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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

DEC. 26 2012

Strength of faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Mary's role in the birth and life of Jesus shows all Christians that the strength of faith lies in trusting God, even when his will is mysterious and life seems dark, Pope Benedict XVI said. "The power of God, in our

lives as well, works with the often silent power of truth and love," the pope said Dec. 19 at his general audience.

Preparing for Christmas and continuing his Year of Faith series of audience talks, the pope focused on what

Christians can learn about faith from Mary.

"Faith tells us that the defenseless power of that baby will vanquish the clamor of the powers of the world," he said. "The glory of God does not show itself in the tri-

umph and power of a king and does not shine forth from a famous city or a sumptuous palace, but takes up its dwelling place in the womb of a virgin and is revealed in the poverty of a baby," Pope Benedict said.

Using prayer, love to face down evil

A local teacher and mother of a first grader shares her reaction to the shooting massacre in Newtown, Conn.

Although her first reaction was a call for revenge Kristina Dean of Antwerp came to the realization that "we will combat the evils of hatred, violence, jealousy with the weapons available to us - simply through prayer and love."

Meanwhile, in Connecticut, a representative from the Bridgeport diocese, said, the "sacramental sense" of a Catholic pastor's outreach after the horrific violence that at the school "has brought the church to bear in the most intimate and powerful way,

FULL STORIES, PAGES 5 & 7

No paper next week

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic* will be dated Jan. 9.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the staff of the *NCC*

A GIFT OF TIME



Two years ago, Julie Otis of Adams delayed cancer treatments to protect her unborn child - Anthony. Today, Anthony is a healthy boy, but Julie's cancer has returned. Adams Knights of Columbus Council 7364 has spearheaded a fundraising effort to assist the family. As of Dec. 18, more than \$14,000 had been raised with money still coming in. On Nov. 17, the Knights served a spaghetti dinner to 260 people and raised \$6,680. *North Country Catholic* readers responded to an article published Nov. 7 and mailed in checks totaling \$5,300. One \$1,000 check and six \$500 checks were received including a \$500 check from Bishop Terry R. LaValley on behalf of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The money being raised is allowing the Otis family to spend as much time together as possible. Contributions can be mailed to Knights of Columbus Council 7364, c/o St. Cecilia's Church, 17 Grove St., Adams, NY 13605. Pictured, in front, are Jamie, Anthony and Julie Otis; back, Father Patrick Ratigan, pastor of St. Cecilia's in Adams; grandparents Randy and Florence Otis; and Council 7364 fundraising chairman Bill Ose.

THE RELIGIOUS OF THE DIOCESE: Religious listed on page of appreciation... p. 16

YEAR IN REVIEW

Pope keeps up busy schedule



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Benedict XVI uses a cane as he arrives to lead his general audience in front of the main square in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Aug. 29. The 85-year-old pontiff began using a cane publicly for the first time in March of this year. Although he showed signs of his age, Pope Benedict kept up a busy schedule during 2012. The highlights of the year included canonizations and the opening of the Year of Faith.

FULL STORY, PAGE 8

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Looking back.. and forward in faith

Well before Pope Benedict XVI officially opened the Year of Faith in October, Catholics in the Diocese of Ogdensburg were already *living* a year of faith.

We were celebrating – ordinations, awards, canonizations – and we were gathering together in prayer – at the cathedral, at the Vatican and in every parish of the diocese.

Led by Bishop LaValley, we took our Catholic faith seriously in 2012, advocating for religious freedom and support for human life from the moment of conception through natural death.

We took time to recognize

some of our greatest blessings: 40 years of Guggenheim, priest, religious and married jubilarians; farmers, altar servers and the generous acts of service offered by our Catholic school children.

There were moments of tremendous joy. We will surely never forget “ordinationpalooza,” the weekend in May that saw the ordination of Deacon Scott Belina on Friday night and Father Thomas Hgman on Saturday morning.

And there were times of sadness: the closing of St. Mary’s School in Champlain and the deaths of six beloved priests

Father Harry Giroux, Father Stephen Gratto, Father Francis Coryer, Father John Crable, Father Michael Jarecki and Msgr. Bernard Christman.

So many weekends through the year were filled with blessings – the Metanoia retreat for young adults, the Woman of Grace retreat, youth rally, family enrichment weekend and Family Guggenheims.

In 2012, we recognized some of our best and brightest.

St. Joseph Sister Mary Ann Croitz of IHC in Watertown was named teacher of the year, Gayle Seymour of Malone was the 2012 Caritas Award winner and Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin accepted the Sharing the Light Award from the Catholic School Administrator Association of

New York State.

We also bid fond farewells to important people on the diocesan staff and welcomed their replacements.

Msgr. John R. Murphy left his position as moderator of the curia after more than 30 years of service in the diocesan administration; Father Kevin O’Brien has ably taken over his role in the Chancery.

Scott Lalone succeeded Janice Shoen in the Diocesan Development Office; Marika Donders took over the Office of Evangelization from St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng and Patrick Donahue succeeded Heidi Macko in the Ogdensburg Office of Christian Formation and Formation for Ministry.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Mary Lou
Kilian

FATHER BILL SAYS...

AMEN moments of life: faith comes alive

The prayer for a Year of Faith is AMEN.

As you pray this year, seeking a new and stronger faith, express your acceptance with a strong and confident AMEN.

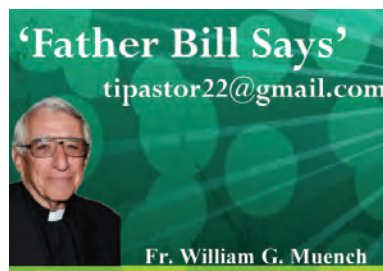
There are so many moments in life that truly bring faith alive and strengthen our faith – these are definitely AMEN moments.

Christmas is a season filled with AMEN moments, moments that challenge and strengthen faith – experiences that are faith-filled.

Jesus came as our Messiah and Savior. God promised to send a Messiah, but could anyone have expected a baby in a manger? Yet, such it was. Jesus came to be one of us – born a baby – like us all.

The Incarnation began in such a humble way. This may well be why babies are often the cause of an AMEN moment. There is something special that happens when you see or hold an infant. Truly, it is a moment when God seems very present and all too real – a faith-filled moment – an AMEN moment.

I still remember the first time I held a baby. I was a young priest, visiting my brother, Tom, and his wife, my sister-in-



law, Mary Lee. This was shortly after the birth of their first child – quite a while ago.

When I arrived, my brother was out and Mary was holding the baby and trying to do some chores. Other guests were expected also. Suddenly, she thrust the baby into my arms and went off to do some work. I was a bit startled, but something special did happen.

This baby – this breathing baby whose heart beat I could feel – produced a real spiritual experience for me as I recognized something special – the God’s presence. It was an AMEN moment.

As I think of that day again, I have held that memory a long time. That child is now 50.

As they grow up, young children trigger many AMEN moments, saying something unexpectedly profound or asking some deep question. In lit-

tle ways, they truly stir up the flames of faith.

One of the enjoyable things, I am asked to do as a priest is to celebrate a school Mass or children’s Mass. I truly love these times.

Like so many of my priest friends, I like to ask the kids questions during the homily. It is a bit of a risk yet, often one of the students will “knock my socks off” with a rather profound response or some sort of deep insight which becomes an inspiring moment – a real AMEN moment.

However, I must admit that I have experienced some real AMEN moments when I have been visiting or offering Mass at a nursing home.

Many are the times when one of the folks will tell of their gratitude to God for the gift of faith. Many have shared with me how their faith helped them to meet a difficult time in life. For me, this is an AMEN moment.

I want my faith to be strong like theirs when my time comes to meet a crisis in life.

They strengthen my faith as I see the strength of faith in their lives – as they share their stories with me.

My own faith is constantly made stronger by those to whom I minister as a priest. I learn so much from those to whom I bring the sacrament – especially those in the hospital, the sick and the aged.

They always seem to know a great deal more about faith than I do. So each time I visit them is truly an AMEN moment.

I often tell the story of a 13-year-old girl that I knew as a patient in a hospital. Although she was dying, I noticed that each time she had visitors there seemed to be all sorts of joy and laughter in her room.

One day when we were alone I asked her what was going on. I knew that she was often in pain and suffering. She confided in me, “Father, my family feels so badly when they visit – I have to cheer them up.”

Each time I remember that young girl – it is an AMEN moment for me.

Now, it is your turn. Today, stop a moment and consider the many AMEN moments that are yours. And each time you attend Mass – say your AMENs with faith and confidence to God in gratitude for this wonderful gift of faith.

LAS POSADAS



Parishioners from St. Alphonsus-Holy Name parish in Tupper Lake recently gathered for *Las Posadas*, a traditional Mexican festival which re-enacts Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. Shown, front, are Olivia Ellis and Jenna Carmichael; middle, Darlene Donnelly, Lorna Barton, Theresa Joseph, Ben Jones and Marge Bashant; and, back, Alyssa Tarbox, Dakota Larabie. Thomas Barton, Father Doug Decker, pastor; Dennis Jones and Lisa Jones.

Looking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Our faith took us beyond our North Country borders as Bishop LaValley led a pilgrimage to Catholic sites in Italy in March and to Catholic sites near Philadelphia in October.

Busloads traveled to Washington to march for life and plane-loads, particularly from the Akwesasne Mohawk reservation, flew to Rome for the canonization of St. Kateri Tekakwitha drew, the answer to lifetimes of prayer.

The final months of 2012 marked the early months of the worldwide observance of the Year of Faith, embraced wholeheartedly by

the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Following the theme "Taste again for the first time," the diocese officially launched the Year of Faith with a Nov. 18 prayer service "Witnesses of Faith."

St. Mary's Cathedral was filled to capacity as special recognition was given to three new "local" saints, St. Kateri, St. Marianne Cope of Syracuse and St. Brother Andre Bessette of Montreal.

The opportunities for pilgrimages, indulgences, celebration and education will continue as this special Year of Faith moves from 2012 to 2013.

Happy New Year of Faith to us all!

Retirement Party for Betty Bernhard

Please join us on Sunday, Jan. 13, 2013 from 2 p.m. to 4 for an open house at the Knights of Columbus as we honor Betty for her many years of service at Notre Dame as Pastoral Associate.



Week of Prayer



For Christian Unity

"WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE of US?"

Ecumenical Service

St. James Church

Carthage

Sunday, January 13, 2013

2:30 p.m.

ECUMENISM

from ancient Greek OIKOUMENIKOS:

"the people of the whole earth who live in a common house"

YEAR OF FAITH...STORY OF FAITH

Living the faith: the adventure of a lifetime

By Rachel Daly
Contributing Writer

The story of my faith is a beautiful one. When I look back, it's hard not to see the hand of God at work in it all, always drawing me closer to Himself.

Like Saint Augustine, who looked back on his life after his conversion and saw all of the ways in which God was acting in it before he even knew it, I too, in looking back, feel as if on some level, I am able to see how all the small details have been a part of God's plan to do great things in my life.

It began where it all begins—in a loving family.

My father is a person of strong integrity and remarkable sincerity, and my mother has the unmistakably gentle hand of a nurturer.

One of the most important things they taught me was to always think about others, not only myself. They taught me this in simple, everyday ways, but the effect was that I learned to see that my life and my actions extend beyond myself, and that I am part of a much bigger family than I ever realized.

I could never thank my family enough for all of the seeds of goodness that they first planted in me.

My first experience of faith came when I was a fourth grader at St. Augustine's School in Peru.

Every Lent, we would put on a



Rachel Daly is shown with Cardinal Timothy Dolan. The young woman was studying in Rome when the New York archbishop became a cardinal.

Passion Play, and the fourth graders always played the part of the crowd who demanded Jesus' crucifixion. For some reason, fourth grade me found it both powerful and distressing to clamor for the death of the Lord, and I think something of the reality that we are the ones who crucified Him sank in during that experience.

From then on, I prayed almost every day that when I was a sixth grader, I would play the part of Jesus and be the one to walk the Way of the Cross instead.

In some ways, it was a ridiculous prayer—why would they ever have a girl play the part of Jesus? But by the time I reached sixth grade, all but two of the boys in my class had transferred out, and by some action of grace, I was given the part of Jesus.



I remember feeling very close to Him at the part where He falls beneath the weight of the cross. At the time, I didn't know how to understand it, and even now I still marvel at what an impression it made on me.

Shortly afterward, my parents gave me the choice of whether I'd like to go to Catholic school or public school when I finished sixth grade at St. Augustine's, and I had the distinct feeling that God would like me to go to Catholic school.

That was the beginning—the first "yes" through which God took up permanent residence at the center of my life.

Since then, I have been blessed with a flood of experiences that have taken me on a journey I could never have imagined.

I have stood in the middle of a

crowd of two million Catholics at World Youth Day, completely overcome with joy, and I have stood in the middle of the Managua city dump in Nicaragua, overwhelmed by the destitution and poverty.

I have prayed with the pope and the cardinals, and I have prayed with homeless men on the streets of the Bronx.

I have stayed up all night studying St. Thomas Aquinas until my brain throbbed and I've stayed up all night (or so it seemed) doing all manner of crazy and fun things as a counselor at Camp Guggenheim.

I've prayed at the tombs of the saints and I've prayed outside the Dallas abortion clinics, tombs of a different sort.

Through it all, I can say that living the faith has been so gritty, so rich, and so totally the adventure of a lifetime.

As St. Augustine once said, "To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement."

When sixth grade me made the decision to believe in God, to trust Him, and to follow Him, I desired all of these things, but I had no idea that I could really find them in Him. But so far, God has fulfilled all of these desires and more, and my life is still only just beginning.

I hold nothing but hope and excitement for what the rest of my life will bring.

ST. MARY'S CAR RAFFLE



Early Bird
drawing for \$500
on Feb. 14th

Enter for your chance to win a 2013 Toyota Corolla or \$12,000 CASH!!!

(Winner pays NYS sales tax) Drawing will be held March 31, 2013.

All proceeds to benefit St. Mary's Church in Canton and its ministries.

Call the parish office at 315-386-2543 or fill out the form below for tickets.

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ADDRESS _____

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Number of Tickets _____ Amount of check \$ _____

\$20 EACH or 6 for \$100

NCC

Ecumenical service Jan. 13

CARTHAGE—The annual Diocesan Ecumenical Service will be held Jan. 13 at St. James Church beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The theme for the program is "What Does God Require of Us?" (Micah 6: 6-8)

Begun in 1908, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are days set aside each year so

that Christians the world over may share the prayer of Jesus: "that all... may be one...that the world may believe" (John 17:21).

This year's observance has been set for Jan. 18-25.

Participants of the diocesan service will include Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Father George Maroun, pastor of St. James; and the Village

Ecumenical Ministries (VEM) of Carthage area.

The Rev. Linda Harris, pastor of the United Methodist Church Three River Valley Parish, will preach and the service will be enhanced by the participation of a combined choir of Carthage area churches.

A reception will follow at Augustinian Academy.



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.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

The Slaying of the Innocents

Using prayer, love and forgiveness to face down evil

By Kristina Dean
Staff Writer

The news hit me hard. I heard while at work, and at first I thought it couldn't be right. Who would do such a thing?

Hearing it on the evening news made it more real. Sometimes being creative and having an imagination is a blessing. But it can't always be controlled.

As a teacher, I imagined the terrible event happening at my school. The trapped students, the screams, the blood. And, as a mother, I imagined it happening to my first grader. Bullets hitting small bodies, the confusion, the terror.

You see, sometimes imagination can be a curse.

Then, I became angry. How could anyone do such a vile, despicable, cowardly act. Shooting innocent babies and their teachers – how could he look into their faces as he killed them?

I hoped he was in hell, being tortured for eternity. And, I felt better imagining him there.

Then, sadness, grief. The news coverage, the names and faces. The heroes. I spent several days with tears very close to the surface constantly. And I probably will continue to cry for a while. It's so sad.

And we ask, why? Why did this happen? It goes against everything we hold dear. Our minds and hearts rebel against the idea.

Anytime anything pure and innocent is destroyed, everything good in us protests against the evil that perpetrated it. And in this event, evil was present.

Like King Herod's slaying of the innocents during Jesus' time – the devil has been around for a very long time, and anytime he can cause hatred, violence and

chaos, he will.

Evil walks this earth. Do not doubt this. One of the devil's best weapons is camouflage. The more people doubt his existence, the better he can work.

This event was clearly of his making. And so is the chaos that follows. According to St. Ignatius of Loyola, the good spirit and bad spirit are constantly at war.

The battleground is our hearts.

I had to turn the news off. But the families and the town can't do that. They can't change the channel. They can't put on a good movie to take their minds off events. They can't listen to good music to forget. It's their life. It's their loss.

I expect over the next several weeks, we will hear people point and blame. We will hear about how someone should have known. We will hear the news reports speculate about motive. We will see interviews of witnesses, first responders, teachers.

We will hear people call for gun control, changes in security at schools, no more violent video games, more medication for the mentally ill. We will hear politicians use it to further their platforms. We will hear news reporters take advantage to further their careers and stations.

The devil works through distraction, through lies, through making us so busy that we fail to see his hand at work. Don't be fooled. Don't be distracted.

The problem won't be solved by stricter laws or harsher jail sentences. The moment we get carried into arguing, political issues, and smoke screens, we become his. The problem will be solved by love.

In 1994, a woman named Immaculee Ilibagiza survived a genocide killing in Rwanda, central Africa

where more than one million people of the Tutsi tribe were killed by Hutus, mostly hacked apart with machetes.

Immaculee's entire family was killed except for one brother who was out of the country at school. She survived, hidden in a tiny bathroom with seven other women for 91 days.

Living on scraps of food, only able to flush the toilet when someone else in the house did so, and unable to talk for fear of discovery, her one comfort was praying the Rosary.

She heard the killers, who were using "kill lists" that named known Tutsis, screaming her name, constantly searching for her, at times inside the house. Protected through her prayers, the killers inexplicably didn't find the door to the hidden bathroom.

Ninety-one days later, she emerged from her bathroom chrysalis, 60 pounds lighter and spiritually transformed into someone who could see the killers through God's eyes. He made her understand that we are all His children and deserving of forgiveness. She saw the killers, even though they'd done horrible and unspeakable things, as naughty children that needed to be punished but also forgiven.

She saw a vision of Jesus dying on the cross, using his last breath to ask for forgiveness for his killers. She was able to open her heart to allow God's love to flow through her, and forgiveness as well.

If anyone deserved to hate, she did. But she allowed God's grace to work within her. Later, she had the opportunity to confront her family's killer. Seeing him sobbing on the floor, broken, pleading, she gifted him with her forgiveness. Immaculee said later it was



Immaculee Ilibagiza, who survived a genocide killing in Rwanda in 1994, signs a book in which she writes about forgiving those who killed her family and a million others of the Tutsi tribe. Kristina Dean, right, writes that this kind of forgiveness is a necessary response to the Dec. 14 school shooting in Connecticut.

the one thing she had left to give.

She could choose to wallow in hatred and revenge, but instead of succumbing in the same way as the killers, she allowed God to surround her.

She travels around the United States speaking about her absolute transformation. I have had the amazing privilege of meeting her twice, briefly. She is a creature of love and joy. The forgiveness she has found makes her shine like a beacon with God's love.

Although perhaps Immaculee's step is a big one for us, through her we can learn the lesson. With love, prayer and forgiveness, we can heal ourselves and others.

We need to come together, to pray together for strength and healing for the families. We need to pray for all those affected, the townspeople, the family of the shooter, and yes, the shooter himself.

Although it's a normal human reaction, I was wrong to imagine him suffering, to want him to suffer. "Vengeance is mine, I will repay," Romans 12:19. We need to trust that He will handle everything. I have a hard time with this, I admit. So, I pray for the desire to forgive the shooter. I pray for strength, comfort, peace and love for the whole town. I pray that we will use the grace available to us to step away from the temptations of the evil one to hate, to be angry, to focus on all his glamorous and attractive things that so easily distract us from God.

I pray that we will combat the evils of hatred, violence, jealousy with the weapons available to us – simply through prayer and love.

Pray the Rosary with me on Dec. 28 – the feast day of the Holy Innocents, killed by Herod. Pray for all the innocents that have died. Pray for the world.

BISHOP'S FUND 2012... FACES OF FAITH

Fund provides support for family life ministry

By Deacon Gary and Gayle Frank
Directors, Family Life Ministry

As we come to the end of the calendar year, we take time to pause and reflect on all the past year has given us. How blessed are we to be to serve the people of the North Country in the ministry of Family Life. What a great year we have seen. Because of your generous donations to the Bishops Fund so many people have been served by programs sponsored by the Family Life office. To name a few:

- Marriage Preparation programs/Pre-Cana: Thank you Bishops Fund for helping to build strong Catholic marriages
- Marriage Enrichment Programs: Dinner for Two's/ Six Dates plus many more parish programs, have drawn hundreds of participants during the past year. Thank you, your contributions to Bishops Fund helps to make these events happen.
- Marriage Jubilee: We gather and we celebrate with couples and their families at this occasion celebrating the sacrament of Marriage. Your Bishops Fund dollars have been at work, helping to fund this event each year for the past 30 years.
- Parish programs: What a joy to be able to go into a parish and assist in providing quality family life programs. When you give to the Bishops fund you receive so much more in return. Your parish and family benefit from these programs.
- Family Guggenheim: Each year many families attend this program designed to help strengthen and enrich families in today's world. Family Guggenheim is not just a weekend program; it offers ongoing support and friendship to walk with each other as we strive to raise our children.

Without your generous support through the Bishops Fund this program would not happen. Thank you!!!

At the end of this calendar year our Bishops Fund is at almost 91% of its goal. I know that our family is very grateful for all that the agencies of the Bishops Fund have done to help support us through the years. If you have already given this year, thank you. If you would like to give more, thank you so much. "Faces of Faith" hundreds and hundreds of wonderful "Faces of Faith" Thank you all for your support of Family Life Ministry in our diocese.

A Christmas Prayer for Your Family

Let us Pray...Heavenly Father, you gave us the best Christmas present ever, your Son, Jesus, to teach us how to love. To teach us the important things of life, like patience, kindness, forgiveness and joy. He came as a baby into a family, a family a lot like ours...not because it was perfect, but because together they sought to know and do your will. That's what you want us to do, isn't it? Our hearts are Christ's birthplace, our family is His Home. Help us be the best at making Him feel welcome, at making anyone who comes into our home feel welcome. And help us to learn how to love one another, even when it's difficult, no, especially when it's difficult, for Christ teaches us how. And, in this Year of Faith, help us to grow in holiness and in truth. We know it's much easier when we are all working at loving each other. Keep all of us safe, even those who aren't able to be here with us. We're still family, you know. And as we pray, "thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done" help it to happen in "me," in "us," as it is in Heaven. "For the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever." AMEN.

Bishop's Schedule

Dec. 26 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Dec. 27 – 12:10 p.m., Mass and luncheon with the seminarians of the Diocese of Ogdensburg at St. Mary's Church in Canton

Dec. 28 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

Dec. 30 – 11 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Jan. 1 – 9 a.m., Mass Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Jan. 3 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg
6 p.m., Dinner with Jefferson Deanery Priests in Watertown

Jan. 4 – 11 a.m., Mass at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

Jan. 5 – 8:30 a.m., Canon law class for deacon candidates at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg
10:30a.m., Meeting with wives of deacon candidates at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Jan. 6 – 8 a.m., Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Massena
9:30 a.m., Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Massena
11a.m., Mass at St. Lawrence Church in Louisville

Jan. 7 – 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg

Jan. 8 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council meeting at the Bishop's Residence

Rest in Peace

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

Dec. 26 – Rev. Aloysius Hyacinth McMahon, 1936

Dec. 27 – Rev. Hollis David Burns, 1936; Rev. Henry Gilbeau, O.F.M. Conv., 1978

Dec. 28 – Msgr. John M. Waterhouse, 1995; Rev. Eugene J. Beaudet, 2004; Rev. Howard P. McCasland, 2010

Dec. 29 – Rev. John A. Mullen, 1887

Dec. 30 – Rev. Jean Baptiste Lemerrier, 1863; Rev. Sam D'Angelo, O.S.A., 1961; Deacon Victor Demers, 2003

Dec. 31 – Rev. Joseph Butler, 1894; Rev. Benedict Granottier, 1930; Msgr. Clarence A. Kitts, 1949

Jan. 1 – Rev. Earl Leo Taylor, 1974

Jan. 2 – Rev. Henry William McFadden, 1978; Deacon Robert J. LeClair, 2009

Jan. 3 – Rev. A. J. M. Viau, 1966; Rev. Hilary Neal, O.P., 1986

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

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

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

Jan. 7 – Rev. Leonidas Geoffrion, 1954

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

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

Protecting God's Children

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button.

Jan. 12 – 6:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Church, Watertown

Jan. 24 – 7:30 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope advances sainthood causes of Pope Paul VI and 850 others

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI advanced the sainthood cause of Pope Paul VI by recognizing the Italian pope as having lived the Christian virtues in a heroic way. He also recognized a miracle attributed to the intercession of an Italian martyr who, with an estimated 800 other people, died at the hands of Ottoman invaders in the 15th century, and he recognized a miracle attributed to the first blessed to be born, live and die in Colombia, Blessed Mother Laura Montoya. They now can be declared saints. The pope also formally recognized the martyrdom of 33 victims of the Spanish Civil War and advanced the causes of 18 other men and women. During a meeting Dec. 20 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, the pope signed the decree approving the heroic virtues of Pope Paul VI, making him "venerable." Before Pope Paul can be beatified, the Vatican must recognize that a miracle has occurred through his intercession. Born Giovanni Battista Montini 1897 in the northern Italian province of Brescia, Pope Paul VI is probably best remembered for seeing the Second Vatican Council through to its end and helping implement its far-reaching reforms. He is also well remembered as the author of "Humanae Vitae," his 1968 encyclical reaffirming church teaching that artificial birth control is intrinsically wrong, which became a focus of controversy and dissent. Amid the strains and pressures following Vatican II, he received the nickname the "Hamlet pope," for his reportedly anguished decision-making and his evident suffering over problems of the church. However, he was also remembered as a strong leader who decisively guided the church through a time of crisis.

New collection seen as boost for Archdiocese for the Military Services

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The head of the Archdiocese for the Military Services is expecting greater financial stability and less pressure on the delivery of ministries and services once funds from a new national collection hit the books in 2013. Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio said the collection, approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops during the fall general assembly, is projected to raise at least \$10 million when it is taken every three years in participating dioceses. The collection is likely to be taken near Veterans Day in November, beginning in 2013. Funds would be used to help pay off the \$1.8 million mortgage on the archdiocesan headquarters in Washington's Brookland neighborhood and establish an endowment for future needs. Both steps are expected to ease some of the pressure of having to raise \$4.5 million to \$5.5 million annually from private donors for the archdiocese's operation, Archbishop Broglio told Catholic News Service. "I think caring for military personnel is a concern of most American Catholics, and I think they will be generous," he said. The military services archdiocese is responsible for many of the same services and ministries as any other diocese. Its staffers minister not just to soldiers, but their families as well. "The Archdiocese for the Military Services basically provides all the services that a Catholic territorial diocese would provide except that our people, rather than being members of a diocese or archdiocese because of where they are located, they are members because of who they are," Archbishop Broglio said.

'Sacramental sense' of priest's response after shooting called powerful

By Beth Griffin
Catholic News Service

RYE, N.Y. (CNS) - The "sacramental sense" of a Catholic pastor's outreach after the horrific violence that took place at a Connecticut elementary school "has brought the church to bear in the most intimate and powerful way," said the director of communications for the Diocese of Bridgeport, Conn.

"It's hard to sum up how powerful his witness and testimony have been, both locally and nationally," Brian D. Wallace told Catholic News Service in describing Msgr. Robert Weiss, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church in Newtown.

"He has brought a sense of God and the beginning of healing to everything he has done under considerable stress," Wallace said in a telephone interview Dec. 17. "He was the first clergy present at the school, before the world knew what happened. He kept his composure and he worked with families."

Wallace said Msgr. Weiss was "stunned by the faith of the parents who lost children. People who lose the most sometimes give the most." He added the courage, openness and determination of the parents is a gift to the priest.

Msgr. Weiss, his two priest associates, and men and women from the parish staff have "brought tremendous comfort to families," Wallace said.

Efforts by CNS to reach parish staff members for interviews have been unsuccessful.

St. Rose of Lima has taken center stage in the aftermath of the shooting massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School Dec. 14, which left 20 children and seven adults

dead.

Parishioners and community members gathered for a prayer vigil the night of the shootings and flocked to Sunday Masses seeking solace. They looked to Msgr. Weiss and his staff and other Catholic leaders for pastoral outreach in the aftermath of the violence.

Eighteen children died at the school and two others died after they had been rushed to the hospital. All of the children were first-graders. The adults included the principal and five teachers, as well as the gunman.

Police officials identified the shooter as Adam Lanza, 20, and said he killed himself as first responders arrived on the scene.

Many of the dead were Catholic and were known in the St. Rose parish family. Wallace said funerals for eight of the children and one of the adults were being scheduled at St. Rose. Two funerals were taking place Dec. 18.

Mary Sherlach, the Sandy Hook school psychologist, will be buried from St. Stephen Church in Trumbull, Conn., where she was an active parishioner. The shooter and his mother were members of St. Rose, but there are no plans at this time to hold funerals for either at the Newtown church, Wallace told CNS.

The diocesan response to the tragedy is based on its experience with earlier traumatic events. Its Catholic Charities agency has a crisis team that works closely with the diocesan safe environments staff.

"Catholic Charities has a very strong behavioral health component, staffed by Catholic professionals. Over the last 10 years, it has evolved as a resource to deal with crises," Wallace said.

The first response is often

presence and prayer, followed by helping people to cope, he continued. "Counseling may not be needed right away. There will be more help down the line."

"Our Catholic Charities have worked with Catholic school teachers to give them a better handle on how to deal with their fears and our Safe Environments director has talked with some of the parents who lost children," Wallace said. "The priests are grateful to have that help within our own system."

The agency has provided counseling services to the Newtown community through schools and individual house visits.

"We are welcomed by people of all faiths and backgrounds. The outreach is unusual, but the situation is more than unusual," Al Barber, president of Catholic Charities, told CNS in a Dec. 20 phone interview.

"Word has spread far and wide that we're there for the people," he said.

The same day, Catholic Charities arranged to establish a trauma and grief counseling center at a retreat house on the grounds of Immaculate High School in Danbury, Conn. Barber said the facility will open by the middle of January and will offer individual, family and group counseling.

Barber said other Catholic Charities groups have offered to send counselors. They include Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Charities from the Denver Archdiocese and the dioceses of Albany, N.Y., Fort Worth, Texas, and Hartford and Norwich, Conn.

Priests from neighboring parishes responded immediately to the crisis and helped the pastoral staff at St. Rose console families and celebrate Mass, according to Wallace.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

A day to celebrate Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Every year, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary, & Joseph - on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas. And that means a celebration of family life—births, weddings, funerals, anniversaries.

In the first reading, we hear about a joyful birth - that of Samuel. After years of prayer, Hannah and Elkanah are granted a son.

As soon as Samuel is weaned, the mother fulfills her promise and gives him up to the Lord's service at the shrine at Shiloh. What's the point?

Trusting in the Lord bears fruit. Children are a gift from God, and they always belong to God. Parents do not own their children.

They are guardians to whom God entrusts their education and upbringing.

So we call Jesus and Mary and Joseph the Holy Family, and paintings always place a halo over their heads.

In order for us to see how this family encountered problems just like other families, the Gospel chosen for this Sunday is about Jesus' boyhood years.

Joseph is by now a carpenter in Nazareth, and Mary is a busy housewife and mother of a teenager!

As parents, Mary and Joseph are well aware of their responsibilities. Being God's divine Son does not prevent Jesus, however, from acting with all the inexperience and spontaneous behaviour of any normal

twelve-year-old. What an exciting experience for a boy from a small town to travel to Jerusalem for the Feast. Fascinated with the learned teachers He found in the Temple, he loses track of time and, like most teenagers, doesn't think about the terror that a missing child can cause for parents. After three frantic days of searching, they find him, only to hear Jesus rather naively ask, "Didn't you realize I had to be in my Father's house?"

No, they don't understand, but they tuck it away in their hearts, along with a lot of other unanswered questions. Mary and Joseph, like millions of other parents, were acting as good, responsible caregivers who are having difficulty understanding their son. So what else is new! Teenagers don't understand themselves either. Was



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

DEC. 30

The Feast of the Holy Family

READINGS

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

Jesus just carried away with impatience to start His ministry? For Joseph and Mary, the fact that Jesus was divine made his actions all the more mystifying to them.

What Jesus did after that is really the great lesson for all families - He humbly bowed to their authority. When he saw how upset they were, he promptly left the Temple, and went back obediently to Nazareth where he "advanced in age and grace and wisdom".

The second reading gives a great recipe for successful family relationships. What makes a family "holy"? It's

all so simple? Just love, communicate with, and forgive one another, and keep the commandments!

Of course, simple answers like that are the hardest to accept!

John says we must believe in the Son and keep his commandments. Joseph was totally committed to heading this "holy family" because the Angel told him to; Mary, at the risk of her reputation, gave birth to Jesus, and was a faithful, protective mother because God wanted it. And Jesus was a faithful son, subservient to human parents because his heavenly Father willed it so!

Our families would find their disagreements, stressful relationships, and resentments that spoil the joy of family harmony so much easier to solve by imitating the faith and loving trust of the Holy Family.

VATICAN LETTER

In 2012, the pope called for liberty, evangelization

By Francis X. Rocca
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Benedict XVI turned 85 in April, and while he certainly showed signs of age -- in March he started walking with a cane on some public occasions -- he kept up a busy schedule throughout 2012, traveling to three foreign countries, presiding over a Synod of Bishops and turning out yet another bestselling book.

Following are 10 highlights of the pope's year:

1. At consistories in February and November, the pope created a total of 28 new members of the College of Cardinals. The first group included Cardinals Timothy M. Dolan of New York; Edwin F. O'Brien, a former archbishop of Baltimore; and Thomas C. Collins of Toronto. The second group was notable for its global character: new cardinals from Asia, Africa and the Americas, which the pope said showed the church "speaks in the various cultures of the different continents." Among the second group was Cardinal James M. Harvey, a former prefect of the papal household and a native of Milwaukee.

2. Visiting Latin America in March, Pope Benedict told Mexicans that no secular ideology can free the region from poverty, violence and other social problems without faith in Christ. Human

rights activists complained about the pope's decision not to meet with political dissidents in Cuba, but during his visit he appealed for greater religious liberty under the Communist regime and persuaded President Raul Castro to make Good Friday a national holiday.

3. In four speeches from January to May, the pope told U.S. bishops visiting the Vatican that the church must engage all the more closely with America's increasingly secular society for the benefit of the entire nation, by defending values that include religious liberty, sexual morality and the traditional definition of marriage.

4. The year's biggest public distraction for the pope and his collaborators was surely the so-called "VatiLeaks" affair, over the publication of private papal correspondence and other documents, some of them alleging mismanagement and corruption within the Vatican. The news became a global story following the May arrest of the pope's butler, whom a Vatican court in October found guilty of aggravated theft for his role in the leaks.

5. The Vatican made several high-profile moves to reinforce the religious identity of Catholic institutions. In May, it announced a major reform of the U.S. Leadership Conference of Women Religious, to ensure the group's fidelity to Catholic teaching in areas including abortion, euthanasia,

women's ordination and homosexuality. The same month, the Vatican tightened its control of Caritas Internationalis, the global confederation of Catholic aid agencies. In December, the pope issued new rules designed to ensure that the activities of Catholic charities conform to church doctrine.

6. The pope's September visit to Lebanon came at a moment of heightened tension in the region, with a civil war under way in neighboring Syria and an American-made anti-Islamic film inspiring often-violent protests in several Muslim countries. But the pope's calls for peace and religious liberty for the region's Christians drew a warm response across sectarian and political lines in Lebanon, turning the risky trip into a clear success for Vatican diplomacy.

7. For three weeks in October, the world Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization brought more than 260 bishops and religious superiors to the Vatican, along with dozens of official observers and experts, to discuss how the church can revive and spread the faith in increasingly secular societies. Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, the synod's relator, expressed the gathering's urgent tone when he decried the "tsunami of secular influence that has swept across the cultural landscape" of the West.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AT THE MOVIES

LES MISERABLES

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

If your Christmas wish list includes a lavish, big-budget musical crafted in the classic Hollywood manner, then "Les Miserables" (Universal) is just the ticket.

This rousing entertainment offers something for everyone: soaring anthems, tear-jerking romance, thrilling drama -- and a positive portrayal of the Catholic faith.

In fact, this faithful adaptation of the Victor Hugo novel, which was transformed into a worldwide stage sensation by impresario Cameron Mackintosh, is a deeply moral story. Characters rise and fall calling on God for grace and mercy, seeking personal redemption while trying to better the lives of others.

As the central character, ex-convict Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman), comes to realize, "To love another person is to see the face of God."

Director Tom Hooper

("The King's Speech") paints with an enormous brush and "Les Miserables" is staged on an epic scale, overstuffed with grand set pieces and hundreds of extras. Hooper's fondness for extreme close-ups heightens the emotional wallop, and will likely send some viewers scrambling for tissues.

The labyrinthine story spans two decades in post-revolutionary France and revolves around three characters: Valjean, who breaks his probation and seeks a fresh start; Inspector Javert (Russell Crowe), obsessed with finding Valjean and bringing him to justice; and the doomed Fantine (Anne Hathaway), who sacrifices everything for the care of her out-of-wedlock daughter, Cosette (Isabelle Allen).

The kindness of a Catholic bishop (Colm Wilkinson) convinces Valjean to amend his life. Over time, he changes his identity, becoming the benevolent mayor of a village and a factory owner. When Fantine is unjustly fired from his factory

and forced into a life of prostitution, Valjean steps in, promising the now-dying woman that he will raise Cosette as his own.

Cosette has been living with the Thenardiers (Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter), wicked tavern owners and professional pickpockets. Their collusion with Javert makes for a narrow escape for Valjean.

Years pass, and Cosette has blossomed into a refined young woman (Amanda Seyfried). On a Paris street she meets a young revolutionary, Marius (Eddie Redmayne). It's love at first sight, much to the chagrin of fellow rebel Epouine (Samantha Barks), who happens to be the Thenardiers' daughter.

Can Cosette and Marius' love survive the rising tensions of the mob, as streets are barricaded and weapons drawn? Is Javert closing in on Valjean at long last? "Les Miserables" barrels along to a satisfying climax that is profound in its endorsement of the power of faith.

With little spoken dia-



CNS PHOTO/UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Hugh Jackman and Anne Hathaway star in a scene from "Les Miserables," the big-screen adaptation of the long-running stage show.

logue and 50 songs from composer Claude-Michel Shonberg, and lyricist Herbert Kretzmer, "Les Miserables" is more opera than musical. Fortunately the actors' pipes are up to the challenge, especially Hathaway, whose heartbreaking rendition of the signature tune, "I Dreamed a Dream," is sensational.

The film contains scenes of bloody violence, a prostitution theme, and non-graphic nonmarital sexual activity. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

In 2012

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

8. Pope Benedict marked the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council and the start of a special Year of Faith by celebrating Mass in St. Peter's Square Oct. 11. About 400 bishops from around the world, including 15 of the 70 surviving members of the council, attended. In his homily, the pope called on Catholics to revive the "authentic spirit" of Vatican II by re-proposing the church's ancient teachings to an increasingly Godless modern world.

9. Just in time for Christmas, publishers released "Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives," the third and final volume in

the pope's popular series on Jesus' life and teachings. Although some reports portrayed the pope as a spoilsport for noting that the Gospels do not mention the presence of animals at the Nativity, the book's subject matter and short length help make it one of the most accessible among its scholarly author's more than 60 works.

10. Only a day after Pope Benedict inaugurated his Twitter accounts on Dec. 12, he had already attracted 1.7 million followers. Vatican officials said that show of interest, and the serious questions on faith submitted to the pope by thousands of users, made his foray into social media worth the inevitable dose of hostile commentary.

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holiness of your Son, Jesus,
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you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

Mass
Rosary
Fasting
Day Offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of Sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord
inspires you to offer Him

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Holy Name
Of Jesus

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OGDENSBURG, NY

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CLINTON

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

Theme: "They fell down and worshipped Him' (Mt 2:11). While the Magi acknowledged and worshipped the baby that Mary cradled in her arms as the One awaited by the nations and foretold by prophets, today we can also worship Him in the Eucharist, and acknowledge Him as our Creator, our only Lord and Savior." (Bl. John Paul II, August 6, 2004) New Year's Resolution—Spend an hour with Jesus!

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

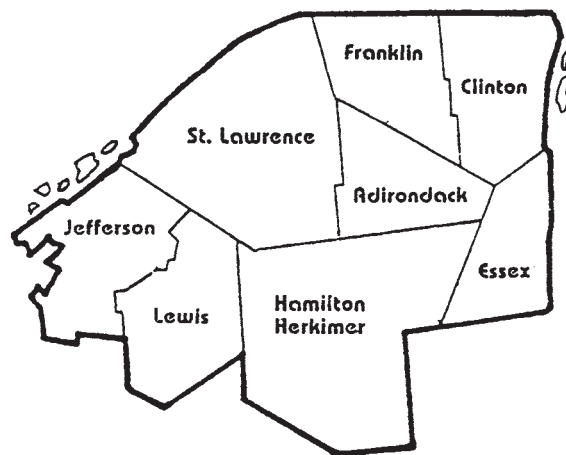
PRAYER MEETING

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



The **North Country Catholic** welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese". Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:
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Items must be received in the **NCC** office by the Thursday before publication.

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

SOAKING PRAYER

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

Date: Every 3rd Monday.

Time: 10 a.m. to 11

Features: Participants are immersed in prayer with individual prayer time

SOAKING PRAYER

Plattsburgh – Soaking Prayer is offered every second and fourth Wednesday of the month under the direction of the Living Water's Healing Ministry.

Time: 10 a.m. to 11:30

Place: Upper room at St. Peters

Features: A quiet prayerful environment, to be soaked in God's love

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Keeseville – The Keeseville Altar Rosary Society will sponsor a Sunday weekly Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament.

Time: 1 p.m. to 4

Place: Immaculate Conception Church

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP

Sciota – Monthly prayer group to be held second Friday of the month.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: To be determined, contact Nancy Monette at 561-8225 for details

Features: praying the Rosary, The Divine Chaplet, centering around creative prayer and music.

JEFFERSON

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 on infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480; website: www.liferight.org.

LEWIS

INTERNATIONAL CRÈCHES

Houseville - St. Hedwig's Parish is presenting an exhibit of Christmas Crèches (Nativities) from around the world.

Dates: Dec. 30 and Jan. 6

Time: after 11 a.m. Mass and between 1 p.m. and 3.

Features: See the universality of Christ and Christmas through the eyes of many different cultures. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Contact: 348-6260.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville-Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of January will be held.

Date: Jan. 6

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers, (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

YEAR OF FAITH WORKSHOP

Ogdensburg – Father Garry Giroux will present a workshop entitled: The Year of Faith: Anniversaries, Events, or More?

Date: Jan. 16

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral's Bishop Brzana Memorial Hall

Features: The goal of the workshop is to assist participants in fostering an encounter with Christ and a deeper understanding of the truths of our faith.

K OF C BRUNCH

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

Date: Jan. 13

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center

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

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

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

Date: Jan. 5

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Features: Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace will be prayed fol-

lowed by a 15 minute private meditation on the Glorious Mysteries. Confessions begin at 2:45 p.m. and the Saturday Vigil Mass is at 4 p.m.

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

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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

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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DIOCESAN ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Carthage – The annual diocesan Ecumenical Service has been planned.

Date: Jan. 13

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: St. James Church

Place: St. James Church.

Program: Participants of the diocesan service will include Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Father George Maroun, pastor of St. James; and the Village Ecumenical Ministries (VEM) of Carthage area. The Rev. Linda Harris, pastor of the United Methodist Church Three River Valley Parish, will preach on the theme, "What Does God Require of Us?" (Micah 6: 6-8). The service will be enhanced by the participation of a combined choir of Carthage area churches. A reception will follow at Augustinian Academy.

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The World Mission Rosary

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

The World Mission Rosary, The Year of Faith and You! Introduce your family and friends, especially the young people in your life – children and grandchildren, nieces, nephews and godchildren – to the World Mission Rosary. Read below of its history and its connection to the Year of Faith.

With renewed energy to the mission of the whole Church, as he announced a Year of Faith which began October 11, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI will focus on its ultimate purpose. That "renewed energy," he observed, would be directed "to lead men and women out of the desert...toward friendship with Christ who gives us fullness of life." During the Year of Faith, the Pope has asked all of us to be part of a great Prayer Movement focused on the person of Jesus Christ and faith in Him.

This Prayer Movement to which we are all called will be centered on the World Mission Rosary.

WHAT IS THE WORLD MISSION ROSARY? In 1951, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen created the World Mission Rosary. Each decade of the World Mission Rosary represents a different area of the world where missionaries continue to share the Good News of Jesus.

Each decade of that World Mission Rosary calls to mind an area where the Church continues her evangelizing mission: green for the forests and grasslands of Africa; blue for the ocean surrounding the islands of the Pacific; white symbolizing Europe, the seat of the Holy Father, shepherd of the world; red calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas and yellow, the morning light of the East, for Asia.

Archbishop Sheen himself linked this Rosary to the missionary work of the Church and to the Holy Father. Praying this Rosary, he explained in that radio broadcast, would "aid the Holy Father and his Society for the Propagation of the Faith by supplying him with practical support, as well as prayers, for the poor mission territories of the world." "When the Rosary is completed, one has...embraced all continents, all people in prayer," he added. "Won't you please make a tour of the world on your World Mission Rosary?"

To pray the World Mission Rosary, reflect on each area of the world according to the particular color bead described above at the time you announce each Mystery. When you have completed the World Mission Rosary, you have given the World a big hug! What about praying on my favorite rosary? Yes, remember a continent on each decade of your favorite rosary as you pray for your special intentions.

World Mission Rosaries are available while supplies last in the Mission Office by calling 315-393-2920.

OBITUARIES

Brasher Falls – Mary Ann (Clark) Douglas, 79; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Cadyville – Bernard H. "Ben" Hayes, 86; Funeral Service Dec. 21, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in Assumption Cemetery, Redford.

Canton – Virginia M. (Dafae) Buffham, 87; Funeral Services Dec. 15, 2012 at O'Leary Funeral Home.

Chateaugay – Harold C. Miller, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Immaculate Heart of Mary Cemetery.

Chateaugay – David W. Vondell, 42; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church.

Churubusco – Eva (Decosse, LaClair) Tailon; Funeral Services Dec. 18, 2012 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Croghan – Catherine I. Zimmer, 88; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2012 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephens's Cemetery.

Edwards – Janet Ann (Wiese) Bullock, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2012 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Gouverneur – John E. Smith, 64; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2012 at French Funeral

Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Dekalb.

Hogansburg – Walter F. White, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Brasher Falls.

Long Lake – Cecilia Elizabeth Godin, 84; Funeral Services Dec. 13, 2012 at St. Henry's Church; burial in Long Lake Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Mark Steven Cook, 52; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2012 at Frary Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – Joan A. (Butler) Cutway, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 19, 2012 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – Mary (Brown) Silver, 91; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2012 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Ruth A. Macey, 74; Funeral Dec. 19, 2012 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Port Henry – Clarence Anthony Bordeau, 39; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church.

Potsdam – Annie "Gert" (Maguire) Adams, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 18, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Potsdam – Kelly Ann Haley, 51; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2012 at Garner Funeral Service.

Potsdam – Patricia Jane (Thompson) White, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 15, 2012 at St. Mary's Church.

Watertown – Eloise L. (Castagnier) Emerson, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2012 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

Watertown – M. Eleanor Peggs, 89; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2012 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – John H. Sheehan, 99; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown – Rosemary E. Sinclair, 59; Funeral Dec. 19, 2012 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



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You Will Be Remembered In Our Prayers.*

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