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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

APRIL 11, 2012

## Responding to Christ's sacrifice

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The truly Christian response to Christ's death and resurrection must be the dedication of one's life and one's time to building a relationship with Jesus and being grateful for the gift of salvation, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"In this Holy Week, the Lord Jesus will renew the

greatest gift we could possibly imagine: he will give us his life, his body and his blood, his love," the pope said April 1, celebrating Palm Sunday in St. Peter's Square.

"We must respond worthily to so great a gift, that is to say, with the gift of ourselves, our time, our prayer, our entering into a profound

communion of love with Christ who suffered, died and rose for us," Pope Benedict said.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said the disciples and crowds who followed Jesus to Jerusalem had their own idea of who Jesus was and what difference he would make in their lives and the

life of Israel.

In fact, he said, the vast majority of them were disappointed he did not live up to their expectations and they went - in a space of a few days - from acclaiming him as Messiah as he entered Jerusalem to calling for his crucifixion or running away frightened.

### CHRIST IS RISEN

#### Easter blessings



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

The Resurrection is depicted in "Christ Risen from the Tomb," a painting by Italian Renaissance artist Bergognone. The artwork is from the Samuel H. Kress Collection at the National Gallery of Art in Washington. Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, was April 8 in the Latin-rite church this year. In his message for Easter, Bishop LaValley wrote, "Easter Sunday comes as surely as the dawn. As a resurrection people, we breathe the pure air of everlasting life. Death has been overcome. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the beyond, the infinite, the eternal...."

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Divine Mercy Sunday

Catholics across the diocese will celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy with parish devotions April 15.

The devotions originated in the late 1930's by St. Faustina Kowalska who said that she had a vision of Jesus in which he asked for devotions to divine mercy on the Sunday after Easter.

Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina in 2000 and declared the Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday.

Parish celebrations are listed on this week's "Around the Diocese" page

FULL STORY, PAGE 14

## 'Too Few in the Pew'

Workshops to be held

April 14-16 in three

sites in the diocese

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## HOORAY FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS!



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Children from Holy Family School in Malone reenacted the events of Palm Sunday as part of their observance of Holy Week. Shown are Slade Gonyea, Ryan Hesselstine, Brady Fitzpatrick, Liam Davis, Chloe LaBelle, Olivia Laflesh, Maisie Smallman, center: Evan Gratton (donkey), Alex Randall (Jesus), and Porter Wood (donkey). Catholic schools across the diocese are now accepting registration for the school year that begins in September. See special features on pages 4 through 9.

**A TRIP 'ABROAD':** Local youth ministers join Canadian gathering... p. 10



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COUNTRY  
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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## A gift that truly lasts a lifetime

I've been a big fan of Catholic schools since my first day in first grade with Sister St. Thomas and 40 other scared/excited six year olds.

Those were the days when there were so many families who wanted to send their children to Bishop Conroy Memorial School in Ogdensburg that there just wasn't room to fit a kindergarten.

Those were also the days when it wasn't necessary to send kids to school to be socialized with other children.

Nearly every Catholic home I knew was filled with children of all ages!

We all had to learn to play well with others... or else!

Like our public school friends, we learned all the necessary reading, writing and arithmetic skills but we also took away something else: a reinforcement of the Catholic faith that we all practiced with our families at home.

Catholic schools were critical back in the 1960s and they are critical still but, alas, with fewer children, fewer Religious teachers and higher expenses, too many of our schools are on the "critical list."

Since most of us aren't in a position to spread millions of dollars around to keep those doors open, the one thing we can do is

encourage young parents to choose a Catholic education for their precious little ones.

This week's *NCC* offers a few helpful "talking points."

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg lead our children towards lives of faith (p. 1), service (p. 5), good health (p. 7) and academic excellence.

The words of Chris Hornbarger, the executive system administrator of IHC in Watertown, can be taken to heart by us all.

He offers "ten reasons to send your child to IHC schools" which, with just a little tweaking, could fit any Catholic school in northern New York.

My favorite point is his first one: IHC, he says, is "A gift that lasts a lifetime."

"We like to say IHC offers students 'A Foundation for Life,'" Mr. Hornbarger writes. "It's true. What we teach is not about the 'next rung on the ladder' - performing on the Regents, the SAT, getting into a good college, or winning a scholarship (though we've got a great track record in these areas). What we offer lasts a lifetime - a guideline for life, grounded in Christian virtues, that only grows stronger over time."

Sounds like a pretty good gift to me!

Mary Lou  
Kilian

## Welcome Spring

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

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## CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

## Divine Mercy

2nd Sunday of Easter - April 14-15

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ

Director of Evangelization

"Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia!" Jesus, who reaches out to Thomas' weak faith, offered him divine mercy and peace. It was through these locked doors that He appeared to the frightened disciples to alleviate their fears, to strengthen their faith, and to offer reconciliation and peace. Like the disciples, we experience fears and brokenness. When fear sets in, our hearts become locked and no one can enter in. This is what happened to Thomas as well as to the other apostles. What Jesus desired from Thomas was faith in Him at a time when there was no visible sign of Jesus' presence. The risen Lord said, "You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe" (John 20:29)! To believe in Jesus is to accept and to be open to all the possibilities that God has in store for us, even if we do not visibly see clearly the road ahead.

In the second reading from John, he tells us that we are all begotten by God. We are His children. There is no need to fear. The way to break down the barriers and boundaries that separate us from one another is to love another. What we often fear is the hurt, the judgment, the remark that closes us out from a deeper relationship with the other. We close the door, afraid to go out, and fear to let others enter in.

What we share in common as a family of faith is the gift of the Holy Spirit, the very gift of the Risen Lord, who would empower Thomas and the Apostles the gift of peace to unlock the door of our hearts. With the Spirit we participate in God's great work of reconciliation.

The Church, through the gift of the sacrament of Holy Orders, the ordained priest offers the family of faith, the opportunity to forgive sins. It is through the gift of the community of believers that we offer one another forgiveness and reconciliation. Each follower of Christ is baptismally called to exercise this ministry. It is the heart of Jesus' ministry. It is the very foundation of community. It is the gift of shalom—peace—the wholeness of being connected again with the Risen Lord and with the community of believers. It is being in relationship with our God whose love unlocks the door to bring peace. It is the peace of Christ that the world cannot give; rather it is a peace that strengthens our faith to go out and to be a sign of Christ's presence and peace to one another. This takes courage.

Reconciliation and forgiveness is not an easy ministry. We are always in process. This means we have to be open to change, but also, we have to be open that others have changed as well. The Risen Lord has left us His gift of the Holy Spirit to form and to shape us into becoming a reconciling community of love. Who we are and what we do continues the mission of Jesus' forgiveness and reconciliation.

This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. Your Deanery or parish will be celebrating the mercy of God through prayer and the Sacrament of Penance. Bring someone who would like to receive the Sacrament of Penance and experience the forgiveness of sins and God's peace. We, too, like Thomas, have seen the Lord. Now let us, like Thomas, share our good news with others who have not yet met the Lord. "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting" (Ps. 118).

*Locked in unbelief;  
Peace unlocks fear;  
Peace brings insight  
To see with faith!  
Lord, that I might see!  
My Lord and my God!*



FOLLOW ME

# The 'Day of the Lord' is our day, too

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:**

The resurrection itself was never in doubt—God cannot die. But the surprise and gift of Easter is that the resurrection is for us, too!

Jesus has been raised in our flesh and blood. It is our death that has been defeated.

This is truly the 'Day of the Lord.' But it is our day, too, for Jesus shares with us the fruits of His victory. As we walk through life, we become increasingly aware of our mortality and the inevitable journey towards death. Death constitutes a huge challenge to our faith, for we see beyond death only as through a darkened glass.

Good Friday, day of darkness and death, comes to everyone.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley

So does Holy Saturday, that day of emptiness and sorrow. On such days it's difficult to believe, to trust, to remain faithful.

But Easter Sunday comes as surely as the dawn.

As a resurrection people, we breathe the pure air of everlasting life. Death has been overcome. In His love for us, God draws us outwards into the unknown, the beyond, the infinite, the eternal.

We go forward more confidently and hopefully because Jesus our Brother has gone ahead of us.

While we may stumble and fall on our personal journeys, let us never lose hope in the God who saves us.

Let us be Church for one another, adults and youth, clergy and lay, individuals who

truly care for one another's well-being. When we love, accept, and forgive one another, we allow the splendor of Christ's resurrection to scatter the shadows that darken the lives of our sisters and brothers.

Let us all walk together in radiant hope, following the risen Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

May you and your loved ones rejoice in the hope and peace that our Risen Savior has won for all of us. A blessed Easter to you and your family!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg

## 'Too Few in the Pew' begins

Franciscan Sister Louise Alff, former director of Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with a special focus on Parish Evangelization, will be presenting a workshop across the Diocese called "Too Few in the Pew" from April 14-16

Sister Louise will share practical strategies to learn practical ways to invite someone to 'take another look'; recognize signs of openness to discuss the

faith, identify the best approach for different needs, and to recognize everyday opportunities to invite people to join the Catholic Church.

Registration for the workshop may be made through pastors or Sister Mary Eamon at [elyng@dioogdensburg.org](mailto:elyng@dioogdensburg.org) or call 393-2920 Ext. 380.

The schedule follows:  
Jefferson/Lewis/Hamilton-

**Herkimer Deaneries**

Augustinian Academy, Carthage, April 14, 10 a.m. to 12.

**St. Lawrence/Franklin Deaneries**

Trinity School, Massena, April 15, 2 p.m. to 4

**Clinton/Adirondack/Hamilton-Herkimer/Essex Deaneries**

St. Peter's Emmaus Hall, Plattsburgh, April 16, 1p.m. to 3 AND 7 p.m. to 9



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## Founders' Day

A Celebration of the Sisters of Saint Joseph Immaculate Heart Academy, and Immaculate Heart Central Schools

**April 21, 2012**

You are cordially invited to the Founders' Day 2012 Dinner  
Saturday, April 21, 2012, 6:00 p.m.  
Savory Café in the Best Western/Carriage House Inn, Watertown  
Black-Tie Optional  
Presentation of:  
"The Foundation for Life" Distinguished Alumnus Award  
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Sponsorship opportunities are available.

**IHC Schools: A Foundation for Life**



# Looking ahead

*It's registration time for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg*

By Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSI  
Superintendent of Schools

In late winter or early spring Catholic school principals conduct registrations for the next academic year. Registration packets are sent home, or posted on line, open houses are held, parents who currently have their children in a Catholic school are asked to bring a friend who is unfamiliar with a Catholic school for a school visit and thus get an inside look at a Catholic school. In March and April principals are looking ahead to the next academic year!

It may seem early to start the process, but projected school budgets for the following school year are connected to student enrollment. Thus, principals across the diocese are encouraging parents to register their children for next year.

Speaking to teachers from his own Diocese of Rome, the Holy Father described in detail the challenges faced by today's parents and teachers. "Daily experience tells us", the Pope said, "that precisely in our day education in the faith is not an easy undertaking. Increasing difficulty is encountered in transmitting the basic values of life and correct behavior to the new generations."

Catholic schools do far more than teach students how to read and write, add and use the newest tools of technology. They go beyond training them in the technical skills necessary for a particular profession. They pass on the "basic values of life and correct behavior" needed to live well.

Although each school will offer parents compelling reasons for choosing it, our fifteen Dioc-



STAFF PHOTO/SHAN MOORE

Gavin-Joseph Webb, 8, and a second-grader at St. Mary's Academy in Champlain, enjoys a meal at the school's annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser.

san Catholic schools share common beliefs about the value of Catholic school education. Our Catholic schools:

- Promote and proclaim the Gospel;
- Educate the whole child – mind, body and spirit;
- Recognize the dignity and uniqueness of each child;

• Acknowledge the social nature of the human person;

- Build and strengthen communities of faith;
- Offer outstanding academic programs integrated with Gospel values.

Young people today are constantly exposed to and often confused by the multiplicity of information and by the contrasting ideas and interpretations presented to them, but nevertheless they still have a great inner need for truth and openness to the mystery of God. Our Catholic schools help them to discover that the truth has a name, Jesus Christ, and to enter into a personal friendship with him. This is the most compelling reason for choosing a Catholic school!

If your children are not in a Catholic school and you live in an area where a Catholic school education is available I encourage you to contact the principal to arrange for a visit to the school. Nothing can replace the personal experience provided by a school visit in which you can speak with the principal, tour the school and experience the atmosphere of the school community. A school visit as well as talking to parents who send their children to a Catholic school can be particularly helpful to parents who are preparing to send their first child to school.

If you currently have your children enrolled in one of our schools invite a neighbor or friend whose school aged children are not in a Catholic school to make a visit to the school with you. Imagine how the enrollment in a school would grow if every family currently enrolled convinced one other family that sending their children to the Catholic school would be a priceless investment in their child's future.

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Holy Family School in Malone celebrated the feast of St. Patrick with Irish music and dance under the direction of Grey Nun Sister Rita Frances Brady and Mr. Dan Klebes. Shown, from left, are Ananya Gupta, Josh Tylanda, Sidney LeRoy, Samantha Weeks, Lauryn Norcross and Cordelia Adams.

# Seton Catholic holds Lenten fundraiser for Nicaragua

By Mallory Favreau  
Senior, Seton Catholic Central

PLATTSBURGH -Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western hemisphere. An oppressive government and a devastating hurricane and other natural disasters have only added to the poverty in the nation.

Now, over 80 percent of the population lives in extreme poverty. The homeless percentage is extremely high and thousands of people cannot afford food or shelter.

Forty Days of Hope: 4 for 40 is a fundraiser which was conducted during the Lenten Season here at Seton Catholic.

Our goal is to build four houses for the less fortunate people in Nicaragua.

Several of our fundraisers have been extremely successful such as, a movie night, bake sale, dress down day, and can drive.

Our most profitable event so far was the 'lock-in'. Students and faculty were 'locked-in' the school for 12 hours and participated in fun events such as dancing, Kan Jam, volleyball, ping-pong, and hide-and-go-seek in the dark. There was even a bouncy house that kept us all entertained throughout the night.

One of the main events of the night was a hunger banquet.

We each received a meal ticket that represented our income level. 15% received a high income, 35% received middle income, and the remaining 50% were given low

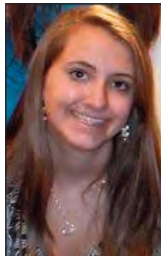
income. We were each given a meal that corresponded with our ticket.

Only 15% of the world can afford a well-balanced diet and other necessities. It really put into perspective how much we have and how blessed we are.

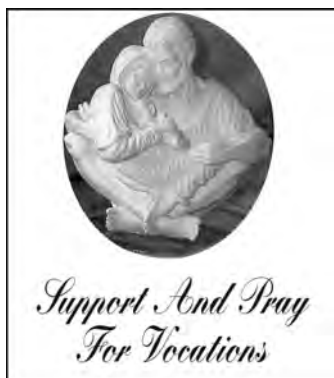
Through these events we have raised enough money for two houses and we are well on our way to the third. We planned a dance for the last weekend of Lent and hope we can reach our goal of four houses shortly after Easter.


These houses will provide four families with shelter and provide a security that many in Nicaragua can't afford.

Any and all donations for the fundraiser are welcome; please mail checks made out to Seton Catholic Attn: 4 for 40, 206 New York Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12903.




Mallory Favreau





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# Catholic Charities accepting CCHD grant applications

Catholic Charities is now accepting applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development local grant process for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The criteria to be used for submitting a proposal is:

1. Project must be aimed at alleviating the causes of poverty.

2. Project must be a new initiative or an enhancement of an established project.

3. Sponsoring group must be a non-profit, 501c3 organization.

4. Project must have the potential to be funded after the CCHD funds have been expanded.

5. Projects must be consis-

tent with the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. (Applicants do not have to be Catholic)

This year two grants for \$4500 each are available. Applications can be requested from Catholic Charities by mail, phone, or e-mail.

If you have any questions or to receive an application, please write to Catholic Charities, 6866 State Highway 37, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or call 315-393-2255. Or e-mail your request and mailing address to [ccwinny@wad-hams.edu](mailto:ccwinny@wad-hams.edu).

Grant applications are due back to Catholic Charities by May 21, 2012. Grants will be awarded by the end of June 2012.

## Bishop LaValley Schedule

**April 11-13** - Mass and Visit to the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

**April 14** - 10 a.m., Confirmation for St. Alexander's, Morrisonville, St. Joseph's, Treadwells Mill, and Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh at St. Alexander's Church; 4 p.m., Confirmation at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh.

**April 15** - 8 a.m., Mass at St. Edmund's Church in Ellenburg; 10:30 a.m., Mass at St. Bernard's Church in Lyon Mountain.

**April 16** - 7 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**April 17** - 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg.

**April 18** - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

## Rest in Peace

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

**April 11** - Rev. John P. Whalen, O.S.A., 1947

**April 13** - Rev. Callistus Scheid, O.F.M. Conv., 1854; Rev. Emil Krancewicz, O.F.M. Conv., 1974

**April 14** - Msgr. Richard F. Pierce, 1935; Rev. Alfred Valiquette, O.S.A., 1949

**April 15** - Msgr. Peter O. LaRose, 1918; Rev. Alfred J. Chevalier, 1996

**April 16** - Deacon Vernon J. Chamberlain, 1993

**April 17** - Rev. Peter J. Devlin, 1915; Rev. Vernon L. Doe, 1975; Rev. C. Albert Richardson, 1988; Msgr. Joseph G. Bailey, 2000

## 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](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 440. Upcoming programs:

**April 21** - 9 a.m., St. Augustine's School, Peru

**April 23** - 6 p.m., Holy Family School, Malone

**May 2** - 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

**May 23** - 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

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### Prayer to Blessed Virgin

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful wine splendor of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the sea, help me and show me, herein you are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this prayer in your hands(3X).  
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*Fidelis Care partners with Catholic schools to promote student health*

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 Hunter Clark and James Packer, students at Carthage Augustinian Academy learn about dental health from Capt. Govanny Zalamar, a Fort Drum dental technician, during a health fair held during Catholic Schools Week. The fair, made possible through a grant from Fidelis Care Catholic insurance company, featured booths on nutrition, coping skills, drug and alcohol awareness, fire prevention, child safety, bicycle safety, disability awareness. The event was organized by Augustinian's physical education teacher, Joanne Lazore and Krista Dennis, a physical therapist and parent of two students at Augustinian.



St. Joseph Sister Shirley Anne Brown, assistant superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Ogdensburg visited St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga to attend their Health Fair March 30. The fair was sponsored by Fidelis Health Care health insurance company and was made possible by a variety of community organizations who participated by demonstrating what they do to promote healthy living to our students, staff, families and the public. Pictured, above, with Sister Shirley Anne are Sister Sharon, school principal, and four fifth grade girls who learned first hand what happens in an ambulance when an emergency arises. Below, a physical therapist demonstrates physical therapy activities to one of the children.



USED BY PERMISSION OF THE CARTHAGE REPUBLICAN TRIBUNE  
 Parent volunteer, Krista Dennis, talks with Augustinian Academy students about how it would be to be hearing-impaired or to have other disabilities.





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## SCIENCE FUN IN JUNIOR- K



Students from Kristy Simmons Junior Kindergarten class from St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy in Ogdensburg test crayons for buoyancy. Pictured above are Aleta Gidney, Christopher Wells, Wes Miller, Max Bosnet, and Delia Payne.

# NY state budget increases reimbursement for schools

**ALBANY**-The new state budget agreement for Fiscal Year 2012-13 increases reimbursement to religious and independent schools by \$20 million over last year, reversing a recent trend of underpayment.

The legislature accepted Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Budget proposal to once again fully reimburse these schools under the Mandated Services Reimbursement (MSR) program (adding an additional \$13 million from last year's appropriation).

The three-way agreement between the governor and the two houses of the legislature also added an additional \$7 million in reimbursement to the Comprehensive Attendance Policy (CAP) mandate.

More importantly, the language of the budget agree-

ment restores the original formula used to calculate the reimbursement for CAP, as proposed by the Senate.

### The state's action will help provide relief from the ever-increasing burden on tuition-paying families in Catholic schools

Richard E. Barnes, executive director of the New York State Catholic Conference

An error several years ago by the State Education Department led to a formula that did not include all expenses religious and independent schools expend in complying with the mandate.

Total reimbursement for MSR is set at \$90.4 million, with an additional \$33.2 million for CAP.

"We are very grateful to Gov. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and their members for recognizing the injustice of providing less than full reimbursement for expenses incurred in programs that the state mandates that our schools undertake," said Richard E. Barnes, executive director of the New York State Catholic Conference.

"In a time of continuing fiscal challenges for our schools, literally every dollar is important," Barnes said. "The state's action will help provide relief from the ever-increasing burden on tuition-paying families in Catholic schools."

The Catholic Conference represents New York State's Bishops in matters of public policy.



*As parents make a critical decision about the lives of their children:*

# Ten reasons to send your child to IHC schools

By Chris Hornbarger

Executive System Administrator, IHC Schools

**WATERTOWN** - Why pay to send your child to a Catholic school, when public schools are free? Often, families aren't convinced by the answers they presume. To make a good choice, they need good information.

Here's our "top ten" list for why families should consider sending their children to Immaculate Heart Central Schools (Pre-K to 12) in Watertown.

## 1. A gift that lasts a lifetime.

We like to say IHC offers students "A Foundation for Life." It's true. What we teach is not about the "next rung on the ladder"- performing on the Regents, the SAT, getting into a good college, or winning a scholarship (though we've got a great track record in these areas). What we offer lasts a lifetime - a guideline for life, grounded in Christian virtues, that only grows stronger over time. Consider the comments of some graduates:

• "Immaculate Heart taught me a way of life."

• "I believe that IHC provides a 'foundation for life.' ... The moral and ethical foundations that were emphasized made it easier for me to meet the strict honor code requirements of the Air Force Academy."

• "The Sisters of St. Joseph have been a central part of our lives - always there to help us, guide us, support us."

Our students, who include about 50 students of faiths other than Catholic, participate in a wide range of activities that continuously reinforce the central role of Christ in our schools. We pray daily. We celebrate the liturgy from time to time. Our senior "Mystery Players" bring powerful stories of Jesus' birth and death on the cross during the Advent and Lenten seasons to churches throughout the Northeast.

Our student religious retreats are powerful and transformative for students. We believe in the portion of our mission statement that calls on us to "cultivate holiness based on the love and imitation of Christ."

## 2. IHC students love their school.

Please visit and see for yourself. You will be impressed by the friendliness of the students, and the enthusiasm they have for their school. Don't take our word for it. We recently surveyed our seventh-graders, and while, yes, 26% would like us to loosen up on the dress code (we'll take it under advisement!), 95% said they would recommend IHC to a friend. When asked what has been their favorite experience at IHC, the number one answer was "how supportive the teachers have been."

## 3. We provide an excellent education.

Our High School is accredited by the prestigious and rigorous Middle States Association Commission on Secondary Schools. Our SAT scores exceed the New York and national averages by nearly 70 points, and the top 30 percent of our graduating classes exceed the SAT averages by over 300 points. Over 45% of our faculty have advanced degrees. Sixty-four percent of last year's graduating class earned a Regents diploma with Advanced Designation or Advanced Designation with honors. We believe in the portion of our mission statement that says "provide a quality Catholic and secular education."

## 4. IHC students are prepared for college.

Nearly 100% of our graduates go on to higher education, winning approximately \$1 million in scholarships. Moreover, they are ready when they arrive, with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills, time-management habits forged by years of reinforcement, and Christian virtues that help them navigate the often difficult ethical and moral choices that

confront them when they leave home. When it comes time to say goodbye, you can have faith that your children will make the right choices.

## 5. We're affordable and substantial aid and scholarships are available.

Bottom-line: if a family wants to send their child to Catholic education, we will work out a way for them to do so. IHC tuition is among the lowest of Catholic Schools in economically similar areas of New York State, while the value - dollar for dollar - is high (and growing). More than 45% of our students receive financial aid, and the pool of available aid is growing. Several scholarships are available for new students who would like to give IHC a try.

## 6. Students become responsible citizens.

Our alumni have distinguished themselves here in the community, across the country, and around the world. The list of local leaders who are IHC alums, either in business or public office, is long. Our alumni nationwide include many members of the clergy, nuns, doctors, lawyers, successful business people, non-profit organization leaders, active members of their local congregations, Knights of Columbus, workers bringing services to disadvantaged people in poor societies, and many others. We believe in the portion of our mission statement that requires us "to form responsible citizens whose Christian values will transform the world."

## 7. IHC students learn the value of service

From elementary school to graduation, IHC students are expected to serve in a wide variety of ways, and not just to pad their college applications. Whether it be our elementary students visiting with seniors, our junior high school students helping raise money for our "Bite Back" campaign to help fight malaria in Africa, or our senior high students helping install drywall in a house for Habitat for Humanity as part of our Faith Community

Service Program, IHC students learn from doing, and that they are expected to be active in their communities throughout their lives, serving the greater good, and helping those in need.

## 8. Our schools are safe.

Little need be said. We offer a safe and secure environment that is free of the safety and discipline distractions that many schools contend with.

## 9. Free transportation from local areas (including Fort Drum).

Students who live within a 15 mile radius of IHC, including Fort Drum, are available for free busing provided by their home school district. Moreover, all of our schools (Primary, Intermediate, and Junior/Senior High School) are on the same schedule, simplifying family logistics.

## 10. Exceptional athletics.

IHC is known for the competitiveness of our sports teams. Our success is not rooted in recruiting (we don't) or in size (we're small

- it is rooted in exceptional student-athletes with strong character, a work ethic forged in the classroom, a sense of mutual responsibility to their teammates, and committed coaching by volunteer parents and alumni who care deeply about the students, the school, and sportsmanship - not the score. Our small school has garnered State, Sectional, and Frontier League titles, won numerous sportsmanship awards, and routinely competes successfully against much larger schools (for example, our baseball team, which should be in Class D due to its size of less than 174 qualifying athletes, competes in Class A, against schools with 900 some qualifying athletes).

We encourage you to make an informed decision. Please check out our website, [www.ihschools.org](http://www.ihschools.org), give us a call at (315) 221-3785, and set-up a visit. "IHC Schools: A Foundation for Life."



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# Youth ministers from diocese travel to Ottawa

By Michele Chartrand and Tamra Murphy  
Contributing Writers

OTTAWA, ONT.- "Be Still and Know that I am God" Psalm 46:10, was the theme for the Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Network Conference held March 9-11.

## To take part in Canadian national youth conference

Deacon Brian Dwyer, director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, led a group of parish youth ministries from the Diocese of Ogdensburg including, Monique Dwyer (Chateaugay), Michelle Chartrand (Massena), Kathy Burns (Potsdam) Tamra Murphy (Malone), to the conference in Ottawa.

Although our contingent was the only group from the United States among the over 400 youth ministers in attendance, we were warmly welcomed and were free to exchange in conversation and ideas.

We found the diversity of age, gender and rites of the Church represented at the conference fascinating. The age of those in attendance ranged from college students to retirees and the diversity of life experiences was a rich learning experience.

Also the number of men involved in youth ministry in Canada was very impressive. Approximately half of the participants were male.

After an opening prayer, we walked five blocks to St. Patrick's Basilica and had the privilege of hearing Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, S.J. of Ottawa address the theme "Be Still and Know that I am God."

The archbishop spoke about how youth ministers need to be still and know who is in charge of their ministries. Their own relationship with God needs to be focused on him, he said, noting that if youth ministers are not in right relationship with God they cannot guide others to God so that



Ted Hurley, front left, youth director of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, is shown with youth ministers from the Diocese of Ogdensburg who took part in Canadian Catholic Youth Ministry Network Conference held in Ottawa March 9-11. In front are Monique Dwyer, Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay, holding her son Matthew; and Michele Chartrand, Massena; back, Kathy Burns, St. Mary's, Potsdam and St. Patrick's, Colton; Deacon Brian Dwyer, diocesan director of youth ministry; and Tamara Murphy, Malone Catholic parishes.

others can have a personal relationship with God.

In the busy schedules that youth ministers all keep they need to make and take the time to spend time with God on a quiet level so that they can hear His voice in the noise of the world, he said.

After Archbishop Prendergast opening keynote we had a chance to experience that stillness with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession.

After this "Still Time with our Lord," it was back to the hotel and a "Wii love Jesus" social. Here we had free time to get to know the other conference attendees in a relaxed atmosphere with card, board and video games, conversation and snack foods.

### Saturday's program

Saturday's schedule started with the Eastern Byzantine Rite of Prayer of the Third Hour.

After morning prayer, Archbishop Richard Smith of Edmonton talked about "The New Evangelization."

The ardor or 'burning within' that each Catholic Christian must have to be

able to evangelize shows that "We are not an accidental happening," Archbishop Smith said.

"We are a product of a thought of God," he said. "We were created by God because God wants us. We were not a fluke or a whim of God. We were willed into being by God. We are loved by God. We are wanted by God."

Does not your heart burn with joy reading these words? God is not calling us to be perfect, but to use the gifts and talents he has given us for the body of the Church, to ever improve and enrich the lives we encounter, by bringing God to them through our words, actions and deeds of compassion. God wants a personal relationship with each and every one of us.

And our jobs as youth ministers is to let young people know that they are willed, loved, and necessary. These personal relationships come from encounters with God. We as ministers need to allow Jesus to show us where to open doors and be willing to walk through those doors even when we are not comfortable to do

so. Three major doors to walk through will be invitation, crisis, and social media.

The rest of the morning and afternoon was spent in workshops of various topics of balancing ministry, youth culture, giving gospel presentations, keeping your ministry grounded, praying with youth, social networking, stewardship and more.

The day's program ended as Archbishop Prendergast celebrated an Anticipated Mass at St. Patrick's Basilica.

### On Sunday

Sunday started with Taize prayer followed by a keynote from Archbishop Paul-Andre' Durocher of Gatineau and the Church Document Verbum Domini, "Living the Word of God".

The archbishop spoke about how truth, creation, scripture, Jesus, Eucharist, the Holy Spirit, and Living traditions of the church are all the Word of God. True interpretation to the Word of God is not just intellectual but it is felt and reasoned, he said.

Again the theme of "Be Still and Know that I am God" was reiterated in Arch-

## Youth rally 2012

The annual diocesan Youth Rally will be held April 28 at Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown. The theme for this year's rally is "Hear His Voice" inspired by the scripture readings for the fourth Sunday of Easter and Good Shepherd Sunday. The keynote speaker for the day will be speaker and musician Chris Padgett from Steubenville, Ohio. In addition to the keynote address, the day will feature workshops geared toward young people and youth leaders.

There will also be an interactive park with tables featuring Sports-camp and Guggenheim, Vocations and scouting, family life office and Catholic Charities and the Respect Life office. In addition, there will be the opportunity for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day concludes with a question and answer session with Bishop LaValley and closing Mass. Registration may be made through parishes or by calling the youth office at 315.393.2920, Ext 411. The cost is \$20.

bishop's talk that Scripture can only be digested in silence. He then went on to say that Catechesis must be impregnated with all the different aspects of the "Word of God".

Following the Archbishop's talk we had the closing ceremonies with more worship music and skits and finally closing prayer. It was a great opportunity to gather information, meet other parish and Diocesan leading experts and experience great spiritual prayer and liturgies.

The pleasure to meet, listen and learn from not one but three archbishops was a great honor.

With much new information we return to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and our local parishes with new ideas, strengths, and personal spiritual riches to continue evangelizing the youth of our area.



# Joys and sufferings of families focus of pope's Good Friday Via Crucis

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- An Italian couple, married 59 years, let the joys and sufferings of families guide the reflections they prepared for Pope Benedict XVI, thousands of pilgrims and potentially millions of television viewers to meditate on during the Stations of the Cross at Rome's Colosseum.

The pope asked Danilo and Annamaria Zanzucchi to write the meditations for his Good Friday service April 6 in Rome. The Zanzucchis, who have five children and 12 grandchildren, are the co-founders and were the long-time leaders of the Focolare's New Families Movement.

"I am not even going to tell you how many drafts we went through," Danilo Zanzucchi told the Focolare's Living City magazine when asked how he and his wife prepared the meditations.

"We wanted to make sure that these texts bore the mark of a lived Christian experience and, at the same time, reflected our understanding of the Passion as it has developed through years of contact with thousands of couples," Annamaria Zanzucchi told the magazine.

The New Families Movement has a special outreach to couples who are hurting because of separation, divorce or abandonment. The movement believes that stronger families will increase peace and brotherhood in communities.

The couple looked at how Jesus suffered and died under the weight of human sin - including marital infidelity and abortion - but also how "every single family has its own Way of the Cross: illnesses, deaths, financial problems, poverty, betrayals,



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY FOCOLARE ARCHIVES

**Pope Benedict XVI had asked Danilo and Annamaria Zanzucchi, founders of the Focolare Movement's New Families initiative, to write the meditations for his Way of the Cross service at Rome's Colosseum April 6.**

immoral behavior, discord with relatives (and) natural disasters."

"But every Christian, every family, on this path of pain can turn their gaze toward Jesus, man and God," they wrote.

Reflecting on the third station, Jesus falls the first time, the couple wrote that Christian husbands and wives vow to care for one another, for their children and for those they meet. But, "how many times have our families fallen? How many separations, betrayals! And divorces, abortions, abandonments! Jesus, help us understand what love is; teach us to ask forgiveness."

For the fifth station, Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross, the Zanzucchis offered prayers for all those who have offered help "when a heavy cross has weighed on us or our family."

The meditations included special prayers for families who "suffer tremendous hardships" in order to profess their Christian faith.

The Zanzucchis prayed that Christians in the developed world would learn to resist the temptation of being "anesthetized by well-being," and would raise their children to accept a simple lifestyle, sacrifice and self-

denial.

In their meditation for the 10th station, Jesus is stripped of his clothes, the couple focused their reflection on the dignity of the human person and the human body and on how often people use or abuse others.

The meditations included several references to Mary, her relationship with Jesus and her maternal care for all who follow Jesus.

"Mary's love for each of us is a continuation of her love for Jesus," they wrote. After Jesus' death, she stays with the disciples "to support them, help them, encourage them and lead them to recognize the love of God."

For the last station, Jesus is laid in the tomb, the Zanzucchis focused on the disciples trying to console one another and sharing with each other memories of the things Jesus said and did while he was with them.

"At that moment, they begin to be church while awaiting the Resurrection and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. With them was the mother of Jesus, Mary," they wrote.

"They gather together, with her and around her, awaiting the manifestation of the Lord."

## CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

### At Holy Thursday Mass, pope criticizes dissent from church teachings

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- During a Mass in which priests renew their promises of fidelity to Christ, Pope Benedict XVI firmly criticized dissent from church teachings and disobedience of God's will as illegitimate pathways toward reform and renewal. Surrounded by more than 1,600 priests, bishops and cardinals, the pope cautioned against calls for women's ordination, saying such campaigns seemed more "a desperate push" to fulfill one's own preferences rather than a sincere attempt to conform one's life more closely to Christ. During the April 5 chrisem Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, which focuses on Holy Thursday as the day Jesus shared his priesthood with the apostles, the pope said he wanted to use the occasion to ask all priests, including himself, to meditate upon what their consecration really means. "Are you resolved to be more united with the Lord Jesus and more closely conformed to him," which entails a renunciation of oneself and "of the much-vaunted self-fulfillment," the pope asked. Being Christ-like means not to be served but to serve, not taking but giving, he said. If that is the nature of the priesthood, then what should be the response of priests when faced with "the often dramatic situation of the church today," the pope asked. Without specifying the country, Pope Benedict said a group of priests from a European nation have issued a call for disobedience of church teaching, specifically regarding the question of women's ordination. Last year the president of the Austrian bishops' conference, Vienna Cardinal Christoph Schonborn, condemned a "Call to Disobedience," signed by 250 of Austria's 4,200 Catholic priests. The document urged Catholics to begin a campaign in support of women priests and "priestless eucharistic liturgies," as well as for Communion to be given to non-Catholics and remarried divorcees.

### On anniversary of Blessed John Paul's death, Vatican focuses on WYD

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- On the seventh anniversary of the death of Blessed John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI paid homage to one of his predecessor's innovations: World Youth Day. Greeting an estimated 5,000 cheering young people from Spain April 2, Pope Benedict said they were "the protagonists and principal recipients of this pastoral initiative promoted vigorously by my beloved predecessor, Blessed John Paul II, whose passage to heaven we remember today." The Spanish youths had come to the Vatican for the celebration of Palm Sunday April 1 and to thank the pope for visiting Madrid for World Youth Day last August. The Spanish delegation included the World Youth Day orchestra, which played during the papal audience. While the pope was with the young people, Vatican officials and representatives of the Brazilian bishops' conference were holding a news conference to talk about plans for the next international celebration of World Youth Day, which will be held July 23-28, 2013, in Rio de Janeiro. Pope Benedict told the Spanish youths that the World Youth Day experience "can only be understood in the light of the presence the Holy Spirit in the church," who continues to enliven the church and to push believers "to bear witness to the wonders of God." He told the young people, "You are called to cooperate in this exciting task, and it's worth it to commit yourself to it without reservation. Christ needs you to expand and build his kingdom of charity."



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Easter celebration continues  
With Divine Mercy Sunday

Easter is over for many people, but to those who follow Jesus, the drama of Calvary and the Risen Christ has just begun.

In the readings for today, the fruits of His victory are now opening into full flower. In the Gospel, Christ appears in His risen body to all the apostles (except Thomas) for the first time since the resurrection. He wants to give them a new commission—to preach the rest of the Good News. But first, he must set their guilt and their fears to rest.

Their behavior during His hour of need had not been the best! Some ran away, some went to sleep in the garden, Peter actually denied Him. All except John had forsaken Him in one way or another. So His first words to them are "Peace!"

Before they can take up His charge to them of forgiving the sins of others, He

first forgives them their own! Aside from the "good thief", they are the first fruits of His Divine Mercy! And, since they have received mercy, they

will spend the rest of their lives distributing His Mercy to all who will believe—ultimately, to the whole world.

In the narrative, Jesus shows them the wounds of His Passion. Thomas is not there, and doubts their story. A week later, Jesus appears again, and invites Thomas to place his finger in the nail holes, and put his hand in the pierced side, and be not unbelieving, but believing.

And Thomas gives us the cry of faith that has been repeated down through the centuries - "My Lord and my God!". His doubts have led to a faith that impels Thomas to travel all the way to India, where the faith has flourished even to the present day!



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

April 15

Second Sunday of Easter  
Divine Mercy Sunday

READINGS

Acts 4:32-36

1 John 5:1-6

John 20:19-31

Blessed John Paul II, understood the full meaning of the Lord's revelations to a young Polish woman of the early 20th century, Sister Faustina. Through many revelations, He told her of His desire to shower down His Mercy to the whole human race. All evil, including the wars of our time, are limited in their effects through God's infinite mercy. The justice of God was satisfied on the Cross on Good Friday, but the work of salvation that followed continues to shower down mercy on those who offend Him.

The first reading today from the Acts of the Apostles tells us the story of how the first Christians lived—sharing all their goods equally, so that no one was in need. Unfortunately, this ideal life, free of material concerns, did not last. The spirit of giving, however, is an enduring sign of true Christian love.

Today's second reading from the first letter of John, declares that faith in Jesus is the foundation of Christian love. As water and blood flowed from the side of Jesus on Calvary, so do Baptism and Eucharist nourish that faith and love in Christians today who are sustained in all our imperfections and sinfulness by the Divine Mercy.

## Retreat For Sisters



"Renewal at the Source:  
Living The Vows Biblically"

July 9-14, 2012

Presented by: Fr. Brad Milunski, OFM Conv.

Fr. Brad was ordained to the priesthood in 1993. He studied philosophy and Franciscan Studies at St. Hyacinth College and Seminary in Granby, Mass. and received a Master of Divinity degree from Washington Theological Union in Washington, DC. In the year 2000 he was awarded a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, Italy. Fr. Brad is currently completing his Ph.D. in theology with specialization in Sacred Scripture at the University of Notre Dame. He currently serves as Vicar Provincial for the Immaculate Conception Franciscan Province, and is Rector of the Franciscan Church of the Assumption in Syracuse, N.Y.

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Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ

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I really enjoy the NCC in its electronic 'green' form. The pictures are much better, the articles easy to read (and enlarge for my older eyes) and the same familiar format is there. I love it!

This was a superb idea –  
thank you!

~Bill Kellerhals

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## AT THE MOVIES

## MIRROR MIRROR

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

"Who's the fairest one of all?" The answer may surprise you in "Mirror Mirror" (Relativity), a fresh live-action take on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

This go-round, the handsome prince is the center of attention, as the wicked queen and her lovely stepdaughter stage a battle royal for his hand, and the fate of a kingdom hangs in the balance.

Directed with high camp by Tarsem Singh ("Immortals"), "Mirror Mirror" piles on the one-liners and innuendos, along with life lessons that range from the need to help the poor and fight discrimination to the importance of promoting feminism.

The end result is a bit leaden and somewhat

charmless for a children's fairy tale. But remarkable costumes and grand set pieces go a long way to compensate.

Playing against type, Julia Roberts is the evil Queen, chewing up the scenery in glamorous ball gowns, and revealing her character to be insecure and afraid of growing old. The magic mirror offers a creepy-looking self-image that dispenses bad advice.

With her stepdaughter, Snow White (Lily Collins), locked away in the tower, the Queen sets out to find a rich husband, whose fortune will save her bankrupt realm. The populace is poor and starving as a result of the crippling taxes exacted to support the monarch's lavish lifestyle. Her luxuries of choice include some gross-out spa treatments -- who knew pigeon droppings made the best ingredient for a facial?

Enter on horseback the fabulously wealthy Prince Alcott (Armie Hammer), who catches the eye of both the Queen and Snow White. The Queen eliminates the competition by banishing Snow White and ordering her killed. But the hapless royal butler, Brighton (Nathan Lane), weakens, and Snow White escapes into the forest. There she stumbles upon the Seven Dwarfs.

Viewer, beware: These are not the endearing dwarfs of Disney lore. They are a wisecracking band of hoodlums with names like Napoleon (Jordan Prentice), Wolf (Sebastian Saraceno), and Butcher (Martin Klebba).

They steal for a living, but Snow White persuades them to spare the poor and take from the Queen instead.

They, in turn, teach her the ins and outs of street fighting.

Cross Robin Hood with Joan of Arc and you get the



CNS PHOTO/RELATIVITY MEDIA

Julia Roberts and Armie Hammer star in a scene from the movie "Mirror Mirror."

picture, as Snow White leads a crusade of diminutive warriors to overthrow the Queen, snag her Prince Charming, and live happily ... well, you know.

"Mirror Mirror" takes none of this seriously, and inside jokes abound. At one point, when it looks like the Queen may triumph, Prince Alcott interjects, "Don't change the ending! It's been focus-grouped, and it works."

It does, in its own unique fashion.

The film contains mild action violence, some rude humor, and one semi-profane utterance. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

## FREE THROW PHENOMS



The Northern Conference Knights of Columbus held its 39th Annual Freethrow Contest March 10 at Massena Central High School Gym. Over 50 boys and girls from across the diocese and northern NY State competed in the event. The age brackets included 10-14 yr olds for both girls and boys. The winners competed in the Upstate Region Freethrow Contest in Syracuse March 24. Shown, front, from left are the girl winners: Katie Beach, age 14; Danielle Cook, 12; Jaelyn Martin, 11; and Jennifer Jones, 10; boys, in back, Kinnon LaRose, 14; Loudon Porter, 13; Brandon Lorenc, 12; Declan Porter, 11; and Joey Roiger, 10.



Two local boys won the Knights of Columbus Upstate Freethrow Contest held at Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse March 24. Over 75 boys and girls from northern, central and western NY State competed in the event. Pictured are Michael Ray-ome Youth Freethrow Director Northern Conference; Kinnon LaRose of Ogdensburg, age 14 winner; and Declan Porter of Canton, age 11 winner. Kinnon and Declan will compete in the State Final Freethrow Contest at West Point Military Academy April 28.



## ADIRONDACK

## DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

**Saranac Lake** – St. Bernard's will celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy.

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Features:** Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, Anointing with St. Faustina's Oil. Opportunity for Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available.

## CLINTON

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Plattsburgh** – St. Peter's Church will be observing Divine Mercy Sunday.

**Date:** April 15

**Schedule:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12:15 p.m. to 2:30

Sacrament of Reconciliation in the chapel 1:15 p.m. to 2:15

Video: "Tell All Soul's About My Mercy" 12:15 p.m. to 1:25

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Prayer Services begins at 2:30 p.m.

**Features:** Blessing of Religious objects will take place during the service. Please note the times have changed this year.

## CLOTHING SALE

**Peru** – St. Vincent de Paul Society will be holding a special sale of gently used spring/summer clothing and footwear.

**Dates:** April 11 through April 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; April 12 the sale will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Place:** St. Vincent's Thrift Store

**Features:** Fill a large 33 gallon bag with clothing/footwear for \$5.

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

**Keeseville** – Divine Mercy Devotions will be observed this year.

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** Noon to 3 p.m.

**Features:** The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be sung, Rosary recited, light refreshments

## SOAKING PRAYER

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

**Date:** April 16 (every 3rd Monday).

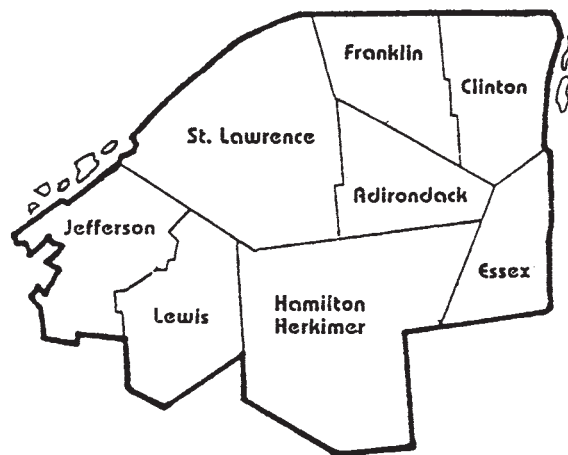
**Time:** 10 a.m. to 11

**Features:** An hour to come and be immersed in prayer with individual prayer time for your specific needs.

## BENEFIT DINNER

**Coopersville** – St. Joseph's Church will be having its 9th annual benefit dinner featuring a full course Turkey Dinner.

**Date:** May 6



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:** Noon to 2 p.m.

**Place:** K of C Hall, Champlain

**Cost:** \$9; children 5-12, \$5; under 5, free

**Features:** Raffle and door prizes, you do not need to be present to win.

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Treadwell Mills** – Rcc. St. Alexander & St. Joseph's will hold a Pancake Breakfast

**Date:** April 22

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** St. Joseph's Church Hall

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

## SPRING BRUNCH

**Altona** – Holy Angels Church will be having an All You Can Eat Spring Brunch.

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$3  
**Features:** Bake Sale & Craft Tables. Call 236-5848 to reserve craft table.

## BLUE &amp; GOLD SPRING FLING BALL

**AuSable Forks** – Holy Name School is celebrating its 99th year with a semi-formal dinner dance.

**Date:** April 21

**Time:** 5 p.m.

**Place:** Rainbow Banquet Hall Gold Room

**Cost:** \$35 per person

**Features:** There will be door prizes throughout the evening and 50/50 raffles. Individuals or organizations who sponsor a table of 10 will have their name displayed on the table.

**Contact:** Holy Name School to purchase tickets, 518-647-8444

## FRANKLIN

## BREAKFAST BUFFET

**Brushton** – St. Mary's is planning a Breakfast Buffet

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center, Take outs available, call 518 529 6580

**Menu:** Fried/Scrambled Eggs, Corned Beef Hash, Indian Hash, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, Pancakes, French Toast, Homemade Donuts, Toast

**Price:** Adults, \$7; Seniors, \$6; 6-12, \$4; 5 and under, free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, \$20

## FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**Malone** – Divine Mercy services to be held.

**Date:** April 15

**Schedule:** 11 a.m. Mass; Noon to 3 p.m. Blessed Sacrament exposed; 1 p.m. to 2:50 Confessions; 3 p.m. Devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday will begin With Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

## JEFFERSON

## SPAGHETTI &amp; MEATBALL DINNER

**Evans Mills** – The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus will be having a Spaghetti and Meatball dinner.

**Date:** April 21

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Seniors, \$6; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Watertown** – St. Anthony's Altar Rosary

Church will be having Spaghetti Supper.

**Date:** April 26

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

## ECUMENICAL BEREAVEMENT

**Watertown** – A bereavement meeting will be held.

**Date:** April 23

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Fred Garry, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church on "Why is Grief so Tiring?"

## CHICKEN BARBECUE

**Evans Mills** – St. Mary's Booster Club will be having a Chicken Barbecue.

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

**Cost:** \$8; take-outs are available

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Watertown** – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church will hold a Divine Mercy Celebration.

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Features:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, & Special prayers for healing your family tree, Blessing of the Divine Mercy image and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Contact:** For more information on Mercy Sunday call Judy at 315-783-7349 or 315-788-2388

## LEWIS

## BULLHEAD FEED

**Harrisville** – The Knights of Columbus will be having a Bullhead feed.

**Date:** April 20

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:30

**Place:** Harrisville Fire Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$11 for Fish, \$9 for Ham; Children 12-5, \$6; under 5, Free

## SUNDAY BRUNCH

**Lyons Falls** – The South Lewis K of C will be having an All You Can Eat Brunch.

**Date:** April 22

**Time:** 8 a.m. to Noon

**Place:** St. John's Church

**Cost:** Adults, \$6; children 5-12, \$3; under 5, free

## FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**Houseville** – The Feast of the Divine

Mercy will be celebrated

**Date:** April 15

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Place:** at St. Hedwig's Church.

**Features:** Sacrament of Reconciliation will be at 2 p.m. and a Divine Mercy movie will be shown at the church hall at 2 p.m. At 3 p.m. the program will include Blessing of the Divine Mercy image, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy (sung), Homily and Benediction. Rev. Jozef Mucha of Christ our Light Church, Pulaski, will be the main celebrant.

**Contact:** Mary Ann at 315-348-6260

## ST. LAWRENCE

## OGDENSBURG SHOWTIME

**Ogdensburg** – The A.D. Charbonneau Council #258 Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring Showtime.

**Schedule:** April 21, 7:15 p.m.; April 22, 1:30 p.m.; April 23, 7:15 p.m.

**Place:** OFA Auditorium

**Cost:** \$5; Seniors, \$2; students, \$2

**Performance:** Don Woodcock, Dan Pearson, a quartet of members from the Canton Goldenaires Chorus

## LIFE CHAIN PLANNED

**Potsdam** – A Life Chain has been planned, rain or shine.

**Date:** May 12

**Time:** 2 p.m. to 3 Gather and pick up signs at 1:45 across from Roxy Theater

**Place:** Along Market and Main Streets

**Features:** All ages are encouraged to participate, especially children (with proper supervision) and the elderly. Don't forget chairs, hats and Water

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## WOMEN OF GRACE RETREAT

**Ogdensburg** – A retreat for Women Will be held.

**Date:** April 20-22

**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Features:** Creator of the women's ministry Women of Grace Johnnette Benkovic of EWTN fame will be featured as a speaker. The Weekend Will feature four hour-long talks by Mrs. Benkovic as well as daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and time for quiet prayer.

**Cost:** Rates range between \$150 to \$245 and depend on room type. The deadline for registration is April 4. Meals are included.

**Registration:** forms are available at local parishes or by contacting Regional Coordinator and Facilitator Mary Dillenback by email at marydillenback@twcny.rr.com or by phone (315) 771-1377





**The Society For  
The Propagation Of The Faith**

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director  
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
(315) 393-2920; fax (315) 394-7401  
mbrett@dioogdensburg.org

# Go and teach all nations

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

This spring education issue of the NCC is an opportune time for us to recall the beginnings of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith...a piece of mission education for all of us.

Our story begins in France in the early 19th century. Pauline Jaricot, inspired by letters from her brother, Phileas, started gathering together small groups in her family's silk factory. Pauline asked each member of the group to offer daily prayer and a weekly sacrifice of one soul's (the equivalent of a penny at that time) for the Church's worldwide missionary work.



Pauline Jaricot

She insisted that her efforts be directed to all the Church's missions, that they be universal.

From Pauline's vision came the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. The very first collection for the Propagation of the Faith in 1822 supported the vast diocese of Louisiana, which then extended from the Florida Keys to Canada, as well as the missions of Kentucky and China.

Little did Pauline realize that the 1822 beginnings of promoting the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in Louisiana would stir strong Louisiana mission connections in 2005. For Sr. Judy, who has spent the past half-dozen years involved in pontifical missionary works in the New Orleans Archdiocesan Mission Office, the connections to the missions in the days after Hurricane Katrina were uplifting and sustaining. Sr. Judy said, "The Katrina tragedy offers a lesson for all Catholics about the missions around the world and the needs of the local Catholic Churches as well as the poor in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific Islands." "Our people - our kids have now experienced the daily reality of the poor of the missions firsthand." We've got to help them keep making those connections."

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith continues to seek prayer and sacrifice for the world's missions, now some 1,100 dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and Latin America. Help is offered for pastoral and evangelizing programs, for catechists, catechetical work, healthcare and to build churches.

Missionaries still respond to the command of Jesus, "Go and teach all nations." Missionaries also continue to depend on assistance from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith to sustain them in their service to the poorest of the poor. Thank you for being a "home missionary" and helping in your own way.

**Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will.**

[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

## OBITUARIES

**Adams** – Harold William "Nick" Grieco, 92; Funeral Services April 9, 2012 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in St. Cecilia's Cemetery.

**Carthage** – Myron Grant McIntyre, 73; Funeral Services April 7, 2012 at the Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home; burial in St. James Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Annabelle Patricia (Trombly) Ashline, 89; Funeral Services April 5, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Pauline J. Filion, 86; Funeral Services March 31, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Andre Shavel, 59; Funeral Services April 4, 2012 at St. Mary's Church.

**Croghan** – Thomas A. "Tommy" Nortz, 88; Funeral Services April 10, 2012 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

**Glenfield** – Margaret L. (Lorenzini) Burdick, 95; Funeral Services May 21, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Old Glendale Cemetery.

**Gouverneur** – Anthony "Tony" Pastizzo, 81; Funeral Services April 3, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery, Watertown.

**Hogansburg** – Hattie Thompson, 81; Funeral Services April 3, 2012 at St. Regis Church; burial in Kateri Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Debbie (Kuca) Abel, 55; Funeral Services April 14, 2012 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

**Plattsburgh** – Gerald R. "Jerry" Brown, Sr., 80; Funeral Services April 6, 2012 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Helen Marie (Finegan) Camelo, 85; Funeral Services April 4, 2012 at St. John XXIII Newman Center; burial in St. John's Cemetery, Keeseville.

**Rosiere** - Edward J. (Ned) Lawrence, 87, Funeral Services April 13 at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

**Watertown** – John R. Doe, 81; Funeral Services April 2, 2012 at Our Lady of the

Sacred Heart Church.

**Watertown** – Angelina J. (Stupack) Hubbard, 84; Funeral Services March 31, 2012 at Cummings Funeral Service, Inc.; burial in North Watertown Cemetery.

**Watertown** - Mary Pacific Crescenzi, 93, Funeral services April 9 at St. Anthony's Church, Entombment in Glenwood Mausoleum.

**West Chazy** – Jeanne M. (Hebert) Beach; Funeral Services April 3, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church.

**West Leyden** - Dorothy E. (Gibbs) Nellenbach, 86, Funeral Services April 11 at St. Mary's Nativity Church; burial in St. Peter's & Paul's Cemetery, Fish Creek.

**Westport** – Huberta J. (Tetro) Conway, 85; Funeral Services April 2, 2012 at St. Philip Neri Church.

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# FACES OF FAITH

Springtime for Catholics in the North Country



The religious education students of the Church of the Visitation, Norfolk, created ties that reflected the good deeds that they did while on their Lenten journey. The students wore their ties as they lined the aisles of the Palm Sunday Mass procession. Pictured are just some who attended a parent/child First Communion meeting after Mass. Front, from left, are Joshua King, Jessika Bullock, Megan McCarthy, Alannah Baker and Carl Morris; back, Carol O'Brien Gonthier, Msgr. John R. Murphy, Hayden Bullock, Micaela Trimm, Jalinden Thomas and Laurie Dufresne.



PHOTO BY SHAWN RYAN  
Father Don Kramberg prepares children from the religious education program of Redford's Church of the Assumption for the Palm Sunday Mass.



Confirmation candidates from St. Peter's in Plattsburgh, St. Alexander's/St. Joseph in Morrisonville and St. Augustine's in Peru took part a regional retreat in Plattsburgh March 31. Beth and Chris Carlin from Living Hope Ministries facilitated the retreat along with Rose Ann Hickey, who is shown above leading one of the workshops.

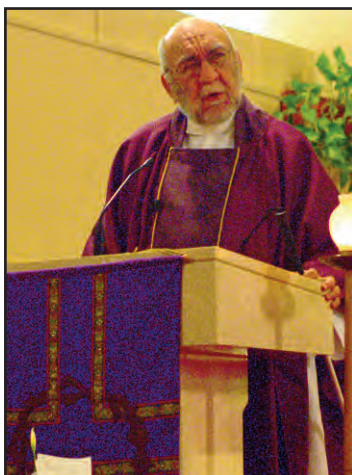


PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE  
Father Patrick Martin, a legally blind priest of Norwich, Conn., was the leader for the annual Lenten Mission for Notre Dame/St. Mary's in Ogdensburg. Father Martin's topic was "God's Love In A Broken World."



A good showing of men from the Diocese of Ogdensburg traveled to Syracuse March 31 to take part in Ignite, the annual men's conference of the Syracuse diocese. Speakers included CBS news analyst Father Thomas Williams, LC; entrepreneur Sean O'Hare,

baseball catcher Mike Piazza, and Bishop Robert Cunningham, former bishop of Ogdensburg and current bishop of Syracuse. Among those shown above are Fathers Bryan Stitt of Malone and Mark Reilly of Saranac Lake.