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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 30, 2013

To believe in God...

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - To believe in God means allowing his commandments to guide the concrete choices one makes every day, even when the values reflected in the choices are countercultural, Pope Benedict XVI said.

"To believe in God makes us bearers of values that often do not coincide" with

those of popular culture and which give believers criteria for judgment that nonbelievers may not share, the pope said Jan. 23.

"A Christian must not be afraid to go against the current in order to live his faith, resisting the temptation of conformity," he said.

Beginning a series of Year

of Faith audience talks about the creed, Pope Benedict said that "believing in God implies adhering to him, accepting his word and joyfully obeying" his commandments. Believers today, like Abraham in the Old Testament, must show trust in the God they profess to believe, even when God's ways ap-

pear mysterious, he said.

Pope Benedict asked the estimated 2,000 visitors gathered for his weekly general audience to imagine how they would have responded to a call like that God gave to Abraham, asking him to leave his home and set out for a land God would show him only later.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

Feb. 2 is a special day for religious



PHOTO SUPPLIED
St. Joseph Sister Gregory Munger is pictured talking with fifth grade girls - Giselle Todd, Emmalyn Ellsworth and Zoanne Williamson - at Trinity Catholic School in Massena about vocations to the religious life. Bishop LaValley released a statement this week to mark the annual World Day for Consecrated Life. Feb. 2 "Join me in thanking our religious on this their special day and every day," he said. "Their generous 'Yes' to the Lord's invitation to 'Follow Me' as a consecrated religious continues to inspire this bishop and challenges him to respond generously to his own vocation. I'm sure it does for you, as well. May all of our religious know our gratitude, rely on our support and count on our prayers!"

FULL STORY, PAGE 6

Farewell to Father Kennedy, MSC

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Richard Kennedy, who has served in Watertown as pastor at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church and teacher at Immaculate Heart Central School for a total of 22 years, was honored Jan. 18 as he prepares to move to Pennsylvania to begin a new assignment.

In an interview with the *North Country Catholic*, Father Kennedy reflected on his 45 years as a priest which included missionary work in Papua, New Guinea.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Year of Faith... Story of Faith

Young woman looks back on the influence of her grandparents

in the growth of her faith

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

IT'S CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Kylee Bennett and Sara Zelinski, fifth graders at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, are shown making Year of Faith posters. The last Sunday of January marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week, the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, superintendent of schools said, "during the week we have the opportunity to recognize and celebrate what our schools accomplish for their students and contribute to the Church, our parishes, local communities and the nation." Special Catholic School Week features appear on pages 3, 7, 8 and 9 of this week's *NCC*.

MARCHING FOR LIFE: Scenes from DC (p. 10) and Plattsburgh (p. 16)

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BISHOP TERRY
R. LAVALLEY

President

MSGR. ROBERT L. LAWLER

Vice President


SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSJ

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager



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(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hooray for our Catholic schools!

I'm pretty sure I say this every year about this time: "I sure wish there was a Catholic Schools Week when I was a Catholic school kid!" My friends and I would certainly have appreciated a week of fun and games in the middle of winter.

We would have been happy to brag about Bishop Conroy Memorial and St. Mary's Academy to anyone who would listen.

While Catholic Schools Week is only a few decades old, the values and goals of Catholic education have been around

since the Franciscans opened the first known American Catholic school in St. Augustine, Fla., in 1606. They were following their desire "to teach children Christian doctrine, reading and writing."

More than 400 years later our Catholic schools offer excellent academic programs and so much more.

In a message for Catholic Schools Week, the superintendent of schools for the diocese Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, explains it well. "Our academic programs.. have dis-

tinguishing characteristics which go beyond programs that provide the human knowledge and skills necessary for life. Our programs and the over-all environment of our schools must be imbued with our Catholic faith."

And from Bishop LaValley: "We desire that our children become all they can be, to meet their fullest potential. Every aspect of school life: the classes, special programs and the entire school environment, fosters a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as well as witness to the Gospel message of love of God and neighbor and service to the world."

Readers of the *NCC* know ex-

actly what Sister and Bishop are talking about. We are privileged to publish stories and photos showing the lessons of faith and service our Catholic school children receive day in and day out.

We know about baby showers for Jesus, Masses with the bishop, All Saints Day parades and so much more.

As we continue our observance of the Year of Faith, our Catholic schools will play a critical role in evangelization of our children who, in turn, evangelize all who are inspired by the "faith of a child."

If we support our Catholic schools, our Catholic schools will certainly support us.

Mary Lou
Kilian

FATHER BILL SAYS

The wonderful art of storytelling

As I was driving my car down to Syracuse a couple Sundays ago, I happened upon a public radio program featuring a great storyteller.

His name was Stewart McClain, a Canadian, and he calls his show "The Vinyl Café."

It was a great program – certainly, held my attention. He had a segment in which he read some stories that listeners sent in and all were very interesting.

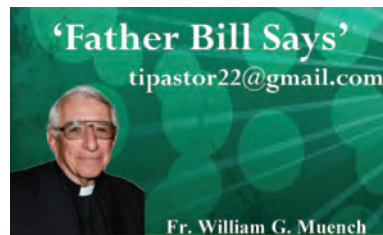
Then he has a regular segment about a fictional person that he calls "Dave." In that week's story he described how Dave set out to clean up his attic and wound up spending his time reminiscing as he looked through a box of memorabilia.

I am always intrigued by these professional storytellers. There are many of such story tellers around these days – especially on the radio – like this Steward McClain and Garrison Keeler.

It's a rare talent that I truly envy.

At a recent school Mass at St. Bernard's in Saranac Lake, I encountered a wonderful fourth grader storyteller.

That morning Father Bryan



Stitt, one of our vocation directors spoke to each of the classrooms. So at the School Mass, I asked the kids what he had taught them.

This one young lady mentioned that he had told them the Old Testament story about the young Samuel. The she calmly and with great detail repeated the whole story.

I suspect you may remember the story: Samuel was the apprentice to the high priest, Eli. One night as Samuel slept in the shrine he heard a voice calling him. He thought that it was Eli but, Eli recognized that he had been called by God.

Levi instructed Samuel that when he was again called to say "Speak Lord, your servant is listening."

I hope that the story made as good an impression on the other students as it did on this one girl.

Many young people will hear the Lord's call – may they listen to the Lord's message.

All of this reminds me of how great a storyteller Jesus was. People have told and retold – analyzed and reanalyzed the parables of Jesus for hundreds of years. They are very special stories.

We must never forget that they are stories; they did not really happen. Jesus cleverly crafted these meaningful sto-

ries to teach the people of his day and all of us. Each little detail is important.

The Gospels make it very clear when Jesus is telling a parable – or – when a story is about an event that really happened. The parables of Jesus have become familiar and important to all Christians.

When we consider an important lesson in life – there is always a parable that helps us understand better.

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FOLLOW ME

It's Catholic Schools Week!

By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

Faith is a journey that takes a lifetime to complete.

Every time I enter one of our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, I immediately sense the joy and hope that only a Christ-centered environment can provide.

It is during our childhood that we first learn about God and His family, the Church. These are precious years for faith education and formation. Childhood is a critical time in which we begin to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, identify ourselves as Catholic Christians and learn how to live what we learn.

As young children, we learn how to pray and we begin to develop the lifelong discipline of daily prayer. Our parents have the awesome privilege and great responsibility in leading their children in the ways of faith during these critical years of their children's lives.

The family provides the setting where this journey of faith is formed, supported and celebrated.

For generations, many parents have chosen Catholic schools to assist them in their parental responsibility in the education and faith formation of their children.



Bishop LaValley spends time at each of the Catholic schools in the diocese through the year. Above, he is pictured at Notre Dame Church in Malone after a Mass for Holy Family School.

In an address at his 2008 visit to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI stated that "Catholic schools are an outstanding apostolate of hope." Why? Because Catholic education is anchored in the conviction that Jesus Christ provides the most comprehensive example of the realization of full human potential.

Every time I enter one of our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, I immediately sense the joy and hope that only a Christ-centered environment can provide.

We desire that our children become all they can be, to meet their fullest potential. Every aspect of school life: the classes, special programs and the entire school environment fosters

a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as well as witness to the Gospel message of love of God and neighbor and service to the world.

In a society that continues to squeeze the sacred out of daily living, in a world where material things and private desires (no matter how sinful) trump the common good and family values, the Catholic school can make a difference for tomorrow. It provides an invaluable service to our parents and society.

Through the years, parents and parishioners in our North Country have sacrificed much in order to support a Catholic school in their neighborhood. Sadly, for a variety of reasons, our Catholic schools, particularly here in the Northeast,

continue to see declining enrollments.

Escalating costs and decreasing revenue are two factors that continue to make our schools' viability so fragile. In many settings, the Catholic school is an extreme burden on the parish's finances.

As a previous pastor myself of parishes with schools, I appreciate the great gift and the tremendous challenge in sustaining a strong, viable parish school.

We all must convince our Catholic parents that our Catholic schools offer students the opportunity for an excellent education in a Catholic Christian setting.

This means more than having a crucifix mounted on the wall or a statue of

Mary on a table in the corner of a classroom. The Catholic faith is the living, breathing soul of the school community. Where this is not the case, the Church's support should be questioned.

We know, particularly during this *Year of Faith*, that the entire Catholic community is called to evangelize our culture. The Catholic school plays a critical and irreplaceable role in this endeavor.

The theme for *Catholic Schools Week 2013* is **Catholic Schools Raise the Standards**. Catholic schools have a proud history of always aiming for academic excellence while fostering spiritual growth in the traditions of the Catholic faith.

This *Catholic Schools Week* I wish to congratulate and express words of gratitude to the pastors, principals, faculty and staff at our schools who work so hard in support of Catholic schools.

The Church is grateful to those parents who send their children to our schools and thankful to our parishioners whose prayers and financial support enable our schools to continue participating in the Church's mission of evangelizing.

We pray that more of our parents will choose a Catholic school as a suitable partner in helping to form and guide their most precious treasures for the journey of life, following Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

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Missionary of the Sacred Heart priest leaving Watertown after 22 years of service

Father Kennedy bids adieu...again

By Kevin Mastellon
Staff writer

WATERTOWN -- Father Richard Kennedy has served at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish a total of 22 years. That is just about half of his years as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart.

"I think the idea of going to the foreign missions was something that just stuck in the back of my mind," Father Kennedy said during a recent interview with the *North Country Catholic*.

"The gravity pull (to become an MSC) was there and I have never had any regrets," he said.

More than 300 parishioners of OLSH, Bishop Terry LaValley, clergy from around the diocese and other friends of this beloved pastor said farewell to him at a Mass and dinner at the parish Jan. 18.

The dinner was called a roast, and there was plenty of needling and jokes aimed squarely at the good natured priest.

The parish custodian presented Father Kennedy with a box of garbage bags. "Father has a tendency to purge anything that is not nailed



PHOTO BY KEVIN MASTELLON

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Richard Kennedy, left, was honored at a farewell Mass and dinner Jan. 18 as he prepares to leave Watertown after 22 years of service at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church. He is shown above with Bishop Terry LaValley and Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Jonas Tandayu, new pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

down," Steve Denner said. "The bags are for his next purge."

Noting that his next assignment is as director of a retirement home for MSC in Pennsylvania, the parish staff presented Father Kennedy with a bingo starter kit.

Answering the call

Bingo may not have been in the young Richard's mind when he entered a high school seminary outside Chicago at the age of 14.

"I have always been blessed to be happy as a seminarian and happy as a priest," he said.

Following ordination in 1967 he was appointed a vocation director and "one of my first major accomplishments," he joked, "was closing the major high school seminary because it just wasn't a viable option anymore for young men in the 60's and 70's."

Answering a call from "my beloved provincial," Father Kennedy was assigned to Immaculate Heart Central in Watertown to teach from 1976 to 1985.

"In '81 Father (Benoit) Dostie asked to step down as pastor of OLSH, he said. "Father Dostie became superior of the MSC Community and I became pastor of the parish."

In 1988 his desire to serve in the missions came true when he volunteered to go to

Papua, New Guinea.

"I taught school down there, loved it; loved the tropics," he said.

But family and duty called him home for a few years, only to return to Papua as principal of the high school for three years. This time illness brought him home.

Once healthy again "my beloved provincial" (a different one he noted) asked if he would like to return to Watertown.

"I always knew it was going to happen," he said. "I loved every day and every night in the tropics because I said I know I'm going to go back to that cold climate of Watertown."

"I loved the tropics: hot and sweaty and buggy, so I've been here since December of '03," he said.

Pastor and teacher

Father Kennedy has been pastor at OLSH, on the faculty of IHC where he still teaches 11th grade religion and a member of the Watertown Education Council.

He has also served as a member of the board and a spiritual director for residents of the Credo Farm for treatment of addictions.

He leaves a community grateful for his time here.

Bishop LaValley cited Father Kennedy's tremendous pastoral ministry and called him a "compassionate man of God."

St. Joseph Sister Bernadette Marie Collins, major superior of the order in Watertown cited his "gentleness, spirituality and wisdom."

Sister Bernadette served at OLSH with Father Kennedy as principal of the former elementary school.

45 years of changes

Father Kennedy speaks freely about the changes he has noted over his 45 years of ministry. Principal among them is the decline in attendance at Mass.

"We've lost, for whatever reason, the 30 and 40 year olds, many of whom graduated from Catholic schools," he said. "They are still of the mindset that they are Catholics but it doesn't mean weekend Mass anymore."

"And it is definitely reflected in the teenagers that I'm teaching and have taught," he said. "If their parents don't go to Church on the weekends, they don't. And the opposite is true 'if you live in this house you go to Church when we go.' So, as with so many things, much depends on parental guidance."

The future

Father Kennedy's next assignment will be a challenge for him. He is now responsible for the administration of a retirement community and the spiritual well being of those in his care. He hopes to also continue teaching.

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Jonas Tandayu, succeeds Father Kennedy as pastor of Our Lady of the Sa-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

A real 'beauty'

WATERTOWN -- The Master of Ceremonies for Father Richard Kennedy's farewell dinner in Watertown was WWNY-TV on-air personality Mel Busler. Busler is a parishioner of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart where Father Kennedy was pastor.

Each Monday in the sports segment of the station's Evening News, Busler shows "the more unusual plays of the week" from various sports. He calls it Busler's Beauties. The segment is usually introduced by a team, or cheerleaders, or fans.

On Jan. 21 the segment was introduced by priests of the diocese, including Bishop LaValley, who gathered for the Father Kennedy's farewell dinner.

Busler videotaped the group for the segment. The diocesan TV Stars included Bishop LaValley, Msgr. Paul Whitmore and Fathers Kennedy, Vincent Freeh, Tim Canaan, Don Robinson, Steve Murray, Mike Gaffney, Jonas Tandayu, Chris Looby, Pierre Aubin and George Maroun.

It took two takes.

YEAR OF FAITH...STORY OF FAITH

With faith like a child

By Amanda Conklin

Campus minister, St. Mary's, Canton

One of my favorite songs is "Like a Child" by Jars of Clay. Many underestimate how powerful the faith of a child is. The ability to accept on faith because we trust and believe, is one that Christ Himself recognized when He told the apostles to let the children come to Him.

One of my earliest memories of deep faith in God took place while attending daily Mass with my mother. I was probably around nine or ten years old.

I can clearly remember being extremely moved during the consecration at Mass. I had been trying extra hard to focus on the crucifix during Consecration and really trying to reflect on what I had been learning in school at St. Bernard's about Christ dying for us, so that we could be forgiven.

When it was time to leave Mass, I recall climbing into the car and starting to cry. My mother asked me why I was crying and I can remember responding "I just think it is so sad that he had to die for me. Why did he have to die? I love Him."

My mother did the best she could to try and explain this to a ten year old.

I also remember having a fascination with my guardian angel at a young



age. I had read a book that my mom gave me about people who had encounters and interactions with their guardian angels and I began to desire to learn my guardian angel's name.

Many in the book had seen their guardian angels at night. This frightened me a bit. I decided that I wouldn't want my guardian angel to appear to me, but I still would like to know their name.

One night during this time, I had a very vivid dream that my guardian angel came to visit and play with me. My angel revealed to me that their name was Mackenzie, which I recently learned means, "son of a wise ruler," or "born of fire."

I'm not sure if this is really my guardian angel's

name, or just the mind of a young child, but I am convinced either way that this was my guardian angel's way of acknowledging my curiosity and love for them.

As a child, I began to develop a growing love for our Blessed Mother which came from my grandmother, MaryEllen.

Grandma MaryEllen would transport a beautiful, very large painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe so that members of her parish could "host" the painting for a week.

My grandmother deepened my faith greatly as a child. We never went anywhere in the car with her before praying that our guardian angels would protect us as we traveled.

This devotion to Mary



Amanda Conklin, now a married woman, is pictured as a child with the grandparents who played a large part in the growth of her faith. "As a child, I began to develop a growing love for our Blessed Mother which came from my grandmother MaryEllen," she writes.

planted by my grandmother, grew later on in life, when my husband introduced me to St. Louis de Montfort's "Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary." It is a 33 day devotion which adds different prayers every week.

My husband proposed to me at the end of our devotion and Mary has been a large part of our marriage.

I have always had a strong sense of peace when at Mass or even just in a Catholic Church. I considered a vocation to the religious life for a long time while in middle school and high school.

While discerning about college and what I wanted to major in, I remember thinking that I was making a joke when asking "can't I just study about being Catholic?"

I have a passion for that."

To my surprise, my dad shared that I could!

I choose to pursue a degree in Theology. Being a teenager and knowing everything, I couldn't fathom what could possibly be left for me to study about the Catholic faith. Now I know that I will never stop learning and could never comprehend the entirety of our faith.

After writing the brilliant *Summa Theologica*, St. Thomas Aquinas said: "All that I have written appears to me as much straw after the things that have been revealed to me."

Studying Theology has brought me much closer to God. There are so many beautiful parts of our Catholic Tradition such as angels, Eucharistic miracles, and Marian apparitions which truly enlighten the Church with mystery and beauty.

My faith like that of a child, helped to steer me in the right direction as I ventured thru my schooling. The base of a Catholic education along with my family's example solidified the faith that I continue to learn, live and share with others. May we all rediscover our child-like faith during this year of New Evangelization and help to bring others to that simple joy in Christ.

Father Kennedy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

cred Heart. Father Tandayu was installed as pastor by Bishop LaValley at Mass before the farewell dinner.

Donning a bright blue robe "because it is way past my bedtime" Father Kennedy bid farewell to Watertown friends. Everything seems to happen to this priest in

seven year cycles so several in the audience speculated he might be back.

In the interview Father Kennedy left these thoughts for his successor: "there are a lot of good things happening in the Catholic community in the North Country and I think he, Father Jonas, will find it very rewarding

work to continue what's already going on."

Father Kennedy will remain on the board of the Sacred Heart Foundation as the provincial's representative and serves as chairman of the scholarship committee so he is expected to be a regular visitor to the North Country.



Visit our website
www.northcountrycatholic.org

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A message from the bishop

On consecrated life

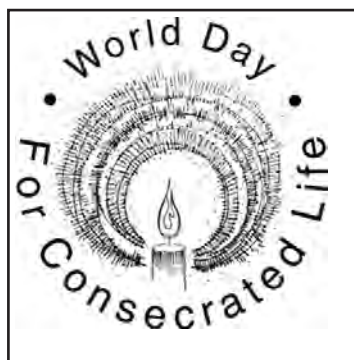
By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

The first consecrated religious that I ever met were my teachers in grade school catechism class.

Sister Stephanie Frenette, OP and the Dominican Sisters assigned to St. Ann's in Mooers Forks impressed my classmates and me as fun-loving, holy women who loved Jesus and the Church. Albeit, they were serious about us learning our catechism!

I'm sure that Sister Stephanie's witness greatly influenced another young woman in the area to enter the Dominican community, Sister Debbie Blow, OP from nearby St. Edmund's in El-lenburg.

Their passion for Jesus and love for His dear children, particularly those who are hurting, continue to inspire their ministry today.



Since, those early years, I have been privileged to meet, learn from, and minister with many consecrated women and men.

It is so fitting that, back in 1997, Blessed John Paul II set aside a special day to pray for and honor consecrated women and men throughout the world.

On Feb. 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, we celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life.

Consecrated religious women and men accepted God's invitation to commit themselves totally to a way of life that is truly heroic.

Making lifelong promises of chastity, obedience and poverty, for the sake of God's Kingdom, they show us strong faith generously lived.

Schools, hospitals, social outreach, parish ministry, and missionary efforts are but a few of the many ways that their professional and pastoral presence has had a compelling impact on our lives and society in general.

We continue to benefit greatly from the prayers of contemplative sisters and brothers.

We are profoundly grateful for their continuing sacrifice and inspiring witness.

Join me in thanking our religious on this their special day and every day! Their generous "Yes" to the Lord's invitation to "Follow Me" as a consecrated religious continues to inspire this bishop and challenges him to respond generously to his own vocation.

I'm sure it does for you, as well.

May all of our religious know our gratitude, rely on our support and count on our prayers!

Bishop's Schedule

Jan. 31 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Feb. 1 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg
5:15 p.m., Evening prayer and Installation as Lectors for deacon candidates at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

7 p.m., Canon law class for deacon candidates at Wadhams Hall

Feb. 2 – 10:30 a.m., Gathering and Mass with the Women of Grace at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg
4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Feb. 3 – 9 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa of Avila's Church in Theresa
10:45 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Church in Evans Mills

Feb. 5 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg.

Environmental Stewardship

There is an order in the universe which must be respected, and... the human person, endowed with the capability of choosing freely, has a grave responsibility to preserve this order for the well-being of future generations." Pope John Paul II

To live more lightly on the earth:

- Turn off electronic devices. Simply turning off your TV, DVD player, stereo and computer when you're not using them will save thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide per year.
- Turn off lights when leaving a room, even for a short time.
- Invest in a travel mug, and avoid disposable containers; save money and keep trash out of land-fills.

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. 30 – Rev. John T. Sullivan, 1884;
Jan. 31 – Rev. B. J. O'Connell, O.S.A., 1925; Rev. James S. McGowan, 1961; Rev. Timothy M. Ladden, 2003

Feb. 1 – Rev. John B. Doonan, 1949; Msgr. George T. Donnelly, 1968; Rev. Edward M. Delaney, 1977

Feb. 2 – Rev. Amadeus Viger, O.S.A., 1915; Rev. George E. Racette, 1961

Feb. 4 – Rev. Joseph Redington, 1892; Rev. Edmund Walsh, 1925; Msgr. Michael R. Burns, 1932; Rev. Alexander Klauder, 1935; Rev. Henry McArdle, O.S.A., 1969; Rev. Francis Maurus Kearns, 1990

Feb. 5 – Msgr. Thomas E. Walsh, 1901; Msgr. F. Gordon Coseo, 1997; Rev. John J. Fallon, 2005

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. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 403.

Jan. 29 - 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's School, Canton

Feb. 4 - 6 p.m., St. Mary's Academy, Champlain

Feb. 11 - 6 p.m., Holy Family School, Malone

Feb. 27 - 3 p.m., St. Agnes School, Lake Placid

March 7 - 4 p.m., St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga

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Replace him with yourself.

Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (...) Amen.



DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY **FEBRUARY 2013**

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Catholic Schools Week 2013: Jan. 27 to Feb. 2

'Catholic Schools Raise the Standards'

By Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ
Superintendent of Schools

Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. The last Sunday of January marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week.

During the week we have the opportunity to recognize and celebrate what our schools accomplish for their students and contribute to the Church, our parishes, local communities and the nation.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013 is "Catholic Schools Raise the Standards." This is a particularly fitting theme for Catholic schools which are known for a strong focus on academic excellence, high moral standards and faith development in our students.

The theme celebrates the constant attention educators pay to increasing the leaning and growth in faith of all students.

Our schools must provide excellent academic programs. Recent surveys indicate that the strength of Catholic schools' academic programs is the leading reason why parents choose them for their children.

Our academic programs, however, have distinguishing characteristics which go beyond programs that provide the human knowledge and skills necessary for life. Our programs and the overall environment of our schools must be imbued with our Catholic faith.

"Christ is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in a Catholic school" (*The Catholic School*, Sacred Congregation of Education, 1977). Christ is the heart of our Catholic schools. They are privileged places, sacred places in which our children and young people "encounter the living God who in Jesus

Christ reveals his transforming love and truth" (Benedict XVI, *Address to Catholic Educators in the United States*, 2008).

Distinguishing characteristics which define our schools include the

- education of the whole child recognizing the eternal destiny of every student.
- proclamation of the Gospel as a living reality, integrated into a school program that promotes the authentic relationship between faith and culture.
- personal witness to our Catholic faith by administrators, faculty and staff.
- experience of working with others to form vibrant communities of faith that celebrate faith through worship and service.
- recognition of the evangelizing mission of the Church.
- faith formation which acknowledges and develops the relationship between faith and life through growth in the virtues characteristic of a Christian.

While all schools need to assess their programs in order to meet New York State academic standards, we need, in addition, to assess our defining characteristics as "Catholic" schools.

"Catholic Schools Raise the Standards" is a timely theme because it highlights the launch of an initiative, the *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools* to ensure consistent high standards of Catholic schools across the country.

The standards describe policies, programs, structures and processes that should be present in mission-driven, program-effective and responsibly governed Catholic schools.

The standards address four categories: mission and Catholic identity, governance and leadership, academic excellence and

operational vitality. Benchmarks provide observable descriptors for each standard that schools can adapt and use to measure their own success.

The *National Standards* project is the result of years of work by Catholic educators. The project was led by Dr. Lorraine Ozar at the Center for Catholic School Effectiveness of Loyola University Chicago and the Roach Center for Catholic Education of Boston College in collaboration with nine other Catholic colleges and the National Catholic Education Association.

Dr. Ozar will conduct the spring meeting for our principals and others involved in Catholic school leadership. Her insights regarding the development of the standards and her guidance regarding their effective use by administrators, faculty, parents and school governing councils will be valuable as we assess the authenticity of our schools' Catholic identity and revitalize our commitment to them.

Blessed John Paul II called Catholic schools "a gift to our nation." This gift is made possible through the dedication and commitment of many, including Bishop LaValley, our pastors and parishioners, teachers, staff, administrators, education

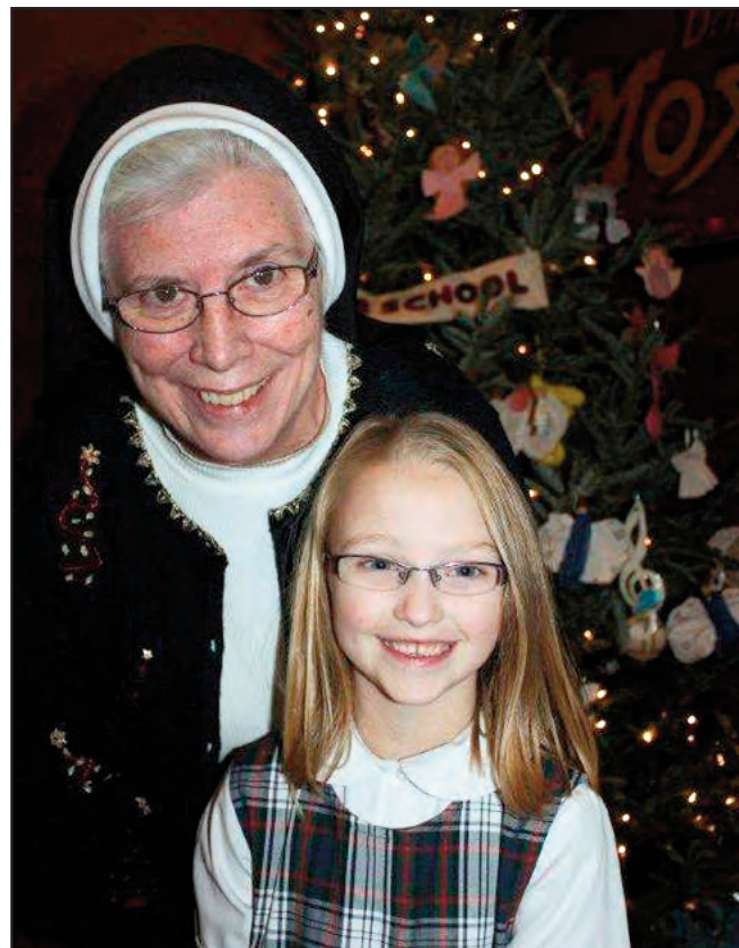


PHOTO BY DAYNA LEADER
St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools, made an Advent visit to St. James School in Gouverneur. She is shown above with St. James student Faith Leader.

council members, parents and volunteers.

I am thankful for them but want to make a point – at this special time of year for Catholic schools – of ex-

tending my deepest appreciation to everyone who makes our schools successful and faith filled centers of learning and faith formation.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2013: JAN. 27 TO FEB. 2

CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Aimee Flynn's Kindergarten class at St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy in Ogdensburg is working on their snowman learning unit. The children are shown building snowmen with different size and shape containers with real snow. Brandon Conger, Andrew Ashley and Aleta Gidney are enjoying their snow creations



Second graders from St. Agnes School enjoy outdoor fun. From left are Carter Day, Christopher Bryne, Blake Hart, and Finley Donahue



Emily Nachbauer, QQ Zhang, Tai Danjie and Raina Wang from Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh are shown volunteering at Evergreen Valley Nursing Home during Seton Catholic's Day of Service Sept. 28.



Third grade students at Trinity Catholic in Massena Amber Arispe, Kyle Allen and Gavin Torbey are shown as they re-enact the story of St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Along with the play, fourth, fifth and sixth graders sang *Las Mañanitas*, the Mexican song traditionally sung to Mary on her feast day of Dec. 12, which they learned from Spanish teacher, Señora Boyea.



Students at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh have the privilege of attending Mass each month. Shown are Jeffrey Glazer, Humza Ali, Araian Ventre and Sophia DeJordy.

Catholic Schools Week January 27 - February 2



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CNS PHOTO/JONATHAN ERNST, REUTERS

Demonstrators chant slogans outside the Supreme Court building during the annual

March for Life in Washington Jan. 25. Thousands of abortion protesters marched in the nation's capital marking the 40th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling.



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

Theresa Kowalczyk and daughter Sarah, 4, with group from St. Augusta Parish in Lake Village, Ind., listen to speakers during the annual March for Life rally in Washington Jan. 25. The pro-life demonstration marks the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion across the nation

At the annual March for Life

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The tens of thousands of participants at the annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 25 demonstrated just how determined they are not only by showing up in such large numbers on a bitter cold day but by continuing a 40-year tradition of protesting the U.S. Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion.

"Forty years ago, people thought opposition to the pro-life movement would eventually disappear," Boston Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley told the crowd assembled on the National Mall for a rally prior to the march along Constitution Avenue to the front of the U.S. Supreme Court.

He noted that Nellie Gray, founder of the annual march who died last year, "was not going to allow that to happen" nor was the pro-life

movement.

"The march grows stronger every year," said the cardinal, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

Many speakers praised the resiliency of the crowd, braving a cloudy 20-degree day and standing on snow dusted ground.

They also spoke of the pro-life movement getting re-energized by young people (including three busloads of youth from the Diocese of Ogdensburg) who are becoming the movement's new torchbearers.

Hundreds of high school and college groups were scattered in the rally crowd, their members texting, taking pictures and creatively protesting by wearing pro-life stickers on their faces and carrying placards in the backs of their jackets.

Their placards did not have jarring images or messages but predominantly

took a gentler tone such as: "Abolish Abortion Courageously" or "I am the pro-life generation."

Crowds show endurance, passion to continue

Jeanne Monahan, new president of the March for Life Education & Defense Fund, is 40 -- just as old as the movement protesting the 1973 Supreme Court decision.

Monahan praised Gray for her long dedication to the cause and several speakers also credited her for getting the pro-life movement on its feet with the first march and leading each one until her death. During the rally, a video tribute to her was shown on the giant Jumbotron.

This year's rally did not include speeches by dozens of politicians. Nine legislators were announced and only a handful spoke.

U.S. Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., co-chairman of the House Pro-Life Caucus, told the crowd: "Know this, the pro-life movement is comprised of noble, caring, smart and selfless people. It is an extraordinarily powerful, non-violent, faith-filled human rights struggle that is growing in public support, intensity, commitment and hope."

Another new aspect at this year's rally was more use of social media technology, with speakers prior to the rally's start urging participants to tweet about the rally and follow March for Life on Facebook.

One tweet read to the crowd, which drew a lot of cheers, was from Pope Benedict XVI, which said: "I join all those marching for life from afar, and pray that political leaders will protect the unborn and promote a culture of life."

Rueben Verastigui, youth activist, had a message for

the crowd's youths.

"You can't just sit around waiting for change to happen have to get up and make it happen." He told them to be involved in pro-life work in their schools and that even if they feel they are alone they should remember this experience.

"Look around, we are not alone. We are not the future of the pro-life movement; we are the pro-life movement," he said.

But that message could apply to any age.

Mary Salmon, who has been coming to the march for the past 15 years, said she is energized by the march to continue her work in crisis pregnancy centers.

Salmon, a parishioner from St. Andrew's Parish in Clifton, Va., said the pro-life movement cannot just keep responding to opposition they face but need to take the lead.

"We have to do something more," she said.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Social networks need more love and less ranting, rage, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Social media need to promote more logic, kindness and Christian witness than bluster, star-status and division, Pope Benedict XVI said. Given that the online world exposes people to a wider range of opinions and beliefs, people need to accept the existence of these other cultures, "be enriched by it" and offer others what "they possess that is good, true and beautiful," the pope said. Christians are called to bring truth and values to the whole world -- online and off -- remembering that it's ultimately the power of God's word that touches hearts, not sheer human effort, he said in his message for World Communications Day. The theme of the 2013 celebration -- marked in most dioceses the Sunday before Pentecost, this year May 12 -- is "Social Networks: Portals of Truth and Faith; New Spaces for Evangelization." The papal message was released on the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of journalists, Jan. 24. Social media "need the commitment of all who are conscious of the value of dialogue, reasoned debate and logical argumentation," the pope said. Social forums need to be used wisely and well, which means fostering balanced and respectful dialogue and debate, he said, and paying special attention to "privacy, responsibility and truthfulness."

Clerics apologize to abuse victims as lawsuit files become public

LOS ANGELES (CNS) -- As the Archdiocese of Los Angeles released church records on clergy sexual abuse, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony again apologized to abuse victims, saying he was naive about its impact on their lives. The cardinal, who retired as archbishop of Los Angeles in 2011, also said in a statement Jan. 21 that he prays for victims of abuse by priests daily as he celebrates Mass in his private chapel. "It remains my daily and fervent prayer that God's grace will flood the heart and soul of each victim, and that their life journey continues forward with ever greater healing," he said, explaining that on his altar he keeps cards with the names of each of the 90 victims he met with from 2006 to 2008. "As I thumb through those cards I often pause as I am reminded of each personal story and the anguish that accompanies that life story," Cardinal Mahony said. "I am sorry," the cardinal's statement concluded. Cardinal Mahony's comments followed the publication by the Los Angeles Times and Associated Press portions of documents filed in court as part of a lawsuit against the archdiocese. Some of the files showed archdiocesan officials worked to conceal child molestation by priests from law enforcement authorities in the 1980s. The release came two weeks after a Superior Court judge's ruling that the names of personnel identified in the files could be made public. Judge Emilie H. Elias' Jan. 7 ruling overturned an earlier decision by a retired federal judge who, acting as a mediator in a settlement between the archdiocese and those who claimed they were sexually abused, said that material to be released should have names redacted to prevent the documents' use to "embarrass or ridicule the church."

Catholic education sways decision for religious life, new survey shows

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Catholic education in high school and college is a significant factor for men and women choosing to enter a religious order, according to an annual survey of sisters and brothers who recently professed final vows.

The survey also found an increase in the number of Asians, particularly Vietnamese, choosing religious life in the U.S.

The report, "New Sisters and Brothers Professing Perpetual Vows in Religious Life" is based on a survey conducted by the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and commissioned by the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

Researchers surveyed religious who professed perpetual vows in 2012, and obtained responses from 108 sisters and 24 brothers, a response rate of 85 percent of the 156 potential members of the profession class of 2012 identified for CARA by their religious superior.

Major findings

Major findings of the study showed:

- The average age of religious of the profession class of 2012 is 39. Half of the men and women are 37 or younger. The youngest sister who responded was 23; the oldest, 66.

- Eight women professed perpetual vows at age 60 or older. Among brothers, the youngest was 25 and the oldest, 62; two professed perpetual vows at age 60 or older.

- The class makeup is 69 percent white, 15 percent Asian and 8 percent Hispanic. Most respondents (71 percent) were born in the United States.

Of those born outside the

U.S., the most common country of origin is Vietnam.

- About four in 10 religious (43 percent) attended a Catholic elementary school, a rate similar to the U.S. Catholic adult population (42 percent). These respondents were more likely than other U.S. Catholics to have attended a Catholic high school (36 percent of the religious, compared to 22 percent of U.S. adult Catholics overall) and much more likely to have attended a Catholic college (33 percent of the religious, compared to just 7 percent of U.S. adult Catholics overall).

Educated, experience religious

The religious also are highly educated. Twenty-two percent earned a graduate degree before entering their order and 60 percent entered their order with at least a bachelor's degree or more.

Most religious did not report that educational debt delayed their application for entrance to their religious institute. For those who did, they averaged two years of delay while they paid down an average of \$19,500 in school debt.

More than eight in 10 religious (82 percent) had work experience prior to entering their religious institute. Women were more likely than men to have been employed in education or health care. Men were more likely to have been employed in business or church ministry.

Many religious were active in parishes before entering their institute. Almost half participated in youth ministry or a youth group. One quarter participated in a young adult ministry or group, Catholic campus ministry/Newman Center, and/or World Youth Day.

Almost nine in 10 (88 percent) had ministry experi-

ence before entering their religious institute, most commonly in faith formation. Women were more likely to have participated in faith formation or liturgical ministries (except altar servers), while men more commonly reported working in hospital or prison ministries, being an altar server, or teaching in a Catholic school.

On average, religious who responded to the survey said they were 20 years old when they first considered a vocation, but half were 18 or younger when they first thought about it. Eight in 10 (82 percent) said they were encouraged to consider religious life by someone, predominantly priests, religious sisters and brothers.

The women who responded to the survey represented 64 religious congregations, provinces or monasteries. The brothers were from 19 different congregations, provinces, or monasteries.

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Sacrifice always accompanies real love

FEB. 3

Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time

READINGS

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13

Luke 4:21-30

By Msgr. Paul E. Whitmore
NCC columnist

How many weddings have you attended in your life? And how many times have you heard "Love is patient, love is kind,...it is not rude"?

It's an all-time favorite.

Yet, to make those wonderful words come true for the newlyweds, they need to take special note of the last part of that reading where we hear, "When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, I think as a child....now that I am a man (and a woman), I put aside childish things".

In other words, if they want such a beautiful kind of love in their married lives, then they must grow up and make sacrifices!

Just like the prophet Jeremiah had to do...and Jesus!

It wasn't ever easy to face the stone-throwing that accompanied God's truthful and loving message!

Sacrifice always accompanies love!

Today's first reading is about God's choice of Jeremiah, one of the greatest of the Old Testament prophets. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you."

Jeremiah, knowing how badly people treated prophets, protested, but to no avail. God tells him to stand up and be a man, promising that "...I am with you to deliver you..."

After he spent his life battling false religions and the cowardly fear of weak political leaders, he is finally stoned to death in Egypt!

Jeremiah is often compared to Jesus, since both were consumed with love for the Father, and zeal for the truth, and both suffered death because of that love and that truth.

The Gospel today demonstrates how Jesus, from the very beginning of his ministry in his hometown of Nazareth, suffered rejection from the very villagers he had grown up with! Here, it all boiled down to envious remarks like, "Who does he think he is?" "We know his family and his relatives!" "Where does he get all of this?" As Jesus' fame grew, so too did the opposition from religious leaders who feared for their standing among the people. The words of the prophets will always anger and upset those who will not face their own sinfulness.

The power that drove both Jeremiah and Jesus to persevere to the end was their fire of love for the Father and for His Glory. At our baptism, the priest anointed us with Holy Chrism to be "prophet, priest, and king". We, too, need a burning love for the Truth for our ministry as prophets. Are we willing to pay just a portion of the price that it takes to love as Jeremiah and Jesus did?

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AT THE MOVIES

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK

By John P. McCarthy
Catholic News Service

In "Silver Linings Playbook" (Weinstein), filmmaker David O. Russell attempts to fashion a winsome romantic comedy that also addresses mental illness with perceptiveness and sensitivity.

It's not an easy maneuver to pull off. But it works because the source material, a novel by Matthew Quick, is rooted in an actual place populated by relatable characters, the acting ensemble is terrific, and Russell, who writes and directs, doesn't shy away from awkwardness or feel-good sentiment.

By turns uncomfortable, funny and touching, "Silver Linings Playbook" is big-hearted, off-kilter entertainment. The volume of four-letter words is the only major drawback, although one is more inclined to excuse foul language when it's symptomatic of clinically verifiable anxiety.

Neuroses, disorders and syndromes abound in the middle-class Philadelphia neighborhood where the Solitano family lives. Exhibit A is Pat Solitano (Bradley

Cooper), whose mother Dolores (Jacki Weaver) checks him out of a Baltimore psychiatric hospital early in the movie. Ignoring professional advice, she's willing to take legal responsibility for her son. "I don't want him to get used to the routine here," she tells a protesting doctor.

Turns out, Pat caught his wife Nikki (Brea Bee) cheating on him and beat up the interloper: a colleague of Nikki's from the high school where they both taught. That incident, plus other unbalanced behavior only alluded to, resulted in a court-ordered stint in the mental institution and a restraining order barring him from coming within 500 feet of Nikki.

Pat moves into his parents' house and, armed with an empowering motto ("Excelsior!"), pledges to remake himself by getting into better physical shape and reading all the books Nikki assigns to her students. His sole aim is to get back together with her and salvage their marriage.

Shortly after coming home, Pat meets Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), a young widow in the neighborhood

who reacted to her husband's sudden death by acting out sexually. The two have much in common, most noticeably a lack of verbal inhibition that makes social interaction difficult. In due course, Tiffany volunteers to deliver a letter to Nikki, thereby circumventing the restraining order. In return, she asks Pat to help her train for an upcoming dance competition.

Ornamented with colorful secondary figures, the plot trajectory is familiar, but the character-driven screenplay manages to avoid cliché. Russell gets superbly naturalistic performances from the cast.

Cooper, best known for raunchy comedies, proves he's got real acting chops and Lawrence continues to demonstrate she's a major talent.

Doing his best work in



CNS PHOTO/WEINSTEIN

Jacki Weaver and Robert De Niro star in a scene from the movie "Silver Linings Playbook."

years, De Niro gives an empathetic performance.

The film contains brief glimpses of a violent assault, fleeting rear and partial female nudity, some profane language, frequent crude and crass terms and

sexual innuendo.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

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ADIRONDACK

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Tupper Lake—Mercy Care for the Adirondacks is recruiting new volunteers and has scheduled a Friendship Volunteer Training Program.

Dates: Feb. 12 and Feb. 19, both mornings required to complete training

Time: 9 a.m. to noon

Place: St. Thomas Episcopal

Features: Friendship Volunteers of all faiths, from Tupper Lake, Saranac Lake, and Lake Placid help elders stay connected to their communities, helping to relieve isolation and loneliness

Registration: The program is free of charge but pre-registration is required. To request registration information, please contact Sheila Schneck at Mercy Care by calling 523-5583.

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 Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m.; Workshop/Holy Hour Feb. 9, 1 p.m. to 2:30

Contact: Eve McGill, Living Waters Healing Ministry: 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.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Treadwell Mills—St. Alexander & St. Joseph's Church will hold an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast.

Date: Feb. 10

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

Place: St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall

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; April 6

Time: 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Features: Rita Breen will be reflecting on themes of Lent Light lunch provided. Donations appreciated.

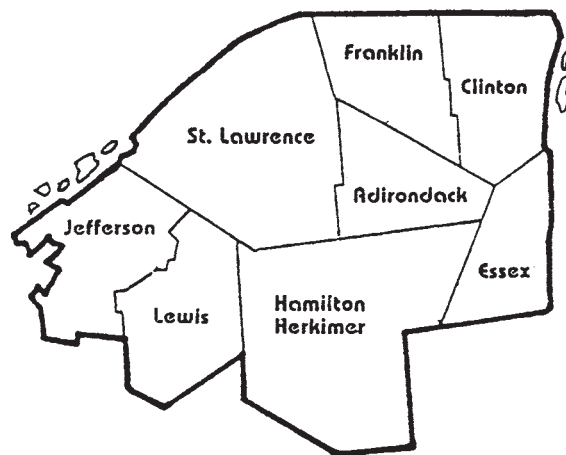
Contact: RSVP 518-594-3253 or toolaprayrhouse@gmail.com

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



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.

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 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 to register. Donations for the day appreciated.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs

Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email us at Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

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

CATHOLICISM SERIES

Watertown—DVD "Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of the Faith" to be shown.

Dates: Feb. 11, 18; March 4, 11, 18, 25

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30

Place: Hearthside Center at the Motherhouse SSJ

Cost: No charge

Contact: Holy Family Church at 315-782-2468 for more information

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-outs begin at 4 p.m. Bring your own containers for takeouts.

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills—The Indian River Knights of Columbus will be having a Spaghetti & Meatball dinner.

Date: Feb. 9

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; under 5 eat for free

DINNER FOR TWO

Watertown—A Dinner for Two for married and engaged couples to be held at Holy Family Church at no cost

Date: Feb. 16

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

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.

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville—Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of February to be held.

Date: Feb. 3

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers. Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

Contact: 348-6260

ST. LAWRENCE

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena—St. Mary's Church is holding a special rosary to mark First Saturday.

Date: Feb. 2

Time: 3:15 p.m.

Features: Rosary to Our Lady of Fatima in reparation to Her Immaculate Heart and for World Peace. A private meditation on the Luminous Mysteries will follow. Confessions begin at 2:45 p.m. and Saturday Mass Vigil is at 4.

ALTAR ROSARY BREAKFAST

Ogdensburg—The Notre Dame Altar & Rosary Society will hold an all you can eat breakfast.

Date: Feb. 10

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: Knights of Columbus building

Cost: \$6

CATHOLICISM SERIES

Massena—The Catholic Community of Massena/Louisville will be using Fr.

Robert Barron's video series "Catholicism" during this year of faith.

Dates: Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27; March 6; April 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: St. Mary's Social Hall

Cost: No cost, but workbooks can be purchased for \$25

K OF C BRUNCH

Brasher—A Buffet Brunch will be held.

Date: Feb. 10

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: K of C Hall

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children 5-12, \$5; under 5, Free

FEB. 10 BRUNCH

Norfolk—The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.

Date: Feb. 10

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

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 I 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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena—St. Mary's & St. Joseph's will have a Benediction and Adoration every Friday.

Time: 9 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

NOVENA FOR MILITARY

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

Date: Tuesday evenings

Time: 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRIES ARE BACK

Ogdensburg—K of C Friday Night Fish Fries are back beginning Jan. 11 and continue every Friday until Easter.

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

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children 5-12, \$4; under 5, free; desserts, \$1 and cash bar All proceeds benefit K of C Charities.



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

Congratulations to Catholic schools

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

We celebrate National Catholic Schools Week January 27 – February 2, 2013 with the theme “Catholic Schools Raise the Standards”. We are reminded that Catholic schools exist to strive toward academic excellence and high moral standards. This year's theme celebrates the ongoing attention Catholic educators pay to increasing the learning and growth in faith of all students.

I'm grateful to the efforts within the schools to educate students on the name change of the Holy Childhood Association to the Missionary Childhood Association. The recent change was made after consultation with diocesan staff nationwide. It emphasizes the missionary nature of our work and brings it into alignment with Missionary Childhood Association worldwide. This year is a period of transition; the new name is part of all the materials moving forward. Materials this school year 2012 – 2013 focus on the “Year of Faith” and in particular on Pope Benedict XVI “s call for all of us to be a part of a prayer movement focused on Christ and faith in Him. This prayer movement is centered on the World Mission Rosary.

Through the generosity of rosary makers in Tupper Lake, Copenhagen and Arlington, VA each student has received a World Mission Rosary. Students and faculty can reflect on each area of the world according to the particular color bead at the time each mystery is announced. When you completed praying the World Mission Rosary, you have given the World a big hug!

Thanks to all who promote the Missionary Childhood Association through prayer and money sacrifices to assist students in developing countries. May God bless all who are celebrating Catholic Schools Week with renewed faith.



A group of students at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga are shown following a presentation on Missionary Childhood Association by Sister Mary Ellen in November.

Please remember “The Society for the Propagation of the Faith” when writing or changing your Will.
www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice

OBITUARIES

Brasher Falls – Ralph Burnell, 81; Funeral Services Jan. 28, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Canton – Charles Patrick McMurray, 86; Funeral Jan. 25, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Canton – Terry L. Whitman, 42; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in White Church Cemetery.

Carthage – Anthony J. Mandell, 78; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at the Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home.

Chateaugay – Robert J. Harrigan, 64; Funeral Services Jan. 5, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church.

Constableville – Beatrice (Frank) Kelly, 97; Funeral Services Jan. 21, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Croghan – James P. Walseman, 49; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Hogansburg – Lawrence Michael “Larry” Garrow, 39; Funeral Services Jan. 23, 2013 at St. Regis Church.

Keeseville – LaVerne Finnegan Eades, 91; Memorial Services this summer at Immaculate Heart Church; burial in St. Thomas, Ont.

Keeseville – Michelle Marie Murcay, 50; Funeral Services Jan. 21, 2013 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Keeseville – Richard A. “Bud” Smith, 49; Funeral Services April 26, 2013 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Lake Placid – Bernard J. Bola, 88; Funeral Services Jan. 26, 2013 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Lowville – Mary Ostrowski Leviker, 93; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Malone – Sadie (Dumont) Fenlong, 86; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at the Spaulding Funeral Home; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery.

Malone – Viola M. (Shaw) Peryea, 87; Funeral Services Jan. 25, 2013 at St. John Bosco Church; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery.

Massena – Leon Johnson, 83; Funeral Services Jan. 24, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Andrew Brennan Cahill, 54; Funeral Services Jan. 23, 2013 at St. Peter's Church.

Plattsburgh – Mary Ellen Conroy, 80; Funeral Services Jan. 25, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Mark B. O'Connell, 57; Funeral Services Jan. 22, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Cadyville Protestant Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Ruth Ann (Manor) Prue, 88; Funeral Services Jan. 23, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

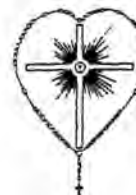
Redford – Sandra L. “Sandy” (Shappy) Miner, 66; Funeral Services Jan. 25, 2013 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Redford – Charles F. “Chuck” Wood, 63; Memorial Services Jan. 24, 2013 at Church of the Assumption.

Saranac Lake – Beulah M. Branch, 85; Funeral Services Jan. 22, 2013 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Augusta A. Reandeu, 89; Funeral Jan. 21, 2013 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown – Beverly L. (Pfister) Biondillo, 86; Funeral Services Jan. 26, 2013 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



Adirondack Center For PEACE

P.O. Box 2748

Plattsburgh, New York 12901

Phone: (518) 561-5083

These Masses for Life are co-sponsored by
Adirondack Center For PEACE
and
Knights of Columbus Council #255

2013	St. Peter's Church			Our Lady of Victory			St. John's Church		
	Day	Date	Time	Day	Date	Time	Day	Date	Time
JAN	Sat.	1/5/2013	8:15	Thu.	1/3/2013	8:00	Mon.	1/14/2013	9:00
FEB	Sat.	2/2/2013	8:15	Thu.	2/7/2013	8:00	Mon.	2/18/2013	9:00
MAR	Sat.	3/2/2013	8:15	Thu.	3/7/2013	8:00	Tue.	3/19/2013	9:00
APR	Sat.	4/6/2013	8:15	Thu.	4/4/2013	8:00	Thu.	4/18/2013	9:00
MAY	Sat.	5/4/2013	8:15	Tue.	5/7/2013	8:00	Thu.	5/16/2013	9:00
JUN	Sat.	6/1/2013	4:00	Tue.	6/4/2013	8:00	Wed.	6/19/2013	9:00
JUL	Sat.	7/6/2013	8:15	Tue.	7/2/2013	8:00	Thu.	7/18/2013	9:00
AUG	Sat.	8/3/2013	8:15	Thu.	8/8/2013	8:00	Thu.	8/22/2013	9:00
SEPT	Sat.	9/7/2013	8:15	Thu.	9/5/2013	8:00	Tue.	9/17/2013	9:00
OCT	Sat.	10/5/2013	8:15	Thu.	10/3/2013	8:00	Thu.	10/17/2013	9:00
NOV	Sat.	11/2/2013	8:15	Tue.	11/5/2013	8:00	Tue.	11/19/2013	9:00
DEC	Sat.	12/7/2013	8:15	Tue.	12/3/2013	8:00	Thu.	12/19/2013	9:00

Please join us in prayer for a greater reverence for all human life!

Follow Pope Benedict XVI on Twitter!

www.twitter.com/Pontifex



ANNUAL PLATTSBURGH MARCH FOR LIFE JAN. 20

MARCHING FOR LIFE



PHOTOS BY COLLEEN MINER

The annual Plattsburgh March for Life was held Jan. 20 to mark the 40th anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision legalizing abortion. Bishop LaValley and Michael Hamilton, a parishioner of St. Alexander's in Morrisonville, led the march from the Newman Center to St. John's Church, where Bishop LaValley was the featured speaker for the program.



Kathy Olsen, Margaret Choong and Ann Marie McGowan traveled from Potsdam to join in the march.



Sarah Fitzgerald and Conan Fitzgerald, parishioners of St. Agnes in Lake Placid speak with Father Timothy Canaan, pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist, in the Newman Center before the march.



A check for \$1,364,822 from the five upstate Catholic Charities (Albany, Ogdensburg, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo) was presented to the three downstate dioceses (Archdiocese of NY, Brooklyn, Rockville Centre) impacted by Superstorm Sandy. Combined with money collected by the downstate dioceses, the Church in New York collected nearly \$7 million in Sandy Relief funds, 100 percent of which will be distributed to those impacted through the three downstate Catholic Charities agencies. Pictured, from left, are: Richard E. Barnes, executive director, NYS Catholic Conference; Joseph Slavik, CEO, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Syracuse; Bishop Howard J. Hubbard of Albany; Msgr. Kevin Sullivan, CEO, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York; Laura Cassell, CEO, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre; Robert Siebel, CEO, Catholic Charities, Brooklyn; Dennis C. Walczyk, CEO, Catholic Charities, Buffalo; Vincent Colonna, CEO, Catholic Charities, Albany; Jack Balinsky, CEO, Catholic Charities, Rochester

For Sandy, diocese raises \$100,000+

Bishop Terry R. LaValley announced that the diocesan-wide collection for Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund has reached over \$100,792.

He expressed his gratitude for the "generosity of people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg who were able to reach out to aid their suffering neighbors in the New York City and New Jersey areas."

The upstate Dioceses of Albany, Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse and Ogdensburg pooled their contributions.

During a Jan. 23 press conference in Albany, Bishop Howard Hubbard, Bishop of

Albany; Richard Barnes, executive director of the New York State Catholic Conference and the state Catholic Charities Diocesan Directors presented a check for over \$1 million to Laura Cassell, diocesan director for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Rockville Center.

"Our continued thoughts and prayers are with the people who have had their lives devastated by this storm and with the many relief workers who are continuing to offer support to those impacted by the storm," Bishop LaValley said.