch-no.org 504-525-4413

www.oldstpatricks.org




Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis King of France



St. Louis Cathedral

St. Mary's Church



 (504) 525-9585



STLOUISCATHEDRAL.ORG
OLDURSULINECONVENTMUSEUM.COM



@STLOUISCATHEDRAL
@OLDURSULINECONVENT



@STLOUISCATHEDRAL
@OLDURSULINE_CONVENT

*Please note that due to interior renovations the Cathedral will be closed for weddings from July 1, 2027-January 1, 2029



Beautiful Beginnings

A beautiful large venue with a capacity of 800 in the Lower Garden District.

—OR—

A lovely smaller venue with a capacity of 60-65 people.

Landscaped gardens available for photos.

St. Mary's Assumption Church
923 Josephine Street

St. Mary's Chapel
1516 Jackson Avenue

New Orleans, LA 70130

For obtaining more information, please contact St. Alphonsus Parish office at (504) 522-6748
www.stalphonsusno.com

Soles for Christ Brings Christ's Passion Alive



Staff Report

On Good Friday, April 3, as thousands of pilgrims took to the streets of New Orleans to make the traditional Nine Church Walk, the Center of Jesus the Lord brought Christ's passion to life with their annual Living Way of the Cross. Members of the community gathered at the Center of Jesus the Lord at Our Lady of Good Counsel on Louisiana Avenue and traveled on foot through Uptown and the Garden District acting out the event's of Jesus's last moments.

The Stations of the Cross are portrayed by a live tableau presented by the Emile-Vincent Players. In over 20 years, the Soles walk has grown to nearly 600 participants. As the participants walked through the streets in prayerful reflection, they also repeated "Abound in Hope" and "Reclaim the city of New Orleans for the greater glory of God!" in a public witness of their faith.

To learn more about the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and the Charismatic Community at Center of Jesus the Lord, visit <http://www.centerofjesusthelord-nola.org/>.

*We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.
Because by your Holy Cross,
you have redeemed the world!*



Photo Credits: Center of Jesus the Lord



Stop Dreaming About a Pool. Let's Build Yours.

FREE DESIGN CONSULTATION - CALL TODAY

504-474-6495

reliefpools.com

New Orleans, La

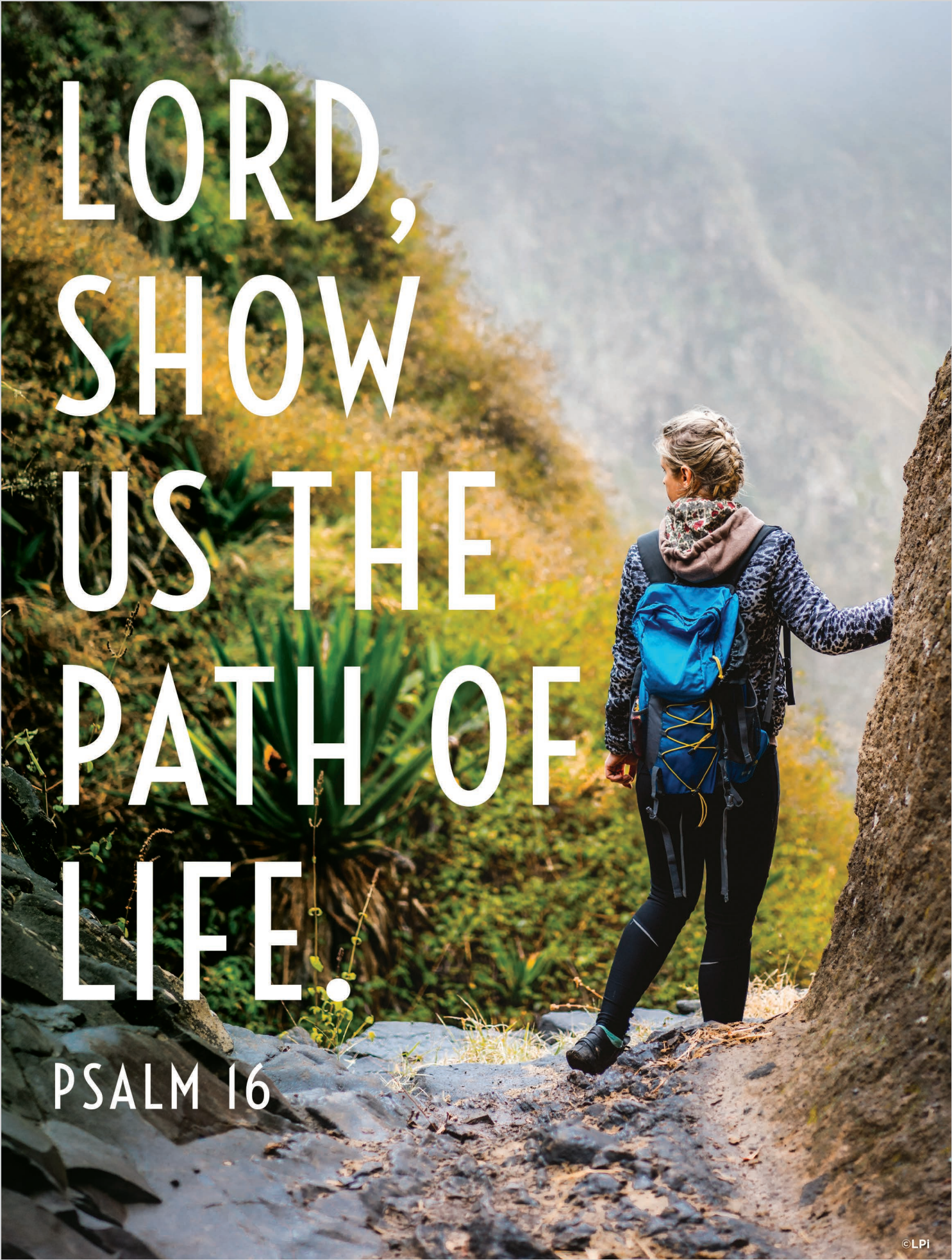
@reliefpools



The Sacred Triduum at St. Louis Cathedral

Scenes from the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil at St. Louis Cathedral. Photo credits : Brandon Briscoe and Chris Wiseman





LORD,
SHOW
US THE
PATH OF
LIFE.

PSALM 16



Above: Archbishop Checchio's official portrait is viewed on Ralph Romaguera, Jr.'s laptop during the photo shoot.

Left: Ralph Romaguera, Jr. and Ralph Romaguera, Sr. make camera equipment adjustments during the March photo shoot at the Archbishop's residence. Romaguera and his father have been working together in the family photography business for 40 years. Romaguera, Jr. described the opportunity to photograph the archbishop for his official portrait as a humbling opportunity and a dream come true.

The new portraits of Archbishop Checchio have been delivered to parishes and are on display now.

Photo Credit: Hannah Darcy/Romaguera Photography

PORTRAIT

it was absolutely not just another job for us. As an artist, to photograph someone like the archbishop who is well known and so important to me as a Catholic is truly special.”

He added that since he and his father have been working together for so long and work so well together on projects, he wanted him by his side for this momentous occasion. “We know what the other person is thinking and I wanted my dad with me to celebrate this high honor. It is a big deal for me,” he said. “I also brought another photographer, Hannah Darcy, to shoot background video and pictures.”

The Romaguera team arrived at the archbishop's residence at 9 a.m. on a crisp March morning to get the lay of the land and begin set up. “I brought so much gear to the residence because I didn't know what to expect and wanted to be ready for anything. The expectations were laid out for us by Sarah; we scouted and chose the location for the portrait and fined tuned everything. The archbishop came down; we talked a little and he expressed some ideas of his own and we got started.” For this shoot, junior was behind the camera

with senior assisting, and the official portrait took about an hour to shoot and was one of three portraits that he requested.

“The first portrait set up I got almost exactly where we wanted it, all up to speed and ready to go before the archbishop came down. The hour preparation before he came down was crucial,” he said. “My dad was next to the archbishop to make sure every bit of his vestment was on point, I was behind the camera checking expressions. We had a lot of eyes on the archbishop and the environment to make a perfect portrait.”

“We started with a few ideas, then the archbishop came in with a few of his own ideas which was nice,” he added. “I love getting client feedback and what their expectations are, so they get what they want, and we can exceed their expectations.”

The official portrait of Archbishop Checchio is very similar, but also slightly different than past archbishop official portraits. “I wanted to capture his personality and as an artist I got to do somethings a little different, I wasn't boxed in but was clear what had to be exactly the same as past portraits and where I had leeway to do something a little different. For example, I knew having the chair in the shoot was important.”

Romaguera added, “As we were progressing on the portrait shoot you could tell he was becoming more relaxed and his personality really came out. What I found for him that helped him relax was holding his prayer book and this was amazing, something that was important to him that he wanted in the portrait. Once we did this his expression lightened up and his eyes lit up, it was awesome watching him and seeing how important his prayer book is to him.” He is excited for the archbishop to see the final product and for the portraits to be displayed across the archdiocese.

“My son keeps asking me, ‘Is there anyone you haven't told that you photographed the archbishop?’” Romaguera said. “I said, I don't know, probably not. The experience with the archbishop was incredible and he was amazing to work with. I have photographed presidential candidates, celebrities, royalty, but this shoot is at the top of my list. The only thing that could possibly equal it is photographing a cardinal, pope or sitting president.”

“Even though my family thinks it is time for me to come back down to Earth, I am super excited with the final outcome of the portrait and this once in a lifetime opportunity,” he concluded.

Jesús se les acercó y comenzó a caminar con ellos



Fr. Manuel
SOLORZANO, O.P.

3er Domingo de Pascua
Lucas 24: 13-35
Abril 19, 2026

Queridos hermanos: Seguimos celebrando la alegría de la Pascua, y la liturgia de hoy nos invita a hacer un camino muy concreto: pasar de la tristeza a la esperanza, de la confusión a la fe, de la distancia al encuentro con Cristo vivo. Las lecturas nos muestran que el Señor Resucitado camina con nosotros, incluso cuando no somos capaces de reconocerlo.

En la primera lectura Pedro, que antes tuvo miedo y negó a Jesús, ahora se levanta con valentía y anuncia que Cristo ha resucitado. La Pascua lo ha transformado completamente. Esto nos muestra que el encuentro con el Resucitado cambia la vida: el temeroso se vuelve valiente, el que dudaba ahora anuncia, el que huyó ahora da testimonio. La fe pascual no es una idea, es una experiencia que nos impulsa a vivir de otra manera.

El salmista hoy aclama: “Enseñanos, Señor, el camino de la vida.” Expresando así la confianza del que ha puesto su vida en manos de Dios. En la Pascua descubrimos que ese sendero es Cristo mismo, que nos conduce de la muerte a la vida, de la oscuridad a la alegría.

San Pedro, el segunda lectura, nos recuerda que hemos sido rescatados no con cosas pasajeras, sino con la sangre de Cristo. Esto significa que nuestra vida tiene un valor inmenso. No vivimos al azar: hemos sido salvados por amor. La Pascua nos invita a vivir con esa conciencia: somos un pueblo redimido, llamado a una vida nueva.

Por su parte, en el evangelio de hoy encontramos el corazón del mensaje de hoy. Los discípulos van caminando tristes, desilusionados, con el corazón lleno de preguntas. Habían puesto su esperanza en Jesús, pero la cruz los desconcertó. Y lo más hermoso es esto: Jesús se acerca y camina con ellos... aunque ellos no lo reconocen. Esto también nos pasa a nosotros: cuando sentimos que Dios está lejos, cuando vivimos momentos de desánimo, cuando nuestra fe se enfría.

El Evangelio nos muestra, entonces, cómo Jesús se deja reconocer:

1. En el camino compartido: Jesús se hace compañero de ruta. La fe no se vive en soledad.
2. En la Palabra: Cuando Él les explica las Escrituras, dicen: “No ardía nuestro corazón?” La Pascua es el tiempo para volver a la Palabra de Dios y dejar que encienda nuestro corazón.
3. En la fracción del pan: Lo reconocen al partir el pan. Es una clara referencia a la Eucaristía.

Cada Misa es Emaús: escuchamos la Palabra, partimos el Pan, y Cristo se nos revela. Y cuando lo reconocen, regresan a Jerusalén. El encuentro con el Resucitado nos convierte en testigos.

Por tanto, las tres lecturas nos muestran un mismo camino: Pedro anuncia con valentía porque ha encontrado al Resucitado. El salmo proclama la alegría del que confía en Dios. Pedro en su carta recuerda que hemos sido salvados por amor. Los discípulos pasan de la tristeza a la misión. Ese es también nuestro camino pascual.

En qué momentos de mi vida me he sentido como los discípulos de Emaús, desanimado o sin esperanza? Dejo que la Palabra de Dios encienda mi corazón? Reconozco a Jesús en la Eucaristía? Mi encuentro con Cristo me impulsa a dar testimonio?

(see **SOLORZANO** p. 17)

Never miss our publication!

Get each new issue delivered straight to your inbox.

Scan to subscribe on
MyCommunityOnline.com





Photo Credit: Chris Wiseman

CHECCHIO

superior. His motto as Holy Father is "In the One (meaning Christ), we are one." These pillars and motto will certainly serve him well as he strives to govern and shepherd the Church in our day. Likewise, his experiences of ministering in Peru for so many years and in Rome, in addition to his American background, make him a global Catholic citizen.

So what a joyful time these past few weeks have been! As we celebrate the Resurrection I encourage all of us to allow this revolutionary truth of Jesus being Risen from the dead to penetrate more deeply into our hearts, minds and souls by allowing us "to be caught up in the mystery."

We must prioritize our friendship with the Risen Christ; meaning we must be people of prayer. During this Easter Season – let us commit to spend time in prayer each day drinking in the powerful truth that Christ who rose from the dead is walking – very

personally – with each one of us now. One way to do this is to pray the Rosary each day. Countless saints, popes and mystics throughout the ages have taught us that the secret to knowing Christ is by way of His Holy Mother, Mary. Praying the glorious mysteries during Easter will inspire us to look at life from the glory God has in store for us – and help us to face any "valley of tears" with confidence, trust and even joy! May is Mary's month and so this daily rosary starting now will get us ready for her month too!

Please know of my ongoing love, prayers and gratitude for all of you. I am grateful to be here with you and I am reminded of God's love and consolation that comes to me through you and my ministry here as I strive to shepherd this beautiful Church of New Orleans as best as I can. May we together, bring great glory and honor to God by how we live His promise of new life each day. God bless you and Easter graces be abundant in your life!

INSTITUTE

the capstone project and seeing the fruits of their labor come to fruition.

"They are in awe," she said. "They come in not knowing what to expect and are proud of what they create. We have seen our leaders use what they have learned at the institute at St. Mary's and in the community as well."

Bourne added, "This is a way for the girls to take on ownership in the school and community and be able to leave a legacy behind and feel confident bringing ideas to life while strengthening bonds with other girls. It gives them a sense of confidence and ownership during the school year."

"We want the girls to learn how to walk into any setting and be a leader in a room," Massey-Haynes said. "We want them to feel like they have a voice in any situation they are faced with and to always feel empowered, to think critically, to be able to pivot in any situation and build relationships wherever they find themselves."

For more information about the Venerable Henriette Delille Youth Leadership Institute or to register, visit <https://smaneworleans.com/venerable-henriette-delille-institute>.

SOLORZANO

Hermanos y hermanas: Cristo Resucitado sigue caminando a nuestro lado. Lo encontramos en la Palabra, en la Eucaristía y en la comunidad. No dejemos pasar esta Pascua sin renovar nuestra fe. Volvamos a la Misa con un corazón ardiente, escuchemos su Palabra con atención, y salgamos a anunciar que el Señor está vivo. Como los discípulos de Emaús, levantémonos y volvamos a la comunidad para decir con alegría: Hemos visto al Señor! Amén.



+ St. Anthony +
of Padua Church 
 Celebrating 100 Years
 4640 Canal Street • New Orleans, LA 70119

For More Information
Contact

Doris Bahr, Wedding Director
504-488-2651
 OR
504-205-6548
weddings@sapparish.org



St. Francis
of Assisi
Church
 631 State Street
 New Orleans
504-891-4479
www.stfrancisupton.com





Please join us for our

WILLWOODS COMMUNITY
ANNUAL GALA

SATURDAY, APRIL 25



Honoring:

**2026 Servus Fidelis honore
Pat Fenerty Andras**

Schedule:

Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Church | 444 Metairie Road

Cocktail Reception at 6:30pm

Dinner at 7:30pm

in Metairie

**The evening will benefit the ministries of Willwoods Community:
Affordable Housing · Faith and Marriage · TheDailyMass.com · WLAE-TV**

For Tickets & Information, visit Willwoods.org or call (504) 830-3717

A Holy Week Immersive Experience in River Ridge



Beginning on Holy Thursday, April 2 and running, by special request and demand, through Good Friday, April 3, St. Matthew the Apostle Parish in River Ridge offered parishioners, school students and visitors alike the opportunity to immerse themselves in the events of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. The parish staff, led by Becci Sheptock, director of religious education/youth ministry, constructed scenes for an Immersive Holy Week experience designed to allow visitors to experience in the events of the Last Supper, the Agony in the Garden, the Passion and the Resurrection complete with an empty tomb. The scenes were not only constructed visually but sound effects were included to more fully bring the experience to life. Visitors described the experience as "emotionally stunning" with one visitor saying, "The emotions felt at each station were mesmerizing; you felt like you were there." The event was so popular that despite closing as originally planned after the Mass of the Lord's Last Supper on Holy Thursday, hours were extended through Good Friday until 3 p.m. to accommodate Good Friday pilgrims. Photo Credit: Brian Comiskey

Desperate Times Call for Deliberate Witness



Phillip GARSIDE
NOLACatholic Parenting

The clergy abuse scandal, alongside the recent revelations of mass abuse in broader society, has left many people with a deep sense of anger and mistrust toward those in positions of influence.

As a father raising two daughters and a son, all old enough to be aware of current events, many difficult questions arise. How do I keep my daughters from falling into despair that "all men are like this?" How do I offer examples for my son of what authentic masculinity looks like regarding the dignity of women? How do we speak truth to power when power is so devastatingly corrupt?

One pedagogical aid comes in the story of Saints Claudius and Julia of Troyes. Their story is helpful because it meets the challenge on the level of gender dynamics as well as power dynamics while perfectly presenting the social justice doctrine of the church.

According to tradition, Claudius was a Roman officer in the army of Aurelian during the Germanic wars of the third century. He received Julia, a Christian, as a spoil of war and a slave. She pleaded with him not to rape her, offered to serve him otherwise and promised to pray for him daily. He was moved to spare her, eventually treating her more as a daughter and was finally converted by her.

Ultimately, they were martyred together, beheaded in the persecutions of Aurelian. The story portrays Claudius as a man formed by power structures not unlike those behind today's scandals. He lives in privilege maintained by brute force under the protection of imperial civilization. But shockingly, when tempted by our culture's exact transgression, the privilege of gross exploitation, he regards his prey with compassion. Claudius slowly builds a relationship of tenderness and ultimately allegiance.

As an allegory, Claudius can represent the power structure and Julia represents the Christian response. She embodies the spirit of the Beatitudes, an impoverished conquered barbarian. Through these she demonstrates the active tradition of the church's social justice doctrine. She fearlessly speaks moral truth to power against all reasonable hope. She expects no favors from society and holds no bitterness toward it. She only seeks the ability to live with basic dignity.

By Julia's powerful witness Claudius was brought to the Gospel. From the story we learn that when authentic masculinity encounters a woman who is oppressed, it is sanctified by listening and responding with heroic alignment. We learn that not all men are predators, charity exists even in those whose circumstances are least likely to cultivate it. We learn that a just society is not built on domination, but on relationships rightly ordered, like a family, where the strong serve the vulnerable and power is exercised as caretaking. Lastly, we learn the brutality with which "civilized society"

responds to the Gospel as it seeks to maintain the status quo.

Since these events happened 1,800 years ago, we can be sure that our problems are not unique. Disheartening as that is, we can also be sure that the Gospel is still the appropriate response.

As parents, we must teach our daughters to be strong and speak. We must teach our sons to listen and align with justice. We must not lose confidence in the way Christ has shown us, a way that remains, even now, the true answer to the darkness of our times.

Phillip Garside has been a short order cook, an artist, an analytical scientist and an academic educator. He and his wife Rebecca have three children in the hopes of one day jettisoning them into the world and infecting it with their domestic church's uniquely bizarre brand of Catholicism.



Around the Archdiocese

The Brother Martin High School Dionysians (Drama Club) presents "Zombie Prom," performances on April 16, 18, 23, 24, and 25 at 7 p.m., and April 25 at 2 p.m. *The production will be held in the auditorium located on the Brother Martin High School campus at 4401 Elysian Fields Ave., New Orleans.* Reserved tickets \$20, general admission \$15. Tickets (cash or check) can be purchased at the door. To reserve tickets or for more information, visit brothermartin.com/drama.

The Hope & Purpose Ministries Annual Charismatic Eucharistic Revival Conference, April 18, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at *Divine Mercy Parish, 4337 Sal Lentini Parkway, Kenner.* This year's theme, "Eucharistic Revival Fire!", is inspired by the words of Jesus: "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already blazing!" To register and learn more, visit: www.HopeandPurpose.org

Christ in the City, the monthly evening of Eucharistic Adoration for Young Adults in their late teens, 20s, and 30s, sponsored by the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, will be on April 21 at 7 p.m. at *St. Francis Assisi, 631 State St., New Orleans.*

Mass for Vocations, The Archdiocese of New Orleans will celebrate the annual Mass for Vocations on April 26 at 11 a.m. at *St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans.* Archbishop Aymond will preside. All priests, sisters, brothers, deacons and people of the archdiocese are cordially invited to attend. Seminarians, women and men in formation for consecrated life and diaconate candidates will join together in thanking God for their vocation. Everyone present will be invited to pray for those who serve the Archdiocese of New Orleans as priests, sisters, brothers and deacons.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, May 1, 6 p.m. at *St. Mary Magdalen Parish, 6425 W. Metairie Av., Metairie.* Held on the First Friday of every month through May in the church. Adoration and Reconciliation will begin at 5 p.m. followed by mass at 6 p.m.

Mass Hosted by God's Special Children, May 3, 2 p.m., *St. Francis Xavier Church, 444 Metairie Road, Metairie.*

Eucharistic Hour To Pray For Vocations, May 11, 6–7 p.m. at *Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, 1501 West Causeway Approach, Mandeville.* For more information, contact Juliana Cloud at (504)236-7585.

RedBird Ministry for Grieving Parents, May 14, 6:30 p.m., *Our Lady of the Lake Parish cafeteria, 312 Lafitte St., Mandeville.* If you have lost a child from miscarriage, stillborn, infancy, young child or adult child please join us. Grandparents are also welcome. For more information contact Jewell Bayhi at (504)330-5975.

Joie de Vivre, Louisiana Arts & Culture Festival, May 15 (4 p.m.) and May 16 (8:30 p.m.), hosted by the *St. Louis IX Art Society, St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, St. Benedict, LA.* Keynote lecture, art exhibition, artist panel discussion, Liturgy of the Hours and Mass with the monks, bourbon stroll and socials. Register: www.jdvjournal.com

KUDOS

Cabrini High School's Board of Trustees, in partnership with the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, marks a significant milestone as **Eric L. DesOrmeaux, M.Ed.**, officially assumed the role of President of Cabrini High School on April 1, completing a thoughtful and intentional leadership transition since January. The school also celebrated **Deacon Uriel Durr**, whose service as president concluded on March 31.

VILLERE'S
FLORIST
Delivering the magic of flowers.

750 Martin Behrman
Metairie
504-833-3716

1415 North Hwy 190
Covington
985-809-9101

www.villeresflorist.com





Photo Credit: Notre Dame Seminary

At the annual Notre Dame Seminary Auction and Gala on March 21, Deacon Robert and Pam Pendzimaz were honored with the 2026 Good Shepherd Award. They are pictured with NDS rector Father Joshua Rodrigue and Archbishop-emeritus Alfred Hughes.



Photo Credit: Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Westwego

On March 28, Archbishop Checchio celebrated the Vigil Mass for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Westwego. The following day he celebrated Mass at St. Mary Magdalen in Metairie and St. Louis Cathedral to begin Holy Week observances.



Photo Credit: Dr. RaeNell Houston

On March 29, Archbishop Checchio attended the annual fundraising night at Drago's Restaurant to benefit St. Augustine High School in New Orleans. During the evening the school presented a framed copy of the newspaper from the day after he was introduced as Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans and visited the school.



Photo Credit: Father Andrew Gutierrez

On March 31, Archbishop Checchio attended the Harvest at Home fundraiser to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank at the home of Ayesha and Aaron Motwani. To learn more about Second Harvest Food Bank's mission to fight food insecurity in Louisiana visit <http://no-hunger.org>.

MY HOUSE MEN'S GROUP

For men struggling with pornography and sexual integrity issues, there is hope for healing through the Archdiocese of New Orleans' My House Men's Group, a safe and confidential men's ministry.

(504) 430-3060

myhouse@archdiocese-no.org

John's

Tuxedos & Suits
Rentals & Sales

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

Serving New Orleans Since 1984
3200 HOUMA BLVD., METAIRIE, LA
504.455.5353
JohnsTuxedos.com

Advertise in Our Newspaper!

Contact MJ Cahill

(504) 224-8733 x8733

mcahill@4lpi.com



Lent

at The Cenacle on the Lake

Retreats for Women

February 19 - 22, 2026	Women of Manresa Retreat	Fr. Flavio Bravo, SJ
March 6 - 8, 2026	Women's Silent Retreat	Srs. Sue & Kathleen, MSC
March 13 - 15, 2026	Women's Silent Retreat	Fr. Bryce Sibley
March 26 - 29, 2026	Women of Manresa Retreat	Fr. Jeffrey Harrison, SJ

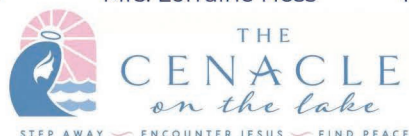
March 17, 2026 10:00 am Reconciliation Service and Individual Confessions

Days of Prayer and Reflection

March 4, 2026	Sr. Judy Gomila, MSC	"All the World's a Stage"
March 10, 2026	Mr. Matt Rousso	"Pope Leo Challenges"
March 11, 2026	Mrs. Betty-Ann Hickey	"Awakening the Restless Heart to God's Presence"

Other Upcoming Events

February 4, 2026	Dr. Veters & Fr. Krafft	"The Path to Interior Freedom"
February 10, 2026	Mr. Matt Rousso	"Pope Leo Challenges"
April 8, 2026	Mrs. Ty Salvant	"Seeing God at Work in my Life"
April 15, 2026	Ms. Aline Harbison	Scripture & Sips: Bible Travel Trivia
May 7, 2026	Mrs. Lorraine Hess	Rosary & Rose'



For more information, visit
neworleansretreats.com or
call (504) 267-9604.





On the Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1, Archbishop Checchio attended the Living Way of the Cross presented by the students of Christian Brothers School in New Orleans. Following the students' solemn portrayal of Jesus's passion and death, Archbishop Checchio visited the Early Childhood classrooms to meet and pray with the students and then participated with the Kindergarten classes in their Easter egg hunt.

Photo Credits: Chris Barberito/Barberito Photographers, Inc.




Photo courtesy of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

On Holy Thursday, April 2, Archbishop Checchio enjoyed the traditional Gumbo Z'Herbes meal at Dooky Chase Restaurant. The special green gumbo, a recipe of the late Leah Chase, is only served for lunch on Holy Thursday. The archbishop was invited to bless the food and speak to all those gathered for the meal.



Photo Credit: Brandon Briscoe


The looming storm clouds could not stop the thousands of pilgrims taking part in the tradition of the Good Friday Nine Church Walk through the streets of New Orleans on April 3. Here Archbishop Checchio is pictured greeting pilgrims from Jesuit High School of New Orleans and others at the Seelos Shrine in New Orleans.



NOW OPEN IN ALGIERS!

2801 Gen. DeGaulle Drive

High-Quality Health Care for Children and Adults



Urgent Care Services

On-site Imaging Services

Eye Care Services

Dr. Corey Hébert

(504) 207-3060
DePaulCommunityHealthCenters.org



WELLIVER
Wedding Videography

31st Annual
BRIDAL
EXPO

In Lakeside Shopping Center

Saturday, July 25th
10am - 4pm

Sunday, July 26th
Noon - 4pm

Lakeside
Shopping Center

(504) 831-5288

WelliverProductions.net