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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 4, 2012

Teach your children

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – If children do not learn to pray from their parents, it will be difficult for them to ever learn to communicate with God naturally, simply and deeply, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"In the family, children from the tenderest age can learn to perceive the sense of God thanks to the teaching and example their parents

give of living in the presence of God," the pope said at his weekly general audience Dec. 28.

Continuing a series of audience talks on prayer, Pope Benedict looked at the Holy Family as a model of family life marked by faith, work and regular moments of prayer together.

"The Holy Family is the

icon of the domestic church called to pray together. The family is the domestic church and must be the first school of prayer," he said. While the Gospels do not give many details about Jesus' childhood, he said, the Bible is clear that Mary and Joseph were observant Jews, which means they prayed at regular times throughout the

day and before meals.

"An authentically Christian education cannot lack the experience of prayer," the pope said.

"If one does not learn to pray in the family, it will be difficult to fill this void," Pope Benedict said, "so I want to invite you to rediscover the beauty of praying together as a family."

'EXUBERANT JUBILATION'

Blessed Kateri to be a saint



The announcement of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha's impending canonization "is the news we've been waiting for shortly after her beatification (in 1980)," said Sister Kateri Mitchell, an Akwesasne native who has served as executive director of the Tekakwitha Conference National Center in Great Falls, Mont., for the past 14 years. Regarding her reaction to the news Dec. 19 from the Vatican that a second miracle attributed to Blessed Kateri has been recognized, "I guess the word is overwhelming and also just exuberant with jubilation," said Sister Kateri. Full coverage of the local reaction to the announcement that Blessed Kateri will be canonized will be featured in next week's *NCC*.

Diocesan Ecumenical Service set

MASSENA – The 2012 Diocesan Ecumenical Service, anticipating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, will be celebrated Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Massena.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside.

The theme for the service will be "We Will All Be Changed by the Victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ"(cf. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58).

Father James J. Kane, Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs of the Diocese of Albany, will be the featured speaker.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Food grants to be available

'A concrete sign of the care of the Church for our North Country neighbors in need,' said the bishop

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

A MASS OF THE ROSES



The grade eight religious education students of St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Tupper Lake, under the direction of Lisa Jones, participated in the Mass of the Roses in observance of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Holy Name Church Dec. 11. The students shown are Thomas Barton, Ariana Bishop, Zachary Boushie, Gabriel Burns, Klarissa Hoyt, Dakota Larabie, Dylan Lohr, Lindsey Maroun, Malorie McLear and DJ Shaheen.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE: Powerful love between daughter and her Dad... p. 12

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Our Family of Faith

2011 was the year we were asked to think of our church as a Family of Faith and we can certainly look back on a time of family joy and pain and more than one 'family reunion.'

Throughout the year, we could cheer for our brothers and sisters:

- Sister Donna Franklin was honored by her fellow Catholic Charities directors of New York State with the Bishop Mugevero Award.

- Sue Ellen LaCroix of Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh was named the Catholic School Teacher of the Year.

- Seminarian Thomas Higman was ordained a deacon in anticipation of his priesthood ordination in 2012

- Bishop LaValley commissioned 50 lay ministers for service in their parishes

- Tamra Murphy of Malone was the 2011 recipient of the Sharing the Light of Faith Award from the Department of Christian Formation

- Catholic Charities presented its annual Caritas Award to Deacon Ron and Beth Ste. Marie of Inlet and its Legacy Award to 16-year-old Joy Leader of Gouverneur

- Priests, religious men and woman and married couples celebrated significant anniversaries at diocesan jubilees and The Champlain Valley Right to Life celebrated its 40th anniversary

- The *North Country Catholic* won a first place award from the Catholic Press Association for its special edition covering Bishop LaValley's 2010 installation

The chances for family members to come together were numerous as well:

- Special gatherings were held throughout the year in parishes, with clergymen, Catholic school teachers and other parish leaders to prepare for the implementation of the New Roman Missal on the First Sunday of Advent
- Catholics of the diocese showed their support for human life with pro-life marches in January and Lifechains in October.
- A successful Youth Rally brought 300 teenagers to Massena in April
- Hundreds gathered in

Massena again in September to hear internationally known speaker Christopher West discuss the Theology of the Body.

- Bishop LaValley led the annual diocesan vocation pilgrimage to Lake Placid in October

- Young adults came together during the year: 23 traveled to Madrid to join Pope Benedict XVI and one million other youth Catholics for World Youth Day in August. In November, another group of young adults gathered for the first Metanoia retreat at Wadhams Hall.
- Hundreds of younger

Catholics enjoyed the unique diocesan camping programs at Guggenheim in Saranac Lake and SportsCamp at Wadhams Hall.

- The diocesan camp was also the site of three Family Guggenheim programs

- The annual Superintendent's Day brought Catholic school teachers to Lake Placid

- Bishop LaValley celebrated the 2011 Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving in Lowville

Some of our family members took on new responsibilities during the past year:

- Lorraine Turgeon of Port Henry was named diocesan director of young adult ministry

- Deacon John White of Ogdensburg was appointed associate director of the deacon formation program

- Pamela Ballantine of Plattsburgh began work as assistant director of education for Catholic schools and Christian Formation.

And our family joined together in sorrow, too, as we bid farewell to beloved clergymen:

- Father Charles Chase, died Jan.4; Deacon David Moltz, June 19; Msgr. George Phillips, Oct. 28 and Father Roland Gonyo, Nov. 16

And the final weeks of 2012 brought our diocese in close connection with the universal Catholic Church.

In November, Bishop LaValley made his first *ad limina* visit to meet with the pope in Rome.

And we shared Christmas joy when "our" Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha was cleared for sainthood giving us all something very special to look forward to in 2012.

Happy New Year!



Mary Lou Kilian

CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

Feast of the Epiphany Manifestation of God to the Whole World

Jan. 7-8

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ
Director of Evangelization

What are our gifts to the Christ Child?

The greatest gifts from God are the gift of faith, hope, and love. The greatest of these is the gift of love, love that is manifested in the gift of ourselves to one another.

The way to love is through love as Jesus manifested Himself to the whole world. As a family of faith, we announce the Good News that Jesus is the Savior all people.

Isaiah speaks of a day when peoples and nations shall be gathered in unity around the light. In our efforts to be evangelizers, we hope that one day that there will be harmony of different cultures.

The Church has looked upon this reading that speaks of the kingdom of God where darkness will fade into the light where all nations will be in peace. This kingdom will not be about politics or economics, but about peace, harmony, justice, and love.

The manifestation of Jesus Christ will be made known to all peoples and the light of peace will be upon all people.

St. Paul tells the community at Ephesus "that the Gentiles are co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel" (Ephesians 3:6).

We can call each other brothers and sisters because we are members of God's household. We can address God as "Father" just as the Holy Spirit of Jesus does. The linkage that we have between Jesus and us is our humanness. We are able to share in the divinity of Christ because he was willing to share in our humanness.

This is what God has done for us. He has freed us from the slavery of sin and death and has given us an eternal inheritance in His household. This is what it means to be Church: A Family of Faith, a family who lives in relationship with the Father through the Son by the power of the Holy Spirit. As brothers and sisters, we live in the freedom of being God's children.

Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of God, is the one who said "Yes" allowing the Holy Spirit to come upon her and the Word became flesh and dwelt in her womb. She is the one who gave Him humanity.

In the Catholic Church, there is a rich diversity, but one Body, the Body of Christ.

The star the wise men followed was a light announcing the coming of Christ to the entire world. They were not Jews, and yet they knew of this king's coming from their own traditions and wisdom.

From their study and hard work, they followed the light of the star to the place of the manger. How surprised the Magi were to find a little Child with His mother and foster-father.

We may not know where Divine Providence will lead us, but if we follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit within our own lives, they are not insignificant in building up the Body of Christ.

It is God's grace that brings unity out of diversity. Let us pray for unity that all people of every race, creed, language, and culture will be gathered and united in the one Light of Christ.

How can you bring more unity within the life of the Church?

Like the ancient Kings, let us bring gifts of love, mercy, and compassion to one another.

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

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Diocese to offer food assistance grants to parishes

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is currently accepting applications for food assistance grants which will be awarded to food programs operated by Catholic parishes or organization.

During the winter of 2009 and again one year ago, the diocese made grants to a number of parishes and ecumenical or community food programs to help them with the purchase of food.

In each case the grant amounts approached a total of \$20,000

While applications may be submitted on behalf of parish or ecumenical or community food programs, they must be completed by a pastor of a Catholic parish of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Applications for *Food Assistance 2012* are available on the Pastoral Documentation Site of the diocese.

They must be completed

and returned to the diocese no later than Jan. 27. A determination about grants will be made soon after that time.

Bishop LaValley said, "We are all well aware that poverty impacts the lives of many North Country residents year after year. In addition, the economic turmoil of recent years has left other neighbors of ours out of work or underemployed. I take particular satisfaction knowing that we, the Church of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, will collaborate once again in this Food Assistance Grant program.

"While the amount we will distribute is indeed modest in light of the need around us, this distribution will be once more a concrete sign of the care of the Church for our neighbors in need and a very specific step on our part to help them," the bishop said.

Visit our re-designed website
www.northcountrycatholic.org

- Read Bishop LaValley's columns
- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more



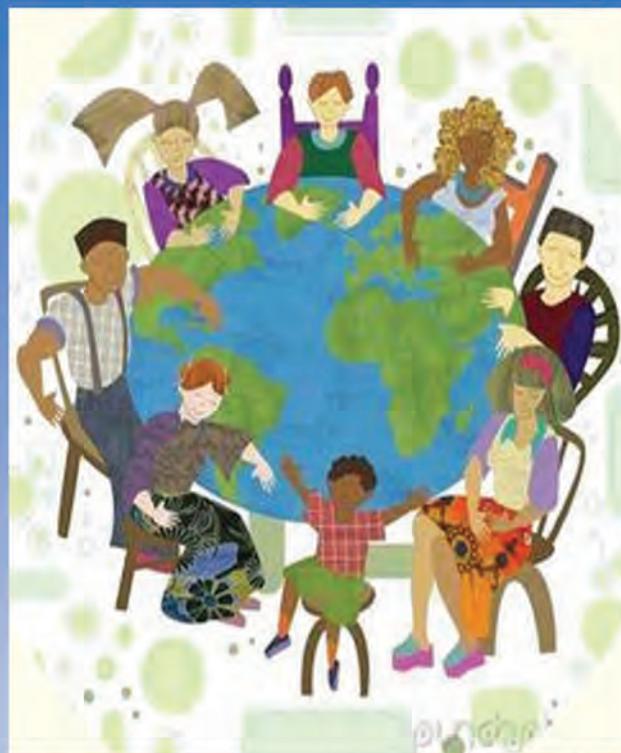
Find us on Facebook!

Thank You

The family of Rev. Roland Gonyo would like to thank Bishop LaValley, all the priests, and friends who contributed in any way during the recent passing of Father Gonyo. We deeply appreciate everyone's concerns and efforts.



Week of Prayer



For Christian Unity

"WE WILL ALL BE CHANGED by the VICTORY of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST"

**Ecumenical Service
 Sacred Heart Church**

Massena

Sunday, January 15, 2012

2:00 p.m.

ECUMENISM

from ancient Greek OIKOUMENIKOS:
 "the people of the whole earth who live in a common house"

Catholic Daughters hold Memorial Mass



The annual Diocese of Ogdensburg Past Regents Catholic Daughters of the Americas Memorial Mass and Luncheon was held Oct. 1 hosted by CDA Court St. Monica of Peru. CDA members are shown above with State Chaplain Father Scott Seymour who celebrated Mass at St. Augustine's Church in Peru., along with Msgr. Joseph Aubin and Father Alan Shnob.

PERU - The annual Diocese of Ogdensburg Past Regents Catholic Daughters of the Americas Memorial Mass and Luncheon was held Oct. 1 hosted by CDA Court St. Monica of Peru with Mass at St. Augustine's Church.

The Liturgy was celebrated by State Chaplain Father Scott Seymour, pastor in Morrisonville and con-celebrated by Msgr. Joseph Aubin and Father Alan Shnob.

Organist for the Mass was Carol Barchard.

A list of deceased members, over this past year, from each of the 13 diocesan courts, was read by Judy Bombard and a candle was lit in memory of each by Patricia Lindsay.

Before the closing of the Liturgy, a check for \$2000 was presented to Father Seymour, acting for Bishop Terry LaValley, by State Regent, Penny Martin, of Willsboro, an annual donation from the NYS CDA in support of the Marie C. Curry Seminary Fund.

A festive luncheon was prepared and served by Court St. Monica's hospitality team at the Community Center in Peru.

Guest speakers were Father Seymour and NYS Regent Penny Martin.

At the luncheon, the winner of the 50/50 raffle was announced- Mrs. Helene Shepherd of Washingtonville, NY.

This year the majority of the remaining 50% of the raffle will go to local Catholic education, and that has been awarded to Seton Catholic. The business meeting for past regents followed the luncheon.

Per the advice of the State Chaplain, and the agreement of those in attendance at the October meeting, the Chapter altered its schedule for 2012.

Tentatively the fall meeting will be held Aug. 11 in Lyon Mountain, hosted by Court Our Lady of Snows #1548. Mass will be held at St. Bernard's Church and the luncheon will follow at the American Legion.

Bishop LaValley's Schedule

Jan. 5 - 10:00 a.m., Mass and Visit to Holy Family School in Malone.

Jan. 6 - 9 a.m., Mass and Visit to St. Mary's Academy in Champlain; 7 p.m., Canon Law Class for Deacon Aspirants at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

Jan. 7 - 10:30 a.m., Mass at Riverview Correctional Facility

Jan. 8 - 10:00 a.m., Mass at Church of the Visitation in Norfolk.

Jan. 9 - 7:30 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

Jan. 10 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg.

Jan. 11 - 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral 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

Jan. 4 - Rev. James Edwin O'Haire, 1877; Rev. Michael Walsh, M.S.C., 1977; Rev. Charles E. Chase, 2011

Jan. 5 - Rev. Louis Lebrett, O.M.I., 1903; Msgr. Dennis E. Lynch, 1979; Rev. Raoul J. Poirier, M.Afr., 1997

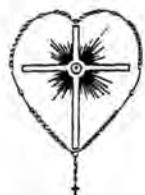
Jan. 6 - Rev. James Dennis Phalon, 1974; Deacon George W. Carroll, 1994; Rev. Benoit Dostie, M.S.C., 2007

Jan. 7 - Rev. Leonidas Geoffrion, 1954

Jan. 8 - Rev. Michael Moris, 1893; Rev. Frederick C. Hatch, 1961; Msgr. Robert John Arquette, 1969; Rev. Leo McCarthy, O.S.A., 1975; Rev. Roland Gaulin, O.M.I., 1984; Rev. Anthony F. Pease, 1997; Msgr. Morris L. Dwyer, 2004

Jan. 9 - Rev. James P. Santoni, O.M.I., 1890; Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Durin, M.S.C., 1897; Rev. Fred Commins, O.S.A., 1924; Rev. Joseph Edward Doyle, 1958; Rev. Jeremiah Albert O'Brien, 1974

Jan. 10 - Rev. Christopher C. Poulin, 1904; Msgr. James O'Driscoll, V.F., 1913; Msgr. Frederick P. Diviney, 1961



Adirondack Center For PEACE

P.O. Box 2748
Plattsburgh, New York 12901
Phone: (518) 561-5083

These Masses for Life are co-sponsored by
Adirondack Center For PEACE
and
Knights of Columbus Council #255

2012	St. Peter's Church			Our Lady of Victory			St. John's Church		
	Day	Date	Time	Day	Date	Time	Day	Date	Time
JAN	Sat.	1/7/2012	8:15	Tue.	1/10/2012	8:00	Tue.	1/23/2012	9:00
FEB	Sat.	2/4/2012	8:15	Tue.	2/7/2012	8:00	Thu.	2/28/2012	9:00
MAR	Sat.	3/3/2012	8:15	Tue.	3/6/2012	8:00	Thu.	3/28/2012	9:00
APR	Sat.	4/14/2012	8:15	Tue.	4/10/2012	8:00	Wed.	4/26/2012	9:00
MAY	Sat.	5/5/2012	8:15	Tue.	5/8/2012	8:00	Wed.	5/24/2012	9:00
JUN	Sat.	6/2/2012	4:00	Tue.	6/12/2012	8:00	Tue.	6/28/2012	9:00
JUL	Sat.	7/7/2012	8:15	Tue.	7/10/2012	8:00	Tue.	7/24/2012	9:00
AUG	Sat.	8/4/2012	8:15	Tue.	8/7/2012	8:00	Tue.	8/27/2012	9:00
SEPT	Sat.	9/1/2012	8:15	Tue.	9/11/2012	8:00	Fri.	9/20/2012	9:00
OCT	Sat.	10/6/2012	8:15	Tue.	10/9/2012	8:00	Wed.	10/22/2012	9:00
NOV	Sat.	11/3/2012	8:15	Tue.	11/6/2012	8:00	Wed.	11/27/2012	9:00
DEC	Sat.	12/1/2012	8:15	Tue.	12/11/2012	8:00	Wed.	12/17/2012	9:00

Please join us in prayer for a greater reverence for all human life!

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THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

The Religious of the Diocese Wish To Thank All of the Generous People Who Contributed to the 2011 Retirement Fund Collection. You Will Be Remembered In Our Prayers.

Brothers of Christian Instruction (FIC)

Brother Raymond Fortin
Brother Charles Thomas

Franciscan Friars of the Atonement (SA)

Brother Alan LeMay
Brother Paschal Steen

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC)

Rev. Pierre Aubin
Rev. David DeLuca
Rev. Vincent Freeh
Rev. Richard Huber
Rev. Richard Kennedy
Brother Peter Marceau
Brother Jean-Paul Paradis

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Sister Judy Adams
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Sister M. Maurice Black
Sister Mary Paul Blank
Sister M. Victorine Brenon
Sister Mary Ellen Brett
Sister Shirley Anne Brown
Sister Norma Bryant
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Sister Annunciata Collins
Sister Bernadette Marie Collins
Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin
Sister Mary Anne Croitz
Sister Yvonne Therese Cusson
Sister Jane Frances Cutting
Sister Sharon Anne Dalton
Sister Kathleen Mary DeBoalt
Sister Marie Angele Ellis
Sister Mary Louise Fiedler
Sister M. Bethany Fitzgerald

Sister M. Monica Flaherty
Sister Mary Catherine Laboure
Goodbout

Sister M. Aquinas Hagan
Sister Ronald Marie Hax
Sister M. Martha Henry
Sister Noel Chabanel Hentz
Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann
Sister Mary Helen Hermann
Sister Anne Hogan
Sister James Marie Kelly
Sister Marie Cordata Kelly
Sister Mary Rita Kempney
Sister Carol Louise Kraeger
Sister Mary Eamon Lyng
Sister Helen Mary McKeever
Sister Gabriel Marie Meyer
Sister Cathleen Moore
Sister Sheila Jane Moran
Sister Gregory Munger
Sister Mary Patrick Murphy
Sister M. Teresa Magdalen
Nichols
Sister Juliana Raymond
Sister M. Kateri Rose
Sister Maria Goretti Sargent
Sister Maureen Sweeney
Sister Constance Marie Sylvester
Sister Mary Christine Taylor
Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer
Sister Jennifer Votraw

Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart (GNSH)

Sister Rita Frances Brady
Sister Mary Teresa LaBrake
Sister Mary E. Looby
Sister John Helen Main
Sister Joan McElwain
Sister Barbara Schiavoni

Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (FCSCJ)

Sister Bonita Cote
Sister Mary Ann Gour

Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement (SA)

Sister Carol Daul
Sister Ellen Donahue
Sister Edward Marie Tesiero

Dominican Sisters of Hope (OP)

Sister Deborah Blow
Sister Stephanie Frenette
Sister Barbara Langlois
Sister Barbara R. McCarthy
Sister Elizabeth Menard

Mid-Atlantic Community of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (RSM)

Sister Eileen Marie Chambers
Sister Catherine Cummings
Sister Rose Curtin
Sister Mary Audrey Hallahan
Sister Brian Marie Latour
Sister Carolyn Madden
Sister Mary Jeannette Mendonca
Sister Mary Camillus O'Keefe
Sister Carolyn Parker
Sister Janet Peters
Sister Mary Paula Richard
Sister Mary Denise Wilke

Servants of Mary (OSM)

Sister Lucille Beaulieu
Sister Mary Juliana Fitzpatrick
Sister Mary Louise Genest
Sister Rita Mary Morrissette

Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul (DC)

Sister Mary Frances Barnes
Sister Patricia Collins
Sister Catherine Cotter
Sister Donna Franklin
Sister Mary Lou Stubbs

Ursuline Sisters (OSU)

Sister Teresa Byrne
Sister Mary Hallahan
Sister Sheila Murphy

Sisters of Charity of St. Louis (SCSL)

Sister Bernadette Ducharme
Sister Claire Michel Fortier
Sister Joan Marie Lashway
Sister Louella Pelletier
Sister Agnes Racette

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ)

Sister Barbara St. Andrews

Sisters of the Precious Blood (APB)

Sister Martha Emery
Sister Marilyn McGillan
Sister Rose Rossi
Sister Elizabeth Washburn

Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod

Sister Maria Flavia D'Costa
Sister Maria Angelica Rebello

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

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VATICAN LETTER

For pope, 2011 was year of evangelization and travel

By John Thavis
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - An interfaith meeting in Assisi, a new book on Jesus of Nazareth and a website-launching tap on an iPad were among the highlights of 2011 for Pope Benedict XVI.

Although the year saw a further cutback in individual papal audiences, the 84-year-old pope still enjoyed a productive and busy 12 months, meeting privately with nearly 400 church or civil leaders, addressing more than 180 groups and presiding over about 40 public liturgies.

He traveled to Croatia, Spain, Germany and Benin, delivering 60 speeches on the road. In weekly talks at the Vatican, attended by nearly half a million people, he gave a series of reflections on the great teachers of the church and on prayer -- a continuation of the "back to basics" approach that has marked his pontificate.

The reduction of papal meetings and the introduction of a rolling platform for his entrance into St. Peter's Basilica fueled speculation about the pope's health. Close observers say that, like most octogenarians, the pontiff tires more easily today, but that he suffers no serious health problems.

The year 2011 saw two of Pope Benedict's favorite themes come into clearer focus: new evangelization and religious liberty.

No doubt the pope has his own favorite remembrances of the closing year. From a journalist's point of view, here's a "top 10" list of moments from 2011 that seemed to capture what Pope Benedict is all about:

1. In October, the pope hosted an interreligious meeting in Assisi, Italy, but added his own unique twist: He invited four prominent nonbelievers, and gave one of them the speaker's platform at the event. It underlined his conviction that new evangelization must reach beyond the church's traditional borders.

2. In August, when a rainstorm threatened to cut short a World Youth Day vigil in Madrid, the pope could have bailed but chose to remain. After the rain stopped, a drenched crowd of 1.4 million fell to their knees in adoration of the Eucharist -- a sight that must have impressed him deeply.

3. In May, he beatified Pope John Paul II at a Mass attended by 1 million people -- the biggest crowd at the Vatican since the late pope's funeral in 2005.

4. Publishing his second volume of "Jesus of Nazareth" in March, the pope gave readers his version of "The Passion of the Christ." The book presents Jesus not as a political revolutionary or mere moralist, but

as the son of God who inaugurated a new path of salvation based on love.

5. In October, meeting with experts on new evangelization, the pope announced that he was convening a special "Year of Faith" in 2012-13 to help the church renew its missionary energy. The initiative underscored the pope's belief that Catholics need to better know their own faith in order to share it.

6. In the first of a series of talks to U.S. bishops on their "ad limina" visits to the Vatican, the pope said in late November that responding to the challenges of a secularized culture will first require the "re-evangelization" of the church's own members. He also encouraged the bishops to speak out "humbly yet insistently in defense of moral truth" on issues like marriage -- an issue that will no doubt keep surfacing during the upcoming election year.

7. The pope's September trip to his native Germany was highlighted by his speech to the Bundestag, the national parliament, in which he strongly defended Christianity as a protector and promoter of social justice. But even more remarkable were his blunt remarks to German lay Catholics. He told them the church in Germany was "superbly organized" but lacking in spirit; new evangelization, he said, will rely less on big church structures, and more on efforts by small Catholic communities and individuals to share their faith experiences.

8. In a speech in May on church social teaching, Pope Benedict strongly critiqued the global imbalances between rich and poor, and zeroed in on the international financial system, which he said had "returned to the frenzied practice of drawing up credit contracts that often allow unlimited speculation." Throughout the year, he challenged the consumerist underpinnings of modern economies, and the devastating consequences for the environment.

9. In Croatia in June, the pope led a vigil for 50,000 young people in a main Zagreb square that was remarkable for one thing: the near-absolute silence in a long moment of prayer. Pope Benedict has insisted that a silence is important for spiritual reflection.

10. The iPad tap that launched the Vatican's new online news portal in June was clearly a staged moment for a pope who still writes documents in longhand. But even if he remains wary of replacing direct human contact with virtual relationships, Pope Benedict is fully committed to using online resources -- including social networks -- to spread the Gospel. As he told an aide who proposed a papal YouTube appearance: "I want to be present wherever the people are found."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope's 2012 to include synod, international trips, canonizations

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A trip to Latin America, a Synod of Bishops on new evangelization, the start of the Year of Faith, creation of new cardinals and proclamations of new saints are all on Pope Benedict XVI's calendar for 2012. Of particular interest to the United States, the pope will also continue his meetings with groups of U.S. bishops making their "ad limina" visits to the Vatican during the first half of the year. His talks to the bishops are expected to focus on themes of education, religious freedom and the relationship between culture and religion. The 2012 highlights are only a small part of the pope's day-to-day schedule, which includes hundreds of meetings, speeches, messages and liturgies. The German pope, who turns 85 in April, also pursues a "private" agenda of writing whenever he gets the chance, as he works to complete the latest in his "Jesus of Nazareth" series of books -- this one on Jesus' infancy and childhood. Pope Benedict is virtually certain to call a consistory to create new cardinals in 2012. He may do so as early as February, when there will be at least 13 "vacancies" in the roster of voting-age cardinals (those under the age of 80); or he may wait until fall, when 10 more cardinals will have turned 80. When he does name new cardinals, the list could include one or more Americans. U.S. prelates in line for the red hat -- now or later -- include Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, pro-grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem; and Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York. From Canada, Archbishop Thomas C. Collins of Toronto is a likely choice.

Boy's recovery from flesh-eating bacteria judged a Kateri miracle

SEATTLE (CNS) -- Elsa and Donny Finkbonner of St. Joseph Parish in Ferndale had no doubt that their young son's recovery from a deadly flesh-eating bacteria almost six years ago was a miracle. On Dec. 19, Pope Benedict XVI confirmed that when he signed a decree acknowledging a miracle attributed to the intervention of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha in the recovery of Jake Finkbonner from the rare and potentially fatal disease, necrotizing fasciitis. In February 2006, just before his sixth birthday, the boy was playing basketball when he suffered a cut on his lip that enabled the bacteria to invade his bloodstream. Days later, he was near death at Children's Orthopedic Hospital and Medical Center in Seattle. Because the family is part Native American, Father Tim Sauer, then-St. Joseph pastor, suggested they pray to God through Blessed Kateri (1656-1680), a Mohawk woman who devoted her short life to her Catholic faith and to caring for the sick and elderly. Known as the Lily of the Mohawks, she was beatified in 1980, the first native North American to be so honored. Her feast day is July 14. Jake beat the odds and recovered, and with the approval of then-Archbishop Alex J. Brunett of Seattle, the case of Blessed Kateri's intercession was investigated as the possible one remaining miracle needed for her canonization. The Finkbonners were elated upon receiving the news -- and of their son's part in it. "It's so overwhelmingly exciting, and just an honorable process to be a part of," Elsa Finkbonner said Dec. 20. She said Jake, now a sixth-grader at Assumption School in Bellingham, is "pretty excited about it," too.

A MESSAGE TO THE CITY AND THE WORLD



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS
 Pope Benedict XVI delivers his Christmas message "urbi et orbi" (to the city and the world) from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Dec. 25.

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THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?
 PRAYER SUGGESTION

Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen
 (With ecclesiastical approval)

Mass
 Rosary
 Fasting
 Day Offering
 Eucharistic Adoration
 Offering of Sufferings
 Divine Mercy Chaplet
 Or whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him

January

 Holy Name of Jesus

DIocese of OGDENSBURG, NY **JANUARY 2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAURDAY
BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY 1	REV. PHILIP T. ALLEN 2	REV. ANDREW J. AMYOT 3	MSGR. JOSEPH G. AUBIN 4	REV. PIERRE AUBIN M.S.C. 5	MSGR. ROBERT H. AUCOIN 6	REV. PETER M. BERG 7
OUR PASTOR 8	REV. PAUL V. BEYETTE 9	REV. NED BLICK 10	REV. GILBERT O. BOISVERT 11	REV. TIMOTHY G. CANAAN 12	REV. CHRISTOPHER C. CARBARA V.F. 13	REV. GERALD A. CERANK 14
POPE BENEDICT 15	REV. DANIEL L. CHAPIN 16	MSGR. BERNARD E. CHRISTMAN 17	REV. MARTIN E. CLINE 18	REV. DOUGLAS G. COMSTOCK 19	REV. FRANCIS CORYER 20	REV. JOHN J. COSMIC 21
RETIRED PRIESTS 22	REV. NORMAND C. COTE 23	REV. LAWRENCE E. COTTER 24	REV. ROBERT L. COTTER 25	REV. JOHN M. CRABLE 26	REV. THEODORE A. CROSBY 27	REV. DOUGLAS A. DECKER 28
DECEASED PRIESTS 29	REV. ROBERT L. DECKER 30	REV. JAMES A. DELBEL 31	FOR MORE COPIES WRITE TO: DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG PO BOX 369 OGDENSBURG, NY 13669			

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

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany

Our feast today celebrates God's intentions of opening up the minds and hearts of the chosen people to the universal mission of God's Son on earth.

An "epiphany" means a sudden burst of understanding, a showing forth of light and truth.

Isaiah had foretold that "all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God".

And the Gospel for that Mass had promised that all people would eventually be the chosen ones: "...to those who did accept Him, he gave power to become children of God".

And now, on the Epiphany,

the light from the skies is intensified a thousand fold, and the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that "nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance."

To the wonder of all in Palestine, there come foreign camels bearing foreign scholars. Ever since King Cyrus of Persia had been God's instrument in freeing Israel from slavery, there had been warm relations between the Jewish people and Persia.

Many believe that Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, were really Persian astrologers.

What courage and perse-

verance those strangers have shown, to brave the dangers of travel, skepticism, and political intrigue. But they found what they were looking for.

That star gave trustworthy guidance and now triumphantly shines as guard over the lowly dwelling wherein rests the child who possesses all meaning.

They fall to their knees in homage, for their learning has made them humble, and their wisdom leads them to recognize the Divine in the fragile flesh of a child.

But for all their simple faith, their wisdom is sharp enough to detect the sham delight and murderous intentions of the wily Herod. And so they pay their respects, leave their gifts, and modestly depart for their

JAN. 8

The Feast of the Epiphany

READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

homeland, sorrowfully aware of the terrible price justice must pay for Peace.

Their role in history has been accomplished - to teach us all to follow the guidance of the Almighty, to accept our own role as Bearers of the Light, and to follow this Christ into His Mission, to partake of His Passion, and to join the millions through the ages who will preach His Gospel of universal salvation.

The Son of God is the one Judge and Arbiter of Truth and the one Source of Light, but we are all called to be "epiphanies", providing glimpses of that Truth, showing the way in our own small spots of time and circumstance to a larger plan and destiny.

Princely Child, make of us all wise men and courageous women, obedient children who will follow wherever you lead us.

That means being faithful to meditation on the truth, sharing what we learn with others, taking part when possible in prayer and study groups.

This is the way for us to be light-bearers, lighting up the darkness and confusion in the world in which we live.

FOR THE JOURNEY

Gospel writers knew that family history matters

By Effie Caldarola
Catholic News Service

Why does family history matter?

I asked myself that question as I put together some albums of ancestry for my kids for Christmas.

Is there anyone among us who hasn't lamented at some point, "Gee, I wish I would have asked Grandma -- or Grandpa or Dad or Uncle Joe -- more questions about the family while they were still alive"?

The other side of that coin

is that often we do remember evenings spent reminiscing around the dining room table with older relatives, but nobody wrote it down -- or better yet, turned on a recorder.

Now the storylines blur and the memories grow foggy. And the silence that separates us from the dead seems quite intense.

And then there's that box of photos in the attic. Who the heck could this young man be?

I peruse the old, sepia-toned picture of someone, probably Grandma's brother or Grandpa's cousin, his name lost to posterity, but his face preserved.

When I visit an antique

shop and see those framed photos, it stabs at my heart to think that someone gave those old photos away. But then I hope, perhaps over-optimistically, that maybe their descendants made smaller, more functional copies to keep.

Or maybe they just didn't know who those folks were, staring out at them with the sober expressions favored in late 19th-century photography.

My Christmas project aimed to give my kids a sense of their direct lineage. I'm not the genealogist to compile page after page of cousins three times removed.

I was not born with the scrapbooking gene, either, so my little enterprise is not "cute" nor is it even done with a very straight ruler.

What I do like are stories and anecdotes about the past. Relating ancestral stories is something that the Hebrew people did well.

And when Jesus came along, the Gospel writers

were quick to want to establish his lineage and tell a little about his family. Who you came from was very important to the Scripture writers in telling who you were.

My husband's grandparents all emigrated from Italy. It was exciting to receive an emailed photo of my husband's great-grandmother, who lived in Rionero, Italy, in the 19th century. It was sent to me by an Italian cousin. It was also fun to listen to my mother-in-law reminisce about her grandfather, whose photo adorns his gravestone in Rhode Island.

But for me, my Celtic roots have very special meaning, especially as it relates to Celtic spirituality with its deep relationship to the land and the environment.

Two of my great-grandfathers came to this country because of the mid-19th-century Irish famine. One of them came as an orphaned young man from County

Galway.

In his book "Eternal Echoes," the great Irish writer and philosopher John O'Donohue wrote exquisitely about his own growing up in his homeland in Connemara in County Galway.

He says that in Connemara, "when someone asks a child who he is, the child is not simply asked for his name. The question is 'Ce leis thu?' i.e., To whom do you belong? There is a recognition in the language that your identity is not merely your own personal marker. You are both an expression and extension of an already acknowledged family line."

The Gospel writers knew that. They knew that the God who chose to be born into our world chose to be born into a family line, and that those lines matter.

Jesus was both an expression and an extension of his family tree, and so are all of us.

Maybe that's why family history matters.



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AT THE MOVIES

WE BOUGHT A ZOO

By John P. McCarthy
Catholic News Service

Of the various endangered species populating "We Bought a Zoo" (Fox), a man hoping for sufficient time to grieve his wife's death is arguably the most threatened.

Based on the real-life experiences of British writer Benjamin Mee, this amiable and ambling holiday feature puts a Capraesque twist on the notion of caretaking in the wake of loss, and has some star wattage to boost its commercial prospects. If only it didn't endorse society's expectation that "getting over" the death of a loved one must happen within a prescribed time period.

Matt Damon stars as Mee, a Los Angeles newspaper columnist struggling with his parental responsibilities six months after his wife's passing. Harried and dissatisfied with his job writing about other people's adventures, he misses his wife terribly, and finds rote expressions of sympathy (see the lasagnas piling up in the fridge) unhelpful.

His precocious 7-year-old, Rosie (Maggie Elizabeth Jones), and 14-year-old son, Dylan (Colin Ford), aren't faring too well either. Rosie has trouble picturing her mother's face, and Dylan gets expelled from school, mostly for creating morbid art that expresses his anger and deep sadness.

Benjamin's brother Duncan (Thomas Haden Church) urges more human interaction, i.e., dating, but Benjamin takes a different tack. He quits his job after deciding a change of scene -- and the opportunity to live their own adventure -- is what the family needs. They move from the city to an 18-acre rural property that contains a ramshackle zoo. Can they fix it up, pass inspection

and open for business in time for the peak season?

Trying to resuscitate Rosemoor Animal Park may well bring financial ruin and further alienate father and son. Fortunately, however, along with exotic animals the zoo comes with a staff of five humans, two of whom are potential love interests for the Mee males -- head keeper Kelly (Scarlett Johansson) and vivacious teen Lily (Elle Fanning).

It's striking that Benjamin never mentions heaven or an afterlife when consoling Rosie and Dylan. He doesn't rule it out, yet any spirituality being proffered is not of a theological genus. During the sufficiently affecting climactic scene, the catharsis achieved by the Mees doesn't involve the transcendent, and is therefore not all that could be hoped for.

Equally noticeable is the implied timetable for mourning. As usual in films, grieving is made to seem like a much simpler and less arduous process than it tends to be in real life. The Mees are expected to bounce back from tragedy as soon as the six-month mark has passed; in fact, the year that it does take hardly seems sufficient. In addition to being insensitive, unrealistic and psychologically implausible, this rush, dictated by society at large, limits the movie's emotional resonance.

Potentially even more chafing to Catholic viewers is a parallel storyline about a Bengal tiger. Benjamin's instinct is to nurse the regal animal, which is dying of natural causes. But the argument is vehemently made that the humane and moral course of action is to end

the creature's suffering by hastening its death. This unquestioned assumption, and the way it mirrors the widower's coming to grips with his primary loss, reminds us we're part of a culture whose prevailing attitudes toward life and death must be carefully parsed.

These three points notwithstanding, "We Bought a Zoo" is commendable entertainment -- not least because it emphasizes the importance of hard work in achieving anything of value, whether therapeutic or zoological.

The film contains at least one instance of profanity, several uses of crude and crass language, some lightly suggestive banter and a few morbid images. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.



CNS PHOTO/FOX

Matt Damon and Scarlett Johansson star in a scene from the movie "We Bought a Zoo."



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CLINTON

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Treadwell Mills – RCC St. Alexander & St. Joseph's will hold a Pancake Breakfast (all you can eat).

Date: Jan. 8

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph's Church Hall

Cost: Adults, \$6; Children 6-12, \$3; under 5, Free

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: "Jesus Christ is truly Emmanuel, God-with-us from his Incarnation until the end of time. And he is this in a particular intense and hidden way in the mystery of his continual presence in the Eucharist." (Bl. John Paul II) **Contact:** call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

MARCH FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh – The Champlain Valley Right to Life Will hold its 38th Annual Plattsburgh March for Life.

Date: Jan. 15

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Newman Center

Features: After the March there is a presentation by James Sedlak, VP of League, followed by a reception.

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.

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

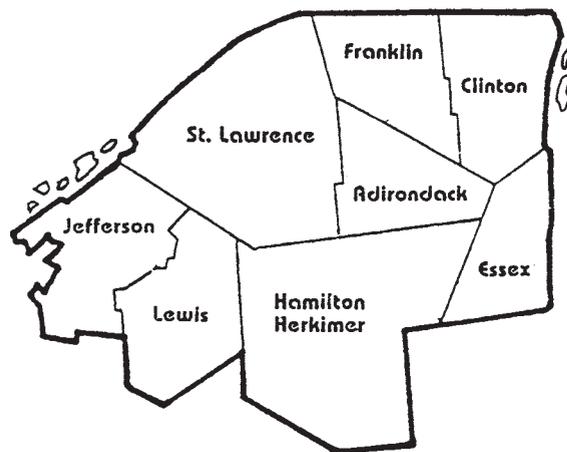
Donations: To donate funds for someone to attend, please send your check or money order to St. Peter's Church 114 Cornelia Street Plattsburgh, New York 12901. Make a notation on the memo line "Bus For Life Donation."

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



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@northcountycatholic.org.

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

JEFFERSON

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – St. Mary's Parish will be having a Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner to benefit the Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus.

Date: Jan. 14

Time: 4 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

RESPECT LIFE VIGIL

Watertown – Liferight of Watertown will hold its annual interfaith Respect Life Candlelight Prayer Vigil.

Date: Jan. 16

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Municipal Building on Washington Street

Features: Music for the half hour event will be provided by local group "Transformed." Refreshments will be available at First Presbyterian Church. Join us as we pray to end all forms of violence and racism and for renewed respect for all human life.

Contact: Bette Hartzell at 785-1087

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Jan. 26

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adults, \$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

PARKINSON GROUP

Chaumont – The Parkinson Group meets every Tuesday.

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: All Saints Church

Features: Sharing new information and developments to provide hope; strengthening excises; and lunch

Contact: Sister Anne Hogan, SSJ, phone 315-649-2717

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 January will be held.

Date: Jan. 8

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: (Please note the schedule change for this month due to the New Year's Day Holiday). The program includes: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction. All are most welcomed.

CRÈCHE DISPLAY

Houseville – St. Hedwig's Church will have a display of crèches from different countries. All are welcomed to view the display after the 11:00 AM Masses on Sunday, January 1st, (New Year's Day) and January 8th, (The Epiphany). The Display may also be seen after the Divine Mercy Devotions on January 8th.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

ST. LAWRENCE

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena – St. Mary's Church will be praying the Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart for World Peace.

Date: Jan. 7

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Features: A 15 minute silent meditation on the Glorious Mysteries will follow. Confessions will be available. Saturday Mass Vigil: 4 p.m.

K OF C ANNUAL MEETING

Ogdensburg – The Annual Meeting of the Msgr. A.D. Charbonneau Council 258 Knights of Columbus Building Assn. will be held.

Date: Jan. 13

Time: 8 p.m.

Features: All Council members are urged to attend this meeting. The agenda includes the annual financial report and election of rotating directors.

Contact: John Powers at 842-0077 or Don Tebo at 393-7694 for more information.

K OF C BRUNCH

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

Date: Jan. 8

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

Place: St. Mary's Church.

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

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.

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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DIOCESAN ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Massena – The 2012 Diocesan Ecumenical Service, anticipating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, will be celebrated.

Date: Jan. 15

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Church

Theme: "We Will All Be Changed by the Victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ" (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58).

Speaker: Fr. James J. Kane, Director of the Office of Ecumenical & Inter-religious Affairs of the Diocese of Albany. **Features:** Bishop Terry LaValley will preside. Fr. Donald Manfred, Pastor, will host this year's service. A combined music ministry from the churches of the greater Massena area promises to enhance the worship experience. Following the service, a reception will be held at Trinity Catholic School. All people of good will are welcome to participate.

'CATHOLICISM' on WPBS-TV

Watertown – WPBS-TV will air the documentary "Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith" on the four Sundays of January.

Schedule: Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 4 p.m.

Features: Father Robert Barron a priest of the Diocese of Chicago and theologian, traveled to 15 different countries around the world for more than 3 years filming this dynamic series depicting the Catholic Faith. This series covers topics such as, why we believe God truly exists. It addresses creation, the 'big bang' theory and evolution. It covers marriage and the family the Sacraments, and a variety of other topics.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Clifton Park, NY – World renowned Catholic Lay Healers and Evangelists to offer healing and Renewal Days on two weekends in 2012.

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

Gratitude for the New Year!

From Director's Desk

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
 Diocesan Mission Director

In November, we received a note from our friends at the Maryknoll Sisters, who participated in the Mission Cooperative Plan in the summer of 2010.

Sister Virgeen Healey, MM, who acts as both Manager and Promoter of Mission Awareness there, had these kind words to share:

"I want to tell you a charming story!

One of the Sisters in Chile received money to treat the children to a day in the park. She got a bus for them and organized all kinds of food, drinks and games – even a pony ride!

They had races, games, prizes, hot dogs, ice cream – everything that makes a picnic special.

When they got back to the barrio, she asked one little girl what was the best part of the day, expecting ice cream.

The child's response was: "The best part, the BEST part, was when you put your arms around me on the way to the bus!"

This is what you are doing – helping the love of God reach through the suffering, the pain of the people and the lightening of their load, sharing the burdens of others around the world.

You are putting your arms around the ones who need it the most.

And we are glad to share this task with you!"

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

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

Thank you for trusting in the love you show by your support and sacrifices to our brothers and sisters in developing countries.

Let us reach out as missionaries and confidently announce the Good News of Christ with words and deeds.

The best Christian testimony is love for others.

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Almeida M. (Lincoln) Depo, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 26, 2011 at Holy Name Church.

Brownville – Carolyn Jean (Jacox) Damon, 73; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2011 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Brownville – Charles F. Lamon, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

Cadyville – Robert H. "Bob" LaVarnway, 61; Funeral Services Dec. 26, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Canton – Carroll Eugene "Gene" Peters, 77; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at St. Mary's Church.

Canton – Beulah Crossman White, 90; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at the O'Leary Funeral Home; burial in the Hermon Cemetery.

Carthage – Errol Scott Flynn, 71; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at St. James Church.

Carthage – Robert J. Hutchins, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Chateaugay – Melita B. Jones, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Chateaugay – Joseph Maurice Ouimet, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Huntingdon Quebec.

Chazy – Jeannine R. (Martel) Labare, 76; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2011 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Constableville – Terry A. Planck, 52; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Croghan – Bernard S. Kampnich, 83; Funeral Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Croghan – Anthony C. Monnat, 88; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2011 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in Apostolic Christian Cemetery.

Ellenburg – Frances M. (Trombley) Tourville, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at St. Edmunds Church; burial in the parish cemetery.

Gouverneur – Filomena "Fillie" (Fiacco) Murphy, 93; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Lowville – Joseph F. Campany, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at Isenecker Funeral Home; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Lowville – Stephinie B. Percoski Delles, 98; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Old Glendale Cemetery.

Lowville – Patricia J. "Pati" (Thomas) Kraeger, 67; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Michael's Cemetery, Mohawk Hill.

Lyon Mountain – James E. Gonyea Sr., 70; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2011 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Massena – Sylvio M. Bouchard, 86; Funeral Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Edward T. Crawford, 61; Funeral Services Dec. 18, 2011 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Sally Anne (Froysell) Rayome, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery, Watertown.

Massena – Dorothy Marie Sawatis, 84; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2011 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

Mooers Forks – Patricia I. (McDonald) Dupee, 80; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at St. Anne's Church.

Mooers Forks – Evelyn Edith (Surprenant) Svrcek, 94; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2011 at St. Ann's Church.

Morrisonville – Kenneth H. Gabby Chauvin, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2011 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery.

Morristown – Gerald R. Adler, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in St. James Cemetery, Gouverneur.

North Lawrence – Margaret "Peg" (Ace) Archambault, 93; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in East Newark Cemetery, Newark Valley.

Norwood – Beverly A. (Bowhall) Grady, 91; Funeral Dec. 29, 2011 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Herman J. Bova, 80; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Bernard Gore, 80; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Pine Hill Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Lori L. (Gotham) Sovie, 48; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Stephen G. Woods, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2011 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Peru – Agnes B. (Trombley) Boyd, 80; Funeral Dec. 17, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Peru – Bertha L. "Bert" Gonyea Fournier, 59; Funeral Services Dec. 19 at Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Schuyler Falls Cemetery.

Peru – Phillip W. Lawrence, 95; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2011 at Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Willsboro.

Plattsburgh – John R. Boulé, D.D.S., 73; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Anita M. (Osher) Brown, 89; Funeral Services Dec. 24, 2011 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Aleksandra (Borszcz) Farbotko, 97; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at St. John's Church.

Plattsburgh – Joseph F. "Joe" LaChapelle, 90; Funeral Dec. 27, 2011 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Joseph A. "Joe" Miller Sr., 64; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Plattsburgh – Eric T. Reid, 39; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2011 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Potsdam – James R. Burkett, 73; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

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YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

Charlie's Sugar Plum

By Tracy Leonard

Parishioner, St. Mary's, Evans Mills

It was December, about three years or so ago, when I was out to dinner with my parents at a local restaurant. We had just come from my parent's home where we photographed my brother-in-law and niece as they prepared to head to the Sugar Plum Ball (a father daughter dance at the Dulles State Office Building in Watertown).

After ordering our meals, my eyes caught glimpse of a beautiful young woman and her handsome father. The two of them were elegantly dressed as if they were headed to a fancy holiday party. I couldn't help but acknowledge them and ask where they were headed looking so good. The daughter smiled ear to ear as she looked at her father and replied "We're going to the Sugar Plum Ball!"

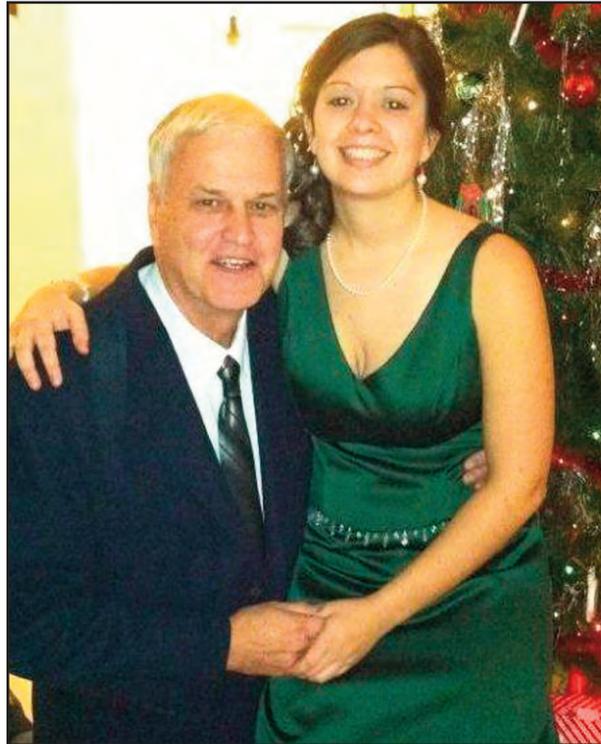
It was without hesitation that I quickly looked at my dad, grinned and replied to her – "My daddy won't take me to the Sugar Plum Ball!"

We all chuckled and concluded our conversation by wishing them an evening of fun and happiness together.

That holiday season came and went... it was now December again. As my brother-in-law and niece joyfully posed for pictures, I again caught myself teasing my father... "My daddy won't take me to the Sugar Plum Ball!" As usual, we laughed at the thought of it, considering I was old enough to have a daughter of my own attending the ball!

It wasn't until this year that my silly teasing became a reality. It was now my turn to put on the evening gown and be escorted into the State Office Building by the most handsome, charming and fun-loving date- MY DAD.

As we prepared for this evening, we both were



Charlie and Tracy Leonard

excited but expressed our nervousness... we didn't know what to expect, nor did we want to look silly seeing as though I was certainly going to be the oldest little sugar plum there.

As I shared the news our evening plans with friends and co-workers, I received many words of excitement and endearment, yet some teased at the thought of me joining four, six or eight year olds and their dads at the ball.

A few even joked that I should have gone to the Mayors Ball (a professional, adult ball) versus

the Sugar Plum Ball.

The closer it got to December 3rd, the more silly I felt about going as a 25 year old with my dad. As we arrived, I was greeted by many professionals whom I encounter daily through work. They chuckled but thought my dad and I were cute. Sure, I felt a little silly. It only became funnier as I was tapped on the shoulder by this man who teased, "Why are you here? There are no mothers allowed!" I smiled and said, "ha, ha, I am not a mother... this is my father!"

Needless to say, none of this stopped my dad and I from having one of the nicest evenings anyone could ask for! We shared laughter, a plate of food, some drinks, and officially, we were the last two on the dance floor!

I quickly became not so embarrassed at the thought of being the oldest sugar plum there, but embarrassed at my own lack of character.

How could I let the thoughts of others make me feel silly about spending an evening with my father- the man who made me, raised me and who helps me to be the best I can be.

I couldn't have been more proud to show off my dad that night and let everyone know that I admire him for all he has done, all he has become and all he continues to do; not only for me, my four sisters and my mom, but for all those he encounters on a daily basis. He is a man of integrity, value, genuine compassion, faith, fortitude and love. This is MY dad!

I hope and pray that each of us, especially this holiday season will cherish and treasure the time we get to spend with our family members.

Never be afraid to acknowledge those you love. Thank them and let that love be an outward, visible sign for others to emulate. Life is short... love without limit!

I love you Charlie... DAD!

Obituaries

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Potsdam – Mary M. (Gang) LaPointe, 94; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Visitation Cemetery, Norfolk.

Potsdam – Mary L. (Butterfield) Richards, 72; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at the Seymour Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Redford – Barbara J. (Wood) Roberts, 77; Funeral Dec. 31, 2011 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Redford – Joan M. (Gosselin) Venne, 79; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2011 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Rosiere – Thomas C. Aubertine, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at St. Vincent de Paul Church; burial in St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery.

Rossie – Malcom "Corky" I. McCullough, 82; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – John A. Sklaryk, 95; Funeral services Dec. 21, 2011 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's cemetery.

Star Lake – John J. LaFrance, 89; Funeral Services Jan. 9, 2012 at French Family Funeral Home; burial in St. Hubert's Cemetery.

Theresa – Catherine H. "Hilda" (Dindl) Stewart, 95; Funeral Dec. 23, 2011 at Frederick Bros. Funeral Home inc.; burial in Hillside Cemetery, Antwerp.

Tupper Lake – Jeannine A. (Grimard) Auger, 77; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2011 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Tupper Lake – Paul Dorrان Boushie, 64; Funeral Services Jan. 7, 2012 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Tupper Lake – Gertrude I. (Ayotte) Black, 80; Funeral Dec. 30, 2011 at Holy Name Church; burial in St. Alphonsus cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Francis "Pat" Rabatoy, 91; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at Holy

Name Church.

Watertown – Marian L. (Staie) Barr, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2011 at the Hart & Bruce Funeral Home; burial in Sanford Corners Cemetery.

Watertown – James J. "J.J." Finnerty, 24; Funeral Services Dec. 20, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Leo F. Holland, 79; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown – Louis M. Lucidi, 69; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2011 at St. Anthony's

Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Werner J. Steinaker, 91; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2011 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Watertown – Patricia J. (Kendall) Thurheimer, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2011 at Cummings Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Edward F. Whalen, 76; Funeral Dec. 23, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

West Chazy – Morena C. (LaBarge) Bretz, 84; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2011 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Holy Angels Cemetery, Altona.