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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 16, 2011

Signs of God's love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Through volunteer work, Christians become signs of God's love in the world, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Especially at a time of serious economic crisis, moral uncertainty and social tension, Christian volunteers show "that goodness exists and that it is growing in our midst," the pope said Nov. 11

in a speech to participants at a Vatican meeting on Catholic volunteer activity in Europe.

The pope thanked the European volunteers and "the millions of Catholic volunteers who contribute, regularly and generously, to the church's charitable mission throughout the world."

As he wrote in his first en-

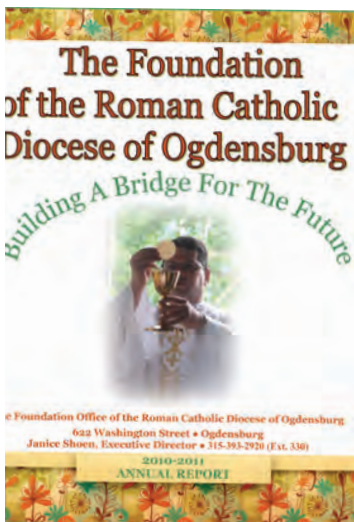
cyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), the pope said Catholic charitable activity isn't simply philanthropy, it's a reflection of Christian faith and the obligation to love others as Christ loved.

"His grace perfects, strengthens and elevates" the basic human vocation to love others and "enables us to serve others without re-

ward, satisfaction or any recompense," the pope said.

At the same time, through volunteering "we also become visible instruments of his love in a world that still profoundly yearns for that love amid the poverty, loneliness, marginalization and ignorance that we see all around us," Pope Benedict said.

Annual report of diocesan Foundation



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Development Campaign

Annual Catholic Campaign for Human Development is set for this weekend in parishes

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BLESS THIS CHILD

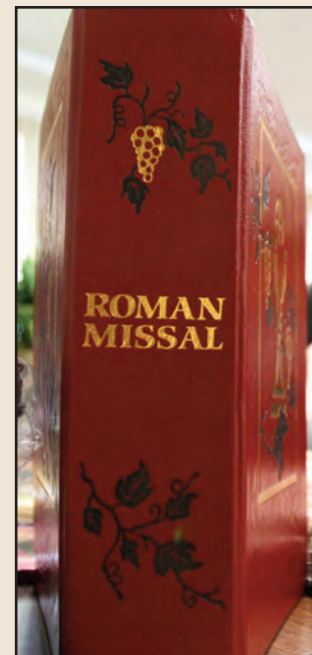


PHOTO BY KRISTINA DEAN

Father Arthur LaBaff, pastor in Clayton and dean of Jefferson Deanery made a trip to St. Mary's Church in Evans Mills Nov. 4 to preside at the installation of Father Thomas Kommeyer as pastor in Evans Mills, Theresa and Philadelphia. After the Mass, Father LaBaff blessed baby Ava Frey, shown with her mother Christi Frey and grandmother Rose Perkins.

COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS

For the new translation



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

A copy of the third edition of the Roman Missal is displayed on a table during a workshop to prepare priests of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY, for its implementation. The new Roman Missal will go into use in the United States Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent. Catholics in the Diocese of Ogdensburg have been preparing for its implementation with regional workshops and parish study sessions during the past several months. Special training sessions have also been held for priests, deacons, parish musicians and teachers.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE: A call to Catholic women.... p. 16

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Partnering with our parishes

Church news – even in the *North Country Catholic* – often focuses on events around the world, in the country and across the diocese.

This week, we're devoting four pages to the diocesan Foundation; next week will feature coverage of the diocesan Harvest Mass and the week after that, the annual diocesan financial report.

We'll also be reporting on the bishops' annual meeting in Washington and our own bishop's first *ad limina* meeting in Rome.

This is all important – and we hope, *sometimes*, compelling news, but we Catholics don't really live our faith on a national or even diocesan level.

For that we need our parishes.

In our parishes, we pray together, meet God in the sacraments and follow the commands to feed the hungry, comfort those who grieve and teach our children.

For the most part, diocesan programs are established to make sure that ministry can actually happen in the parishes.

That's certainly the philosophy of Sister Donna Franklin, our Catholic Charities director. She recently brought a new Daughter of Charity to the diocese to serve as Parish Partnership Coordinator, to

help parishioners find the resources they need to do the ministry they *know* needs to be done.

Sister Mary Lou Stubbs is quickly finding her way around the diocese, spending the past couple of weeks meeting with each of the deans.

She comes to northern New York after decades of service in the southern United States. Most recently, she was executive director of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Little Rock, Ark., but she's happy to leave administrative work "and get my

feet back on the ground."

"I love working with parishes," Sister Mary Lou said. "The Gospel is lived at its closest possible level in the parishes. People in the parish know the needs of their community and they have the skills to address them.

"Sometimes they just need help to find the resources to fill the gaps and that's what I hope to do," she said.

The native of Winnipeg isn't afraid of the winter weather she's about to face and is already impressed by the friendliness of the people she's met in the diocese.

Here at the *NCC*, we add our words of welcome to all those she will hear in the coming months.

After all, a diocese can never have too many Mary Lous!



Mary Lou Kilian

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

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CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

Solemnity of Christ the King Selfless Love - Nov. 19-20

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ
Director of Evangelization

After World War I, the world increasingly became more atheistic and secular. Pope Pius XI established the feast of Christ the King in 1925 to counteract this movement. This feast is to be celebrated on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time.

The celebration of Christ the King addresses our behavior in anticipation of the future coming of Christ as King at the end of the world.

The theme for this Sunday's readings is "The Lord is Shepherd and King." He is the triumphant risen Lord who brings life to His people.

It is in the Eucharist we celebrate that we recall the ultimate triumph of Christ when we pray, "Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, all glory and honor is yours . . ." It is in the everyday living that we, the flock, who follow the lead of the Good Shepherd.

There is nothing that the Good Shepherd would not do for His flock. He looks after His flock with love, concern, and compassion. He protects the flock and its members from harm and heals them when they have suffered injury.

There ought to be nothing that we want or need as Christ continues to shepherd His people. God has always cared for His flock and will continue to do so until the end of time.

He is also Judge. The readings from Ezekiel and Matthew challenge us as a family of faith to recognize that the Good Shepherd, the Lord of Life is ultimately in charge.

He will not overlook the harm that can come to the flock, especially when they have not been fed, or clothed, or set free.

The Judge is slow in anger and kind in mercy, but He has given us all a responsibility to contribute to the up-building of the Body of Christ.

The responsibility is not left only to the leaders of the Church, but to all of the flock to be kind and merciful towards one another.

In whatever we can do to reach out to our neighbor, that is, family, friend, coworker, and every other human being, we are fulfilling the calling the Good Shepherd gives us to preach the Gospel.

We will all be judged by the way we love one another. Our active selfless love prepares for the coming of Christ the King at the end of time. T

he caring of the flock, the reaching out and finding the lost, and taking the time to be concerned is the embracing love of the Good Shepherd for His flock.

Thus, the full circle of Christ's love to the world becomes complete when we have been compassionate and forgiving toward one another.

Our active love finishes the act of redemption and the handing over of all creation to God at the end of time.

Today as we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, we have reason to be grateful to Him who has reconciled and redeemed us by His selfless love on the Cross.

In the celebration of the Mass there is a relationship between the Eucharistic Liturgy and Christian Living.

Those who worship and receive the Body of Christ in the Eucharist are called to serve Him in the lowliest and most vulnerable members of society.

In times of struggle, pain, and confusion, we turn our hearts and minds to the Lord, who, in His Church, will shepherd us along the path that leads to life.

As our Church Liturgical Year ends and we begin anew, we pray that all of the Shepherd's flock will follow Him and reach our goal "that God may be all in all" (1 Cor. 15:28).

Next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin with the new words and deeper meaning of the Eucharistic Liturgy.

Your full and active participation unites heaven and earth to praise the glory of Christ the King. How will you engage more fully in the Eucharistic celebration?

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IN PRAYER, LEARNING AND STEWARDSHIP

FACES OF FAITH

PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN
 Daughter of Charity Sister Mary Lou Stubbs has joined the diocesan Catholic Charities staff as Parish Partnership Coordinator. She comes to the North Country after serving as executive director of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Little Rock, Ark. In her new position, Sister Mary Lou will be traveling to parishes across the diocese to assist parishioners in establishing and expanding local ministries.



PHOTO BY DEACON JAMES CHAUFY
 A small group from St. Martin's Church, Port Leyden, is shown preparing for the changes in the Roman Missal with the booklet *Lifting Up Our Hearts* from RENEW International. The facilitators of the group are Deacon James Chaufy and Christine Chaufy. Pictured, from left, are Bill Manning, Betty Green, Chris Chaufy, Martha Campbell and Karen Brown.



PHOTO BY KRISTINA DEAN
 Father Arthur LaBaff, left, pastor in Clayton and dean of Jefferson Deanery, looks on as Father Thomas Kornmeyer reads a pledge to his new parishes. Father Kornmeyer was installed as pastor of St. Mary's, Evans Mills; St. Theresa of Avila in Theresa and St. Joseph's in Philadelphia during a Nov. 4 Mass at St. Mary's.



PHOTO BY ANN CHARLEBOIS
 Bruce Lynch of Holy Family Church in Watertown, father of Father Shane Lynch of Lake Pleasant, is pictured with a display of four hand-crafted crosses he created from the oak pews that Holy Family had removed during the large renovation of the church. Selling the crosses has been an innovative fund raiser for Holy Family.

INDIAN LAKE KNIGHTS



Knights of Columbus District Deputy John Ryan and District Warden Peter Keenan installed the officers of Indian Lake Knights of Columbus Council 13102 Oct. 11. The Indian Lake Council is a small, but active organization. On Sept. 17 the 49-member council conducted its annual golf tournament. At a council meeting following the installation of officers, the members voted to contribute the tournament's entire \$2,500 proceeds to five local families or individuals to assist them in the purchase fuel for the coming winter season. The members also welcomed Father Philip Allen, the newly named administrator of St. Mary's Church in Indian Lake, as their council chaplain. Shown, from left, are treasurer John Groll, trustee Dominick Curcio, financial secretary Chris Gallagher, chaplain Father Allen, recorder Thomas Kurimsky, grand knight David Harrington and Warden Joe Austin.

NAME THAT SAINT



All Saints Day was celebrated at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga with 5th through 8th graders dressed as saints and holding a "Name that Saint" all school assembly. Natalie O'Neil, as St. Katherine Drexel, Conner LaRock as St. Nicholas, and Ariane Mercer, as St. Bernadette of Lourdes are pictured above.

Vote to maintain 9% contribution rate

Lay Employees Retirement Committee holds meeting

By Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

OGDENSBURG - The Lay Employees' Retirement Committee held its annual meeting Oct. 28 at the Diocesan Central Offices in Ogdensburg.

After reviewing all information presented to it at the meeting, the committee unanimously approved a recommendation to Bishop LaValley to maintain a contribution rate of 9% of lay employee salaries to support the Plan in 2011-12.

Bishop LaValley approved this recommendation.

After introductions and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting the Plan's actuary, Mr. Carmine DeRubeis of Frank J. Walters & Associates, presented highlights of the Plan's actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2011. The valuation showed the required contribution in 2011-12 to be \$908,940, significantly lower than that of one year earlier (\$1,411,325). This results in a required contribution rate of 7.4% before applying advance contributions.

The main factor for this difference is the decision of the diocese to amend the Plan benefit design effective July 1, 2011, for all active and future employees. The benefit accrual factor for employees changed from 1.6% of salary to 1.28% of salary paid after July 1, 2011, and the calculation of the retirement benefit was changed from Final Average Salary (average of highest five years of salary) to Career Average Salary.

The valuation also showed that after applying advance contributions from prior years the calculated net contribution rate for 2011-12 is 5.4%. However, Mr. DeRubeis presented to the committee forecasts of the required contribution rates over the next three and ten years

which demonstrated the need to maintain the 9% contribution rate applied to lay employee salaries paid by diocesan employers to support the Plan. Even in maintaining a 9% contribution rate it is possible that the contribution rate could rise above 10% within the next three years, depending upon investment return on the Plan's portfolio during that time. Another factor in suggesting to the committee continuing the 9% contribution rate is the fact that the Plan is 87% funded as of July 1, 2011. This is an improvement as compared to one year earlier, when the Plan was 77% funded. While improvement is welcome, the committee still seeks to achieve full funding of the Plan in the future.

Mr. DeRubeis also stated that the market value of Plan assets available to pay benefits to current retirees is more than sufficient as of July 1, 2011, as the market value is 175% of projected liabilities to current retirees.

Michael Valenti of Manning & Napier Advisors, Inc., the Plan's primary investment manager, shared investment performance of the Plan's portfolio for the 2010-11 fiscal year, as well as for the first three months of the 2011-12 year. In 2010-11 the investment portfolio showed a rate of return of 21.6%, an excellent result which is in excess of the target rate of 8% used as an actuarial assumption. The portfolio balance as of June 30, 2011 was \$25,057,688, which is \$3.7 million below the present value of future Plan benefits.

Mr. Valenti stated his firm's opinion that the country will experience a slow to no growth economy for the next 12 to 24 months, but even in such an environment there is opportunity to make money in the financial markets. Manning & Napier Advisors

believes the Plan's investment portfolio is positioned to do well, based on its long term view of the value of growth stocks.

Investment performance was down approximately 10% in the quarter ending September 30, 2011, but subsequent to that time there has been some recovery in the markets. Investors should be braced for continued volatility in the markets in the near future.

Michael Tooley, Diocesan Fiscal Officer, presented financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, as well as for prior years, to the committee. The Plan increased its net assets by \$4,047,855 in the 2010-11 fiscal year, the second year in a row that net assets increased after the severe loss experienced in 2008-09 (-\$7.95 million). The market value of Plan investments is \$25.26 million, versus its book value of \$22.64 million.

Since its inception in 1967 the Plan has generated \$46.36 million in revenue, and paid out \$21.43 million in benefits and administrative expenses. 60% of the total revenue is generated from investment income and market value appreciation, 40% from employer contributions.

Members of the Lay Employees' Retirement Committee are: Mary Lou Kilian (chairperson), Editor/General Manager, North Country Catholic; Rev. Christopher Carrara, Pastor, St. Peter's Church, Lowville; Cynthia Elliott, Catholic Charities; Msgr. John Murphy, Moderator of the Curia; Lisa Parsons, Principal, Immaculate Heart Central Jr./Sr. High School, Watertown; Joan Rufa, Principal, Trinity Catholic School, Massena; Rev. Alan Shnob, Pastor, St. Augustine's Church, Peru; Colleen Steele, Administrator, St. Joseph's Home, Ogdensburg.

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Bishop LaValley's Schedule

Nov. 14 - 17 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops General Meeting in Baltimore, MD.

Nov. 19 – 10 a.m., Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting at St. James Minor Church in Carthage.

Nov. 20 – 11 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

Nov. 21 – 11 a.m., Council of Priests Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg.

Announcement

Bishop LaValley has named Father Guy (Bill) Edwards as part-time parochial vicar of The Roman Catholic Church of Saint John the Baptist in Plattsburgh. Father Edwards will also be available at times to cover for other priests in the Diocese. He has recently retired as chaplain to Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora. The new assignment is effective immediately.

Rest in Peace

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

Nov. 16 – Rev. Alexis Trudeau, O.M.I., 1885; Rev. Martin C. Mullen, 1904; Rev. John Henry O'Rourke, 1930; Rev. John H. McCloskey, O.S.A., 1957; Rev. George F. Sykes, 2007

Nov. 17 – Rev. Edward V. Murphy, 1907; Rev. George D. Boucher, 1954; Rev. Romuald A. Wolski, O.F.M. Conv., 1976

Nov. 18 – Rev. Edward J. Shea, O.S.A., 1931

Nov. 20 – Rev. Robert J. Booth, 1939

Nov. 21 – Msgr. Joseph L. Tierney, P.A., 1968

Nov. 22 – Rev. Bernard Caraher, 1893; Rev. James F. Lamitie, 2010

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 by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Further information: Sister Ellen Donahue, phone, 315-393-2920, ext. 403. Upcoming programs:

Nov. 16 - 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Heart Primary, Watertown

Nov. 17 - 6 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, Chazy



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May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified throughout the whole world, forever and ever, Amen.

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Building A Bridge For The Future



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622 Washington Street • Ogdensburg

Janice Shoen, Executive Director • 315-393-2920 (Ext. 330)

**2010-2011
ANNUAL REPORT**

Passing Our Living Faith to Future Generations

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Over the past year and a half since the Holy Father selected me to be your Bishop, I have met with hundreds of faith-filled people of the North Country. It is inspiring to witness your commitment to your parishes, schools and ministries in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



It is in the same commitment that was the inspiration for the founding of The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, NY, Inc. in 2007. The mission of The Foundation is "to pass our living faith to future generations by financially supporting the charitable, spiritual, educational and temporal works of the Catholic Community of the Diocese of Ogdensburg."

I am pleased to share with you this 2010 Annual Report. With sincere gratitude, I reflect on this past year, noting that despite the current economic challenges, we continually make every effort to provide for the growing needs with the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

I am moved by the faithfulness of the Catholics across our Diocese and for your generous gifts that assist in making a difference in the lives of many of our fellow North Country residents through the endowments that are listed in this publication.

I am grateful to the Board of Directors for their willingness to serve in this capacity. They have demonstrated a wise and generous stewardship in overseeing the investments and dividends of the funds of The Foundation.

The Foundation is an instrument for you to make a legacy for the next generation and generations to come. Ask yourself, years from now, "What will be my legacy?"

I pray that you and your families will be abundantly blessed.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Foundation is to pass our living faith to future generations by financially supporting the charitable, spiritual, educational and temporal works of the Catholic Community of the Diocese of Ogdensburg by accepting donations or endowment funds from donors and the administration of these funds.

In fulfilling its mission, The Foundation will:

- Provide estate planning and charitable giving information and assistance.
- Provide gifting vehicles in which the Church or related entities are the designated beneficiary.
- Provide responsible and financial management and distribution of earnings that further the mission of the Catholic Church.

Catholics are called by God to protect human life, to promote dignity, to defend those who are poor, to strengthen the Church and to seek the common good. The Foundation exists to help Catholics live out this sacred mission of the Church, through the wise stewardship and thoughtful sharing of their financial resources.

The Foundation will provide permanent endowments and memorial funds for donors who want to give lasting support to parishes, schools, religious and social service ministries in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

WHY A CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

Endowments through The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, Inc. provide permanent annual income for all years ahead solely for the specific religious purposes designed by the donor. Our donors enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that their gift will give steady annual income to the causes that have been most meaningful in their lives. Such causes include ministries and projects within parishes, agencies, organizations and Catholic schools.

HOW THE FOUNDATION WORKS

The Foundation solicits and receives planned gifts to benefit the people and communities of the Diocese as designated by donors. Prudent financial management of the funds is entrusted to the Board of Directors comprised of distinguished Church, business and civic leaders. A professional staff administers the day to day operation of The Foundation and oversees the distribution of annual earnings from the funds. Assets are managed by investment professionals.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

Dear Friends,

The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, Inc. has been "Building a Bridge for the Future" over the last four years thanks to the caring and participation of many people and parishes across the North Country.

The Foundation is a powerful instrument in which legacies can be left to strengthen and advance the Church through endowments.

An endowed fund through The Foundation is a way of giving that creates a permanent source of support to the various ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Endowments represent a very personal, long-term commitment to the work of the Church in a thoughtful manner that is consistent with the faithful Christian stewardship.

The Foundation welcomes the opportunity to work with parishes and individuals to achieve their philanthropic goals.

Gifts may be made to an existing endowed fund by parishes, individuals, families, agencies or schools or they can create a new endowment fund. Funds may be named in memory or honor of a family member, friend or loved one – or remain anonymous when privacy is desired. A wide variety of methods are available to assist in establishing a legacy of faith.

This is my last official Annual Report letter as Executive Director of The Foundation as I will be retiring in March 2012. It has been a great honor and privilege to serve under Bishop Robert Cunningham and Reverend Monsignor John Murphy, who gave me the support to establish The Foundation and to Bishop Terry LaValley who has continued with great enthusiasm in encouraging gifts to The Foundation. I am grateful to those who have had the foresight to establish endowments in The Foundation. Their commitment and generosity will support and nurture a broad range of essential ministries that will benefit our faith community in the North Country for generations to come.

God Bless!

Sincerely,

Janice A. Shoen
Executive Director

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

We recognize and understand as a Catholic Foundation entirely separate from the Diocese but in all ways accountable to both the Diocese and our donors, we are sustained by public trust and laws that confer upon us a special responsibility to society and the Roman Catholic Church. We further acknowledge that this responsibility can be met by full, open and public disclosure of all our affairs.



Reverend Arthur LaBaff
Pastor, St. Mary's Church, Clayton &
St. John the Evangelist Church, LaFargeville

Methods of Giving

Type of Gift	Form of Gift	Benefit to Church	Benefit to You
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Wills & Bequests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Real estate • Personal property • Percentage of estate • Remainder of estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bequest will be held in perpetuity and invested to fund The Foundation needs as designated by the donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible estate tax deduction • Opportunity to make perpetual gifts
Charitable Gift Annuities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Stocks/securities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon the death of the donor or last surviving annuitant remaining assets generate interest income for The Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible estate tax deduction • Opportunity to make perpetual gifts
Insurance Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name The Foundation as policy owner and/or beneficiary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives full face value of policy upon death of the donor, or may receive current surrender value prior to donor's death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to make substantial future gift to The Foundation at current manageable cost • Income tax deduction for value of the policy when transferred • Premium payments may be deducted as gifts
Real Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home • Land • Vacation Home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives the proceeds from the sale of the property at your death or sooner if so desired by the Donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be given with life use • Can be given without incurring tax on the appreciation
Charitable Remainder Trusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Stocks/securities • Real estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives substantial future gifts to support the work of The Foundation and the charities named by the donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable or fixed income • Option to defer income • Income tax deduction • Reduction of estate taxes • No capital gains tax on appreciated gift (or deferred in some instances)
Retirement Plan/IRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name The Foundation as beneficiary of death benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant gift upon death of donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to make a major gift • Estate and income tax savings
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in the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, Inc.

- Reverend Norman Poupore Endowment** – Support of Priests' Disabilities
Catholic Charities Endowment – Corporate purposes
Society of the Sisters of St. Joseph Endowment – Corporate purposes
Society of the Propagation of the Faith Endowment – Corporate purposes
St. Joseph's Home Foundation Endowment – Corporate purposes
Catherine Aurelia Endowment – Bishop's Charities and Religious Works
Reverend Anthony A. Milia Endowment – Support of the Diocesan Archives
Building For Tomorrow Endowment – Operating expenses of the Catholic Community of Alexandria
Education of Seminarians Endowment – Funding to the annual operating budget
Faylene LeRoux Endowment – Support of Catholic Education
Formation For Ministry Endowment – Parish financial assistance and annual operating budget
Guggenheim/Hughes Endowment – Support of capital needs of Guggenheim Center
Leona Schlafly Endowment – General purposes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
Reverend James Meehan Endowment – Special care of priests
St. Mary's Cathedral Endowment – Support of general operations
Joseph & Joyce Sylvester Endowment – General operating needs of St. Anthony's, Watertown
Guggenheim Maintenance Endowment – Maintain the main camp building, boathouse and grounds
Spratt Memorial Endowment – Support capital needs
St. Alexander's Catholic Education Endowment – Support of Catholic education at parish
Alice Austin Trust Mass Endowment – Masses at St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor
Lawrence R. Robinson Trust Mass Endowment – Masses at St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor
St. Augustine's Church Endowment – General purposes
Margaret Brothers Endowment – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point
Victor West Endowment – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point
St. Mary's Champlain NY Endowment – Support of St. Mary's Academy and St. Mary's Church
Reverend W. Cyril Rapin Endowment – Support of disabled priests
Good Samaritan Endowment – Christian charity to the people of the North Country
Holy Family Strauss Educational Endowment – Promote Catholic education
Deacon Adam Crowe Scholarship – Education of Seminarians
William Cornish Endowment – St. Henry's Church, EWTN, Diocese
Donald J. Grant – General purposes of RC Community of Brownville & Dexter
St. Lawrence Church – General purposes of St. Lawrence Church in North Lawrence
St. Patrick's Church Shamrock – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls
ME Walton Good Samaritan – Needs of parishioners at St. Cyril's and St. Francis Xavier
Special Care of Priests – Funding for annual operating budget
Alice Austin Mass Endowment – Masses at Queen of Heaven Church, Henderson
St. Francis of Assisi – 50% Diocese, 50% Covenant House
NET ASSETS AS OF JUNE 30, 2011 - \$3,748,856



CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Study finds less depression among weekly churchgoers

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Past studies have shown that those who attend religious services at least weekly tend to live longer and healthier lives. Now, new research indicates that frequent churchgoers also face those additional years with more optimism and greater social support than other people. A study involving more than 92,000 postmenopausal women showed that those who reported weekly attendance at religious services were 56 percent more likely to be above the median in terms of their optimism level. They also were significantly less likely to be depressed or to be characterized by cynical hostility. Titled "Psychological and Social Characteristics Associated with Religiosity in Women's Health Initiative Participants," the study was published in *Journal of Religion and Health* Nov. 11. The research was conducted by a team led by Eliezer Schnall, clinical associate professor of psychology at Yeshiva University in New York. In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service Nov. 10, Schnall said the study was a natural follow-up to his earlier research showing that those who attended weekly religious services had a lower mortality rate over the eight-year period studied than those who attended less frequently or not at all. The new study was "one of the first to look at" whether there were negative factors or social strains associated with frequent church attendance, particularly among such a large sample group, Schnall said. He compared such factors to the negative side effects that can sometimes accompany the use of beneficial medications. The research team postulated that "maybe there could be some social strains having to do with religious identification or networks or associations," he said. "For example, it could be a support system but discourage associating with others not of the belief system, or be a source of strife in marriages or fodder for disagreement" with other relatives or friends.

Catholic college sues federal gov't over contraception mandate

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (CNS) -- Belmont Abbey College is suing the federal government over a new regulation that requires employer health insurance plans to provide free coverage of contraceptives and sterilization, even if it may be contrary to their religious beliefs. In its lawsuit, Belmont Abbey College argues that the contraception regulation forces it to violate its religious beliefs or pay a severe fine. Named in the suit are the federal departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and Treasury and their respective heads: Secretaries Kathleen Sebelius, Hilda Solis and Timothy Geithner. "A monk at Belmont Abbey may preach on Sunday that pre-marital sex, contraception and abortions are immoral, but on Monday, the government would force the same monk to pay for students to receive the very drugs and procedures he denounces," said Hannah Smith, senior legal counsel at the Becket Fund, in a statement issued Nov. 10. The new contraception mandate is part of implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, which sets up new preventative health care coverage specifically for women at no cost. That coverage includes services such as mammograms, prenatal care and cervical cancer screenings. But it also mandates free contraception, sterilizations and drugs (such as ella and "Plan B") considered by the church to be abortifacients - all of which are contrary to Catholic teaching. A 60-day comment period followed Sebelius' Aug. 1 announcement of the mandate and proposed exemption. That period ended Sept. 30. After such a comment period, a federal agency could issue a revised final rule "or confirm the interim rule as final."

New Army chief of chaplains, an Albany priest, says: Chaplains care for soldiers' religious, morale needs

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

ARLINGTON, VA. (CNS) - Soldiers "are making life and death decisions" every day in Iraq and Afghanistan, and military chaplains "are out there in the field with them day in and day out," said the Catholic priest who is the new Army chief of chaplains.

"We are taking care of people who are most in need at a time they're far away. We've had some soldiers deployed four and five times," said Father Donald Rutherford, a major general and chief of chaplains since July 22.

"They are fighting for our freedom" and freedom "for other people to care for themselves," Father Rutherford said in an interview with Catholic News Service in his office at the Pentagon.

The 56-year-old priest of the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., was nominated for the top post and a promotion in rank from brigadier general in February after serving as deputy chief since November 2007.

Despite the ongoing debate about the U.S.-led wars in Afghanistan and Iraq - and what has been one of the longest uninterrupted periods of combat in the nation's history - surveys show that people rank the military higher than law or medicine as a profession, he noted. Less than 1 percent of the U.S. population is currently serving in uniform.

The country really needs "to support those soldiers that are there" and understand combat is only part of the story.

"We always hear about the war aspect, not the humanitarian," he said. "When you go into a village in Afghanistan or Iraq ... you can see the good our soldiers are doing."

Father Rutherford's military career began with Army

ROTC at Catholic-run Siena College in Loudonville, N.Y. He graduated in 1977 as a commissioned officer, but he put his military commitment on hold to attend the seminary. He was ordained in 1981 and also went into the Army Reserve.

After his bishop gave him permission to become an Army chaplain, he went on active duty in 1990.

His path to the Pentagon has included serving in the Persian Gulf War and in Iraq and Afghanistan. He has been with the 3rd Infantry Division and the 82nd Airborne, among other units. He has earned a number of decorations, including the Bronze Star.

The priest came under fire when he was in Iraq in 2005-06, and the chaplain assistant who protected him there is still by his side, serving on his staff at the Pentagon.

"Chaplains go forward on the battlefield and they are getting shot at, without weapons," Father Rutherford said, explaining that as non-combatants, chaplains are unarmed but "are well protected. ... We always have a chaplain assistant with us."

According to 2010 statistics, the latest available, the Army has about 2,900 full- and part-time chaplains. Among them are about 180 Catholic priests, with 99 priests on active duty. Many of these are older and several are retiree recalls. The chaplain corps also includes nine rabbis, six imams, two Buddhists and one Hindu; 139 chaplains are female.

In the Army, one in five soldiers is Catholic; only about one in 16 chaplains are Catholic priests.

A former recruiter of chaplains, Father Rutherford would like to see more Catholic priests consider the chaplaincy corps -- "if you want to go out and do diverse ministry, work with people from diverse back-

grounds, want to meet people from various different denominations, different views."

Among their many duties, chaplains assist in getting soldiers ready to be deployed, helping prepare them for separation from their families. They also are there to help them readjust to life back home when they return. Those assigned to serve in the field celebrate Mass for the troops there, hear confessions and provide counsel.

Besides the deaths and physical injuries suffered in Iraq and Afghanistan, the two wars have taken an emotional and psychological toll, leading to depression and suicide for some.

It's a major concern for chaplains, who "are trained for this," Father Rutherford said, explaining that the military has several programs in place, including one called "strong bonds" aimed at building relationships.

Another program, written by a chaplain, is called ACE, for "Ask, Care and Escort." Each soldier receives a small laminated ACE card, Father Rutherford said, explaining the steps: "'Ask' your buddy what's going on, and if they tell you something's wrong, you 'care' for them and you do the best you can until you can ... 'escort' them to get proper care either from a chaplain or health person."

Asked whether the end of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, the ban on gays openly serving in the military, will impact chaplains' work, Father Rutherford said: "We're going to take care of the soldiers we took care of before. We perform and provide ... and if you are unable to by your conscience, you would go and get someone to help them at all costs."

"We're going to do just what we did for 236 years," he said, "take care of the soldier and their family."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Celebrating the Feast of Christ the King

On this last Sunday that ends the Church Year, we always celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

It's true that His kingship extends to every nation on earth, for He is Lord of Lords, and King of Kings.

But what a different kind of king! And what a price He paid for His victory!

Born in a barn, raised as a poor carpenter, opposed by the great ones of his society,



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

condemned to die as a criminal, but raised from the dead to prove the truth of his message and the power of his authority. What kind of a king was He? Humble, gentle, and merciful in judgment. That's the message of all of today's readings.

His reign can strike terror to His enemies, but relief and hope to ordinary sinners like ourselves. The first reading from

Ezekiel portrays God's anger with evil earthly kings who have sought their own glory and gain at the expense of their subjects.

In effect, those who have reigned as despots and thieves.

God says, in effect, "Move over! I myself will shepherd my people. "The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the sick I will heal..." Nevertheless "I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats".

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us of the bat-

NOV. 20

The Feast of Christ the King

READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Matthew 25:31-46

les Christ fought against all enemies to be supreme over all Kings.

His credentials?

The price He paid by His death on the Cross. And, at the end, He will turn all His triumphs over to His beloved Father! What a

tremendous final vision!

The Gospel is the masterpiece of all. God is seated on His Throne. Before Him we can see a vast throng. It is Judgment Day.

The test for each person on earth will be how closely they acted toward their brothers and sisters in this world as Jesus Himself acted!

Here is indeed a King of mercy and justice!

Our only appropriate response is to get down on our knees and cry, "O King of Kings, we praise You! Be merciful to me, a sinner."

OUR READERS WRITE

EWTN series tells OUR story

I would like your readers to know about a series that will be coming to television stations across the country. Actually it has already started, just not in our viewing area here in Ogdensburg.

On November 16th through the 19th EWTN will be airing five episodes of the much anticipated "CATHOLICISM" series by Father Robert Barron.

With the blessing of his Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago, Fr. Barron a theologian has traveled to 15 different countries around the world for more than 3 years filming this dynamic series depicting the Catholic Faith in an UNPRECEDENTED way.

This series is filmed in High Definition and is not only an artful masterpiece, but finally tells OUR STORY --- the CATHOLIC STORY from our OWN perspective.

This series covers topics such as, why as Catholics we believe God truly exists.

It addresses creation, the 'big bang' theory and evolution.

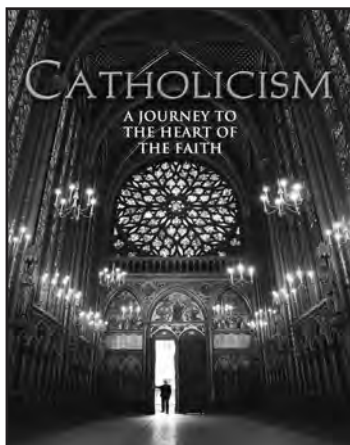
It covers marriage and the family as 'first Church', the Sacraments, and it addresses even the tough topics - like the clergy sex abuse scandal.

Fr. Barron covers the Faith from beginning to End in the full ten, one-hour episodes that are also available on DVD.

Check your TV listings to see the times that these specially edited episodes will be appearing on EWTN. Do not forget to set your DVR, VCR, or video Recorder should you not be able to watch at the times scheduled.

This would be a GREAT "EVENT" to invite family and friends over to watch together. This is something EVERY CATHOLIC will enjoy WATCHING, no matter WHERE they might be in their "Faith Journey".

I would like to add --- that like me, you may have many friends and even relatives who are VERY CRITICAL of the Catholic Church, who really don't under-



stand its teachings. I know what they are talking about...I was one of them once and left the church for 25 years, vowing NEVER to return. (Never say never...isn't that what they also say?)

There are those of us who might think that the church is antiquated, not relevant, and out of touch. You might believe Her to be closed-minded and not very understanding and insist that She

CHANGE and become more so.

Well, here is an opportunity for US to be UNDERSTANDING and OPEN-MINDED as well. I know that being open-minded means looking at BOTH sides of the story so that we can make an objective decision.

We cannot just be judge and jury without listening to "the other side". Here is an opportunity to get answers to questions that you don't understand about the Catholic Faith.

You owe it to yourself to watch this series... especially if there are aspects of the faith you don't agree with, or that you actually don't understand.

I like to consider myself open-minded, or I would NOT have EVER returned to the Catholic Faith. When faced with the facts and especially the historical evidence I was convinced of my error and returned to the Catholic Church who accepted me with open arms!

I encourage you to be open-minded too. Watch this series and get the story

from the "horse's mouth" ...instead of some media commentator, your neighbor, a rogue layman, or the man on the street. Thanks For listening to my rant.

God Bless you at *North Country Catholic*.

SINCERELY YOURS,

BILL O'BRIEN
OGDENSBURG

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the *North Country Catholic*.

•Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300.

•We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

•Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org



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AT THE MOVIES

J. EDGAR

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Over a career that began during World War I and endured almost until the era of Watergate, famed founding director of the FBI J. Edgar Hoover (1895-1972) battled communists, gangsters, Nazi spies, the Kennedys, the civil rights movement and (albeit reluctantly) the Mafia.

That's a lot of time and a lot of conflict for one movie, which is perhaps why "J. Edgar" (Warner Bros.) - Clint Eastwood's biographical drama starring Leonardo DiCaprio as the G-man many love to hate - registers, ultimately, as polished but taxing. All the more so since an attempt to reconstruct Hoover's enigmatic personal life, a subject of much gossip then and considerable controversy now, is thrown into the mix as well.

As scripted by Dustin Lance Black, the film informally chronicles Hoover's rise from obscure bureaucrat to power-besotted keeper of the nation's secrets.

Yet its exploration of the three main relationships in Hoover's life - with his domineering mother, Annie (Judi Dench), his girlfriend-turned-secretary, Helen Gandy (Naomi Watts), and his No. 2 at the bureau, Clyde Tolson (Armie Hammer) - feels sensationalized at times. A case in point: a fistfight between Hoover and Tolson that consummates in a kiss.

Let it be noted, however that said stolen smooch - more or less exacted by Tolson from a surprised, if not necessarily unwilling, Hoover - is the furthest extent of physical intimacy between the two men portrayed on screen.

There's certainly a lot of pent-up tension between them; the dust-up, for in-

stance, results from Tolson's jealous rage over Hoover's romance with Hollywood glamour girl Hedy Lamarr.

And there's also the occasional, ambiguous pat on the hand. But whether their well-documented daily companionship over several decades extended into the bedroom is left up to viewers to decide.

Given that Black also penned 2008's "Milk," it may not be unfair to ask whether this aspect of a historical figure's life is being exploited to advance a contemporary political agenda.

Hoover's self-justifying rhetoric in defense of his crime-fighting methods, for instance, does invite reflection on the current debate about the balance between national security and individual liberty. But the idea that his (apparently) conflicted sexuality can serve as a weapon in today's culture wars seems strained.

As depicted here, Hoover is too idiosyncratic, and decidedly too unsympathetic,

to be co-opted as an icon of gay victimization -- authentic or otherwise.

Steely mom Annie voices a horrifying preference for a dead son over one exposed as a homosexual, and Tolson frequently plays the role of Hoover's conscience on issues of FBI policy. Yet there's no suggestion that if Annie - and society at large - would just have lightened up, Tolson and Hoover could somehow have walked hand in hand into a lavender sunset and found peace together.

Questions of advocacy aside, "J. Edgar" includes material calculated to make it uncomfortable viewing even for mature audience members.

The gothic nature of Hoover's filial situation, for instance, reaches a climax in a scene, set after Annie's death, that - mildly at least - evokes Anthony Perkins' interaction with his memorable screen mom in that Victorian fixer-upper above the Bates Motel.

The film contains brief in-



CNS PHOTO/WARNER BROS.

Leonardo DiCaprio stars in a scene from the movie "J. Edgar."

tense but bloodless violence, a scene of semi-graphic adultery, homosexual and transvestite themes, a same-sex kiss, at least one use of profanity and a couple of rough terms.

The Catholic News Service

classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

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at 315-608-7556 today for a brochure
and to reserve your seat!

ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid – St. Agnes School will be having a Christmas Bazaar.

Date: Dec. 3

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Features: Baked goods, donuts, new gifts, crafts, toys, wreaths, trees, holiday plants & lots of raffle items. Vendor space is available, please call 518-523-3771 for information.

CLINTON

SETON DINNER & AUCTION

Plattsburgh – Seton will be having its 7th Annual Christmas Dinner and Silent Auction featuring turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

Date: Dec. 4

Time: Noon to 5 p.m.

Place: Seton High School

Cost: Adults-\$9, Seniors (55+) \$7, Children 12-5 years \$5 and under 5 FREE and take outs \$9. Those adults who bring an unwrapped toy or a food item for our drive for the needy will receive \$1 off their adult ticket.

Features: Silent auction, cash raffle, cash and carry items and holiday wreaths. Benefits Seton Academy and Seton Catholic, as always, thank you for your years of support to Catholic education.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT GIFT FOOD FAIR

Champlain – St. Mary's Academy will be having a Christmas, Craft, Gift & Food Fair.

Date: Nov. 19

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Academy Gym

Features: Unique gifts. Admission is free. There will be live holiday music. Lunch will also be served. To reserve a table call 298-8244.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Ellensburg Center – Our Lady of the Adirondacks will be hosting their third Annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

Date: Nov. 24

Time: Noon

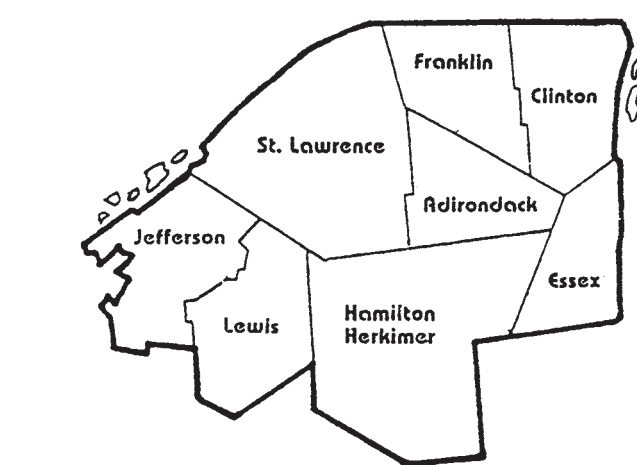
RSVP: olaplayerhouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253

Price: Donations appreciated but not necessary

LAKE CHAMPLAIN BUS FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh – The "Lake Champlain 2012 Bus for Life" will offer concerned citizens an opportunity to attend the march in Washington D.C.

Date: A chartered bus will leave the parking lot of St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. for the Jan. 23 National March For Life and return to Plattsburgh early Jan. 24.



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.

Cost: The cost of the bus is \$25 per seat.
Contact: Betty Buffett (518) 536-6640 or Karen Smith (518) 566-6229.

Donations: If you cannot attend but would like to donate funds for someone who can attend, please send your check or money order to St. Peter's Church 114 Cornelia Street Plattsburgh, New York 12901. Make a notation on the memo line "Bus For Life Donation."

'PRAY ALWAYS' RETREAT

Ellensburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will hold a retreat day

Date: Nov. 19

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the option for an extended overnight retreat ending Sunday at 10 a.m.

Speaker: Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ

Donation: \$25/ day; \$65 for overnight

Features: If you spend the night, individual Spiritual direction, private prayer time, and all meals are included.

Contact: Make reservation at olaplayerhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253 by Nov. 5 to reserve overnight lodging or by Nov. 13 for day retreat only.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Place: St. John's Adoration Chapel,

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

Theme: "Each time we contemplate with desire and devotion the Host in which is hidden Christ's Eucharistic

Body, we increase our merits in heaven and secure special joys to be ours later in the beatific vision of God." (St. Gertrude-Pray for vocations!

Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Keeseville – The Keeseville Altar Rosary Society to sponsor Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Date: Every Sunday

Time: 1 p.m. to 4

Place: Immaculate Conception Church

JEFFERSON

GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS

Watertown – An ecumenical bereavement meeting will be held

Date: Nov. 28

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: SSJ Motherhouse

Features: The Rev. Douglas Ort, ordained minister and trained counselor, will speak on the topic "Bereavement Around the Holidays".

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferight of Watertown will hold its monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the Month.

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: 312 Sherman St.

Features: Liferight is a pro-life educational organization. The office has videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed. Topics covered: infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480; website:

www.liferight.org.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – St. Anthony's Altar Rosary Church will be having Spaghetti Supper.

Date: Nov. 17

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: \$8; children \$4.50; under 3, free; sauce, \$5 per quart meatballs are \$.75

Features: Take-out orders begin at 4 p.m. Please bring your own containers

MYSTERY PLAYERS

Watertown – The Immaculate Heart Mystery Players will be performing this Advent Season.

Schedule is as follows:

Nov. 27: St. Cecilia's in Adams at 7 p.m.

Nov. 30: IHC in Watertown at 1 p.m.

Dec. 4: at Sacred Heart Church in Watertown at 7 p.m.

Dec. 11: St. Cyril's in Alex Bay at 7 p.m.

Dec. 18: Holy Family Church, 7:15 p.m.

More information: www.ihcschools.org/webpages/mysteryplay

ST. LAWRENCE

SAINT CECILIA SING

Ogdensburg – A Diocesan Choir Festival to be held.

Date: Nov. 20

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: Come join us as several choirs from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg gather to sing and give thanks to God for the gift of music. This concert is free and a light reception will follow at Bishop Brzana Parish Hall at the cathedral.

Contact: Ernie Hadley, Cathedral's Music Director for further information at 315-393-3930 or ehadley@saintmaryscathedral.net.

K OF C THANKSGIVING

Ogdensburg – The Msgr. A. D. Charbonneau Council 258 Knights of Columbus and Its Ladies Auxiliary is holding its 20th annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

Date: Nov. 24

Time: from noon until all are served

Place: The Knights' Club Rooms at 721 Hasbrouck

Features: Deliveries are made to shut ins but the focus of the day is around the community spirit and friends getting together at the Club Rooms and people are encouraged to come to the hall.

Volunteers are appreciated Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. to help with food preparations and

decorating the Hall and on Thanksgiving Day at 10:30 A.M. The Knights usually need about 30 helpers. If you can help call the club and leave your name.

Donations: Donations of turkeys and desserts are welcome and can be dropped off at the Club Rooms Monday through Friday from 3:30 to 8:00 P.M. and by Sunday, November 20th, for turkeys' sooner if they are frozen. Desserts are appreciated the night before or morning of Thanksgiving. Monetary Donations and donations of food stuffs such as potatoes, squash canned cranberries and stuffing are also most appreciated. You can mail your checks to the Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Dinner at 721 Hasbrouck Street, Ogdensburg, NY. 13669. Attn: PGK Harry Lucchetti. And drop food stuffs off between 3:30 and 8:00.

Contact: Reservations for the sit down meals and deliveries should be made by Nov. 22. No names need to be given. To make reservations and to arrange for transportation, call the Knights Hall at 393-7990 after 3:30 P.M. any day.

ANNUAL SCHOOL AUCTION

Canton – 8th Annual Auction Night at St. Mary's School

Date: Nov. 18

Time: 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's School gymnasium, 2 Powers Street

Cost: \$15/person advance sale, \$20 at the door

Features: over 200 items in silent and live auctions, hor d'oeuvres, beverages, door prizes, entertainment.

Contact: For more information, please call the school at 315-386-3572.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Ogdensburg – St. Mary's is holding a monthly Holy Hour for Vocations.

Date: Thursday before the First Friday

Time: 8 p.m. to 9

Place: Deacon Winter Chapel

Features: Nocturnal Adoration continues through the night

NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Clifton Park, NY – World renowned Catholic Lay Healers and Evangelists to offer healing and Renewal Days.

Dates: April 20-21, 2012 featuring Maria Vadia of Glory God Ministries and Oct. 12-13, 2012 featuring Bob Canton.

Place: St. Edward the Confessor, 563 Clifton Park Center Rd, Clifton Park, NY
Information: 518-237-7391 or 518-371-7911 or dcn.jmgrigaitis@aol.com



**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

A time of thanks

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

Thanks to all of you throughout our North Country who have so generously given to our brothers and sisters in the developing countries.

I give thanks to Almighty God when I reflect upon your generosity in prayer and sacrifice for the missions. Reaching out to offer material and prayerful support evokes a feeling of unity and solidarity within our entire human family.

Traditionally in the Catholic Church, November has been dedicated as a time of special prayer for our deceased and remembering fondly the joy they brought into our lives.

It is indeed an opportune time the Mission Office to give thanks for our benefactors who were witnesses to the Gospel by their prayers and sacrificial offerings to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

We remember in prayer especially the faithful departed who remembered the Missions in their will.

This remembrance of the mission church is a lasting testament of their good will so others may hear the good news about Jesus Christ's love for them.

The Diocesan Mission Office wishes to acknowledge in thanksgiving the following bequests made to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, whose legal process has been completed this year.

2011 Bequests as of November 17, 2011	
Donor	Gift Amount
The Estate of Mary D'Gregory	\$9,066.75
The Estate of James F. Lamitie	\$1,214.37
The Estate of Rita Parrott	\$6,514.20
The Estate of Pauline F. Robillard	\$2,000.00*
Total:	\$18,795.37

*bequest specified Mass intentions

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will.
www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice



OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Margaret A. (Gero) Trumbull, 57; Funeral Services Nov. 11, 2011 at Holy Name Church.

Cadyville – Paul T. Fittin, 83; Memorial Services Nov. 7, 2011 at St. James Church.

Carthage – Claudine L. (Trainham) Jones, 83; Funeral Nov. 5, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Champlain – Gertrude Maryanne (Bechard) Trombley, 83; Funeral Services Nov. 12, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Coopersville.

Clayton – Joseph B. Carpenter, 91; Funeral Services Nov. 12, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

Colton – Carmen F. Casolaro Jr., 74; Funeral Services Nov. 10, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Utica.

De Kalb Junction – Stephen W. Luther, 61; Funeral Service Nov. 12, 2011 at the Allen-Denesha Funeral Home; burial in Hermon Cemetery.

Gouverneur – Thomas R. Storrin, 65; Funeral Services Nov. 8, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in Hermon Cemetery.

Lowville – Robert R. "Bob" Berry, 63; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2011 at St. Peter's Church.

Massena – Ronald J. "Ronnie" Cole, 72; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Shirley I. (Dutt) Rakoce, 74; Funeral Services Nov. 7, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Florence L. "Tackie" (Clemmo) White, 79; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2011 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Mary E. (Premo) Bartman, 60; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2011 at Foxwood Memorial Park Chapel.

Ogdensburg – James F. Lockhart, 60; Funeral Services Nov. 9, 2011 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – John J. McGrath, 80; Funeral Services Nov. 8, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Bessie B. (Slate) Rush, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 7, 2011 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Fineview Cemetery, Hammond.

Plattsburgh – Marlene P. (Lucia) Murphy, 71; Funeral Services Nov. 11, 2011 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St.

Peter's Cemetery.

Port Henry – Donna Jean Chappell-Rule, 76; Funeral Services Nov. 8, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church.

Saranac Lake – Donna (Sexton) Morehouse, 63; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2011 at the Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in Union Cemetery, Vermontville.

Ticonderoga – Theodore Joseph "Ted" Reale, 80; Funeral Services Nov. 12, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Roger K. Jones, 67; Funeral Services Nov. 7, 2011 at Holy Name Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown – Lilah M. Neddo, Infant; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2011 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.





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YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

Call to Women

By Kristina Dean

Parishioner, St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia

Years ago when I was on the cusp of adolescence and adulthood, during one conversation with my father, I informed him of an observation I'd acquired. Men and women are different, I told him. We think differently and we communicate differently.

You are probably thinking - no kidding, right?

I remember, as he listened patiently, I lectured to him - telling him that men tended to be blunt and to the point, speaking directly about the matter while women tended to talk around the matter, perhaps in a more subtle sense, leading into the conversation of the desired topic in a "round-a-bout" matter. I'll give you a visual. Think of male communication symbolized as a straight arrow, and women's as a circle.

As I grew older, I forgot this piece of, may I say, wisdom. Years of living in the world gave me a hair-trigger when it came to women's rights. I was quick to jump to the offensive, often being quite competitive in proving women are the same than men. At the smallest sign of not being treated the same, I exploded into a self-justified ball of women's rights. I mistakenly believed that the sexes had to be the same in order to be equal.

And because of this, I struggled with the concept of being a woman in the church, of being like Mary. I believed that there was no way I could be like her - I could not identify or find a role for myself as a Catholic female.

I found myself wandering dark territory. In my mistaken belief, I thought the church was telling me that I had to be subordinate, to be less than a man. I told myself that the church was old-fashioned, chauvinistic.



Kristina Dean, the author, is shown with Four of her 'Women of Grace' friends who made a pilgrimage to a Fatima shrine near Buffalo earlier this year. From left are Kristina, Denise Betterman, Kim Nowak, Gail Patrick and Rose Perkins.

So, while exploring a ministry-type course for women - called Women of Grace, created by EWTN's Johnnette Benkovic - I was very surprised when it informed me that men and women are equal but different, and not only physically. Our very souls are different. According to Johnnette, "Our femininity is as inherent to our souls as it is to our bodies."

Our gender reveals and defines us. As women, our bodies' abilities mirror our soul's. We, as life-bearers, are also meant to bring spiritual life to others.

This brings me to our special responsibilities and role for the world. Our Council Fathers said in the closing speeches of the Second Vatican Council:

"Reconcile men with life and

above all, we beseech you, watch carefully over the future of our race. Hold back the hand of man, who, in a moment of folly, might attempt to destroy human civilization....Women of the entire universe...you to whom life is entrusted at this grave moment in history, it is for you to save the peace of the world."

Blessed Pope John Paul II in his writing "Mother of the Redeemer," spoke about the call of women as well:

"In the light of Mary, the Church sees in the face of women the reflection of a beauty which mirrors the loftiest sentiments of which the human heart is capable: the self-offering totality of love; the strength that is capable of bearing the greatest sorrows; limitless fidelity and

tireless devotion to work; the ability to combine penetrating intuition with words of support and encouragement."

These beautiful words express how the church views us, and more importantly - our role. We are called, like Mary, to carry God to others, to bear spiritual life to our world - to be a source of help, healing, and new life. We are spiritual mothers. We are meant to bring joy, love, laughter and healing into lives of those who are in need of it. As conduits of grace, our delightful role is to escort others to God's path.

Using the Blessed Mother as our pattern and model, we are called to be obedient to God. Oh - how hard I find that sometimes!

Obedience - a difficult word for me. I think before we can wrap our minds around it, we need to first master another word - trust. If we can find it within ourselves to trust God, then obedience becomes easier. After all, if we trust that God does everything in our best interests (and sometimes our best interests are not what we want, but what we need), then we can start to bring our minds around to obeying Him.

And obeying Him is not being led like a dog on a collar. Obeying is choosing to follow what God wants for us, trusting that it will bring us to everlasting life with Him in the end.

Ladies - we are called to take our place next to our brothers and husbands - as equals who are unique in what we can offer to the world. Our divine task is to make our hearts and souls conveyors of spiritual life - we need to infuse all the world with peace and love.

May we as women find the strength to follow our Blessed Mother's example of bearing God to our families, friends and communities. May we trust God's plan and in faith take a step forward to fulfill our beautiful role as Catholic women of the Church.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
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What we're hearing about the newly designed 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!"