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# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN.16, 2013

## A time of awe

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Since everyone experiences joy at receiving a gift that comes from the heart, Christians should be in absolute awe at Christmastime when they remember God's gift of himself, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"The original Christmas gift," he said, was the gift of

God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ and giving his life for the salvation of the world.

"It is important to recover our awe in the face of this mystery and to allow ourselves to be enveloped by the greatness" of the Incarnation, Pope Benedict said during his weekly general

audience Jan. 9, continuing a series of audience talks on the meaning of Christmas.

In the liturgical calendar, "Christmastide" runs to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 13 this year.

Reflecting on the Incarnation, Pope Benedict said the Gospel phrase "the Word be-

came flesh" is repeated so often, and Christmastime brings so many extra obligations that sometimes Christians lose sight of the fact that Christmas celebrates "something absolutely unthinkable, something only God could do and something we accept only with faith."

## A story of 'amazing' faith

A fellow parishioner of St. Ann's Parish in Wells writes that Judee Lauria should be the "poster child" for the Year of Faith.

Ronni Royal writes:

As a child, Mrs. Lauria "accepted her gift of faith completely and seriously. She has always had a close relationship with God and wanted to live her life pleasing Him..

"As I write this, Judee is very sick and even close to death. But amazingly her spirits are still high...

"She handles this horrible disease with grace and she marches on praying every step of the way."

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## The Pill as health care?

In "Making Sense Out of Bioethics," Father Tad Pacholczyk

reflects on this question

FULL STORY, PAGE 12

## SPECIAL GUESTS AT THE BISHOP'S HOUSE



PHOTO BY LINDA ROSS

Bishop Terry R. LaValley invited the seminarians of the diocese for lunch at his home Jan. 5, during their Christmas break from studies. From left are Bishop LaValley, Matthew Conger, Alex Pacelli, Michael Jablonski and Deacon Scott Belina. Deacon Belina has begun his final semester at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary as he prepares for his ordination to the priesthood May 25.

## ON THE MARCH AGAIN

### 40 years after Roe v. Wade

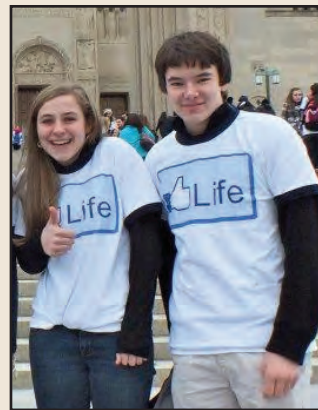


PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Anna Izzo and Nathan Miller of St. Bernard's Parish in Saranac Lake are shown during the 2012 March for Life in Washington. They will be returning for this year's March on one of three youth buses traveling to Washington from Watertown, Schroon Lake and Massena (with stops to pick up youth groups in Canton, Gouverneur and Lewis County). Father Bryan Stitt and Father Tom Higman will be traveling with the young people. Two adult/family buses will also be bringing north country pro-lifers to the March - the Champlain Valley Bus for Life that begins at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh and Lewis County Bus for Life. The local marchers will be among tens of thousands showing that 40 years after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortions, the pro-life movement hasn't stepped back in its resolve to see the decision reversed.

FULL STORY, PAGE 12

**YOUNG CATHOLIC FAITH:** The IHC Mystery Players on the road again... p. 3

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## The elusive joys of January

I should appreciate January more than I do.

After all, it's the month I became a mother and the month my best friend, aka my husband, was born.

Who could ask for more?

But, alas, these 31 days seem oh-so-much longer than those in July!

For someone who truly *tries* to thank God for everything, it's al-

Mary Lou  
Kilian

ways a challenge to see the blessings in ice-caked cars and horrible heat bills.

There is one feature of January, though, that I do appreciate: in our church, we're back to Ordinary Time.

There is great wisdom in our liturgical seasons. Between the celebratory Christmas season and the penitential Lenten one, we have time just to "be."

What a gift!

Of course, "being" doesn't mean "being lazy."

Every year, the month of January calls us to *be* pro-life (as the anniversary of the legalization abortion comes on Jan. 22) and *be* pro-Catholic school (as we begin the observance of Catholic Schools Week Jan. 27).

We also, of course, must *be* loving, *be* prayerful and *be* alert to what God has in store for us in this brand new year.

In the coming weeks, the

calendar will start filling again - and the *North Country Catholic* will be fatter - as we emerge from this January lull.

Especially during this Year of Faith we will find extraordinary opportunities to help us grow closer to God.

But, in these cold wintry days we have the time to just rest in the Lord and that's an extraordinary opportunity too!

We never have to leave the warmth of our homes to be with God and, personally, I thank God for that!

## FATHER BILL SAYS

## Finding hope in goodness of God's love

So much has happened right here in our own land over the past few weeks. It seems almost like a test of faith in this Year of Faith.

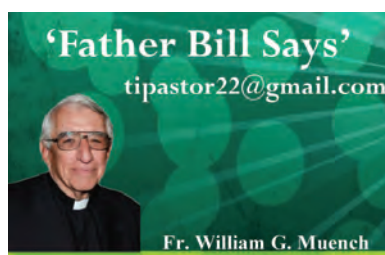
Now is truly the time for a renewed faith in the spirit of this Year of Faith so that we can meet the new challenges of life. May we help to bring faith alive in the hearts of those that we know and meet.

Several of my Christmas cards this year did reflect a wonderful feeling of the importance of faith. Some wrote to me of difficult times during the past year - yet, they always added - "Thank, God, for my faith. If it hadn't been for my faith, I would not have made it."

As we pray and work to strengthen faith in this Year of Faith, we must also renew that wonderful virtue of hope - hope and confidence in the goodness of God, hope that gives confidence to follow the Lord and to do all that God asks of us.

We are the People of God so we should find hope in the goodness of God's great love for us as demonstrated in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

I pray that this has been your experience, that you have discovered a real hope and confidence in the Lord to do something for God and his



Church and are ready to face seemingly impossible tasks with confidence, unafraid to act.

I firmly believe that each and every day of our lives the Lord has something important for us to do. Some days it may even be *many* things.

Often, the Lord needs us to do something very simple - a smile, a greeting. However, there will be days that it will be something big, something challenging. In this way, we truly make the world a better place - we truly brings God's Spirit to a needy world.

The Lord's gift of this magnificent virtue of hope gives each one of us the confidence to use well each of the opportunities that the Lord gives us, today.

There are times when this task will be a surprise - something we least expect yet, something important - and you are the one who can and must accomplish this. God's surprises are such an important part of life, for us, Christians.

So, how do we know? I am certain that the Lord sends us signs - much like the star that led the Magi to Jesus as we celebrate on the Feast of the Epiphany.

There are many stars from the Lord in each of our lives so, it is important that we pray for awareness, divine awareness.

Too often, I know that I miss a star in my life - I know I do. Too many times I could have done so much more.

I pray that I do not miss any of those opportunities that will make my life better - indeed, my world better.

Each of us will have examples of how God has led us to do something important for the Lord. I remember too

many times when ordinary days became extraordinary because the Lord suddenly placed an important opportunity into my life. May I never miss any of these opportunities. I know only too well that miracles - truly, miracles - happened because God led me to be at the right place to do the right thing.

So, each day I have confidence that, with the Lord, I will recognize an opportunity to accomplish something great for the Lord.

My morning prayer is this: "With you, Lord, I have the confidence to change the world. Help me to recognize my opportunity today. Stay with me - guide me - challenge me."

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# Parish honors St. Brother Andre Bessette on Jan. 6

PLATTSBURGH-- On the 76th anniversary of his death, Jan. 6, St. Peter's Parish honored St. Brother Andre Bessette.

## A Year of Faith event at St. Peter's in Plattsburgh

The afternoon of prayer, remembrance, film, and carols drew some 200 people from all areas of Clinton County.

It was on Jan. 6, 1937 that word spread quickly throughout Montreal that "the saint is dead." It was, of course, "Little Christmas" for all devout French Canadian families.

The celebration of Frere Andre's going home to God was held as part of St. Peter's the Year of Faith observance. It took place in and around the "Chapel of Saint Frere Andre."

Beginning with the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Chapel the celebration concluded with



CNS PHOTO/TONY GENTILE, REUTERS  
St. Brother Andre Bessette is pictured in a tapestry hung at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome during his canonization ceremony Oct. 17, 2010.

Benediction in the late afternoon.

During adoration, the prayerful activities included: Christmas Carols in both French and English, a talk on Brother Andre given by Ursula Akey, healing prayers led by The Living Water Heal-

ing Ministry, and an opportunity to venerate a relic of Saint Andre Bessette.

At 1:30 the Sacrament of the Sick was celebrated with almost 100 people being anointed.

The critically acclaimed filmed "God's Doorkeeper, St. Andre of Montreal" was shown twice during the afternoon in the Church's Emaus Room.

Organizers reported that more than 120 people viewed the 50 minute film which was produced by the Canadian Television Network, Salt and Light and currently distributed by Ignatius Press.

Refreshments were served all afternoon. Various religious objects related to Saint Andre were available for individuals and families during the celebration.

The St. Brother Andre Event was planned by Sue Pombrio, Anita Soltero and Msgr. Dennis Duprey, pastor of St. Peter's.

# Funeral held for Sister Mary Hallahan, OSU

MALONE-- A Mass of Christian Burial for Ursuline Sister Mary Hallahan, 86, formerly known as Mother Charles, was held Jan. 11 at Notre Dame Church.

She died Dec. 31 at Andrus on Hudson in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. Burial will be in the Ursuline plot in St. Joseph's Cemetery on the Lake Titus Road in the spring.

Sister Mary was born Jan. 17, 1926, in North Lawrence, the daughter of the late J. Carl and Vivian McLaughlin Hallahan. She was one of eight children. Survivors include her brother, John Hallahan; five sisters, Sister Mary Audrey, RSM, Marjorie Wilcox, Norma Rombach, Genevieve Atkins, and Patricia Libby; and many nephews and nieces.

Along with her parents, she was predeceased by a brother, Daniel Hallahan.

Sister Mary entered the Ursulines July 15, 1945. She made her first vows Jan. 16, 1948, and her final vows Jan. 16, 1951. She held a BS in biology from the College of New Rochelle and an MS in religious education from Fordham University.

Sister Mary taught in Ursuline schools, starting in 1949 at Blessed Sacrament School in New Rochelle, N.Y.

After two years, she began teaching in secondary school at St. Joseph's Academy in Malone (1951-1953), and for the next six years at The Ursuline School in New Rochelle (1953-1959). After a year of tertianship in Rome, she returned to The Ursuline School (1961-1964). From there she taught for one year at Ursuline Academy in Bethesda, Md.

Sister Mary was appointed superior of the community in Wilmington, Del. from 1965-1968. In 1968 she returned to teaching at St. Joseph's Academy in Malone until 1976.

After years of service in education, Sister Mary became pastoral associate at St. Mary's in Fort Covington, from 1976 to 1990. She next served for two years as pastoral associate at St. Joseph's in Bombay followed by service at St. Patrick's parish in Chateaugay until 2006.

She retired in 2007, giving volunteer service by visiting the sick and presiding at funerals.

Donations may be made in her memory to the Retirement Fund, Ursuline Provincialate, 1338 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804-2121.



Sr. Mary Hallahan

# Mystery Players' schedule

By Terry Burgess  
Director, IHC Mystery Players

WATERTOWN -- The approach of Lent calls to mind many ancient traditions in the Catholic Church, including the Stations of the Cross.

For the past 32 years, the Immaculate Heart Central High School Mystery Players have presented the centuries old Stations, in a very creative way.

Meditation and contemplation on the death and resurrection of Jesus is the central mystery in the prayer life of the Catholic Church. The Mystery Plays of the Middle Ages focused on the presentation of this central mystery.

Connected to ancient Mystery Plays, the IHC Mystery Players bring the Stations to the modern level through the use of special lighting, music, pantomime, and paraliturgical readings.

Using the sanctuary of the church as a stage, the Paschal Mystery is recreated in a moving, dramatic presentation.

This group has performed extensively throughout New York State, as well as in New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Mary-

land, Virginia, North Carolina, and Canada.

The Lent 2013 schedule follows.

- Feb. 15 - Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 17 - St. Mary's Church, Ticonderoga, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 24 - St. Stephen's Church, Croghan, 7 p.m.
- March 3 - Immaculate Conception Church, Brownville, 7 p.m.
- March 10 - Holy Angels Church, Altona, 6:30 p.m.
- March 14 - St. Peter's Church, Rome, NY, 7:30 p.m.
- March 15 - St. Martin of Tours, New Hope, Penn., 7:30 p.m.
- March 16 - Neumann Center, Amherst, Mass., 7:30 p.m.
- March 22 - Sacred Heart Church, Massena, 7:30 p.m.
- March 24 - St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton, 7:30 p.m.
- March 29 - St. Patrick's Church, Watertown, 7:30 p.m.

For more information on the group go to [www.ihcschools.org/webpages/mysteryplay](http://www.ihcschools.org/webpages/mysteryplay) or google IHC Mystery Players

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YEAR OF FAITH... STORY OF FAITH

# Amazing faith... amazing grace

By Ronni Royal  
Parishioner, St. Ann's Wells

Pope Benedict XVI opened the Year of Faith Oct. 11, 2012 and will conclude it Nov. 24, 2013. This Year of Faith is an opportunity for all of us to rediscover, to cultivate and to bear witness to our Catholic Faith. My parish priest, Father Sony Pulickal of St. Ann's Church in Wells, recently asked me to write about one of our local parishioners – Judee Lauria, whom I have known for close to 30 years.

Judee Repicky was born into a Polish/Catholic family, one of seven children in Westchester County. Her father passed away when she was only eight years old. As sad as she was, Judee never got angry with God. Of the seven children, Judee seemed to be the one who accepted her gift of faith completely and seriously. She has always had a close relationship with God and wanted to live her life pleasing Him.

Judee moved to Wells in 1978 and soon met and married Vincent Lauria who was raised in a good Italian Catholic family. Together they had three sons, Vinnie, Andrew and Keith. God was always first and foremost in their lives. They prayed together and always attended Sunday Mass.

At that time, Judee was working as a nurse at Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville, NY. In 1986, she returned to college and obtained her teaching degree in the sciences and education and later earned a master's degree in reading. Judee left nursing to start a career in teaching at Lake Pleasant Central School in Speculator from 1996 until June of 2011.

One thing she really believed and taught her students is: "It's all about love!" She loved her sons more than she ever imagined she



Judee Lauria of St. Ann's Parish in Wells is shown with her family. In front are, Andrew and Keith; back, Vincent, Judee, Vinnie, Rachel and Little Vinnie

could and she loved all her students as well.

Judee had always dreamt of becoming a missionary, and in many ways she was one. During her life, she taught religious instructions at St. Ann's; she started the Annual Thanksgiving Day dinner at the church and then volunteered for many years with her family delivering Thanksgiving dinners for The Equinox in Albany.

She was a Cub Scout leader; volunteered at the summer recreation program and at Vacation Bible School; and was even a volunteer for "clean up" after one of the hurricanes in Fultonville NY some years ago. Judee was an avid skier and then a snowboarder which she enjoyed doing with her children and students. She got her students involved in "Make A Wish" every Christmas at the school selling angels. She also had her students deliver to shut-ins baked goods that she and

her students made in class. Judee lived a full life and had a lot of interests.

In 1995, her family went on a pilgrimage to Medjugorje. That trip turned out to be the trip of a lifetime!

In 2001, Judee was diagnosed with breast cancer. Of course she was scared, but her faith never wavered. She had a mastectomy and underwent chemotherapy and radiation. Through it all, she prayed constantly to God to help her get through her illness. She and Vince continued raising their boys and working and after nine years of remission, the cancer returned in Judee's bones.

As I write this, Judee is very sick and even close to death. But amazingly her spirits are still high. She is so brave. When she's in a lot of pain, she says she's "offering it up" or "maybe this will help someone worse off." She never wants to be thought of as not



being able to handle this horrible disease with grace and she marches on praying every step of the way.

As a family friend looking in from the outside, I am in total awe of Judee; such courage, such faith! She has been such an inspiration to so many.

At one point she asked Father Sony what she could do to serve God better from her bed and he told her when she says the Rosary to draw a picture of a Rosary and write down a name next to each Hail Mary. That way she will be praying for and helping 50 people each time she says the Rosary.

All three of her sons have the gift of faith thanks to their mother; how could they not? Judee has instilled in them her love of God, of the Blessed Mother and of the Eucharist. Vinnie, the oldest, is married to Rachel and they have a son, "little Vinnie" (Judee's first grandchild) who is 17 months old and another baby is on the way. They are regular church goers and are a prayerful family.

Andrew, the middle child, worked for the AmeriCorps

and attended Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. He worked at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh for several years but moved back home to help care for his mother when her health took a turn for the worse.

Keith, the youngest, is an engineer who a few years ago went to "World Youth Day" in Madrid, Spain with his brother Andrew. It was a very spiritual journey for both of them. Keith's favorite thing to do when he doesn't have time for a whole Rosary is to say a Medjugorje chaplet.

As a mother and teacher, it was Judee who insisted on saying the daily Rosary until it became habit, not an easy task. It was Judee who taught them to pray to the Blessed Mother with prayer requests or pleas for help. Judee has always had a high desire to receive Holy Communion. And now, as sick as she is, she still manages to come to church in her wheelchair to receive Christ in the Eucharist.

This Christmas, "The Wreath Lady" (a Christmas Tree business located across from the church) donated a beautiful, live Christmas tree to St. Ann's church in Judee's honor.

What faith! What trust in God! I don't know that I've ever witnessed such belief and faith from anyone, especially in a family of the 21st century dealing with Cancer and all the other problems families face, as I have in Judee. She's not afraid to die because of her faith in what comes after physical death.

I think Judee has truly spent her whole life cultivating her Catholic faith and bearing witness to it to her children, her husband and all who have crossed her path.

If this is the Year of Faith, I think Judee Lauria should be its "POSTER CHILD."

We could all learn so much from her.

## A son reflects on the faith of his mother

By Andrew Lauria

I am half Polish and half Italian, so my faith comes from a very traditional immigrant American background; think rosary beads and statues all over the house. I was steeped in the traditional devotionals as a child and we still hold to them to this day.

We pray the rosary as a family every day (since our pilgrimage to Medjugorje

many years ago), we attend Adoration, Mass as much as we can, and participate in as many Sacraments as possible.

We are very "traditional" Catholics but have certainly lived a lot of life and have never been afraid of the world.

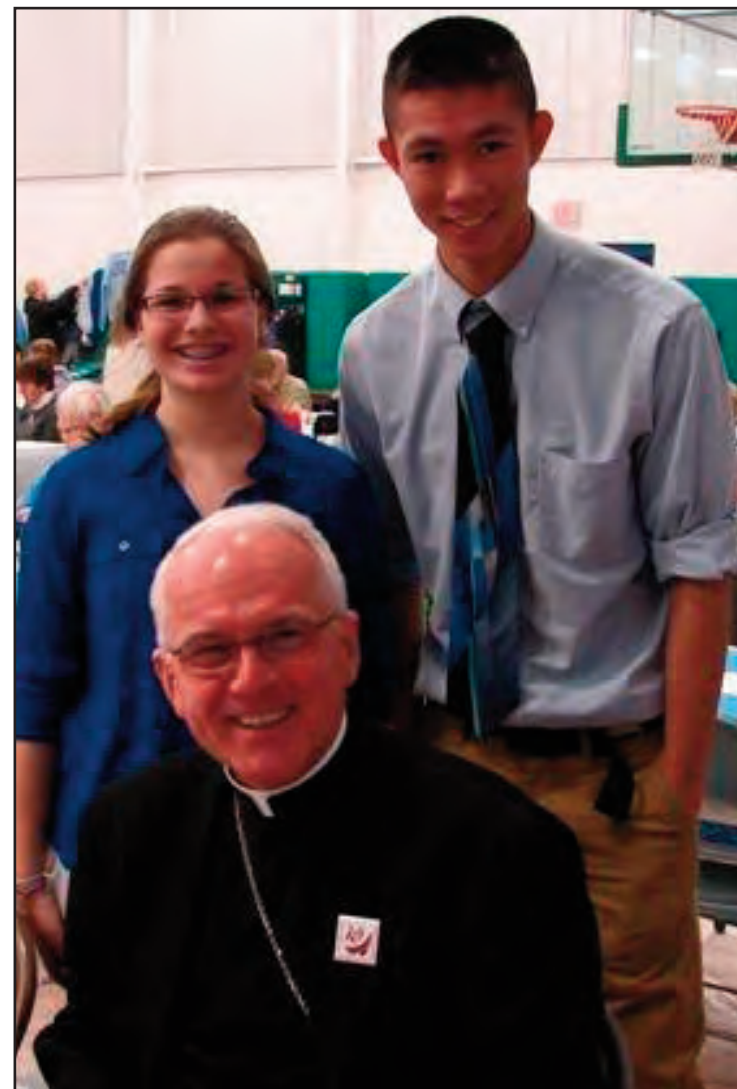
I think that the bravery of my grandparents' generation made its way over into our family and it has certainly showed its

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

# WINTERTIME FACES OF FAITH



The Church of the Visitation's family ministry "Lift-Off" held its 12th Annual Shiverfest Jan. 6 at their Norfolk parish center. The Epiphany event started with an over the door blessing handed out at the Masses, then the gathering in the afternoon to share a blessing of the boughs around the bonfire. All were then invited to join for food and fun with sledding and indoor games. Last year a spontaneous sled race between Msgr. John Murphy, current pastor; and Father Andrew Amyot, former pastor; ensued and there was a revival of this challenge again this year. With a warm welcome extended to the affiliated parishes of St. Andrew's (Norwood) and St. Raymond's (Raymondville) over 70 members witness the races which ended in a draw.



Taylor Hadley and Noah Racette of Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh are shown with their guest, Bishop LaValley, at Seton's annual Christmas dinner in December. Students and faculty from both Seton Catholic and Seton Academy joined to volunteer for this event, serving more than 700 dinners.



Religious education students from All Saints Church in Chaumont collected items during the Christmas Season for the Food Pantry in Chaumont. The items were delivered on Jan. 6 to celebrate the Epiphany. Pictured making the delivery are, back from left, Alexandria Moots, Bradly Balk, Philip Moots and Michael Barber; middle Ryan Peters, Annika Balk, Brightlynn Sharlow, Brooke Peters, Alex Slate and Hannah Slate and front, Antonio Bruno, Jillian Alberry, Mallory Peters, Kennady Scott and William Moots



The children from the Catholic Community of Alexandria presented a Christmas play for the parish. The participants were Colin Hynes (Joseph), Olivia Adsit (Mary), Ben Nelson (Reader) and Lillianna Matthews, Karoline Nelson, Alex Swanson, Owen Matthews, Adrian Reynolds, Mason VanDorn, Max Matthews, Angelina Cerafelli, Felicity Roberts, Alexandra Perkins Grimaldi, Adrienne Hyde and Cassidy Van Brocklin



The parishioners of St. Alphonus Holy Name Parish in Tupper Lake saw a reenactment of the Nativity as portrayed by some of the students in second and third grade. Above, Olivia Ellis, as the Blessed Mother, proclaimed the readings.

# A son

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

resilience in our family faith. As I said before, our family pilgrimage to Medjugorje was foundational to my family's spiritual life. It also reaffirmed the old fashioned devotionals that we have been praying ever since.

And I think seeing those people pray the same types of prayers as we in America, left an impression of the universality of the Church. I don't think we realized the

magnitude of that trip until many, many years later.

Finally, Mary has been most important to our family. She has always been with us. I think that I could relate to the Blessed Mother very easily as a child because I am so fortunate to have a mother who was always so naturally giving to me, and my brothers, my dad and everyone around her.

She did what Mary did and so following her was

like following Mary.

I often think about how it is that we are all still in the Church and I guess it is more correct to realize that with a childhood like mine, steeped in prayerful habits, it would only be surprising if we weren't in the Church.

That is a very blessed thing to realize and I think we all have a deep sense of gratitude. That gratitude keeps you rooted in your faith

## St. Jude Novena

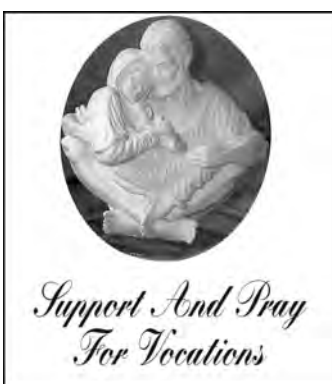
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified throughout the whole world, forever and ever, Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude helper of the homeless, pray for us. Say prayer 9 times a day for 9 days.

EM



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## Novena to St. Theresa

St. Theresa, the little flower, please pick me a rose from your heavenly garden and send it to me with a message of love. Ask God to grant me the favor I thee implore. And tell him I will love him each day more and more.

Say the above prayer plus 5 Our Father's, 5 Hail Mary's and 5 Glory Be's.

EM

## Bishop's Schedule

Jan. 17 – 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Jan. 18 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

5:30 p.m., Mass and appreciation dinner for Father Richard Kennedy at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown

Jan. 20 – 8:00 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg  
1:30 p.m., March for Life at St. John's Church in Plattsburgh

Jan. 21-25 – Catholic Leadership Institute Episcopal Ongoing Formation & Support Session in Orlando, Florida

## Protecting God's Children

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:  
Jan. 24 - 7:30 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

## 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: [aycsnn@yahoo.com](mailto:aycsnn@yahoo.com); Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401

## Environmental Stewardship

### What the Church is saying...

"Man's inhumanity to man has given rise to numerous threats to peace and to authentic and integral human development. . . . threats arising from the neglect – if not downright misuse – of the earth and the natural goods that God has given us." from Pope Benedict XVI's World day of Peace 2010 Message

### Tips for living more lightly on the planet

- Shorten showers. Simply reducing that lingering time by a few minutes can save hundreds of gallons of hot water per month for a family of four.
- Run your dishwasher only when full.
- When washing dishes by hand, turn rinse water on only when needed; leaving the water running, uses several gallons of hot water.

## Rest in Peace

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

Jan. 16 – Msgr. James Alexander Flix, 1969; Rev. Herbert Skurski, O.F.M.Conv., 1996

Jan. 17 – Rev. Francis A. Menard, 2009

Jan. 18 – Rev. Hugh Shields, 1881; Rev. Telesphore Campeau, 1935; Rev. Paul Martin Hagan, 1980

Jan. 19 – Rev. Benjamin Desroches O.M.I., 1908; Rev. Arthur P. Condon, 1966; Rev. Aloysius R. Isele, 1974

Jan. 20 – Rev. William D. O'Byrne, 1928; Rev. Joseph Erhard, O.M.I., 1936; Rev. Victor Viaud, O.M.I., 1937; Rev. Joseph Ponture, 1940

Jan. 21 – Rev. Albert W. Giroux, 1991; Rev. Adam Zajdel, O.F.M. Conv., 1997; Rev. Patrick C. Callaghan, O.F.M.

Jan. 22 – Rev. James Edward Joy, 1950

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Catholics still largest Congress denomination; 10 percent Jesuit grads

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The 113th Congress includes some slight shifts in religious makeup over the previous session, with a few more Catholics, the first Buddhist in the Senate and the first Hindu to serve in either chamber. It's a historic high for the number of Catholics in Congress, with 163, although that's just two more seats than the previous high point, when there were 161 Catholics in the 111th Congress of 2009-10. That's an increase of seven seats over the 156 Catholics had in the 112th Congress. Since at least the 1960s, Catholics have been the single largest denomination in Congress. Although when Protestant denominations are counted together, they still constitute the largest number of members, at 56 percent. Another analysis finds that alumni of Jesuit colleges and universities account for nearly 10 percent of all members of Congress. According to data compiled by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, Catholics now make up slightly below 31 percent of Congress, while they account for about 22 percent of the U.S. population. The new Congress, which opened Jan. 3, includes 136 Catholics in the House of Representatives, 75 of whom are Democrats and 61 of whom are Republicans. The 27 Catholic senators are comprised of 18 Democrats and nine Republicans. Pew counted 31 freshman members of Congress as Catholics, about 37 percent of the class. The next largest denomination in Congress is Baptists, with 9 percent of freshmen and 15 percent of incumbents. Overall, Baptists account for 14 percent of the 113th Congress, with 73 total seats, up from 68 seats in the previous session.

## Peace is impossible without openness to God, pope tells diplomats

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Deploring war, civil conflict and poverty around the world, Pope Benedict XVI told foreign ambassadors assembled at the Vatican that peace-building requires charity, religious liberty, a proper understanding of human rights and openness to divine love. Pope Benedict made his remarks Jan. 7 in his annual address to members of the Vatican's diplomatic corps, presenting a survey of global troubles including "endless slaughter" in civil war-torn Syria, terrorist attacks on Christians in Nigeria and the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the East Coast of the United States. He also warned about the international spread of legalized abortion and growing inequality between rich and poor. "Peace is not simply the fruit of human effort, but a participation in the very love of God," Pope Benedict told the envoys. "Without openness to the transcendent, human beings easily become prey to relativism and find it difficult to act justly and to work for peace." The pope pointedly distinguished true religion, which he said aims at "reconciling men and women with God" and hence with each other, from a "baneful religious fanaticism which, again in 2012, reaped victims in some countries represented here."

# Cardinal Dolan urges governor to rethink support for 'radical' abortion bill

NEW YORK (CNS) - A New York measure that would prevent state regulations on abortion is a "radical" bill in a state where the abortion rate is already "double the national average," New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan told Gov. Andrew Cuomo Jan. 9.

The cardinal made the comments in a letter to the governor after Cuomo delivered his annual State of the State address, which opens the legislative session.

He congratulated the governor on his remarks, saying: "There is much to cheer in your report, and my brother bishops and I look forward to working with you to advance much of this agenda."

He noted Cuomo's references to recent gun violence in the nation and said the Catholic leaders share his "absolute horror" over such incidents, including the "unspeakable massacre" in Newtown, Conn., that claimed 26 innocent lives Dec. 14.

In his speech, Cuomo outlined an agenda for the coming session that includes reforming gun laws, improving the state's health care system, bettering care for the mentally ill, working for safer schools and raising the minimum wage. He also backed a number of measures on women's issues, including the proposed Reproductive Health Act to codify abortion in state law.

Cardinal Dolan told him that while there was much to praise in the address, "I would be remiss if I did not renew my great disappointment regarding your continued support for the radical Reproductive Health Act."

New York Right to Life is among other opponents of the measure, first introduced in the Legislature two years ago.

In a statement on its website, the organization said the measure would write "fundamental reproductive



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

A New York measure that would prevent state regulations on abortion is a "radical" bill in a state where the abortion rate is already "double the national average," New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan told Gov. Andrew Cuomo in a Jan. 9 letter. Cuomo, a Catholic, is pictured during a 2012 St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

rights" into New York state law and make changes "that represent the opinion of only a tiny subset of New Yorkers who hold extremist pro-abortion views."

"The bill would provide full legal cover to the tragic and well-entrenched practice of abortion-on-demand through all nine months of pregnancy," New York Right to Life said.

New York decriminalized abortion in 1970, before the Roe v. Wade decision made abortion legal virtually on demand across the country. Backers of the Reproductive Health Act say it is needed to update current state law that is "outdated and confusing" and to protect women's "reproductive rights."

In his letter, Cardinal Dolan

reminded the governor that "millions of New Yorkers of all faiths, or none at all, share a deep respect for all human life from conception to natural death. I also know that you are aware that New York state's abortion rate is, incredibly, double the national average.

"Sadly, nearly 4 in 10 pregnancies statewide end in abortion. In some parts of New York City, the rate is higher than 60 percent, mostly in the impoverished black and Latino communities," he continued. "As we have discussed in the past, we obviously disagree on the question of the legality of abortion, but surely we are in equally strong agreement that the abortion rate in New York is tragically high."

Cardinal Dolan pointed out that supporters of legal abortion have often "claimed they wanted to make abortion 'safe, legal, and rare.' Yet this measure is specifically designed to expand access to abortion, and therefore to increase the abortion rate. I am hard-pressed to think of a piece of legislation that is less needed or more harmful than this one."

He urged Cuomo to reconsider his support for the Reproductive Health Act and said he is always available "to discuss this or any other matter with you at any time."

"My brother bishops and I would very much like to work closely with you," Cardinal Dolan said, "to reduce New York's scandalous abortion rate and to provide an environment for all women and girls in which they are not made to feel as though their only alternative is to abort."

He said abortion "goes against all human instinct" and "all too often leads to lifelong feelings of regret, guilt and pain for them, and for the baby's father as well."

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## Involved in the work of ordinary Christian life

Now that Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany are past, there is somewhat of a let-down as we let go of the beauty of Jesus' infancy and teen years.

In today's Gospel, we see him as an attractive young man in his twenty's, attending a wedding with his mother in the little village of Cana.

Whoever this wedding couple is, their honor and reputation are at risk, for the wine has run short.

Now wine was both a symbol and a cause for much joy and merriment at a wed-

ding, and everyone will soon know of the blunder.



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

Jesus' mother, having quickly sized up the situation, wants to prevent any embarrassment to this young couple, and begs her Son to intervene with a miracle.

It's interesting that Mary, even before Jesus' public life, is so certain of His special powers.

Even though Jesus is reluctant, He is not about to refuse His mother! He blesses the couple with far more wine than they needed.

From this hour on, His

time will never be His own.

Soon after this event, he enters the synagogue at Capharnaum and announces the coming of the Kingdom.

From then on, He will be swept up in a whirlwind life of teaching those open to the Truth of his Word, healing the sick, challenging the religious leaders to use their authority with greater honesty and compassion...and on and on...even to Calvary.

The Church refers to these next four weeks before Lent as "Ordinary Time".

It's a time for us to become involved in the ordinary Christian life - daily prayer and meditation, con-

JAN.20

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

John 2:1-11

stant attention to our neighbor's needs, responsible carrying out of those duties that flow from our relationships as parents, children, teachers, and caregivers.

Tuesday of this week is a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, a good day for public prayer.

We needn't get frightened,

of course, for we don't work alone.

In today's second reading from Corinthians, St. Paul assures us that we have the powerful help of various gifts of the Spirit.

Each should use the particular gift God has given without worrying which is the greater gift.

How can "ordinary time" be dull or boring when God says in the today's first reading from Isaiah that He loves us as a Bridegroom loves His bride, and that He rejoices in us as His delight?

If God is happy with us and our weak efforts, then we should enter into this season with confidence and joy.

## MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

## Is there a place for the Pill as health care?

Physicians will sometimes prescribe a hormonal regimen (in the form of a hormonal contraceptive like the Pill) to treat certain gynecological problems like heavy menstrual bleeding, dysmenorrhea (painful periods), PMS (pre-menstrual syndrome), endometriosis, or other conditions like severe acne. In these cases, the Pill is used not as a contraceptive, but as a therapy for a medical condition.

This can be morally permissible under the principle of double effect, which allows for the treatment of a serious medical problem (the good effect), while tolerating its unintended consequences, when other less harmful treatments are not available.

In this case, the unintended consequences would be the impeding of one's fertility and the potential health risks and side effects of the Pill (the evil effect).

Married couples may sometimes struggle with the question of whether a pathology is serious enough to warrant the therapeutic use of the Pill.

The wife of one couple I worked with reflected on the matter and concluded, "Yes, the bleeding is intense, and I'm basically wiped out for at least two or three days each month, but it's not so debilitating that my husband and I can't manage, and we'd really prefer, morally and medically speaking, not to get mixed up with a powerful pharmaceutical like the Pill."

Other treatments beside the Pill may at times be available to remedy these medical conditions without having to impede fertility.

Some young women, though, may be content to opt for a treatment that also offers more latitude for sexual activity. Approaching the medical use of the Pill in this way can raise concerns about ambiguous intentions.

A friend of mine who dated several young women who were on the Pill for a medical condition described his own experiences and struggles this way:

"Those I know who have done this also tended to be the ones who were sexually

active.... I believe it does have an effect on one's psyche and soul. In fact, in the past I've dated two women who were doing this and it made it really, really hard at times to be chaste. When I brought up alternative ways to treat something that doesn't involve the Pill, they got very defensive. So I think it definitely blurs a line even in the minds of the most faithful Catholics who rationalize that this is what the doctor ordered."

Lines can blur not only in the minds of those who may be dating, but also in the minds of medical students, who may be taught to prescribe the Pill almost reflexively for various gynecological issues rather than addressing the root cause of the problem.

As Lili Cote de Bejarano, M.D., has noted: "For most of these conditions, the Pill is only treating the woman's symptoms, while her underlying medical problem - the

cause of the symptoms - remains unaddressed and undiagnosed."

Lines become further blurred when medical professionals start to insist that the Pill, taken purely to avoid pregnancy, is "health care."

It is not, in fact, health care, but a lifestyle decision. This lifestyle decision is frequently made in the midst of a cultural backdrop that encourages

"neutered" sex in an endless array of forms, and sanctions the misguided view that "health" means we have the right to practice consensual indiscriminate sex without consequences.

The Pill, when chosen strictly for these contraceptive purposes, fails the test of being healthcare because it does not heal or restore any broken system of the human body.

On the contrary, it actually breaks a smoothly working system - the reproductive system - by disrupt-



Father Tadeusz  
Pacholczyk Ph.D.

ing the delicate balance of hormonal cycles regulating a woman's reproductive well-being and fecundity.

When taken for lifestyle purposes, the Pill is quite the opposite of health care - being, in fact, detrimental to women's health - in light of its frequent side effects of weight gain, headaches, and depression, as well as its heightened and well-documented risk of thrombotic stroke, myocardial infarction (heart attack), and breast cancer.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer, an arm of the World Health Organization, classifies hormonal contraception as a Group 1 carcinogen.

When a married couple has a proportionately serious reason not to become pregnant - for example, when pregnancy itself would seriously threaten the woman's life or health - they can opt for periodic abstinence during part of her cycle by assessing various indicators of fertility.

This is sometimes referred to under the general

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## AT THE MOVIES

## ZERO DARK THIRTY

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

"Zero Dark Thirty" (Columbia) offers moviegoers a challenging account, based on real events, of the decade-long hunt for terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

This gritty glimpse into the underworld of acknowledged detention centers and concealed prisons, known as "black sites," raises ethical quandaries and presents content that will prove unsettling even for many adults.

The action centers on a relentlessly determined CIA officer named Maya (Jessica Chastain). Urged on by her superiors, one of whom demands that she "bring me people to kill," Maya painstakingly gathers intelligence hints concerning bin Laden's whereabouts and those of his confederates.

Eventually she weaves these slender strands of evidence together sufficiently to track America's public enemy number one to his fortified compound in Ab-

bottabad, Pakistan. There, as enacted in the film's climax, Navy SEALs killed him in May 2011.

Some of Maya's leads are obtained by her colleague Dan (Jason Clarke), who employs both physical and psychological torture to break down the prisoners he interrogates. His techniques include water-boarding, a process that simulates the effects of drowning, close confinement and various forms of humiliation.

While director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal have crafted a compelling drama, their movie's moral stance is ambiguous.

The harsh reality of so-called "enhanced interrogation," as practiced by Dan, is graphically portrayed. Yet the results of subjecting prisoners to it are shown to be effective.

Viewers will need a strong grounding in their faith to discern the proper balance between the imperative of upholding human dignity and the equally grave obligation to save innocent

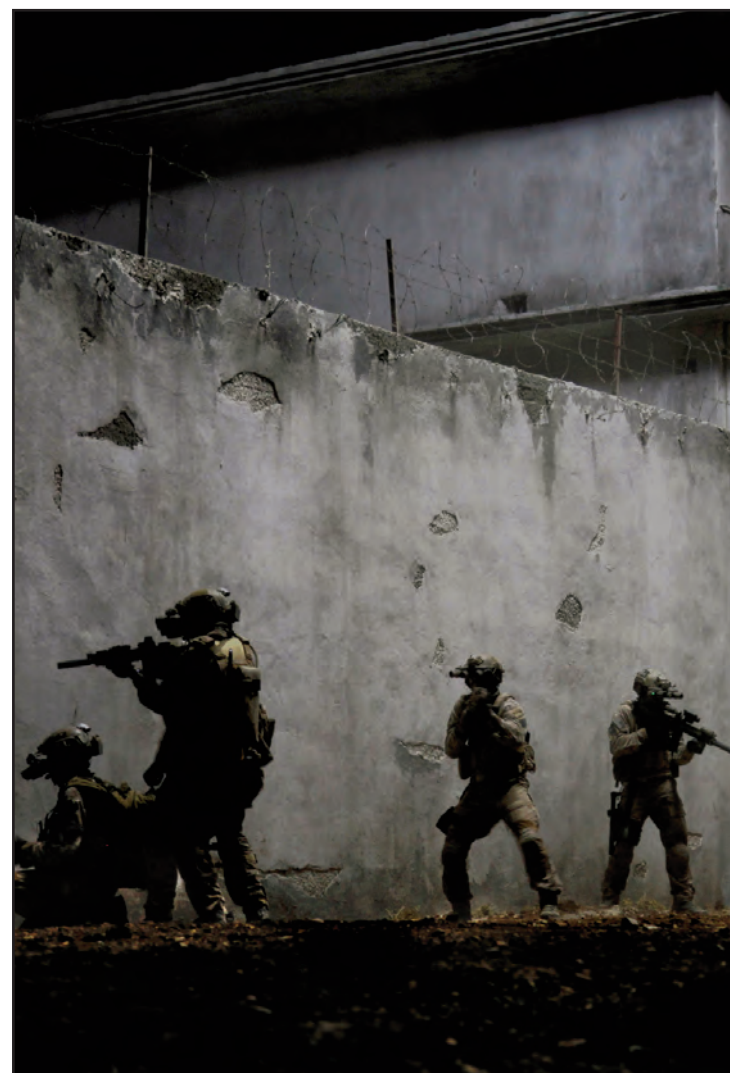
human lives. They will also need to guard against the temptation to revel in the death of an evildoer.

As God asks the prophet Ezekiel, "Do I find pleasure in the death of the wicked -- oracle of the Lord God? Do I not rejoice when they turn from their evil way and live?" (Ez. 18:23)

In keeping with the tough-guy tone of the spying and soldiering worlds in which "Zero Dark Thirty" is set, moreover, the dialogue involves a steady assault with F-bombs and other vulgarities.

The film contains considerable violence, including scenes of torture and degradation, brief rear nudity, at least one use of profanity as well as frequent rough and crude language.

The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.



CNS PHOTO/SONY

U.S. Navy SEALs are portrayed in a scene from the movie "Zero Dark Thirty."

## The Pill

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

heading of "Fertility Awareness Methods," and offers a morally acceptable, safe and effective approach to spacing children.

To sum up, then, the use of the Pill for medical (non-contraceptive) purposes requires a disciplined approach to the matter.

Alternative medical therapies should be seriously con-

sidered, the great good of fertility should be respected, and unspoken sexual agendas should not be allowed to trump the duty to exercise moral responsibility and sound medical judgment.

*Father Pacholczyk is the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)*

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## CLINTON

## HEALING MASS

**Plattsburgh** – Oblate Father Richard McAlear, will be at St. Peter's Church for a special Healing Mass and a Healing and forgiveness Workshop/Holy Hour.

**Date:** Mass on Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m.; Workshop/Holy Hour on Feb. 9 from 1 p.m. to 2:30

**Speaker:** Father McAlear's schedule and other ministry info can be found on his website at [www.FrMac.org](http://www.FrMac.org). He can be reached at [frmac2693@aol.com](mailto:frmac2693@aol.com)

**Contact:** Eve McGill, Living Waters Healing Ministry: [evemcgill@charter.net](mailto:evemcgill@charter.net) or 518-563-0001 for more information. **Cost:** There is no fee to attend either event, however, a collection will be taken up at the Healing Mass.

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

**Plattsburgh** – A series of Natural Family Planning classes will be offered by the Diocesan NFP Office.

**Date:** Jan. 26

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Place:** St. John's Church [Parish Center, lower level]

**Program:** Three-part learner-centered format educates couples to observe and interpret the physical signs of fertility. This knowledge can be used to achieve, as well as to postpone, conception.

**Cost:** Fee of \$50 includes all materials; may be adjusted as needed.

**Contact:** To register, or to learn more, call Diocesan NFP Directors, Angelo & Suzanne Pietropaoli, at 518-483-0459 or email [apietropaoli@dioogdensburg.org](mailto:apietropaoli@dioogdensburg.org).

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

**Ellenburg Center** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will offer a Lenten Bible Study Program.

**Dates:** Feb. 9 & 16; March 9 & 16 and April 6

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to Noon

**Features:** Rita Breen will be reflecting on themes of Lent Drawing heavily from Scripture, through the discussions in these sessions, we will discover the depth of our capacity to care for others and, in doing so, fully realize the depth of God's care and love for us. Light lunch provided. Donations appreciated.

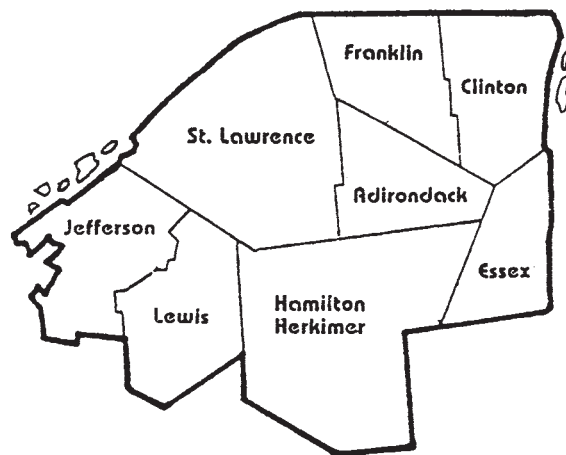
**Contact:** RSVP 518-594-3253 or [toolaprayrhouse@gmail.com](mailto:toolaprayrhouse@gmail.com)

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Peru** – St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 will host an "All you can eat" spaghetti dinner.

**Date:** Jan. 19

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



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](mailto:news@northcountrycatholic.org).

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

**Place:** St. Augustine's Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$7.50; Children 6-12, \$3.50; under 5, Free; Take-out available.

## SCHOOL OF HEALING PRAYER

**Ellenburg Center** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will be offering Christian Healing Ministries School of Healing Prayer Level I Training.

**Date:** Feb. 21-24

**Information:** Course provides a foundational, practical approach to developing a prayer ministry and offers a scriptural basis for God's gift of healing prayer. Overnight accommodations available. Level II given in March, Level III in April.

**Contact:** To register or for questions email Pat at [olaprayrhouse@gmail.com](mailto:olaprayrhouse@gmail.com) or call 518-594-3253. Course limited to 6.

## LENTEN RETREAT

**Ellenburg Center** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will offer a Lenten Retreat.

**Date:** March 2

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

**Speaker:** Fr. Bill Edwards.

**Features:** The day will conclude with Mass. Lunch provided.

**Contact:** Email call 518-594-3253 or [olaprayrhouse@gmail.com](mailto:olaprayrhouse@gmail.com) to register. Donations for the day appreciated.

## EUCHARISTIC 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](mailto: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:** Participants are immersed in prayer with individual prayer time

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

**Place:** Immaculate Conception Church

## MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP

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

**Time:** 2 p.m.

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

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

## FRANKLIN

## ADORATION AND CONFESSION

**Malone** – Join members of the Malone Catholic Parishes each Thursday evening for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Time:** 7 p.m. to 8

**Place:** Notre Dame Church

## JEFFERSON

## PRAYER FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Watertown** – A prayer service for an end

to Human Trafficking and a speaker, Sabel Bong, to be held.

**Date:** Jan. 27

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Hearthside Lounge.

**Features:** Presentation on "Human Trafficking, a Modern Day Form of Slavery" followed by a "Prayer Service for an End to Human Trafficking". Event is free and open to the Public. Presenter Sabel Bong, who is originally from Cambodia and currently a EOP counselor at SUNY Canton, will share ways that one can take action to help to stop human trafficking.

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

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

**Date:** Jan. 28

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Hearthside Hospitality Center of the Motherhouse

**Speaker:** Debra Doss, LCSW-R who is a grief therapist. Her topic will be "The Tasks of Mourning."

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

**Date:** Jan. 31

**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, \$.75

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

## DINNER FOR TWO

**Watertown** – a Dinner for Two to be held at Holy Family Church.

**Date:** Feb. 16

**Time:** 5:15 p.m. liturgy; 6:15 social followed by dinner

**Cost:** FREE

**Theme:** For married and engaged couples to enrich their vocation of marriage and family life

**Reserve** by January 30; call Kathy Allan 315-785-8576

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

**Watertown** – Liferight of Watertown will hold its monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the Month.

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Place:** 312 Sherman St.

**Features:** The office has videos, books and educational materials on infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

**Contact:** Phone 315-788-8480; website: [www.liferight.org](http://www.liferight.org).

## ST. LAWRENCE

## YEAR OF FAITH WORKSHOP

**Ogdensburg** – Father Garry Giroux, chairman on the diocesan Year of Faith Committee, will present a workshop entitled: The Year of Faith: Anniversaries, Events, or More?

**Date:** Jan. 16

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

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

## FREE THROW CONTEST

**Ogdensburg** – The local competition for the Annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship to be held.

**Date:** Jan. 19

**Time:** 5:45 p.m., registration; 6:30 p.m., shoot off begins

**Place:** Boys and Girls Club

**Features:** For area girls and boys ages 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14; eligibility determined by the age at Jan. 1. All winners will be required to present a birth certificate for age validation before moving on to the District Competition Feb. 2.

**Contact:** For more information contact the Boys and Girls Club at 393-1241, Nelson Woods at 393-7994 or the Club rooms at 393-7990 or by stopping in at the Ogdensburg Boys and Girls Club.

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Colton** – Colton Annual Winterfest Celebration sponsored by St. Patrick's – St. Paul's Altar Rosary Society.

**Date:** Jan. 27

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

**Place:** CPCS

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

**Menu:** Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Eggs, Homefries, beverages

## BINGO NEW NIGHT

**Massena** – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's Bingo is now on Thursday nights.

**Features:** Early Bird starts at 7 p.m.

There will also be pull tabs, 50/50 & concession available.

## 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



## 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

# Let us have HOPE for 2013

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

The New Year, 2013, calls us to a mission of prayer and dialogue for peace. As we respond to the call of prayer and dialogue for peace, the word hope could be our guide in the days and months ahead. As people of faith we have no doubt in the word hope. The media informs us of threats that exist in our world. For those of us who are mission minded, we see people deprived of the necessities of life in war torn and natural disaster areas.

As we see the pain of starvation in the faces of many, we see human fragility. We see pictures of children huddled together for safety and are reminded that human fear is very real. We see the build up of weapons and wonder why. The world view of life at times offers us places where it might seem hope can find no home.

A major part of our faith as we support the missions is the discovery that the more impossible hope appears to be, human resilience shines through. Our hope and support of the missions becomes the place where light shines in the darkness and deprivation. Hope is the very life of God. It is great comfort and consolation to know that God hopes. God hopes eternally and passionately for the whole world. God hopes lovingly for each and every single human being. God's hope is in our prayers for peace. He believes that we do hopeful deeds to bring about peace in the hearts of individuals and the world.

We are two weeks into our New Year, 2013, and it is my hope that we may find the peace that does exist in the heart of each of us. I pray that through your missionary spirit, work and gifts, the human race will turn to God for their salvation. I pray for peace, love, tranquility and above all, forgiveness. I pray for the forgiveness for the remission of sin that blocks our true relationship with God. I pray for hope. We have so much to be hopeful for.

### Remember to pray the World Mission Rosary . . . .

Green for the families of Africa, Red for the families of the Americas, White for the families of Europe, Blue is for the families of Oceania and Yellow is for the families of Asia. To pray the World Mission Rosary, reflect on each area of the world according to the particular color bead described above at the time you announce each Mystery. Of course you can pray with your own favorite rosary and remember a continent on each decade of your favorite rosary as you pray for your special intentions. World Mission Rosaries are available while supplies last in the Mission Office by calling 315-393-2920.

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

## OBITUARIES

**Alexandria Bay** — Richard J. "Dick" Durand, 84; Funeral Services Jan. 9, 2013 at St. Cyril's Church.

**Altona** — Ruby A. (West) Burdo, 98; Funeral Services Jan. 10, 2013 at Holy Angels Church; burial in St. Ann's Cemetery.

**Altona** — Alfreda Mary Guay, 92; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at Holy Angels Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Cadyville** — Philip E. Rice, 71; Funeral Services Jan. 9, 2013 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

**Champlain** — Rita Blain Stone, 98; Funeral Services Jan. 8, 2013 at St. Mary's Church.

**Chateaugay** — Robert J. Harrington; Funeral Services Jan. 5, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Constableville** — Jeanne M. (Powell) O'Brien, 82; Funeral Services at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Constableville.

**Crown Point** — Mary N. (Nels) Mazurowski, 86; Funeral Services Jan. 10, 2013 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Ironville Cemetery.

**Ft. Covington** — Bernice M. (Premo) Pheelix, 82; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in new parish cemetery.

**Keeseville** — Barbara S. Blaise Barber Gordon, 77; Funeral Services Jan. 11, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

**Lyon Mountain** — Jason J. Sorrell, 25; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. Bernard's Church.

**Malone** — Robert J. Harrigan, 64; Funeral Services Jan. 5, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Massena** — Wayne C. McElwain, 85; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Bombay.

**Morrisonville** — Judith Lynn Poust, 65; Funeral Services Jan. 11, 2013 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens.

**Morrisonville** — Bernard Anthony Tavernia, 66; Funeral Services January 5, 2013 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Donald F. Edwards, 55; Funeral Services Jan. 10, 2013 at the Allen-Nichols Funeral Home.

**Ogdensburg** — Richard "Pewee" Edwards, 66; Funeral Services Jan. 14, 2013 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Rita M. (LaLonde) Grave-line, 98; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Mary Ruth LaRue-Miller, 82; Funeral Services Jan. 7, 2013 at Notre Dame Church.

**Ogdensburg** — Douglas J. McLearn, 60; Funeral Services Jan. 9, 2013 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Florida National Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Sally (Frenette) Carey, 85; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery, Lake Placid.

**Plattsburgh** — Richard "Bull" N. Durham Sr., 76; Funeral Services Jan. 11, 2013 at St. Peter's Church.

**Plattsburgh** — Donald N. Favro, 81; Funeral Services Jan. 5, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Lys A. St. Louis, Sr., 75; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in Haiti.

**Redford** — Marion L. (Sharkey) Collins, 85; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at Church of the Assumption; burial in Independence Cemetery, Saranac.

**Saranac Lake** — Clorice "Casey" (Case) Otis, 89; Funeral Services Jan. 10, 2013 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Harriestown Cemetery.

**Ticonderoga** — Chester Charles Peters, 82; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**West Chazy** — Thomas Farbotko, 71; Funeral Services Jan. 12, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church.

### Prayer to Blessed Virgin

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

KM

### Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, you who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the Divine Gift to forgive the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me. I in this short dialogue thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how great material desire may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen. Thank you for your love toward me and my love ones.

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## WASHINGTON LETTER

# 40 years after Roe v. Wade

## *Pro-life movement strengthens its resolve*

By Carol Zimmermann  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Forty years after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortions, the pro-life movement hasn't stepped back in its resolve to see the decision reversed.

Each year near Jan. 22, the day of the Roe vs. Wade and Doe vs. Bolton decisions on abortion, tens of thousands of protesters march in Washington and San Francisco and also take part in local events across the country hoping to change abortion laws.

This year will be no exception.

The annual March for Life in Washington will take place Friday Jan. 25 - instead of Jan. 22 - to accommodate participants because the anniversary date is the day after public ceremonies for the presidential inauguration, which would have made it difficult to secure enough hotel rooms for the thousands expected to descend on the nation's capital.

Jeanne Monahan, the new president of the March for Life Education & Defense Fund, which organizes and runs the rally and march each year in Washington, told Catholic News Service that hotels reserved for march participants filled a month earlier than usual, serving as just one indication that this year's event will draw record crowds.

She said she expects a bigger turnout this year because of the "huge pro-life loss during the election" and the "somber reality" of the 40-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decisions.

"People are very passionate about this issue ... and they want to make their voices heard" she said.

Monahan likened the



CNS FILES

Young people take part in the first March for Life in 1974 in Washington. Forty years after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortions, the pro-life movement hasn't stepped back in its resolve to see the decision reversed.

march to a somber but energetic event, focused on the fact that "at least 55 million abortions have been performed" in the past 40 years but fueled by the overwhelming number of young people in attendance.

"There is a positive energy and even a joy" at the march because most participants are younger than 25, noted Monahan, a 40-year-old who attends St. Patrick Church in Washington.

Across the county, the ninth annual Walk for Life West Coast will take place Jan. 26. Eva Muntean, a walk co-founder and organizer, said the event -- which drew 40,000 participants last year -- was inspired by Washington's annual march.

It starts with a rally featuring several speakers at a San Francisco plaza and then a two-mile walk through the

heart of the city to a large waterfront plaza. This year, participants will be joined by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Muntean told CNS from San Francisco that the large number of young people who participate make the effort of organizing it worthwhile. After recently hearing a group of teenagers talk about how the event inspired them to be more actively pro-life, Muntean said that might be its "biggest fruit" -- inspiring and energizing youths.

In Washington, the Archdiocese of Washington will sponsor two parallel events for young people. A Youth Rally and Mass for Life is set for the morning of Jan. 25 at the Verizon Center for local residents. A second rally and Mass for out-of-town



PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Gina Fiorile and Ellen Miner of St. Bernard's in Saranac Lake are shown during the 2012 March for Life in Washington. Three buses of young people and adult/family buses from Plattsburgh and Lewis County are scheduled to bring North Country pro-lifers to the March this month.

marchers that morning takes place at Comcast Center at the University of Maryland in College Park.

The night before the march the annual National Prayer Vigil for Life will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley will be the main celebrant at the evening Mass. The vigil will conclude with a Solemn Mass for Life celebrated the next morning by Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas.

After the rally, marchers will walk the familiar route along Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court. Participants are encouraged to visit their representatives on Capitol Hill after marching to lobby for pro-life efforts.

Monahan, who was named

to her post in November, knows she has big shoes to fill replacing Nellie Gray, the Texas native and World War II veteran who started the annual March for Life in 1974 to protest legalized abortion.

Gray - described as "the Joan of Arc of the Gospel of life" by Cardinal O'Malley - died in August at 86.

In a 2003 interview with Catholic News Service, Gray said the first march in 1974 was "put together in less than three months." She said the word went out, somehow, and 20,000 people came in buses to march around the U.S. Capitol on a sunny 70-degree day.

When the marchers were packing up to leave, she said, many felt that they had not been heard and that political leaders did not seem ready to change abortion laws. "So we decided to do one more march. And now we're at No. 30," she said 10 years ago.

Monahan, former director of the Center for Human Dignity at the Family Research Council in Washington, said that it is "only by standing on Nellie's shoulders that we can continue to do the work we do now."

"A lot of people say we wouldn't have the March for Life if not for Nellie and that's really true," she said, noting that Gray "lived and breathed the atrociousness of abortion and she wanted to do everything she could with her life to make that come to a speedy end."

Monahan would like to carry on Gray's dedication and persistent resolve. She said she hopes the non-profit group that "runs the largest pro-life event in the world" will begin to "make an impact on culture every day of the year" not just on the anniversary of the Supreme Court decisions.