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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPT. 12, 2012

## 'Those who love Jesus want to pray'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The more people love Jesus, the more they will want to spend time with him in prayer; and the more they pray, the more they will resemble him, Pope Benedict XVI said.

While God always listens to people's pleas for help and is always ready to respond, "our prayer must first be an act of listening to God who

speaks to us," the pope said Sept. 5 at his weekly general audience.

The audience marked the beginning of a series of papal audience talks on prayer in the Book of Revelation, which the pope said was "a difficult book, but one that contains a great richness" because it presents readers with the prayer life of the

earliest Christian communities.

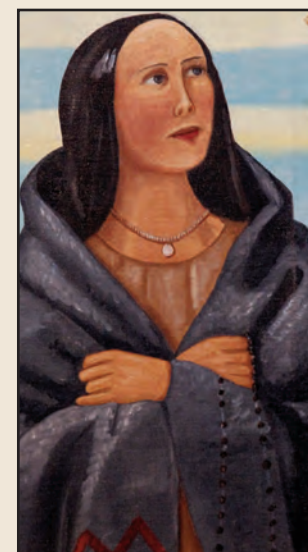
In the opening chapter of Revelation, God reveals himself as "the Alpha and the Omega," which, the pope said, means God shows himself to be "the beginning and end of history. He takes to heart the requests of the assembly. He was, is and will be present and active with

his love in the midst of the events of humanity."

But the Book of Revelation also teaches that priority in prayer must be given to listening to God's word and responding with "praise to God for his love (and) for the gift of Jesus Christ, who brings us strength, hope and salvation," Pope Benedict told the crowd.

### WITNESS OF FAITH CELEBRATION

To open Year of Faith in the diocese



The diocesan observance of the Year of Faith will officially open Nov. 18 with a prayer service called Witnesses of Faith Celebration. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the service to be held at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral. The diocesan family is invited to attend. Plans are underway to celebrate the saintly lives of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, shown above; St. Mother Marianne Cope, OSF, and St. Brother Andre Bessette, CSC. Sister Kateri Mitchell, Akwesasne native and executive director of the national Tekakwitha Conference will be the main speaker.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## News from Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities annual Caritas Dinner will be held Oct. 28 at the Gran View Restaurant.

The 2012 recipient of the Caritas Award will be Gayle Seymour, Malone Catholic Parishes. The award has been presented each year since 1978 for "devoted and unselfish service to the people of north ern New York."

Catholic Charities also announced that Darry Roberts is the new area director/clinician for the Clinton/Essex County Office located at 43 Durkee Street in Plattsburgh.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

## No paper next week

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic* will be dated Sept. 26.

Keep informed about the diocesan family through the NCC Facebook page

## THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



PHOTO BY CELINA BURNS

Jack Morley, Amber Liu, and Nolan Hooper are enjoying their first day of play time in Junior Kindergarten at St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy in Ogdensburg. SMDA is one of 14 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg which opened its doors last week for the 2012-13 school year.

**FATHER BILL:** How the Second Vatican Council changed his life... p. 2

NORTH  
COUNTRY  
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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A little slacking  
in September

You'll notice in a couple spots in this week's *NCC*, the announcement that there won't be an issue next week.

We're a little backwards in our house this year. While all the kids and teachers are heading back to school and most summer vacations are over, we're just starting ours.

On a personal level, it makes perfect sense. Why would anyone want to leave the North Country in the summer??

But, for a diocesan newspaper, the timing is less than ideal.

This month is just like every other September.

The days are filled with parish and diocesan events that deserve (and will receive) good coverage.

For the youngest members of our family of faith, the first week of school is behind them. Our 14 Catholic schools opened to thousands of children for another year of Christ-centered learning.

This past Sunday, a good number of our Catholic kids – those who serve their parishes on the altar – joined Bishop LaValley to share faith, fun and food at the

annual Altar Server picnic.

Next Sunday, adults will be honored as parishes observe Catechetical Sunday.

This will be an opportunity to recognize the professional religious educators and volunteers who pass on our faith to our children.

Sept. 15-16 also marks the official opening of the 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal which makes all the events on our church calendars possible!

September activities continue with three Year of Faith workshops – Sept. 22 in Plattsburgh, Sept 26 in Saranac Lake and Sept. 29 in Watertown.

And, the last day of the month features an event that's first in many of our hearts – the annual Marriage Jubilee. At that special cathedral Mass we honor married couples from across the diocese for their commitment to God and the each other.

After our short break, the pages of the *NCC* will be filled again, with stories of these events and so many more as we move ever closer to our Year of Faith.

See you on the 26th!

Mary Lou  
Kilian

## A Harvest of Good News!

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## My place as a priest became clearer

I want to continue sharing with you my journey as a priest, a journey that was profoundly influenced by the Second Vatican Council in my days as a young priest.

The Second Vatican Council began 50 years ago, three years after my ordination as a priest.

This October, as the Catholic Church celebrates that anniversary, you will often see that spectacular picture of the nave of St. Peter's Basilica filled with more than 2,000 Bishops from every country in the world.

Those Bishops – the Council Fathers – were to promulgate 16 documents, which were to profoundly influence our Catholic Church – and me – influencing how the Church communicates itself to the world. This Second Vatican Council continues to guide and form our Church that you and I know today.

The Council formed two documents concerning the Church, answering what the Catholic Church is all about. There was so much discussion and investigation by the Bishops that two documents on this subject of the Church were necessary. There is the "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church – "Lumen Gentium" from the first words of the document.

The other – concerned with practical matters is "The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World." There was much open discussion, even debating, concerning these documents but, both documents were approved almost unanimously.

During my seminary days I had studied and read much about the traditional teaching concerning the Church. The First Vatican Council had discussed much about the Church but, for various reasons, had not completed its work in this regard.

Then, at the Second Vatican Council, the Bishops, the Council Fathers, working together to form the Council pronouncements, saw a need of setting a different vision of the Church.

This vision was more Biblical, more

historical, more vital and dynamic – a Church in the world, yet, not of it.

You can't imagine how this teaching touched my life. I saw my role as a priest changing as the Council showed us just what the Church was about.

Previously, the Catholic teaching on Church – a teaching I was formed in during seminary – placed an emphasis on the hierarchical (where does everyone fit in the Church from Pope to people?) and the juridical (what are the rules and laws?)

Now, the Council calls upon the Church to be more pastoral in character, a spirit that has formed the Church and continues to form the Church today. The Church should be a "loving Mother of all," spreading Christian charity everywhere, says the Council.

The Church should continue the work of the Good Shepherd who came to serve and not to be served, who did not hesitate to lay down his life for his sheep. This image has dominated my priesthood and I pray will continue to dominate the Catholic Church.

I pray that our Church will always witness to this.

I hope you see how wonderful the Council touched our Church, even changed the vision of us all toward our Church, all of us, Bishops, priests and people.

I love the Church. I find my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, coming alive for us all in the Church. This Second Vatican Council led me to a new love, a continuing love for the Catholic Church.

My place as a priest in the Church became clearer after the Council. I saw and understood my place as a pastor: to reach out like the Good Shepherd to those in need. I found myself more united in a more wonderful way with the people I worshiped with, with the people I lived with in the parish and also with my Bishop.

There is so much more to tell about how the Second Vatican Council guides and forms me and our Church... stay tuned for next week's column!

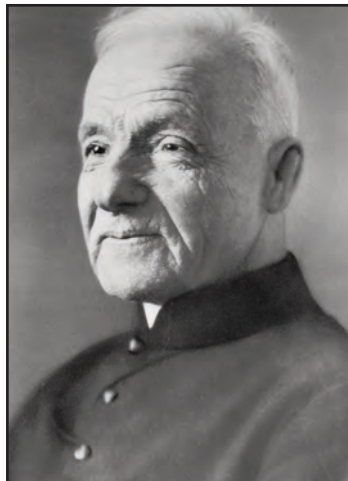
Mark your calendars for Nov. 18 at the cathedral



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha



Blessed Mother Marianne Cope



St. Brother Andre Bessette

## Witnesses of Faith Celebration is set

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is entering upon the Year of Faith as designated by Pope Benedict XVI from Oct. 11, 2012-Nov. 24, 2013.

The focus that the diocese will be developing is knowing and living the Catholic faith.

"One of the ways of knowing our faith is to become familiar with the witnesses and heroes of those who have had a strong influence of witnessing their Catholic faith among their people," said St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, former diocesan director of the Office of Evangelization and current member of the diocesan Year of Faith Committee.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is blessed with one of these witnesses – Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha who will be canonized a saint by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 21.

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha is well-known and revered in North Country at the St. Regis Mohawk Mission in Hogansburg and among Catholics throughout the Diocese.

"There are two other witnesses of faith who have touched many of the lives of the North Country," Sister Eamon said. They are

Blessed Mother Marianne Cope, OSF who will be canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at the same time as Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Brother Andre Bessette, CSC., who was canonized Oct. 17, 1910.

Blessed Mother Marianne Cope founded St. Joseph's Hospital and St. Elizabeth Hospital in Utica. She also worked with St. Damien of Molokai with the many lepers there.

St. Brother Andre Bessette, was the door keeper at the monastery of the Holy Cross Fathers in Montreal. He was responsible for the founding of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal.

### Official opening

The diocesan observance of the Year of Faith will officially open Nov. 18 with a prayer service called Witnesses of Faith Celebration.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley Will preside at the service to be held at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral.

The diocesan family is invited to attend.

Plans are already underway to celebrate the saintly lives of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Mother Marianne Cope, OSF, and St. Brother Andre

Bessette, CSC.

The main speaker for the Prayer Service will be Sister Kateri Mitchell, a Sister of St. Anne and native of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation.

Sister Kateri is the executive director of the Tekakwitha Conference in Great Falls, Mont.

"What a privilege for the Diocese of Ogdensburg to have Sister Kateri share with us her expertise and passion the story of St. Kateri Tekakwitha and to give the people of the North Country a deeper insight into her holiness and spirituality," Sister Eamon said.

"St. Kateri's faith was tested but her love for God and her people has borne fruit that is found in the faith and devotion of all the Native-American Indians who have prayed to her and through her intercession have experienced healing and transformation," she said.

A reception will follow the prayer service.



## Bishop's Fund Appeal opens this weekend

The 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal will open in parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg this weekend.

The theme for the year is Faces of Faith and the with a goal of \$1.25 million.

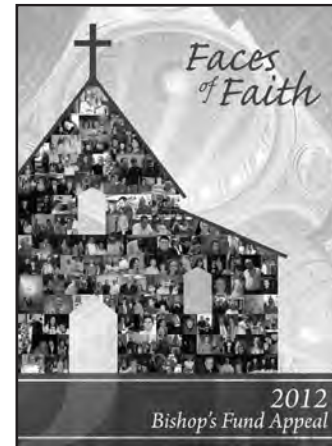
In a pastoral letter about the Bishop's Fund, Bishop LaValley noted that he sees countless "Faces of Faith" in his travels around the North Country that tell stories of:

- *Hope in times of despair.* Like the parents whose child was diagnosed with a heart defect but came to know the support of their friends and neighbors through a grant from the Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund;

- *Perseverance when times are difficult.* Like the folks who participate in Dinner For Two or Family Guggenheim, working hard to strengthen their marriages and families;

- *Education in order to serve.* Like the Seminarians, Commissioned Lay Ministers, Religious, and Clergy who study our faith so that they may serve in parishes across the diocese;

- *Unity in an ever changing world.* Like the Youth and Young Adults who attend retreats and Camp Guggenheim so that they may be drawn to participate responsibly in the life and mission of the Catholic faith family; and



- *Building foundations for life.* Like the children in Catholic Schools and Religious Formation who are learning Christian values and the importance of bringing their gifts to the service of others.

"We are able to bring hope in times of despair, encourage perseverance when times are tough, offer education to those called to service, promote unity in an ever changing world and help build foundations for life through your generous support of the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal," Bishop LaValley said.

Donations can be mailed to: The Bishop's Fund Appeal, PO Box 150, Ogdensburg, New York 13669.

Further information about the appeal and a link to the 2012 Bishop's Fund video, is available at [www.dioogdensburg.org/development](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/development).

Visit our re-designed website  
[www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)

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

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# OUR LADY OF THE ADIRONDACKS HOUSE OF PRAYER CELEBRATES FOUNDATION



PHOTOS BY SHAWN RYAN

Bishop Terry R. LaValley made his first visit to the Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer in Ellenburg Center Aug. 25 for a Foundation Day gathering. The day's program began as Father Jack Downs offered a conference on meditation and contemplation. Then Bishop LaValley celebrated Mass. In April, members of the House of Prayer celebrated the 39th year since the House opened through a vision of Father Joe Trombley for a lay apostolate and the importance of having a place where people can come to pray. Above are Pat Hanley, director of the House of Prayer; Ruth Cassin, Father Downs, Bernard Ratneiyya, Bishop LaValley, Rita Breen, Richard Breen, Tony Roberts and Father Alan Lamica, spiritual director of the House of Prayer. At right, Father Downs and Bishop LaValley are shown during the Mass.



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"A time to gather and celebrate marriage"

# Catholic Charities News and Notes

## Caritas Dinner plans announced

OGDENSBURG - Catholic Charities annual Caritas Dinner will be held Oct. 28 at the Gran View Restaurant.

The 2012 recipient of the Caritas Award will be Gayle Seymour, Malone Catholic Parishes. The award has been presented each year since 1978 for "devoted and unselfish service to the people of north ern New York."

Mrs. Seymour is a former board member of Catholic Charities and is currently, a volunteer in the Malone Office.

Daughter of Charity Sister Donna Franklin, diocesan director of Catholic Charities said, "Gayle is tireless in her

work to serve others and improve the quality of life for individuals and families in the Malone area."

The Legacy Award is given by the Board of Trustees to a young person or group who make concrete the Gospel values of Charity and Justice.

This is the third year that a Legacy Award has been presented.

This year Catholic Charities is honoring the two Catholic high schools of the Diocese of Ogdensburg: Immaculate Heart Central High School in WatertoWn and Seton Catholic Central High School in Plattsburgh.

"These schools provide an

education that includes a commitment to serving people and creating a more compassionate community for all citizens," Sister Donna said.

The dinner begins with a cash bar at 4:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 5 p.m. The cost of the Dinner is: \$40.00 per person.

All proceeds benefit the Vianney Fund at Catholic Charities. This fund is used for emergency services for individuals and families throughout the North Country.

Further information about the Caritas Dinner is available from Cindy Elliott at (315) 393-2255.

## New Plattsburgh office staff named

PLATTSBURGH - - Catholic Charities has announce dthat Darry Roberts is the new area director/clinician for the Clinton/Essex County Office located at 43 Durkee Street in Plattsburgh

Mr. Darry joined the staff Sept. 4

The new administrative assistant in the Plattsburgh Office is Deborah Long. She will be working Monday through Friday. This will assure that the office can be reached during regular working hours - Monday through Friday 9 to 4:00.

Catholic Charities has a contract with the Archdiocese of New York to provide disaster case management for victims of Hurricane Irene. The new case manager is Dana Kelly. Ms. Dana can be reached at the Plattsburgh Office.

The phone number of the Plattsburgh Office: (518) 561-0470.

Please use my/our gift to continue the good works of our Church and help support the ministries of the Diocese.

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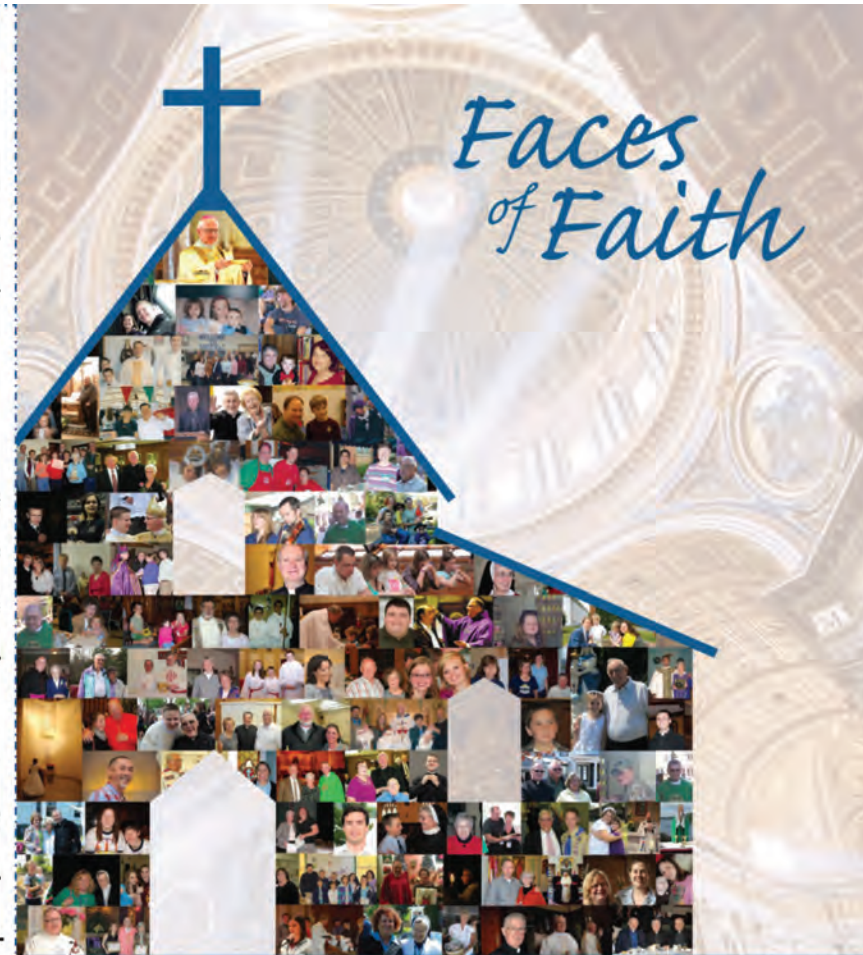
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# Diocese honors donors in Memorare Legacy Society

By **Scott Lalone**  
Executive Director  
Diocesan Development Office

Have you already or have been thinking about leaving a legacy by designating a portion of your assets to pass at death to the Diocese of Ogdensburg, your parish or school or diocesan program or organization?

Over the years many individuals have remembered the Diocese of Ogdensburg and its parishes in their estate planning, especially in their wills.

In commemoration of their faithfulness and the commitment of those today and tomorrow who will make such gifts, the Memorare Legacy Society was established in 2008.

It is through this society that the Diocese of Ogdensburg will thank donors for their support of the Diocese, their parish, Catholic school, or other diocesan institutions, organizations or programs.

The Memorare Legacy Society honors and recognizes

the generosity and vision of those who have chosen to leave a legacy to the Diocese of Ogdensburg through estate or deferred gifts.

One qualifies for membership by designating a portion of his or her assets to pass at death to the Diocese or one of its institutions, programs, agencies or parishes or Catholic schools.

These gifts may be accomplished by a simple statement that you have remembered the Church in your will or similar document such as a trust, life insurance policy, charitable gift annuity, designation of an IRA or 401(k) or any other more complex transactions.

Members of this society are those who have informed the Diocese of a planned gift that, in the future, will benefit the Diocese of Ogdensburg or any of its parishes or programs. This ensures a continuous commitment of care to their Church, to the Church's vision and to the charitable works that flow from her

missions through their thoughtful planned gift. Members' names will not be made public unless they specifically give their consent to do so.

## Current members

A special thank you to current members of the Memorare Legacy Society: Monsignor Joseph Aubin of Plattsburgh, Therese Bruyere of Ogdensburg, Reverend Douglas Comstock of Alexandria Bay, Mrs. Marguerite Giroux-Eckman of Waddington, Elizabeth Kelly of Plattsburgh, Mrs. Judith Kelly of Lady Lake Florida, Monsignor Robert Lawler of Ogdensburg, Reverend Gilbert Menard of Plattsburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Pearson of Watertown, Monsignor Leonard Poissant of Keeseville, Deacon and Mrs. William Frances Raven of Black River, Deacon Bernard Slate of Clayton, Miss Kathleen St. Denis of Plattsburgh, Reverend Bryan Stitt of Malone, Reverend Richard Sturtz of Schroon Lake as well as several who prefer their intentions to remain anonymous.

It is easy to become a member of the Memorare Legacy Society.

Requesting a brochure to be sent to you or by simply completing the membership form at left and returning it makes you an automatic member.

## 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**, Terriane Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: aycsn@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401

## Bishop's Schedule

**Sept. 13** – 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 14** – 8:30 a.m., Opening School Mass and Visit to St. Mary's School in Canton.

**Sept. 16** – 2:00 p.m., Mass to celebrate Bishop Matthew Clark's 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester.

**Sept. 17** – 7:15 p.m., Mass and Novena at the Deacon Winter Chapel at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 18** – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 19** – 6:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Foundation Dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn in Watertown.

**Sept. 20** – 9:30 a.m., Opening School Mass for Seton Catholic Central at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh.

**Sept. 21** – 9:30 a.m., Opening School Mass and Visit to Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown.

**Sept. 22** – 10:30 a.m., Council of Religious Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg; 5 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Church in Champlain, followed by the first Annual Parish Picnic.

**Sept. 23** – 11:00 a.m., 85th Anniversary Mass for St. Hedwig's Church in Houseville.

**Sept. 24** – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg.

**Sept. 26-27** – New York State Catholic Conference Meeting in Douglaston, NY.

## NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic* Will be dated Sept. 26

## 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. 403. Upcoming programs:

**Sept. 12** - St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy, Ogdensburg, 6:30

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

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

**Sept. 18** - St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga, 5:30

**Sept. 19** - Holy Name School, AuSable Forks, 6 p.m.

**Sept. 19** - St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake, 6 p.m.

**Sept. 21** - Augustinian Academy, Carthage, 10 a.m.

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

**Oct. 15** - St. James Church, Gouverneur, 6 p.m.

## Rest in Peace

**Sept. 12** – Rev. Vincent Skiba, 1984

**Sept. 14** – Rev. Russell O'Neil, 1951

**Sept. 17** – Rev. William E. Capron, 1949; Msgr. Louis D. Berube, 1999

**Sept. 18** – Rev. C. E. Campeau, 1952

**Sept. 19** – Rev. Francis C. McMahon, 1975

**Sept. 20** – Msgr. Edmund J. Brown, 1954; Rev. Donald Gallagher, 1959;

Rev. Edward J. Wright, 1993; Msgr. Floyd J. Brown, 1994

**Sept. 21** – Rev. Wilbert LeBeau, 1953

**Sept. 22** – Rev. John McDermott, 1870; Msgr. John Michael Hogan, 1951

**Sept. 23** – Rev. P. Phillips, 1872; Rev. Marcel Dupont, M.S.C., 1982

**Sept. 24** – Rev. John Talbot Smith, 1923; Deacon Reginald F. Merrill, 2005

**Sept. 25** – Rev. Frederick P. Shue, 1989

## Memorare Legacy Society Form

Requesting a brochure to be sent to you or by simply completing the membership form below and returning it makes you an automatic member.

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

As evidence of my/our desire to provide a legacy gift, I/we wish to inform that (name of beneficiary) \_\_\_\_\_ has been named in my/our estate plans.

In recognition of your intention, you will be enrolled into the Memorare Legacy Society.

Yes, you may publicize my/our name(s) as member(s) which serves to motivate others

I/we prefer my/our intentions to remain anonymous

Donor's Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to: Scott Lalone, Executive Director  
Development Office, PO Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669.

IN PARISHES FROM EAST TO WEST

# FACES OF FAITH



The Catholic Communities of Cape Vincent, Rosiere and Chaumont sponsored Vacation Bible School in August at Dablon Point in Cape Vincent. Shown are some of the children who took part. Seated from left are Brendan Handley, William Moots, Matthew Mason, Ava Handley, Sarah Mason and Raphaela Bell; standing, Alison Swenson, Isabella McDonough, Austin Smith, Jaden Guga, Jasmine Randall, Nicholas Mason and Vincent Nebbia.



Deacon Bob Ruddy was on duty for the Labor Day Roast Beef All You Can Eat Dinner held Sept. 2 at the K of C Hall in Rosiere. The Knights of Columbus of the Catholic Communities of Cape Vincent, Rosiere and Chaumont sponsored the dinner.



Ashley Elliott and daughter, Madelyn Varney, work on a project together on the first day of school at St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy in Ogdensburg.



PHOTO BY KATE CURRY  
At its annual SMILE (St. Mary's Indian Lake Energizers) rummage and craft sale, the Hamilton County parish raises funds to help the needy in the church and community.



The St. Mary's Third Order Carmelites, Immaculata, recently held a Profession ceremony at St. Mary's Church, Clayton. Father David Deluca was the celebrant for the Mass and Profession ceremony. Connie Robbins became fully Professed after six years of study in Carmel. Following the Mass, the Carmelites had a picnic celebration on Grindstone at Laura Reff's cottage. For inquiries to become a member of the 3rd Order Carmelite, contact Dee Fuller 315- 686-4293.

## VATICAN LETTER

# A papal imprint

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** - With his personal charisma and energetic pastoral style, Blessed John Paul II famously inspired a generation of vocations to the priesthood - to the point that men whose discernment or formation had been decisively shaped by his 27-year pontificate came to be known as "John Paul II priests."

## Pope Benedict's teachings are leaving mark on future priests

Now Pope Benedict XVI, in his eighth year as pontiff, is making his mark on a new generation of future priests, who have embraced many of his ideas and priorities.

For Danny Pabon, a seminarian from the Archdiocese of Newark, who just began studying at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, reading Pope Benedict's account of the meaning of Jesus' life and teachings was a turning point in the process of his discernment of a vocation, revealing for him "that this is the Jesus of Nazareth I want to follow."

Even before he became a Catholic in 2009, Timothy Ahn said he already saw Pope Benedict "as a great theologian" who "diagnosed the problems of the world." Ahn is now a seminarian at the North American College from the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C.

Nathan Ricci, who comes to the college from the Diocese of Providence, R.I., said he especially admired Pope Benedict's courage in promoting Catholic teaching in a world where many "want to ignore the faith."

Such influence is not surprising, said the college's rector, Msgr. James F. Chec-



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

**Five of 62 new students stand on a sports field near the logo of the Pontifical North American College at the U.S. seminary in Rome Sept. 5. Many young seminarians are now influenced by Pope Benedict XVI, including these five, pictured from left: Michael Hendershott of the Diocese of Knoxville, Tenn.; Nathan Ricci of the Diocese of Providence, R.I.; Timothy Ahn of the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C.; Danny Pabon of the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J.; and Stephen Gadberry of the Diocese Little Rock, Ark.**

chio, because Pope Benedict "is very rich in his writings about faith and the priesthood and speaks very endearingly to priests." Men discerning a vocation "pick that up" right away, he said.

The college has been "at capacity" for the last two years with 232 seminarians, Msgr. Checchio said, up from 150 men when he became rector in 2005. That reflects a national trend in U.S. Catholic seminary enrollment, which last year saw its highest numbers in almost a quarter century.

Msgr. Checchio said the North American College's current enrollment is marked by diversity and enthusiasm that reflect "the vitality of our church and our country."

There's been an increase in men who have served in the military, the monsignor said, and the college now has at least six veterans as seminarians.

Stephen Gadberry of the Diocese of Little Rock, Ark., said it wasn't until he served in the Air Force that he felt

called to the priesthood, and he credits the "great priests" whom he knew as military chaplains for crucial help with his discernment.

Like his military service, Gadberry's work on his family's farm in Arkansas taught him about discipline, setting goals, persevering and appreciating the fruits of labor, he said. "I'm a simple guy," he added. "I'm not scared to work so hopefully that'll be a good service, going into the vineyard with hands ready to be put to work and feet ready to walk the journey."

For evidence that simple and humble people can accomplish great things, Ahn said he looks to the example of St. John Vianney.

The seminarian said he tries to model his life after the 19th-century parish priest, whom Pope Benedict put in the spotlight when he declared him patron of the world's clergy during the 2009-2010 Year for Priests.

The pope called that jubilee year to help purify the

priesthood after a decade when the sins of sex abusers had sullied the clergy's public image and morale.

He also presented the French saint as a model of the fight against indifference and secularism, one soul at a time.

Msgr. Checchio said that seminarians today are acutely aware of the challenges the church faces, especially the problem of secularism.

"They really want to help with the work of the new evangelization," the rector said.

The young seminarians arrived in Rome just in time for October's world Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization, a project aimed particularly at revitalizing the church in an increasingly secular West.

Ricci said he believes the way to change hearts is to care for people "in a way that transforms." Because not everyone goes to Mass, he said, priests will need to "go door-to-door" and find

new ways of re-proposing the Gospel.

For Pabon, the separation of church and culture in the United States is not something he is used to from his native Colombia, where public policies and social mores are often inspired by Christian doctrine. Because faith has become so divorced from much of U.S. culture, he said, it will be important to promote the teachings of the church, especially when they bear on the burning issues of the day.

Ahn, who studied to become a Presbyterian minister before becoming a Catholic, said the church's biggest challenge today is counteracting the despair toward life and hopelessness stemming from the belief that "we can't know or attain anything higher than the mundane and the carnal." He sees the priest as an intermediary, helping draw people up to God and bring God closer to people.

Crucial to that role is the people's need for grace from the sacraments, said Michael Hendershott. The seminarian from the Diocese of Knoxville, Tenn., said it was his exposure to the traditional Latin Mass, which his parish started to offer in 2005, "that really showed me, really clarified in my mind the idea of the priest as a man ordained to offer sacrifice for the glory of God and the salvation of souls."

Msgr. Checchio said it's auspicious for his new group of seminarians that this academic year will coincide with the Year of Faith, which Pope Benedict has called to begin Oct. 11.

Pope Benedict is helping define what it means to be a priest, the rector said, by putting new emphasis on faith. The pope is teaching them that "it's not enough to just be a priest, you have to be first and foremost a believer."



# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Bishop Finn convicted on one charge of failure to report abuse

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (CNS) -- Bishop Robert W. Finn of Kansas City-St. Joseph was convicted Sept. 6 of one count of failing to report suspected child abuse and acquitted on another count in a brief bench trial. Jackson County Circuit Judge John M. Torrence issued the verdict and quickly set and suspended a sentence of two years' probation. The charges carried a possible maximum sentence of one year in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000. In a courtroom statement following the verdict, Bishop Finn said he truly regretted and was sorry for the hurt the events caused. Bishop Finn was indicted last October on the misdemeanor charges of failing to report suspected child abuse to state authorities. The case began in December 2010, after a computer technician discovered child pornography on a computer used by Father Shawn Ratigan and turned it over to diocesan authorities. Authorities were not notified until six months later, when a search of the priest's family home turned up images of child pornography. Father Ratigan pleaded guilty in August to charges of producing child pornography.

## Bishop says eucharistic adoration during convention is gift to nation

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (CNS) -- In his homily during a "Vigil for Liberty" Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral Sept. 4, Charlotte Bishop Peter J. Jugis emphasized the importance of prayer to remaining strong as Catholics spread the message of the Gospel to the world. At the Mass during the first day of the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, Bishop Jugis also recognized that the people of the diocese were making a great sacrifice during the "Vigil for Liberty" and the 80 hours of perpetual adoration. "This week the Catholic Diocese of Charlotte is pleased to offer a gift to our nation -- over 80 hours of eucharistic adoration and prayer for our country," he said. "During these 80 hours we are keeping our prayers and hearts fixed on Jesus...." "Because we love our country, we offer to the Lord our sacrifices of our time and our prayer during these 80 hours. It's not just a gift, but it is also a duty, a responsibility to pray," the bishop added. "Prayer is important because it keeps us in communication with God and it keeps us attuned with his will and not doing our own."

## With former students, pope focuses on search for truth, unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The search for truth is the vocation of a theologian and the key to overcoming divisions within Christianity, Pope Benedict XVI told a group of his former doctoral students. The pope celebrated Mass with his former students Sept. 2 at the Focolare Center in Castel Gandolfo as part of the annual meeting of the "Ratzinger Schulerkreis" (Ratzinger Student Circle), a group that has met since 1978 to discuss topics in theology and the life of the church. The joy of faith comes from seeking the truth, not claiming to possess it, the pope said in his homily. However, the pope said, even claiming to have received the gift of truth through faith is difficult today because, in the eyes of many, claiming to know the truth has is labeled intolerance. Rather than claiming truth as a possession, he said, Christians must allow themselves to be led and guided by the truth so that others would see how beautiful and beneficial it is and begin seeking the truth themselves, the pope said in the homily.

# Cardinal's prayer at Democratic convention alludes to sensitive issues

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (CNS) - When Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York offered the closing benediction Sept. 6 at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, he made allusions to issues that have put the U.S. church and the White House at odds with each other.

"Renew in all our people a profound respect for religious liberty: the first, most cherished freedom bequeathed upon us at our founding," Cardinal Dolan prayed, an apparent reference to an ongoing dispute between the U.S. bishops and the White House over a mandate from the federal Department of Health and Human Services that would require most religious employers to offer contraceptive coverage in violation of church teaching.

The other options would be to drop all health coverage for its workers or risk paying steep fines if contraceptive coverage is not included in their insurance package. Dozens of Catholic institutions have filed suit over the mandate, and the bishops' early-summer "Fortnight for Freedom" was an effort to raise awareness of the issue.

"We ask your benediction on those waiting to be born, that they may be welcomed and protected," prayed Cardinal Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. While the cardinal uttered a similar phrase in his closing benediction the week before at the Republican National Convention, the GOP's platform on abortion is generally viewed as closer to the Catholic Church's teaching than the Democrats', which supports legal abortion.

Cardinal Dolan also made an allusion to same-sex marriage, which President Barack Obama voiced his support

for earlier this year. "Show us anew that happiness is found only in respecting the laws of nature and of nature's God," the cardinal prayed.

## We ask your benediction on those waiting to be born, that they may be welcomed and protected

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan

"Empower us with your grace so that we might resist the temptation to replace the moral law with idols of our own making, or to remake those institutions you have given us for the nurturing of life and community."

PBS reported that some Democratic officials were worried that some delegates would rebuke Cardinal Dolan during his prayer by either turning their backs on him or by making catcalls, but the convention stayed silent and the prayer proceeded without incident.

In his benediction at the Republican National Convention the week before, Cardinal Dolan made reference to all three issues as well.

On the second day of the Democrats' Sept. 4-6 convention in Charlotte, one of the "nuns on the bus" became a nun on the podium, as Sister Simone Campbell, a Sister of Social Service who is executive director of Network, a Catholic social justice lobby, issued a denunciation of the budget plan formulated by Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's running mate, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis.

"Paul Ryan claims his budget reflects the principles of our shared Catholic faith. But the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops stated that the Ryan budget failed a basic moral test, because it would harm families living in poverty," Sister Si-

mone said.

The bishops who chair two USCCB committees criticized Ryan's budget plan in April, the month after the Republican-majority House voted to adopt it.

"We agree with our bishops and that's why we went on the road: to stand with struggling families and to lift up our Catholic sisters who serve them. Their work to alleviate suffering would be seriously harmed by the Romney-Ryan budget, and that is wrong," she said.

Sister Simone called the budget plan, titled "the Path to Prosperity," an "immoral budget that hurts already struggling families (that) does not reflect our nation's values. We are better than that." She said she agrees with Romney and Ryan who say that "each individual" should be responsible.

"But their budget goes astray in not acknowledging that we are responsible not only for ourselves and our immediate families," she said. "Rather, our faith strongly affirms that we are all responsible for one another."

She cited examples of Catholic sisters helping the poor - including Toledo, Ohio, and Milwaukee, two stops on the "Nuns on the Bus" tour.

At another stop in Hershey, Pa., "a woman in her late 30s approached us. She asked for the names of some people she could talk to, because she felt alone and isolated. Her neighbors have been polarized by politics, masquerading as values," Sister Simone said.

"She wishes they, and the rest of the nation, would listen to one another with kindness and compassion. Listen to one another rather than yell at each other. I told her then, and I tell her now, that she is not alone."

## Director of Mariological Society sees 'misreading of Vatican II'

# Explains 'collapse' in Marian devotion, studies

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Devotion to Mary "collapsed" in some parts of the United States after the Second Vatican Council even though the council fathers had upheld her critical place within the Catholic faith, said a leading American expert in Marian studies.

The council's decision to integrate a draft text on Mary into a larger dogmatic text - "Lumen Gentium" - rather than publish it as a separate document - sent an unintended message to the rest of the church, Holy Cross Father James Phalan, president of the Mariological Society of America, said in a presentation at an academic conference in Rome.

Even though bishops felt Mariology, like the church as a whole, needed to be renewed in light of tradition, liturgy and the Bible, later an "overly rationalist" historical approach reduced the role of the Holy Spirit and marginalized most forms of devotion, Father Phalan said.

Worsening the problem, he said, was the timing: post-

Vatican II coincided with the upheaval of the 1970s when religious traditions and beliefs were being intensely questioned or completely dismissed by society.

Marian devotion "was caught up in this confusion" and there was a drop-off in practice and study, he said.

"The apparent change in emphasis on the Blessed Virgin contributed to a full-scale collapse of Mariology that has had very notable effects on the life of the church," he said in his talk on "Mary and the Second Vatican Council."

Father Phalan, who is also director of Family Rosary International, was one of the scholars, experts and theologians speaking at the 23rd Mariological Marian International Congress held in Rome Sept. 4-9.

In light of the upcoming 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, the talks focused on "Mariology since the Second Vatican Council: Reception, Results and Perspectives." More than 300 people from 37 countries attended the meeting, which was sponsored by the Pontifical Marian International Academy.

The council fathers had drawn up what Father Phalan called "the most complete and conclusive doctrinal statement about the Blessed Virgin Mary ever written" and made it the final chapter of the 1964 Dogmatic Constitution on the Church ("Lumen Gentium").

Its placement within a document about the church as the body of Christ underlines the council fathers' vision of Mary "in relation to Christ and the church," not as someone separate or independent of Christ and the church, he said.

"The council fathers wanted us to see Mary as identified with the church," a notion Pope Benedict XVI has often repeated, saying that Mary, as a personification of the church, should be appreciated and imitated in her contemplative and personal relationship with Christ, Father Phalan said.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, president of the congregation for Saints' Causes, said Vatican II was a "momentous watershed moment for Marian discourse" -- steering it away from "every undeserved doctrinal and devotional exaggeration," which

would put Mary on equal ground with the Lord. Rather, it upheld her unique, yet human role in God's plan of salvation; she is "the living vessel who, in receiving, transmits the salvation of Christ," he said.

The church teaches that salvation only comes from God in Jesus Christ, he said, but the human being must still be open and receptive to that grace. Any sense of Mary being "co-redeemer" must be understood as cooperating "with," not being "equal to" Jesus, because God the father generates salvation and Mary, the mother, is the recipient of that gift.

"This is the theological reason to affirm the reality of Mary and the 'Marian principle' in the church," the Italian cardinal said.

While popular piety may have suffered in some parts of the West, Cardinal Amato said Popes Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict did much to enrich and invigorate Marian reflection and tradition.

Pope Benedict has promoted attachment to Mary as a way for the faithful to draw closer to Christ. While Catholics must not exaggerate or over-sentimentalize her role, he told pilgrims at the Mariazell shrine in Austria, Mary "is a creature of courage and of obedience ... an example to which every Christian -- man and woman -- can and should look.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Holy Cross Father James Phalan, president of the Mariological Society of America and director of Family Rosary International, is pictured at a Marian conference in Rome Sept. 6.

In light of the upcoming Year of Faith and the call for new evangelization, Mary can again play a critical role, Father Phalan said.

"She was the first evangelist," showing Jesus to the world, starting with the shepherds and wise men. And she is a model for all Christians in understanding what faith is and how to accept and participate in salvation, Father Phalan said.

Given the troubled world of today, he said, "the love and mercy of God that flow through Mary" must be "even more present as part of evangelization today."

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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## RESPECT LIFE

# Starving for love

My youngest son, Michael, transferred to a bigger college for his sophomore year, a school that is part of New York's public university system. We made the four hour drive to drop him off a few weeks ago.

His first question upon setting foot on campus was "What is there to eat? I'm starving." Michael is six foot six, 200 pounds and always hungry; thank God for those "unlimited" college meal plans.

We said our good-byes and I picked up the "Welcome Back!" edition of the college newspaper on my way out. A column by the managing editor, a student, caught my attention. Headlined "Avoid insecurity about your sexual experiences," the article basically told incoming students to "come to terms with your sexuality" because, well, "sex is a part of the college atmosphere."

I resisted the urge to turn around, grab my son, and hightail it out of that place. I continued reading.

Filled with one-liners like "sex happens" and "sex is an enjoyable experience, not a competition," the column's central message was this – here on our campus, anything goes. Whether you have no experience or lots of experience, you'll be accepted here, where anything goes.

A sidebar to the article even gave tips for "How to lose your bedroom insecurities," tips so graphic that decorum will not allow me to reprint any here.

Similar to "Sex Week at Harvard," which I hear has spread to colleges all across the country, the article essentially told students to have no shame. "Everyone is going to have different marks on their sexual slate," it comforts. Just be at ease with yourself, know what you want, and go for it.

There was not one word

in that article about a relationship, about caring for someone other than oneself, or about love. Heck, there wasn't even a word in there about dating or "safe sex," rape prevention or sexually transmitted disease; Planned Parenthood probably wouldn't even have liked the column!

It was undoubtedly the most one-sided, irresponsible, de-humanizing and selfish piece I have ever read about human sexuality.

I know it's not a Catholic school, so I didn't expect to read about faithfulness, permanency and procreation. But hey, shouldn't we, as a humane society, be holding our young people up to a higher standard than calculated self-interest?

Shouldn't public universities present the possibility of fidelity, chastity, love and marriage as one potential goal? As a supposedly "pro-choice" college, shouldn't it offer young people the choice of a chaste life?

The column never talked about finding Mr. or Mrs. Right. Instead, it spoke of "Mr. or Miss Right-Now." How sad.

For the author, a sexual partner is simply some thing to use for one's own immediate pleasure. It's all about feeling comfortable and personally fulfilled. There is no respect - for self or others - no dignity, no altruism involved.

I remember my college years, and I'm living through it again with my kids – everyone is searching and questioning: Why am I here? What is my purpose? Where am I going? What is the meaning of life?

Blessed John Paul II has answered the question simply and beautifully in his letter, *The Gospel of Life*: "The meaning of life is found in giving and receiving love."

How will our young people ever find meaning if our society fails to talk to them about love?

## We need to nourish our young people with self-respect, generosity, responsibility, and reverence for the awesome gift of human sexuality

I think young people today are hungry to learn about love. I think they are starved for a message of self-discipline, and guidelines, and deeper relationships than just "hooking up."

Even as I read and re-read this campus newspaper article, I am struck by how starved the author seems to be for genuine love. I suspect her sexual activity – and her encouragement for others to imbibe – is fueled by her emptiness, and her unfilled desire for respect and love.

We need to feed our young people the advantages of chastity – freedom from heartbreak and emotional pain, unintended pregnancy, single parenthood, abortion, disease.

We need to feed them the benefits of fidelity and marriage – permanence, loyalty, emotional security, financial stability, love.

We need to nourish them with self-respect, generosity, responsibility, and reverence for the awesome gift of human sexuality.

Let's give them the unlimited meal plan. Perhaps then casual sex will no longer be on their menu.

---  
*Mrs. Gallagher is the Director of Pro-Life Activities for the New York State Catholic Conference*



Kathleen Gallagher



## OUR READERS WRITE

### A clear choice

Republicans will have a clear choice in the Thursday, Sept. 13 primary election for the 115th Assembly District, the seat presently being held by Janet Duprey.

Janet Duprey is a RINO (Republican In Name Only). She talks like a fiscal conservative but too often votes like a tax and spend Democrat.

In addition, Duprey's social values do not represent North Country family values. Duprey is an unabashed advocate and promoter of so called "Gay Marriage" and abortion on demand.

Janet Duprey recently mailed out a pamphlet against child abuse.

Mrs Duprey, ABORTION, IS A DEADLY FORM OF CHILD ABUSE!

While we send a robot looking for signs of sustainability of life on Mars, we look the other way when the tiniest and most vulnerable members of our human species, the unborn, are "terminated". We look the other way when we ignore that abortion hurts women.

Republicans have a choice on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012.

I for one will be voting for Pro Life candidate, Karen Bisso.

Karen is a highly energetic and articulate woman. She is a mother, a teacher and a dedicated and patriotic American.

Karen Bisso believes in a sound economy, lower taxes and reducing government waste. She has received the endorsement of the New York State Conservative Party and the New York State Right To Life Political Action Committee as well as many others.

Karen Bisso wants to be our voice for the North Country in the 115th New York State Assembly.

Only You can make it happen! Vote for Republican Karen Bisso on Sept. 13.

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## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## The challenge to get out of our 'comfort zones'

There are many meanings to the phrase "comfort zone".

For some people, their comfort zone is sitting in an easy chair with a good book.

As a teenager, my mother would constantly pry me out of my "comfort zone" with a gentle reminder that I was not a "star boarder" in our home.

Jesus applied a stronger "shock treatment" than that to the comfort zone of his apostles in this week's Gospel.



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

After he had challenged them to confess that He was more than just a human teacher, one with divine authority, He then announced to them the sobering news that He would soon suffer a humiliating passion and death at the hands of His enemies.

Ironically, it was Peter who had just publically proclaimed that He was the Son of God, who immediately rebuked Jesus for such defeatist talk. And Jesus swiftly retorted, "Get thee

behind me, Satan!"

Do we modern-day disciples do any better at accepting a Messiah who calls himself a "suffering servant"?

How good are we at joining our own sufferings with Jesus' redeeming passion and death? Perhaps it's something small, like a cut finger, or a toothache, or a minor ear infection.

But it also might be something much more serious—a heart problem, or cancer.

It takes faith to unite our sufferings with the Passion of Jesus, just as it takes faith for the less painful actions of love and service in

SEPT. 16

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Isaiah 50:5-9a

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

the community of our Church.

It's all part of the faith plus good works that St. James speaks about in today's second reading.

He insists that faith without loving works is dead. For centuries, battles have raged about "faith alone" or

"faith and good works" being necessary for salvation.

Of course, we cannot pull ourselves into heaven without the grace of God, but faith without actions that flow from that faith is useless and hollow.

So we need to get out of our comfort zone from time to time. We're not star boarders in this world.

Were loving followers of Jesus who must be prepared to go all the way with Him to Calvary.

If we are willing to do that, He will take us the rest of the way to the eternal joy of heaven.

## MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

## Weighing the benefits and burdens of dialysis

Patients and families sometimes struggle with the question of whether dialysis is "worth it."

A young woman wrote recently on a website addressing dialysis patients' concerns, "My father has been on dialysis for three years, and he's 62 years old. A few days ago he said he wanted to stop going because he was 'sick of it'. We talked to him and told him that it would hurt us if he did that, but now I'm thinking that maybe I shouldn't have talked him out of it - this isn't about me and my feelings. This is about what he has to deal with."

When would discontinuing dialysis be a reasonable and morally acceptable choice? Could discontinuing dialysis ever be tantamount to suicide?

While every person is obligated to use ordinary (or proportionate) means to preserve his or her life, no person is required to submit to a health care procedure that he or she has judged, with a free and informed conscience, to provide little hope of benefit or to impose significant risks and burdens.

Weighing benefits and burdens is at the heart of the question of starting, continuing or stopping dialysis.

As the US Conference of Catholic Bishops has noted: "We have a duty to preserve our life and to use it for the glory of God, but the duty to preserve life is not absolute, for we may reject life-prolonging procedures that are insufficiently beneficial or excessively burdensome.

Suicide and euthanasia are never morally acceptable options."

The benefits of the commonly-used procedure known as hemodialysis (filtration of the blood) are well known: as kidney function declines, dialysis performs part of the work that healthy kidneys normally do, filtering toxins from the body.

Dialysis can serve as a bridge to a kidney transplant, which can offer the patient a new lease on life. Discontinuing dialysis during complete kidney failure usually means that the patient will die in a matter of days or weeks.

The burdens of dialysis vary from patient to patient. The procedure can be time-consuming, requiring visits to a dialysis center three times a week for three to four hours at a stretch, with additional time for transportation. One can also feel washed out the next day.

Other burdens may include sharp drops in blood pressure during or after the procedure. Fainting, vomiting, nausea, muscle cramps, temporary loss of vision, ir-

ritability, and fatigue can occur.

Some patients manifest abnormal heart rhythms from electrolyte imbalances, while others may experience allergic reactions or bleeding problems from the chemicals or blood-thinning medicines used during the dialysis.

Long term dialysis can cause bone and joint pain from a deposit of various proteins known as amyloid in the hands, wrists, shoulders, and neck.

Cost may represent yet another burden, depending on the patient's personal finances and insurance situation.

Still other burdens may include problems with the access point made for the dialysis - called a fistula - which usually occurs in the arm. This is a surgical connection made under the skin between an artery and a vein, allowing needles to access bloodflow for dialysis.

As many as 25 percent of hospital admissions among

dialysis patients are due to problems with fistula malfunction, thrombosis, infection, and access.

Multiple surgeries may be required to assure that a fistula continues to function during the time it is used.

In sum, then, dialysis can prolong and save a patient's life, but can also impose significant burdens.

Depending on the various side effects and problems associated with the procedure, and depending on how minimal the benefits may be in light of other medical conditions the patient may be struggling with, it can become reasonable, in some cases, to discontinue dialysis.

The burdens of hemodialysis can sometimes be lessened by using a different kind of dialysis known as peritoneal dialysis, where fluid is instilled in the abdomen via a permanently positioned catheter and later drained. Peritoneal dialysis can be performed

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

SEE THE  
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THE  
VATICAN  
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WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYCATHOLIC.ORG

## AT THE MOVIES

# THE POSSESSION

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

Catholic exorcists get some time off with "The Possession" (Lionsgate).

Since this mostly gore-free chiller's premise rests on Jewish tales of demonic indwelling by beings called dybbuks, it's a Hasidic student, rather than a priest, who eventually gets summoned to the rescue.

And file this one under "Only in America": said scholar -- Tzadok by name -- is played by Hasidic rapper and reggae singer Matisyahu.

At the outset, recently divorced dad Clyde Brenek (Jeffrey Dean Morgan) hardly knows what he's letting himself in for when he and his two daughters, Hannah (Madison Davenport) and Em (Natasha Calis), stop by a weekend yard sale.

here, Em's fancy is taken by a seemingly innocuous wooden box and Clyde casually agrees to buy it for her.

Em's interest soon turns to life-blighting obsession as the dybbuk that was supposed to be trapped in the container forever emerges and instead takes up residence inside her.

Logically enough, Clyde and his ex, Stephanie (Kyra Sedgwick), assume Em's deteriorating demeanor is an aftereffect of their split. But as eerie and inexplicable events continue to plague the family, Clyde at least realizes they'll need to turn to someone other than a therapist.

Danish-born director Ole Bornedal initially achieves above-average results with his macabre doings, which are ostensibly based on real events.

But returns diminish noticeably as his film approaches its overwrought climax.

Clyde and Stephanie's situation is used as the vehicle for a strong pro-marriage message, however. In one poignant scene, Clyde watches as Stephanie and the girls sit down to dinner

with Stephanie's boyfriend Brett (Grant Show). The quartet makes up a family circle from which Clyde feels both physically and emotionally excluded.

Another plus is the respectful treatment of the Jewish faith in Juliet Snowden and Stiles White's script, including Clyde's fervent recitation of the 91st Psalm at Em's bedside.

Of course, the admixture of folklore, like that of the dybbuk, though necessary to the filmmakers' purpose, tends to blur the bright line between mere legend and revealed truth.

The film contains some violent and potentially disturbing images, a premarital situation, at least one use each of profanity and crude language and brief sexual references.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE

Matisyahu, Natasha Calis, center, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, back, and Kyra Sedgwick star in a scene from the movie "The Possession."



Bring this ad in and receive \$1000 off the purchase of a new home!

**Plattsburgh  
Wholesale Homes**

New or Used Manufactured  
and Modular Homes

7109 State Route 9

518-563-1100 or 1-800-640-1833

www.pwmh.com

## Weighing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

by the patient at home each night.

It's not possible with the limited information we have to draw any moral conclusions about the case of the father who is "sick of it" and wants to stop dialysis.

We need further details, such as: What is the reason for his request? Is he experiencing serious complications and significant burdens from dialysis? Does he have other medical problems besides kidney failure? Is he suffering from depression, for which he could be treated?

We should never choose to bring about our own or another's death by euthana-

sia, suicide or other means, but we may properly recognize, on a case by case, detail-dependent basis, that at a certain point in our struggle to stay alive, procedures like dialysis may become unduly burdensome treatments that are no longer obligatory. In these cases, it's always wise to consult clergy or other moral advisors trained in these often-difficult bioethical issues.

---  
*Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncb-center.org](http://www.ncb-center.org).*

My abortion has  
left me **EMPTY,**  
**ALONE,**  
AND  
**IN DESPAIR...**

...THERE IS HOPE

1-877-HOPE-4-ME  
[www.RachelsVineyard.org](http://www.RachelsVineyard.org)

## ADIRONDACK

## MOUNTAIN CLIMB MASS

**Lake Placid** – St. Agnes of Lake Placid and St. Brendan's of Keene are sponsoring a climb up Owl's Head Mountain where Mass will be celebrated

**Date:** Sept. 30

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Features:** Bring a lunch and open to all.

## CLINTON

## TURKEY &amp; TRIMMINGS

**Dannemora** – St. Joseph's Parish is planning its annual roast turkey and trimmings harvest dinner.

**Date:** Oct. 7

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 5:30

**Place:** Church Hall; Take-outs are available

**Cost:** Adults - \$9.00, ages 5 to 10 - \$5.00 and Under 5 free..

**Features:** Along with the Dinner & Cash Raffles their will be a Chinese Raffle, Crafts and Country Store and 50/50 with live music in the Church

**Contacts:** Vern & Sorelle Bouyea @ 293-7768 or Deacon Ed & Louise Mazuchowski @ 563-0828.

## CLOTHING SALE

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

**Date and Time:** Sept. 15 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sept. 16 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

**Cost:** A Large bag of clothing/footwear will be \$6

## SSJ LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

**Plattsburgh** - An informational meeting on the Sisters of St. Joseph Lay Associate Program has been set

**Date:** Sept. 16

**Time:** 2 p.m. 4

**Place:** Convent at 1202 Cumberland Head Rd. (former Rectory)

**Features:** Invitation to inquire about Srs. of St. Joseph Lay Associate a Program open to women and men desiring to explore ways of deepening their spiritual lives in light of SSJ charism.

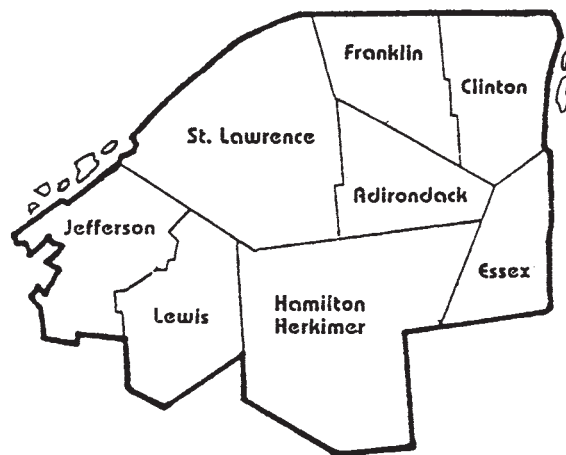
**Contact:** Sister Bethany Fitzgerald at 315-324-5718 or srbeth@cit-tele.com. Sister Helen Hermann at 518-561-8252 or sisterhelen@seton-academy.net

## ANNUAL HARVEST DINNER

**Chazy** – Sacred Heart Church will be having their Annual Harvest Dinner featuring a Buffet Style Chicken and Biscuit Dinner.

**Date:** Sept. 23

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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.

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Children 6-12, \$3; 5 and under, Free; Take-outs, \$9

**Features:** Come and enjoy Mass and a Meal. Mass starts at 10 a.m. Raffle with Dozens of Prizes and Sinner's Den Pantry.

## ROAST BEEF DINNER

**Mooers Forks** – St. Ann's Church will be having their Annual Roast Beef Dinner.

**Date:** Sept. 16

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Cost:** Adults, \$9; Seniors 65 and over, \$8; Children 6-14, \$5; under 5, Free; Take-outs, \$9; Canadian at par.

**Features:** A natural vegetables, oven roasted potatoes.

## HARVEST DINNER

**Ellenburg** – CDA Court Little Rose will hold an all you can eat beef/roast pork dinner.

**Date:** Sept. 30

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Place:** St. Edmund's parish; Take-outs available. Call 594-3121

**Cost:** Adults, \$8.50; Children, \$4.25; under 5, free

## HEALING MASS

**Ellenburg Center** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks will be having a Healing Mass.

**Date:** Oct. 6

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Features:** Fr. Doug Decker will preside at Mass and Anointing followed by individual prayer team ministry.

**Contact:** RSVP by Oct. 3 to olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253. Light lunch. Donations appreciated.

## HARVEST DINNER

**West Chazy** – St. Joseph's Church will hold its 38th Annual Harvest Dinner.

**Date:** Oct. 14

**Time:** Noon to 5 p.m.

**Place:** St. Joseph's Parish Center  
Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 5-12, \$4; Children under 5, Free

**Features:** Turkey with all of the trimmings, a country store. Take-outs

## 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.

## SOAKING PRAYER

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

**Date:** Every 3rd Monday.

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

**Features:** be immersed in prayer with individual prayer time for specific needs

## LECTIO DIVINA

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

**Time:** 1 p.m. to 3

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

## 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. Peters

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

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

**Time:** 1 p.m. to 4

**Place:** Immaculate Conception Church

## PRAYER MEETING

**Plattsburgh** – A weekly prayer meeting will be held every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday).

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** St. Peter's Church, St. Brother Andre' Chapel.

**Features:** Prayers and songs of praise followed by devotional prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet/Novena, as well as prayers for all concerns. Facilitated by Living Waters Healing Ministry. Open to all

## FRANKLIN

## HOLY HARVEST FESTIVAL

**Malone** – Malone Catholic Parishes will be having their Holy Harvest Festival.

**Date:** Sept. 16

**Time:** Noon to 4 p.m.

**Features:** The event will have something for everyone and will include a harvest menu served from noon to 3pm, a raffle with a \$1,000 first prize, a harvest table filled with autumn goodies, games & activities for the children and a cake walk for all ages. Entertainment will also be provided.

**Cost:** Dinner tickets will be sold at the event and cost \$10 for adults, \$8 for Seniors, \$6 for children 6-12 and children under five are free.

## HARVEST TURKEY DINNER

**Brushton** – St. Mary's will be having their Harvest Turkey Dinner.

**Date:** Sept. 30

**Time:** Noon to 4 p.m.

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$6; under 5, free; Take-outs available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. by calling 518-529-6580

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Burke** – The Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay will hold a Spaghetti Supper.

**Date:** Sept. 15

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

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

**Cost:** Cost is \$7.50 for adults; \$4.00 for children under 12; free for children under 5.

**Features:** There will be a 50/50 raffle.

## HAMILTON-HERKIMER

## 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

## SSJ LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

**Watertown** – An informational meeting for anyone interested in learning about the Sisters of St. Joseph Lay Associates Program has been planned

**Date:** Sept. 23

**Time:** 1:30pm

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 1425 Washington St.

**Features:** Introduction to Program that meets monthly for women or men desiring to deepen their spiritual lives in light of the SSJ charism.

**Contact:** Sister Mary William Argy or Sister Norma Byrant at 782-3462

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

**Watertown** – An Ecumenical Bereavement meeting will be held.

**Date:** Sept. 24

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Mother House Hearthside Hospitality Center.

**Speaker:** Mrs. Kathy Strater who has given numerous presentations, to eighteen different organizations, following the tragic death of her brother three years ago. Her topic will be "Grieving Our Own Way".

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

**Date:** Sept. 27

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

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



## 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

# MCA school year begins

## Missionary Childhood Association From the Director's Desk

The 2012-2013 school year has begun in earnest. This means that a new Holy Childhood Association year for the students in our Catholic Schools and parish religious education programs has likewise started.

Children are called to be missionaries through their prayers and sacrifices for the missions during the school year. Teachers and parents are called upon to instruct such children to become mission-minded through their participation in MCA programs.

MCA is about children. It's about children in the U.S. learning what is asked of us as members of God's family. It's about impoverished children in developing countries receiving the help they so desperately need.

MCA's theme for the 2012-2013 school year is "Year of Faith," and in particular the Holy Father's call for all of us to be part of a Prayer Movement focused on the person of Jesus Christ and faith in Him.

As the Gospel reminds us, it is not so difficult to share with others knowing that the kindness will be repaid. But Jesus asks us to treat others, regardless of their situation, as we ourselves would like to be treated - with compassion, understanding, and generosity.

MCA members strive to follow Jesus' command to us by loving and caring for children whom they have never even met. These young people reach out without expecting repayment - although the knowledge of the difference they are making is often their reward.

Founded in 1843, as the Holy Childhood Association, MCA: Young Catholics in Mission is an international organization dedicated to mission awareness among elementary school-age children.

Authorized by the Vatican, and in collaboration with the U.S. Bishops, MCA distributes educational and fund raising materials to Catholic Schools and RE/CCD students throughout the United States.

Fund raising proceeds, realized through the efforts of children, are used for the needs of less fortunate children in Third World situations and children's education materials in the U.S.

MCA is really children helping children. The results are tangible and significant. In third world nations, children receive food, medicine, shelter and education. In the countries that give assistance, children become aware of the bonds that link them with others, and they grow in understanding and love.

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

**Brushton** – John "Jack" C. Russell, 71; Funeral Services Sept. 6, 2012 at the Flint Funeral home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Cadyville** – Elinor D. (LaDuke) Rock, 80; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

**Chazy** – Mary A. (Filatrault) Madigan, 95; Funeral Services Sept. 10, 2012 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery

**Clayton** – Fred D. Keil, 62; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2012 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Barnes Cemetery, Alexandria.

**Dannemora** – Ernest J. DuBrey, 85; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Independence Cemetery, Saranac.

**Malone** – Carol E. (Tambini) Kearney, 71; Funeral Services Sept. 6, 2012 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Massena** – Dorothy J. (Devitt) Romeo, 90; Funeral Services Sept. 6, 2012 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Morrisonville** – Anne Eleanor (Mayette) Tripp, 74; Funeral Services Sept. 7, 2012 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery, Plattsburgh.

**North Lawrence** – Elizabeth M. (Razis)

Empey, 60; Funeral Services Sept. 6, 2012 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Massena.

**Ogdensburg** – Michael P. McNally, 53; Funeral Services Sept. 4, 2012 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home.

**Ogdensburg** – Anthony Drew McNichol VI, infant; Funeral Services Sept. 3, 2012 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park

**Ogdensburg** – Bonnie L. (Howard) Rand, R.N., 59; Funeral Services Sept. 5, 2012 at Foxwood Mausoleum Chapel; burial at Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Plattsburgh** – Harriet E. (LaForest) Smart, 84; Funeral Services Sept. 7, 2012 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Garden.

**Redford** – Dale William Wood, 49; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2012 at Church of the Assumption.

**Watertown** – Paul K. Majo, 77; Funeral Services Sept. 8, 2012 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Emma M. (Butler) Traynor, 101; Funeral Services Sept. 10, 2012 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery

## Seniors Helping Seniors is now Hiring!

Seniors Helping Seniors is now hiring providers in the Massena, Ogdensburg, and Gouverneur areas to provide non medical services in assisting seniors to remain independent in their own homes.

Call 405-4950 for more information.



...a way to give and to receive



## 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**

ST. AGNES CHURCH  
169 HILLCREST AVE  
LAKE PLACID, NY 12946

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\$20 EACH or 6 for \$100**

You do not have to be present to win.

NCC



For a New or Used Car  
**MORT BACKUS & SONS**

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## October is Respect Life Month

We are inviting you to consider  
sponsorship of a full page advertisement  
with the theme

**Faith opens our  
eyes to human life  
in all its  
grandeur  
and  
beauty.**



to appear in our October 3rd issue of the

The Diocese of Ogdensburg

## NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

For only \$25 your name will appear as a  
supporter of human life from conception  
through natural death.

**Must be returned to the NCC by  
September 25, 2012**

**YES!** I/We would like to support a Respect  
Life Page in the *North Country Catholic*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it will appear in the ad (please print):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Checks payable to: *North Country Catholic*  
PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY 13669

# Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## JEFFERSON

### PARKINSON WALK

**Sackets Harbor**- A Parkinson Walk is 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

### 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

### 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

### 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

### NOVENA FOR MILITARY

**Ogdensburg** - Notre Dame Church is holding a Weekly novena for the safety of U.S. military personnel

**Date:** Tuesday evenings

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

### 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.

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

### WITNESSES OF FAITH

**Ogdensburg** - The diocesan observance of the Year of Faith will officially open with a prayer service called Witnesses of Faith Celebration.

**Date:** Nov. 18

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

**Features:** Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the service which will celebrate the saintly lives of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Mother Marianne Cope, OSF, and St. Brother Andre Bessette, CSC. The main speaker for the Prayer Service will be Sister Kateri Mitchell, a Sister of St. Anne and native of the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation. Sister Kateri is the executive director of the Tekakwitha Conference in Great Falls, Mont. A reception will follow the prayer service.

### METANOIA RETREAT

**Port Henry** - A Metanoia Retreat will be held sponsored by the Office of Young Adult Ministry.

**Date:** Oct. 5 and 6

**Time:** 7 p.m. both days

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

**Contact:** Lorraine Turgeon at 315-323-4989 or e-mail at lturgeon@dioogdens-

burg.org for more information

### FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP DISCUSSION

A Web Discussion on Faithful Citizenship in an Election Year with staff from New York State Catholic Conference, sponsored by Office of Young Adult Ministry, has been set.

**Date:** Oct. 21 and 22

**Time:** 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. both days

**Contact:** Lorraine Turgeon at 315-323-4989 or e-mail at lturgeon@dioogdensburg.org for more information.

### 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  
**Contact:** Diocese of Ogdensburg Family Life Office at 315-393-2920 ext 420 or www.dioogdensburg.org/family-life

## NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

### WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

**Syracuse** - The third annual Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference will be held

**Date:** Oct. 27

**Place:** Oncenter Convention Center

**Schedule:** Registration 8 a.m., Conference begins at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Contact:** Registration now open  
www.syracusecwc.com

### 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