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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 28, 2012

The hope of God's word

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - In a world hit by natural disasters, wars and violence, people need the stability and hope found only in God's word, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Instead of being obsessed with predictions and forecasts of the end of the world,

people of faith need to take responsibility for their lives and personal behavior and look to God for guidance, he said. "In the midst of the upheavals of the world," Jesus "remains the solid and steady anchor," he said Nov. 18, commenting on the day's

Gospel reading during his midday Angelus address.

In a world hit by natural disasters and violence

Speaking to pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, the pope com-

mented on the apocalyptic imagery Jesus used when he told his disciples "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken."

JOYFUL EXPECTATION

Advent begins Sunday, Dec. 2



CNS PHOTO/NANCY PHELAN WIECHEC
A candle burns in an Advent wreath at St. Joseph's Church in Alexandria, Va., on the first Sunday of Advent last year. Advent, the a season of joyful expectation before Christmas, begins Dec. 2 this year. Msgr. Paul E. Whitmore reflects on the readings for the first Sunday of Advent in this week's scripture column on page 21.

FULL STORY, PAGE 21

Diocesan Financial Reports

The Diocesan Fiscal Office presents its annual opportunity to review the financial condition of the Diocese of Ogdensburg through the publication of the audited Financial Statements for the July 1, 2011 to June 30 2012 fiscal year.

Bishop LaValley notes that "the report indicates clearly that, although the distressed economic climate in which we live continues to impact our financial condition, the Church of the North Country continues to be blessed with individuals who support generously our many ministries."

SPECIAL SECTION, PAGE 7-19

Year of Faith Pastoral Letter

The third installment of Bishop LaValley's pastoral letter examines the call to be holy
FULL STORY, BACK PAGE

A CALL TO FAITH



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Sister Kateri Mitchell, native of St. Regis and director of the National Tekakwitha Conference presented the main address at the Nov. 18 Witnesses of Faith Prayer Service at St. Mary's Cathedral. The service marked the official opening of the diocesan observance of the Year of Faith. Full coverage appears on pages 3, 4 and 5 of this week's NCC.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF ST. PETER'S BASILICA: Next event for the Year of Faith... p. 6

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

So much for which to be grateful

Thanksgiving may be over, but our reasons for giving thanks in the Diocese of Ogdensburg are certainly not!

This week's *NCC* offers two major features – coverage of the spectacular Witnesses of Faith prayer service Nov. 18 and the annual publication of the diocesan financial reports.

I would venture a guess that the Witnesses of Faith celebration was a success that surpassed anyone's expectations.

The cathedral was filled, the choir was magnificent and we were inspired by saints both

living and dead.

It was certainly an experience of the worldwide Catholic Church as Native American, French, German and Hawaiian influences were illustrated from saints who grew up in our part of the world. What a powerful way to insure that this Year of Faith becomes a lifetime of faith for us all.

From the colorful pictures of the cathedral cele-



Mary Lou
Kilian

bration we move to 13 pages of charts and notes that make up the 2012 diocesan financial reports.

Those of us who work with Michael Tooley and his staff understand how blessed we are to have such competent and honest people to keep track of all the money which makes our work possible.

To open the report, Bishop LaValley notes that Mike has recently cele-

brated his tenth anniversary as diocesan fiscal officer. "We have been so blessed with his expert knowledge and wise counsel," Bishop LaValley said.

And so, we give thanks all around – to everyone who made the Witnesses of Faith prayer service such a wonderful celebration and to Mike Tooley, Peggy Garrison, Karen Ruddy, Heather Ladouceur, Kim Snover and Vincent Thouin, whose work insures that we have the resources to plan such celebrations year after year.

FATHER BILL SAYS

The Council - not just a bit of nostalgia

Recently I received an email from a friend about his memories of the Second Vatican Council.

He wrote, "I appreciate your *NCC* columns recalling the enthusiasm and excitement which you had during the time of Vatican II. They were heady days for all of us in the Church and have done so much to define our faith lives ever since."

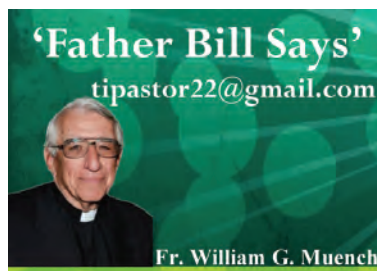
Many people have spoken to me in the past few weeks about the columns and the Second Vatican Council. They remember the Council and how much it influenced their lives.

However, I have noticed that some seem to think of the Council as a bit of nostalgia. It is important for me to emphasize for all to hear that the Council was not some isolated moment in time.

The Second Vatican Council was the beginning of a new day for the Catholic Church. The decrees of every Ecumenical Council are official teaching. So, that moment of the Council continues, that moment continues!

The Council Fathers worked very hard together to prepare and promulgate this new groundwork for the Catholic Church for our time and for the ages.

In calling for the Council, Pope John XXIII used the word



"aggiornamento." This word means an update, a call to the Holy Spirit to bring to the Church a spirit of change and open mindedness as the Church brings itself to a new time and age.

The documents of the Council not only analyze the teachings of the Church again but they also challenge the Catholic Church to come alive in the Spirit, bringing the message of Our Savior and Our Church to the world.

In the Spirit of "aggiornamento" there were some liturgical changes and other calls for renewal. However, the interesting thing about the Second Vatican Council was that many of the things it called for came from the earliest days of the Church.

Here is just one example: The Council speaks of the Church as the "People of God."

The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*) says this: "For those who believe in Christ, who are reborn,

not from a corruptible seed, but from one incorruptible one through the word of the living God, not from flesh, but from water and the Holy Spirit, are finally established as 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation...'" who in times past were not a people, but now are the People of God."

"People of God" – one people united in the Holy Spirit. Laity and clergy united together to bring the message of Jesus to the world and to unite as one people in prayer and worship of the Lord.

A few weeks ago the Church celebrated the Feast of St. Leo the Great, a Pope of the fifth century. The reading at Matins that day was from the writings of St. Leo. In these writings, he emphasized ideas that called on the people of the Church to recognize their unity in the sight of God.

St. Leo writes this: "For all, regenerated in Christ, are made kings by the sign of the cross; they are consecrated priests by the oil of the Holy Spirit so that beyond the special service of our ministry as priests – all spirited and mature Christians know that they are a royal race and all sharers in the office of priesthood."

So, please understand that as we continue to reread and look into the documents of the Sec-

ond Vatican Council, we are looking at the hopes and dreams of the Council for our Church today and how well we have incorporated the message of that Council into the life of today's Church.

This week I would like to close with a personal memory of two of my classmates, two friends who were ordained priests with me on May 16, 1959, at St. Mary's Cathedral. Msgr. Bernard Christman and Father Paul Oehler died during the past month.

There is a rather special bond that unites priests ordained together on the same day. We became friends and brothers in our ministry as priests. These two are the first of my classmates from the Diocese of Ogdensburg to die.

It is a time for memories and for a renewal of the hope that I have preached often at funerals that I have celebrated. It is a time to celebrate – two of my priest friends and classmates have moved along to the Lord.

I offer a prayer of gratitude for their presence in my life and for the gifts that they shared with the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Thank you, Lord – please accept into your peace my friends and bring them to a place of happiness with you.

FOLLOW ME

'Today we honor witnesses of faith'

Bishop LaValley's remarks at the Nov. 18 celebration opening the Year of Faith

In his book, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*, Philip Yancey provides us with a good image for today's celebration based on his personal experience:

"A certain bridge in South America consists of interlocking vines supporting a precariously swinging platform hundreds of feet above a river. I know the bridge has supported hundreds of people over many years, and as I stand at the edge of the chasm I can see people confidently crossing the bridge."

Yancey continues: "The engineer in me wants to weigh all the factors: measure the stress tolerances of the vines, test the wood for termites, survey all the bridges in the area for one that might be stronger. I could spend a lifetime determining whether the bridge is fully trustworthy before I dare to walk on it. But, eventually, if I really want to cross, I must take a step. When I put my weight on that bridge and walk across, even though my heart is pounding and my knees are knocking, I am making a statement—declaring a decision."

More and more, ours is a culture that moves solely within the horizon of believing only in what we can see and touch with our own hands. But, the world of calculation and the scientific method is not enough. You see, if I wait for all the evidence to be in, for everything to be completely analyzed and settled, the mystery of faith solved, I'll never move. Often, I have had to act on the basis of the bones of the Catholic faith, before those bones were fully formed in me and before I understood the reason for their existence. Bone is hard, but it is alive.

If the bones of faith do not continue to grow, they will soon become dead skeletons. The Year of Faith invites you and me to do

some spiritual exercises to strengthen our bones of faith.

I'm reminded of a hit song that came out years ago by Lee Ann Womack. In her song, she challenges us not to "sit it out" when it comes to life. She sings: "I hope you'll dance." My sisters and brothers, with the Lord of the Dance, enter the rhythm of a faith life that grows,

that has a pulse, that's vibrant, that's alive. Yes, "Give faith a fighting chance." We just heard St. Paul tell the Romans: "How beautiful are the feet of those who announce good news!" I was intrigued when I heard some of our native American friends at the Tekakwitha Conference in Albany this summer explain that as they dance their feet are caressing Mother Earth. What a beautiful image. Faith is not and can never be a spectator sport. The dance is a passionate prayer.

We, the faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are determined to Taste Again for the First Time the treasures of our faith and determined, through the grace of God, to live lives reflecting what we believe. We cannot sit it out. We all earnestly desire to follow Jesus. The Church of the North Country will walk, or dance, with you as we all seek to know God more deeply, to enter an even deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and God.

Today we have honored witnesses of faith whose heroic lives show us how to enter the dance. For St. Marianne Cope, faith was enough when she decided

to journey to Hawaii, having no hint of the suffering endured by the mutilated, odorous leper to whom she would minister. She was wholly absorbed with a desire to serve in a foreign country half a world away. She had no idea of the trials of body and soul in store for her and her sisters. For her, faith was enough. She stepped on the gangplank with her eyes focused on Christ, her Savior. Throughout her life, she sought to safeguard the dignity of the human person and paid attention to the outcast. Unfailing optimism in God's love and mercy sustained her. St. Marianne Cope pray for us who lack the courage to live our faith to the fullness, giving ourselves totally to Jesus.

St. Brother Andre Bessette, God's Gatekeeper, always received people in distress without reservation. Those of us who have visited St. Joseph's Oratory have seen the crutches hung giving evidence of wholeness restored. Perhaps we have been among the pilgrims kneeling, seeking the healing for which so many have journeyed and sought the intercession of good St. Joseph. Now, we turn to the Miracle Man of Montreal, the humble porter of the poor, that through his intercession we might open widely the door to faith for ourselves and all. St. Brother Andre pray for us who so often shut the door and turn away from those who are hurting, the needy, the vulnerable among us.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha shows us that with the blending of culture and faith, the seeds of God's word can take root and flower. The Lily of the Mohawks, as Blessed John Paul II reminded us in Toronto at World Youth Day in 2002, is "an example of fidelity, a model of purity and love." Native Americans have

known terrible suffering through the generations. In St. Kateri, a woman of tremendous courage and profound faith, we have a heroine who shows us how an intense love of Christ can impel us to serve the hurting in our midst, even in an environment that rejects our faith.

Let's dance!

This Patroness of ecology and the environment teaches us how to love and respect the created world. St. Kateri, pray for us who are blind to the injustices that surround us.

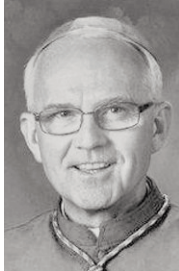
My friends, these three saints, these witnesses of faith, are front and center for us this afternoon. But, you well know that there are faces of faith all around us with deeply moving and inspiring stories of faith well-lived. As we have now entered this Year of Faith, I invite you to tell your story of faith. Share with those around you how God has touched you and your family. Inspire us with your story.

Through the diligent work of Fr. Garry Giroux and his committee, our Diocese is offering you, your family and your parish a broad range of opportunities to increase your knowledge of faith, so critical today, especially through the study of the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. You might consider a Holy Year Pilgrimage that finds you not necessarily needing to travel outside of the North Country. Increased celebrations of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, and the Eucharist as well as parish mission participation are important avenues for you to Taste Again for the First Time what a tremendous treasure we have inherited by virtue of our baptism. I truly hope

that, as a family, you enter this year with a renewed determination to strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ and His Mystical Body, the Church. Spend some time with the words of the Creed we pray each Sunday. Pray it with renewed meaning and conviction. Again, pray it together as a family.

Please make a point of joining me in thanking those individuals and groups who have been instrumental in making this celebration of faith so beautiful and inspiring: I wish, again to thank Sr. Kateri for trekking here to Ogdensburg and for her inspiring reflection. I wish also to note the St. Regis Mohawk family that has joined and led us in beautiful song and praise. Thank you, Sr. Kathleen and the Sisters of St. Francis for joining our celebration of faith. We are grateful to our friends north of the border who have joined us in tribute to St. Brother Andre. We are grateful to Ernie Hadley, Fr. Scott Seymour and our musicians, to Fr. Lucia and our Department of Worship, Sr. Eamon and Marika Donders for their leadership from the Department of Evangelization, our diocesan staff for their support, and to Fr. Morgan and his cathedral staff who always do such a wonderful job in putting out the welcome mat and supporting our diocesan celebrations here at St. Mary's Cathedral.

My sisters and brothers, Catholicism does not offer escape from problems, it offers a life in which challenges are met. Catholicism does not instill a desire to abandon the world. No, it instills a desire and courage to win the world for Christ. There is no room for naysayers. We are can-doers! We will not sit it out. Let Jesus take the lead and we will follow. Let's dance!



Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley

Capacity crowd fills St. Mary's Cathedral for Witnesses of Faith prayer service

A day to celebrate faith and saints

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
Staff Writer

OGDENSBURG - They came from all across the diocese to celebrate the opening of the Year of Faith, and celebrate they did!

Voices soared and organ and brass resounded Nov. 18 as a capacity crowd filled St. Mary's Cathedral for a unique prayer service, "Witnesses of Faith."

As the event began, many priests and deacons joined Bishop Terry LaValley in processing to the sanctuary, where Bishop LaValley warmly welcomed those gathered for the afternoon service.

The focus then shifted to three recently canonized saints - witnesses of faith - with local/regional connections: Mohawk Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Marianne Cope of Syracuse and Saint Andre Bessette of Montreal.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Louise Cook of Akwesasne related the story of St. Kateri Tekakwitha.

Born the daughter of a Mohawk chief near present-day Auriesville, NY, in 1656, Kateri lost her parents to smallpox when she was four years old; she herself bore the marks of the disease for the rest of her life.

In her teens, Kateri embraced the Catholic faith and was baptized at age 20. Persecuted for her beliefs, she left for a Christian enclave near Montreal, bringing with her a letter of introduction from the Jesuit priest who had instructed and baptized her.

The letter read: "I send you a treasure. Guard it well."

In her new home, Kateri continued to grow in prayer and devotion, and in loving service to those around her.

When she died at age 24, her last words were: "Jesus, I love you."

Since then, Kateri has been venerated by her fellow-Mohawks, who have sought her intercession for centuries.

On October 21, 2012, Kateri Tekakwitha - Lily of the Mohawks - was declared a saint of the universal Church.

St. Marianne Cope

Franciscan Sister Kathleen Murphy of Buffalo, former superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, represented St. Marianne Cope's Sisters of St. Francis Community as she read the biography of that saint.

Born in Germany in 1838, Barbara Koob (Cope) was one of ten children; her family emigrated to Utica NY the next year.

She was 24 when she entered the Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse and, as Sister Marianne, her career included the fields of education, nursing, and administration and would stretch from Syracuse to present-day Hawaii.

Faith and trust in God motivated this intrepid woman, whose compassion and intelligence influenced her hospitals in innovative ways: she insisted that hospital workers wash their hands before attending patients, and she accepted and treated all comers, without regard for payment. St. Joseph's Hospi-



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop LaValley calls for full participation in the Year of Faith during his remarks at the Nov. 18 Witnesses of Faith prayer service at St. Mary's Cathedral.

tal in Syracuse and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Utica are part of her legacy.

At age 39, Sister Marianne was elected Mother Superior of her order, and before long she received and responded to a request for sisters to serve in Hawaii, with special care for patients suffering with leprosy.

In Hawaii, where she met and befriended St. Damien deVuyster, Mother Marianne administered hospitals for the sufferers and schools for their children. There her cheerfulness, kindness, and unflagging cleanliness brought new hope and comfort to many.

Using commonsense precaution against the spread of disease, Mother Marianne remained healthy until her death, at age 80, from natural causes; she had been in Hawaii for 35 years.

Known as "Beloved mother of the outcasts," St. Marianne Cope was canonized on October 21, 2012.

St. Andre Bessette

The story of Saint Andre Bessette, the "Wonder Man of Mount Royal," was read by Ursula Akey of AuSable

Forks.

Born in 1845 in Mont St. Gregoire, Quebec, Alfred Bessette was so weak at birth that he was not expected to survive. Born into poverty, and orphaned by age 12, the boy moved from place to place and did any available work, eventually finding his way to U.S. textile mills.

In 1870, he entered the novitiate of the Order of the Holy Cross in Montreal and became porter at Notre Dame College. Assigned many menial tasks, he grew in grace and soon people came to the college to ask his help and his prayers.

For many decades he did his work, welcomed the poor and needy, and often spent evenings visiting the sick; many were healed.

His faith in God was unshakeable, and St. Joseph was an unfailing intercessor as he prayed for the needs of thousands of people each year. "I am nothing but a tool in the hand of Providence," Brother Andre often reminded those who turned to him.

His faith and determination were behind the construction of Montreal's famed St. Joseph's Oratory, a place of pilgrimage where one can still see the crutches and other aids left behind by people who have found cures there. When this unassuming man died at the age of 91 in 1937, one million people paid their respects.

Saint Andre Bessette was canonized in 2010.

The celebration continues

These biographies were followed by a Litany of the Saints, accompanied by ceremonial drumming provided by Mohawk drummers.

At the same time, images, pictures and relics of the three saints were carried to the front of the Cathedral. The Mohawk drum beat and dancers led into the "Prayer of the Four Directions," with its response of "We praise and thank you, Creator God."

The Mohawk Choir from Akwesasne then sang in honor of St. Kateri, as they had done at her canonization ceremony.

Prayer, Scripture readings, and songs were followed by a moving reflection given by St. Anne Sister Kateri Mitchell, a native of Hogansburg who is long-time Director of the National Tekakwitha Conference in Great Falls, Montana.

Accompanying her words with a quiet drumbeat, Sr. Kateri reminded her listeners that "From age to age, the drumbeat goes on. We belong to a loving God, to a God who shares life with us... Today we gather to honor one of our own, born on this land of North America. Yes, as a young woman she was called by a God who loved her and gave her the strength and courage to be able to walk a sacred path. Why? Because she loved."

"Today we share that love every time we say, 'I forgive you,'" she said. "We share that love every time we walk with someone who lies on a sickbed, with someone who needs healing, with someone who is hurting—spiritually, physically, mentally or emotionally."

"Kateri is a model for us today," Sister Kateri said. "She reminds us to be present to one another, to pray for one another, to share the gift of faith in Jesus Christ that was given to us in Baptism."

"Witnesses of Faith" concluded with Bishop LaValley's stirring call to full participation in the Year of Faith. [These remarks may be read in his "Follow Me" column on page 3 in this week's NCC.]

"Faith is not and never can be a spectator sport," he said as he encouraged all present to seek a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and to share their faith with others.

"We will not sit it out," Bishop LaValley said. "Let Jesus take the lead and we will follow. Let's dance!"

**Attention
Snowbirds**
going south for the winter!

Notify our office so you don't miss a single issue of the *North Country Catholic*! Call (315) 608-7556 with your winter address.

DIocese OPENS LOCAL OBSERVANCE OF THE YEAR OF FAITH

WITNESSES OF FAITH

Hundreds fill St. Mary's Cathedral for Nov. 18 prayer service



The view from the cathedral choir loft shows the capacity crowd as well as the special banners created by each deanery of the diocese.



PHOTOS BY BETTY STEELE

Local artists Mary Ellen Schavelier and Barbara Boyle created replicas of St. Marianne Cope, St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Brother Andre Bessette, three saints from the region who were honored during the Witnesses of Faith prayer service



The program featured a Native Call to Worship led by Mohawk dancers from Akwesasne.



St. Joseph Sister Mary Christine Taylor who has ministered on the Akwesasne Reservation for decades read from the scriptures.



Flowers, pictures and relics of each of the saints were placed along the cathedral's altar rail. Franciscan Sister Kathleen Murphy is shown placing a relic of St. Marianne Cope.



At the conclusion of the service, many participants prayed before the relics. Knight John Miner of Saranac Lake was part of the honor guard.

First virtual tour of St. Peter's Basilica to be held Dec. 6 at SSH Motherhouse

WATERTOWN - The first of four virtual tours of St. Peter's Basilica will be held Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

The programs are sponsored as part of the diocesan observance of the Year of Faith.

Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan

vocation director and member of the Year of Faith committee, said. "St. Peter's is the world's largest Catholic Church and one that will truly connect participants to the Rock of our Faith.

"This 'virtual tour' is offered as part of the Year of Faith to help people taste

again for the first time the joy of pilgrimage," he said.

Father Stitt served as a tour guide at St. Peter's from 1999 to 2001 while he was a seminarian in Rome.

Virtual tours will also be held Dec. 11 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg, Dec. 13 at St. Peter's in Platts-

burgh and Feb. 21 at St. Joseph's in Malone.

A full schedule of Year of Faith opportunities in the diocese will be published in the Dec. 5 issue of the *North Country Catholic*.

Further information about the virtual tours is available by calling 518-593-6044.

Bishop's Schedule

Nov. 28 – 11 a.m., Hamilton-Herkimer Deanery meeting with priests at St. Mary's Church in Indian Lake

Nov. 29 – 1 p.m., Jefferson Deanery meeting with priests at Our Lady of Sacred Heart Church in Watertown

Nov. 30 – 11 a.m., Memorial Mass for Msgr. Bernard Christman at St. Bernard's Church, Lyon Mountain; 7 p.m., Canon law class for deacon candidates at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Dec. 1 – 10:30 a.m., Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting at St. Edmund's Church in Ellenburg

Dec. 2 – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Dec. 3 – 10:30 a.m., St. Lawrence Deanery meeting with Priests at St. Patrick's Church in Colton; 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Dec. 4 – 10 a.m., Diocesan Department Heads 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

Nov. 28 – Rev. Edward Gabriel Brice, 1929

Nov. 29 – Msgr. Michael Kelly, 1957; Rev. Peter A. Ward, 1984

Dec. 1 – Rev. Charles Goulet, 1913; Rev. George J. Bouchard, 1967

Dec. 2 – Rev. Charles Desrosiers, 1944; Rev. Joseph A. R. Cote, 1969; Rev. Joseph Fortier, M.S.C., 1970

Dec. 3 – Rev. Michael O'Neill, 1899; Msgr. Walter Funcke, 1958

Dec. 4 – Msgr. James Mackey, 1883; Rev. Alexis D. Medeville, O.M.I., 1884; Rev. Albert Chevalier, O.M.I., 1948; Msgr. Joseph Patrick Heslin, 1962; Rev. Charles A. Flaherty, 1974

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. 403.

Upcoming programs:

Dec. 4 - 6 p.m. St. James School, Gouverneur

Jan. 24 - 7:30 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

To Report Abuse

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



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Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg 2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements

Most Rev. Terry LaValley
Bishop of the Diocese

Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien
Moderator of the Curia/Episcopal Vicar
for Pastoral Services

Mr. Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

A Message from Bishop Terry LaValley

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Every year at this time, the Diocesan Fiscal Office provides us with the opportunity to review the financial condition of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. I am pleased to present for your consideration the audited Financial Statements of our local Church for the July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 Fiscal Year.



The report indicates clearly that, although the distressed economic climate in which we live continues to impact our financial condition, the Church of the North Country continues to be blessed with individuals who support generously our many ministries. Even in the midst of economic uncertainty, the faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg sacrifice much in support of our mission. I am humbled and most grateful. What a remarkable witness of faith and trust in God!

I receive expert assistance from our Diocesan Fiscal Officer, Michael Tooley, and his very capable staff in the managing of the Church's financial affairs. Recently, Michael celebrated his tenth anniversary as our DFO. We have been so blessed with his expert knowledge and wise counsel. He and his staff continue to carefully safeguard all that has been entrusted to us. In addition to the staff of the Diocesan Fiscal Office, I also wish to thank the members of the Diocesan Finance Council, the Development Committee, and the Diocesan Investment Committee for their invaluable counsel throughout the year.

God bless you and your loved ones for such faithful stewardship and prayerful support!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

DIOCESAN FISCAL OFFICER REVIEWS HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is pleased to present in the North Country Catholic the audited financial statements for the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2012, as audited by the certified public accounting firm of Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co., Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

The audited statements include the central diocesan offices and programs but do not include parishes, Catholic Charities, schools, cemeteries and institutions. The report is presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and the norms of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The audited financial statements are formatted in accordance with pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). Accordingly, all financial transactions have been recorded by net asset class as required by the pronouncements of the FASB.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 INCLUDE:

- The Independent Auditor's opinion that the diocese has received on its financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, is an unqualified opinion. This is the 16th consecutive year that the diocese has had an unqualified opinion expressed by its auditors.
- The investments shown in the Statements of Financial Position have a market value of \$51,584,683 as of June 30, 2012. This amount consists of investment of funds for the following purposes:

1. Amounts owed to investors in Diocesan Trust Fund	\$ 18,245,991
2. Amounts owed to investors in Deposit & Loan Fund, net of loans receivable from borrowers in the Fund...	\$ 12,568,547
3. Reserves for Charitable Gift Annuities	\$ 1,678,053
4. Reserves for Pending and Unreported Insurance Claims	\$ 757,979
5. Reserves for Priests' Retirement	\$ 9,187,039
6. Other Investments	\$ 9,147,074
	Total \$ 51,584,683

The market value of investments as of June 30, 2012 is \$824,736 higher as compared to one year earlier.

- The Statements of Financial Position shows the market value of assets restricted for support of the Lay Employees' Retirement Plan is \$24,096,253, which is \$837,480 lower than their value as of June 30, 2011. The Plan remains underfunded due to significant investment losses four years ago. The diocesan central office share of this unfunded liability as of June 30, 2012 is \$116,405, and is recorded as Accrued Pension Obligations.

- The Statement of Activities is presented in a format that

expenses by unrestricted, board designated, temporarily restricted and permanently restricted.



- The expense section of the statement of activities reflects in the unrestricted column all expenses of the diocese.
- On the Statement of Activities, the Change in Net Assets shows the unrestricted fund operated at a gain of \$275,634 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. Temporarily restricted net assets had a gain of \$154,160 in 2011-12.
- Total revenues, gains and other support were \$3,575,999 lower when compared to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. This is primarily due to investment performance, as unrealized gains on investments were \$3,750,147 lower in 2011-12. Total expenses decreased by \$88,898.
- The Statements of Cash Flows shows cash flows from operating activities, investing activities and financing activities of the diocese had an increase in cash and cash equivalents for the year ended June 30, 2012, in the amount of \$634,109.
- The Schedules of Functional Expenses provide a breakdown of the various categories of expenses shown on the Statement of Activities. These include pastoral, religious personnel development, education, social services, diocesan administration and auxiliary services.
- The notes to the financial statements represent additional information and are an integral part of the financial statements. A reading of the financial statements should include a thorough reading of the notes as the additional information provided is designed to prevent the reader from misinterpreting the financial statements or making incorrect conclusions or assumptions about the amounts shown in the financial statements. The audited financial statements are presented in their entirety in order to provide a complete accounting of the financial condition of the diocese and the results of its operations for the year ended June 30, 2012.

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is available to answer any questions that may arise as a result of a review of the audited financial statements for 2011-2012. Please feel free to call the Diocesan Fiscal Office at 315-393-2920 or visit the Fiscal Office in the Spratt Memorial Building at 604 Washington Street in Ogdensburg during normal office hours.

Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements
Independent Auditor's Report



Pinto Mucenski Hooper
 Van House & Co.
 Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
 Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of Diocesan management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Schedules of Program and Other Expenses on Pages 35 and 36 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Pinto Mucenski Hooper Van House & Co.
 Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

October 26, 2012

Members of the Diocesan Finance Council

Bishop Terry R. LaValley,
 Deacon Kevin T. Mastellon
 Rev. Msgr. Robert L. Lawler
 Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien
 Rev. Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin
 Mr. Gary Benware

Ms. Barbara Criss
 Ms. Nichole M. Duve'
 Rev. Christopher C. Carrara, V.F.
 Mr. Bruce T. H. Knill
 Mr. John Knox
 Sister Jennifer Votraw

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
Comparative Statements of Financial Position
June 30, 2012 and 2011

ASSETS	6/30/2012	6/30/2011
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,484,461	\$ 2,850,352
Accounts Receivable	346,456	260,752
Accrued Interest Receivable	195,546	181,479
Due from Lay Employees' Retirement Obligation	98,652	269,927
Inventories	20,730	22,815
Prepaid Expenses	69,675	35,616
Investments at Fair Value	51,584,683	50,759,947
Other Investments	287,415	284,755
Loans Receivable - Ministry- Net of Loan Loss Reserve	312,244	269,425
Loans Receivable - Parishes and Affiliates - Net of Loan Loss Reserve	2,948,784	3,186,609
Other Assets	205,000	205,000
Property, Plant and Equipment - Net of Accumulated Depreciation	2,189,445	2,178,197
Restricted Assets	24,096,253	24,933,733
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 85,839,344	\$ 85,438,607
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 303,327	\$ 435,937
Accrued Compensation	100,887	100,179
Collections Payable	105,071	94,984
Deferred Revenue	392,148	468,406
Reserve for Insurance Claims	757,979	921,820
Deposits Payable	15,517,331	14,359,173
Diocesan Trust Fund	18,245,991	18,380,319
Charitable Gift Annuities Payable	1,407,455	1,201,589
Disaster Relief Funds Collected	10,035	9,739
Accrued Pension Obligation	116,405	219,323
Lay Employees' Retirement Obligations	24,096,253	24,933,733
Total Liabilities	\$ 61,052,882	\$ 61,125,202
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	\$ 3,001,538	\$ 3,205,211
Designated	8,882,964	8,403,657
Total Unrestricted	\$ 11,884,502	\$ 11,608,868
Temporarily Restricted	11,616,710	11,462,550
Permanently Restricted	1,285,250	1,241,987
Total Net Assets	\$ 24,786,462	\$ 24,313,405
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 85,839,344	\$ 85,438,607

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Statements of Activities-For the year ended June 30, 2012

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	2012 TOTALS
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Diocesan Assessments	\$ 1,335,572	\$ 74,753	\$ -	\$ 1,410,325
Contributions	1,537,707	757,849	-	2,295,556
Bequests	1,500	47,852	43,263	92,615
Contributed Services	245,825	-	-	245,825
Investment Income	858,989	349,039	-	1,208,028
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and (Losses) on Investments	117,687	(102,181)	-	15,506
Grants	52,438	30,500	-	82,938
Management Fees	214,665	-	-	214,665
Other Revenue	445,992	105,980	-	551,972
Auxiliary Services	2,076,139	-	-	2,076,139
Gain or (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	3,495	-	-	3,495
Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity	-	(117,506)	-	(117,506)
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	992,126	(992,126)	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	<u>\$ 7,882,135</u>	<u>\$ 154,160</u>	<u>\$ 43,263</u>	<u>\$ 8,079,558</u>
EXPENSES:				
Pastoral	\$ 445,459	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 445,459
Religious Personnel Development	1,850,884	-	-	1,850,884
Education	936,210	-	-	936,210
Social Services	307,478	-	-	307,478
Cemeteries	4,648	-	-	4,648
Diocesan Administration	1,750,599	-	-	1,750,599
Auxiliary Services	2,414,141	-	-	2,414,141
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 7,709,419</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 7,709,419</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 172,716</u>	<u>\$ 154,160</u>	<u>\$ 43,263</u>	<u>\$ 370,139</u>
CHANGE IN FUNDED STATUS OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN	102,918	-	-	102,918
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	11,608,868	11,462,550	1,241,987	24,313,405
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 11,884,502</u>	<u>\$ 11,616,710</u>	<u>\$ 1,285,250</u>	<u>\$ 24,786,462</u>

Statements of Activities-For the year ended June 30, 2011

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	2011 TOTALS
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:				
Diocesan Assessments	\$ 1,288,644	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,288,644
Contributions	1,652,307	502,132	-	2,154,439
Bequests	50,491	105,813	-	156,304
Contributed Services	254,414	1,172	-	255,586
Investment Income	843,476	352,619	-	1,196,095
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and (Losses) on Investments	1,770,926	1,994,727	-	3,765,653
Grants	24,467	26,295	-	50,762
Management Fees	179,235	-	-	179,235
Other Revenue	455,849	-	-	455,849
Auxiliary Services	2,064,621	-	-	2,064,621
Gain or (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	4,526	-	-	4,526
Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity	-	83,843	-	83,843
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	1,045,394	(1,045,394)	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	<u>\$ 9,634,350</u>	<u>\$ 2,021,207</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11,655,557</u>
EXPENSES:				
Pastoral	\$ 524,356	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 524,356
Religious Personnel Development	1,882,366	-	-	1,882,366
Education	959,769	-	-	959,769
Social Services	318,401	-	-	318,401
Cemeteries	5,341	-	-	5,341
Diocesan Administration	1,550,600	-	-	1,550,600
Auxiliary Services	2,557,484	-	-	2,557,484
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 7,798,317</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 7,798,317</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,836,033</u>	<u>\$ 2,021,207</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,857,240</u>
CHANGE IN FUNDED STATUS OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN	(46,971)	-	-	(46,971)
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	9,819,806	9,441,343	1,241,987	20,503,136
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 11,608,868</u>	<u>\$ 11,462,550</u>	<u>\$ 1,241,987</u>	<u>\$ 24,313,405</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Comparative Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011

	<u>6/30/2012</u>	<u>6/30/2011</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Change in Net Assets	\$ 370,139	\$ 3,857,240
ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CHANGES IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Depreciation	108,398	111,633
Net Realized and Unrealized (Gains) Losses on Investments	293,211	(8,722,511)
(Gain) Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	(3,495)	(4,526)
Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)	117,506	(83,843)
Decrease (Increase) In:		
Accounts and Loans Receivable	(128,523)	197,514
Accrued Interest Receivable	(14,067)	16,307
Due from Lay Employees' Retirement Obligations	171,275	(145,678)
Inventories	2,085	(4,295)
Other Assets	-	(205,000)
Prepaid Expenses	(34,059)	39,959
Increase (Decrease) In:		
Accounts Payable	(132,610)	(277,674)
Accrued Compensation	708	5,871
Deferred Revenue	(76,258)	13,441
Reserve for Insurance Claims	(163,841)	54,257
Other Liabilities	10,383	44,464
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	<u>\$ 520,852</u>	<u>\$ (5,102,841)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from Sale of Equipment	\$ 4,745	\$ 15,350
Purchase of Furnishings and Equipment	(120,896)	(99,516)
Net Change in:		
Restricted Assets	837,480	(4,047,856)
Investments	(1,120,607)	2,797,706
Loans Receivable - Parishes and Affiliates	237,825	431,083
Deposits Payable	1,158,158	(393,506)
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	(837,480)	4,047,856
Diocesan Trust Fund	(134,328)	3,051,545
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	<u>\$ 24,897</u>	<u>\$ 5,802,662</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from New Annuities	\$ 344,053	\$ 88,204
Annuity Payments and Payoffs	(255,693)	(604,624)
Net Cash Used by Financing Activities	<u>\$ 88,360</u>	<u>\$ (516,420)</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	<u>\$ 634,109</u>	<u>\$ 183,401</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of Year	<u>2,850,352</u>	<u>2,666,951</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 3,484,461</u>	<u>\$ 2,850,352</u>
SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW DISCLOSURES FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2012 AND 2011		
Cash Paid During the Year for:		
Interest	\$ 601,698	\$ 582,382

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Comparative Schedules of Program and Other Expenses

For the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011

	6/30/2012	6/30/2011		6/30/2012	6/30/2011
PASTORAL:			DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATION:		
Respect Life	\$ 19,670	\$ 22,284	Diocesan Administration	\$ 604,203	\$ 465,676
Pastoral Grants	71,154	77,389	Bishop's Residence	62,603	73,660
Tribunal	59,117	106,903	Planning	67,910	73,228
Hospital Apostolate	10,644	14,225	Development Office	397,437	302,680
Evangelization	76,347	86,121	Diocesan Fiscal Office	327,217	338,327
Formation for Ministry	62,430	67,124	Catholic Charities Fiscal Office	76,517	75,396
Department of Worship	23,507	51,006	Parish Services	80,913	82,136
Indian Apostolate	22,000	30,000	Safe Environment	52,660	58,209
Missionary Projects of the Diocese	46,676	29,788	Information Technology	80,965	80,727
Guggenheim Center	52,604	37,809	Archives	174	65
Other Pastoral	1,310	1,707	Installation of Bishop	-	496
Total Pastoral Expenses	\$ 445,459	\$ 524,356	Total Diocesan Administration Expenses	\$ 1,750,599	\$ 1,550,600
RELIGIOUS PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT:			AUXILIARY SERVICES:		
Priest and Pastoral Personnel	\$ 20,865	\$ 25,223	Protected Self-Insurance Program	\$ 1,332,018	\$ 1,476,889
Vicar for Religious	21,315	22,301	Disability Insurance	62,278	5,351
Council of Women Religious	1,579	1,963	Unemployment Insurance	170,945	115,178
Vocations	79,074	121,728	North Country Catholic	220,755	225,832
Education of Priests and Seminarians	388,682	245,487	Diocesan Loan Fund	591,154	708,541
Care of Clergy	1,288,117	1,421,294	Annuity Payments	-	1,448
Council of Priests	3,050	3,129	Charitable Gift Annuity Program	36,991	24,245
Permanent Diaconate Formation Program/ Ordained Deacons	48,202	41,241	Total Auxiliary Services Expenses	\$ 2,414,141	\$ 2,557,484
Total Religious Personnel Development Expenses	\$ 1,850,884	\$ 1,882,366			
EDUCATION:					
Education Grants	\$ 199,900	\$ 191,261			
Catholic Schools	312,578	286,600			
Communications	11,342	11,593			
Christian Formation	231,341	288,527			
Family Life/ Natural Family Planning	98,849	99,556			
Campus Ministry	82,200	82,232			
Total Education Expenses	\$ 936,210	\$ 959,769			
SOCIAL SERVICES:					
Social Service Grants and Donations	\$ 102,375	\$ 114,228			
Catholic Youth Ministry	205,103	204,173			
Total Social Services Expenses	\$ 307,478	\$ 318,401			

See Auditors' Report
Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

Diocesan Fiscal Office Staff

Serving the fiscal needs of the Diocese of Ogdensburg



Kim Snover
Director Human Resources



Peggy Garrison
Senior Diocesan Accountant



Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer



Karen Ruddy
Diocesan Accountant



Heather Ladouceur
Fiscal Office Assistant



Vince Thouin
Parish Administrative Services Coordinator

Web site: www.dioogdensburg.org/fiscalservices

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2012

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg (Diocese) was incorporated in 1945 to oversee the theological and financial affairs of the parishes and missions within the northern counties of New York State. The accompanying financial statements include the assets, liabilities, net assets and financial activities of the offices and departments directly under the control of the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The accompanying financial statements do not include the assets, liabilities, net assets and financial activities of certain entities which operate within the Diocese such as Catholic Charities, parishes, schools, cemeteries, etc. Each is an operating entity distinct from the Diocesan administrative offices.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements are as follows:

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of support, revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Diocese and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Unrestricted Net Assets - net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions.

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets - net assets whose use has been limited by donors to specific time periods or purposes. When the donor restrictions expire, that is, when a stipulation ends or the purpose of the restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets as net assets released from restrictions.

Permanently Restricted Net Assets - net assets that are donated with stipulations that they be invested to provide a permanent source of income. Such restrictions can neither expire with the passage of time nor be removed by fulfillment of a stipulated purpose.

Designated Net Assets - Designated net assets represent internally imposed limitations on the use of unrestricted net assets and are, therefore, included in unrestricted net assets.

Contributions and Bequests

Contributions are generally available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Pledges not received at year end are deemed uncollectible and are not reflected in these financial statements.

Other contributions of cash and other assets are reported as temporarily restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statements of Activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Endowment contributions and investments are permanently restricted by the donor. Investments earnings available for distribution are recorded in temporarily restricted net assets until used for their designated purpose.

The Board of Trustees of the Diocese has interpreted the current state law as requiring the preservation of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor as restricted endowment funds, absent donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Diocese classifies as permanently restricted net assets the original value of the gift donated to the permanent endowment, the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment and accumulation of the permanent endowments made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument and/or the investment policies of the Diocese. If applicable, the remaining portion of the donor restricted endowment fund that is not classified in permanently restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets, until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Diocese.

Bequests are recorded as revenue at the time an unassailable right to the gift has been established and the proceeds are measurable.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Management reviews the status of accounts receivable due from parishes and other related entities. If an account is determined to be uncollectible, it is written off. Therefore, all accounts in this category of receivable as outlined in Note 3 are considered to be fully collectible.

Loan Loss Reserve

Management also reviews the outstanding loans receivable. As a result of this review, a Loan Loss Reserve has been set up for loans whose repayments are doubtful (see Note 4 and 12).

Investments

Marketable securities are recorded at their fair value. Other investments as outlined in Note 5 are carried at cost or book value.

The Diocese invests in various types of marketable securities. These securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rates, market conditions and credit risks. Due to these risks, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in values could occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect the market values reported in the accompanying financial statements.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consist of various religious items and publications related to the work of the Catholic Church.

Land, Building and Equipment

Land, buildings and equipment acquired before June 30, 1977 are reflected at their appraisal value as of June 30, 1977. All acquisitions subsequent to that date are reflected at cost.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

- Land Improvements 10 years
- Buildings and Improvements 10 - 40 years
- Furnishings and Equipment 5 - 15 years

Insurance Claims Reserve

The Diocese and participating entities are insured for certain risks associated with their operations. These self-insured programs are as follows:

- General Insurance - This program includes property and auto physical damage, general liability, workers compensation and sexual misconduct.
- New York State Disability Insurance.
- New York State Unemployment Insurance.

Each of the participating entities are assessed their portion of the estimated expense of these programs. The accompanying financial statements reflect claims currently payable and an estimated amount for incurred but not reported claims.

Contributed Services

The contributed services of clergy and religious who work for the Diocese have been recognized in the accompanying financial statements. The computation of the value of these services represents the difference between the compensation paid to religious personnel and the comparable compensation which would have been paid to lay persons if lay persons were to occupy these positions. No computation is made for positions which can be held only by religious personnel. For the years ending June 30, 2012 and 2011, the recognized value of these services were \$ 245,825 and \$ 255,586, respectively.

Income Taxes

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg qualifies as a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, has no provision for federal income taxes. The Diocese is also classified by the Internal Revenue Service as an entity that is not a private foundation. Similar tax exempt status has been obtained under New York State tax laws.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Diocese to evaluate all significant tax positions. As of June 30, 2012, the Diocese does not believe that it has taken any positions that would require the recording of any tax liability, nor does it believe that there are any unrealized tax benefits that should be recorded.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of cash flows, the Diocese considers all highly liquid unrestricted investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be a cash equivalent.

The Diocese maintains cash deposits in bank accounts which may at times exceed the F.D.I.C. limit. The Diocese has not experienced any losses on such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risks on these cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent Events

The Diocese has reviewed and evaluated subsequent events from July 1, 2012 through October 26, 2012, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for possible disclosure and, or, recognition in the financial statements. There were no events or transactions that existed which would provide additional pertinent information about conditions at the balance sheet date required to be recognized in the accompanying financial statements.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2012

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable for the years ending June 30, 2012 and 2011 consists of the following:

	06/30/2012	06/30/2011
North Country Catholic,	\$ 2,477	\$ 7,717
Excess Insurance Carriers,	127,769	109,678
Due from Parishes and Other Diocesan Entities:		
Protected self-insurance premiums,	23,519	23,022
Health insurance premiums,	87,658	15,165
Parish assessments,	37,249	24,476
Catholic School financial support,	23,803	23,349
Other,	43,981	57,345
Total,	\$ 346,456	\$ 260,752

NOTE 4 - LOANS RECEIVABLE - MINISTRY

The Diocese provides financial assistance as needed to students attending Seminary College. Students receiving financial assistance sign a note guaranteeing repayment to the Diocese of one-half of the amount loaned. If a student leaves during the course of seminary study the student is responsible for repayment to the Diocese of the total amount of financial assistance. The indebtedness is to be payable monthly over 15 years, and the minimum monthly payment is \$ 75. If a student proceeds to theological studies, the terms of the Diocese's Major Seminary Tuition Policy will govern repayment of this indebtedness by the student.

The Diocese pays tuition, room and board for its students in Major Seminary. At time of payment the seminarian signs a note guaranteeing to repay the Diocese one-half of the amount loaned. A student leaving Major Seminary during the course of seminary study is expected to repay the Diocese one-half of the total amounts paid for his theological education. The indebtedness shall be paid over 15 years, and the minimum monthly payment will be \$ 75.

If a seminarian transfers to another diocese or religious community then the Diocese of Ogdensburg shall request of the diocese or community the seminarian is joining reimbursement of the total amount paid by the Diocese for his theological education.

If a student is ordained a priest, the Diocese will begin the forgiveness of the entire amount of his debt in equal installments over 20 years. Should a priest leave active ministry he is expected to repay the Diocese one-half of the balance paid but not forgiven at the time of separation. Repayment must be completed within 15 years, and minimum monthly payments of \$ 75 are expected.

The loans receivable at June 30, 2012 and 2011 was \$ 480,375 and \$ 414,500, respectively. The loan loss reserve at June 30, 2012 and 2011 was \$ 168,131 and \$ 145,075, respectively.

NOTE 4 - LOANS RECEIVABLE - MINISTRY (Continued)

Future maturities of the loans receivable is as follows:

June 30,	\$
2013,	42,267
2014,	41,876
2015,	41,067
2016,	41,067
2017,	41,067
Thereafter,	273,031
	<u>\$ 480,375</u>

NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS

Investments which are carried at fair value at June 30, 2012 and 2011 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2012:		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,	\$ 11,375,449	\$ 11,700,369
Stocks,	12,051,091	13,020,667
Mutual Funds,	14,855,881	15,982,549
Commonfund Realty,	253,489	253,489
Corporate Obligations,	4,202,693	4,385,230
Dimensional Fund Advisors,	990,750	767,848
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Fund,	4,621,775	5,156,826
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund,	330,480	317,705
Total,	\$ 48,681,608	\$ 51,584,683
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends,		\$ 1,476,031
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments, ..		(1,261,194)
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,		1,329,215
Total,		\$ 1,544,052

NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)

	Cost	Fair Value
June 30, 2011:		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,	\$ 12,517,126	\$ 12,821,114
Stocks,	10,882,354	12,302,129
Mutual Funds,	12,968,878	15,019,316
Commonfund Realty,	8,278	8,278
Corporate Obligations,	4,132,456	4,178,522
Dimensional Fund Advisors,	990,750	946,777
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Fund,	4,621,775	5,386,318
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund,	110,160	97,493
Total,	\$ 46,231,777	\$ 50,759,947

Investment income consists of the following:

Interest and Dividends,	\$ 1,474,083
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments,	3,266,038
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,	2,704,372
Total,	\$ 7,444,493

Total expenses and fees for investment advisory services and custodial fees expenses are \$ 204,618 and \$ 186,164 for the years ending June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

NOTE 6 - OTHER INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2012 and 2011, other investments consisted of the following:

	06/30/2012	06/30/2011
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group (at cost),	\$ 132,248	\$ 132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company,	155,167	152,507
Total,	\$ 287,415	\$ 284,755

NOTE 7 - OTHER ASSETS

At June 30, 2012 and 2011, other assets consisted of two parcels of real estate donated to the Diocese and valued at \$ 205,000. These assets are valued at the fair market value of the property as of the date of donation.

NOTE 8 - LAND, BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT

Land, building and equipment as of June 30, 2012 and 2011 consist of the following:

	06/30/2012	06/30/2011
Land and Improvements,	\$ 937,684	\$ 909,568
Buildings and Improvements,	2,059,635	2,000,685
Furnishings and Equipment,	922,665	901,334
	\$ 3,919,984	\$ 3,811,587
Accumulated Depreciation,	(1,730,539)	(1,633,390)
Property, Plant and Equipment - Net,	\$ 2,189,445	\$ 2,178,197

Depreciation charged to operations for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 were \$ 108,398 and \$ 111,633, respectively.

NOTE 9 - GENERAL INSURANCE PLAN

The Insurance Department of the Diocese manages a protected self-insurance program in conjunction with Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. and Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc. on behalf of the Diocese, parishes and other related entities of the Diocese. The protected self-insurance program consists of a combination of self-insurance retentions, participation in liability risk retention groups with other Dioceses, and the purchase of excess insurance coverage above the self-insured levels. Excess insurance coverage is provided by the purchase of various policies carried through Arthur J. Gallagher and Co.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2012

NOTE 9 - GENERAL INSURANCE PLAN (Continued)

The schedule below summarizes the benefit structure for each line of coverage.

Coverage 2011-2012	Self-insured Retention	Maximum Coverage
All Risk, Property, Equipment, and Auto Physical Damage,.....	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000,000
Boiler and Machinery,	2,500	50,000,000
General Liability, Auto Liability, Directors and Officers Liability,.....	250,000	10,000,000
Workers' Compensation,	175,000	Statutory
Sexual Misconduct,	250,000	3,000,000
Coverage 2010-2011		
All Risk, Property, Equipment, and Auto Physical Damage,.....	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000,000
Boiler and Machinery,	2,500	50,000,000
General Liability, Auto Liability, Directors and Officers Liability,.....	250,000	10,000,000
Workers' Compensation,	175,000	Statutory
Sexual Misconduct,	250,000	3,000,000

On February 9, 2011, the Diocese was informed by Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. they had been advised by Excess Lines Association of New York (ELANY) that the diocese needed to restructure its 2009-10 Worker's Compensation insurance coverage because it was not in compliance with state regulations as excess insurance was purchased from a non-admitted carrier. On February 25, 2011, the diocese notified Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. that it agreed to restructure its Worker's Compensation program for 2009-10, retroactive to July 1, 2009, to a structure in compliance with New York State regulations.

The Diocese has an accrued liability which is the difference between the maximum claim amount for any plan year minus the amount paid in claims and the amount set aside for reserves for pending claims. For fiscal years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, this accrued liability amounted to \$ 740,979 and \$ 904,820, respectively.

As of June 30, 2012 and 2011, the Diocese had in place a letter of credit in the amount of \$ 1,206,000 and \$ 1,155,000, respectively. This letter of credit is required by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, since the Diocese maintains a self-insured workers' compensation program. The letter of credit is not to be used for any other purpose. There was no outstanding balance on this letter of credit at June 30, 2012 and 2011.

Diocesan entities are billed premiums to defray the cost of the projected self-insurance program. A summary of the insurance activities for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 follows:

For the Years Ended June 30,	2012	2011
Premium Revenue,	\$ 1,539,403	\$ 1,462,087
Investment Earnings,	42,719	229,983
Total Revenues,	\$ 1,582,122	\$ 1,692,070
Net Claims and Reserve Expense,	\$ 260,068	\$ 525,836
Administrative Costs,	377,570	432,877
Commercial Insurance Premiums,	740,652	735,716
Total Expenses,	\$ 1,378,290	\$ 1,694,429
Net Insurance Activity,	\$ 203,832	\$ (2,359)
Net Assets,	\$ 2,787,299	\$ 2,583,667

NOTE 10 - NEW YORK STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE

The Diocese has a self-insurance program for New York State disability benefits which is administered by Association Plan Administrators, Inc. This program covers the employees of the Diocese, parishes and other related entities of the Diocese.

NOTE 11 - NEW YORK STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The Diocese has a self-insurance program for New York State unemployment insurance benefits. The Diocese assumes the responsibility for reimbursing the State of New York for unemployment insurance benefits paid by the State to former employees of the Diocese, parishes and other related entities.

NOTE 12 - DIOCESAN DEPOSIT & LOAN FUND**Loans Receivable**

The Diocesan Deposit and Loan Fund receives deposits from the Diocese, parishes and other related entities that in turn are loaned or become available for loan to parishes and other related entities. As of June 30, 2012 and 2011, the loans receivable outstanding totaled \$ 3,527,442 and \$ 3,868,833, respectively. The loan loss reserve at June 30, 2012 and 2011 was \$ 578,658 and \$ 682,224, respectively.

The Diocese's policy is to loan funds for a period of ten years with interest and principal payable quarterly, or in the case of autos five years, unless other terms are agreed upon. The interest rate charged was 4% for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011. Interest received on outstanding loans amounted to \$ 136,146 and \$ 173,631 for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Future maturities of the loans receivable is as follows:

June 30,	
2013,	\$ 382,373
2014,	361,569
2015,	328,024
2016,	321,934
2017,	279,890
Thereafter,	<u>1,853,652</u>
	\$ 3,527,442

Deposits Payable

Deposits payable are due to the Diocese, parishes and other related entities on demand. As of June 30, 2012 and 2011 these deposits payable totaled \$ 15,517,331 and \$ 14,359,173, respectively. Interest on deposits was paid at 3% for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011. Total interest charged to expense for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 was \$ 601,698 and \$ 582,382, respectively.

NOTE 13 - DIOCESAN TRUST FUND

The Diocesan Trust Fund is a mutual fund operated by the Diocese for the investment of endowment and other similar long-term investments of the Diocese, parishes and related entities. The fund is designed to pay quarterly dividends and to grow the principal to offset inflation. As of June 30, 2012 and 2011, the Diocesan Trust Fund balance was \$ 18,245,991 and \$ 18,380,319, respectively.

Total dividends paid from the Diocesan Trust Fund for years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 were \$ 501,317 and \$ 501,232, respectively.

The value per share is determined quarterly based upon the number of shares outstanding in the fund and the market value of the fund at the end of the quarter. As of June 30, 2012 and 2011, the value per share was \$ 27.274 and \$ 27.680, respectively. The original per share value in 1977 was \$ 10 per share.

NOTE 14 - CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PAYABLE

The Diocese was granted a permit by the State of New York Insurance Department to operate a Charitable Gift Annuity program. This permit authorizes the Diocese to receive gifts of money conditioned upon, or in return for, its agreement to pay an annuity to the donor, or his/her nominee, and to make and carry out such annuity agreements within New York State as specified in Section 1110 of the New York State Insurance Law. In accordance with New York State law, the Diocese maintains assets of at least 126.5% and reserves of at least 105% of the annuity payable. The Diocese uses the United States Internal Revenue Service's discount rate and mortality table 80 CNSMT to compute the annuity payable. In addition, the Diocese has been granted approval by the State of Florida to operate a Charitable Gift Annuity program.

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a contract between the donor and the Diocese. The beneficiaries of the Charitable Gift Annuity program can be designated by the donor to benefit the Diocese, parishes or other related entities of the Diocese. In exchange for an irrevocable gift of cash, securities, or other assets, the Diocese agrees to pay the annuitants a fixed sum each year for life. The annuity payments are guaranteed by the general resources of the Diocese.

NOTE 15 - LAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT TRUST

The Lay Employees' Retirement Trust is a qualified multi-employer defined benefit plan which includes lay employees of the Diocese, parishes and other related entities under Diocesan control. The current funding policy of the plan is to collect 9% of gross wages from the employer since this Plan is entirely employer funded. The contributions are used to pay current pensions, overhead costs and provide funding for the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits as well as to fund future benefit enhancements.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg serves as the Trustee of the Plan. The pension funds are invested by Manning and Napier, Dimensional Fund Advisors, Commonfund Realty and The Investment Fund for Foundations as investment managers of the Plan. NBT Bank is the custodian bank for assets invested by Manning and Napier.

The net periodic pension costs for July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 included \$ 1,939,053 in actual pensions paid and \$ 189,296 in administrative costs of the plan including the Trustee's fee, the fee of the actuarial consultant and the expenses of the fiscal office in administration of the plan.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2012

NOTE 15 - LAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT TRUST (Continued)

For the same period, the fund received contributions of \$ 908,940 of which \$ 110,643 were for Diocesan employees. Realized and unrealized gains or (losses) on investments were \$ (193,557) and \$ 3,976,081 for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Investment income was \$ 574,566 and \$ 621,233 for the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 respectively.

The assets and liabilities of the fund at June 30, 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	2012	2011
Cash and Cash Equivalents,.....	\$ 610,246	\$ 358,470
Investments at Fair Value,.....	23,879,975	24,901,463
Employers' Receivable,.....	56,782	91,995
Accrued Investment Income,.....	23,392	28,836
Due to Operating Fund,.....	(98,652)	(269,927)
Deferred Revenue,.....	(375,490)	(177,104)
Restricted Assets,.....	\$ 24,096,253	\$ 24,933,733
Net Assets Available for Benefits,.....	\$ 24,096,253	\$ 24,933,733

The net assets available for benefits of the Lay Employees Retirement Trust are classified as restricted assets on the accompanying statement of financial position.

Investments with readily determinable market value at June 30, 2012 and 2011 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value
June 30, 2012:		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,.....	\$ 2,898,450	\$ 2,894,221
Equities,.....	6,544,419	7,054,769
Mutual Funds,.....	7,658,693	8,230,513
Commonfund Realty,.....	201,729	201,729
Corporate Obligations,.....	81,926	100,702
Dimensional Fund Advisors,.....	1,034,250	822,336
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Fund,.....	3,795,925	4,336,214
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund,.....	249,120	239,491
Total,.....	\$ 22,464,512	\$ 23,879,975
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends,.....		\$ 574,566
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		(986,052)
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		792,495
Total,.....		\$ 381,009

June 30, 2011:

	Cost	Fair Value
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,.....	\$ 4,505,579	\$ 4,531,478
Equities,.....	5,937,878	6,776,268
Mutual Funds,.....	6,836,546	7,873,626
Commonfund Realty,.....	6,587	6,587
Corporate Obligations,.....	81,926	96,863
Dimensional Fund Advisors,.....	1,034,250	1,013,962
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Fund,.....	3,795,925	4,529,187
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund,.....	83,040	73,492
Total,.....	\$ 22,281,731	\$ 24,901,463
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends,.....		\$ 621,233
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		2,870,663
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		1,105,418
Total,.....		\$ 4,597,314

Total expenses and fees for investment and advisory services and custodial fees expenses are \$ 110,240 and \$ 115,272 for the years ending June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Generally accepted accounting principles requires an employer to recognize the funded status (i.e. difference between the fair value of Plan assets and projected benefit obligations) of its defined benefit pension plan as an asset or liability in its balance sheet and to recognize changes in that funded status in the year in which the changes occur through changes in unrestricted net assets.

The funded status of the Plan and amounts recognized in the balance sheet at June 30, 2012, are as follows:

	2012
Total Plan Funded Status, End of Year:	
Fair Value of Plan Assets,.....	\$ 24,289,486
Projected Benefit Obligation,.....	30,157,776
Prepaid (Accrued) Pension Obligation,.....	\$ (5,868,290)
Total Central Office Pension Obligation Recorded in Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year:	
Net Actuarial Loss,.....	\$ 116,405

NOTE 16 - PRIESTS' RETIREMENT PLAN

The Diocese has a non-qualified retirement plan which covers all eligible Diocesan priests. During the years ended June 30, 2012 and 2011 the Plan paid retirement benefits and 90% of the cost of health insurance premiums for the retired priests.

The Plan provides for assessment of the Diocese and its parishes and other related entities to fund the Plan. Other financial support includes bequests designating the Plan as beneficiary and investment income on accumulated funds.

The assets of the fund at June 30, 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	2012	2011
Cash and Cash Equivalents,.....	\$ 191,707	\$ 142,165
Investments at Fair Value,.....	9,741,382	9,664,294
Accounts Receivable,.....	6,668	9,325
Accrued Investment Income,.....	8,405	9,874
Due from Operating Fund,.....	(761,123)	(234,663)
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets,.....	\$ 9,187,039	\$ 9,590,995

Investments with readily determinable market value at June 30, 2012 and 2011 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2012:		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,.....	\$ 1,383,949	\$ 1,401,704
Mutual Funds,.....	3,262,925	3,411,532
Equities,.....	2,720,352	2,896,565
Commonfund Realty,.....	71,668	71,668
Dimensional Fund Advisors,.....	364,750	284,532
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Funds,.....	1,417,875	1,581,938
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Funds,.....	97,200	93,443
Total,.....	\$ 9,318,719	\$ 9,741,382
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends,.....		\$ 225,433
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		(359,377)
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		289,517
Total,.....		\$ 155,573

NOTE 16 - PRIESTS' RETIREMENT PLAN (Continued)

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2011:		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations,.....	\$ 1,584,175	\$ 1,598,624
Mutual Funds,.....	2,892,523	3,225,178
Equities,.....	2,518,275	2,806,301
Commonfund Realty,.....	2,341	2,341
Dimensional Fund Advisors,.....	364,750	350,835
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Multi-Asset Funds,.....	1,417,875	1,652,340
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Funds,.....	32,400	28,675
Total,.....	\$ 8,812,339	\$ 9,664,294
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends,.....		\$ 239,796
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		1,127,853
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments,.....		507,194
Total,.....		\$ 1,874,843

Total investment expenses are \$ 26,523 and \$ 24,266 for the years ending June 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

NOTE 17 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value measurement accounting literature establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of fair value hierarchy are described below:

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2012

NOTE 17 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

(a) *Level 1:* Quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical assets and liabilities. Level 1 includes fixed income and equity securities that are traded in an active exchange market, as well as U.S. Treasury securities.

(b) *Level 2:* Inputs, other than quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly and fair value is determined through the use of models or other valuation methodologies. This category generally includes certain U.S. Government and agency obligations, fixed income securities and alternative investments.

(c) *Level 3:* Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the asset or liabilities. Level 3 assets and liabilities includes financial instruments whose value is determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies, or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation. This category generally includes private debt and equity instruments and alternative investments.

The following tables present the Diocese's investments at June 30, 2012 and 2011, that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Investments are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements:

	Total 2012	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
U.S Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 14,594,590	\$ 14,594,590	\$ -	\$ -
Stocks	20,075,436	20,075,436	-	-
Mutual Funds	24,213,062	24,213,062	-	-
Corporate Obligations	4,485,932	4,485,932	-	-
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,590,184	1,590,184	-	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Multi-Asset Fund	9,493,040	-	9,493,040	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Real Opportunity Fund	557,196	-	-	557,196
Common Fund Realty	455,218	-	-	455,218
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group	132,248	-	-	132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	155,167	-	-	155,167
	<u>\$ 75,752,073</u>	<u>\$ 64,959,204</u>	<u>\$ 9,493,040</u>	<u>\$ 1,299,829</u>

The above fair value measurements consist of the following:

	Total 2012	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Diocesan Investments	\$ 51,670,369	\$ 45,654,934	\$ 5,156,826	\$ 858,609
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	24,081,704	19,304,270	4,336,214	441,220
	<u>\$ 75,752,073</u>	<u>\$ 64,959,204</u>	<u>\$ 9,493,040</u>	<u>\$ 1,299,829</u>

NOTE 17 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

The table below presents additional information about assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis by reliance on Level 3 inputs to determine fair value:

	Real Opportunity Fund	Common Fund Realty	National Catholic Risk Retention	Bishop's Plan Insurance Company
Balance at 06/30/11	\$ 170,986	\$ 14,865	\$ 132,248	\$ 152,507
Purchases	386,400	-	-	-
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	(190)	440,353	-	-
Increase in Member's Surplus	-	-	-	2,660
Balance at 06/30/12	<u>\$ 557,196</u>	<u>\$ 455,218</u>	<u>\$ 132,248</u>	<u>\$ 155,167</u>

	Total 2011	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
U.S Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 17,352,591	\$ 17,352,591	\$ -	\$ -
Stocks	19,078,397	19,078,397	-	-
Mutual Funds	22,892,942	22,892,942	-	-
Corporate Obligations	4,275,385	4,275,385	-	-
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,960,738	1,960,738	-	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Multi-Asset Fund	9,915,506	-	9,915,506	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Real Opportunity Fund	170,986	-	-	170,986
Common Fund Realty	14,865	-	-	14,865
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group	132,248	-	-	132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	152,507	-	-	152,507
	<u>\$ 75,946,165</u>	<u>\$ 65,560,053</u>	<u>\$ 9,915,506</u>	<u>\$ 470,606</u>

The above fair value measurements consist of the following:

	Total 2011	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Diocesan Investments	\$ 51,044,702	\$ 45,267,856	\$ 5,386,319	\$ 390,527
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	24,901,463	20,292,197	4,529,187	80,079
	<u>\$ 75,946,165</u>	<u>\$ 65,560,053</u>	<u>\$ 9,915,506</u>	<u>\$ 470,606</u>

The table below presents additional information about assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis by reliance on Level 3 inputs to determine fair value:

	Real Opportunity Fund	Common Fund Realty	National Catholic Risk Retention	Bishop's Plan Insurance Company
Balance at 06/30/10	\$ -	\$ 141,111	\$ 132,248	\$ 128,862
Purchases	193,200	-	-	-
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	(22,214)	(126,246)	-	-
Increase in Member's Surplus	-	-	-	23,645
Balance @ 06/30/11	<u>\$ 170,986</u>	<u>\$ 14,865</u>	<u>\$ 132,248</u>	<u>\$ 152,507</u>

Level 2 and 3 investments are non-traditional investments which are not listed on national exchanges or over the counter markets, and quoted market prices are not available. The fair values of these investments are measured based on a review of all available information provided by fund managers, general partners or the management of the respective investment. These fair value estimates are evaluated on a regular basis and are susceptible to revisions as more information becomes available. Because of these factors, it is reasonably possible that the estimated fair values of these investments may change materially in the near term.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2012

NOTE 18 - DESIGNATED NET ASSETS

Designated net assets at June 30, 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	06/30/2012	06/30/2011
Capital Improvements,.....	\$ 157,298	\$ 55,607
Charitable Needs of the Diocese,.....	13,388	12,029
Catholic Education,.....	4,907	4,907
Bishop's Discretionary,.....	135,687	121,006
Guggenheim Maintenance,.....	28,060	6,573
St. Joseph's Emergency Fund,.....	22,955	27,112
St. Paul's,.....	20,381	19,786
Bishop's Retirement,.....	572,251	580,535
Bishop's Contingency,.....	174,367	169,275
Bishop's Heritage Circle,.....	93,773	86,328
Priests' Graduate Studies,.....	35,749	30,938
Support of Priests Not in Ministry,.....	612,768	689,389
Protected Self-Insurance,.....	2,787,299	2,583,667
Unemployment,.....	96,683	100,291
Disability,.....	102,114	230,775
Deposit and Loan Fund,.....	3,928,795	3,642,044
CORE,.....	4,849	3,243
Formation for Ministry,.....	-	4,142
Good Samaritan Fund- Housing,.....	4,000	4,000
Clergy Education,.....	2,109	2,181
Fiscal Office - Accounting Software,.....	11,068	29,829
World Youth Day,.....	2,281	-
Special Care of Priests,.....	70,000	-
Celebrate Christ,.....	2,182	-
	<u>\$ 8,882,964</u>	<u>\$ 8,403,657</u>

NOTE 19 - RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Restricted net assets at June 30, 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

	06/30/2012	06/30/2011
Temporarily Restricted		
Annuity Funds,.....	\$ 150,247	\$ 150,247
Charitable Gift Annuities,.....	948,276	371,830
Annie Peck,.....	8,637	8,840
Indian,.....	17,057	18,501
Missionary Projects,.....	99,077	88,357
Priests' Disability,.....	52,663	77,622
Bourdon Estate,.....	102,486	105,734
Priests' Retirement,.....	9,187,039	9,590,995
K of C Foundation Fellowship,.....	68,783	68,448
Communications,.....	13,425	13,511
Mallette Scholarship,.....	4,020	4,591
Catholic Campaign for Human Development,.....	10,881	11,073
K of C for Handicap Children,.....	1,585	1,585
Education of Seminarians,.....	881,522	886,786
Mear Scholarship Endowment,.....	42,505	42,505
Natural Family Planning,.....	-	278
Education Grants,.....	2,635	2,635
Rachael's Vineyard,.....	5,663	6,927
Spratt Memorial,.....	3,705	1,850
Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund,.....	559	318
Formation for Ministry,.....	3,660	2,080
Vocation,.....	1,249	2,500
Foundation Support for Education,.....	9,486	5,337
Special Care of Priests,.....	1,150	-
Continuing Formation of Priests,.....	400	-
	<u>\$ 11,616,710</u>	<u>\$ 11,462,550</u>
Permanently Restricted		
K of C Foundation Fellowship,.....	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Reverend O.L. Bentley Fund,.....	11,781	11,781
Kelly-Rivette Trust Fund,.....	4,703	4,703
Annie Peck Fund,.....	5,000	5,000
Martin Memorial Fund/Masses,.....	10,000	10,000
Mallette Catholic School Endowment Fund,...	207,854	207,854
Youth Sports Camp Endowment Fund,.....	58,665	58,665
Weidner Memorial Endowment,.....	967,247	923,984
	<u>\$ 1,285,250</u>	<u>\$ 1,241,987</u>

NOTE 20 - ENDOWMENTS

The Diocese endowments consist of 8 individual funds established for variety of purposes. The endowments are permanently restricted by the donor. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Trustees function as endowments, are classified and reported basically on the existence absence of donor imposed restrictions.

NOTE 20 - ENDOWMENTS (Continued)**Interpretation of Relevant Law**

On September 17, 2010, the New York State legislature passed, and the Governor signed, the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA). This is New York's version of the Uniform Management of Institutional Funds Act and governs the management and investment of funds held by not-for-profit corporations and other institutions.

Under the new law, institutions are allowed to spend endowment funds below their original historic dollar value without government approval or attorney general review if the institution's Board concludes that such spending is prudent.

The Act also requires that a notice be given to available donors of endowment funds who executed gift instruments before September 17, 2010, allowing those donors to opt-out of the new rule permitting institutions to spend below the historic dollar value.

The Act provides that each person responsible for management and investing an institution's fund does so in good faith and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar circumstances. The Act sets forth basic requirements for establishing the standard of prudence, including a requirement that an institution make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to the management and investment of the fund.

In deciding whether to appropriate from an endowment fund, the institution must act in good faith and must consider, if relevant, the following factors:

1. The duration and preservation of the endowment fund;
2. The purpose of the institution and the endowment fund;
3. General economic conditions;
4. Possible effect of inflation or deflation;
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
6. Other resources of the institution;
7. Where appropriate and circumstances would otherwise warrant, alternatives to expenditure of the endowment fund, giving due consideration to the effect that such alternatives may have on the institution; and
8. The investment policy of the institution.

Endowment net assets by type of fund consist of the following at June 30, 2012:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Donor-Restricted Funds	\$ -	\$ 401,031	\$ 1,285,250	\$ 1,686,281

Changes in endowment net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ -	\$ 425,523	\$ 1,241,987	\$ 1,667,510
Investment Return:				
Interest and Dividends	-	34,766	-	34,766
Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses)	-	(24,492)	-	(24,492)
Contributions	-	-	43,263	43,263
Appropriation for Expenditure	-	(34,766)	-	(34,766)
Endowment Net Assets, End of Year	\$ -	\$ 401,031	\$ 1,285,250	\$ 1,686,281

Endowment net assets by type of fund consist of the following at June 30, 2011:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Donor-Restricted Funds	\$ -	\$ 425,523	\$ 1,241,987	\$ 1,667,510

Central Administrative Offices of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of
Ogdensburg
*Notes to the
Financial Statements-
June 30, 2012*

NOTE 20 - ENDOWMENTS (Continued)

Changes in endowment net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ -	\$ 140,517	\$ 1,241,987	\$ 1,382,504
Investment Return:				
Interest and Dividends	-	34,825	-	34,825
Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses)	-	285,006	-	285,006
Contributions	-	-	-	-
Appropriation for Expenditure	-	(34,825)	-	(34,825)
Endowment Net Assets, End of Year	\$ -	\$ 425,523	\$ 1,241,987	\$ 1,667,510

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The Diocese has adopted an investment policy for endowment assets that will attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to the beneficiaries supported by the various endowments, while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets, including those assets of donor restricted funds that the Diocese must hold in perpetuity or for a donor specified period. The Diocese utilizes the results of Morningstar U.S. Balance Universe, Wilshire 5000 Index and LB Aggregate Bond Index to evaluate performance. The Diocese expects its endowment funds over time to provide a total rate of return equal to or exceeding any approved distribution rate. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

To satisfy its long-term rate of return objective, the Diocese relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Diocese targets a diversified assets allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity based investments to achieve its long-term objectives within prudent risk constraints.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate of return objective, the Diocese relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Diocese targets a diversified assets allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity based investments to achieve its long-term objectives within prudent risk constraints.

NOTE 20 - ENDOWMENTS (Continued)

According to its distribution policy, the Diocese may make quarterly distributions from the total growth of each endowment in an amount up to 5% on an annualized basis of the fair market value of the total assets of that endowment at the beginning of each quarter. In no event shall the quarterly distribution exceed 5% on an annualized basis of the total growth of the fair market value of the total assets in that endowment at the beginning of the quarter. The Board of Directors shall review this limit on an annual basis.

NOTE 21 - CONTINGENCIES

As of the date of these financial statements, various claims and lawsuits are pending against the Diocese. The outcome of these matters is not currently determinable. In the opinion of management, after consultation with counsel, the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Diocese.

NOTE 22 - RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain amounts in the 2011 financial statements have been reclassified for comparative purposes to conform with the presentation in the current year.

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Consistory expanded variety in the College of Cardinals

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Shortly after announcing he was creating six new cardinals, Pope Benedict XVI said he was doing so to show that "the church is a church of all peoples, (and) speaks in all languages."

Pope created six new cardinals on Saturday

The six new "princes of the church" hail from six different countries in North America, Latin America, Africa and Asia, and represent both the Latin-rite of the Catholic Church as well as two of the Eastern Catholic Churches.

Inducting them into the College of Cardinals Nov. 24, Pope Benedict brought up to 120 the number of cardinal-electors -- those under the age of 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

With the exception of the Catholic newspaper *Avvenire*, the headlines in Italian newspapers the morning after Pope Benedict announced the new cardinals all pointed out the absence of new Italian or new European cardinals.

Painting the pope's move as drastic and trying to make sense of it, *Il Foglio* and sev-

eral other papers jumped to the conclusion that the pope deliberately excluded Italians because of the "VatiLeaks" scandal.

The scandal saw the publication of private Vatican and papal correspondence, much of it painting a picture of careerism and corruption in the Vatican, mostly involving Italian curial officials and bishops.

Il Foglio's headline was: "A consistory to lead the church out of its Roman misgovernance."

The new cardinals will make up only 5 percent of the electors in the College of Cardinals, but they shift the continental balance, even if just slightly.

The percentage of European electors dropped from almost 55 percent Nov. 16 to just over 51 percent Nov. 24; the figure contrasts sharply with the fact that, according to Vatican statistics, less than 24 percent of the world's Catholics live in Europe.

The new consistory brought the percentage of Asian electors from 7 percent to 9 percent. Catholics in Asia account for just over 10 percent of the worldwide Catholic population.

Naming two prelates in their 50s to the college lowered the average age of the cardinal-electors; as of Nov. 16 the electors' average age

was just over 72.

The six new cardinals who received their red hats and cardinal rings are: U.S. Archbishop James M. Harvey, 63, prefect of the papal household; Lebanon's Maronite Patriarch Bechara Rai, 72; Indian Archbishop Baselios Cleemis Thottunkal, 53, head of the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church; Nigerian Archbishop John Olorunfemi Onaiyekan of Abuja, 68; Colombian Archbishop Ruben Salazar Gomez of Bogota, 70; and Philippine Archbishop Luis Tagle of Manila, 55.

When Pope Benedict created 22 cardinals in February, 16 of them were Europeans.

Obviously, the pope does not make his choice based on geography first of all. Most of the cardinals hold positions that by Vatican norms or by ancient tradition are held by cardinals.

Given the large number of Italians heading Vatican offices and the numerous Italian archdioceses traditionally led by cardinals, the Italians would have a numerically powerful bloc of votes in a conclave to elect a new pope.

In fact, the Italians still will have 28 voters, 20 of whom were created cardinals by Pope Benedict.

With the exception of Europe, no single continent has the number of electors Italy has; Latin America comes closest with 21 electors.

A greater variety of nations, languages, spiritual and liturgical traditions in the College of Cardinals obviously means a more "catholic" group of participants in the cardinals' most solemn responsibility: electing a new pope.

But the variety also has a very real impact on the Roman Curia because each cardinal becomes a member of one or more Vatican congregations or councils, bringing his experience to bear on decisions that impact the universal church.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope: health is universal good to be defended, not commoditized

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Good health is a benefit that needs to be defended and guaranteed for all people, not just for those who can afford it, Pope Benedict XVI told hundreds of health care workers. The new evangelization is needed in the health field, especially during the current economic crisis "that is cutting resources for safeguarding health," he said Nov. 17, addressing participants at a conference sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry. Hospitals and other facilities "must rethink their particular role in order to avoid having health become a simple 'commodity,' subordinate to the laws of the market, and, therefore, a good reserved to a few, rather than a universal good to be guaranteed and defended," he said.

Irish bishops reiterate teaching on right to life of mother, child

DUBLIN (CNS) -- Expressing anguish and sorrow over the death of a pregnant woman in an Irish hospital, the country's Catholic bishops said that pregnant women must receive all treatment to save their lives, even if it results in the unintended death of an unborn child. The statement Nov. 19 came three weeks after the deaths of Savita Halappanavar, 31, who died after a miscarriage, and her unborn child. Halappanavar died after hospital medical staff determined they could not end the child's life because they could detect a fetal heart beat, even as the woman's husband, Praveen, urged them to save his wife's life. Halappanavar's death Oct. 28 at University Hospital Galway has led to an outpouring of public anger. Thousands of people have taken to the streets calling for the country's constitutional ban on abortion to be overturned. In its statement, the Standing Committee of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference described the case as "a devastating personal tragedy" for the Halappanavar family and acknowledged that the circumstances of her death had "stunned our country." The bishops' statement sought to clarify church teaching on the need for medical intervention to save the life of a mother. The bishops insisted that the Catholic Church has never taught that the life of a child in the womb should be preferred to that of a mother.

New social media tools can help tell age-old Gospel story

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (CNS) -- Modern social media tools can make the centuries-old Gospel message new again for Catholics as they renew their faith and for those who have been baptized but have never embraced the faith. That was the view of a group of workshop presenters, most of them Catholic bloggers, who examined the role of the new media efforts to proclaim the Gospel anew in various sessions during the conference of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists. Hundreds of participants and scores of scholars, activists and others gathered recently in the Diocese of Rockville Centre for the conference, which marked the society's 20th anniversary. Workshops and talks addressed everything from politics to labor and economics, art, literature, and film, law and crime, and theology. Proclaimed by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, the new evangelization was considered at several workshops, including one titled "And God said 'Tweet.'" Presenters said the new evangelization is not new in its content -- the Gospel -- but using modern methods of communication can reach many who have heard the Gospel and even been baptized and catechized but who have not embraced it.



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THE VATICAN VISIT

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Prepare the Way of the Lord... Advent begins

The saintly Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen once pointed out that the first word of Jesus to His followers was "Come", while the last word was "Go".

How appropriate for the beginning of the Advent season in this new Year of Grace!

The Church cries to us "Come, let us climb the mountain of the Lord", and we respond, "Come, Lord Jesus, and set us free".

The sacred liturgy of our

Church provides a shape and form for our life's journey from darkness of doubt to the light of Truth.

The Incarnation of the Word into human flesh which we celebrate at the end of these four weeks will hopefully be born also in our flesh. This is the whole purpose of the Advent liturgy—to make us strong enough to act upon the final command of

Jesus, "Go and preach the Good News to all the na-

tions...". The first reading today comes from the prophet Jeremiah "The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah...I will raise up for David a just shoot".

That "just shoot", from David's line, is Jesus, the Messiah, who will appear some six hundred years after this prophecy.

The Gospel for this Sunday is always about Jesus' own vision of the end times, the final days.

He is speaking to His disciples just a few days before his passion, death, and res-

Dec. 2

The First Sunday of Advent

READINGS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

urrection.

He foretells the destruction of the whole universe and of his own coming in power and majesty. "Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to

stand before the Son of Man". The vision is as valid for us today as for those who hear the Master's words.

We must prepare by penance, almsgiving, and prayer for that final day., This Sunday's second reading from St. Paul to the Thessalonians gives advice to the early Christians —be disciplined and alert!

As we prepare for Christmas in this special Year of Grace, we need to become effective Christ-bearers to so many around us who see only the tinsel and the trappings surrounding the feast.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

CONSIDER THIS

We Americans choose our heroes poorly

By Stephen Kent
Catholic News Service

For a director of central intelligence, it demonstrated an astounding lack of common sense.

As the reputation of retired four-star general David Petraeus continues to shatter under revelations of adultery and poor judgment, we are left with several things to ponder.

Petraeus, as anyone with access to any communications device now knows, abruptly resigned as director of the Central Intelligence Agency admitting he had an extramarital affair with Paula Broadwell, the author his biography. The admission and resignation came after the FBI began monitoring Petraeus' email as part of another investigation.

Perhaps a four-star general who doesn't realize there is no guarantee of privacy of email correspondence was not the best candidate to be director of the nation's intelligence agency.

In the torrent of news coverage that followed, it was

interesting how many times Petraeus was identified as "revered," "most celebrated general of his era." He is not the first celebrity general to suffer hubris (think George Armstrong Custer).

Petraeus' feet of clay walk in the footsteps of many others who demonstrated similar failure of marital fidelity: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton -- all admired presidents of the United States.

And "heroes" of athletics: Tiger Woods, golf, adultery; Mark McGwire, baseball, drugs; Lance Armstrong, cycling, drugs, allegedly. Names from the entertainment industry could fill a telephone directory.

The point is not to point fingers at these individuals but instead to suggest that, as a society, we make poor choices when it comes to naming heroes. We have im-

perfect selection standards.

Paid entertainers and professional athletes are not popular for their heroic qualities.

"Hero" is used much too frequently so as to devalue its true meaning. A fireman who enters a burning building is certainly courageous, but that is his duty, what he signed up for. Heroism, as the citation for Medal of Honor says, is going beyond the call of duty. Likewise, every person now in the military who performs his or her job competently and goes where duty calls is not a hero.

They are doing their duty, the vast majority not heroically.

Just as "hero" is misused so often, the too often mis-

used word "tragedy" is exactly on target in the Petraeus situation: the protagonist whose fatal flaw results in a rapid fall from the top.

The essential virtue in heroism is selflessness -- subordinating wants, needs, even life, for another.

In unfortunate timing, the Newsweek magazine edition on the stands when the Petraeus news broke was titled "The Heroes Issue." It included articles on heroes, the majority of them in the military. In a stroke of irony, the final page in the magazine was an article titled "Petraeus' Rules for Living," the author none other than Paula Broadwell. Among the 12 points, this is his Rule No. 5:

"We all will make mistakes. The key is to recognize them and admit them, to learn from them and to take off the rearview mirrors -- drive on and avoid making them again." That sounds a lot like a firm purpose of amendment even if lacking contrition.

Selflessness is a virtue deserving of more recognition. If heroism is defined as conspicuous selflessness, then this country is filled with heroes: from those dedicating their lives to caring for relatives with Alzheimer's disease to parents whose time and energy is devoted to their children above and beyond the call of duty.

The call of duty is not the highest barrier to be met for heroism. It is lack of self.



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CLINTON

SETON DINNER AND AUCTION

Plattsburgh—Seton Catholic High School is planning its 8th Annual Christmas Dinner and Silent Auction

Date: Dec 2

Time: 12-5 PM

Place: Seton Catholic High School

Cost: Seniors (55+) \$7, Adults, takeouts \$9, kids 5-12 years \$5, Under 5 FREE

Features: Holiday wreath sale, cash & carry items, 50/50 Drawings, Seton Sweepstakes tickets, Each adult who brings in an item for the Seton food drive or a new, unwrapped toy for the toy drive will receive \$1 off their meal

Contact: 561-4031 ext 121 for take outs

LECTIO DIVINA

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

Time: 10 a.m. to noon

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

EUCHARISTIC 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

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, y devotional prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet/Novena

ESSEX

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Crown Point—A Christmas Bazaar will be held.

Date: Dec. 1

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

Place: Sacred Heart Church

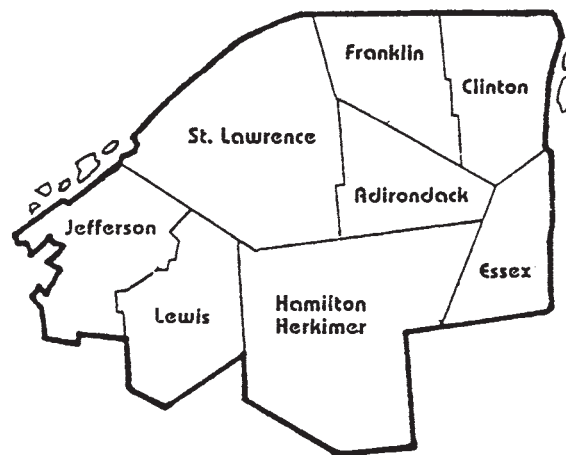
Features: Luncheon, Raffle Drawing & Cookie Walk.

FRANKLIN

CHRISTMAS TEA

North Bangor—The CC of St. Augustine will hold their annual "O Come All Ye Faithful" Christmas Tea.

Date: Dec. 2



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.

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: John C. Dwyer Parish Center

Features: handmade crafts, bake table, candy booth, cake walk, a Chinese auction, raffles, etc. Christmas cookies, coffee, tea & punch. Homemade soup, sandwiches & soda will be for sale.

JEFFERSON

HOLIDAY FOOD FAIR

Clayton - Holiday Food Fair to be held.

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Costs: Food Fair, \$6; photo with Santa 4x6 color, \$3; Children's Lunch ages 3-12 and fun room, Free

Features: Over 50 special dishes will be prepared from parishioners favorite family recipes. Holiday gift items and family inspirational gifts. Visit from Santa There will be a children's room for ages 3-12 to make crafts. At 1 p.m. there will be a raffle drawing. 10 cash prizes valued at \$50 each. No need to be present to Win.

YEAR OF FAITH EVENTS

Black River and Deferiet—Special "Year of Faith" events to be held.

Schedule: Dec. 9—1 p.m. to 3, Holy Hours at St. Paul's with reflection on Vatican II; Dec. 11—6 p.m. to 8, Healing Mass at St. Paul's; Dec. 13—6 p.m. to 8, Healing Mass at St. Rita's; Dec. 16—1 p.m. to 3, Holy Hours at St. Rita's with reflection on Vatican II.

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills—The Indian River Knights of

Columbus will be sponsoring a Spaghetti & Meatball dinner.

Date: Dec. 8

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Nov. 29

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

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: 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 December to be held.

Date: Dec. 2

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: The program includes: Vespers

(Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.

Contact: 348-6260.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Port Leyden—There will be a Christmas Bazaar to help benefit the Port Leyden Food Pantry.

Date: Dec. 8

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: St. Martin's Church Hall

Features: Many crafters, a 50/50 drawing and a Lottery Tree drawing. Home-made doughnuts and coffee will be available in the morning with lunch consisting of homemade chili, chili dogs and beverages. Baked goods sale

ST. LAWRENCE

SHOWTIME CHRISTMAS SHOW

Ogdensburg—The Msgr A.D. Charbonneau Council #258 Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Christmas Show.

Date: Dec. 2

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: OFA Auditorium

Cost: 3 nonperishable foods or \$3.

Features: Special guests, United Helpers Senior Chorus, Musical Groups from OFA and Heuvelton Central Schools. Donations will benefit the Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center.

K OF C BRUNCH

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

Date: Dec. 9

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center; Take-outs available

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$4; Under 5, Free; Family, \$18

CRAFT FAIR

Gouverneur—St. James School to have a Craft Fair.

Date: Dec. 1

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

Features: Santa Claus will visit at 1:30 p.m. Items available will include: jewelry, woodcrafts, ceramics, stuffed animals, homemade dolls, leather goods, candles, knitted items, country crafts, Christmas ornaments and decorations, baskets, etc. Lunch will be available. Admission is a donation.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ogdensburg—The Knights of Columbus 258 Christmas Party will take on a dinner-dance format this year.

Date: Dec. 1

Time: Cocktails begin at 5 p.m.; dinner at 5:45 with dancing from 7 to 11

Place: K of C Hall

Cost: \$8 per person or \$15 per couple

Features: Fulton Road Band. All net proceeds will be split between toys for tots and PJ's for Christmas.

Contact: Reservations for dinner are required by calling the club rooms at 393-7990 at 4 p.m. Open to members, their guests and the general public

SURVIVOR SUPPORT GROUP

Canton—The Surviving Spouse Friendship and Support Group meets the first Thursday of the month.

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: Best Western University Inn

Contact: Lita Maroney at 379-1650 for .

FISH FRIES POSTPONED

Ogdensburg—The K of C Council 258's Friday Night Fish Fries are suspended from Nov. 23 until Jan. 11.

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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena—St. Mary's & St. Joseph's will have a Benediction and Adoration every Friday.

Time: 9 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. Mary's Family Room (adjacent to the altar)

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Ogdensburg—St. Mary's Cathedral holds a monthly Holy Hour to pray 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

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

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

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 3:15 pm

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 Joyful Mysteries. Confessions begin at 2:45 pm and the Saturday anticipated Mass is at 4:00 pm.



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

Another successful year for Mission Coop Collections

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

In keeping with this week's theme of reporting, I would like to take some time to reflect upon this very important Mission Office annual program.

The summer of 2012 brought sixteen Mission Aid Societies to the Eastern Side of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The Eastern side of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes the Deaneries of Franklin, Clinton, Adirondack, Essex and Hamilton/Herkimer.

Our East side parishes were kind and hospitable hosts to these societies, many of whom came a great distance to make their appeals.

We are blessed and happy to say that this year's collection was greater than that of last year. These funds collected are sent to the individual societies who came so far to spread awareness to their cause. These funds are directly used by these societies to alleviate suffering in their mission parishes.

Many members of the societies hosted are members of a Religious Order or Clergy. They do not live in conditions that we here in the North Country can often take for granted. Conditions such as famine, drought, disease, government turmoil and lack of shelter is why they make the journey to the Diocese of Ogdensburg, amongst other places, to appeal to our hearts and ask for our prayers and assistance.

The Mission Office has heard from all of the visiting societies from 2012 and they are grateful for the kindness bestowed upon them and are anxious for the opportunity to come back again.

For many of these real-life missionaries, coming to the North Country each summer is their only free time or break from the harsh conditions of the developing world.

On behalf of our Mission Coop participants and the people they advocate for, I would like to once again share my gratitude for the generosity shown this past summer.

Your thoughtfulness and gifts are appreciated. Rest assured of my prayers as we enter this blessed holiday season.

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

OBITUARIES

Brushton – Steven D. Curran, 57; Funeral Services Nov. 24, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Cadyville – Dorothy M. (Ramsey) Devan, 89; Funeral Services Nov. 24, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage – James P. Mastin, 68; Funeral Services Nov. 20, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Chateaugay – James Henry Darmody, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 23, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Churubusco – Katherine Elizabeth Looby Taylor, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 9, 2012 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Clayton – Lovenia E. Clark, 100; Funeral Services Nov. 20, 2012 at Cummings Funeral Service, Inc.; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

Croghan – Martha Agnes (Bochenheim), 95; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2012 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Keeseville – Carl R. Floyd, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2012 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lake Placid – Eugenio Festa; Funeral Services Nov. 17, 2012 at St. Agnes Church.

Massena – Elizabeth (Steinburg) Boyer, 82; Funeral Services Nov. 24, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park, Ogdensburg.

Massena – Robert J. LeBoeuf, 91; Funeral Services Nov. 20, 2012 at St. Joseph's

Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Mooers Forks – Norman W. Lafave, 70; Funeral Services Nov. 24, 2012 at St. Ann's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Mausoleum, Ellenburg Depot.

Norwood – James C. McKenna, 81; Funeral Nov. 19, 2012 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.
Ogdensburg – Carol A. (West) Ladouceur, 68; Memorial Services Dec. 1, 2012 at Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – William F. Morley, Jr., 80; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2012 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Peru – William Edward Hoffmann, 84; Funeral Services Nov. 20, 2012 at St. Augustine's Church.

Plattsburgh – Victoria J. (Kazlowski) Guyette, 84; Funeral Services Nov. 24, 2012 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Redford – Richard M. Fournia Jr., 35; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2012 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown – Ola Mary (Constance) Hefferon, 93; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

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Support And Pray For Vocations

THE MONTHLY PRAYER 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.

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.

December

Divine Infancy

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY DECEMBER 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAURDAY
For more copies write to: Diocese of Ogdensburg PO Box 369 Ogdensburg, NY 13669						BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY
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30 REV. JOHN P. KENNEDY	31 REV. JEAN CLAUDE KLUMBE					

For more information visit us online at: www.mpprpspostolate.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:

Called to be holy

By Bishop Terry LaValley

The *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* demands “one and the same holiness of every member of the Church. This common holiness is characterized by four qualities: our submission to the guidance of the Holy Spirit; our obedience to the voice of the Father; our worship of the Father in spirit and truth; and our faithfulness in following the poor, humble and crossbearing Christ.” (*Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen gentium)*, 41, 1964)

Pastoral Letter for the Year of Faith (Part III)

Our response to Jesus’ call “Follow Me” is a response to the call to sainthood. The Second Vatican Council reminds us that each and every person is called to be holy, to be a ‘saint in the making.’

“In the various types and duties of life, one and the same holiness is cultivated by all who are moved by the Spirit of God...Every person should walk unhesitatingly according to his own personal gifts and duties in the path of a living faith which arouses hopes and works through charity.” (*Lumen gentium*, 41)

Throughout this year, the Church of Ogdensburg has been especially conscious of the Faces of Faith with whom we live, work and play.

We are familiar with the faith stories of individuals who were recently numbered among the saints in heaven: Saint (Brother) Andre, Saint Marianne Cope, and the Lily of the Mohawks, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha.

Belonging to the one Body of Christ, we now seek their intercession and prayers as we open ourselves to a continual conversion of heart so that we, too, might follow Jesus as true disciples.

Blessed Pope John Paul II, in his Apostolic Exhortation to Bishops, referred to saints as “spiritual sentinels who from heaven guide the way of the pilgrim church through time.” (*Pastores gregis*, 25, 2003)

This is a beautiful vision capable of inspiring our efforts to renew in Christ the society of our time.

As followers of a God who can squeeze a thousand years into a single day (*2 Peter 3:8*), we can move forward with St. Paul’s urgent cry to holiness ringing in our ears: “I do not think of myself as having reached the finish line. I give no thought to what lies behind but push on to what is ahead.

My entire attention is on the finish line as I run toward the prize to which God calls me—life on high in Christ Jesus.” (*Phil. 3:13-14*)

To be holy, one cannot stand still. It isn’t good enough to be comfortable with where one is at.



Holiness demands growth in communion with others.

It's Time

A. Witness to Faith

Faith is a wagering on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It makes all the difference in this world and the next that I believe that Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Mary, suffered, died, and rose on the third day for me.

It's time to tell and live the story. Empowered by God's life-giving Word, sustained by the graces received in the Sacraments, and supported by fellow companions on the journey, I must give credible witness of my love story with God.

Following Jesus will inevitably take us to:

1. The New Evangelization

“What we need at this time of history are people who, through a faith which is enlightened and lived out in practice, make God credible in the world...We need people who keep their gaze fixed upon God...The new evangelization starts from the credibility of our living as believers and from the conviction that grace acts and transforms to the point of converting the heart. It is a journey which still finds Christians committed to it after 2,000 years of history.” (*Fisichella, Origins, Vol.42, No.14, September 6, 2012*)

It's time for a renewed commitment to learn more about the teachings of our Catholic Faith. It's time for a renewed commitment to personal and communal prayer. It's time for courageous witness to our faith in the public square.

2. Missionary efforts

The Risen Lord commissioned the still doubting disciples on the mountain: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (*Matt. 28:16-20*)

The gift of our baptism brings with it the task of giving witness because, by its very nature, the Church is on a mission.

There is no need for us to be lost: Jesus promises to be with us always!

It's time to boldly proclaim our faith to a world often deaf to any language about heaven and eternal life.

3. Preferential option for the poor

The dignity of every human person created in the likeness of our God demands that we notice and care for one another. “...For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me...” (*cf. Matt. 25:31-46*)

To recognize Christ in the other is so very difficult at times, particularly in those that cannot repay our acts of kindness to them. Yet, faith is having the eyes that see beyond outward appearances to the Christ that dwells within.

It's time to take note of and to assist those suffering poverty of all sorts.

4. Vocational discernment

To follow Jesus is to risk a journey into the unknown, but very much aware that Jesus takes us by the hand.

As mentioned above, each of us is called to be holy, to nourish our faith and to live it in with joy and hope.

We especially pray today, that more young women and men will open their hearts and accept the Lord's invitation to follow Him in Gospel living as a religious sister or brother, along with those he calls to the priesthood and the diaconate.

Specifically, it is time for us to be more active promoters of vocations to the priesthood among the young men of our parishes.

Dietrich von Hildebrand speaks about the *mystic grandeur* of the call implied in the words of the Lord, “**Follow Me.**”

Before all else, it is necessary for us to grasp the ‘height, breadth, and depth’ of our vocation, and fully to comprehend the message of the Gospel which invites us not merely to become disciples of Christ and children of God, but to enter into a process of transformation in Christ.” (*D. von Hildebrand, Transformation in Christ, p. xxxi, 2001*)

The Year of Faith puts before us the challenge to slow down long enough for us to pay attention and to absorb God's call, “Be still and know that I am God” (*cf. Psalm 46:10*), and then to accept the invitation to be transformed.

Journeying together, let us pray for the grace to be ready to change.