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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUG. 3 2011

## Pope calls for end of violence

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** - In the wake of two terror attacks in Norway that left 76 people dead, Pope Benedict XVI called for an end to hatred and ideologies that promote evil.

"We are all deeply saddened by the serious terrorist acts," the pope said after praying the Angelus with pilgrims at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo July 24.

In his talk, Pope Benedict launched an appeal "to abandon once and for all the path of violence and avoid principles of evil."

As a further expression of his condolences and prayers

for those affected by the attacks, the pope sent a message to Norway's King Harald V. Written on behalf of the pope by Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, the pope said he was praying for all those affected by "the acts of senseless violence perpetrated in Oslo and Utoya."

The pope asked that the country "be spiritually united in a determined resolve to reject the ways of hatred and conflict and to work together fearlessly in shaping a future of mutual respect, solidarity and freedom for coming generations."

### REST IN PEACE

#### Apostolic Nuncio to US



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Italian Archbishop Pietro Sambini, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., is pictured in a 2006 photo at the nunciature in Washington. Archbishop Sambini, a veteran Vatican diplomat, died July 27 in Baltimore following complications after lung surgery. He was 73. In a statement issued July 28, Bishop Terry LaValley said, "It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of Archbishop Pietro Sambini, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. I will forever remember his visit to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and his kind words to me and to all the faithful gathered at my ordination and installation as Bishop on April 30 of last year."

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## New Ursuline leaders have local connection

The Ursuline Sisters of four regional U.S. provinces elected the leadership team for the Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union, United States Province, during a chapter of elections meeting held July 9-13 in St. Louis.

Included in the new leadership team are Ursuline Sisters Ann Peterson and Maureen Welch, both formerly of Malone.

The newly elected leadership team will be installed when the U.S. province is inaugurated Oct. 21 in Chicago.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## SUMMER SCHEDULE

The next issue of the NCC will be dated Aug. 17. In the meantime, visit [WWW.northcountrycatholic.org](http://WWW.northcountrycatholic.org) and the NCC's Facebook page

## THE GANG AT GUGGENHEIM



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

The 2011 Guggenheim camp staff is shown above. First row, from left, are Jeremy Bobak, Grand Island, NY; Emily Gydesen, Croghan; Zack Leader, Gouverneur; Regina Kessler, Whitehall, Penn.; Rachel Daly, Peru; Eliza Zalis, Plattsburgh; Alex Pacelli, Lake Placid; back, Alexa Cosgro, Plattsburgh; Katie Sloan, Silver Spring, MD; Sam Racette, Saranac Lake; Casey Provost, Chazy camp director; Allison Gratto, Morrisonville, assistant director; Samantha Fazioli, Saranac Lake; Erin Miner, Saranac Lake; Wil Neves, Massena; Mary Catherine Jadlo, Potsdam and third week chaplain Father Joseph Giroux, pastor in Malone. See page 5 for more photos.

**YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE:** James Franke reflects on 'radical Christianity'... p. 12

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## ‘I can’t stay away from this place!’

For nearly 40 years, Guggenheim has served as a “training camp” for the next generation of leaders of the diocesan church.

If you read the names of the staff members of the 1970’s you’d see future priests, sisters, deacons, Catholic educators and even the editor of the diocesan newspaper.

So, during my annual visit to Guggenheim this summer, I thought I’d investigate just what the future of our diocese will be. After admitting that I had worked at the camp long before any of the current staff members was born, I asked each of them a simple question: “why did you want to work at Guggenheim?”

I knew that their answers would give me all the information I needed – about their own faith as well as their desire to share it with others.

Casey Provost, this year’s camp director, proved me right.

He always dreamed of being on staff, he said, “and giving a little back” of what he gained as a camper. The Chazy native explained that the most important concept he learned - and now shares - is that faith isn’t something that’s only expressed once a week.

“Our Catholic faith is something you enjoy and love living every single day of your life,” he said. “When our campers spend a week with us, they are nourished but we tell them it doesn’t end here. They have to keep the flame burning by sharing it with others.”

Mary Catherine Jadlos, a parishioner of St. Mary’s in Canton, is in her second year as a staff member. “I knew I wanted to be on staff from the age of 12 when I saw the role models here,” she said. “Because of the fellowship and witness from both campers and staff, I new I wanted to be a new witness for the next generation.”

Eliza Zalis of Plattsburgh said, “I can’t stay away from this place!”

“It’s a sanctuary,” she said. “I love the atmosphere and the community. The campers know that they are accepted for who they are, wherever they are, in faith and joy.”

And that’s just the beginning.

Reflections and photos of all 16 staff members (as well as 150 photos from Sportscamp!) can be found on the *North Country Catholic’s* Facebook page.

Find the page and “like” it to be inspired and encouraged.

I think you’ll agree that our church is in very good hands!

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KilianBishop Terry LaValley  
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## CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

## Jesus Walks on the Water

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Aug. 6-7

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ

Director of Evangelization

How dare Peter walk on the water! This was something only Jesus could do! Peter thought he could walk on the water by himself. Maybe this was a lesson for Peter and for the rest of the disciples to trust in God in times of fear, anxiety and storms of life.

Elijah was looking for God’s voice in the wrong places. God doesn’t always come to us in ways that we think He should as Elijah had found out in the First Reading.

The world, the nation, the family, and even the Church are experiencing the wind and storms of life, e.g. unemployment, loss of homes, sickness, separation of families, crisis in faith, etc.

The strong wind of life can sometimes buffet our faith and sturdy shelters upon which we build our lives.

The earthquakes of life can split our lives in two, causing havoc and terror, and turn our lives upside down.

We can ask the question: “Where is God in all of this?”

God is not in the chaotic confusion but is found in compassion, mercy, and peace.

God does come to us often in unexpected ways.

God Himself is looking for the quiet heart that is ready to listen.

He waits for the silence of our hearts, especially in difficult times or when our faith is shaken. “I will hear what God proclaims; the Lord—for He proclaims peace” (Ps. 85:9).

Jesus did not want to leave the disciples in the storms of the sea. Neither does He want our lives disturbed nor want to leave us in our stressful situation.

God is not found in these chaotic situations. He comes in the quiet, like a tiny whispering voice “where kindness and truth will meet” and “justice and peace will kiss” (Ps. 85:10). Jesus reminded the disciples of their own ability and His promise of His continued presence that would eliminate all fear. “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid” (Mt. 14:27).

As a family of faith, we are reminded that Jesus Christ is the rock of our salvation, the one in whom we place all our trust.

We trust in Jesus Christ to support us and to carry us through, even when, like Peter, we fail and make foolish mistakes.

Do we dare to trust that voice, however loud or quiet it may be, to follow Jesus more closely?

In the parish, what storms are people enduring of which you are aware?

How can you be a support to them and help them not to fear?

What gifts have you received in your own life that would allow you to “be Jesus” in these stormy times and call others to love and safety?

We make our own faith active, when people witness our trust of God’s presence and guidance.

The more we pray with an open heart in quiet and in peace with Jesus Christ our Lord and Master, the greater our trust in Him. Our trust in God proclaims who we are.

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# Bishop mourns death of archbishop

Bishop Terry R. LaValley issued a statement July 28 upon learning of the death of Italian Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the Vatican nuncio to the United States.

The archbishop died late July 27 at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore after a hospitalization that began with lung surgery. He was 73.

On July 22, the apostolic nunciature in Washington announced that the archbishop had been "placed on assisted ventilation to attempt recovery of his lung function" two weeks after undergoing "a delicate lung surgery."

A veteran Vatican diplo-

mat, Archbishop Sambi was appointed as U.S. nuncio, or ambassador, in December 2005 by Pope Benedict XVI.

Prior to the U.S. appointment, he had been nuncio to Israel and Cyprus; he was the second Vatican ambassador to Israel, after the Vatican and Israel established diplomatic relations in 1994. After he arrived in the United States Feb. 24, 2006, he said in an interview with Catholic News Service in Washington that he was impressed by the vitality of U.S. Catholicism, the level of weekly Mass attendance among U.S. Catholics and their generosity toward others. The archbishop was

known for his warm and affable manner, sense of humor and being open and ready to listen to people.

Archbishop Sambi, a native of central Italy, was ordained to the priesthood in 1964. He was named an archbishop and nuncio to Burundi in 1985, a position he held for six years until being named nuncio to Indonesia. In 1998, Pope John Paul II named him nuncio to Israel and Cyprus and apostolic delegate in Jerusalem and Palestine.

During Pope Benedict's April 2008 visit to the United States, Archbishop Sambi accompanied the pope and during the pon-

tiff's stay in Washington hosted him at the Vatican Embassy, or nunciature, where the pope held a historic private meeting with five victims of clergy sexual abuse.

Bishop LaValley's statement follows:

*It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States.*

*I will forever remember his visit to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and his kind words to me and to all the faithful gathered at my ordination and installation as Bishop on April 30 of last year.*

*When he shared with me*

*the news that the Holy Father had chosen me to be our next bishop, his words inspired, affirmed and challenged me to follow Jesus faithfully as did His apostles at the shores of the Sea of Galilee. To all who met him, Archbishop Sambi's enthusiasm for the faith and love for the Church exuded a joy and peace that instilled a confident hope in Jesus.*

*With much personal gratitude, I pray that Archbishop Sambi now join the communion of saints and enjoy the heavenly fruits of his earthly labors with the Eternal High Priest, Jesus our Risen Lord and Savior.*

*May he rest in peace!*

## Ursuline Sisters elect new leadership team

ST. LOUIS, MO - The Ursuline Sisters of four regional U.S. provinces elected the leadership team for the Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union, United States Province, during a chapter of elections meeting held July 9-13 in St. Louis.

Included in the new leadership team are Ursuline Sisters Ann Peterson and Maureen Welch, both for-

merly of Malone.

In the late 1970s, Sister Ann was coordinator of the religious education program for Franklin Academy students and coordinator of the Ecumenical Pastoral Outreach Program.

In 1994 she returned to Malone as superior of the Ursuline community and also worked as a therapist at North Star Behavioral Health

and at the Wholistic Center.

She left Malone in 2009 to serve as superior of an Ursuline community in New Rochelle.

Sister Maureen taught at St. Joseph's Ursuline Academy in Malone from 1972 to 1976 and was superior of the Ursuline community there from 1985 to 1988.

From 1988 to 2005, she served in many area min-

istries including at the Hospice of the North Country; as pastoral associate for Malone Catholic parishes.

### Two of the new councilors have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

She also served as associate director of the Deacon Formation program, and a member of the board of the Alice Hyde Hospital Association, Community Action Agency. She now ministers in Wilmington, Del.

Sister Ann and Sister Maureen will be among five councilors on the inaugural U.S. province leadership team. The other three councilors elected are from California, Idaho and Missouri. Sister Diane Fulgenzi, OSU, of St. Louis was elected provincial leader.

The election was the culmination of the three-year re-configuration process that brings together Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union from four provinces in the central, eastern, northeastern and western regions of the country into a single United States province.

More than 160 Ursulines from across the country par-

ticipated in the July meeting.

The newly elected leadership team will be installed when the U.S. province is inaugurated Oct. 21 in Chicago.

The Ursuline Sisters were founded by St. Angela Merici 475 years ago in Brescia, Italy. They established their first North American community in Canada in 1639. The first Ursulines in the United States arrived in New Orleans in 1727. Today there are Ursuline Sisters serving on six continents.

Historically known as educators, Ursulines continue to minister in educational institutions at every level.

They also are involved in parish and retreat/spiritual direction ministries and in social service fields with outreach to immigrants, the dying, elderly, homeless and other disenfranchised populations.



Members of the Ursuline Sisters' newly elected leadership team are, seated from left, Sister Ann Peterson, councilor; Sister Maureen Welch, councilor; Sister Dianne Baumunk, councilor; and, standing from left, Sister Margaret Johnson, councilor; Sister Diane Fulgenzi, provincial; and Sr. Ann Barrett, councilor. Sister Ann and Sister Maureen have both lived in Malone and served the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



IN LOVING MEMORY



Holy Name School in Au Sable Forks held a dedication June 15 in memory of former principal, Jean Pulsifer, who passed away last November after a long battle with cancer. The Jean M. Pulsifer Memorial Principal's Award plaque, which was donated by Mrs. Susan Pulitzer and her family, was unveiled and blessed by Father Kris Lauzon, pastor. Pictured, from left, are Father Lauzon, Marshall DuBray, Mrs. Pulsifer's father; Mrs/ Pulitzer, donor of the plaque and former principal of Holy Name School; Bernadette DuBray, Mrs. Pulsifer's mother; and Christine Reynolds, current principal of Holy Name School.

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 February 8-19, 2012 • \$3,360

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 March 22 - April 3, 2012 • \$3,430

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STAFF MEMBERS REFLECT ON THEIR EXPERIENCE

# GUGGENHEIM WHO'S WHO



Katie Sloan lives in Washington DC and goes to college at Loyola University in New Orleans but she has deep North Country roots. Her mom's from Watertown and grandmother's from Chateaugay. This is her first year on the Guggenheim staff and she calls it "the most rewarding job I could ever think to have.... I love connecting to the campers!" She's shown with third week campers Morgan Macey of Crown Point and Alex Brennan of Wells.



Casey Provost of Chazy is camp director for the 2011 season at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake. He says that as a camper he always dreamed of being on staff and credits long time director Michelle Watkins of Croghan "for being an incredible model for as a camper and as director."

## Find more on Facebook

Photos and reflections of all 16 staff members can be found on the North Country Catholic's Facebook page.



Jeremy Bobak of Grand Island, NY, and Mary Catherine Jadlo of Potsdam play an instrumental role in keeping the campers singing this summer.



A first year Guggenheim staff member, Zack Leader of Gouverneur told the NCC, "it's always been my desire to work here. The roots of my faith have grown at Guggenheim and I've wanted the opportunity to give back and help other kids fall in love with the Lord."



Father Joe Giroux, left, of Malone served as chaplain for the third week of Camp Guggenheim. He is shown with Wil Neves of Massena who, in his first year on staff, wants to "return the favor" after experiencing the gifts of energetic, faithful staff members in his six years as a camper. He said that Guggenheim is a "great place for young people to meet others and create bonds of friendship which will strengthen their faith immensely."



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**Bishop LaValley's Schedule**

**Aug. 3** – 8:00 a.m., Mass at the Precious Blood Monastery, Watertown.

**Aug. 5** – 1:30 p.m., Mass at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake.

**Aug. 7** – 10:00 a.m., Installation Mass for Rev. Sony Pulickal as Pastor of St. Ann's, Wells and St. James Major Church, Lake Pleasant at St. Ann's Church.

**Aug. 8** – 5:00 p.m., Adirondack Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at McKenzie's Grill in Saranac Lake.

**Aug. 10** – 5:00 p.m., Clinton Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Augustine's Parish Ctr. in Peru.

**Aug. 11** – 5:00 p.m., Lewis Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Peter's Parish Center in Lowville.

**Aug. 14** – 9:30 a.m., Mass at Church of the Assumption in Gabriels; 1:30 p.m., Closing Liturgy at Family Guggenheim in Saranac Lake.

**Aug. 16** – 5:00 p.m., Hamilton-Herkimer Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Mary's Parish Center in Indian Lake.

**Rest in Peace**

*This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergymen men who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg*

**Aug. 4** – Rev. Alexandre Soulerin, O.M.I., 1892; Rev. Adolphe Saurel, 1925; Rev. Willie Caron, M.S.C., 1972

**Aug. 5** – Rev. M. Calixte Mourier, O.M.I., 1912; Rev. Gerald A. Sharland, 1973

**Aug. 7** – Msgr. Edmund H. Dumas, 2000

**Aug. 8** – Rev. David N. Burke, 1913; Rev. Donald E. Seguin, 1976

**Aug. 9** – Rev. Edward B. May, O.S.A., 1953; Rev. James N. Flattery, 1997

**Aug. 10** – Rev. Walter J. LaRocque, 1936; Rev. Joseph Bolduc, O.M.I., 1956; Rev. Cornelius Vullings, M.S.C., 1971; Msgr. Anthony A. Milia, 2010

**Aug. 11** – Rev. Gilbert Monroe, O.F.M., 1958; Rev. John M. Kennedy, 1979

**Aug. 12** – Rev. Pierre Gagnon, O.M.I., 1901; Rev. John M. Varrilly, 1913

**Aug. 13** – Msgr. Bernard F. Kellogg, 1993

**Aug. 14** – Rev. Patrick Foley, 1839; Rev. George Dermody, O.S.A., 1956

**Aug. 15** – Rev. Alfred Onesime Boyer, 1959; Msgr. Cornelius A. Collins, 1967

**Aug. 16** – Rev. Peter Paladini, S.A.C.

**To Report Abuse**

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact the Episcopal Vicar for Religious Rev. James Seymour at 315-393-2920 or the **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terri- anne Yanulavich, 7061 Rt. 9, Plattsburgh, NY 12901-0310; Tel. 518-561-3100; Fax 518-561-3003; e-mail: aycsn@westelcom.com

**Protecting God's Children**

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information: Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920. ext. 403. Upcoming programs:

**Sept. 1** – 7:30 p.m., St. Mary's School, Canton

**Sept. 24** – 8:30 a.m., Immaculate Heart Central Intermediate School, Watertown

**NO PAPER NEXT WEEK**

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic* will be dated Aug. 17



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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## 'What you see is ... what you get,' Archbishop tells Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) -- Archbishop Charles J. Chaput told a crowd of reporters and guests at a July 19 news conference that "what you see is pretty much what you get. I don't know why the Holy Father sent me here. But I do trust his heart, and I believe in his judgment," he said, commenting on his appointment as archbishop of Philadelphia announced earlier that morning. He will succeed Cardinal Justin Rigali. Pope Benedict XVI accepted the 76-year-old cardinal's resignation and appointed the Denver archbishop, who is 66, to replace him. He will be installed Sept. 8. "I know other bishops would have been smarter than I am, or more talented, or more connected with Philadelphia's past," Archbishop Chaput continued. "I know that Cardinal Rigali is one of the great churchmen of my life. He has served the church with enormous dedication and in ways I will never be able to duplicate. "But I do promise that no bishop will love the people and priests of this local church more than I will. No bishop will give more of himself than I will give," he added. "And no bishop will try to work harder to help persons who have been hurt by the sins of the past, or work harder to strengthen and encourage our priests and renew the hearts of our people." Many of the questions put to the archbishop by the press centered on the current turmoil in the archdiocese caused by the child abuse scandal and how he would respond to it. Archbishop Chaput said he has not yet read the Philadelphia grand jury reports detailing the situation, but he intends to do so. "It would be unfair and foolish to comment on things I do not yet know about," he said.

## As debt-ceiling debate continues, faith leaders protest on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- As U.S. lawmakers continued to wrangle over a decision on the nation's debt ceiling and proposed budget cuts, representatives of faith groups held a protest on Capitol Hill and Catholic leaders urged lawmakers to remember the nation's poor and vulnerable people. During the protest, about a dozen people prayed publicly to ask the Obama administration and Congress "not to balance the budget on the backs of the poor," according to a statement from the coalition that planned the action. After they ignored warnings by U.S. Capitol Police to stop praying, they were arrested for demonstrating in the Capitol. Late in the day, the group was still being held, but a spokeswoman for the group expected them to be released within hours. Each person was expected to be fined \$50. Those arrested included the executive director of Faith in Public Life, the general secretary of the United Methodist Church and a past president of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Daily prayer vigils led by a different religious organization each week have been taking place on the grounds of the United Methodist Building near the Capitol. Meanwhile, the chairmen of two U.S. bishops' committees reiterated their message to Congress, telling members of the U.S. House July 26 that they cannot ignore "the moral and human dimensions" of the ongoing debate. "A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor persons," wrote Bishop Stephen E. Blaire of Stockton, Calif., and Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany, N.Y. "It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues, eliminating unnecessary military and other spending, and addressing the long-term costs of health insurance and retirement programs fairly."

# Pope Benedict's World Youth Day: Space made for silence and moments of solemnity

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)-- Pope Benedict XVI has put his own stamp on the church's celebration of World Youth Day, and it's especially clear in the gathering's moments of prayer.

In Cologne, Germany, six years ago - Pope Benedict's first WYD as pope - he surprised the youths at the Saturday night vigil by urging them to quiet down.

The Cologne event was where he started a major new WYD tradition: Instead of ending the vigil with a boisterous musical finale, he ended it with eucharistic adoration - with tens of thousands of young people kneeling silently in a field. The scene was repeated in Australia in 2008.

During World Youth Day 2011, scheduled for Aug. 16-21 in Madrid, eucharistic adoration again will cap the pope's participation at the vigil. Adoration and prayer also will continue throughout the night on the edges of the military airport where many of the young people are expected to camp overnight.

In fact, organizers are planning to have 17 tents set up as chapels for all-night adoration.

The visual focal point when the pope leads the adoration and Benediction will be a monstrance set into a towering 16th-century gothic structure of silver and gold usually housed in the Toledo cathedral.

The traditional, solemn sense communicated by the Toledo monstrance will be echoed in the papal liturgies throughout the trip, organizers said.

"The point is to highlight that the central person of World Youth Day is Jesus Christ, and the pope is coming to proclaim him," said Fa-

ther Javier Cremades, Madrid coordinator of the liturgies.

However, not all of Father Cremades' plans emphasize the formal.

"We'll wake the young people with mariachi music" the morning of Aug. 21, hours before the pope arrives to celebrate the final Mass at the Cuatro Vientos military airport, he said.

"Young people will come to World Youth Day to celebrate with the Holy Father," he said. "If they did not want to attend a liturgy in the pope's style, they wouldn't be coming."

Young women and men will proclaim the Scripture readings at the Mass and read the prayers of the faithful; seminarians will fulfill the role of altar servers. Up to 6,000 singers 25 years old and younger - members of choirs from around the world --will sing the hymns at the Mass.

Blessed John Paul was the pope with the reputation for rallying and energizing thousands of young Catholics and particularly for drawing energy from them.

But in a passage that sounds like he was surprised about the impact that the celebration had on him, Pope Benedict told an interviewer, "these youth days have actually turned out to be a genuine gift for me."

In the book "Light of the World," he told Peter Seewald that he was struck by the "intense joy" and "the spirit of recollection that, amazingly, pervades the actual World Youth Days themselves."

Talking about the experience in Sydney at WYD 2008, he said, "It was quite simply the common joy of faith that carried us through and that made it possible for hundreds of thousands of people to remain in silence before the sacrament and so to become one."

Pope Benedict has insisted that real, even prolonged

moments of silence be added to every liturgy he celebrates.

Visiting Sulmona, Italy, in 2010, he said, "We live today in a society in which every space, every moment must be 'filled' with initiatives, activities and sound," so that there is no time for listening and dialogue.

"Dear brothers and sisters, don't be afraid of silence outside and inside ourselves, if we want to hear not only the voice of God but also of those who are close to us, the voices of others," he said.

Yago de la Cierva, executive director of World Youth Day Madrid, said that while organizers, priests and even the pope cannot control what the Holy Spirit does in the lives of the young pilgrims, they must be serious about preparing an atmosphere where the Spirit's action can be recognized.

"One important thing is to take great care with the liturgy, so the young will say, 'Wow, the Mass is beautiful,'" he said.

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## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Trusting in God - easier said than done

How often we worry ourselves sick over some deadline - a report that is due, an inspection of our work, a tough decision about our future - only to wonder the next day why we were so upset and jittery. We get all "fussed up" over nothing. And to what purpose?

It only robs us of sleep and peace of mind, and doesn't really change the situation.

How must the disciples have felt after Jesus calmed the storm? Of course they must have felt relieved, but probably a bit foolish, too! "Oh you of little faith!" Jesus had chided them. That

had to be embarrassing! Now, there's no getting around it—trusting in God is easier said than done. When the doctor tells us we might have a tumor, or the boss tells us our job may be terminated, there's reason for concern.

But if we fall to pieces over the news, then there's something out of balance - namely, courage and confidence in God! Is God in charge, or is he

not?

And think of Elijah in the first reading! His whole challenge to the prophets of Baal took immense courage. Some would label it foolhardy. He told the King to

set up two sacrifices, one to Baal, and one to the God of Israel. Then, to wait all day to see which deity would send down fire from heaven to consume the sacrifices.

To make it more difficult, Elijah dumped water on his offering. What a risk he took! After all, what if God didn't go for that kind of challenge—to set on fire some soaked oblations sitting on top of some sodden wood! Of course, God did meet the challenge. And Jezebel was furious, as Elijah knew she would be.

As a result of his smashing success, Elijah put to death the four hundred false prophets, and then had to run for his life. Jezebel had put a contract out on his life! Some days and many miles later, he

## AUGUST 7

## 19th Sunday of the Year

## READINGS

1 Kings 19-1a, 11-13a

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:22-33

dropped to the ground exhausted. Elijah was so discouraged that he wanted to die! And what did God do? He whispered to him! And that calmed him down! In effect, God said to him, "Elijah, don't sweat the small stuff". So, Elijah got up and ate, and on the strength of that food, we're told, he walked for forty days and forty nights! Now, that may sound far-fetched, but just think of your own experi-

ence. Have you ever noticed how discouragement saps our strength and weakens us? And then, a word from a friend, a pat on the back, eating something we like, energizes us in the twinkling of an eye, and suddenly we feel like a million dollars. People, prayer, and especially God, can provide us with fast soul food.

The best soul food is the Eucharist. God tells us over and over again. "Come to me, all you who are weary, and I will refresh you". When we have been strengthened by the Body and Blood of Jesus, we can take a fresh look at the problems we face. They often shrink into nothing. The next time we start to panic, let God in on our fears right away.

## OUR READERS WRITE

## A closer look at the Marriage Equality Act

Now New Yorkers have a new law on the books--the Marriage Equality Act. That may sound harmless to many people, but I think we need a closer look at this redefinition and manipulation of language.

The Marriage Equality Act relates to the "ability of individuals to marry." It is now part of the Domestic Relations Law. The Legislative Intent (taken from the bill) is that:

"Marriage is a fundamental human right. Same-sex couples should have the same access as others to the protections, responsibilities, rights, obligations, and benefits of civil marriage. Stable family relationships help build a stronger society. For the welfare of the community and in fairness to all New Yorkers, this act formally recognizes otherwise-valid marriages without regard to whether the parties are of the same or different sex. It is the intent of the legislature that the marriages of same-sex and different-sex couples be treated equally in all respects under the law."

Basically there are 3 parts to this law: language to be gender neutral, protection of religious groups who believe contrary to same-sex marriage, and more money for government and businesses.

The Marriage Equality Act provides that a religious corporation (such as the Catholic Church) or a benevolent association (such as the Knights of Columbus) shall be considered "distinctly private" and shall not be subject to a lawsuit for refusing to officiate a homosexual marriage or provide facilities for it.

That's the law now. However, there are several things that I think need to be added for a fuller understanding. The following comes from the "Memo of Support" that lawmakers put together for the bill. (I found this by going to the NYS Assembly website, [www.nysassembly.gov](http://www.nysassembly.gov) and putting in the keywords 'Marriage Equality Act' and then checking on the section on top where it says "memo").

The bill was introduced into the Legislature at the request of Gov. Cuomo. The memo states "Because civil marriage is a relationship

sanctioned, licensed and recognized by the State, it does not require the blessing or involvement of any religious institution." The memo also stated that there are more than 50,000 same-sex couples in New York State. A 2007 report by the New York City Comptroller detailed numerous sources of added revenue from additional weddings, marital licensing fees, etc. that would result from enacting marriage equality in NY.

Let's look at the gender neutral language. Instead of male and female, now the language may be "partner" or "spouse." Also, now we are considered "different" sex couples! The use of that word makes heterosexual marriage a negative or abnormal. I heard that there is some consideration now for children's passports and birth certificates to read "Parent A and Parent B" or "caregiver". Thus, here comes the ramification--affecting our children, using "neutral language." We will become a unisex society. In addition, because homosexual unions of some sort have already been passed in other states, unfortunately, there are already divorces and custody battles going on in courts. This affects birth mothers, who can lose their custody to their "partner." Thus, family law is impacted, as well as the children themselves in such a "family" relationship.

Although Churches do not have to preside over a homosexual "wedding" or provide facilities, that does not address when the Church, from pulpit or Catholic schools, teaches (if they discuss it at all) against homosexuality lifestyle and call it a sin. There already has been at least one instance whereby a homosexual couple tried to enroll their child in a Catholic school. Also, reports of a professor in a public college, teaching a course on world religions and mentioning the Catholic position on homosexuality--a homosexual student submitted a complaint to the college and they fired the professor (but later re-hired him). The attempt is to make homosexuality and same-sex marriage be "normal," and thus a viable "lifestyle" choice for our children. It is also an attempt for parents and friends of gays and lesbians (and bisexuals and transgender) to have the rest of society come to accept-

ing terms of the homosexual choice of their child. In California, schools will have to teach about the contributions of gays, lesbians, etc.--that attitude will probably spread; already it is being discussed for New York schools.

I have read a number of reports that claim that the homosexual lobby won because they had more money to sway the public and lawmakers. I disagree. There were only about 50,000 homosexual couples in NYS. According to numbers I read, lawmakers received over 53,000 emails, phone calls, etc. Support for the law came primarily from the New York City, Westchester County area and parents and friends of homosexuals. But lawmakers only heard from about 40,000 of us. Where were the millions of Catholic New Yorkers? Can't we also send emails, phone calls, local office visits, etc?! Therefore, I think they won because they are more committed and persevere to seeing that society is changed to accommodate and accept their lifestyle.

On the national level, President Obama has ordered his administration NOT to support the Defense of Marriage

Act (a national law). So, on the Federal level, as President Obama has already allowed and promoted for gays to openly serve in the military; by his actions--refusal to protect marriage-- he really is for the redefinition of marriage and all that entails for the upheaval and change of society. What a mess we have allowed!! Our lawmakers have taken the place of God and they apparently will now decide what rights there are and who gets them. Unfortunately, they can also take our rights away. Religion is being marginalized because of these lawmakers, and sadly, because of too many of us. I do hope that we all become more alert and aware of our laws and their impact and issues as the 2012 Election comes and that principle trumps personality, party affiliation and economics. The only thing lawmakers understand is to lose an election. We have already lost too much for future generations. How important is your religion and the freedom to practice it?

BONNIE P. FRANZ  
OGDENSBURG



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

## AT THE MOVIES

# CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER

By Kurt Jensen  
Catholic News Service

Out of the summer glut of superhero movies, "Captain America: The First Avenger" (Paramount) distinguishes itself by a complete absence of cynicism, a crackling undercurrent of dry wit, and the classical purity of its golden-age Hollywood references. In keeping with its nostalgic tone, moreover, this comic book adaptation's mostly unobjectionable content also harkens back to more innocent times.

It helps, of course, that in relating their origins story of the titular character -- set during World War II -- director Joe Johnston and screenwriters Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely display a warm affinity for America in the 1940s. Thus, along with the usual nods to other figures in the Marvel Comics stable, this epic features allusions to Betty Grable musicals and the Danny Kaye wartime film "Up in Arms."

The old saying, "They don't make 'em like that anymore," notwithstanding, in this case they really have -- and most intelligently. As a result, despite some scenes of destruction, "Captain America" registers, for the most part, as full-on family entertainment of the old school.

Chris Evans plays Steve Rogers, a 90-pound wannabe soldier from Brooklyn transformed into a muscular super-warrior in the Dr. Frankenstein-like lab of Dr. Abraham Erskine (Stanley Tucci), whose ultimate goal is the creation of battalions of such fearless, gene-altered fighters.

(As the historical context makes clear, this is no distasteful, potentially unsettling attempt at creating a master race; it's simply a case of better fighting through chemistry.)

A Nazi agent, however, destroys Erskine's technology, thus breaking the mold in which Steve's new persona was formed, and leaving him an inimitable prototype.

Now what to do? First, send Steve, in his Captain America costume, and accompanied by a bevy of chorines, on a war bonds tour. But this fails to satisfy Steve, who, it seems, is no mere song-and-dance man. He wants to fight the Germans, and gets his chance when he's sent overseas to entertain the boys in the field.

Gruff Col. Chester Phillips (Tommy Lee Jones) gives Steve his own platoon, and off he goes, armed with a bulletproof red, white, and blue shield, and motivated by a suitably broadminded motto: "I don't like bullies. I don't care where they're from."

Steve and his cohorts - including his newfound love interest, fetching scientist Peggy Carter (Hayley Atwell) - end up fighting not the German military, but rogue Nazi Johann Schmidt (Hugo Weaving). Schmidt, it develops, is actually a satanic character called Red Skull. Acting in cahoots with evil scientist Arnim Zola (Toby Jones), Schmidt is out to de-



CNS PHOTO/PARAMOUNT

Chris Evans stars in a scene from the movie "Captain America: The First Avenger."

stroy the world -- or at least the eastern third of the United States.

Schmidt's source of power: a magic crystal that used to belong to the Norse gods. His preferred music: Wagner's operas. The filmmakers, as you can tell from such details, have brushed up not just on their old movies, but on their cultural

cliches as well.

The film contains much action violence, including gunplay. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II - adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under the age of 13.

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What we're hearing about the newly designed [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org):

"Excellent job on the new website. It's clean and easy to navigate. And, you now have the capability to provide news daily and hourly. Good work!"

## ADIRONDACK

## COMMUNITY FUND RAISER

**Lake Placid** - St. Agnes Church is joining other churches and community organizations to assist Tom Angulot of Lake Placid Rental and Supply, who was injured in an accident and is currently paralyzed from the neck down is accepting monetary donations as well as donations of building materials and labor to complete a home addition that will allow Tom more mobility in his home.

**Benefit Dinner:** Aug. 5

**Time:** 4 p.m. to 8

**Place:** St. Agnes Church

**Donations:** Checks may be made payable to St. Agnes Church – Tom Angulot Fund. Monetary donations can be dropped off at the St. Agnes Rectory, Monday – Friday from 9 am – 4 pm, or mailed directly to Rev. John Yonkovig, St. Agnes Rectory, 169 Hillcrest Ave., Lake Placid, N. Y. 12946. Persons wishing to donate materials or time should contact Jim Morganson at 523 – 9518 or 524 – 8159. Volunteers for the community dinner should contact Marcia Pilawa at 523 – 2200, ext 18 or religious.director@gmail.com.

## CLINTON

## BENEFIT CONCERT

**Ellenburg Center** – The “Back Porch Band” will be performing at and for the benefit of Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer.

**Date:** Aug. 12

**Time:** 6 p.m. to 8

**Cost:** \$3 min. donation

**Features:** Ice Cream, Cake, and beverages (donations appreciated). Event held rain or shine. Please bring a lawn chair.

**Contact:** 594-3253

## REDFORD PICNIC

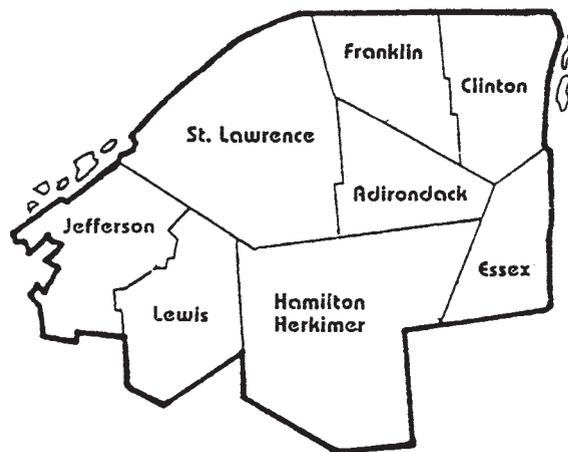
**Redford** – The 156 Annual Redford Picnic is to be held.

**Date:** Aug. 21

**Place:** Grounds of the Church of the Assumption Parish Center

**Schedule:** Events start at 11:30 beginning with “Back Porch Band” until 1:30; “Roy Hurd” from 2 p.m. to 4 followed by “Too Big For the Corner Band” from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15. Drawing for the \$5000 cash prize will be at 6:15 p.m.

**Features:** Ham and Roast Beef dinners Games, Fancy Booth and rides on one of the oldest merry-go-rounds in North America. There will also be a rummage sale starting at noon and numerous other events. Free admission to the grounds and plenty of free parking.



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to “Around the Diocese”

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

**North Country Catholic**, PO Box 326,  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 315-394-0670;  
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Plattsburgh** - Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

**Place:** St John's Holy Family Adoration Chapel, downstairs

Theme: “O God-Man present in this sacrament for me—what a comfort, what a privilege to know I kneel before God! And to think that this God loves me!” (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Contact:** For more information about spending a special hour with Jesus weekly, or becoming a substitute, please call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

## FRANKLIN

## MARYKNOLL ANNIVERSARY

**Malone** – In honor of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers 100 years of missionary service to the world, a special Mass and reception will be held at Notre Dame Church, home parish of Maryknoll Brother Wayne Fitzpatrick.

**Date:** Aug. 28

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Place:** Notre Dame Church

**Contact:** RSVP to PBork@Maryknoll.org or to Maryknoll Buffalo Mission House, 73 Adam St., Tonawanda, NY 14150

## JEFFERSON

## CHICKEN BARBECUE

**Watertown** – The Knights of Columbus will have their 6th annual Chicken Barbecue Fundraiser.

**Date:** Aug. 27

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Place:** St. Anthony's Church Parking Lot

**Cost:** Full Meal, \$8; Half Chicken, \$5

## ORGAN RECITAL

**Cape Vincent** – An Organ Recital is to be held at St. Vincent of Paul Church.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Features:** Organ recital with commentary by Marie-Claire D'Arcy, organist, Linda Raville, vocalist and Joseph Raville, trumpeter, featuring the debut of the fully restored 1912 Casavant Chamber Organ and reactivated chimes.

## PARKINSON GROUP

**Chaumont** – The Parkinson Group meets every Tuesday at 11 a.m. at All Saints for exercise and lunch. All are welcome.

## LEWIS

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

**Houseville** – Divine Mercy Devotions to be held for the month of August.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Hedwig's Church

**Program:** Vespers, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung), and Benediction. All are most welcomed to attend. Refreshments  
**Contact:** Mary Ann 315-348-6260.

## ST. LAWRENCE

## CHICKEN BBQ &amp; CORN FESTIVAL

**Massena** – The Church of the Sacred

Heart and St. Lawrence will be holding a Chicken BBQ and Corn Festival.

**Date:** Aug. 21

**Time:** Noon to 3 p.m.

**Place:** Louisville Arena

**Cost:** Meal Price, \$8; Children 5-1, \$4;

Under 5, Free

**Features:** Entertainment by “Blue Clover”

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Massena** - St. Mary's & St. Joseph's has Adoration every Friday.

**Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Church.

**Features:** First Friday of each month is preceded by Benediction.

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## SERRA CLUB PILGRIMAGE

**Lake Placid** - Bishop Terry R. LaValley will lead a Fall pilgrimage to St. Agnes' Church. The trip is sponsored by the Serra Club and the Diocesan Vocation Office of Ogdensburg.

**Date:** Oct. 4

**Schedule:** Bishop LaValley will celebrate the Mass at 11 a.m. A buffet luncheon at the Crowne Plaza Hotel will follow Mass and a Holy Hour at 2:30 p.m. will end the pilgrimage.

**Features:** Bus pick-ups will be in Watertown, Ogdensburg, Potsdam and Plattsburgh. The cost for the pilgrimage including bus travel is \$90 per person. For pilgrims arranging other transportation, the cost is \$50 per person. Registration forms available in all parishes

**Contact:** For further information, contact John or Sondra Castle at (315) 265-3578.

## FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

**Saranac Lake** - Space is still available for Family Guggenheim.

**Dates:** Session 2: August 18 – 21, Session 3: October 7 – 9

**Features:** Family Guggenheim welcomes families of all dimensions to come enjoy a special weekend in the beauty of the Adirondacks. Expect fun family workshops and activities that will have you working and laughing together. Celebrate Christ's presence in your lives through liturgy (often outside) and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like kayaking, canoe rides, beach volleyball, and hiking. You are never too young or too old to enjoy being family at Camp Guggenheim! Come celebrate family . . . be strengthened by what you experience . . . gain insight from other families you

meet.

**Contact:** Deacon Gary and Gayle Frank, 315-393-2920; e-mail gfrank@diogodensburg.org; www.dioogdensburg.org/family-life

## THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

**Massena** – Christopher West will offer two day long presentations on the Theology of the Body.

**Date:** Sept. 16 for Priest, Religious, Deacons and their wives at St. Mary's Church; Sept 17 for all of these interested in learning about this topic at Sacred Heart Church.

**Features:** Through philosophical reflection, humor and references to current culture realities. West will demonstrate how the Church's teachings on marriage sexuality make sense and correspond with the deepest longings of the human heart.

**Contact:** For more information about the presentation and registration forms please go to the diocesan website homepage and click on the Christopher West Theology of the Body Link at the bottom of the page, www.dioogdensburg.org/cf/west/index.html. In order to secure adequate participant materials registrations must be received by August 31.

## 2012 LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

Father Donald Robinson, pastor of St. Anthony's and St. Patrick's in Watertown, will be leading a pilgrimage to scenic Europe, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

**Date:** March 19-29

**Cost:** \$2189 (includes airfare, accommodations and most meals)

**Contact:** 315-782-1190 for brochure

## NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

## A DAY OF RECOLLECTION

**Amsterdam, NY** – Father Andrew Apostoli, C.F.R. to direct a Day of Recollection. Date: Sept. 10

**Place:** Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Amsterdam

**Schedule:** 8 a.m. Confessions; 9 a.m. “The Importance of Fatima Today”; 10:15 a.m. Holy Rosary; 11 A.m. Mass; 12:15 p.m. Lunch; 1:15 p.m. “Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen and the call to New Evangelization”; 2:30 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy; 3 p.m. “Guidance on the Journey of Prayer from St. Teresa of Avila”; 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

**Contact:** Cindy Kuzia at 518-725-3532 or e-mail ckuzia@nycap.rr.com for cost and information.



## The Society For The Propagation Of The Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director  
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
(315) 393-2920; fax (315) 394-7401  
mbrett@dioogdensburg.org

# Gratitude for continued support

From the Director's Desk,  
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ,  
Diocesan Mission Director

I take this opportunity on behalf of the people who directly benefit from the Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg including the people of St. Martin de Porras Parish in Mollendo, Peru, to thank all the people of the Adirondack, Clinton, Essex, Franklin and Hamilton/Herkimer deaneries who contributed to last week's MPDO collection.

I also take this opportunity to thank all the people of the diocese who make regular contributions throughout the year for the work of MPDO.

Your prayers and sacrificial contributions are always welcomed and needed throughout the year. Any parishes or individuals wishing to make a special donation are welcome and encouraged to do so anytime.

This year, the parishioners in the deaneries of St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis are participating this during the summer months in the Missionary Cooperative Appeal.

By now, many parishes have had the opportunity to have real missionaries come and bring their message. The personal introduction of the missionary visitor by the pastor to parishioners goes a long way in relating the importance of the mission message to be given.

The faithful should be encouraged to meet and greet the MCP visitor and to extend a personal word of welcome, as part of the mission experience. The Missionary Cooperation Plan (MCP) has continued to grow. It is a program well worth cultivating and nourishing in every parish to help spread the good news of Jesus Love.

I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who have contributed to the Mission Coop Appeal.

The program helps many societies around the world to fund very basic needs for those who have nothing.

By your prayers, and your gifts to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and our Summer program appeals, you accompany those who bring this Good News to the poor and suffering.

As I ask your continuing prayers for our mission family, know that you and those you love remain in my prayers.

May the Lord bless you abundantly!

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith"  
when writing or changing your Will.  
[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

## OBITUARIES

**Adams** — Richard Arthur Card, 83; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in Our Lady of Help Christians Cemetery, Glenmont.

**Alexandria Bay** — Esther W. (Wells) Davis, 88; Funeral Services July 20, 2011 at St. Cyril's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Altona** — Edward D. Swallop, 73; Funeral Services July 20, 2011 at Holy Angels Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Altona** — Helen L. (McLaughlin) Young, 87; Funeral Services July 21, 2011 at Holy Angels Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Au Sable Forks** — Kathleen A. "Kat" (Beters) Seguin, 76; Funeral Services July 22, 2011 at Holy Name Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Churubusco** — Alma (Bond) Poupore, 86; Funeral Services July 18, 2011 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church; burial in Immaculate Heart Cemetery.

**Clayton** — Anna F. (Reff) Shaw, 78; Funeral Services July 18, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Croghan** — Gerald V. "Dottie" Schneckberger, 89; Funeral Services July 23, 2011 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

**Crown Point** — Florence May Pulcifer (Olivadoti) Labatore, 93; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

**Ellenburg** — Jerry A. Martin, 73; Funeral Services July 18, 2011 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in St. Ann's Cemetery, Mooers Forks.

**Evans Mills** — Harold E. "Harry" Heath, 55; Funeral Services July 23, 2011 at St. Mary's Catholic Church; burial in Barnes Settlement Cemetery, Alexandria Bay.

**Harrisville** — Alice M. (O'Connell) Pike, 82; Funeral Services July 20, 2011 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery.

**Hogansburg** — Lucille "Lucy" (Bero) Ward, 59; Funeral Services July 26, 2011 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Lake Clear** — Betty M. (Boula) Amell, 84; Funeral July 30, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

**Malone** — John E. Carter, 80; Funeral Serv-

ices July 25, 2011 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Malone** — Carol L. Lennon, 59; Funeral Services July 22, 2011 at the Spaulding Funeral Home.

**Malone** — Penelope C. (Ormsby) Yelle, 56; Funeral Services July 27, 2011 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Massena** — Verna K. Clement, 84; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Morris "Dick" Dufresne, 79; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Vernon "Mac" J. MacPherson, 93; Funeral Services July 23, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Celia R. (Dishaw) Thebert, 89; Funeral Services July 20, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Ft. Covington.

**Morrisonville** — Donald F. Tourville, 72; Funeral Services July 26, 2011 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Newcomb** — James Joseph Kane, 79; Funeral July 4, 2011 at St. Therese Church; burial in St. Therese Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Violet Pearl (Law) Ashley, 94; Funeral Services July 28, 2011 at Allen-Nichols Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Catherine L. (Kennedy) Bourbeau, 90; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Clara E. (Bogardus) Compo, 65; Funeral Services July 22, 2011 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home.

**Ogdensburg** — Kadyne Deloney, infant; Funeral Services July 23, 2011 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — George V. Hess, 81; Funeral Services July 23, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Phyllis Howard, 77; Funeral Services July 22, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** — Ulla H. Sharlow, 65; Funeral Services July 21, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Louise J. (Gowette) DeCarlo, 100; Funeral Services July 27, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery, Peru.

**Plattsburgh** — Kaden Daniel Dion, 10 Months; Memorial Services July 26, 2011 at St. Peter's Church.

**Plattsburgh** — Gladys H. (Hunt) LaPlante, 86; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

**Plattsburgh** — Jane Wilson Ohlsen, 90; Funeral Services July 22, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery, Morrisonville.

**Port Henry** — Hon. Charles Patrick Garvey, 87; Funeral Services July 16, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery, Morah.

**Port Henry** — Adam John Petro Jr., 78; Funeral Services July 20, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Catholic Community of Moriah Cemetery.

**Port Leyden** — Stephen M. Callaghan, 64; Funeral Services July 28, 2011 at St. Martin's Church.

**Rouses Point** — Rosemary Ann Duffy, 64; Funeral July 25, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Star Lake** — Ernest A. Todd, 89; Funeral Services July 15, 2011 at St. Hubert's Catholic Church; burial in Utica.

**Tupper Lake** — Walter Barrett, 81; Funeral Services July 18, 2011 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Watertown** — Donald F. Henry, 91; Funeral Services July 21, 2011 at Holy Family Church.

**Watertown** — Mary F. (Giuliani) Knapp, 88; Funeral Services July 18, 2011 at Cummings Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** — Mary K. (Hough) Petroske, 92; Funeral Services July 25, 2011 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**West Chazy** — Karla L. (Pombrio) Gonyo, 66; Funeral July 29, 2011 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

# Radical Christianity

By James Franke  
Contributing Writer

A few months ago I came across a cartoon in a newspaper, poking fun at Christians. While I am sure that I would not agree with much of the artist's personal philosophy of life and beliefs, the message he was trying to convey hit home, striking a certain note that I feel many Christians, many Catholics are not challenged enough on.

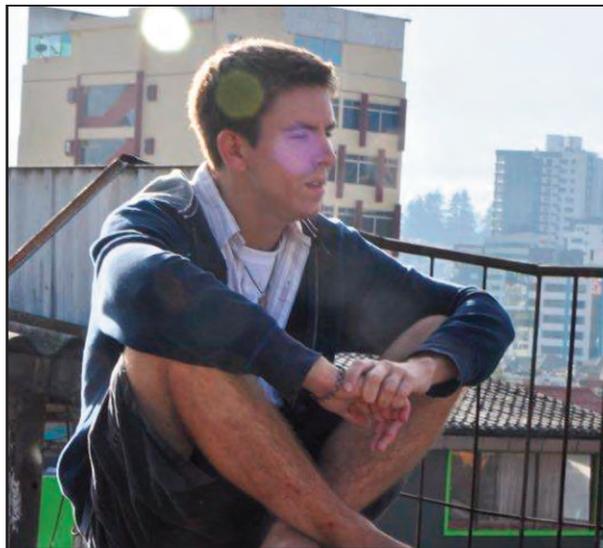
The little satire played out like this: An atheist walks up to a Bible waving Christian and asks him, "It's true that a donkey spoke in the Bible?" The Christian responds, "Of course! Without a doubt! It says so in Numbers 22." "And Jonah and the whale?" "Swallowed up in his stomach for three whole days before being spit out!" "Wow" says the atheist, "And so when Jesus says over and over to sell everything you own and give to the poor?" Dropping his Bible, with a befuddled face, the Christians stutters, "Uh, well, technically... about that, really, he meant... umm."

Now granted, Catholic theologians and Bible scholars help us to read Scripture as it was written, taking into account whether a passage is moral, analogical, anagogical or eschatological while reading into the different senses of a scripture (historical, grammatical, rhetorical, canonical, liturgical and magisterial). However the question must be asked, why is it so easy for us to believe in the miracles and events of the Bible as they are written, but at the same time take Jesus' words and tip-toe around what He is actually calling us to do? Do we truly believe that He meant something other than what He actually said? Or are we simply unwilling to do it?

"If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Matthew 19:21) Stated here in its fullness, the call of Christ to give to the poor all we have, to live for heaven and to follow him, reiterated time after time throughout the New Testament, is the core of the Gospel message!

Why is it then that so many of us throw our efforts behind almost everything and anything else in Scripture? We focus on the details; Christ's ministry, His passion, the Acts of the Apostles, and as important and indispensable as these details are... we sometimes miss the greater whole, the big picture Jesus left us, the message He came to give us!

"If you want to be perfect..." The message is that we are lacking, we are not complete, we are a work in progress. However we desire to be perfect, to be completed, a finished work of art. We are created for more than we are now! Yet if we sit around and do nothing, we will never be complete, we must cooperate in our Creator's work of completing us. How on earth are we to do this? "Go, sell your possessions and give to the poor..." Arguably one of the most difficult scriptures in the Gospels, it does not leave much breathing room for interpretation. Jesus clearly tells us



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that in order to be perfect, we must sell our possessions and give to the poor.

Why then, if Christ echoed this teaching time and time again, do so many of His followers squirm away from it? It is because many of us have squirmed away from Christianity, from what it means to be Church, to be the people of God. We find ourselves rendered practically incapable of following Christ in the fullness of what He has called us to because we are no longer rooted in true Christianity. The word *radical*, meaning to be rooted, is absent from our modern Church. We have become less like the radicals of Peter and Paul and more like the lukewarm that will be spit out of the Lord's mouth.

To be radical is not to shave your head, cover your face in ashes and walk around in sack-cloth beating your chest. To be radical is to be rooted, to be rooted in Christianity, and not in the disfigured Christianity that we see running rampant throughout the world today, but in the faith and Church that existed immediately after the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We must be rooted, and we must go back to our roots... we must be radical!

We already looked at Christ's call to the rich young man and what He desired of His followers in the Gospel. The Gospel of Luke echoes again this call, "Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail..." (Lk 12:33) This is a radical calling that is just as much a part of the Gospel as is any other teaching of Christ.

We are then blessed to be able to look to the Acts of the Apostles to see how the early Church actually lived out these difficult calls of our Lord. Maybe they knew what Christ really meant, that we didn't really have to sell things that we own and give to those who are in need.

In the early chapters of Acts we read, "and they sold their possessions and goods and dis-

tributed them to all, as any had need" (Acts 2:45), "There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made to each as any had need." (Acts 4:34-35)

The early Church did not hesitate one moment in listening to and living out the fullness of what Christ spoke in the Gospels. They did not twist the meaning, they were not frightened away from a living a Gospel that would make them stand out from the society around them, a Gospel that would call them to be radical, to be completely sold out for Christ. They had no safety nets, no emergency funds, no backup plans. God, Jesus Christ, was plan A, B and C. He was their reason, their purpose, their motive, their everything.

We are so often told that certain parts of Scripture are not literal, are not meant as they appear, that they were written for a different time. Society tells us that things have changed, the call on us is lessened, it is not practical or prudent to do these things anymore. It then seems peculiar that the models of living a Christian life are the likes of a Saint Francis of Assisi or a Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. If the bar has been lowered, why are these radicals being lifted up? If we are to stray from the roots of what the early Church was, why is it that our Church's today are named after and memorialize those who were so deeply rooted in what Christ literally called us to do.

How can we settle for living our faith in a way that no way mirrors the way that the Apostles of Christ lived it out; a life of living in community, of preaching the Gospel, of caring for the poor. Has God not given us the same gifts He gave to these men? Have we not heard the same Gospel? Do we not have the same Holy Spirit? If then, the difference is not in what God is giving to us, maybe the difference lies in what we are giving to God. Are we giving Him our complete and unwavering faith? Are we daily handing our lives over to Him?

Christ told us, "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5). Are we truly abiding in the Lord? We must be rooted in the vine, for if we are rooted in anything else, we do not have the life of that vine coursing through us. We must allow the roots of that vine to bring us nourishment, to bring us life. We must be rooted, Christians rooted in the true teachings of Christ. We cannot water down the message of the Gospel. Because while one drop is small, enough drops can make an ocean, a vast ocean spanning between us and where Christ desires us to be. We must be radical, radical Christians ready to serve the Lord with every ounce of our being. It is only in being radical, in being rooted, will we bear the fruit of vine. It is only then that we will be living as true Church, as followers of Jesus Christ and His Gospel.