

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

A weekend of family, faith and fun | PAGE 5

Cardinal Dolan to lead prayer at convention | PAGE 11

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUG. 29, 2012

## Honoring Mary as queen

CASTEL GANDOLFO, ITALY (CNS) -- Honoring Mary as queen, Catholics see her exercising the same kind of regality that Jesus did: one of humility, service and love, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Marking the feast of the Queenship of Mary Aug. 22 at his weekly general audience, the pope said just as

Jesus' kingship had nothing to do with earthly power - in fact, Christians recognize him as king when he's on the cross - so Mary's queenship is exercised through obedience to God and helping those who turn to her.

Holding his audience in the courtyard of the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo,

the pope told the crowd that the feast of Mary's queenship was added to the liturgical calendar only in 1954, but that it was the result of centuries of devotion to Mary as queen of heaven and of the universe.

Mary's queenship is a "consequence of her being united with her son, her being in

heaven, in communion with God," Pope Benedict said.

From heaven, she participates in God's love for the world, the pope said.

She "watches over us, her children; children who turn to her in prayer to thank her or to ask for her maternal protection and her heavenly assistance," the pope said.

### AT THE PRAYER RALLY

Sponsored by K of C



Deacon John White of St. Mary's Cathedral is shown reading the Gospel at an Aug. 12 prayer service for the protection of conscience rights sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Northern Conference. Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the service which included the Liturgy of the Word, a recitation of the rosary and benediction as well as remarks from the bishop and representatives from pro-life groups in the diocese.

FULL STORY, PAGES 8-9

## Getting ready for the Year of Faith



The logo adopted for the diocesan observance of the upcoming Year of Faith shows the theme "Taste again for the first time." Pope Benedict XVI Will open the special year Oct. 11.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Preparing for canonization

More than 300 Akwesasne Mohawks are heading to Rome for the Oct. 21

canonization of Blessed Kateri

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## BABES IN BABYLON



PHOTO PROVIDED

St. Peter's Parish in Lowville recently hosted a Vacation Bible School "Babylon, Daniel in Captivity" with 55 children from the parish participating. Twelve adults and 15 youth assisted each day as tribe leaders, drama leaders, marketplace shopkeepers and aides. Above, Tom Martin works in the carpentry stall. The children visited Daniel and Ashpenez each day and learned about Daniel's struggles and how God was with him - and with them - during difficult times. The marketplace opened each day and gave the children opportunities to eat special foods, make different crafts, and even plant a fern from the Hanging Gardens of Babylon nursery.

**WORKING AT GUGGENHEIM:** 'Most important thing I've done in my life' ...p. 16



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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## Telling the stories

We Catholics are going to be hearing and reading a lot about the Year of Faith over the next 15 or so months as the international observance gets started Oct. 11.

Reading the *North Country Catholic* will be a great way to keep up with all the need-to-know news beginning with the three gatherings of parish representatives in September and the official diocesan opening ceremony Nov. 18.

And the *NCC* will be the place for the stories.

In keeping with the diocesan theme "Taste

again for the first time; reintroducing the community to Christ by telling the story," the *NCC* will tell the story of Christ as it is experienced in the lives of some of the most faith-filled people in the diocese.

We plan to start our "A Story of Faith" feature in the Oct. 10 issue with a reflection from Bishop LaValley.

He – and Catholics of all ages and life states – have been/will be asked to share early memories of faith in God, reflections about people and life experiences which have led to an increase in faith and what their faith means to them today.

We're confident that these stories will be pure inspiration for all who read them..

It will be interesting to see, as the year goes on, if there are any

common themes among Catholics who call the North Country home.

I know I'm not the only one who would point to my time on the staff of Guggenheim as a turning point in the growth of my own faith. More than 30 years after my stint as the waterfront director, our young friend, Rachel Daly captures everything that I experienced all those years ago. (p.16)

I could also talk about sitting in Catholic school classrooms with some wonderful Grey Nuns and singing in the Remnant, one of the original "folk groups" of the diocese, under the direction of seminarian, now Father Garry Giroux.

Other people in the diocese will point to the inspiration of "our" saints – Blessed Kateri and Brother Andre.'

The hundreds of priests who started their seminary study at Wadhams Hall would also have stories to tell about how they grew closer to God, better able to serve Him and his people, during these college years.

Every diocesan department will have a role to play in advancing the mission of this Year of Faith. It will be the focus of lessons in Catholic schools and CCD programs and in parish ministry but I'm delighted that the *North Country Catholic* will be the place for the stories.

Stay tuned!

Mary Lou  
Kilian

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## CHURCH: A FAMILY OF FAITH

## A Ritual from the Heart

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sept 1-2

By Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ

Director of Evangelization

"The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord" (Ps. 15).

It is doing of justice and mercy that come from the desires of the heart. All three readings today challenge us as a Family of Faith to take a long hard look at how our actions are connected to what we believe.

Jesus' difficulty with the Pharisees came from their conviction that they were clean, and thus worthy worshippers of God because of their external observance of the rituals. Jesus had difficulty with the Pharisees' sense of their own cleanliness, and their readiness to condemn as unclean anyone who did not follow their practices. His words were firm, "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts" (Mark 7:6).

How easy it is for externals to become the things that count, while the heart of the matter is lost. Going to Mass on Sunday, praying the Rosary often, attending the parish mission, receiving the Sacraments frequently are all very good. But they are external practices that can become routine.

Where is our heart while we do these things?

What is our motive, our attitude?

Rigid and self-righteous clinging to such traditions puts aside the commandment of God. It is wisely said, "Our actions speak louder than our words"!

The reading from James warns us as a faith community that our faith is not something we earn or deserve. Faith is not something we do, that is, if we are good enough, God will be pleased with our efforts, and He will owe us salvation. This is not who God is.

Faith is God's free gift to us. We cannot have the other extreme either. We can sit back and wait for God to welcome us into the kingdom at the end of our lives. There is a partnership to our relationship with our God. God's initiative is always first but it also requires our acceptance and response that can sometimes demand self-sacrifice and suffering.

A community of faith filled with compassion and continually looking after someone in need, is engaging in evangelization more effectively than one that merely proclaims the words or the works.

Even if we are using vast resources of social-media e.g. Facebook, it is only a tool for evangelization. Jesus reminds us that remembering why we do what we do, and doing it with a heart turned toward God, are more important than doing all the correct religious rituals if they are done without conviction and proper intention.

How is the Gospel challenging you at this moment? How would people know about Jesus through your actions alone? What specific rites or rituals (religious or personal) are particularly meaningful to you? How do they make a difference to you personally, to the parish community or family?

Thank you, Sister Eamon....  
Welcome, Father Muench

As St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng leaves her position as diocesan director of evangelization, she concludes her weekly, "Church: A Family of Faith" column. Next week, the *NCC* welcomes the return of "Father Muench Says," reflections of pastor and teacher Father William Muench (pronounced "Minch"). Although officially retired, Father Muench is now serving as administrator of the parishes in Saranac Lake, Lake Clear and Bloomingdale while pastor Father Mark Reilly completes a year as military chaplain in Africa.



# Diocesan theme for Year of Faith announced

“Taste again for the first time: *Reintroducing the community to Christ by telling the story*” will be the theme of the diocesan observance of the Year of Faith.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley approved the theme which was developed by the diocesan Year of Faith committee, chaired by Father Garry Giroux, pastor in Brasher Falls and North Lawrence.

The logo, shown on this page, will be incorporated into promotional material for the year, including buttons to be distributed throughout the diocese.

Pope Benedict XVI declared a “Year of Faith” beginning Oct. 11, 2012 and concluding Nov. 24, 2013, to “focus the attention on rediscovering faith, the documents in the Second Vatican Council, intensify the celebration of faith in the liturgy and Eucharist, and faith in charity.”

In the Diocese of Ogdensburg, parish representatives will participate in workshops

designed to communicate the vision and goals of the Year of Faith and to share resources and strategies for achieving the goals.

The workshops are set for:

- Sept. 22 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 at St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh

- Sept. 26 from 6 p.m. to 9 at Holy Ghost parish center in Tupper Lake

- Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 at Immaculate Heart Central School High School in Watertown

Two representatives from each parish will be sent by their pastor to participate in one of these workshops and be prepared to assist in developing initiatives in their parishes to support the goals of the Year of Faith.

Among the initiatives will be parish missions, pilgrimages, a special focus on the Feast of Corpus Christi and a diocesan liturgical celebration in the Fall of 2013.

The Year of Faith themes will be incorporated in pro-



grams sponsored by the Catholic Education Office in Catholic schools and religious education programs.

Full information about the year will be available on the diocesan Year of Faith website which will be launched in early September

### Opening celebration

Bishop LaValley will officially open the diocesan observance of the Year of Faith with a “Witnesses of Faith” prayer service Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary’s Cathedral.

The service will focus on the lives of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Mother Marianne

Cope and St. Brother Andre Bessette.

The main speaker will be St. Anne Sister Kateri Mitchell, director of the national Tekakwitha Conference in Great Falls, Mont.; and native of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation.

### The committee

In addition to Father Giroux, the Year of Faith committee members are William Amoriell, Colton; Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan director of vocations; Father Kevin O’Brien, moderator of the curia; Andrew Lauria,

Plattsburgh, Paul White, Elizabethtown; Deacon Gary and Gayle Frank, diocesan directors of Family Life; Kathy Snyder, Lake Clear, Mary Lou Kilian, editor, *North Country Catholic*; Joy Leader, Gouverneur; Julia Helms, Long Lake; St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools; St. Joseph Annunciata Collins, Carthage; St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng and Marika Donders of the diocesan Office of Evangelization; and Sister of the Cross of Chavanod Maria Flavia D’Costa, Watertown.

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## SIGN OF THE CROSS



PHOTO BY ROSEMARY LALONE-KIRSCH

Parishioners of St. Cecilia’s in Adams recently attended a Mass on Lake Ontario, held at the home of Rose Pirro. Parishioners brought lawn chairs, and worshiped on the beach as Father Patrick Ratigan celebrated the liturgy and then offered healing prayers. “As everyone began getting ready for the pot luck dinner, we witnessed a glorious sunset over the water,” said parishioner Rosemary LaLone-Kirsch. “I snapped a picture of the sunset on the lake with my cell phone and saw this beautiful cross. What an awesome sight to behold! Definitely God’s awesome presence was seen and felt that day.”



### CAR RAFFLE

Our Annual Car Raffle is underway. Tickets will be sold after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. They are also available at the rectory Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The drawing will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday October 7, 2012 and the winner may choose the car or \$15,000 in cash.

The price for the ticket is \$20 or six (6) tickets for \$100 with all proceeds going to St. Agnes School.

The car this year is a 2012 Chevy Malibu fully equipped from Adirondack Chevrolet in Elizabethtown.

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the page & enclose your check made out to **St. Agnes Church**

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NCC



*More than 300 Akwesasne Mohawks will make trip to Rome for canonization*

# 'Blessed Kateri has been my inspiration'

By Angela Cave  
Contributing Writer

Ever since the Vatican paved the way for Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha's canonization last December, her Mohawk descendants in New York and Canada have been caught in a whirlwind of celebration and attention.

In July, members of the Akwesasne Kateri Prayer Circle and the St. Regis Mission Kateri Circle - both part of St. Regis parish, which falls under the Ogdensburg Diocese and two others - sponsored the 73rd annual Tekakwitha Conference in Albany.

It took two dozen planning committees and about \$80,000 in donations from fundraisers, upstate dioceses and tribal governments.

Now, in addition to making annual retreats and pilgrimages to shrines throughout the northeastern U.S. and Canada, the faith community is making final preparations to send more than 300 Catholics to Rome in October to witness the making of the first Native American saint.

The parish's Mohawk-language choir is scheduled to perform its hymns to a global audience there.

Members of the parish have been actively promoting Blessed Kateri's cause since at least 1980, when she was beatified.

"Now, it's here," said Bernice Lazore, a parishioner and leader of the Akwesasne circle who's attended dozens of the annual conferences. "I think we're still trying to digest it, to really believe that it's happening."

"We're kind of losing something," she continued. "[Blessed Kateri] belongs to everybody now. That kind of letting go will have to be followed up with education about her culture and identity and her holiness."

Blessed Kateri was born in present-day Auriesville, N.Y., in 1656 to an Algonquin



PHOTO BY ANGELA CAVE

Members of St. Regis Mission's Mohawk language choir sang during a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Charles Chaput during the 73rd annual Tekakwitha Conference held in July in Albany. They are now preparing to sing during the canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Oct. 21 in Rome.

mother and a Mohawk father. When she was four, a smallpox epidemic orphaned her and gave her impaired vision and pockmarks.

She was raised by an anti-Christian uncle, but Jesuit missionaries and memories of her mother's quiet Christianity inspired her to study Catholicism at the age of 18. She was baptized two years later and experienced ostracism, ridicule and death threats from her family and village.

Blessed Kateri fled to a Christian village in Canada in 1677 to lead a life of prayer, love for the Eucharist, devotion to chastity and extreme penitential practices.

She died at the age of 24 after uttering the words,

"Jesus, I love you."

Her scars reportedly vanished after her death and people immediately began attributing miracles to her intercession.

Pope Pius XII declared her venerable in 1943.

Indigenous people have called Blessed Kateri's sainthood an acknowledgment of their place within the Church and society.

"It's really a blessed thing," said Rosemary Bonaparte, an Akwesasne who lives in Quebec and attends St. Regis parish. "It's good to have this recognition - especially when you've had so many people working so hard for so long."

Bonaparte recently collected testimonies from fellow Catholics about Blessed

Kateri's influence on their lives.

"It's a fact that she's here, she's in people's lives, she's still blessing people," said Bonaparte, who was her tribe's first female chief in the 1980s. "[Her intercession] gives you a lot of courage to do whatever comes up. She takes over your life."

Bishop Terry R. LaValley noted that Blessed Kateri's canonization coincides with the Vatican's upcoming Year of Faith initiative.

The diocese will kick off the year with a Nov. 18 prayer service honoring the new saint at St. Mary's Cathedral; St. Ann Sister Kateri Mitchell, the executive director of the Montana-based Tekakwitha Conference, will

be there.

"The virtues that (Blessed Kateri) lived are virtues that are timeless," continued Bishop LaValley, who celebrated Mass at the Tekakwitha Conference this summer.

Since his 2010 installation, Bishop LaValley has celebrated Confirmations at St. Regis, a parish of the Diocese of Valleyfield in Quebec. The Blessed Kateri catechetical center in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Bishop LaValley said "it was a great inspiration to witness the intense faith of the Native Americans, their great care for God's creation, their strong family ties," at the Tekakwitha Conference.

He praised the incorporation of native customs into liturgies. "The Church allows for different expressions of the one faith."

There's often overlap between native customs and religions and the Catholic faith. Lazore is the only Christian in her family. Her brothers are Longhouse "faith keepers"; her mother, a clan mother.

"We all pray to the same person," Lazore said, comparing Longhouse's teachings to that of the Bible and its naming ceremonies to Catholic baptisms.

During her own ceremony, Lazore was placed in the Wolf Clan and given the unique Mohawk name Kahsennanonon, which means "holder of a precious name."

Lazore and Bonaparte said they hope the canonization of one of their own will help their people deal with issues like addiction, gambling, border disputes and the fading of the Mohawk language. Moreover, they hope it attracts fallen-away Catholics and reenergizes apathetic parish youth.

It's certainly kept Lazore around.

"I could have easily left (the Church) and gone with my family," she said. Blessed Kateri "was my inspiration."



ON THE SHORES OF SARANAC LAKE

# FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

A weekend of family... faith... fun



Father Martin Cline of Bombay, Family Guggenheim chaplain, offers a prayer over Larry and Vicky Ambeau of Adams.



Family Guggenheim is sponsored by the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, directed by Gayle and Deacon Gary Frank of Clayton.



PHOTOS BY DAYNA LEADER  
Brother and sister Michael and Meghan Pierce of Heuvelton enjoy beach time during the August session of Family Guggenheim.



Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan vocation director, celebrates one of the Masses held during the weekend.



Gidget and Alison Kimble of Ogdensburg take advantage of the opportunity for mother-daughter bonding during the weekend.



Henry and Dayna Leader of Gouverneur and their children were part of the organizing team for Family Guggenheim 2012. This year, one session was held in August and a second will take place over Columbus Day weekend in October. The weekends feature workshops and activities designed to foster family closeness, liturgical services and outdoor camp activities.



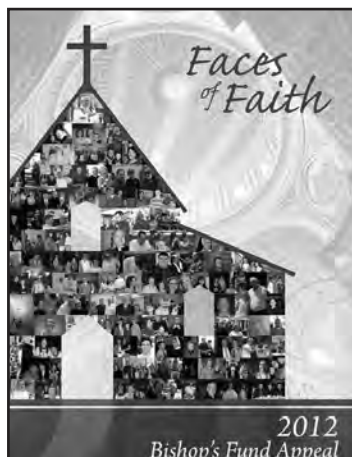
# Bishop's Fund supports continuing ed. of priests

By Fr. Scott D. Fobare,  
Chair of Committee,  
Continuing Education  
and Formation of Priests,

The Continuing Education and Formation of Priests office works at providing opportunities for the priests to further their ongoing education. Through the generous support of the people of Diocese of Ogdensburg I am able to work with my committee on providing these opportunities.

The Department of Continuing Education of Priests provides ongoing educational opportunities for the priests of the diocese. Our mission is to provide spiritual, theological, and formational experiences for the human development and ongoing formation of the priests. On a yearly basis we provide opportunities to our priests for ongoing education and formation in their ministry to the Church of Ogdensburg.

Your support to the annual Bishop's Fund helps us to fulfill our mission. We could not do the work that



we do if you didn't share some of your blessings with us.

Our committee has a four-fold purpose: 1) to stimulate an interest in and a desire for continuing educational and formation experiences, 2) to learn the needs of the priests of the diocese, 3) to design programs and workshops to meet these needs and 4) to arrange opportunities for short term study and sabbaticals.

It gives me great joy knowing that along with me the committee fulfills the purpose set forth in our mission statement. Working along with me are committee members, Father Martin Cline, Father Mike Gaffney, Father Joseph Giroux, Father Kris Lauzon, Father Chris Looby, Father Shane Lynch, Father Raymond Moreau and Father Jay Seymour. We meet several times a year to create the work that brings a great deal of opportunity to the priests of the diocese.

This year our priests will be invited to become part of a small faith sharing group. Each priest will be invited by our bishop to participate in a small faith sharing group with his brother priests. This small faith sharing group will be based on a program called Renewing the Priestly Heart, a reflection on the book written by Thomas Cardinal Dolan.

In addition the priests will

have an opportunity to engage in dialogue with each other on a website that will be established just for the priests of the diocese. This website offered by the Institute of Presbyterates and Priests invites dioceses to build a website whereby priests can dialogue with other priests on issues revolving around their priestly life.

Thanks to Father Chris Looby, our diocese was chosen to be one of the five dioceses that the institute is giving this opportunity at no charge to the diocese or to the priest. It will serve as a wonderful tool for the priests to keep in touch with one another since our diocese encompasses a large span of area.

We offer the same programs we have been offering in the past. Our yearly Presbyteral Assembly is by far the highlight of our year. This past year we began offering a Presbyteral Retreat that will be offered every three years. With the addition of a retreat we decided to increase the time together from three to four days. It was such a success that we decided to make our regular convocations every year four days. Over 90% of our priests attend our convocation every year.

In addition our annual Clergy Day of Prayer offers an opportunity for the deacons of our diocese to intermingle with the priests. These and other programs offered by Continuing Education are all possible through the sacrifices that are made in the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal.

On behalf of the priests of the diocese allow me to say thank you. Thank you for your generous support of the Bishop's Fund Appeal. If it were not for the generous support you offer we could not do everything we do to enhance the formation and continuing education of the priests of the diocese.

## Bishop's Schedule

**Aug. 30** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**Aug. 31** – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 1** – 4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 2** – 2 p.m., Episcopal Ordination of the Most Reverend Marcel Denis J. Damphousse as Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall in Alexandria, Ontario

**Sept. 3** – 10 a.m., 100th Anniversary of Holy Name School in AUSAble Forks.

**Sept. 4** – 10 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 5** – 10:30 a.m., Investment Advisory Committee Meeting at the Brzana Conference Center in Ogdensburg.

## To Report Abuse

**If you have a complaint** of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy Rev. James Seymour at 315-393-2920 or the **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrienne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: aycsnn@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401

## THE 2012 BISHOP'S FUND

The **2012 Bishop's Fund** opens Sept. 15-16 in parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The theme for his year is "Faces of Faith" and the goal is \$1.25 million. Donations may be mailed to the Bishop's Fund Office at PO Box 150, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or submitted through the website, [www.dioogdensburg.org/development](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/development).

## 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. Ongoing monthly training is required for all employees involved in activities with minors. Volunteers are strongly encouraged to continue their training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 403.

Upcoming programs:

**Aug. 30** – St. Mary's School, Canton, 7:30 p.m.

**Sept. 8** – Seton Academy, Plattsburgh, 10 a.m.

**Sept. 11** – Seton Academy, Plattsburgh, 2 p.m.

**Sept. 17** – St. Mary's School, Canton, 6:30 p.m.

**Sept. 18** – Holy Family School, Malone, 6 p.m.

**Sept. 22** – St. Mary's Church, Evans Mills, 9 a.m.

## Rest in Peace

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

**Aug. 29** – Rev. Leo Desmet, 1926; Rev. Thomas F. Driscoll, 2003

**Aug. 30** – Rev. Bartholomew McLaughlin, 1914

**Aug. 31** – Rev. James J. Sherry, 1890; Rev. Albert R. Plante, 2000

**Sept. 1** – Rev. Michael Guth, 1864; Rev. John B. Martin, O.S.A., 1955

**Sept. 2** – Rev. Timothy J. Mahoney, 1938; Msgr. Claudius Sechi, 1966; Rev. Thomas G. Votraw, 2007

**Sept. 3** – Rev. David W. Driscoll, O.S.A., 1963; Rev. John S. Branche, 2003

**Sept. 4** – Rev. Walter J. Charbonneau, 1982; Msgr. Robert H. Giroux, 2000

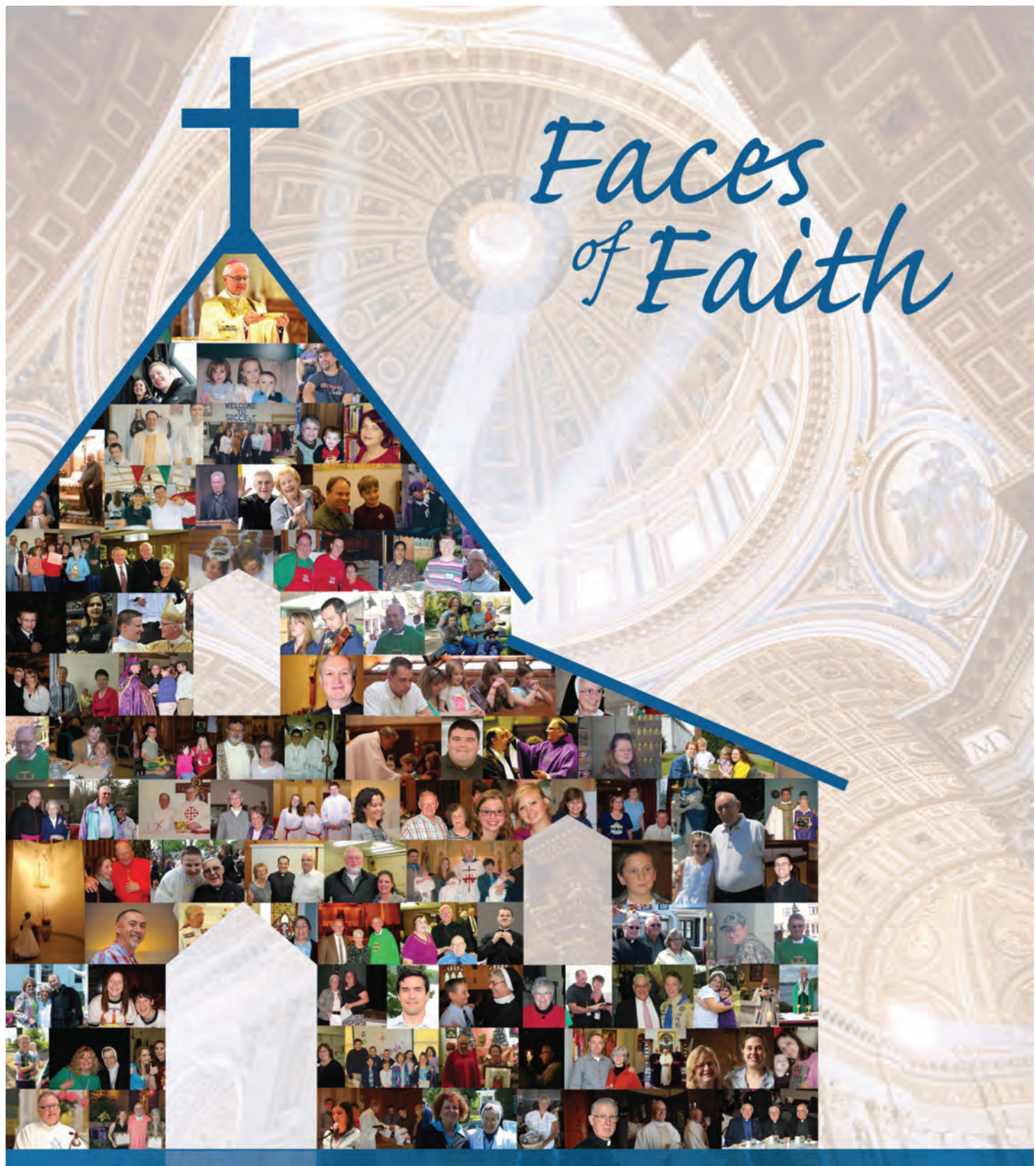
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At K of C prayer rally for conscience rights Aug. 12 at St. Mary's Cathedral

# Catholics urged to 'get involved'

By John T. Ryan  
Contributing writer

**OGDENSBURG** – More than 250 Knights of Columbus and others from across the North Country gathered at St. Mary's Cathedral Aug. 12 for a prayer service to preserve America's historic freedoms and heritage.

The Knights of Columbus Northern Conference sponsored the rally which included a recitation of the rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley offered remarks at the rally as did Bette Hartzell, past president of Liferight of Watertown; and the Rev. Martin Mischenko, president of Champlain Valley Right to Life.

The common theme was a call for prayer and a recogni-

tion that more people must become active in preserving America's historic freedoms and heritage.

Bishop LaValley concentrated on Department of Health and Human Services mandates enacted as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

Calling the Affordable Care Act an unjust law, Bishop LaValley explained, "This would force all Catholic service agencies such as hospitals, colleges, and social services to either pay for services which Catholic doctrine has always considered seriously immoral or to go out of business."

Catholic institutions would either have to pay or facilitate the payment of insurance premiums that fund abortion, contraceptives and sterilization. Employees who pay health insurance premiums would also be forced to

help pay for free contraceptives and abortion for others.

"Our government wants to define religion and reduce our ministry to worship alone," he said. "More and more religion is being squeezed out of public life."

Bishop LaValley urged all people who believe in religious freedom to be more active in influencing legislators and in educating others.

"Notify your political leaders at the state and national level that the erosion of our religious liberties must stop, beginning with this unjust law," he said. "Educate yourself and bear witness in our communities in a spirit of charity and respect."

"And, as we are doing this day," he said, "pray for our leaders, political and religious, that they may act in a moral manner respecting the rights of others and open to

the teachings of the Gospel."

The Rev. Mischenko also called upon all Christians to be more involved.

"We the church and the faithful need to become proactive concerning our religious freedom whether it be pro-life, healthcare, freedom of speech or anything else that curtails our ability to function as the Body of Christ and creates an ungodly society," he said.

He called prayer the "foundation of the pro-life movement" and asked those present to offer daily prayers to build a culture of life.

"So brothers and sisters – pray, lead or follow but do not sit back and wait for someone else to do it."

Mrs. Hartzell has been active in pro-life work for over 40 years and traced the decline in the respect for life in this country.

In the mid-19th century the American Medical Association officially stated that human life begins at conception. Major changes in attitudes toward abortion began in the 1950's and 1960's with the growth of the feminist movement and with the publication of such books as Paul Ehrlich's "The Population Bomb."

"Today politicians often say, 'I'm personally opposed to abortion, but I can't impose my beliefs on others.' Many Catholics say, 'The issue doesn't affect me, so I'm not going to get involved.'"

Mrs. Hartzell said some groups would like to see this country abandon its Judeo-Christian heritage and called upon everyone present to overcome apathy and to get involved in the pro-life movement.

## Monument remains a focus for pro-life prayer

By John T. Ryan  
Contributing writer

**OGDENSBURG** - Many participants of the Knights of Columbus' Aug. 12 prayer rally at St. Mary's Cathedral stopped to view the Knights of Columbus' "Monument of the Unborn" located not far from the cathedral's entrance doors.

Bill Ose, a member of Knights of Council 7364 in Adams, who organized the prayer rally, was the fundraising chairman when the monument was constructed.

"In 1992, I was a delegate to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention when John Cardinal O'Connor asked each K of C Council to dedicate a monument to the unborn and to frequently hold a prayer service," Ose said.

He brought Cardinal O'Connor's words back to his brother Knights and over the



PHOTO BY JOHN RYAN

Three participants of the Aug. 12 prayer rally stop to reflect at the Monument of the Unborn on the front lawn of St. Mary's Cathedral. The monument was erected with funds raised by the Knights of Columbus Northern Conference and dedicated by Bishop Paul S. Loverde in 1996.

next several years, councils within the Diocese of Ogdensburg erected 20 to 30 monuments in cemeteries and on church grounds.

They also united through the Knights of Columbus Northern Conference to raise \$24,000 to erect a monument on the grounds of St.

Mary's Cathedral.

In 1996, Bishop Paul S. Loverde dedicated the monument and, in 1997, Cardinal O'Connor blessed it a second

time.

Jack Kelley, a member of Potsdam Council 340, designed the monument.

For several years following its dedication, annual prayer rallies were held at the monument, but as time passed the prayer venue changed. In 2003, the New York State Council Knights of Columbus initiated a statewide prayer rally on the steps of the State Capital in Albany.

Ose organized that rally for several years, but this year, he decided it was time to once again rally in Ogdensburg.

K of C members and many others responded to his call and Ose was thrilled with this year's rally attendance.

"This is only the beginning," he said. "Many people had conflicts in their schedule this year and they want to attend."

"Next year, I think we'll hold it a week later," he said. "I predict we'll have at least 800 people."



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ORGANIZE AFTERNOON OF PRAYER

# SCENES FROM THE RALLY



PHOTOS BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley LaValley presided at an Aug. 12 prayer service for the protection of conscience rights sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Northern Conference. The program included Liturgy of the Word, a recitation of the rosary and Benediction as well as remarks from the bishop and representatives from pro-life groups in the diocese. Shown above are seminarian Matt Conger, Deacon David Sandburg, Bishop LaValley and Deacon John White.



The event was coordinated by Col. Bill Ose of Knights of Columbus Council 7364 in Adams



Bette Hartzell of Watertown spoke on behalf of Liferight of Watertown.



The pews of St. Mary's Cathedral were filled with Catholics from all across the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Aimee Flynn of Ogdensburg read from the scriptures.



Catholics of all ages took part in the rally.



# Pope addresses role of laity in the church

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - As Catholics prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, all church members need to make a renewed effort to ensure laypeople are aware of their responsibility for the church and are allowed to exercise it, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"Co-responsibility requires a change of mentality, particularly regarding the role in the church of the laity, who should not be considered 'collaborators' of the clergy, but people who truly are co-responsible for the being and action of the church," the pope wrote in a message to the assembly of the International Forum of Catholic Action.

The Aug. 22-26 assembly in Iasi, Romania, brought together representatives of Catholic Action groups from around the world. The international forum promotes lay involvement in parish and community life, particularly through studying and acting on the principles of Catholic social teaching.

Pope Benedict's message, released by the Vatican Aug. 23, said the church needs a "mature and committed laity, able to make its specific contribution to the mission of the church" in a way that respects the different roles and ministries of its members.

The Vatican II dogmatic constitution on the church, "Lumen Gentium," described the style of relationships within the church as "familial," the pope said. Viewing the church as a family emphasizes shared responsibility, mutual support and joint action while,



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ  
A eucharistic minister distributes Communion during a 2008 Mass at Transfiguration Church in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, N.Y. As Catholics prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, all church members need to make a renewed effort to ensure laypeople are aware of their responsibility for the church and are allowed to exercise it, Pope Benedict XVI said.

at the same time, recognizing the special role of guidance belonging to the church's pastors, he said.

The pope asked Catholic Action members to work with and for the church through their "prayer, study, active participation in ecclesial life, (and) with an attentive and positive gaze upon the world in a continuous search for the signs of the times."

He asked the members to help with the new evangelization, proclaiming salvation in Christ "with language and methods understandable in our age."

In addition, he encouraged them to continue studying and applying Catholic social teaching, particularly with the aim of bringing about a "globalization of solidarity and charity," which will further the church's mission of bringing hope to the world.

# Philadelphia Catholic schools are under new management

By Lou Baldwin  
Catholic News Service

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) - Philadelphia's 17 archdiocesan high schools and its four schools for special education are officially under new management.

Under a historic agreement in principle signed by Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput and H. Edward Hanway for the Faith in the Future Foundation Aug. 21, strategic and operational control of the 21 schools passes to the foundation effective Sept. 1.

It is believed to be the first time a diocese has given control of a major part of its schools to an independent and essentially lay board.

Archbishop Chaput said in a statement that the agreement between the archdiocese and foundation "is unlike any agreement that a diocese has achieved with its lay leadership."

"The willingness of lay leaders with a love for Catholic education to step forward is encouraging. The commitment made by the foundation - a commitment to professional excellence in management, guided by a strong and faithful identity - will serve our high schools and schools of special education well," the archbishop said.

"We have seen the momentum that the foundation has been able to generate and we are confident that this agreement will lead to an even stronger school system for the children of the Philadelphia region," he added.

Under the agreement, which is for five years, the archdiocesan Office for Catholic Education, which previously oversaw the schools, will become a division of the Faith in the Future Foundation, reporting directly to the foundation's CEO.

The Office for Catholic Education will continue to

focus on curriculum and standards; academic and spiritual development of students; co-curricular and extracurricular programming; and professional development of teachers.

## A new model for Catholic education?

The presidents and principals of the schools affected by the agreement will continue to report to the education office, and the teachers remain employees of the archdiocese.

Direct ownership of the schools themselves will remain with the archdiocese, with the exception of Roman Catholic, Philadelphia's flagship Catholic high school. The school is operated by the archdiocese but the building owned by the Cahill Trust, established under the will of Roman founder Thomas Cahill, who died in 1878.

While the makeup of the foundation board has not yet been set, and will not be announced until the fall, Hanway estimated it will have about 15 members, with the archbishop appointing only one-third of them.

Philadelphia Auxiliary Bishop Michael J. Fitzgerald, who oversees Catholic education for the archdiocese, will be a board member.

"The independence of the Catholic secondary system, with the schools of special education, was critical to our ability to more fully address the fundraising and enrollment needs of our schools," Hanway said. "With capacity available to educate an additional 15,000 students we intend to grow."

He called it "a groundbreaking approach to educating our children" and praised Archbishop Chaput and other archdiocesan leaders for being "willing to make such a bold decision in reaching this agreement with the foundation."

"I am confident that the

foundation can and will serve as a model for Catholic education across the nation as we infuse and employ an entrepreneurial approach to managing these 21 schools," Hanway said.

John Eriksen, director of the schools program for the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, told Catholic News Service that entering into such an arrangement required "courage and humility."

Eriksen said that, until he took his new job in July, he had been superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Paterson, N.J., which had a similar arrangement. "We saw some significant short-term gains. We saw some short-term pain as well," he noted, but "over time, it has worked better and better."

He said dioceses are trending to the model used by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. "You talk about functionality, you talk about Catholic colleges and universities, which are some of the highest-functioning temporal entities within the church," Eriksen added. "Now K through 12 is starting to catch up."

NCEA's Ristau told CNS that it's possible that the Philadelphia plan repeated elsewhere could put the brakes on the ongoing decline in the number Catholic schools and students nationwide.

"We know that the decline has slowed down, and I think we're going to see a flattening and then a turnaround," she said. "The rate of closure for schools has really slowed down. We have dioceses that actually went up last year."

A major part of the foundation's work will be recruitment, development and fostering innovative programs.

"Our mission is to transform Catholic schools," Hanway said. "Good enough isn't enough. We must be excellent in every facet of our schools."



# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

**Victim assistance coordinators can help heal the church, bishop says**  
OMAHA, Neb. (CNS) -- Bishops need help restoring trust and healing wounds inflicted on the faithful by the clergy sexual abuse scandal, and people who work in the church to assist victims and create safe environments for children can be key partners, the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People said Aug. 13. Despite efforts over the last decade by bishops and others in the church to atone for wrongs done and take swift action when abuse is reported, many Catholics "remain hurt, angry, cynical and confused," Bishop R. Daniel Conlon of Joliet, Ill., told more than 100 people at the National Safe Environment and Victim Assistance Coordinators Leadership Conference in Omaha. Safe environment and victim assistance coordinators carrying out duties called for by the bishops' 2002 "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" are good candidates to assist bishops as they strive to make the church safe for children and young people and overcome mistrust and anger, the bishop said. "You are the fresh faces," he said. "Most of you are lay members of the Christian faithful, with secular credentials and without so much built-in conflict of interest. As such, you are in a position to bring new credibility and energy to the critical task of healing the wounds and rebuilding trust." It is a long-term project that includes day-to-day tasks such as contacting victim survivors, arranging counseling programs, scheduling training sessions, giving talks and filling out forms, Bishop Conlon said.

**Cardinal to plan treatment with doctors after tests show cancer cells**  
CHICAGO (CNS) -- For the second time in his 75 years, Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago is facing the cross of cancer. On Aug. 17, the Archdiocese of Chicago released a statement announcing that two days earlier, Cardinal George underwent a procedure at Loyola Medical Center during which doctors found cancerous cells in his kidney and on the liver. "Today he met with his doctors who reviewed with him test results which showed there were cancerous cells in the kidney and in a nodule, which was removed from the liver," the statement said. "His doctors will work with the cardinal to plan a course of treatment." In an Aug. 20 statement, the archdiocese said the cardinal rested at home over the weekend and was "actively engaged" in several administrative duties. It said in the coming week he would receive additional medical tests, participate in a retreat at Mundelein Seminary with bishops from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana and "maintain his previously scheduled public commitments. After the cardinal meets with his doctors regarding a plan for a course of treatment, further information about his upcoming public schedule will be announced," the statement said. "Until further information is available, Cardinal George has asked for continued prayers for all affected by cancer and the doctors and medical staff that work with patients and their families, as well as for himself." The archdiocese will continue to provide updates about the cardinal on its website, [www.archchicago.org](http://www.archchicago.org). People also can leave greetings for him at the site as w

## Cardinal Dolan latest prelate to offer prayers at political convention

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The announcement that New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan would deliver a benediction at the Republican National Convention made him the latest in a long string of prelates to offer prayers at the major party conventions.

Joseph Zwilling, spokesman for the New York Archdiocese, said Aug. 23 that Cardinal Dolan accepted an invitation to offer the closing prayer at the Aug. 27-30 convention in Tampa, Fla. On the program for the evening, the benediction immediately follows the major address by former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, accepting the nomination for president. The convention is to be gavelled to a close after the prayer.

In his statement, Zwilling noted that the normal protocol would be for the local bishop to be invited to offer such a prayer, but that convention organizers approached Cardinal Dolan about doing it.

Zwilling said Cardinal Dolan contacted Bishop Robert N. Lynch of St. Petersburg, Fla., whose diocese includes Tampa. He gave the cardinal his approval and the cardinal accepted the invitation.

"It was made clear to the convention organizers, however, that the cardinal was coming only to pray, not to endorse," Zwilling said, "and that he would be willing to accept a similar offer from the Democratic Party as well. That same sentiment was conveyed to the Democratic National Committee."

The lineup of who might offer prayers at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., Sept. 4-6, had not been announced as of Aug. 23.

In the past, bishops, priests and women religious



CNS PHOTO/SCOTT AUDETTE, REUTERS

The stage is set for the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., Aug. 20. Among those offering prayers during the convention is New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan. He will deliver the benediction Aug. 30 following the major address by Mitt Romney, the presumptive Republican nominee for president.

have offered prayers at both parties' conventions, as have clergy from many denominations.

In 2000, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles opened the Democratic National Convention in his city with a prayer calling on delegates to be committed to protecting the life of all people, from unborn children and the elderly to those on skid row and death row.

The same year at the Philadelphia site of the GOP convention, Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua offered the closing benediction in his home city.

At the 2008 conventions, neither Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver nor Archbishop John C. Nienstedt of St. Paul-Minneapolis, Minn., participated in the Democratic and Republican conventions, respectively, in their cities. Archbishop Chaput said he was never approached about it and Archbishop Nienstedt said he declined.

The history of church leaders of many denominations praying at the party conventions goes back more than 100 years. Archbishop Demetrios is a perennial favorite, appearing at both parties' conventions multiple times over the years.

In 1948, Philadelphia Cardinal Dennis J. Dougherty prayed with both parties when the nominating conventions met in Philadelphia.

The announcement about Cardinal Dolan's participation at the convention comes just a week after he was criticized for inviting both President Barack Obama and Romney to participate in the Al Smith dinner, Oct. 18 in New York.

Cardinal Dolan defended the decision to invite both candidates in a blog post, noting: "An invitation to the Al Smith dinner is not an award, or the provision of a platform to expound views at odds with the church. It is an occasion of conversation; it is personal, not partisan."



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Living with justice, mercy and love

Most children and young people are headed "back to school" after this weekend. Their college-bound older brothers and sisters have already started the new semester.

Remember that excited feeling?

For those of us lucky enough to attend a Catholic school, we knew the nuns would quickly help us back to a disciplined time of learning, not

only the "three r's", but all the values that helped that wonderful world of math and science and history all make sense.

Why? Because all of those subjects had their origin in God's truth and purpose for learning—and living.

That's what Moses tries to do in this Sunday's first reading. After giving the people the Ten Commandments, he tells the people to observe every one - not to take any-

thing away or add to what they teach.

If they do this, then the nations of the earth will say, "This nation is truly a wise and intelligent people....".

When did our nation lose all that wisdom?

Our beloved America is gradually drifting farther and farther away from God's wisdom.

As Scripture reminds us, only foolish people would allow that to happen.

In the letter from St. James that we read today, the apostle reminds us that "all good giving and every



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

SEPT. 2

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

keep oneself unstained from the world." In the Gospel, Jesus scolds the Pharisees for getting all worried about hand-washing, rather than the larger issues of justice, mercy, and love.

As the Holy Father and our U.S. Bishops earnestly remind us in these troubled and confused times, issues of preservation of human life, care for the sick and elderly, the unemployed, and the immigrant should be first and foremost in our concern, and in the concern of all those who lead the policies of our government.

perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights---humbly welcome the word that is planted in you and is able to save your souls".

We are commanded "to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to

## CONSIDER THIS

## Labor Day: a time for serious reflection

By Stephen Kent  
Catholic News Service

It is oxymoronic - if not tasteless - to "celebrate" a day marking something that for millions of Americans is but a memory.

We're approaching the first Monday of September,

which marks Labor Day in the U.S., and almost 13 million Americans -- 8.3 percent of the workforce -- remain unemployed. Another 8.2 million will remain in involuntary part-time jobs. The traditional Labor Day is a bitter reminder to millions of our fellow citizens that they are more on the road to poverty than

prosperity, leaving little to celebrate.

Once every four years, the nation has the opportunity to make changes in its management. The privilege of voting this year is a moral responsibility for the well-being of all. This Labor Day should be the beginning of a period of study and reflection leading to the ultimate decision day: Nov. 6.

There is more to do than to feel sorry for those without work or to contribute to food banks. This period before the elections should be one of understanding our responsibility as Christians, to analyze the position of candidates and apply these standards to our choice.

Billions of dollars are expected to be spent on political campaigns, especially advertising, this year.

We need not be passive recipients of political pablum, photo-ops of tie-less, shirt-sleeve candidates' appearances at state fairs.

"The relative silence of candidates and their campaigns on the moral imperative to resist and overcome poverty is both ominous and disheartening," the U.S. bishops say in their annual Labor Day statement. "Despite unacceptable levels of poverty, few candidates and elected officials speak about pervasive poverty or offer a path to overcome it.

"We need to hear from those who seek to lead the country about what specific steps they would take to lift people out of poverty," the statement says.

Think of these next few weeks as an extended job interview and analyze candidates accordingly.

If a job applicant said, "I will increase profits," the interviewer should be quick to ask for specifics. What is your plan? Will you increase revenues, reduce costs, develop new products? Tell me what you can do for this company?

Voters should do no less

when choosing a chief executive.

When just 10 percent of Americans approve of the board of directors - the U.S. Congress - it is time for some serious introspection. The Gallup poll shows 83 percent of Americans disapprove of the way Congress is doing its job -- an all-time low. The situation is unacceptable.

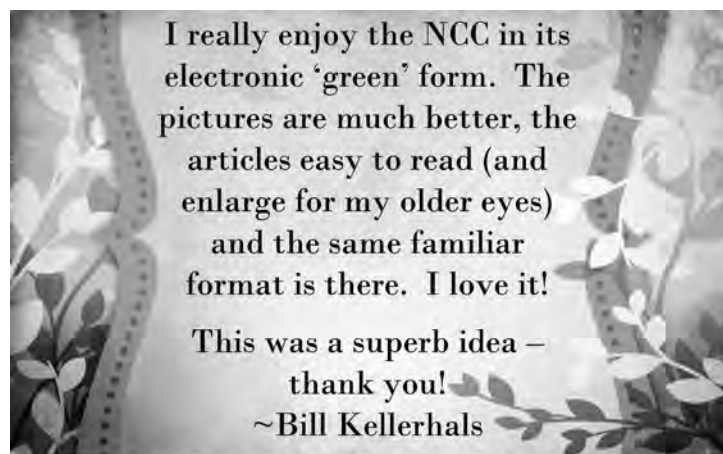
"Work is more than a paycheck; it helps raise our families, develop our potential, share in God's creation and contribute to the common good," says the bishops' Labor Day statement.

"In this time of economic turmoil and uncertainty, we need to reflect on the moral and human dimensions of too much poverty and not enough work," the bishops say.

These weeks prior to Election Day are a good time to do just that.

Prepare for voting as if your vote may put one person back to work. It just might.

Kent, now retired, was editor of archdiocesan newspapers in Omaha and Seattle. He can be contacted at: [considersk@gmail.com](mailto:considersk@gmail.com).



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AT THE MOVIES

# A message for modern times

By Catherine McDonough  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - St. Augustine's "Confessions," the autobiographical account of his sinful youth and eventual conversion to Christianity, may be a centuries-old story but its message still resonates today, according to the head of Ignatius Press.

**Seen in 'Restless Heart,'  
a story of St.  
Augustine's conversion**

For the first time, a feature film - titled "Restless Heart" - will tell the story of the fifth-century doctor of the church's journey to faith, said Mark Brumley, CEO of Ignatius Press.

"Catholics who have children who stray and leave the faith, or a spouse who is not Catholic ... can learn from the example of St. Augustine," Brumley said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service.

St. Augustine of Hippo (A.D. 354-430) "was raised in a family situation where his mother was a Christian and his father was not. He was not baptized as a child. He went off to school and was exposed to many perspectives at odds with faith," he said.

Later, after he converted to Christianity in 386 and was baptized, he "came to be a major figure," Brumley said.

The title of the movie is taken from a famous quote of St. Augustine: "Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless



CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF IGNATIUS PRESS

Monica Guerritore portrays the mother of St. Augustine, played by Alessandro Preziosi, in a scene from the movie "Restless Heart" from Ignatius Press. The movie is a full-length feature film on the life of St. Augustine, the fifth-century doctor of the church.

until they find their rest in thee."

The U.S. debut of the film was scheduled for Aug. 29 during the 2012 Catholic Marketing Network Trade Show at the Arlington, Texas, Convention Center, according to an Aug. 20 announcement from Ignatius.

Ignatius Press is working with parishes, organizations and individuals who want to arrange a screening of the film at a local theater or some other appropriate venue. Information about arranging a screening can be

found online at [www.restlessheartfilm.com](http://www.restlessheartfilm.com).

"Restless Heart" is one of two films Ignatius Press is currently behind. The other is called "Cosmic Origins," about the intersection of faith and science, which is being made available for showings in parishes and schools. Information for private screenings of "Cosmic Origins" can be found at [www.cosmicoriginsfilm.com](http://www.cosmicoriginsfilm.com).

Either movie can be a fundraiser for parishes or groups, Brumley told CNS. Also, each can be a "faith

raiser," he noted, which can help people deepen their faith during Pope Benedict XVI's Year of Faith, which starts in October.

Produced by an Italian public broadcasting station, "Restless Heart" was originally filmed in English as a miniseries and, with Ignatius Press as a partner, has made it to the U.S. as a full-length film.

"It is a truly inspirational

film and I think people will be greatly moved," Brumley said. "They will be moved and inspired by the story of St. Augustine."

"Ignatius Press, for some time, has had the use of the media, especially film, as a way of evangelizing and teaching Catholics about their faith," Brumley told CNS.

The other film, "Cosmic Origins," brings together physicists from NASA, Harvard, Vanderbilt and Cambridge universities, and other well-known institutions.

They discuss the scientific evidence for God's existence and his role in creating the universe, and counter the view some hold that faith and science are not compatible, according to the film's executive producer, Jesuit Father Robert J. Spitzer.

A former president of Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., Father Spitzer is founder and president of the Magis Center of Reason and Faith in Irvine, Calif.

"There is nothing that points away from God" in science, the priest told CNS in a telephone interview. "There is evidence for a Creator from space-time geometry. ... Without a Creator, you can't have space and can't have time."

There is a "creative entity outside space and time itself. That's hard to put our arms around, but we must ... even as physicists," Father Spitzer added.



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**CLINTON**

**HARVEST DINNER BUFFET**

**Altona** – A Harvest Dinner Buffet is going to be held to benefit St. Louis of France Parish, Sciota.

**Date:** Sept. 9  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Place:** Holy Angels Hall  
**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children, \$4; under 5, Free  
**Features:** Take-outs available, raffle, country store. Craft tables available by calling 236-5848 to reserve.

**SOAKING PRAYER**

**Plattsburgh** – Soaking Prayer is offered every 2nd and 4th 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. Peter's  
**Features:** A quiet prayerful environment, to be soaked in God's love

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Plattsburgh** – Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.  
**Place:** St. John's Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs  
**Time:** 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
**Contact:** call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com.

**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

**ESSEX**

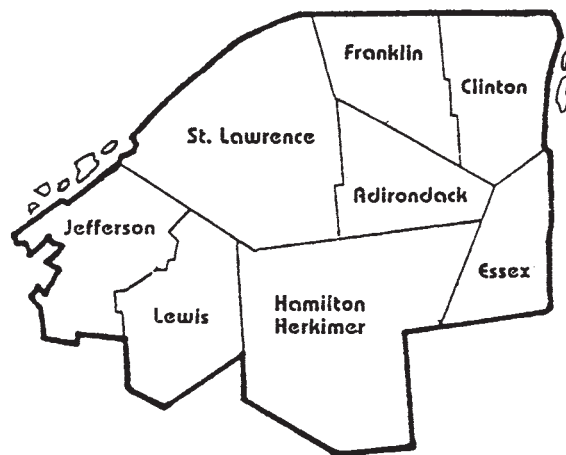
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Indian Lake** – The Indian Lake Knights of Columbus council 13102 is sponsoring the George "Coach" Burgess charity Golf Tournament to help local families with the heating costs this coming winter.  
**Date:** Sept. 15  
**Place:** Cedar River Golf Course  
**Fee:** \$65 entry fee includes 18 holes, a hot dog lunch and chicken bbq.  
**Contact:** David Harrington at 648-5170

**JEFFERSON**

**PARKINSON WALK**

**Sackets Harbor** – A Parkinson Walk to be held.  
**Date:** Sept. 22  
**Registration:** 8 a.m. to 9:30  
**Place:** Gazebo at Market Square Park  
**Features:** Two walks, 1.5 & 4.8 miles  
**Contact:** For additional information call Visitors Center at 315-646-2321



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.

**ROAST BEEF DINNER**

**Evans Mills** – The Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus will be having their Annual Roast Beef Dinner.  
**Date:** Sept. 8  
**Time:** 4 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Senior Citizens, \$7; Children under 12, \$5; under 5 eat for free.

**LIFERIGHT MEETING**

**Watertown** – Liferight of Watertown will hold its monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the Month.  
**Time:** 4 p.m.  
**Place:** 312 Sherman St.  
**Features:** The office has videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed. Topics covered: infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.  
**Contact:** Phone 315-788-8480; website: www.liferight.org.

**LEWIS**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**Harrisville** – A pancake breakfast is to be held.  
**Date:** Sept. 2  
**Time:** 7:30 a.m. to 10:30  
**Place:** St. Francis Solanus Church  
**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Children 12-5, \$5; under 5, Free

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS**

**Houseville** – Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of September have been planned  
**Date:** Sept. 2  
**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Hedwig's Church  
**Features:** The program includes: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome. Contact 348-6260.

**ST. HEDWIG'S 85TH ANNIVERSARY HOUSEVILLE**

– Tickets are available for the upcoming St. Hedwig's 85th anniversary dinner.  
**Date:** Sept. 23  
**Time:** after the 11 a.m. Mass  
**Features:** Bishop Terry R. LaValley will be the main celebrant. There is a limited number of tickets.  
**Contact:** Presale tickets may be obtained by contacting Joanne 348-8735 or Mary Ann 348-6260.

**ST. HEDWIG'S POLISH FEST**

**Houseville** – Save the date for St. Hedwig's Polish Festival.  
**Date:** Oct. 21  
**Time:** at noon after the celebration of the 11 a.m. Mass.  
**Features:** The Fest will feature a delicious Polish Platter, Theme Basket Raffles, Baked Goods, Ice Cream Sundaes and a 50/50 Raffle. Proceeds to benefit church restoration and repairs.  
**Contact:** 348-8735 or 348-6260.

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**K OF C BRUNCH**

**Norfolk** – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.  
**Date:** Sept. 9  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to Noon  
**Place:** Visitation Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$4; Under 5, Free; Family, \$18  
 Take-outs available

**CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE**

**Gouverneur** – St. James School will hold its annual Chicken Bar-B-Que.  
**Date:** Sept. 9  
**Time:** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, free

**SURVIVOR SUPPORT GROUP**

**Canton** – The Surviving Spouse Friendship and Support Group meets the first Thursday of the month.  
**Time:** 9 a.m.  
**Place:** Best Western University Inn  
**Contact:** Lita Maroney at 379-1650 for more information and for restaurant planning purposes.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**Massena** – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's holds Adoration every Friday.  
**Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Church.  
**Features:** First Friday of each month is preceded by Benediction.

**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**

**PHILLY PILGRIMAGE**

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society (DOVS) is offering a pilgrimage to Philadelphia, Penn.  
**Dates:** Oct. 8-10  
**Features:** Join Bishop LaValley and Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan vocation director, for visits to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, the shrine of St. John Neumann, the Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel, and the Motherhouse of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart.  
**Cost:** The cost will be \$495 for double occupancy (\$645 for single occupancy). Any profits from the pilgrimage will be used for the promotion of vocations.  
**Contact:** To register contact Connie Randall at (315) 265-2762. Payment is due Aug. 24.

**ALTAR SERVER MASS AND PICNIC**

**Ogdensburg** – Altar servers from parishes across the diocese will be rec-

ognized  
**Date:** Sept. 9  
**Time:** beginning at 2:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral; picnic at Knights of Columbus hall  
**Features:** Altar servers and families will gather for Mass with Bishop LaValley at St. Mary's Cathedral beginning at 2:30. Following liturgy there will be a picnic at the K of C hall as well as fun and games for the entire family.  
**Registration:** interested servers and families should contact their pastor to sign up. Registration deadline is Sept. 2.

**MARRIAGE JUBILEE**

**Ogdensburg** – The 2012 Marriage Jubilee has been planned  
**Date:** Sept. 30  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral  
**Features:** Couples celebrating anniversaries and their families are welcome to attend.  
**Contact:** Diocese of Ogdensburg Family Life Office at 315-393-2920 ext 420 or www.dioogdensburg.org/family-life

**NEIGHBORING DIOCESES**

**VERMONT CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**

**Barre, Vt.** – The theme for this sixth annual Vermont Catholic Conference is "By Faith..." (Hebrews 11) to coincide with the "Year of Faith".  
**Date:** Nov. 3  
**Place:** St. Monica Church  
**Speaker:** Msgr. Stuart Swetland – Chair for Christian Ethics and the President's Committee on Catholic Identity and Mission at Mount St. Mary's University in Maryland.

**Features:** The conference will include workshops on: Christian Ethics, Faith in Politics, Stronger Faith in 30 Days (Ignatian Spirituality), Faith in Action, I Believe; We Believe, and Theology of the Body – Part II. Share your own faith story in 500 words or less to appear in the registration packet by emailing to info@vtchallengers.org by October 12th.  
**Contact:** www.VTchallengers.org for more information or to register

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

**Syracuse** – The third annual Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference will be held  
**Date:** Oct. 27  
**Place:** Convention Center at the Oncenter  
**Schedule:** Registration 8 a.m., Conference begins at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Contact:** Registration now open www.syracusecwc.com





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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

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

# A visit to St. Augustine's, Peru

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

I taught at St. Augustine's School in the early 70's. I refer to Peru as the "heart of the diocese".

In July 2012, parents told my former students that I was coming to town to give the St. Peter the Apostle Appeal.

They quickly replied, "Sr. Mary Ellen is coming to town, we thought she was dead".

### To speak to parishioners about St. Peter the Apostle Appeal

I reminded the parishioners that when people heard I was going to visit a third world country that would be my demise.

However I was glad to be alive as it was like old home week to see so many familiar faces at St. Augustine's Church and at the blessing of the Pavillion of Mother Cabrini's Shrine.

It was indeed a joy to share my brief experience of another place close to my heart, Peru, SA with the people in Peru, NY. In Peru, SA,

I saw seminarians in classes studying for the priesthood. Support provided through the St. Peter Apostle Appeal ensures that these young men may continue to answer the call to serve as priests.

Today there are some 30,000 seminarians studying in 500 major seminaries throughout the developing world. Likewise this appeal supports men and women candidates for religious life to serve in the missions.

I met a priest, Father Freddy, who was grateful for the support of the St. Peter the Apostle Appeal in his journey to priesthood.

He was going to be Pastor of St. Martin de Porres Church, Mollendo, where our Ogdensburg Diocesan Priests served for forty years.

Most likely our priests influenced his decision to become a priest.

Sincere gratitude to Father Alan Shnob, pastor of St. Augustine's, the parishioners, and all throughout the diocese who have supported the 2012 St. Peter the Apostle Summer Appeal.

God bless.

Please remember "The Pontifical Mission Societies" when writing or changing your Will.  
[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

## OBITUARIES

**Cadyville** — Rodney A. Lemieux, 62; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Chazy** — A. John "Johnny" Deyo, 44; Funeral Services Aug. 26, 2012 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Coopersville.

**Cumberland Head** — Scott H. Strack, 44; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2012 at St. Mary's of the Lake Oratory; burial in St. Mary's of the Lake cemetery.

**Dannemora** — James M. Dowdle, 94; Funeral Services Aug. 21, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Elizabethtown** — Joseph Gerald Geiling, 82; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2012 at St. Elizabeth's Church; burial in St. Elizabeth's Cemetery.

**Hogansburg** — Margaret M. White Edwards, 73; Funeral Services Aug. 21, 2012 at St. Regis Church.

**Lake Placid** — Seth Anthony Kilburn, 34; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2012 at St. Agnes Church.

**Lyon Mountain** — Alvin Anthony Canning Sr., 89; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2012 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

For a New or Used Car  
**MORT BACKUS & SONS**  
On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.  
Phone  
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Support And Pray  
For Vocations

**Massena** — Elvera V. (Stoyka) Neves, 85; Funeral Aug. 20, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Robert "Bobby" C. Prashaw, 64; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2012 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Leon J. Santamont, 82; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2012 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** — Edward J. "Ed" Spanbauer, 80; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Morrisonville** — Jean (Franchino) Esposito, 84; Funeral Services at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Plattsburgh.

**Morrisonville** — Joan M. (Ashline) Frenyea, 81; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2012 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in

St. Alexander's Cemetery.

**Morrisonville** — Viola M. "Vi" (Duquette) Trudeau, 102; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2012 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery.

**Peru** — Robert Leo Baker, 88; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2012 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Mary Ellen Boswell, 66; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2012 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Harold E. Carter, 88; Funeral Aug. 20, 2012 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Holy Angels Cemetery, Altona.

**Port Henry** — Clermont Turgeon, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Watertown** — Joseph J. Foti, 55; Funeral Services Aug. 23, 2012 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

## APPLEFEST CARD

Benefit of

St. Augustine's &  
St. Patrick's Church

3035 Main Street, Peru, New York 12972

Donation \$ 10 per card

Early bird drawing \$ 500  
on September 16th at 6 p.m.

Drawings Daily for \$ 100  
(Oct. 1—Oct. 30)

Final Drawing on Oct. 31st for \$ 500

32 Chances to Win!  
\$ 4000 in Cash



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Seller: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to St. Augustine's Church



## YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

# What a privilege and a blessing!

By Rachel Daly  
Contributing Writer

It comes with the territory that as a counselor at Camp Guggenheim, I have taken my share of general misunderstanding as to why I spend my summers the way I do.

I have been criticized for not making enough money, for disappearing into the Adirondack cell service Bermuda triangle seven weeks a year, and for "falling behind" as my classmates at school get internships and do things that will advance their future careers.

I've had friends insinuate that going back to a summer camp is immature and childish and that I should be moving on to bigger and better things.

I've had friends knit their

brow and look at me with bewilderment when I describe the sleep deprivation, the steady diet of camp food (you can draw your own conclusions about what that's like), and the constant state of having a mysterious combination of sweat, sand, kitchen residue, sunscreen, and glitter all over me.

I am perfectly comfortable with the fact that no one who has never been to Camp Guggenheim will ever understand what is so special about it. And so, these criticisms more or less roll off my back.

Because I don't hesitate to say that what I have the blessing and privilege to do each summer is far and away the most important thing I've ever done with my life.

It could be the most important thing anyone does with his or her life, and it's

only more magnified for me in the summertime because I have the chance to do it in such a condensed and intensive way, and that is to give of myself to others.

**Time at Guggenheim:  
It could be the most  
important thing anyone  
does with his or her life**

This summer, I often prayed St. Ignatius of Loyola's prayer for generosity, in which there is a line, "Teach me...to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest...."

I can honestly say that this pretty much summed up my job description, when I was lending out my blankets to chilly campers, or losing my sanity scratching at bug bites, or really just wishing for a nap.

I leaned on that prayer, knowing that I needed all the grace I could get.

But I can also say that, with it all said and done and with a few weeks passed since the camp season ended, this was all absolutely and totally worth it. Jesus wanted us to be fishers of men, and being a Guggenheim counselor gave me the privileged position of one at a time, "hooking" each of our campers in the way that he or she needed most.

For some, this was just making that camper a peanut butter and jelly sandwich when he couldn't eat the camp food, and doing it with love.

For others it was being a shoulder to cry on.

For most, it was, together with all the staff, providing an environment free from the pressures and negative influences of teenage life in which to just have FUN. And if I might say so, we at Camp Guggenheim know a



PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Rachel Daly, left, of Peru; Samantha Fazioli, Saranac Lake and Eliza Zalis of Plattsburgh are shown at the "camp store" during Sunday registration July 29, beginning the final week of the 2012 Guggenheim camp season.

thing or two about how to have fun!

So as my summer draws to a close, I want to say thank you to each and every person who made it possible for a camper to come to Guggenheim.

Your kids are fantastic, and I will vouch that every dollar spent and every ounce of energy it took to get your kids to camp bore fruit a hundredfold.

And not only that, but every ounce of energy you give throughout the year to keep ministering to these incredible young people is equally important.

I pray that until next camp season, we may continue to maintain and grow all of the beautiful gifts that these young people possess, because they are absolutely bursting to be shared with the world.

**THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS**

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

PRAYER SUGGESTION

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

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

Or whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him

September  
Our Lady of Sorrows

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY SEPTEMBER 2012

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For more information visit us online at: [www.mpprapostolate.com](http://www.mpprapostolate.com)  
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