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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 67, Number 8

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 30, 2012

FATHER THOMAS JAMES HIGMAN



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley lays hands on Father Thomas J. Higman during the ordination ceremony held Saturday at St. Mary's Cathedral. Through the laying on of hands and the prayer of ordination, the gift of the Holy Spirit for the priestly office is conferred on the candidate. Also shown are Deacon Gary Frank and Richard Staab, chaplains for the bishop; and Father Joseph Giroux, a master of ceremonies. Full coverage of the ordination will appear in next week's *North Country Catholic*. Bishop LaValley's homily for the ceremony is printed this week on page 3.

Priests honored for special anniversaries

Ten priests serving in the diocese are celebrating special anniversaries in 2012. They were honored May 23 at a jubilee Mass and dinner during the annual Presbyteral Assembly, held this year in Alexandria Bay.

The jubilarians include Father Robert L. Cotter who is observing 65 years of the priesthood and his brother, Father Lawrence E. Cotter,

celebrating 60 years.

Father John P. Kennehan is marking 50 years while three priests are observing 40 years of priestly ministry — Fathers Gerald A. Cerank, Daniel L. Chapin and Raymond J. Wertman.

Celebrating 25 years in the priesthood are Fathers Scott D. Fobare, Jerome B. Pastores, William J. Reamer and James W. Seymour.

FULL STORY, PAGES 4-9

RIP, FATHER GRATTO

Father Stephen Gratto, 65, died May 26 in Watertown. A native of Canton, he served as director of Catholic Charities and pastor in Hammond, Madrid, Morrisonville, Brasher Falls and Port Leyden and Lyons Falls before retiring due to illness

FULL STORY, NEXT WEEK'S NCC

Jubilarian interviews



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New diocesan staff member

Patrick Donahue of Chaumont has been appointed assistant director of Christian Formation-Ogdensburg region

FULL STORY, PAGE 10



FR. CHAPIN, P. 8

Around the Diocese

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COUNTRY
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Priests *forever*

If you don't like priests this is NOT the *North Country Catholic* for you!

Today, we celebrate priests from the moment of ordination, through 25, 40, 50, 60 and 65 years of priesthood, to the day they are called home to God.

Actually, the 'priestliness' of the NCC will continue next week since, with the timing of our publication schedule, we can only offer a taste of Saturday's ordination.

Today we present pages of tribute to the 2012 priest jubilarians; next week, we will give full coverage to Father Tom Higman's May 26 ordination and Deacon Scott Belina's on May 25.

We will also provide full obituary information for Father Stephen Gratto who died over the weekend.

For them all, we send this special prayer, sometimes known as Jesus' priestly prayer in Chapter 17 of this John's Gospel. This is Jesus' prayer for his disciples at the Last Supper – his prayer for them to this father immediately before his arrest.

It just happened to be the

Gospel reading last Wednesday when the priest jubilarians were honored at a special Mass at the Presbyteral Assembly in Alexandria Bay.

Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one...

I speak this in the world so that they may share my joy completely.

I gave them your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world.

I do not ask that you take them out of the

world

but that you keep them from the Evil One.

They do not belong to the world

any more than I belong to the world.

Consecrate them in the truth.

Your word is truth.

As you sent me into the world,

so I sent them into the world.

And I consecrate myself for them,

so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

Mary Lou
Kilian

Fr. Stephen H. Gratto, 65

Word of the death of Father Stephen Gratto on May 26 was received shortly before press time. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of the *North Country Catholic*.

Welcome Spring

Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

The Most Holy Trinity

June 2-3, 2012

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ

Director of Evangelization

The Creed we profess at Mass every Sunday is more than just a list of doctrines. The Creed expresses a drama of the community of love—the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit.

The Church wants to emphasize two great realities of our faith before we go back into the Sundays of Ordinary Time, that of the Trinity and that of the Body of Christ.

In the first reading, the author is portraying Moses talking to the Israelites about the proofs of God's love that have been shown to them. The narrative teaches them about the nature of the Lord. Moses tells his people that there is only one God. The God of Israel is not like the false gods of the Egyptians, a whole gathering of various powers each of which required special attention and devotion. There is no other god but the God that had manifested Himself to the Israelites.

Moses explained that this one God was transcendent but also near. God had chosen the Israelites as His own special people and was involved in their affairs.

This is the same God that Jesus showed His disciples in His life and ministry. Jesus gave us the means to know God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What Jesus taught us and showed us is founded on what God revealed to the Israelites in the desert. God is one. He is totally different from us and is infinitely beyond us. Yet God is also concerned with us and involved with our human existence and our human history.

When we pray the Creed, we place ourselves again at the baptismal font. I believe gives the assent of my heart and mind and soul.

When we speak of the Trinity, we approach God the Father in the Son and through the Holy Spirit. Jesus shows us the face of God, and the Spirit reveals in our hearts the experience of God, but all still turn to God the Father. It is gift of the Spirit of God that we are able to call God "Abba Father!" Jesus Himself called His Father "Abba," an endearment of a very close relationship that He had with His Father.

It's a love affair between the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit.

John's Gospel makes clear that our faith begins and lives with the revelation of God's awesome love, so much so that He gave us His only-begotten Son. The gift of the Son is the gift of His own life in order that we might share in His life. It is the love of the Father for the Son in the gift of His Spirit that empowers us to live the Christian life as a community of believers. We, as a Family of Faith, become more aware that God is community, energy, love, knowledge, gift, power, self-expression, completeness, and that we have been called and enabled to share the life of God.

This is the message from Matthew, as He portrays Jesus as the one who teaches with authority and who can be trusted. He promises to be with us, as Emmanuel, until the end of time. In order to go out and to proclaim the Good News, Jesus wants His people to be in relationship with His Father and the Holy Spirit and to be in relationship with one another. He desires that we work together to deepen and strengthen the bonds that unite us all. We need to "do" and not just "say" the words.

The Trinitarian mystery prayed and taught in the Creed is the foundation for the faith that has to be lived out in everyday life, and not merely something that we mouth in prayers or recite in a rote manner. The Creed is a drama of God's great plan of salvation, events of God's saving action for His people. God not only spoke the Word; He acted upon His Word, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1: 14).

What significance does the Creed have in your life? How does it affect the way you think and behave? How can you make the Creed a living reality in your life? Which person of the Blessed Trinity are you drawn closer to?

FOLLOW ME

A day of great gladness

Homily for the priesthood
ordination of Father
Thomas J. Higman
May 26, 2012

Jeremiah 1:4-9
Peter 5:1-4
John 2:24-26

Deacon Thomas James Higman, soon you shall be consecrated priest, handed over to God forever, so that you can offer women and men a service that comes from God and leads to God. You know well, there has been much, much preparation and formation for this day of the Lord.

The Church of Ogdensburg welcomes and rejoices with all present here who have been companions with you on this journey of growth in knowledge and grace. Yes, a day of great gladness and joy has arrived and the Church of Ogdensburg, indeed the whole Body of Christ, is so very blessed!

Tom, as you know, the most important dimension of the whole of our priestly lives is our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The priest is not the leader of a sort of association whose membership he tries to maintain and expand. No, he is God's messenger to his people. He wants to lead them to God and in this way to foster authentic communion between all men and women.

For this to be realized, you must live in constant intimacy with God: your day must begin and end with prayer, particularly, attentive listening to God in Sacred Scriptures. Prayer is the occupation of the priest. God's people have a right to a priest who is deeply in

love with God, whose life gives evidence of that love.

Of course, the fervor of a priest's life depends entirely upon the Mass, where the priest also offers his own life in sacrifice. Each time you kiss the altar as you begin the celebration of the Eucharist, consciously make it an intimate gesture which expresses the joining of your own self-sacrifice with that of the High Priest, Jesus Christ. Daily celebration of the Eucharist helps transform the busy priest's ministry from a shallow activism into a focused and unified life of service.

The foundation of your priestly service is an intimate communion with Christ whose food was to do the will of the Father. It is important that you consciously remember that all that you do you are doing in communion with Jesus. All your activities constitute one vocation: to be together with Christ acting as an instrument in communion with Him. Only in this way can you commit yourself wholeheartedly to your family of faith. The essence of the priesthood is configuration to Christ.

Tom, your priestly ministry makes a special claim on you not to conform yourself to this world, yet requiring at the same time that you should live among women and men in this world. As a good shepherd you should know your people, constantly seeking to bring back those who have drifted from Mother Church so that all may hear the voice of Christ and there may be one fold and one Shepherd, one family of faith.

The Church cannot remain immovable and indifferent to the changes in the human scene around her

which in many ways influences her ministry and imposes limits and conditions upon her. The Church is not isolated from the human community, but is situated in it. So, her children are impacted and guided by it. We imbibe the culture of our day, obey its laws, adopt its customs. The Church and her priests must never neglect, engender fear, nor tease contempt for our society.

Priests could not be the servants of Christ unless they are witnesses and dispensers of a life other than that of this world. Yet, they would be powerless to serve people if they remained distant from life circumstances. Parishioners are never disturbers of a priest's life. They are our heart, our body, our blood, our family.

Just a few weeks ago, Pope Benedict XVI told the priests gathered at the Chrism Mass in Rome: "We are concerned with the salvation of all. As priests of Jesus Christ we carry out our task with enthusiasm. No one should ever have the impression that we work conscientiously when on duty, but before and after hours we belong only to ourselves. A priest never belongs to himself."

No priest is sufficiently equipped to carry out his own priestly service alone and, as it were, single-hearted. Nurture a special love and respect for our Holy Father and for your bishop.

As you know, here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, we are blessed with an extraordinary presbyterate. Our priests care deeply for one another. Young and not-so-young, we invest much of ourselves in our support of each other's priestly vocation.

The Lord is about to add your name to this priestly body that has established a legacy of faithfulness and

fraternal care for one another. Invest yourself into this fraternity and its tradition of pastoral charity for all of God's people and fraternal support for one another.

Ordination to the priesthood is not a license for private practice. Under my leadership, as your bishop, you must invest time, energy, heart and soul collaborating earnestly with others equal in dignity: that is, women, the consecrated religious, the deacon community, parish council members and staff personnel. Our baptismal responsibility, Christian dignity and pastoral planning demand that priests enable and entrust our lay sisters and brothers in fulfilling their rightful place in parish life, building up the Body of Christ.

Last fall, in his address to the U.S. bishops, Cardinal Dolan reminded us that "the Church we passionately love is hardly some cumbersome, outmoded club of sticklers, with a medieval bureaucracy, silly human rules on fancy letterhead, one more movement rife with squabbles, opinions, and disagreement. No. The Church is Jesus Christ—teaching, healing, saving, serving, inviting. The Church is Jesus often 'bruised, derided, cursed, defiled.'"

Tom, you have so generously responded to the Lord's call to follow Him as priest in this Church which you must passionately love. You will soon enter the priesthood to serve Jesus' Body. Our God assures you, as He assured the prophet Jeremiah, "Have no fear...because I am with you." Be that eager example of passionate love and tireless self-giving to the flock entrusted to you, as St. Peter exhorted the presbyters of his day. May your holiness of life and passionate love

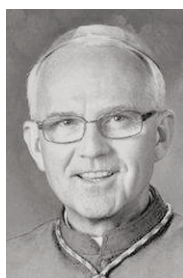
of Jesus and His Church be a delightful fragrance to Christ's faithful and a powerful instrument for the New Evangelization.

Pope Paul VI, in his document on evangelization in the modern world wrote that "the Church exists in order to evangelize, that is to say in order to preach and teach, to be the channel of the gift of grace, to reconcile sinners with God, and to perpetuate Christ's sacrifice in the Mass." Always be about this charge, Tom, with a zeal and passion as one who knows intimately that he is loved by God and seeks to share that love with joy and hope.

Tom, again, know that you are never alone in living out your priestly vocation. Let Mary, the Mother of Priests, be your cherished companion on the journey before you. Know and rely upon the prayers and loving support of your family of faith, so many who have joined us for this festive occasion today.

Finally, words of deep gratitude to your family, particularly your mother and father who are so rightly very proud individuals this day. Your own faith, love and guidance are the reason why we are all here today. We are grateful to all those who have been important facilitators of your intellectual, human and spiritual formation. We especially extend words of thanks to the faculty, staff and entire community of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary where Tom has spent his last eight years. We wish to acknowledge and thank its rector, Fr. Shaun Maloney who is here present with us this day representing the Seminary community.

And now, my brother, Tom, please rise to declare publicly your desire to become a priest and to serve the Church of God in this Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley

Twin brothers are among priest jubilarians

Two priests, who are also twin brothers are among the 2012 jubilarians.

Father Robert Cotter is celebrating 65 years of priesthood while his brother, Father Lawrence Cotter is observing 60 years.

Natives of Canton, they were born Nov. 10, 1922.

Father Robert Cotter studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall and St. Bernard's in Rochester before his ordination June 14, 1947.

He has served as assistant pastor in Lowville, Black River and Deferiet and was pastor in Keene, Redwood and Theresa, Constableville and, from 1947 to 1993, Copenhagen and New Boston.

Father Cotter was named administrator of Star Lake with its mission in Newton Falls in 1993 and was given

added responsibilities as administrator in Fine in 1996.

The priest retired in 1997 but served as an administrator in West Leyden after his retirement.

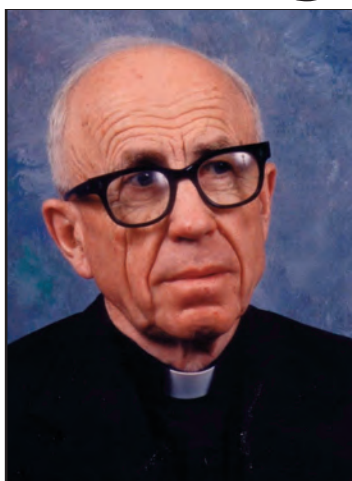
He currently resides at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown.

Father Cotter has also served the diocese as Chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Watertown in early 1950's and Pro-Synodal Judge of the Marriage Tribunal from 1974 to 1979.

Fr. Lawrence Cotter

Father Lawrence Cotter retired in 1997 and resides in Ogdensburg.

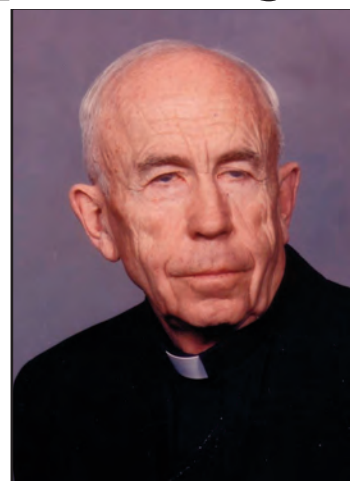
Following studies at Wadhams Hall and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, he was ordained June 7, 1952 by Bishop Bryan J. McEnte-



Fr. Robert Cotter

gart. He also received the degree of Licentiate of Sacred Theology magna cum laude, from St. Mary's Seminary.

His first assignment was at St. Mary's Church, Potsdam, followed by his appointment to the faculty of Wadhams



Fr. Lawrence Cotter

Hall in 1954 where he taught science and math until 1984

He had completed graduate studies in those areas at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. in 1958.

Beginning with the fall of

1960, Father Cotter also taught one course a semester at Mater Dei College.

In 1974, he was assigned full time to Mater Dei College as chaplain and professor.

In 1978, the priest was appointed pastor of St. Peter's Church, Hammond with the mission of St. Patrick's of Rossie, a position he held until he became pastor in Colton, South Colton and Parishville in 1988.

Father Cotter has also served as Chancery Archivist, Censor Librorum and on the Marriage Tribunal of the diocese.

In 1995, Father Cotter was honored by Wadhams Hall Seminary College for his 30 years of service, with the Bishop Joseph Conroy Founders Award.

He spent many of his retirement years in Madrid.

Fr. Kennehan celebrating 50 years of priesthood

Father John P. Kennehan, who is celebrating his 50th anniversary of the priesthood, has lived in St. Louis,



Fr. John Kennehan

Mo., since 2003.

A native of Brasher Falls, he was born Sept. 28, 1936. He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall and Christ the King in Olean, NY, before his ordination April 7, 1962 by Bishop James J. Navagh.

Father Kennehan served as an assistant pastor at St. John's in Plattsburgh and St. Mary's in Clayton before being assigned to the Ogdensburg Peruvian Apostolate in 1967. He served in Mollendo, Peru, until 1974 when he was named pastor in Colton.

The priest returned to Peru from 1981 to November, 1982, when he was named pastor in Gouverneur. One year later he was named pastor in Norfolk, a position he held until 1989. At that time he went to the University of St. Louis, Mo., for study in pastoral counseling.

Upon his return to the diocese, Father Kennehan was named pastor at Pope John XXIII campus parish in Plattsburgh in 1992; in Potsdam in 1994, and in Brownville and Dexter in 2002.

The priest has also served the diocese as a pro-synodal judge for the tribunal from 1975 to 1980, vicar for religious from 1978 to 1982 and as a member of the Department of Worship's Art and Architecture Committee.

25th Jubilee

Fr. Reamer

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Fr. Cerank looks back on 40 years of priesthood

By Shawn Ryan
Contributing Writer

MOOERS FORKS-Very few Long Island boys came to Plattsburgh State College in the early 1960s as non-Catholic future teachers, and left on the road to the priesthood.

For Father Gerald Cerank, however, that is just the course he followed.

Now, having just celebrated his 40th year in the priesthood on May 13th, it seems like it was a successful path.

After ten years of study, first at Plattsburgh State, then St. Mary's in Kentucky, Wadhams Hall, St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers and finally Fordham University, where he earned a Master's degree in Divinity and Religious Education, Father Cerank was ordained to the priesthood May 13, 1972.

He still holds certification as an educator in the State of New York.

After arriving at Plattsburgh State in the 1960's as a non-Catholic future teacher

For Father Cerank, his inspiration came not from the influence of any one person, but rather from the a somewhat higher power.

"It might sound funny, but my main inspiration was the Holy Spirit, putting me in the right place at the right time and around the right people," Father Cerank said.

He had to win over his family even to the idea of becoming a Catholic, but eventually they became supportive of the change and of Father Cerank's career path.

The past 40 years have had their challenging mo-

ments, but for the immensely positive pastor in Mooers and Mooers Forks, it's all been worth it.

"I've never regretted it," he said. "Difficult times come that drive you right to the edge, but none that push you over the edge."

An outdoor enthusiast, Father Cerank has found that working with the youth of the parish is a most rewarding aspect of his ministry.

In the earlier days of his 20 year tenure in Mooers, Father Cerank often took young parishioners on camping expeditions, to share his love of the outdoors with them. He still has the outdoor spirit and can often be found hiking one of his favorite trails, or even just in the back yard of the rectory enjoying the birds, always with camera in hand appreciating and documenting nature.

His work with young peo-

ple has personally helped lead three men into the priesthood during his tenure in Mooers Forks, out of the eight priests, two deacons and numerous religious who have come from the parish over the years.

He credits one of his predecessors, Monsignor Gilbert, for setting the tone in Mooers for young people to begin to consider the priesthood in the numbers they have.

After various assignments around the diocese he landed in Mooers Forks in 1993. Shortly after arriving there he was told by Bishop Brzana that he would build a new rectory. Father Cerank dove head long into the project, helping to design and even to build the rectory.

Within two years after its completion, "because of the people's incredibly generosity," the project was paid off.

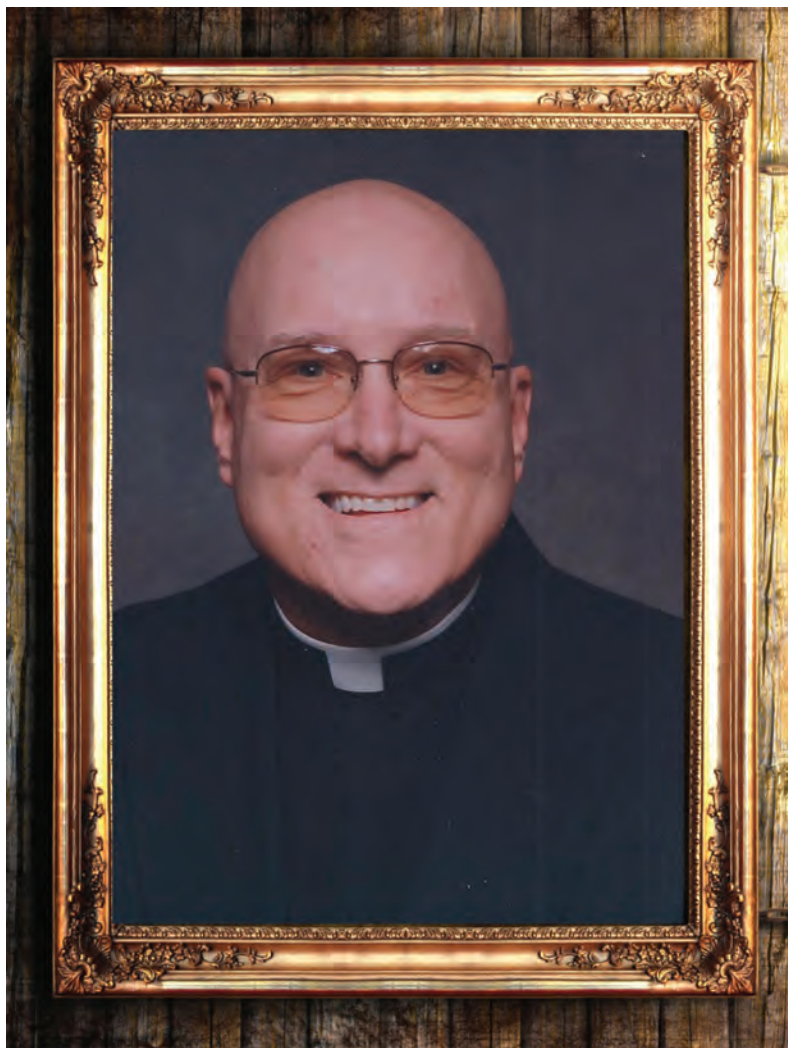
He is now approaching his

20 year anniversary as pastor of St. Ann's. In those years Father Cerank has embraced the change to computers, and along with his photography, produces the parish website as well as advertising for parish events. He has even been called upon to help educate other priests in the changeover to computers.

With no great plans to change in the near future, Father Cerank does look toward a time when he can slow down a little bit, catch up on his reading, and simply "pray, prayerfully."

"When you're a country pastor," he points out, "you have to do everything."

Whatever his future may hold, Father Cerank will no doubt tackle it with the same energy and vitality he has brought to the priesthood and to the north country 40 years ago.



Father Gerald Cerank

In appreciation for 40 years of priestly service to Christ and His Church and

19 years leading

St. Ann's and St. Joseph's parishes .

We thank you for your fidelity, the faithful provision of Sacraments and patient endurance in leading our faith communities.



Funeral held for Atonement Sister Mary Martin Jennings

GARRISON, NY – A Mass of Christian Burial for Atonement Sister Mary Martin Jennings, 92, was held May 7 in the chapel of St. Francis Convent chapel.

She died May 7 in the residence of St. Francis Convent. Burial was at the sisters' cemetery at Graymoor.

Through her 72 years of religious life, Sister Mary Martin was active in parish, catechetical, pastoral and retreat ministries.

She served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg in Morrisonville, from 1951 to 1952; in Hogansburg, 1980-1981, and in Port Leyden,

1984-1985.

She was assigned to ministries in Maine, Colorado, Pennsylvania, California and Washington, D.C.

She also served in Assisi, Italy, and Rossinver, Ireland, as well as fulfilling several positions at St. Francis Convent, Garrison.

Born in New York City, she entered the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, Graymoor, in 1940, and professed final vows as an Atonement Sister in 1947.

*Congratulations
Fr. John P. Kennehan
on your Golden Jubilee.*



*Thank you for your presence
to the sick and your presence
to my dad.*

Sally Rusaw



I give thanks to Christ Jesus Our Lord, Who has strengthened me, because He counted me trustworthy, in making me His minister.
1 Timothy, 1:12

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Bishop LaValley' Schedule

May 31 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg.

June 1 – 5:30 p.m., Evening Prayer with Rite of Candidacy with the Deacon Aspirants at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg; 7 p.m., Canon Law Class for Deacon Aspirants at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

June 2 – 7 p.m., Confirmation for St. John's, Lyons Falls, St. Mary's, Constableville, St. Mary's Nativity, West Leyden, and St. Martin's, Port Leyden at St. John's Church.

June 3 – 4 p.m., 25th Anniversary Mass for Rev. Scott Fobare at St. Patrick's Church in Port Henry.

June 5 – 10 a.m., Diocesan Department and Office Heads Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

June 6 – 10:30 a.m., Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

Rest in Peace

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

May 30 – Rev. J. Heliodore Valois, 1952

May 31 – Rev. John J. Dean, 1930; Rev. Eugene T. Desnoyers, 1993

June 1 – Rev. Tobias M. Glenn, 1907; Rev. Charles B. Cotter, 2001

June 2 – Rev. Antoine Buch, O.F.M., 1927; Msgr. John L. Plunkett, 1950; Deacon Richard T. Larche, 1989

June 3 – Rev. Auriemma Veronneau, O.M.I., 1962; His Holiness, Blessed John XXIII, Pope, 1963; Rev. Franz P. Romuald Reiter, 1971; Rev. Bernard W. Desnoyers, 1987

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy Rev. James Seymour at 315-393-2920 or the

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri-
anne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: aycsnn@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401

Rev. Lawrence E. Cotter

Your retirement years spent living in our parish were a great blessing to us and to the entire Madrid Community. Thank you for your devoted and generous priestly service to all of us.

God Bless You!

*Msgr. Lawler and Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist Parish*



*Father Jay Seymour,
With sincere
congratulations on your
25th Jubilee!*



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Three priests are celebrating 40 years in 2012

Among the priests honored at the May 23 jubilee Mass held at the annual Presbyterian Assembly were three celebrating four decades of service, Father Gerald A. Cerank, Father Daniel L. Chapin and Father Raymond J. Wertman.

Father Cerank has served as pastor in Mooers and Mooers Forks since 1993.

He was born in Port Washington, NY, June 13, 1943. He received a bachelor's degree in education from Plattsburgh State University before continuing his studies at St. Mary's College in Kentucky, Wadhams Hall, Fordham University and St. Joseph's Seminary in the Bronx.

Father Cerank was ordained May 13, 1972 by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

He was named assistant

pastor in Cumberland Head after his ordination.

He also served as a teacher at St. John's High School in Plattsburgh and principal of St. John's Elementary School.

From 1980 to 1988, Father Cerank was part of a cooperative ministry team serving Immaculate Conception and St. John's parishes in Keeseville.

He became pastor at St. Peter's in Plattsburgh in 1988 before his 1993 assignment in Mooers and Mooers Forks.

Father Chapin

Father Chapin, pastor in Croghan since 2006, had previously served as pastor in Gouverneur from 2000 with added responsibilities as pastor in Edwards in 2004.

Born Nov. 13, 1946 in Malone, Father Chapin grew up

in North Bangor. He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary and St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester before his ordination May 13, 1972 by Bishop Brzana.

The priest served as an assistant pastor at St. Mary's in Ogdensburg before beginning ten years of missionary work with the Ogdensburg Peruvian Apostolate, serving at St. Martin de Porras Parish in Mollendo, Peru, from 1976 to 1986.

He was pastor from 1981 until returning to the United States.

Upon returning to the U.S., Father Chapin again served as parochial vicar at the cathedral for a short time until taking part in a sabbatical year at the Weston School of Theology.

While on sabbatical, he

worked as a chaplain intern at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Brighton, Mass.

Upon his return to the diocese, he served as parochial vicar at Holy Family in Watertown until being named pastor in Clayton and LaFargeville and then in Gouverneur and Edwards.

Father Chapin served as part-time chaplain at Gouverneur Correction Facility. He is currently head of the ecumenical committee and director of Hispanic Ministry for the diocese.

Father Wertman

Father Raymond Wertman, another 40-year jubilarian, currently resides in Clearwater, Fla.

A Buffalo native, Father Wertman began priestly training at the Diocesan

Preparation Seminary in that city. His major seminary studies were at St. John Vianney and St. Bernard's in Rochester. He was ordained Oct. 27, 1972 by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

Father Wertman served for a short time as assistant pastor at Holy Family in Watertown before starting the Credo Foundation in 1973, a rehabilitation program for young people with drug problems.

He headed this organization until his assignment as assistant pastor at St. Bernard's in Saranac Lake in 1983.

In 1984 he was named pastor in Port Leyden, a position he held until he returning to work for the Credo Foundation in 1988, a position he held until moving to Florida in 1998.

Thank you, Father Jay

*For sharing with us in times of joy
For strengthening us in times of sorrow
(And for taking such good care of our parents!)*



With love from all your Seymour, Morley, Bova & DuPré cousins

The Beautiful Hands of a Priest

(poem by an unknown author)

We need them in life's early morning,
We need them again at its close;
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,
We seek them when tasting life's woes.

At the altar each day we behold them,
And the hands of a king on his throne
Are not equal to them in their greatness;
Their dignity stands all alone;

And when we are tempted and wander,
To pathways of shame and of sin,
It's the hand of a priest that will absolve us,
Not once, but again and again.

And when we are taking life's partner,
Other hands may prepare us a feast,
But the hand that will bless and unite us
Is the beautiful hand of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,
For the Host which their fingers caress;
When can a poor sinner do better
Than to ask Him to guide thee and bless?

When the hour of death comes upon us,
May our courage and strength be increased,
By seeing raised over us in blessing
The beautiful hands of a priest.

*Thank you Fr. Scott for sharing
not only your hands with us, but also
your heart and spirit – how wonderful
it is to have a priest so much like our
Lord – faithful, wise and filled with
compassion. Your ministry is a
blessing to us all.*

**Congratulations on
25 Years of Priesthood!**

**The Catholic Community of Moriah --
St. Patrick's and All Saints Catholic
Churches.**



Fr. Daniel Chapin: ever a missionary

By Ryan Grant
Staff writer

CROGHAN - Father Daniel L. Chapin, pastor of St. Stephen's Parish, grew up in rural Franklin County in an ecumenical home with an Irish Catholic mother and non-practicing Protestant father.

His mother made it a point to raise him in the faith and encouraged involvement in the church at a young age as an altar server and through other parish activities.

This year he is celebrating 40 years of service as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Growing up in the countryside of Franklin County was perhaps one of the greatest influences on Father Chapin as a boy.

"I truly entered a relationship with God through His creation" he said, noting that the beauty of the outdoors opened his eyes to the true existence of God and helped him foster that relationship with God.

It was in the fifth grade at St. Joseph's School, run by the Ursuline Sisters, that Father Chapin first thought of becoming a priest.

"I had attended a small one room schoolhouse where I never learned to write cursive and one of the sisters picked up on that," Father Chapin said. "She taught me between classes and during free time. I was always amazed at how happy and full of joy she was.

"She had a great smile and that joy really affected me," he said.

During this period of his schooling, Father Chapin spent much of his time in the library and would often read books on the lives of the saints. "This, of course, was something that the sisters picked up on with high hopes of a vocation," Father Chapin jokes.

During his high school years, Father Chapin recalls the crucial influence that his pastor at the time, Father John Weir, had on him and his vocation.

Throughout his 40 years of priesthood

"He had a good influence on me and brought me through my crucial teen years," Father Chapin said, pointing out that Father Weir and St. Augustine's parish in North Bangor had a large number of vocations during that time.

After fostering a deep relationship with God through the beauty of creation and formation in the faith, Father Chapin decided to enter the seminary.

Father Chapin had always had an interest in doing mission work. He had a profound interest in other cultures. In fact, Father Chapin seriously considered entering the Maryknoll religious order to do mission work.

"I remember reading an article in the *North Country Catholic* back around 1962 about the diocese's mission in Peru," he said. "I said to myself right then and there that I wanted to be a missionary for the diocese."

Father Chapin recalls a particular question on the seminary application that asked why he wanted to be a priest. "I crossed out priest and wrote 'missionary priest' in the blank instead," Father Chapin recalls. "I am still amazed to this day how everything fell into place".

Father Daniel Chapin was ordained to the priesthood on May 13, 1972 by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.

He was particularly proud to be the youngest priest ordained in his class and the youngest priest in the diocese to celebrate the Mass during the centennial year of

the diocese.

Four years after his ordination, Father Chapin signed up to serve for ten years as a missionary to the Peruvian Apostolate for the diocese.

Being immersed in other cultures and becoming aware of them was one of the biggest attractions to mission work for Father Chapin.

"Back then, we didn't have all of the conveniences of modern technology to keep in contact with other countries," he said. "So, before I left, I made a promise to return to Peru every two years."

Father Chapin has kept that promise and continues his visits every two years. He often brings parishioners and friends with him so that they can also experience the joys of the mission.

Upon his return from the missions, Father Chapin has served in a variety of parishes throughout the diocese, including his current assignment as pastor of St. Stephen's in Croghan and the oratories of St. Peter's in New Bremen and St. Vincent's in Belfort.

But, he says, his work as a missionary is still at the core of his life.

"The desire to be a missionary is still there and always will be," he said. "I see wherever I am as an opportunity for mission work...to share the gospel and evangelize to all I encounter."

The priest is also the current director of Hispanic ministry for the diocese. His language skills and cultural knowledge acquired serving in the missions gives him the necessary expertise to carry out his duties to this ministry.

In addition, he serves as the head of the ecumenical committee for the diocese. Father Chapin cites growing up in an ecumenical house as the sources of his a greater appreciation for other Christian denominations.

Four priests are celebrating silver jubilees

Four priests are celebrating 25th anniversaries this year – Fathers Scott D. Fobare, Jerome B. Pastores, William J. Reamer and James W. Seymour.

Father Scott D. Fobare

Father Fobare, who will begin service as pastor of St. Marys and St. Joseph in Massena June 27, has been the pastor in Port Henry and Mineville, known as the Catholic Community of Moriah, since 2008.

Previously, he was pastor in Alexandria Bay and Redwood, St. Mary's of the Lake, Cumberland Head; John XXIII Campus Parish, Plattsburgh; and diocesan Director of Campus Ministry.

He was also pastor in Old Forge, Inlet and Raquette and served as pastor in Carthage, Deferiet and Natural Bridge from 1999 to 2002. While in Carthage he later was given added responsibilities as pastor in Copenhagen.

Father Fobare also served as pastor in Newcomb and Long Lake and parochial vicar at Notre Dame in Malone, St. Peter's in Plattsburgh, Notre Dame in Ogdensburg and at St. Anthony's in Watertown and served as a religious teacher at Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown.

Father Fobare was born March 25, 1961, in Massena and grew up in Lawrenceville.

He graduated from Mater Dei College in Ogdensburg, Wadhams Hall Seminary-College and St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Mass.

He was ordained May 23, 1987, by Bishop Larocque from the Diocese of Alexandria, Cornwall.

In addition to his parish responsibilities, Father Fobare serves the diocese as Chairman of the Committee for the Continuing Education priests.

Father Jerome B. Pastores

Father Pastores, pastor of St. Regis Mission in Hogansburg, is a priest of the Diocese of Bayombong, Philippines.



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Five of this year's jubilarians were able to attend the 2012 Presbyteral Assembly held May 21-24 in Alexandria Bay. Shown during the May 23 jubilee Mass are from left, Fathers Jay Seymour, Bill Reamer and Scott Fobare, 25 year jubilarians, Bishop LaValley and Fathers Gerald Cerank and Dan Chapin, 40-year jubilarians.

He was born July 20, 1960, in the Philippines and was ordained a priest Dec. 30, 1986.

During his 20 first years as a priest, Father Jerome was active as parochial vicar and parish priest. In his diocese he served various structures of the Diocesan Curia such as the Office of the Diocesan Commission on basic Episcopal Communities in which he served in the capacity of Diocesan Coordinator and also the Diocesan Social Action Committee, in which he served as director. He also was member of the College of Consultors and of the Finance Committee of his diocese.

After 20 years of ministry it is common practice in the diocese of Bayombong to allow some sabbatical time to the priests. Father Jerome chose to come to Canada and in 2006, he was assigned to St. Patrick's Parish in Pin-court, Que., as an assistant priest. At the end of the year 2007, he was appointed parish administrator for the same parish.

He has served as pastor at St. Regis since 2011.

Father William G. Reamer

Father Reamer, pastor of Our Lady of Victory in Plattsburgh, also serves as chaplain for CVPH, Plattsburgh, a position he has held since 2000.

A native of Elizabeth, NJ, Father Reamer was born Dec.

2, 1946. After graduating from St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkhill, NY and Plattsburgh State University, he taught for 13 years at Hillsdale (NJ) Public School.

He studied for the priesthood at Christ the King Seminary and was ordained for the Diocese of Ogdensburg Oct. 10, 1987 by Bishop Stanislaus. Brzana.

Father Reamer has served as parochial vicar of St. Patrick's in Watertown, Notre Dame in Malone and in Peru, Lowville and Ticonderoga.

He has also served the diocese as bishop's secretary and assistant chancellor and was an administrator of Our Lady of Victory in Plattsburgh, in Indian Lake and at St. John's in Plattsburgh.

In 1998, he was named half-time parochial vicar at St. John's in Plattsburgh and half-time chaplain at CVPH. Two years later he became a full-time chaplain at the hospital.

Father James W. Seymour

Father Seymour has served as Episcopal Vicar for Clergy, pastor of St. Raphael's Church in Heuvelton, pastor/priest moderator of Sts. Philip & James Church in Lisbon, and part-time chaplain at Riverview Correctional Facility since 2005.

A native of Ogdensburg, Father Seymour was born Oct. 19, 1953.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Plattsburgh State

and worked as a teacher before beginning seminary studies.

He completed a year of pre-theologate studies at Wadhams Hall before entering Christ the King Seminary where he earned a master's in divinity degree.

Father Seymour was ordained Oct. 10, 1987, by Bishop Brzana. His first assignment was as a parochial vicar at St. John's in Plattsburgh.

He later served as a parochial vicar at Holy Family in Watertown before spending eight years as a missionary in the Ogdensburg Peruvian Apostolate's

mission in Mollendo, Peru, beginning in 1990. There he served as pastor of St. Martin de Porras Church.

Upon his return in 1998, he was named parochial vicar in Carthage, Deferiet and Natural Bridge.

In 2000, Father Seymour spent a sabbatical year at St. Paul's University in Ottawa while providing pastoral services as a parochial vicar at St. John's in Plattsburgh during the summer.

He also served as an administrator in Hogansburg and then in AuSable Forks and Black Brook before being named pastor in Champlain in 2001.

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Diocesan staff change

OGDENSBURG - Msgr. John R. Murphy, moderator for the curia, has announced that Patrick Donahue of Chamont has been appointed as the Assistant Director of Christian Formation – Ogdensburg Region

Donahue is involved in the diocesan Deacon Formation program and has background in Religious Education and Theology, as well as experience in administration.

His new duties begin June 1.

Donahue follows Heidi Macko in this position and will work from the Loverde building at the Ogdensburg offices.

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. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 440. Upcoming programs:
June 4 - 2 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh



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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!"

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Each human being is a miracle loved by God the father, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Addressing God as "Father" is an acknowledgement that God is the one who created, supports and guides humanity, Pope Benedict XVI said. "Maybe people today do not understand the beauty, greatness and deep consolation" that comes from recognizing God as father, "because the paternal figure is not sufficiently present today," the pope said May 23 during his weekly general audience. Addressing an estimated 20,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square, Pope Benedict continued a series of audience talks about prayer in the letters of St. Paul. Focusing on St. Paul's assertion that it is the Holy Spirit that enables people to pray and to address God as "Abba, Father," the pope said, "the absence of one's father or the lack of a father's presence in a child's life today is a big problem that always makes it difficult to understand fully what it means to say that God is our father." From the beginning of Christianity, believers adopted Jesus' form of addressing God as father, especially in the Lord's Prayer, the pope said. "Christianity is not a religion of fear, but of trust and love for the Father who loves us," he said. Pope Benedict acknowledged that "critics of religion have said that speaking of God as 'father' is simply a projection" of our own longings and desires, but the Gospel shows that the opposite is true, because "Christ shows us who the father is and what a true father is, so that we can understand and also learn what true fatherhood is."

Religious liberty concerns, charter report on tap for bishops' meeting

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- With a long-standing campaign to press its concerns about infringements on religious liberty by governments and the courts, the U.S. bishops will devote a significant portion of their spring meeting June 13-15 in Atlanta to the issue. The bishops also will receive a 10-year progress report by the National Review Board on the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" and hear recommendations from the review board stemming from the study "The Causes and Context of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests in the United States, 1950-2010." Two hours will be devoted to the religious liberty discussion, which will encompass domestic and international concerns as the bishops continue to rally support for and raise awareness about infringements on religious rights in the United States and abroad. At the forefront of the bishops' religious liberty efforts is the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' mandate that would force Catholic institutions to provide health insurance coverage to employees for procedures the Catholic Church opposes, including abortion-inducing drugs, artificial contraceptives and sterilizations. The mandate was announced Aug. 1, 2011, as part of the rules HHS is issuing to implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act passed in 2010. Other concerns have surfaced that worry the bishops, including court rulings and policy decisions that have forced Catholic institutions out of adoption and foster care. Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Liberty, told Catholic News Service he will update the status of the series of lawsuits filed May 21 across the country by Catholic institutions and organizations challenging the HHS mandate. He also planned to discuss the major activities around the country for the "fortnight for freedom" campaign in support of religious freedom called by the ad hoc committee for June 21 to July 4.

Lawsuits by Catholic dioceses, groups seek to stop HHS mandate

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Forty-three Catholic dioceses, schools, hospitals, social service agencies and other institutions filed suit in federal court May 21 to stop three government agencies from implementing a mandate that would require them to cover contraceptives and sterilization in their health plans.

"Through this lawsuit, plaintiffs do not seek to impose their religious beliefs on others," said one of the suits, filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, diocesan Catholic Charities, St. Anne Home and Retirement Community, Franciscan Alliance, University of St. Francis and Our Sunday Visitor.

"They simply ask that the government not impose its values and policies on plaintiffs, in direct violation of their religious beliefs," it added.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, whose archdiocese is among the plaintiffs, said the lawsuits were "a compelling display of the unity of the church in defense of religious liberty" and "a great show of the diversity of the church's ministries that serve the common good and that are jeopardized by the mandate."

"We have tried negotiations with the administration and legislation with the Congress -- and we'll keep at it -- but there's still no fix," the cardinal said. "Time is running out and our valuable ministries and fundamental rights hang in the balance, so we have to resort to the courts now."

Cardinal Dolan also is president of the U.S. Conference

of Catholic Bishops, which is not a party to the lawsuits.

Catholic organizations have objected to the contraceptive mandate since it was announced last Aug. 1 by Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Unless they are subject to a narrow religious exemption or have a grandfathered health plan, employers will be required to pay for sterilizations and contraceptives, including some abortion-inducing drugs, as part of their health coverage beginning as soon as Aug. 1, 2012.

In all, 12 lawsuits were filed simultaneously May 21 in various U.S. district courts around the country. The defendants in each case were Sebelius; Labor Secretary Hilda Solis; and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, along with their departments.

Erin Shields, HHS director of communications for health care, told Catholic News Service May 21 that the department cannot comment on pending litigation.

In addition to the Archdiocese of New York and Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the dioceses involved are the archdioceses of Washington and St. Louis and the dioceses of Rockville Centre, N.Y.; Erie, Pa.; Pittsburgh; Dallas; Fort Worth, Texas; Jackson, Miss.; Biloxi, Miss.; Springfield, Ill.; and Joliet, Ill. The Michigan Catholic Conference, which provides medical benefits to more than 1,100 Catholic institutions and approximately 10,000 employees in the state, also is a plaintiff.

"We need to go to the court and say we are a church institution, we are a provider of health care and, according to the U.S. Constitution, the laws must protect our religious freedom," said Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vi-

gneron. "We have a very particular case to make."

Catholic universities joining in the lawsuits included the University of Notre Dame, The Catholic University of America and Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, as well as the University of St. Francis in Indiana.

Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, president of Notre Dame, said the decision to file the lawsuit "came after much deliberation, discussion and efforts to find a solution acceptable to the various parties."

"This filing is about the freedom of a religious organization to live its mission, and its significance goes well beyond any debate about contraceptives," he said. "For if we concede that the government can decide which religious organizations are sufficiently religious to be awarded the freedom to follow the principles that define their mission, then we have begun to walk down a path that ultimately leads to the undermining of those institutions."

Others filing suit include a Catholic cemeteries association, an agency that serves the deaf, health care and social-services organizations, and Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

Each of the lawsuits uses similar wording to make its case and each asks for a jury trial.

Noting that the Founding Fathers agreed "that the mixture of government and religion is destructive to both institutions and divisive to the social fabric upon which the country depends," the lawsuits contend that the U.S. Constitution and federal law "stand as bulwarks against oppressive government actions even if supported by a majority of citizens."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Trinity: God and his people are connected

A few years ago, a young Harvard genius by the name of Mark Zuckerberg created

JUNE 3

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

Readings

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40

Romans 8:14-17

Matthew 28:16-20

Facebook. In a short space of time, hundreds of millions of people have made their pictures and much personal information available on the world wide web.

Why this phenomenon? There is an obvious need for relationship in the human soul that is fulfilled by this. Most people shun isolation. They yearn to be

connected.

Today's solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity connects the mysterious three-personed God with all human creatures.

Rather than warning us men and women to keep our distance from God, Jesus Christ, Himself a part of this awesome God, encouraged his disciples to be-

come intimately joined to the life and love of his divinity.

"That they may be one, as you Father and I are one..." Was the urgent plea of Jesus as He bade farewell to his disciples at the Last Supper. He made that possible through his death and resurrection, through the Eucharist, and in His revealing to his followers the Most Holy Trinity.

Far from being an exclusive club, In today's Gospel, He commands the apostles travel with this news to all nations.

They are to baptize all people "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit".

Thus, hopefully, the whole world will be connected, much more closely than Facebook!

Today's first reading describes the speech of Moses to the Israelites before they entered the land of Canaan.

"This is what you must now know, and fix in your heart on, that the Lord is

God in the heavens above and on earth below, and

that there is no other." No wonder the Pharisees had such a hard time in accepting Jesus' assertion that He was the Son of God!

In the second reading from Romans, St. Paul tells us that, not only are we adopted sons of God with a right to address the Father by the intimate term, "Abba", but that we

share the inheritance with Jesus, our brother.

All this happens when we choose to be led by the Spirit of God. Then we are sons and daughters. We are part of the family!

We share in the intimate joyful life of the Trinity.

One condition is laid down—to suffer with Jesus in order to be glorified with Him.

The Gospel concludes with Jesus assuring us that He will never desert us.

"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

May we live with joy in the life of the Holy Trinity!



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore



Father Jay Seymour

Thank you for your dedicated service over the past 25 years!

From your parish families of St. Raphael, Heuvelton and Ss. Philip & James, Lisbon



Father Robert Cotter

Our prayers and blessing upon you as you celebrate **65 Years** with the priesthood.

The Priest and Parishioners of St. Mary's Church Glenfield & St. Peter's Church Lowville

AT THE MOVIES

MEN IN BLACK 3

By Adam Shaw
Catholic News Service

A Chinese saying holds that good things come in pairs, while trifectas we know to be rare by definition. And those guidelines, alas, hold true for "Men in Black 3" (Columbia).

This moderately fun but ultimately forgettable outing for the well-established secret alien crime-fighting duo of Agents J (Will Smith) and K (Tommy Lee Jones) puts itself beyond the pale for younger audiences, moreover, by dabbling in some distasteful language.

Director Barry Sonnenfeld's slightly tired retread of the comedy franchise - the premise for which derives from Lowell Cunningham's comic book "The Men in Black" first published in the early 1990s - manages to maintain the humorous spirit of the two previous movies, which he also helmed, but shifts the focus to a younger version of K, played by Josh Brolin.

After the escape of an infamous extraterrestrial villain known as Boris the Animal (Jemaine Clement) from the secret lunar base on which he was being held, J wakes up in an alternate timeline in which his sidekick no longer exists. Boris

has mischievously gone back in time, killed K off, prevented his own incarceration, and begun the enslavement of humanity.

As a result, wisecracking J must set the clock back - all the way to 1969 - so that he can dissuade the youthful K from pursuing the course that would eventually lead him to his doom.

Needless to say, this chronology bending makes for some amusing set pieces, including one revolving around the yet-to-be-launched Apollo 11 space mission.

A surprisingly poignant ending, by contrast, sheds compassionate light on the origins of the elder Agent K's habitual grumpiness.

While the proceedings are mostly harmless, at least for mature viewers, they end up providing more chuckles than belly laughs. Like a wan smile, "MIB 3" comes across as rather insipid.

Smith is, undeniably, in his usual top-notch form. But removing the equally excellent Jones for the majority of the picture proves an ill-advised gambit; his

presence is greatly missed throughout.

Additionally, screenwriter Etan Cohen's dialogue makes wholly unnecessary forages into vulgar language and profanity. That's all the more unfortunate since teens would likely appreciate the antics on screen more than their seasoned seniors.

The film contains frequent action violence, at least two instances of profanity and occasional crude and crass language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



CNS PHOTO/COLUMBIA

Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones star in a scene from the movie "Men in Black 3."

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ADIRONDACK

WHITE ELEPHANT AND FOOD SALE

Saranac Lake – The Catholic Daughters will hold a White Elephant and food sale.

Date: June 2

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

Place: St. Bernard's Cafeteria

Features: Hourly door prizes and 50/50

CLINTON

ST. ANN'S PARADE AND BAZAAR

Mooers Forks – St. Ann's will be having their Annual Parade and Bazaar.

Date: June 3

Time: Begins with Parade at 11 a.m.

Features: New Giant Slide and great obstacle course (one price for all day). Roast beef dinner. Food Booth includes hot dogs, burgers, sausage and Poutine. Kids games with great prizes, cotton candy, fried dough, baked goods and more! There will also be Pull Tabs. Entertainment all day by the NCCS Jazz Band, Cloggers, Karioke, and more. Drawing at the pavilion at 6 p.m.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Peru – St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 will host its 26th annual golf tournament.

Date: June 15

Time: Shotgun start at 10 a.m.

Place: Adirondack Golf & Country Club.

Features: The four-person scramble will feature a "New Car Hole in One" prize sponsored by Bill McBride Chevrolet and other prizes. Awards dinner following the event in the clubhouse. The entry fee is \$260 per team until June 1st and \$280 per team thereafter. Spouses are invited to attend the dinner at \$15 each.

Contact: Obtain entry forms and information by contacting Bill McBride Jr. at 643-6678 or by emailing Scar6064@charter.net

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

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

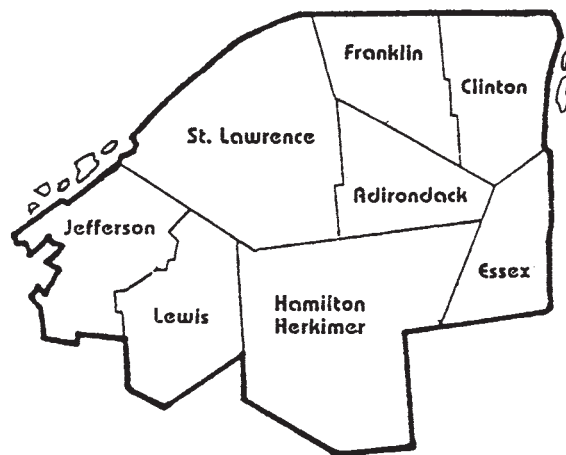
SOAKING PRAYER

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer have soaking prayer.

Date: Every 3rd Monday.

Time: 10 a.m. to 11

Features: be immersed in prayer with individual prayer time for specific needs.



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, 1-866-314-7296;
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

HEALING MINISTRIES SCHOOL

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks house of Prayer will be offering Christian Healing Ministries School of Healing Prayer Training

Date: July 26-29

Features: This course offers a scriptural basis for God's gift of healing prayer and teaches the student how to be an effective prayer minister. Topics include: Scriptural Foundations for Healing, History of Healing in the Church, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Introduction to Deliverance Prayer, and more. This will be the 1st of 3 level.

Cost: Nominal fee for materials.

Contact: Register by June 1 by email to olaprayehouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will be having a monthly prayer meeting.

Date: May 26 (every last Sunday)

Features: Please bring a dish to pass and RSVP to olaprayehouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253

PRAYER MEETING

Plattsburgh – A weekly prayer meeting will be held every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday).

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church, St. Brother Andre' Chapel.

Features: Prayers and songs of praise followed by devotional prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Divine Mercy Chap

let/Novena, as well as prayers for individual, community, state, national and global concerns. Facilitated by Living Waters Healing Ministry. Open to all

LECTIO DIVINA

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will be having *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading), every Friday.

Time: 1 p.m. to 3

Features: Meditation on the following Sunday's readings and Rosary

FRANKLIN

RELIC OF BLESSED MOTHER TERESA

St. Regis Falls – Saint Ann's Parish received a First Class Relic of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta for a shrine. The public is invited to visit the church to pray at the shrine to view the reliquary that contains the relic.

Schedule: The church is opened Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 8:45am with Mass at 8am, Saturday's from 3:30pm to 5:15pm with Mass at 4:30pm, and Sunday's from 9am to 10:15am with Mass at 9:30am.

JEFFERSON

CAR WASH

Watertown – The Watertown Special Religious Education Program will be having a Car Wash.

Date: June 9

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: St. Anthony's Church Parking Lot

Cost: Donation

HEALING MASS

Clayton – St. Mary's Church will be cele-

brating its Annual Healing Mass and Antoine Tetrault Memorial Service.

Date: June 9

Time: 11 a.m.

Features: This will be the 20th anniversary of St. Mary's Healing Mass. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered during Mass. The Celebrants will be Father Arthur LaBaff and Father Thomas Kornmeyer. Immediately following Mass there will be prayer teams to pray for individual needs. A Social time to meet the Tetrault family and share testimonies of healing will be held in the Parish Center along with refreshments.

Contact: Parish Office at 686-3398.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: May 31

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

MOUNT CARMEL FEAST

Watertown – St. Anthony's Church will celebrate its 96th Annual Mt. Carmel Feast in honor of our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Date: June 29, 30 & July 1

Features: A Special spaghetti supper will be held in the church basement on June 28 at 4:30 p.m. \$8, Adults and \$4.50 for Children. Take-outs available. On the Grounds traditional Italian foods will be served. Great Entertainment each night. Friday – Les Gates; Saturday – Nick Mulpagano; Sunday – Fred and the Eds. Regular BINGO in the School Gym on Friday at 7 p.m. Rides by Ontario Amusement Company. Religious Procession begins at 5 p.m. Sunday followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Fireworks Sunday night at 10 p.m. \$1700 cash raffle after fireworks. Grounds open Friday at 5:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. All days end at 10 p.m. For more information contact St. Anthony's parish office at 782-1190.

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.

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: June 3

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: The program includes, Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Homily, The Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung) and Benediction. All are most welcomed to attend.

Contact: 348-6260.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Harrisville – St. Francis Solanus Church will be having a Pancake Breakfast.

Date: May 27

Time: 8 a.m. to 10:30

Cost: Adults, \$7.50; Children 12-5, \$5.50; under 5, Free

ST. LAWRENCE

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena – St. Mary's Church is holding a special rosary to mark First Saturday

Date: June 2

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Features: Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace followed by a 15 minute private meditation on the Luminous I Mysteries. Confessions available, Anticipated Mass at 4 p.m.

K OF BRUNCH

Norfolk – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.

Date: June 10

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center; Take-outs available

Cost: Adults, \$6; Children under 12, \$4; Under 5, Free; Family, \$16

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's holds 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.

NOVENA FOR MILITARY

Ogdensburg – Notre Dame Church is holding a weekly novena for the safety of U.S. military personnel

Date: Tuesday evenings

Time: 6:30 p.m.



The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@dioogdensburg.org

Catholic Near East Welfare Association

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

CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) has been a lifeline for those in need throughout the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe for more than 85 years. Founded in 1926 by Pope Pius XI, CNEWA's mandate is:

- to support the pastoral mission and institutions of the Eastern Catholic churches, to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need without regard to nationality or creed.
- to promote Christian unity and interreligious understanding and collaboration.
- to educate people in the West about the history, cultures, peoples and churches of the East.

From training priests to serve the people of God in India to providing clean water systems to war-damaged villages in Lebanon – from providing job opportunities to unemployed Palestinians to caring for orphaned children in Ethiopia – from providing health care to the poor in Iraq to awarding scholarships for Orthodox priests to study in Catholic universities in Rome, CNEWA connects generous North Americans with those in need living in some of the remotest parts of the world.

Each year, the Diocese of Ogdensburg contributes generously to the World Mission Sunday collection in October. A percentage of the proceeds from that collection go directly to the CNEWA from this office each Spring. I recently received a letter of gratitude from Reverend Msgr. John E. Kozar, the President of CNEWA and former National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies. In his letter to me, Msgr. Kozar says, "I fully appreciate all the labor and dedication that accompanies the celebration of World Mission Sunday in your Diocese. All of the beneficiaries in the CNEWA family thank you for this generosity. We are in receipt of your gift from the wonderful faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg ... permit me to convey to you as well as the gratitude and appreciation of Cardinal Leonard Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation, and Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, Chair of CNEWA. May God bless you and all the faithful whom you serve for your goodness and generosity."

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

OBITUARIES

Champlain – Dale O. Genereux, 54; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at St. Mary's Church.

Chateaugay – Rachel S. (Shutts) Kliniski, 72; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at Chateaugay Funeral Home; burial in St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Meriden, Conn.

Clayton – Gladys M. (Wilder) Bloodough, 99; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Hogansburg – Carlton Smith, Sr., 85; Funeral Services May 25, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Ft. Covington.

Lake Placid – Robert Joseph Gallo, 66; Funeral Services May 19, 2012 at St. Agnes Church; burial in North Elba Cemetery.

Lake Placid – Dennis M. Ryan, 58; Funeral Services May 25, 2012 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Louisville – George W. Paige, 89; Funeral Services May 25, 2012 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Benoit Fortin, 88; Funeral Service May 26, 2012 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Massena – Rene O. Neves, 85; Funeral Services May 23, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morristown – James J. Spilman, 76; Funeral Services May 23, 2012 at St. John's Church; burial in Sunnyside Cemetery.

Norfolk – Robert J. Lavigne, 82; Funeral Services May 24, 2012 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Carol A. (Pribble) Earl, 69; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at the Allen-Nichols Funeral Home; burial in Ogdensburgh Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Douglas J. Mashaw, 82; Funeral Services May 24, 2012 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Peru – Alice G. Craig, 85; Funeral Services May 18, 2012 at the Brown Funeral Home.

Plattsburgh – Willard R. Bob Walker, 82; Funeral Services May 19, 2012 at the

R.W. Walker Funeral Home.

Saranac Lake – Michael S. Turmel, 42; Funeral Services May 25, 2012 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Star Lake – Patricia "Pat" I. (Briggs) Pryce,

76; Funeral Services May 25, 2012 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in Oswegatchie Cemetery.

West Chazy – Carolyn T. (Brothers) Santor, 79; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

The Precious Blood Auxiliary is encouraging enrollment of
NEW Members

Regular Members share in a **monthly** Mass offered for their intentions
Dues are \$6 Annually

Booster Members share in a **weekly** Mass offered for their intentions
Dues are \$12 Annually

Throughout the year, the members share in prayers and sacrifices of the Sisters.

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AT THE 2012 PRESBYTERAL ASSEMBLY



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg gathered at the Edgewood Resort in Alexandria Bay May 21-24 for the annual Presbyteral Assembly. This year's program was a retreat led by Father J. Ronald Knott, priest of the

Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky. and founding director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates. He addressed the theme "The Powerful Spiritual Leadership of a Unified Presbyterate." A highlight of the week was a Mass and dinner honoring the priest jubilarians May 23. The priests are shown above before the Mass.

REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?


PRAYER SUGGESTION

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name a priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life.

(With ecclesiastical approval)

Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (...) Amen.

June



Sacred Heart

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY **JUNE 2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For more copies write to: Diocese of Ogdensburg PO Box 369 Ogdensburg, NY 13669						BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY 1
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REV. GERALD A. CERANK 10	REV. DANIEL L. CHAPIN 11	MSGR. BERNARD E. CHRISTMAN 12	REV. MARTIN E. CLINE 13	REV. DOUGLAS G. COMSTOCK 14	POPE BENEDICT 15	REV. FRANCIS CORYR 16
REV. JOHN J. COSMIC 17	REV. NORMAND C. COTE 18	REV. LAWRENCE E. COTER 19	REV. ROBERT L. COTTER 20	REV. JOHN M. CRABLE 21	RETIRED PRIESTS 22	REV. THEODORE A. CROSBY 23
REV. DOUGLAS A. DECKER 24	REV. ROBERT L. DECKER 25	REV. JAMES A. DELBEL 26	REV. DAVID DELUCA MSG 27	REV. GARVIN L. DEMARAIS 28	DECEASED PRIESTS 29	REV. RICHARD D. DEMERS 30




For more information visit us online at: www.mprpapistolatc
 A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated. www.myvocation.net
 The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by:   



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

Deacon Thomas Higman, center, was a special guest at the annual gathering of priests held during the week before his ordination to the priesthood. He is shown with Father Christopher Cararra, left, pastor in Lowville, Glenfield and Houseville; and Father Joseph Giroux, pastor of the Malone Catholic Parishes where the new priest will serve as parochial vicar.