

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pope signs up for World Youth Day 2013 | PAGE 13

Cardinal calls for campaign civility | PAGE 13

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPT. 5, 2012

Pope: don't compromise truth

CASTEL GANDOLFO, ITALY (CNS) -- Marking the feast of the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, Pope Benedict XVI said Christians must not bow to the pressure of the powerful who demand a denial of Christ or of the truth he taught.

"The truth is the truth and there is no compromise," the

pope said at his weekly general audience Aug. 29, the day the church remembers St. John the Baptist's beheading.

Walking with a cane, the pope then held a second, mini-audience in the courtyard of the papal villa with 2,600 French altar servers -- boys and girls -- who were on

a pilgrimage to Rome.

Pope Benedict told the young people they were blessed to be "particularly close to Christ Jesus in the Eucharist. You have the enormous privilege of being close to the altar, close to the Lord."

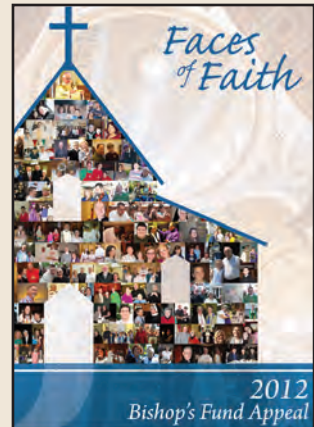
The pope prayed that being an altar server would

help the young people deepen their friendship with Christ and enthusiastically share God's love with their friends and families.

"And, if one day you feel called to follow the path to the priesthood or religious life, respond generously," Pope Benedict told the youngsters.

BISHOP'S FUND 2012

Opens Sept. 15-16 in parishes



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. The Bishop's Fund provides operating funds for vital ministries in the diocese, including the education of priests, evangelization, deacon formation, youth ministry, family life programs, tuition assistance, Christian formation for children and adults, the Guggenheim Center, respect life ministry, the Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund and more. 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.

FULL STORY, PAGES 4, 9-12

Welcome to 'new' columnist: Father Muench



FULL STORY, PAGE 2

Safeguards & transparency

Bishop LaValley writes about the financial operations of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
FULL STORY, PAGE 3

LET US PRAY...



CNS PHOTO/MIKE SEGAR, REUTERS

New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, delivers the closing prayer at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., Aug. 30. His benediction included appeals for God's blessing on the unborn, those at the end of their life, for immigrants and for all those who suffer. He also asked for a renewed respect for religious freedom. Cardinal Dolan will also offer the closing prayer at the Democratic National Convention Sept. 6 in Charlotte, N.C.

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE: Couple takes 'leap of faith' in move to diocese...p. 20

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400BISHOP TERRY
R. LAVALLEY

President

MSGR. ROBERT L. LAWLER

Vice President

SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSJ

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager

Publish 45 issues per year:
Weekly except issue after
Christmas, one week in January,
one week in March and every other
week in July by the Diocese
of Ogdensburg.

622 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Editorial Office:

622 Washington Street,
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountry
catholic.orgEntered at the
Post Office:Ogdensburg, NY
13669 as
Periodical Postage.

Subscription:

For one year:

In-Diocese Rate: \$25

Outside of Diocese Rate: \$28

Matters for publication
should be
addressed to
PO Box 326
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
and should be received by
Thursday prior to
publication.Paper is printed each
Monday;
dateline is Wednesday.
Member, Catholic Press
Association.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
North Country Catholic,
PO Box 326
Ogdensburg, NY
13669-0326

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Faithful faces

In my mind "Faces of Faith" is an ideal theme for our annual Bishop's Fund Appeal.

It's a reminder that our donations are directed towards *people* – young men studying for the priesthood, Guggenheim-loving kids, parents of sick children – not just agencies or buildings.

Valerie Mathews, the Bishop's Fund director, shares some of these stories in her report on the Bishop's Fund for this week's special issue.

Reading them will surely inspire you to open your heart as you open your checkbook!

Make sure you also take a look at the centerfold section of the paper this week to read all the "why's" and "how's" of donating. "Faces of faith" are also prime features in the pages of the *North Country Catholic*; this week we're thrilled to welcome a personal favorite of mine – Father Bill Muench.

Beginning today, Father Muench will share page 2 with the editor, writing from his particular perspective as a North Country parish priest.

Since his ordination in 1959, Father Muench has served in parishes all across the diocese,

starting at St. James in Gouverneur as a newly ordained assistant pastor.

He later served as pastor in Sackets Harbor, Cumberland Head, Chateaugay, Lowville, Brownville, the Plattsburgh Newman Center and in Ticonderoga for 15 years, before his "retirement" in 2011.

He returned to official parish ministry this summer as administrator in the Saranac Lake area parishes.

Father Muench also been a teacher, principal, missionary, campus minister, college professor and, for

many years, a columnist in the

NCC.

We're thrilled to have him back.

This time around, Father Muench will devote his early columns to his memories of the Second Vatican Council which, he writes, had a profound effect on his priesthood.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of that pivotal gathering this fall, it's important to remember all that the Vatican Council meant – and still means – for the church and the world.

We're blessed to have a personal eyewitness share his impressions.

Welcome, Father Muench!

Mary Lou
Kilian

A Harvest of Good News!

Visit our website at www.northcountrycatholic.org
to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.

OR Send this coupon with payment to:

North Country Catholic

PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

****Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal****

Catholic news from
around the world and
the Diocese of
Ogdensburg delivered
to your home with a
subscription to the
North Country Catholic

Please send my
subscription to my
e-mail address: _____

Inside Diocese \$27 Outside Diocese \$30

I want to be a Patron: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250

New Subscription Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parish _____

FATHER MUENCH SAYS...

The journey begins

By Father William Muench
NCC columnist

I want to tell you about myself and my journey as a priest.

I was ordained a Catholic priest for the Diocese of Ogdensburg in 1959, three years before the opening of the Second Vatican Council, which opened 50 years ago this October.

I mention this because the Council had a profound influence on me and my life as a priest.

It all began with Pope John XXIII who was elected Holy Father while I was still in the seminary. Pope Pius XII – who he had been pope since I was a child – had died, so a new pope was going to be quite a change for me.

I remember the day that Pope John was elected. We seminarians had been following the conclave and knew the name of the various cardinals who could be chosen pope. We each had our favorites!

The announcement came one morning over the radio, (It was 1959, no TV). The message came that Cardinal Giuseppe Roncalli had been chosen and none of us knew anything about him.

We would soon find out all about him and he was to become my favorite saint – Pope John XXIII.

Then – only a short time later – Pope John announced a Council.

The last Council of the Catholic Church – Vatican Council I – had taken place in 1850. That Council had ended abruptly and Vatican II was called to complete the unfinished agenda of Vatican I.

The questions were many: what would they discuss? would they change anything? would a new Council really matter?

Our first reaction to a Council was questions; we were going to discover that this Council was to matter a great deal.

The Second Vatican Council changed my life and my priesthood in a most wonderful way. I became a different priest – a better priest – a more effective priest because of the Council.

The Second Vatican Council demonstrated the greatness of the Catholic

Church for my future.

So, I have a couple of questions for you: Do you remember the Second Vatican Council of the Catholic Church?

What do you remember about what this Council said, what it changed? And, for you younger people, what have you discovered about how meaningful the Second Vatican Council was?

For us, older folks, the immediate changes were to the liturgy. The Mass was now in the vernacular, in English, and you younger folks may not realize how spectacular that change was.

Suddenly, the people in the pews could understand all the words the priest celebrant prayed at the altar, the very words of consecration.

It was a very special and continues to be very special.

In another major change, the priest celebrant now faced the congregation during the Mass. I can remember those first Masses – after the changes – what a wonderful moment that was. I found a new and wonderful connection and union with the people of the parish; we truly joined together in the Eucharistic celebration.

When Pope John XXIII introduced the Council to the world, he began with a prayer to the Holy Spirit, praying that the Holy Spirit would infuse new life into the Church.

Pope John spoke of throwing open the windows of the Church to the Holy Spirit. He called the Council a new Pentecost. Before the First Pentecost the apostles were frightened. Jesus had been crucified and they were now trying to understand the Resurrection. They were afraid to go out on their own. Then, they were empowered by the Holy Spirit and began teaching and speaking in public of the message of Jesus to all who would listen – unafraid despite the problems and challenges.

Now, Pope John XIII said, we have a new Pentecost. Would this Council truly bring a new Spirit to the Church, a new excitement, a new enthusiasm to the Catholic Church?

I want to share with you that indeed there was a new excitement and a new enthusiasm. The Council truly became a new Pentecost to the Church and to me.

FOLLOW ME

Safeguards and transparency

Important measures in the financial operations of the church

By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

Over the past few years, the national media has reported stories of fraud and embezzlement of funds in the Catholic Church, both nationally and internationally. In some instances, the numbers are staggering. In response to this criminal activity, in 2007 the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a communication to all the bishops in the United States which recommended the implementation of "best practices" in parish financial governance.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has not been immune from fiscal misappropriation, although claims filed with the Diocese's insurance office have been more modest than those reported nationally. Since the year 2000, the Diocese has paid seven claims, ranging from \$88 to \$25,000, for instances of stolen BINGO receipts, stolen Sunday collection, and alleged employee theft.

Canon law assigns the diocesan bishop with the ultimate responsibility for the administration of Church goods in a diocese, including the oversight of a pastor's direct administration of the temporal goods of his parish (Canons 1276, 1284). This is a responsibility that I take very seriously.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has been proactive over many years in providing support to pastors in their canonical responsibility to administer the temporal goods of his parish. These responsibilities include:

- Protection of owned assets
- Keeping well organized books of receipts and disbursements
- Observance of both canon and civil law
- Preparation of a year-end

report of administration

An important action taken by the Diocese in providing support of financial operations in parishes occurred in 1998, when the Office of Parish Administrative Services (now titled the Office of Parish Audit & Financial Support Services) was established. Mr. Vincent Thouin was hired as the office's coordinator at that time. He continues to perform excellent work for the Diocese of Ogdensburg in this role today.

Since this office was established, we:

1. Moved to using the same accounting platform (QuickBooks) in all parishes in the Diocese;

2. Provide training and resource handbooks to parish bookkeepers;

3. Conduct audits of the financial operations in our parishes; and

4. Published and distributed the Diocese's Parish Financial Manual.

The conducting of parish audits has proven to be a great source of support for pastors and bookkeepers. Upon completion of a parish audit, the Diocesan Fiscal Office issues a report which includes findings of weaknesses in financial operations, if any, and recommendations to take steps to address weaknesses cited. Pastors and bookkeepers have expressed much appreciation over the years for the advice provided by a parish audit.

A key element in a parish audit is a review of the internal controls in place to minimize fraud and theft, particularly as it relates to the receipt and disbursement of funds so generously provided by parishioners and friends in each parish.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg asks parishes to use certain procedures to safe-

guard the weekend collections taken during Mass, such as the use of tamper evident bundle bags, 2 person count teams that are scheduled on a rotating basis, and having someone other than the bookkeeper transmit the deposit to the bank.

Canon law requires each parish to have a Finance Council, which under our Diocesan policy, sees its members selected by the pastor. The parish Finance Council is a consultative group of lay parishioners whose role is to help the pastor in his administration of the temporal goods of the parish. This Council should meet a minimum of two times each year: at the time of budget preparation for the parish and to review the annual parish Financial Report.

Details about the organization of the parish Finance Council and its responsibilities can be found in the Diocese of Ogdensburg's Pastoral Handbook and the Parish Financial Manual.

By-laws of the parish corporation require the pastor to submit annually to me on or before the 15th of August a Financial Report showing revenue and expense of the parish for the prior fiscal year. This report must be reviewed and signed by the pastor and trustees prior to its submission to the Diocese.

The Diocese reviews the report and, if needed, follows up with the pastor or bookkeeper to clarify certain information in the report.

The pastor is also responsible for making a year-end financial report of revenue and expenditures available for review by his parish community by September 30 each year. The pastor is en-

couraged to offer commentary on this report in written form and/or by discussion with parishioners at the weekend Masses.

While it is important that parish communities be informed of their local parish finances, I find it equally important to share with the Diocesan community information about finances of the Diocesan central offices, especially since much of the financial support

of these offices is provided through your generosity through parish assessments and the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal.

Finances of the Diocesan central offices are audited annually by an independent auditor recommended to me by the Diocesan Finance Council. The audit is very comprehensive. Our auditors work at the central office campus over four weeks each year.

The audit report is published in its entirety in the *North Country Catholic* annually. I am pleased that for the past several years the auditors have issued an unqualified opinion in the audit report. This means that the financial statements published by management in the report fairly represent the financial position of the Diocese. This is the best opinion an auditor can issue in the audit report. The audit report is also posted on the Diocesan website.

Additionally, each spring the Diocese of Ogdensburg publishes in the *North Country Catholic* its Report on Special Funds. This statement provides additional detail about the financial condition of programs such as the Retirement Plan for

Priests, the Lay Employees' Retirement Plan, the Diocese's Deposit & Loan Fund and the Diocesan Trust Fund.

Canon law requires the bishop to appoint a Diocesan Finance Council, which serves in much the same way as a Parish Finance Council. The Diocesan Finance Council meets twice a year, one meeting to review the central office budget prepared by management for the next fiscal year, the other meeting to review the annual audit report prior to its submission to the Archdiocese of New York.

At these meetings, the Diocesan Fiscal Officer also shares information to Council members about various diocesan programs as well as the latest reports on investments as reviewed by the Diocese's Investment Advisory Committee.

As you can see, the Diocese of Ogdensburg and our parishes make every effort to protect the assets you so generously entrust to us. With the assistance from Catholics throughout our North Country who serve on our parish and diocesan Finance Councils, our pastors and your bishop receive sound advice to aid in our administration of the temporal goods of the parish and Diocese.

We make every effort to communicate to you on an annual basis the results of financial operations of our parishes and the diocesan central offices so that you can be assured we are using your financial support wisely for the needs of the Church. I am so grateful to Mr. Michael Tooley and his staff, as well as our pastors and parish Finance Councils, for their fine efforts in helping to safeguard what we have been given and managing it in such a competent, transparent fashion.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley

2012 Bishop's Fund: 'Faces of Faith'

By Valerie Mathews
Diocesan Bishop's Fund director

"I wasn't sure I had enough strength. In the middle of stress, mortgage, a sick child, no sleep and no communication we lost God from the middle of our family.

"I was able to find that connection again at Guggenheim."

This comment from a young mother from Clinton deanery is just one of the many stories that we hear each year across the diocese.

Whether it is a family working hard to strengthen their marriages and families, a teen attending retreats at Camp Guggenheim, seminarians or lay ministers answering God's call to serve or parents with a sick child, they are all "Faces of Faith."

Listen to some of their voices:

A teen from Lisbon:

"Guggenheim gives people of all ages a chance to meet

new people and make life-long friends. Although you only spend a few days together, these friends understand you at heart.

Guggenheim is an amazing place to build faith, character and friendships.

It is quite literally, "heaven on earth."

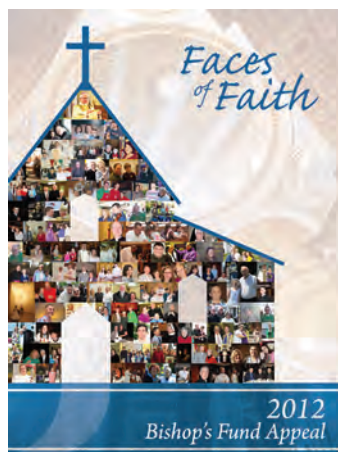
Newly ordained, Father Thomas Higman of Malone

"The Bishop's Fund gift has never been solely a financial gift; instead it is a resounding testimony of the generous faith, hope and love of our great Diocese.

It will be my greatest joy as a priest to nourish these virtues in the faith of the Diocese - through the celebration of the sacraments and the proclamation of the Gospel"

A lay minister from Old Forge:

"Several years ago I had the opportunity to go through the Formation for Ministry Program. This experience



greatly strengthened my faith journey and gave me a real insight into just what the word neighbor meant.

I have received far more than I have given. Words cannot express the joy I feel and I owe this all to the Bishop's Fund which paid my costs.

Thank you Bishop's Fund, and thank you who generously support the Bishop's Fund."

A frightened mother:

At nine months old, Baby Catherine was diagnosed with a heart defect. At Albany Medical doctors gave Catherine a 10% chance of survival.

Surgery was successful and Catherine began her fight for life. After six long months, Catherine was able to go home.

Catherine's parents received a gift from the Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund. This gift gave them hope knowing that someone cared enough to help.

Catherine's mother said *"This gift was very helpful. It helped us be able to stay with Catherine and be able to have food and just be with her. If I didn't have that, I don't know what I would do."*

Making a difference

Your support of the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal makes a difference to the "Faces of Faith" here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg by encouraging hope, perseverance, unity

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.

and education.

The Bishop's Fund Appeal will take place in all parishes across the Diocese of Ogdensburg the weekend of September 15 & 16. Please prayerfully consider your level of support to this year's Bishop's Fund Appeal.

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

To learn more about the Appeal and to view the 2012 Bishop's Fund video, please visit our website at www.dioogdensburg.org/development.



Our Faith, Our Family

Respect Life Office

Natural Family Planning Office

Pre-Cana/Marriage Preparation office

Family Life Office

Working together to build and strengthen our diocesan families.

Since 1954

MORT BACKUS & SONS
OGDENSBURG, NY

CHEVROLET • BUICK

Ogdensburg-Canton Road
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

315-393-5899
www.mortbackus.com

Supporting the 2012 Bishop Fund Appeal Insert

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

is on
FACEBOOK

- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

 Like

Workshop for parish health ministry training is set

WATERTOWN - Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg invites churches in Jefferson and Lewis counties who are considering or deepening a parish health ministry to participate in a workshop based on a nationally endorsed curriculum from the International Parish Nurse Resource Center.

This program prepares registered nurses to become faith community nurses with a mission to encourage a holistic approach to health of

body, mind, and spirit. The International Parish Nurse Resource Center website states, "Parish nursing is a growing specialty practice of nursing that is recognized by the American Nursing Association as Faith Community Nursing.....Parish nurses are licensed, registered nurses who practice wholistic health for self, individuals and the community using nursing knowledge combined with spiritual care" (www.parishnurses.org)

This workshop will be presented by Mercy Sister Catherine Cummings, Ed.D., R.N. Mercy Care of the Adirondacks.

The six day course Will take place Oct. 12, 13, 26, 27, Nov. 2, and 3 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

Cost to the participants: \$50, includes the parish nurse pin and certificate. Further information is available from Sister Mary Lou, ccstubbs@wadhams.edu



The newest associate members of the Sisters of St. Joseph are pictured above with the associate directors. From left are Mary Stanford, Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, Ann Lindley, Sister Kathleen deBoalt, Jean Barclay, Sister Constance Sylver, Mary Palarmar, Sister Norma Bryant and Sister Mary William Argy.

SSJs welcome new associates

WATERTOWN - The Sisters of St. Joseph welcomed four new associates July 29.

The new members made their commitment following a two year program designed to introduce them to the charism, history and mission of the Sisters.

Associates are lay members who desire to deepen their relationship with the Lord through the living of the charism and mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Anyone interested in the Associate Program may call Sister Norma Bryant or Sister Mary William Argy at the motherhouse, 782-3460.

The next meeting for Watertown and the surrounding area will be Sept. 23 at the motherhouse. A meeting for the Plattsburgh area will be

Sept. 16 at the former rectory in Cumberland Head. The contact person for that area is Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, 315-212-6592.



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

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

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

It's Our Mission.

Quality Health Coverage



FIDELIS CARE®

For a **baby** born to a young family,
Fidelis Care can be a blessing.

For a **parent** whose child receives care only
in the local emergency room,
Fidelis Care can be an opportunity.

For an uninsured **family member**
or **friend** who wants peace of mind, Fidelis Care is faithful.

And for **everyone** who is eligible for
quality, affordable health insurance coverage,
Fidelis Care can be the answer.

Fidelis Care is The New York State Catholic Health Plan, partnering with more than 49,000 providers to serve members of diverse backgrounds and faiths with the highest levels of dignity and respect.

Quality health coverage. It's always been our mission.



To find out if you are eligible for one of our government-sponsored health insurance programs, contact Fidelis Care at:

1-888-FIDELIS (1-888-343-3547)

(TTY: 1-800-421-1220) • fideliscare.org

Fidelis Care is sponsored by the Diocesan Bishops of New York State

Climate change coalition

The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change has announced a nation-wide screening of the Academy Award-nominated film *Sun Come Up*, depicting "climate refugees," inhabitants of the Carteret Islands just north of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

The film and accompanying materials demonstrate the important role that the Catholic Diocese of Bougainville has played in resettling some of these refugees and provides a concrete example of responding to Pope Benedict XVI's, 2010 World Day of Peace Message:

Can we remain indifferent before the problems associated with such realities as climate change . . . Can we disregard the growing phenomenon of 'environmental refugees', people who are forced by the degradation of their natural habitat to forsake it - and often their possessions as well - in order to face the dangers and uncertainties of forced displacement?

The screening and accompanying educational packet are designed for Catholic colleges, universities, high schools, youth groups, dioceses and parishes.

The education packet will include a step-by-step guide to help spur discussion and encourage actions in response to the unfolding climate crisis: actions that are consistent with Catholic teaching and the priorities of the U.S. bishops and the Vatican.

The Coalition has secured a number of DVDs at a deeply discounted rate and will mail them to interested groups in September.

To obtain a DVD and a free step-by-step Catholic discussion packet, groups in the Diocese of Ogdensburg should contact Sister Sheila Murphy of Malone at sheilamosu2@verizon.net

SCENES ACROSS THE DIOCESE AS SUMMER CONCLUDES

FACES OF FAITH



St. Stephen's altar server family picnic was held Aug. 13 at the Croghan Recreation Park. The event was co-sponsored by St. Stephen's Pastoral Council, Knights of Columbus, Rosary Society and Secular Franciscan groups. Father Dan Chapin, pastor, is pictured with the altar servers who attended. Front, from left are, Patrick Golden, Yvonne Kirschner, Caitlin Lashbrooks, Ian Widrick, Natalie Monnat, Lauren Steiner, Rylee Campeau and Alex Campeau.; back, Josh Peters, Mariah Abel, Evan Lashbrooks, Andrea Peters, Father Chapin, Madeline Monnat, Elana Hoppel, Alex Davis, Audrey Clements and Zach Brown.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE WARD

Gaetano Javarone of Watertown, representing Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves, presented the organization's Patriot Award to Bishop Terry R. LaValley Aug. 27. The award recognizes supervisors and bosses nominated by a guardsman or reservist – in this case Father Mark Reilly - for support through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, and granting leaves of absence if needed.



Msgr. John R. Murphy, pastor of the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk and St. Raymond's Church in Raymondville, is shown with eight young parishioners who made their First Communion this year.



Recently, a statue honoring "Mary, Help of Christians" was brought to Black River from Lima, Peru, and displayed at the home of Tom and Leslie Doukakos. Father Garvin Demarais, pastor of St. Paul's Catholic Church, led a prayer service at the Doukakos home. He is shown above with the parishioners who attended.

OUR READERS WRITE

40 Days for Life

As Campaign Director for 40 Days for Life I would like to thank all of the courageous prayer volunteers who have come out into the rain, snow, cold and heat to pray in front of Planned Parenthood during the past six 40 Days for Life Campaigns.

Even though there will not be a "registered" campaign this fall in Plattsburgh, prayer volunteers are still encouraged to pray for the end of abortion at 66 Brinkerhoff Street.

Women in crisis pregnancies have a right to bring their child into the world by accessing life saving resources in our area: Birthright, Gabriel Project, Catholic Charities, Care Net.

Abortion after care programs are also available in the area: Project Rachel, Rachel's Vineyard and Silent No More Awareness. There is help available, you are not alone.

Many positive happenings around the country are making headway in changing our society into a culture of life; life for all people.

If you need more info on pregnancy help, abortion after care resources or getting involved contact me at www.silentnomoreawareness.org

NANCY BELZILE
WILLSBORO

Thanks to diocese

As the personal representative of the Holy Father in the United States, I write with gratitude for the check in the amount of \$26,023.80, which you sent to the Apostolic Nunciature as the Peter's Pence contribution from the Diocese of Ogdensburg for 2012.

"[Peter's Pence] is a practical assistance offered to the Successor of Peter, to enable him to respond to the innumerable

requests that come to him from every part of the world, especially from the poorest countries. I warmly thank you for all the work you carry out so generously in a spirit of sacrifice that is born from your faith, from your relationship with the Lord, nurtured every day. May faith, charity and witness continue to be the guidelines of your apostolate." - Address of Pope Benedict XVI to the Members of the Circle of St. Peter, February 24, 2012

I assure you that this sum will be transmitted to the Secretariat of State on your behalf.

May God, who is infinitely generous, reward you and continue to bless you and the faithful under your pastoral care.

WITH PRAYERFUL REGARDS, I AM
SINCERELY YOURS IN CHRIST,
CARLO MARIA VIGANÒ
APOSTOLIC NUNCIUS
WASHINGTON, DC

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the *North Country Catholic*.

•We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

•Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org

• Join the conversation!



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

Bishop's Schedule

Sept. 6 – 11 a.m., Council of Priests Meeting at St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls.

Sept. 7 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg; 7p.m., Canon Law Class for Deacon Candidates at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

Sept. 8 – 10:30 p.m., Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting at St. James Church in Carthage.

Sept. 9 – 11 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg; 2:30 p.m., Altar Servers Appreciation and Youth Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by BBQ at the Knights of Columbus in Ogdensburg.

Sept. 10 – 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at the Deacon Winter Chapel in Ogdensburg.

Sept. 11 – 10:00 a.m., Diocesan and Department Heads Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg.

Sept. 12 – 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Plattsburgh, followed by luncheon with the Bishop's Heritage Circle.

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. 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:

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. 10 - Holy Name School, AuSable Forks, 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

Sept. 2 - Rev. Floyd J. Bleaux, 2009

Sept. 5 - Rev. Arthur Tardiff, O.M.I., 1961; Rev. John Sullivan M.S.C., 1962; Rev. Louis C. Gardner, 2000

Sept. 6 - Rev. James Connor, 1930

Sept. 7 - Rev. Manuel Belleville, 1964

Sept. 8 - Rev. William H. Coffey, 2000

Sept. 9 - Rev. Michael Olivetti, 1863;

Rev. Thomas P. Fitzgerald, 1914; Rev. Antonio Audet, 1957

Sept. 11 - Rev. J. A. Langlois, 1872;

Rev. Hyacinth Rueberg, 1913

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



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.

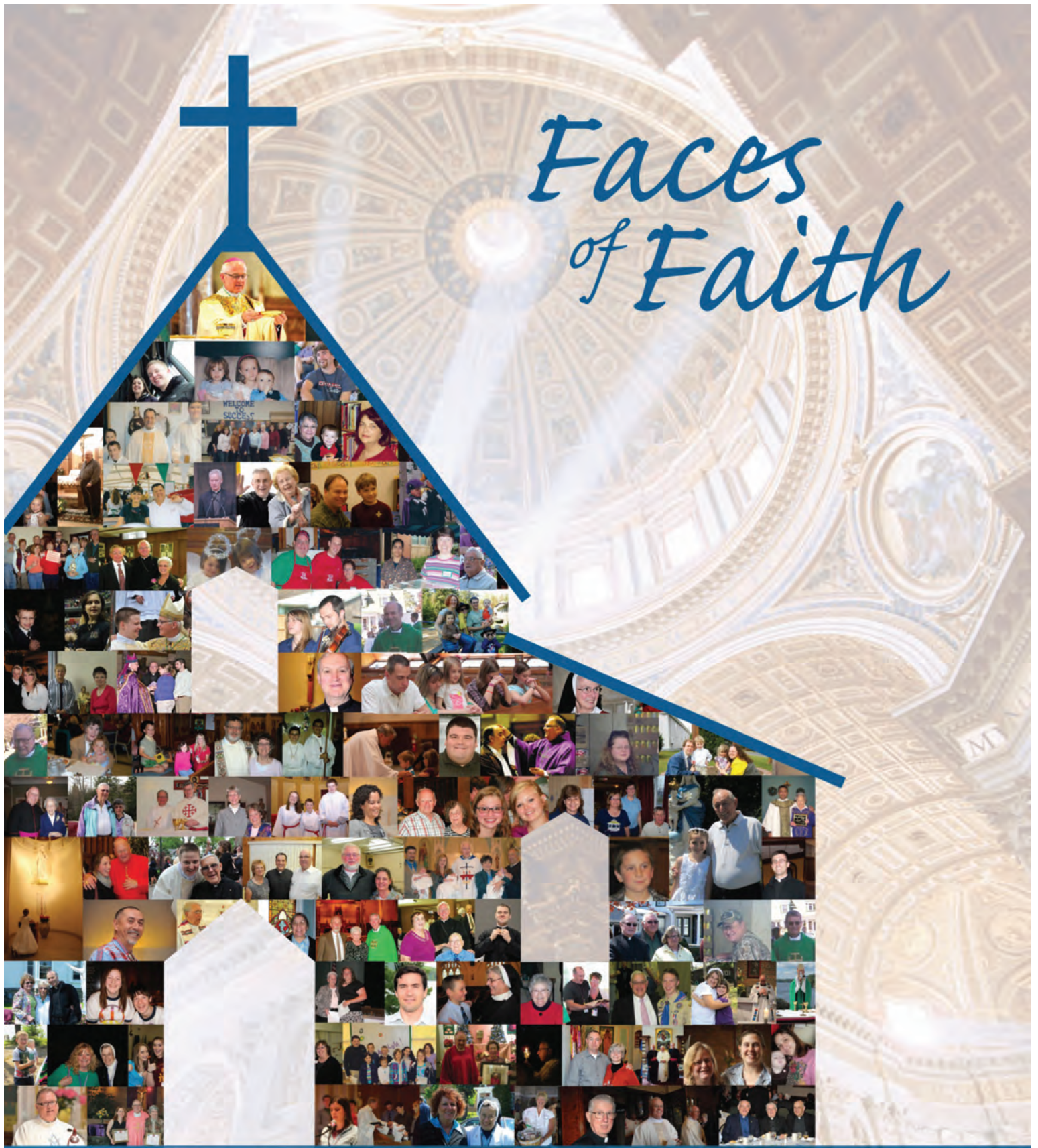
NCC

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY
CATHOLIC



What we're hearing about the newly designed www.northcountrycatholic.org:

"Excellent job on the new website. It's clean and easy to navigate. And, you now have the capability to provide news daily and hourly. Good work!"



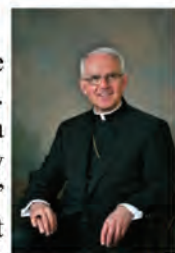
*Faces
of Faith*

2012
Bishop's Fund Appeal



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Go to those who are suffering and those who are searching, and give them the joy that Jesus wants to bestow. You will see how it is contagious. You will receive a hundredfold: the joy of salvation for yourselves, and the joy of seeing God’s mercy at work in the hearts of others.” These words, spoken by Pope Benedict XVI to a recent gathering of youth, are not only great advice for our youth but challenging words for you and me, as well.



The face of our Church here in the North Country is made up of people of all walks of life. As I travel around the Diocese I see so many “Faces of Faith.” Many 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.

Grateful for your past support, I invite you to continue to reach out to the “Faces of Faith” within our diocese and support the 2012 Bishop’s Fund Appeal through your prayers, encouragement and financial assistance.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

Your Gift Makes A Difference...



“Before Family Guggenheim I wasn’t sure I had enough strength. In the middle of stress, a mortgage, a sick child, no sleep and no communication we lost God from the middle of our family. In one weekend we were able to reconnect as a family and remember the way life used to be. Through those workshops we were able to take an honest look at our family and realize that our priorities were all out of whack. It was actually fairly simple to make some drastic changes in our life once we realized that we needed to trust and let God be in charge.

I was able to find that connection again at Guggenheim. Thank you so much for your unconditional love. My kids are already planning their variety show routines for next year. It was so much fun to share Guggenheim with them.”

~ Heide of Peru, New York



“The generosity of the Annual Bishop’s Fund Appeal, throughout the last eight years of Priestly Formation at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, has been of extraordinary assistance to me. Each semester, a scholarship from the Bishop’s Fund is given to our seminarians to assist them with the cost of books, supplies, travel, and other related expenses. Along with the scholarship each semester, the Bishop sends a letter assuring the seminarians of the North Country’s faithful dedication to prayer and support of local vocations. The Bishop’s Fund gift has never been solely a financial gift; instead it is a resounding testimony of the generous faith, hope, and love of our great Diocese. It will be my greatest joy as a priest to nourish these virtues in the faithful of the Diocese—through the celebration of the sacraments and the proclamation of the Gospel, in gratitude to God for his goodness to me, and for the gift of the faithful he will entrust to my care.”

~ Father Thomas Higman, Newly Ordained Priest for the Diocese of Ogdensburg

At 9 months old, Catherine was diagnosed with a heart defect. At Albany Medical, doctors gave Catherine a 10% chance of survival. Surgery was successful and Catherine began her fight for survival. After six long months, Catherine was able to go home. She is a miracle baby.

“When I delivered the gift from the Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund, Catherine’s parents were overwhelmed with gratitude. They could not believe that anyone cared enough to do this for them. The money allowed them to buy food and provide gas money for dad as he traveled back and forth to Albany while Catherine’s mother stayed with her. This gift gave Catherine’s parents hope, knowing that someone cared enough to help.”



~Mary of Massena, New York.

“The gift from the Bishop’s Fund was very helpful. It helped us to be able to stay with Catherine and be able to have food and just be with her. If I didn’t have that, I don’t know what I would have done.”

~ Catherine’s mom, Linda of Massena, New York



“Guggenheim is not only a place of beauty but a place of faith. It’s a place that I’ve loved since I was young, a place that has given me so much. Because of my experiences at both Teen and Family Camp, I am now a lector in my home parish. I also serve as a teen representative on parish council. Guggenheim also gives people of all ages a chance to meet new people and make lifelong friends. These “camp friends” are like no other. Although you only spend a few days together, these friends understand you at heart. Guggenheim is an amazing place to build faith, character and friendships. It is quite literally, “Heaven on Earth.”

~ Ryan of Lisbon, New York

“Several years ago I had the opportunity to go through the Formation for Ministry Program. This experience greatly strengthened my faith journey and gave me a real insight into just what the word neighbor meant. I have received far more than I have given. Words cannot express the joy I feel and I owe this all to the Bishop’s Fund which paid my costs. Thank you Bishop’s Fund, and thank you to all who generously support the Bishop’s Fund.”



~ Norm of Old Forge, New York

Bishop's Fund Prayer

God of our ancestors in faith
from one generation to the next
your face has shown forth in your saints.
Peoples of every tribe, tongue, and nation,
having been gathered into your Church,
have proclaimed your greatness
in word and in deed.

May the Holy Spirit,
continue to inspire the Faithful
of the Church of Ogdensburg
to share their gifts
with all people of the North Country
through lives of love, prayer, and service.
By means of the 2012 Bishop’s Fund Appeal
help this family to grow in faith
and to be the face of God
to all whom they encounter.

Bring them one day to our heavenly home
where the saints dwell in blessedness and
peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Bishop’s Fund Appeal provides financial assistance to the vital ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The following are among the ministries supported:

- ◆ Education of Seminarians ◆ Family Life Office ◆ Natural Family Planning Office ◆ Respect Life Ministry ◆ Bishop’s Good Samaritan Fund
- ◆ Formation for Ministry Program ◆ Office of Evangelization ◆ Continuing Education and Formation of Priests ◆ Priests’ Graduate Studies
- ◆ Vocation Office ◆ Permanent Deacons ◆ Deacon Formation ◆ Tuition Assistance Program ◆ Campus Ministry Program
- ◆ Matching Gifts to Catholic Schools ◆ Department of Christian Formation ◆ Diocesan Center of Youth Ministry ◆ Young Adult Ministry
- ◆ Guggenheim Center ◆ Department of Worship

For more information and to view the 2012 Bishop’s Fund Video, please visit www.dioogdensburg.org/development



Faces of Faith



2012 Bishop Fund
Appeal Goal
\$1,250,000

Your support of the 2012 Bishop's
Fund Appeal continues the good works
of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Ways to Give

Gifts of Cash: Checks should be made payable to the "Bishop's Fund Appeal."

Pledge: A gift to the Bishop's Fund Appeal may be paid in four payments - at the time of the pledge, December, February and April.

Gifts of Securities: Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of the securities on the date of your gift.

Matching Gifts: Many companies endeavor to match the charitable contributions of employees. Please contact your company's Human Resource Department to determine if your company participates in the Matching Gift Program for Catholic Schools.

Online Giving: The Bishop's Fund Appeal offers the opportunity to make your gift and pledge payments online using a credit card. To donate online, please visit www.dioogdensburg.org/development and click on Donate Now.

Please help to support the 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal - Give Generously

YES! I WANT TO MAKE MY GIFT TO THE 2012 BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL





NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____ PARISH _____

SEND CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: **Bishop's Fund Appeal** OR FILL IN CREDIT CARD INFO.

CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD FOR \$ _____    

CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE ____/____/____

SIGNATURE _____ PHONE _____

SINGLE GIFT PLEDGE MATCHING GIFT TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

TOTAL GIFT \$ _____

NOW PAYING \$ _____

PLEDGE AMT DUE \$ _____

MAIL TO:

BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL
PO BOX 150
OGDENSBURG, NY 13669

OR PLACE IN YOUR PARISH COLLECTION

Pope Benedict is first to sign up for WYD Rio 2013

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Germans are known for being punctual, so perhaps it should be no surprise that Pope Benedict XVI was the first person signed up for World Youth Day 2013.

Registration officially opened Aug. 28, and, according to organizers, the pope was the first pilgrim to be registered for the event, which will be held in Rio de Janeiro July 23-28.

Organizers said that more

than 220 groups of young people from five continents signed up in the first 24 hours after registration opened. Pilgrims from the United States, Canada, Australia, China, Aruba and the United Arab Emirates were among the first of the early registrants.

Groups of up to 50 people are encouraged to book early, organizers said. Registration should be done online on the official WYD Rio 2013 website, www.rio2013.com.

The missionary outreach of young people is set to be

a key focus of next year's gathering, as the theme is from the Gospel of St. Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations!"

The opening Mass, the papal welcoming ceremony and the Way of the Cross celebration will be held at Copacabana beach, according to organizers.

The youth vigil and closing Mass will be held at the city's Santa Cruz military air base.

The last World Youth Day was held in Madrid in 2011 and was attended by more than 1.5 million people.

Cardinal Dolan asks the presidential candidates to sign a civility petition

NEW YORK (CNS) - Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York invited the Republican and Democratic candidates for president and vice president to sign a petition seeking civil dialogue and to refrain from personal attacks during the two months remaining in the campaign leading up to the November election.

The "Civility in America" petition developed by the Knights of Columbus calls on candidates, commentators and media representatives to focus on the important issues facing the country rather than on individual personalities.

"I am writing to you and to the other candidates for president and vice president of this great nation to ask for your support of this effort, so that the upcoming campaign will remain focused on the critical issues facing our nation and not on personal attacks," Cardinal Dolan said in letters to President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, the Democratic

ticket, and Mitt Romney and Rep. Paul Ryan, the presumptive Republican nominees for president and vice president, respectively.

The petition on the Knights of Columbus website had gained more than 20,000 signatures through Aug. 27.

Cardinal Dolan's letter said that if the candidates signed the petition he would "be most happy to convey" to Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson and to the 1.8 million members of the organization "that you have chosen to support this valuable effort."

The cardinal cited the results of a Knights of Columbus-Marist Poll conducted July 9-11 that found 78 percent of Americans are "frustrated with the tone in politics today." The poll also found that two-thirds of people contacted said candidates spend more time attacking their opponents than addressing key issues and that 64 percent of people believe negative campaigning harms the political

process a great deal or a significant amount.

"That this perception exists cannot be healthy for our country or our democratic political process," Cardinal Dolan's letter said. "'Civility in America' is giving voice to the desire of Americans of all backgrounds and political parties for more civil discourse during this election season."

The cardinal, who is also president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was to deliver the closing prayer at both the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., and the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.



Diocese of Ogdensburg Office of Young Adult Ministry

Upcoming Events

Sept 2012:

Online Bros. Andre 9 Day Novena (9/16- 24th)

Oct 2012:

5/6th - Metanoia Retreat, St. Patrick's Port Henry
21st & 22nd - Q & A about our Catholic Issues in This Year's Election

Webinar w/NYS Catholic Conference

Nov 2012:

Online Book Club Event

Ongoing Planning

Creation of YA Diocesan Counsel

Support & Planning Help for Parishes regarding invitation and welcoming of Catholic Young Adults in their area.

Social media:

We are on Facebook at

Diocese of Ogdensburg Young Adult Ministry

Check out the Blog at

<http://yam-morningwatch.blogspot.com/>

Inclusion of Young Adults in the Upcoming Year of Faith working in collaboration with all offices of the Diocese.

Sullivan's Office Supply, Inc.

219 Center Street Massena, NY 315 764 0295

Office Supplies
sosupply.com

Specialty Gifts
seasons-gifts.com



27 West Orvis Street Massena, NY 315 764 7671

VATICAN LETTER

For Pope, the pastoral is political

By Francis X. Rocca
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - When Pope Benedict XVI travels to Lebanon Sept. 14-16 - assuming spillover from the civil war in neighboring Syria doesn't force a last-minute cancellation of the trip -- his purpose will be above all pastoral; and, as usual for papal trips, most of his remarks will focus on the spiritual.

Yet as the Syrian conflict exemplifies, the concerns of Christians in the Middle East are in many respects inseparable from politics; and however diplomatically the pope may word his statements, some will inevitably touch on the region's political struggles and tensions.

Pope Benedict's primary reason for visiting Lebanon is to deliver his document of reflections on the 2010 special Synod of Bishops,

which was dedicated to Christians in the Middle East. At that gathering, bishops spoke out on a range of issues that included the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, dialogue with Islam and Judaism, and the emigration of Christians driven by persecution, military conflict and economic hardship.

Bishops at the synod also affirmed the value of "positive secularism" and of an idea of citizenship that recognized a person's full rights and responsibilities in society without reference to religious affiliation. According to Michael La Civita of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, these are strikingly new concepts for the region, where sectarianism still dominates public as well as private life.

Pope Benedict may draw on the bishops' vocabulary of secular citizenship when

he addresses Lebanon's political, religious and cultural leaders in the presidential palace Sept. 15.

When he travels to Lebanon this month

He is also likely to renew his earlier calls for the protection of religious minorities. That cause has become an increasingly urgent one for Christians in the Middle East since the start of the Arab Spring, a revolutionary wave that started in December 2010, leading to the fall of dictatorships in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen, and currently threatening the government of Syria.

Though they profess no love for the old regimes, many Middle Eastern Christians fear that revolution has furthered empowered Islamist extremism in the region, increasing the danger of attacks and persecu-

tion of the sort that Iraq's Christians have suffered since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

According to Habib Malik, a professor of history at Lebanese American University, the pope in Lebanon will find an especially receptive audience for any talk of minority rights, since the country's Muslim and Christian populations are both composed of a variety of smaller communities, and moderate Muslims there are also "scared of the radical elements in their midst."

Yet, Pope Benedict knows from experience how sensitive a topic this is. In January 2011, after the pope denounced killings of Christians in Egypt and called for the protection of religious minorities, the Egyptian government recalled its ambassador to the Holy See, and the most prestigious university in the Sunni Muslim world, Cairo's al-Azhar

University, suspended its interreligious dialogue with the Vatican.

An even more delicate topic for the pope during his visit will be the Syrian civil war. Some Christian leaders have opposed the fall of President Bashar Assad, and the Vatican has yet to take a stand on proposals for outside military intervention to end the fighting.

In Lebanon, the pope will also confront the sensitivities and complexities of local church politics. Historically a refuge for Christians in the Middle East (with a Christian population today of nearly 40 percent, the largest proportion in the region), the country is home to at least a dozen major Christian churches, including Eastern Catholics in communion with Rome, Orthodox and Protestants.

At the 2010 synod on the Middle East, bishops affirmed the importance of preserving the variety of ancient traditions of Eastern Catholicism, whose survival is especially threatened by emigration; but the bishops also warned against the dangers of confessionalism: an attachment to distinct identities that undermines Christian unity.

As Father Guillaume de Brute Remur, rector of Beirut's Redemptoris Mater seminary, told Vatican Radio in August, Pope Benedict's unifying message is urgently needed in Lebanon, "especially in the midst of Middle Eastern revolution, where Islam also arises with some force and a certain radicalism threatens the unity." Even as he addresses Christians who are now a minority in a country where they once predominated, Pope Benedict will also be speaking to a global audience. So he may choose to draw or suggest parallels between the church's situation in the Middle East and that in other parts of the world.



MURNANE
BUILDING
CONTRACTORS

104 Sharron Ave., PO Box 3048
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Phone: 518-561-4010 Fax 518-561-5926

Supporting the 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal Insert

EXPERIENCE & COMPASSION

Always Make a Difference

MANNING & NAPIER
Foundation

Proud to Support the 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal

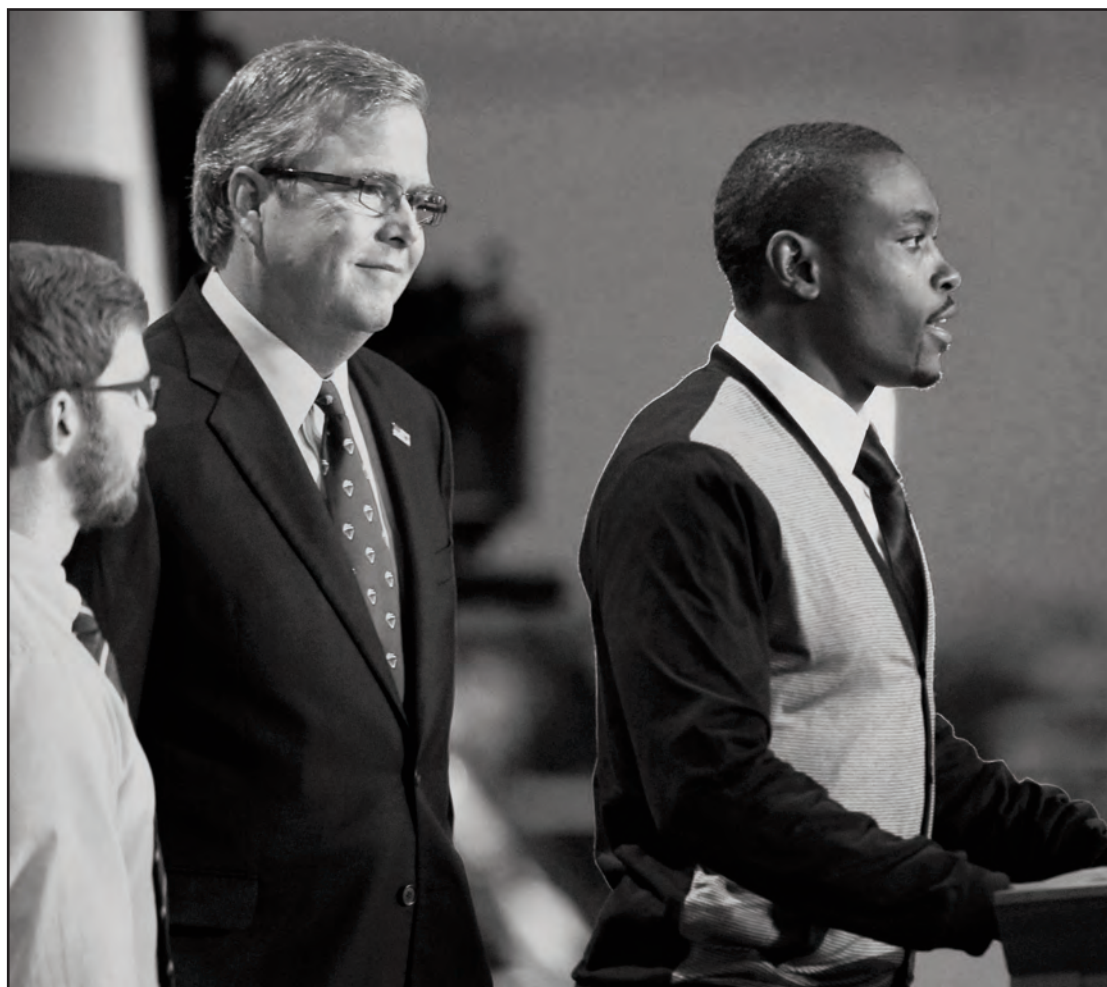
*Our mission is to help organizations like the
Diocese of Ogdensburg & North Country Catholic
enhance our community through good works and responsible
financial stewardship.*

ANTONY DESORBO
MANNING & NAPIER FOUNDATION, INC.
290 Woodcliff Drive | Fairport, New York | (585) 325-6880
www.manning-napier.com

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Courts urged not to dismiss Catholic lawsuits against HHS mandate
WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In a dozen courts around the country, attorneys representing more than 40 Catholic dioceses or institutions have filed briefs arguing against the federal government's call to dismiss lawsuits against its contraceptive mandate. The Catholic entities are seeking to overturn a requirement that most religious employers provide contraceptives and sterilization to their employees. The simultaneous filings Aug. 27 were in response to an Aug. 6 brief in which the Obama administration asked the courts to summarily dismiss the suits, saying they were premature and that the plaintiffs had no standing to challenge the Department of Health and Human Services' mandate. "This case is about important rights to religious freedom protected by our founders under the First Amendment, assured by Congress under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, but trampled by Defendants under haphazard rulemaking," says the 36-page brief filed on behalf of the University of Notre Dame. Forty-three Catholic dioceses, schools, hospitals, social service agencies and other institutions initially filed suit in federal court May 21 to stop three government agencies from implementing a mandate that would require them to cover contraceptives and sterilization in their health plans. The Diocese of Peoria, Ill., and Catholic Charities of Chicago have since joined the lawsuits. Catholic organizations have objected to the contraceptive mandate since it was announced Aug. 1, 2011, by Kathleen Sebelius, HHS secretary. Unless they are subject to a narrow religious exemption or have a grandfathered health plan, employers will be required to pay for sterilizations and contraceptives, including some abortion-inducing drugs, as part of their health coverage.

Priest apologizes after rebuke for comments on sexual abuse
NEW YORK (CNS) -- Father Benedict Groeschel, a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal who has long been a popular speaker and television personality, apologized Aug. 30 for interview comments he made that were published online two days earlier, saying that "in a lot of cases" the victim of child sexual abuse is "the seducer." Father Groeschel also had said priests who have committed abuse just one time should not go to jail. In the interview, Father Groeschel referred to Jerry Sandusky, the former Penn State assistant football coach who was convicted in June on 45 charges relating to the sexual abuse of 10 different boys, as a "poor guy. I apologize for my comments. I did not intend to blame the victim," said Father Groeschel, 78, in an Aug. 30 statement. "A priest -- or anyone else -- who abuses a minor is always wrong and is always responsible. My mind and my way of expressing myself are not as clear as they used to be." Joseph Zwilling, a spokesman for the Archdiocese of New York, said in an Aug. 30 statement before Father Groeschel's apology that the priest's comments were "simply wrong." Zwilling added, "Although he is not a priest of the Archdiocese of New York, what Father Groeschel said cannot be allowed to stand unchallenged. The sexual abuse of a minor is a crime, and whoever commits that crime deserves to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law." He also took exception to Father Groeschel's characterization of sexual abuse victims as seducers. "The harm that was done by these remarks was compounded by the assertion that the victim of abuse is responsible for the abuse, or somehow caused the abuse to occur. This is not only terribly wrong. It is also extremely painful for victims," Zwilling said.



CNS PHOTO/JOE SKIPPER, REUTERS

Frantz Placide speaks about his high school education and the Florida voucher program during the final session of the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., Aug. 30. Standing at left is teacher Sean Duffy and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. Placide graduated from Archbishop Curley Notre Dame prep school in Miami in 2006.

Catholic school graduate touts vouchers' benefits at convention

TAMPA, FLA. (CNS) -- Frantz Placide, a 2006 graduate of Archbishop Curley Notre Dame Preparatory School in Miami, spoke during the Republican National Convention Aug. 30 in Tampa about the importance of school vouchers.

Placide was greeted with support from former teachers, classmates, and school alumni when he took to the national stage praising his former school and the state's voucher program that enabled him to attend the Catholic high school.

"I grew up in the inner city of Miami. In a place where your zip code determined your chances of success, my only option was an unproductive and failing school," he said. With the state's voucher program, he was

able to enroll in what he describes as "one of the toughest private schools in Miami."

Placide, who was born in Haiti, was a star high school football player and also played football at Wagner College in New York where he majored in sociology.

He met then-Florida Gov. Jeb Bush in 2005 when Bush visited Archbishop Curley Notre Dame to meet with students participating in the voucher program.

Bush, who introduced Placide to the convention delegates, also emphasized the importance of school choice.

The former governor praised the work of Republican governors who have expanded school voucher legislation including Mitch

Daniels of Indiana, Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Scott Walker of Wisconsin and Bill Haslam of Tennessee.

Archbishop Curley Notre Dame was one of the first Catholic schools to adopt the state's voucher program in 2001.

Douglas Romanik, the school's principal, said that after the "opportunity scholarship" program ended the school utilized other programs to help students meet tuition costs.

"We are also committed to providing other avenues to pay for or reduce the cost of tuition by offering a work-study program and need-based scholarships funded by our alumni benefactors and through fundraising efforts," he said.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

God's word always fulfilled

Ever since the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center eleven years ago this coming Tuesday, America has lived with fear and insecurity.

The increased violence and senseless shootings from within have only served to add to our insecurity.

In this Sunday's first reading from Isaiah, the times were equally tense.

Both the northern and southern kingdoms of Israel and Judea were in grave danger from Assyria. Hope seemed futile.

But then God tells them, "Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes to save you..." Then He adds, "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf will be cleared..."

Eight hundred years later, God's Son, Jesus, fulfills that

prophecy, as Mark tells us in today's Gospel.

Jesus is tired of the lack of faith and the constant attacks of the Pharisees in Judea and Galilee, so He travels up to pagan territory called the Decapolis (the Ten Cities).

Here people are delighted to see Him.

They bring before Him a man who can neither hear nor speak, and beg Jesus to heal him..

Taking the man aside, the Master heals him.

At this, the Gentiles proclaim that the prophecy of Isaiah has been fulfilled through Jesus, saying "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

God's word is always fulfilled. It may take a long time, but His power will always come through.

In our own day, we need

SEPT. 9

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Isaiah 35:4-7a

James 2:1-5

Mark 7:31-37

to pray harder and believe more strongly that God can heal the brokenness of our society, crush the evil that threatens, and restore peace and justice in our land.

The price, of course, is for us to work harder for the poor and destitute, to relieve the poverty which has reached alarming proportions in our country.

That often means sacrificing some of our own possessions. After all, God usually favors the poor.

As St. James teaches us in today's second reading, "Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that He promised to those who love him?"

On Judgement Day, we will be happy to be counted among those who have little, rather than with those who have gathered much of the goods of this world, but have failed to share them.

An excellent way for those of us in the Ogdensburg diocese to share is through this year's Bishop's Fund!



For a New or Used Car
MORT BACKUS & SONS
On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
Phone
315-393-5899



Office of Evangelization
Marika Donders, Director
Sponsored by the Diocese of Ogdensburg



Evangelization is the mission to proclaim Jesus as the Savior of all.



It is a call to help Catholics to reconnect with their faith within the family of faith.



The Office of Evangelization provides:

- **Diocesan Program:** During Advent and Lent to support Small Christian Communities
- **Horizon Monthly Newsletter:** Information for Parish and Family
- **Parish Evangelization Workshops**
- **Collaborative Resources from Other Diocesan Offices**
- **Programs and Resources:** For Parish Evangelization and Inactive Catholics

For More Information visit our web site at:
www.dioogdensburg.org/evangelization

Or call Marika Donders, Director,
Office of Evangelization
315-393-2920

Proud to serve the
Diocese of Ogdensburg.

PINTO MUCENSKI HOOPER
VAN HOUSE & CO.
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

42 Market St.
Potsdam, NY 13676
Phone: 315 265 6080
Fax: 315 265 3530

443 S. Main St.
Massena, NY 13662
Phone: 315 769 7430
Fax: 315 769 8377

301 Ford St.
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
Phone: 315 393 7502
Fax: 315 393 9231

Members: American Institute of
Certified Public Accountants
NYS Society of Certified Public Accountants

Supporting the 2012 Bishop's Fund Appeal Insert

Deacons Called to Serve



- ◆ Ministry of Charity and Justice
- ◆ Ministry of the Word
- ◆ Ministry of Liturgy

The Deacon Formation program is a ministry supported by the Bishop Fund. This ministry provides the spiritual, pastoral, personal and academic formation of candidates who are discerning a vocation to the permanent diaconate.

For More Information Contact:
Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin
raucoin@dioogdensburg.org

AT THE MOVIES



CNS PHOTO/KENN VISELMAN PRESENTS INC.

Animated characters are seen in the movie "The Oogieloves in the Big Balloon Adventure."

THE OOGIELOVES IN THE BIG BALLOON ADVENTURE

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

Small children will get quite a workout at "The Oogieloves in the Big Balloon Adventure" (Kenn Viselman Presents), an interactive film which periodically prompts young ones to jump up, dance, twirl, wiggle, blow kisses or sing along.

Directed by newcomer Matthew Diamond, "Oogieloves" is the vision of producer Kenn Viselman, creator of the successful children's television series "Teletubbies."

This big-screen offering also uses full-bodied puppets to entertain and impart lessons, such as the importance of eating breakfast every morning, working as a team, and loving your friends and neighbors.

Three members of the Oogielove family live in the candy-colored town of Loveyloveville: Linguist Zoozie (voice of Stephanie Renz) represents the distaff side; like Doctor Dolittle, Zoozie can speak "animal."

The boys are Goobie

(voice of Misty Miller) and Toofie (voice of Malerie Grady). Goobie is smart and likes science, while Toofie is a way-cool athlete. Toofie does not like to wear a belt, which causes his trousers to fall down (often), providing the movie's principal comic relief.

The gang is planning a surprise birthday party for their pal Schluufy (voice of Taras Los), a cuddly talking pillow. Another friend, J. Edgar (voice of Nick Drago), is bringing the presents: five golden balloons with magical powers. (J. Edgar is only tangentially named for the former head of the FBI -- he's a talking Hoover vacuum cleaner.)

When a gust of air carries the balloons away, the Oogieloves must put their heads together and retrieve them before the party starts. Coming to their aid is Windy Window (voice of Maya Stange), a distant cousin of the Magic Mirror in "Snow White," and Ruffy (voice of Randy Carfagno), a goldfish confined to his bowl.

Ruffy has an eye for the ladies, telling his admirers,

"I'm a good catch."

As the Oogieloves travel on their bicycles all over Lovelyloveville, they encounter human characters, each of whom has found a golden balloon.

These include Dottie Rounder (Cloris Leachman), an old woman who lives, not in a shoe but in a teapot; Rosalie Rosebud (Toni Braxton), who likes to fly (and belt out a tune); Marvin (Chazz Palminteri), who owns a diner and makes a mean milkshake; Bobby Wobbly (Cary Elwes), a trucker who likes to blow bubbles; and Lola and Lero Sombrero (Jaime Pressly and Christopher Lloyd), flamenco dancers whose heritage allows Zoozie to show off her proficiency in Spanish.

Needless to say, "The Oogieloves in the Big Balloon Adventure" is harmless and wholesome fun, suitable for the very youngest of moviegoers.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I - general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G - general audiences. All ages admitted.

SEE THE POPE ON YOUTUBE

THE VATICAN VISIT
WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYCATHOLIC.ORG

BARSTOW

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION BUICK PONTIAC GMC SUBARU

"Family owned dealership serving the North Country for over 56 years!"

For more information, visit our Website at: www.barstowmotors.com

MARKET ST., POTSDAM, NY • (315) 265-8800

IN THEATRES NATIONWIDE ON SEPTEMBER 14

LAST OUNCE OF COURAGE

A STORY OF FAMILY, FAITH AND FREEDOM.

BRING YOUR FAMILY.
TAKE A STAND FOR FREEDOM.

Find theatre & ticket information at
www.standusa.com/lastounceofcourage

SHARE FREEDOM JOIN THE COMMUNITY
FACEBOOK.COM/STANDUSA

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
RATED PG FOR THEMATIC ELEMENTS, SOME WAR IMAGES AND BRIEF SMOKING

CLINTON

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 October 3 to olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or 518-594-3253. Light lunch to follow. 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

HARVEST DINNER BUFFET

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

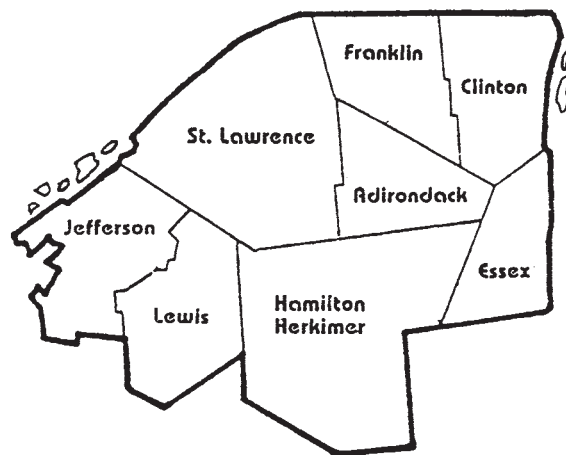
Date: Sept. 9

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Hall
Cost: \$9; Children, \$4; under 5, Free
Features: Take-outs available, raffle, country store. Craft tables available by calling 236-5848 to reserve.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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



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.

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.

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

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.

FRANKLIN

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Brushton – St. Mary's Catholic Church events committee will be having a Breakfast Buffet.

Date: Sept. 9

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

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$7; Seniors, \$6; Children 6-12, \$4; under 5, Free; Immediate family of 5 or more, \$20

Features: Take-outs available 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

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

Watertown – BINGO to held every Friday night beginning Sept. 7.

Time: Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; Games begin 7 p.m.

Place: St. Anthony's Church

Features: Progressive Coverall & 2 Games of Chance. Bingo supplies and refreshments are on sale.

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

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.

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

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

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

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@dioogdensburg.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.

ALTAR SERVER MASS AND PICNIC

Ogdensburg – Altar servers from parishes across the diocese will be recognized

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

Registration: interested servers and families should contact their pastor

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



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

Why Mission?

The following article is an excerpt from the "Mission Education Guidelines" a tool for Religious Educators and Catechists:

At Baptism, God places into the hearts of all a special missionary calling, asking a generous response. Children have received this calling, as has each religious educator / catechist. In a special way, religious educators / catechists have been called not only to be disciples of Christ, but also to make disciples for Him.

The task of ministering to children is vital indeed. Through their love, their witness, their prayers and sacrifices, young Catholics open new pathways to evangelization among those who have yet to encounter the love and hope of Jesus Christ and His "Good News." Young people are generous and enthusiastic, eager to use their talents to bring the Good News "to the ends of the earth."

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: "Those who with God's help have welcomed Christ's call and freely responded to it are urged on by love of Christ to proclaim the Good News everywhere in the world." It directs further: "All Christ's faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation, by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in Liturgy and prayer."

The National Catechetical Directory offers us an integrated vision of the baptismal profession of faith and its catechesis as explored in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "This ministry is Trinitarian and Christocentric in scope and spirit, consciously emphasizing the mystery of God and the plan of salvation... the most important task of such catechesis is to provide, through the witness of committed adults, an environment in which young people can grow in faith."

These Guidelines have been prepared to assist catechists and religious educators in their preparation of classes related to World Mission, with topics of specific interest under these three domains: Sacraments and Liturgy, Prayer and Christian Living.

We invite questions, suggestions and feedback that will enhance the content of these Guidelines; please direct such ideas and information to pmsusa@propfaith.org.

Please remember "The Pontifical Mission Societies" when writing or changing your Will.
www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice

1. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 3
2. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 3
3. National Catechetical Directory 47; *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 426
4. Guidelines were prepared by a Task Force on Mission Education, under the direction of the National Office of the Pontifical Mission Societies; that Task Force consulted with diocesan directors of Religious Education / Catechesis

OBITUARIES

Carthage – Irene Courtney, 96; Funeral Services Aug. 27, 2012 at St. James Church; burial in St. Ann's Cemetery, St. Regis Falls.

Churubusco – Chester R. Sears, 86; Funeral Services Aug. 25, 2012 at Immaculate Heart Church; burial in Immaculate Heart Cemetery.

Constable – Anne (Flynn) Phillips, 73; Funeral Services Aug. 29, 2012 at St. Francis of Assisi Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Irishtown – Katherine Sehlvin, 92; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2012 at St. Mary's Oratory; burial in parish cemetery.

Lowville – Louise T. Russum; Memorial Services Aug. 27, 2012 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Massena – Henry "Hank" R. Nadeau, 84; Funeral Services Aug. 31, 2012 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Newton Falls – Olive M. (Brunell) Reil, 87; Funeral Services Aug. 27, 2012 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in St. Hubert's Cemetery.

Norfolk – Patricia N. (McKenna) Jones, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 27, 2012 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – John O'Hara, 90; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2012 at the RW Walker Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Champlain.

Plattsburgh – Marion E. (Blair) O'Hara, 88; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2012 at the RW Walker Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Champlain.

Saranac Lake – David H. Munn, 78; Funeral Services Aug. 31, 2012 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Alan F. Neese, 81; Funeral

Services Sept. 1, 2012 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Paul's Cemetery, Bloomingdale.

Schroon Lake – Cynthia (Seymour) Welch, 83; Funeral Services Aug. 22, 2012 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; burial in North Hudson Cemetery.

Watertown – Josephine A. (Capone) Knapp, 93; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2012 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Mary H. (Horan) LaFave, 95; Funeral Services Aug. 31, 2012 at Holy Family Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Copenhagen.

Watertown – Margaret R. (Roch) Phillips, 95; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2012 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Willsboro – Grace Marie (Frenier) Martin, 94; Funeral Service Aug. 28, 2012 at St. Philips of Jesus Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.



D.L. CALARCO
Funeral Home, Inc.

135 Keyes Avenue
Watertown • 782-4910

Service Available

MONASTERY CARD SHOP

Cards for All Occasions

Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.

Precious Blood Monastery

OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM
400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN
315-788-1669

WILLIAM J. MURRAY, INC.

Electrical Contractors

**118 HAMMOND LANE
PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901**

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION WORK

Established 1931

Supporting the 2012 Bishop Fund Appeal Insert

St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified throughout the whole world, forever and ever, Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude helper of the homeless, pray for us. Say prayer 9 times a day for 9 days.

KM

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

A leap of faith

By Amanda Conklin
Contributing Writer

My husband and I knew that we wanted to eventually, move closer to family, especially in the hopes that one day we will start our own family.

While we love the North Country, we always assumed that if we were to move, that it would most likely be to the Pittsburgh area. Seth's family lives there and the larger population area would offer more employment opportunities than the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

So, when a close friend shared with us at Ordinationpalooza that there was an opening at Immaculate Heart Central High School for a theology teacher, we wondered if God might be preparing us for a change.

Seth submitted his resume, was given an interview and shortly after, he was offered the teaching position at IHC.

We were immediately elated, yet confused as to what step we should take.

We would be leaving a very secure financial situation, to relocate to a location where I didn't have any employment prospects.

We prayed for a couple of days and both shared that



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Saranac Lake native Amanda Miner has worked in the Philadelphia area since graduating from college but was able to follow a dream to move back to the North Country when her husband was offered as position at Immaculate Heart Central School in Watertown and she was hired as the campus minister for SUNY Canton and St. Lawrence University.

we felt an amazing sense of peace about accepting the position at IHC. This is very uncharacteristic of both of us, as we usually need to have all of our "ducks in a row" before a major decision.

We both felt that God was

calling us to take a leap of faith, so we jumped.

The day after Seth called to accept the teaching position, three job opportunities opened up in the Diocese. I secured interviews for all three positions.

I kept thanking God for affirming that we had made the right decision in taking the leap. Sure enough, right in character for the Big Guy, I was offered my dream job and accepted the position of Campus Minister for SUNY

Canton and St. Lawrence University.

I am thrilled to meet the students of both schools and I have felt the Holy Spirit closer than ever during my first couple of days on the job.

It was solidly confirmed to me that we made the right decision in relocating when my favorite saint sent a rose to me on my first day of work.

Many know through my other articles in the NCC

that I have a strong devotion to St. Therese of Liseieux (The Little Flower.) When I came into work, someone had kindly put a rose plant on my desk.

Then, during the grand tour, it was shared with me that St. Therese appeared as a child in her first communion dress to a nun right here in Canton many years ago! The story is documented in St. Mary's chapel.

I got chills as I read the story and smiled at how amazing our Church, along with the Communion of Saints truly is.

It is easy to roll our eyes at those who are constantly preaching the "just trust in God" mantra. I know I've been guilty of scoffing at people at times who seem to put every ounce of trust in Christ. But, in reality, He truly is in control.

We are called as Catholics to integrate both Faith and Reason into our lives and decisions. We need to reasonably look at our finances, vocations etc. but then have faith that if we pray and discern the best we can, that God will take it from there.

One of my favorite scripture passages is from Jeremiah 29: "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Our future as a married couple, and now as residents of the North Country is looking pretty bright.

It feels good to be home and I look forward with anticipation to the opportunity, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit (and Father Doug Lucia of course,) to welcome many college students back home to the Church this school year.

(To check out the Canton Campus Ministry Facebook please visit www.Facebook.com/CantonCampusMinistry)

Off to College? Take Us Along!

Keep Informed: From International Catholic News to What's Happening Around the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Take Advantage of our **SPECIAL COLLEGE RATE**

E-Paper: **\$20** or Mailed to your dorm **\$24** Sept. Thru May

Your Name _____ Student's Name _____
 Address _____ College _____
 City _____ Address _____
 State _____ Zip _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 E-Mail _____

Send to:
North Country Catholic
PO Box 106
Canajoharie, NY 13317

www.northcountrycatholic.org
315-608-7556

Peaceful Dove Books & Gifts

164 Boynton Ave. Sq., Ste 206, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901

NEW Bibles, Crosses, Missals, Rosaries, Medals, Statues
NEW Baptism, Wedding & Sacramental Gifts, Candles
NEW Clergy and Religious Cards for All Occasions
NEW Willow Tree Gifts, Memorial, Music, DVDs, & Syrup!

Gifts of the Spirit! Shipping Available!
 Summer Hours: M-F 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., or by appointment
 (518) 561-5083 www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com
 Mrs. Linda Bracy and Ms. Mary Beth Bracy