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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 27, 2013

God never tires of forgiving

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis said he goes to confession every two weeks, knowing that God never tires of forgiving those who repent, but also knowing that having a priest say "I absolve you" reinforces belief in God's mercy.

Using the literal Italian translation of a Spanish saying, "It's better to turn red

once than yellow a thousand times," Pope Francis said he knows some people are embarrassed to confess their sins to a priest, but it is the best path to spiritual healing and health.

At his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square Nov. 20, Pope Francis reflected on the forgiveness of sins as one of the missions

Jesus entrusted to his apostles and their successors.

In a world often dominated by "individualism and subjectivism," he said, many people - including many Catholics - say that God will forgive their sins and they have no need of the sacrament of confession and the ministry of a priest.

"Certainly, God forgives

every repentant sinner, but the Christian is bound to Christ and Christ is united to his church," Pope Francis said.

"God, in his sovereign mercy, forgives everyone, but he wanted those who belong to Christ and his church to receive forgiveness through the community's ministers."

ADVENT BEGINS

Prepare the Way of the Lord



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ
A single lit candle in an Advent wreath marks the first Sunday of Advent. Advent, a season of joyful expectation before Christmas, begins Dec. 1 this year. In this week's scripture column, Msgr. Paul Whitmore writes, "Another Advent begins this Sunday - time of prayer and preparation - a time-out from hectic distractions, and a time-in for quiet nourishment from the beautiful Advent scriptures. It's a time for inner activity of prayer, and outer works of generosity to our neighbor."

FULL STORY, PAGE 12

Religious Retirement Appeal set

The annual Religious Retirement collection will take place Dec. 7-8 in parishes of the diocese.

In his message for the appeal, Bishop LaValley said, "our Church is blessed to have sixteen religious congregations represented in our diocese. As I visit the convents and motherhouses of our religious, I continue to be deeply inspired by their faithfulness....Please contribute what you are able as a concrete expression of our gratitude for their selfless ministry."

SPECIAL SECTION, PAGES 7-10

No paper next week

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic*, featuring the annual diocesan financial report, will be dated Dec. 11. Happy Thanksgiving!

A CELEBRATION OF A FOUNDATION OF FAITH



PHOTO BY JUSTIN SORENSEN

A highlight of the Nov. 17 jubilee Mass marking the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Precious Blood Monastery in Watertown was the reception of the habit for a new novice in the community. Above, Bishop LaValley, who presided at the liturgy, gives a hug to Sister Mary Catherine Pham after she changed into her habit. At left are Deacon Kevin Mastellon of St. Patrick's Church in Watertown where the Mass was celebrated and Precious Blood Sister Marilyn McGillan, superior of the Watertown congregation. See page 4 for full coverage of the jubilee celebration.

YEAR OF FAITH CONCLUDES: Bishop's homily for Nov. 24 Holy Hour... p. 3

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Giving thanks - for our religious!

Less than a week after we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the foundation of our Precious Blood Sisters in Watertown, a surprising phone call came into my office.

It was from my old friend Carmelite Sister Marie Gertrude Haughey who I got to know when she lived at the Carmel in Saranac Lake.

She and her Carmelites sisters moved to Beacon, NY, in 1999 but have not forgotten their friends in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

During our conversation, she told me that her community's Mass that day had been for the

intention of our diocese in honor of the 61st anniversary of the founding of the Carmel in Saranac Lake.

I could honestly tell Sister Marie Gertrude that I had been thinking about her just a few days before her call.

During the celebration for the Precious Blood Sisters on Nov. 17, I couldn't help but reflect on the encounters I've had through the years with the cloistered sisters living in the North Country.

I was a little nervous the first time I knocked on the monastery door in Saranac Lake. What would I discover

behind the high walls? What kind of people would deliberately cut themselves off from the rest of the world and spend day after day in perpetual prayer?

As I immediately discovered, they are among the most hospitable, joyful, intelligent, loving people you could imagine.

I had the same experience during my first visit to the Precious Blood Monastery in Watertown. Last year, I spend a delightful day with Sister Marilyn, Sister Rose, Sister Elizabeth and Sister Martha who were eagerly anticipating the arrival of two young novices.

I was so grateful that I could meet the two new sisters and watch as Sister Mary (now Sister Mary Catherine) received

her habit.

How blessed we all are that these incredible women spend so much of their time praying for everyone in our diocese.

And how blessed we are that 15 other religious congregations are praying and providing daily ministry in North Country parishes and institutions.

In a couple of weeks – Dec. 7-8 – we will have the opportunity give a little back, to “share in the care” of religious men and women who have literally given their lives to us.

As our bishop says, a generous donation “is a concrete expression of your gratitude for the selfless ministry of these religious men and women.”

Amen!

Mary Lou
Kilian

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Beyond sweet potatoes and mincemeat

I know that you, like I, love Thanksgiving. What do you love best?

For me – it is white meat, sweet potatoes and mince meat pie.

The whole tradition of family gatherings – celebrating at a traditional meal is truly a magnificent moment.

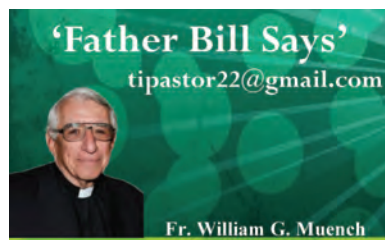
On Thanksgiving Day the emphasis is on gratitude and we all have so many reasons to be thankful. Gratitude is a rather important quality; nothing lights up my life like being thanked when I've done a good thing, or right thing.

Never miss an opportunity to thank someone when they do something good for you.

Gratitude. One of the familiar Gospel stories, often read on Thanksgiving is the story of Jesus healing the ten lepers. Jesus sends the ten lepers to the priests – only they can determine that a leper is healed enough to return to society.

The Gospel tells us that on the way, one of them realizes that he has been healed. He immediately returns to Jesus to express his gratitude. The others do not.

Recently, while I was visiting



Madonna House, my friend, Father Louis, was the celebrant at one of the Masses I attended, and the Gospel reading was the story of the ten lepers.

Father Louis, in his homily, suggested that possibly the other nine did not realize that something had happened to them – that they had been healed.

Father Louis then went on to remind us that too often our gratitude is lacking because we do not realize when something good – something transforming – has happened to us.

Every time a gift is given to us, something good is done for us, we are transformed, we are changed, we are made new – it is a time for gratitude.

Every time we meet God – at Eucharist, in prayer – we are changed, we are transformed, we are made new – a time for

gratitude to God.

Now you have heard this before but let us remember again – Eucharist actually means thanks – still used in Greek – it means thank you.

Every Mass is then a time of gratitude. In the Eucharist, we celebrate – over and over – that Jesus came to this earth, to live with us, to die for us, to rise to new life so that we are lead to new life.

Each Eucharist is an invitation to our own resurrection. We have so much to be grateful for. And each Eucharist is our time of thanksgiving, a solemn prayer of thanksgiving in recognition of God's great love

for us, that we have been saved. Could our lack of gratitude be a result that we don't understand the magnificence of our salvation?

We are blest. Each Mass we take the time to remember the many who have helped us, who have touched our lives in a special way.

On Thanksgiving Day we again remember the many who have made a difference in our lives and we pray for them. A holiday – an American holiday – dedicated to gratitude – a rather good idea. Truly, it has been a great idea.

Happy Thanksgiving, to you and your families!



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FOLLOW ME

May we live our faith with vigor

Bishop LaValley's homily for Holy Hour on Nov. 24 closing Year of Faith

In 1925, Pope Pius XI instituted today's Feast of Christ the King, wishing to address the creeping materialism, secularism, and anti-clericalism that were beginning to arise in many places in our world at that time. For instance, only two years later, in 1927, the Jesuit priest Blessed Miguel Pro was executed for being a Catholic priest by the anti-Catholic government of Mexico. Facing his executioners, Father Miguel forgave those in the firing squad, stretched out his arms in the form of a crucifix and proclaimed, "Viva, Cristo Rey!" (Long live Christ the King!)

This year's Feast of Christ the King falls at the end of a special year of celebration. Much has happened in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and in the world during this *Year of Faith*, most notably, and surprisingly, the election of Pope Francis. And since his election, Francis has made much news by his call for reform, simplicity of life and radical evangelization. His message has consistently focused on the dignity of every human life.

This Year of Faith was called so that we might rediscover, cultivate, celebrate, and bear witness to our faith. And, hasn't the Diocese of Ogdensburg done that from the "get-go," beginning with our beautiful celebration here at St. Mary's Cathedral last October when we celebrated the recent canonization of three

saints who walked these very lands of our North Country: St. Brother Andre Bessette, St. Marianne Cope and St. Kateri Tekakwitha?

Their lives reflect their own profound respect for the human person in their outreach to the hurting and by their own suffering and persecution as they entered through the narrow gate, following Jesus, the Lord of their lives.

When Pope Pius XI first established the Feast of Christ the King back in the 1920's, he called upon our grandparents and great grandparents to boldly proclaim the truth of the Gospel to their contemporaries

and to promote and defend the rights of the Church against those who were usurping Divine prerogatives and ignoring basic human rights.

He wrote that this state of things may perhaps be attributed to a certain timidity in good people. But if the faithful were to understand that it behooves them to fight courageously under the banner of Christ their King, then, fired with apostolic zeal, they would strive to win over to their Lord those hearts that are estranged from Him. (*Quas Primas, no.24*)

Today, almost a century later, you and I are also called to ensure that basic human rights, such as life and religious freedom are valiantly defended against those who would deny them, whether in our own nation or anywhere in the world. "Choose life!" we hear Moses tell the people. Walk in God's ways, keeping His commandments. Heed God's voice. Hold fast to God.

We stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians the world over: Sudan, Egypt, Syria, Libya, Palestine, India,

Iran, Iraq, Myanmar, Pakistan, Nigeria and China. In these countries and elsewhere, we see the parishes and property, the lives and livelihoods of our sisters and brothers in Christ threatened just for practicing their faith.

...we cannot relax in our resolve nor compromise in our commitments to the dignity of all human persons

That's why we cannot relax in our resolve nor compromise in our commitments to the dignity of all human persons, the born and the pre-born-- defending our right and duty to live our faith in service to the poor, the sick, and the marginalized, and our God-given right and obligation to educate our children in the faith.

As citizens of the United States, we have no king. We are members of a democratic republic, with a constitution that was written to defend basic human rights, define a limited government, and proscribe any laws prohibiting the free exercise of religion.

As Catholics exercising our religious liberty, we proudly proclaim that Christ is our King not just at Mass but wherever we are— at home, at work, at school or at play, in government or in business, in our charities and our hospitals.

All of us are called to carry on the mission of Jesus to reveal the merciful love of the Father.

As Pope Francis has been consistently reminding us, God never tires of bestowing His mercy upon us. Compelled by this mission, we carry on works of mercy in the world. We evangelize and teach, heal and serve, and pray for those who

mourn. We do all of this and more so that the Kingdom of Christ, by His grace, may be made more and more real in our midst.

We do all of this and more because, we hear and believe the Psalmist who assures us that our dignity can never be taken from us because indeed our God has formed and knit us in our mother's womb. He knows us through and through.

My friends, as we mark

the formal closing of this Year of Faith and the end of the liturgical year, we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving in just a few days. We have every reason to be a people of profound gratitude for our faith and for the gifts of our land. May we never take either for granted, but continue to live our faith with a vigor and determination to share who we are and what we have been given.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley

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Benefit sponsored by Catholic Daughters of Chateaugay

A foundation of faith at 50

Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood mark 50 years in Diocese of Ogdensburg

By Mary Lou Kilian
Editor

WATERTOWN— The Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, their friends and family gathered for a celebration of the past and the future Nov. 17 at St. Patrick's Church.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at a jubilee Mass marking the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the order in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

During the liturgy, he led a Ceremony of the Reception of the Habit for a new novice in the community.

In his homily, Bishop LaValley outlined some of the history of the Precious Blood Sisters in Watertown.

"Back in 1963, Msgr. Robert McCarthy made an inquiry with the Mother Superior of the Precious Blood Monastery in Manchester, New Hampshire, urging that a foundation of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood be established in the Diocese of Ogdensburg," the bishop said. "He purchased a home, here in Watertown, and had it completely refurbished to house the incoming cloistered community.

"That's the beginning of a faith story that has enriched the Church profoundly," he said.

Witness of doistered life

"Your prayer and the witness of your consecrated, cloistered life are more nec-



PHOTO BY JUSTIN SORENSEN

The six Precious Blood Sisters who currently form the contemplative community in Watertown are shown just before they join the procession for the 50th anniversary Mass held Nov. 17 at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown. From left are Sister Marilyn McGillan, superior, Sister Rosemary Rossi, Sister Elizabeth Washburn, Sister Martha Emery, assistant superior, Sister Linh Terese Nguyen, a novice, and Sister Mary Catherine Pham, who received the habit as a novice during the Mass.

essary than ever as you continue to inspire in us a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for conversion and personal renewal: aims that we've held deep in our hearts, particularly during this Year of Faith," he told the Precious Blood Sisters.

"I'm sure that all those who enter through the doors of your monastery today experience the same serenity and joy that I do, each and every time, I am so graciously wel-

comed into your home," he said.

"As your Constitution reminds you, your love for Mary Immaculate is an integral part of your vocation as Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood," Bishop LaValley continued. "Mary Immaculate, Mother of the Church, embraced God's will heartily and devoted herself to the Person and work of her Divine Son, thereby serving the

mystery of Redemption.

"It is from Mary's Immaculate Conception that the Blood of Jesus begins its saving course, and flowing through the Sacraments, brings light and salvation to all the People of God," he said. "The Most Precious Blood that was shed to set us free pours outward onto every Catholic altar and runs through our veins for the salvation of the world.

"The principal mission of the Sisters Adorers the Precious Blood is to give glory to the Father, through the worship of His Son in the mystery of His precious Blood, and to honor Mary, immaculate in her conception," the bishop said.

"So, from the lips of Mary and the pen of St. Luke, we join in that prayer of Magnificence: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,'" he said.

Reception of the habit.

At the conclusion of his homily, Bishop LaValley noted that "when we were finalizing the scheduling of today's celebration, Sister Marilyn (McGillan, the superior) wrote me: 'I can't think of a more wonderful blessing upon our fifty years than to add another Adorer to our Institute,' so today Sister Mary Pham will receive the Holy Habit of the Sister Adorers of the Precious Blood.

"Sister, what a precious gift you are to the Church," he said. "We congratulate you as you join this very special community whom we treasure."

During the reception ceremony, Sister Mary asked to be received as a member of the community and promised to observe the Constitution of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood.

Bishop LaValley blessed the habit, the cincture and the veil before Sister Mary left the sanctuary to change her clothes.

She returned to receive a lighted candle and a new name – Sister Mary Catherine.

Sister Mary Catherine joins another novice in the community, Sister Linh Terese Nguyen.

The other Precious Blood Sisters at the Watertown monastery are Sisters Marilyn McGillan, Martha Emery, Rosemary Rossi and Elizabeth Washburn.

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Johnnette Benkovic returning to Wadhams Hall in June for Women of Grace retreat

A weekend of prayer, sacred sisterhood

By Mary Dillenback
Regional Coordinator and
Facilitator for Women of Grace

Every now and then we are blessed with a life changing opportunity. The weekend of June 27-29, 2014 is one of those gifts.

Johnnette Benkovic will again be at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg for a spirit filled Women of Grace retreat!

The weekend will be filled with the celebration of the Eucharist, Adoration, prayer, talks, music, and sacred sisterhood. The theme of the retreat is To Jesus Through Mary... "For Such A Time As This" (Esther 4:14)

Throughout the weekend Johnnette will unfold the truths of authentic femininity. I am confident participants will be renewed, revitalized and affirmed in their dignity and vocation as daughters of God and in their gift of authentic femininity!

Over 100 women were blessed to be a part of the Women of Grace retreat with Johnnette in April of 2012. I continue to hear from women who were able to attend.

The stories of conversion, spiritual growth, and healing, as well as an awakening to the special gifts and responsibilities we have as women are both heart warming and inspiring.

The weekend of prayer, sacred sisterhood, and powerful talks from Johnnette left a lasting imprint on the minds, hearts and souls of those in attendance.

Just as the ripples from a

pebble gently dropped into a pond reach out and touch everything in its path, so too have the effects of the retreat touched not only the hearts of women in attendance, but their families, parishes and places of work.

They have become evangelists without even knowing it!

I am pleased to tell you we currently have Women of Grace study groups in Massena, Morristown, Potsdam, Ogdensburg, Clayton, Lake Placid, Saranac Lake and Watertown.

The study groups in Evans Mills, Theresa, and Fort Drum, as well as earlier groups in Watertown and Clayton that have completed the study are anxiously awaiting the publishing of Johnnette's second Foundational Study based on John Paul II's "Mulieris Dignitatem" entitled Feminine Genius... "For Such A Time As This" (Esther 4:14), as well as The Young Women of Grace Study addressed to young women ages 12-15. Both studies will be ready early in 2014.

I, along with the other facilitators, are blessed to witness the transformation in women's hearts and minds as they progress through the Women of Grace Study. As regional coordinator, my vision is to have Women of Grace Study Groups in every parish in our diocese!

There are sections of our diocese that do not have Women of Grace available to them. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to visit your parish and share with you what Women of

Grace is all about.

Please contact me at marydillenback@twcny.rr.com or by phone: 315-771-1377.

About Johnnette

For those of you who might not be aware, Johnnette Benkovic is founder and president of Living His Life Abundantly International, Inc., a Catholic evangelization apostolate with outreaches in television, radio, print, and internet communications.

She is also founder of Women of Grace, a Catholic apostolate for Christian women that features a number of outreaches including conferences, curricula, study groups and more.

Johnnette is executive producer of the Women of Grace television program, which is aired on EWTN internationally. The program discusses contemporary issues from a Catholic perspective.

She is also host of Women of Grace Live, a one hour call-in radio show that airs five times a week on AM/FM stations and channel 130

(EWTN) on Sirius Radio.

I encourage you to visit womenofgrace.com for more information and many

valuable resources.

The registration form for the June 2014 weekend is printed below.



PHOTO SUPPLIED
Johnnette Benkovic, founder of Women of Grace, a Catholic apostolate for women, is shown at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg during a 2012 retreat. She is returning to Wadhams Hall June 27-29, 2014, for another Women of Grace retreat.

 Authentic Femininity
 "...for such a time as this." (Esther 4:14)

To Jesus Through Mary... "For Such A Time As This" (Esther 4:14)
Weekend Retreat June 27 through June 29, 2014
Wadhams Hall 6866 NY 37 Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Name _____ Parish _____ Email _____
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Participated in a Women of Grace Study?

When _____ Where _____ Facilitator's Name _____

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FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



The Northern Adirondack Vocal Ensemble will give two performances of a Festival of Lessons and Carols. Anthems, carols, and hymns illuminate the Christmas story along with community readers and congregational singing in the beloved tradition of King's College, Cambridge: Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh; Dec. 22 at 4 p.m. at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid. NAVE, under the musical direction of Andrew M. Benware, is a mixed chamber choir of professional and amateur singers that perform choral music from a variety of periods and styles with harmonies of four to eight parts. Benware, shown front at right, is director of choral activities at Saranac Lake High School.

Bishop's Schedule

- Dec. 1** – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Dec. 3** – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg
- Dec. 4** – 1 p.m., Lunch with the Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society at Sergi's Restaurant in Potsdam
- Dec. 6** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Dec. 7** – 4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Dec. 8** – 9 a.m., Mass at Holy Family Church in Watertown
11 a.m., Mass and Blessing of Altar at Holy Family Church in Watertown
3 p.m., Vesper Service for Papal Honors at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Dec. 9** – 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Dec. 10** – 10 a.m., Visit to Seton Catholic Central School in Plattsburgh

Rest in Peace

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

- Nov. 27** – Rev. Joseph Cole, 1929; Rev. Maurice O'Neil, 1999
- Nov. 28** – Rev. Edward Gabriel Brice, 1929
- Nov. 29** – Msgr. Michael Kelly, 1957; Rev. Peter A. Ward, 1984
- Dec. 1** – Rev. Charles Goulet, 1913; Rev. George J. Bouchard, 1967
- Dec. 2** – Rev. Charles Desrosiers, 1944; Rev. Joseph A. R. Cote, 1969; Rev. Joseph Fortier, M.S.C., 1970
- Dec. 3** – Rev. Michael O'Neill, 1899; Msgr. Walter Funcke, 1958
- Dec. 4** – Msgr. James Mackey, 1883; Rev. Alexis D. Medeville, O.M.I., 1884; Rev. Albert Chevalier, O.M.I., 1948; Msgr. Joseph Patrick Heslin, 1962; Rev. Charles A. Flaherty, 1974
- Dec. 5** – Rev. Michael Hallahan, 1891; Most Rev. Edgar P. Wadhams, D.D., 1891
- Dec. 6** – Rev. Edward F. O'Brien, 1936
- Dec. 8** – Rev. Patrick J. McGuinness, 1931; Msgr. Cornelius J. Crowley, 1946; Rev. John Leo Hammill, 1949; Rev. John Harvey, 1961
- Dec. 9** – Rev. George Marion, O.M.I., 1927; Rev. Edwin Hanlon McCarthy, 1950; Rev. Arthur LaVigne, 1956
- Dec. 10** – Rev. James Hogan, 1882

Environmental Stewardship

"The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord." Ps. 19 "Bless the Lord, my soul; forget not all the gifts of the Lord." Ps. 63

Suggestions:
Before you share a meal this Thanksgiving Day, call to mind your favorite gift from the earth and, in gratitude, decide on one action that you are willing to do to protect and care for the earth upon which all life depends.

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: ayc-snn@yahoo.com; Phone: 518-569-0612; Fax: 518-425-0401 or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

The next issue of the *North Country Catholic* will be dated Dec. 11

GO GREEN!

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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. 1440.
Upcoming programs:
Dec. 4 - 5 p.m., St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga

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THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

PRAYER SUGGESTION

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name a priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life.

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 DECEMBER 2013

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY | 2 REV. RICHARD KENNEDY MSC | 3 REV. JOHN P. KENNEDIAN | 4 REV. CARL SUBLER | 5 REV. JAMES SEYMOUR | 6 REV. THOMAS E. KORNMEYER | 7 REV. STEVE KOVACEVICH |
| 8 OUR PASTOR | 9 REV. DONALD F. KRAMBERG | 10 REV. ARTHUR J. LABAFF V.F. | 11 REV. ALAN J. LAMICA | 12 REV. ROBERT O. LAMITTE | 13 REV. VICTOR E. LAMORE | 14 REV. KRIS C. LAUZON |
| 15 POPE FRANCIS | 16 BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS | 17 MSGR. HARRY SNOW | 18 REV. PAUL F. LEDERMANN | 19 REV. CLYDE A. LEWIS | 20 REV. CHRISTOPHER J. LOOBY | 21 REV. JOHN J. LOOBY V.F. |
| 22 RETIRED PRIESTS | 23 REV. DOUGLAS J. LUCIA | 24 REV. SHANE M. LYNCH | 25 REV. DONALD J. MANFRED | 26 REV. GEORGE F. MAROUN | 27 REV. LAWRENCE E. MARULLO | 28 MSGR. C. JOHN MCAVOY |
| 29 DECEASED PRIESTS | 30 MSGR. ROBERT J. MCCARTHY | 31 REV. KEVIN D. MCEWAN | | | | |

For more information visit us online at: www.mppapostolate

A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated.

The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by:



Diocese of Ogdensburg

www.myvocation.net

**RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT
COLLECTION 2013**
Share In The Care
December 7th and 8th

Please give to those . . .



who have given a lifetime.

We are all called to holiness (Vatican 11 Constitution on the Church). All life is consecrated. It is expressed in different forms.



December 8, 2013



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Our Gospel today reminds us in the words of John the Baptist that in order to enter the kingdom of which *Isaiah speaks*, we must turn our lives completely to Christ. Like John the Baptist, our consecrated religious have made a conscious choice to live a life totally focused on serving God and his people.

These are fitting words as we reflect on the ongoing witness of our elder religious. While many continue in active and volunteer ministry, others are frail and need assistance. These women and men never stopped to count the cost as they educated our young, cared for our sick, and worked for justice for the oppressed. In so doing, they made an inestimable contribution to our Church and nation, establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and social service agencies. Today, although decreased in number, religious can be found in service to the poor, lonely and oppressed.

Our Church is blessed in having sixteen religious congregations represented in our Diocese. Last year we distributed the results of our Collection to these sixteen congregations and eighteen other congregations who have served in our Diocese in the past. As I visit the convents and motherhouses of our religious, I continue to be deeply inspired by their faithfulness. Most of our older religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. Now a majority of the religious communities struggle to provide necessary medications, nursing care and basic services for their older members. Many of these religious continue to pray for the needs of our Diocese.

On the weekend of December 7-8, parishes throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg will be conducting the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious which benefits 34,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Please contribute what you are able as a concrete expression of your gratitude for the selfless ministry of these religious men and women. God bless you for generosity.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

Orders Serving in the Diocese

- Brothers of Christian Instruction
- Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul
- Dominican Sisters of Hope
- Franciscan Friars of the Atonement
- Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement
- Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart
- Mid-Atlantic Community of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
- Servants of Mary
- Sisters of Charity of St. Louis
- Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod
- Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood
- Sisters of St. Joseph
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
- Ursuline Sisters of the Eastern Province

Celebration of Consecrated Life November 3, 2013



We are grateful to all sixteen religious congregations presently serving in our Diocese, and they are also grateful for the assistance given by you to help support their aging religious.



Pope Francis
Society of Jesus

“Religious men and women are prophets. They are those who have chosen a following of Jesus that imitates His life in obedience to the Father, poverty, community life and chastity.”

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why We Ask You to Help ...

SkYROCKETING COSTS

- There are more than 34,000 religious past age 70 living in the United States. In 2012, the average annual cost for their care was over \$38,000 per person.
- In 2012 alone, the total cost to support senior women and men religious exceeded \$1.1 billion.

Insufficient Income

- By 2023, retired religious are projected to outnumber wage-earning religious by nearly four to one.
- For most of their lives, elder religious worked for small stipends. There were no 401(k) plans or pensions.
- Religious communities are financially autonomous and solely responsible for the support and care of all members. Income, earnings, and expenses are managed separately from the parish and diocesan structures of the Catholic Church
- The average annual Social Security benefit for a religious is approximately \$4,941 - roughly one-third the amount received by the average beneficiary in the United States.

How much was received and distributed from the 2012 Diocesan Collection?

The Diocese of Ogdensburg distributed \$117,367 among 34 religious congregations who are serving or have served in the Diocese.

The Diocese also contributed from this collection \$25,421 to the national collection for religious retirement.

If I contribute, do I share in the fruits of the ministry?

Religious always view donors as partners in ministry and remember them daily in prayer. Religious who can no longer serve in ministry devote their time to the ministry of prayer.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity during these difficult economic times.

50th Anniversary



Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood

"Mount of Beatitudes" Watertown, New York



*Congratulations, Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood,
and thank you for all you have done and continue to do for our Diocese.*



Members of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood Monastery in Watertown with Bishop Terry LaValley.



Our apostolic zeal for souls finds its effectiveness in our life of prayer and union with God.



We are called to a life wholly dedicated to the prayer of adoration and reparation.

Religious pray daily for donors who have contributed to their ministries in the past and continue to support their ministerial efforts in the present.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make your tax-deductible check payable to your parish. Write *Retirement Fund for Religious* on the memo line and give it to your parish collection.

You can express your gratitude for all the religious have done and will continue to do by giving to your parish's annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious
- OR -

send your donation directly to:

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

P.O. Box 369

Ogdensburg, NY 13669

COMFORTING • NURTURING • TEACHING • NURSING • SHARING • LOVING • CARING

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

With document on evangelization, pope makes real authorial debut
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- With his apostolic exhortation "Evangelii Gaudium" (The Joy of the Gospel), which the Vatican has scheduled for publication Nov. 26, Pope Francis finally makes his real debut as papal author. Popes through the centuries have issued their most important written messages in one of 10 classic forms, ranging from encyclical to "chirograph," a brief document on a highly limited subject. But most of these are typically formulaic texts that do not express the distinctive voice or charism of the man who issues them. Pope Francis has already published an encyclical, traditionally considered the most authoritative form of papal writing. But in the opening paragraphs of "Lumen Fidei," released in July, he explained that the text was essentially the work of his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, to whose words Pope Francis had merely "added a few contributions" of his own. By contrast, Pope Francis has made clear that "Evangelii Gaudium" is very much his own work. Apostolic exhortations are often based on deliberations of synods of bishops, and this one takes into account the October 2012 synod on the new evangelization.

Santorum: Christmas film, message of faith fill gap left by Hollywood
NEW YORK (CNS) -- Rick Santorum has turned his sights from the Beltway to the big screen. Santorum, the former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania and 2012 presidential candidate, recently described the current state of movies as "a very, very dark world." But instead of simply complaining, he wants to do something about it and shed some light into that darkness. This past June, Santorum became CEO of the Dallas faith-based film production company EchoLight Studios. Among the studio's current projects is, "The Christmas Candle," expected to open in 400 to 500 theaters across the country Nov. 22. The Victorian era-set movie, based on the novel by best-selling Christian author Max Lucado, tells the family-friendly story of a small English town, where, legend holds, an angel visits every 25 years and touches a single candle that grants whoever lights it a miracle on Christmas Eve. Hoping to give faith audiences an early Christmas present, EchoLight secured a name-brand cast that includes Hans Matheson ("Clash of the Titans"); Samantha Barks ("Les Miserables"); and, making her acting debut, "America's Got Talent" sensation Susan Boyle, whose song for the film also will be featured on her upcoming Christmas album. "It's a beautiful movie," Santorum told Catholic News Service. "It's the ultimate Christmas message, that is: God is with us."

Pope prays that people will care for and listen to grandparents
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Just as fine wine grows stronger with age, grandparents and other elderly Catholics "have the strength to leave us a noble inheritance," Pope Francis said at his early morning Mass. Celebrating the liturgy Nov. 19 in the chapel of his residence, Pope Francis once again denounced a cultural tendency "to discard" the elderly "because they are a bother." Instead, "the elderly are those who transmit history to us, who transmit doctrine, who transmit the faith and give it to us as an inheritance," the pope said, according to Vatican Radio. The day's first reading, from the Second Book of Maccabees, told the story of the 90-year-old Eleazar, who chose martyrdom rather than violating Jewish dietary laws or just appearing to violate them because he didn't want to give a bad example to the young. "By manfully giving up my life now, I will prove myself worthy of my old age," Eleazar says, "and I will leave to the young a noble example of how to die willingly and generously for the revered and holy laws."

VATICAN LETTER

Year of two popes leaves mark on Year of Faith

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The goal of the Year of Faith, which concludes Nov. 24, has been to educate Catholics about basic church teachings, strengthen their faith and inspire them to share it with others. If it has succeeded, as organizers say it has, the credit ultimately lies less with its special projects and events than with the historic papal transition that occurred in its course.

"The election of Pope Francis has given new visibility to the core teachings of Jesus Christ, which ultimately is what the Year of Faith sought to achieve," Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, told Catholic News Service.

Both Pope Benedict XVI, who opened the celebration in October 2012, and Pope Francis dedicated their Year of Faith talks to explaining the creed, looking at modern cultural challenges to faith, recognizing faith as a gift, and urging Catholics to proclaim God's love and share the Gospel.

But a different pope means a different personality and a different style, even when teaching or preaching on the same themes. In addition, a new pope tends to draw more visitors to the Vatican because many Catholics are eager to meet their new shepherd.

Eight months after Pope Francis' March 13 election, the number of visitors to the Vatican continues to be higher than usual, which most observers attribute to his easy rapport with a crowd and his touching focus on children and the sick.

Pope Francis closed the Year of Faith with Mass Nov. 24, the feast of Christ the King. The evening before, he presided over the Rite of Acceptance, a brief ceremony in which adults who had been inquiring about the Catholic faith officially become catechumens preparing for baptism.

Archbishop Jose Octavio Ruiz Arenas, secretary of the new evangelization council, told Catholic News Service that Pope Benedict proposed the Year of Faith "to give a strong push to the new evangelization" and to help Catholics "recognize the joy that comes from the great gift of faith" and from knowing that God loves them so much that he sent his son to save them.

Pope Francis' election during the Year of Faith can be seen as "providential," the archbishop said. "The personality of Pope Francis, his closeness, his use of language that is simple and profound, his desire to go out and meet people, has captivated people's hearts.

"The Holy Spirit knew what he was doing," Archbishop Ruiz said. "He wanted to be sure that in the Year of Faith many people who had been far from the church would hear an invitation to respond to the Lord," and, from what bishops and pastors around the world are reporting, it seems to have worked, he said.

Both popes have insisted that being an authentic Christian isn't simply about one's private prayer life; it must be evident in the way a person interacts with others and with the world.

A month before he stepped down, Pope Benedict said that believing in God "makes us harbingers of values that often do not coincide with the fashion and opinion of the moment. It requires us to adopt criteria and assume forms of conduct that are not part of the common mindset."

"Christians must not be afraid to go 'against the current' in order to live their faith, resisting the temptation to conform," he said.

Pope Francis, in a Year of Faith talk in April, said, "Being Christian is not just about obeying orders, but means being in Christ, thinking like him, acting like him, loving like him; it means letting him take possession of our life and change it, transform it and free it from the darkness of evil and sin."

"This is a precious service that we must give to this world of ours which all too often no longer succeeds in raising its gaze on high, no longer succeeds in raising its gaze to God," Pope Francis said.

The two popes naturally brought distinctive styles to the Year of Faith, Archbishop Ruiz said, but it is "only a hypothesis" to think, for example, that Pope Benedict would have used the pro-life celebration in June to denounce abortion, or the family life celebration in October to denounce same-sex marriage. "Pope Benedict's magisterium wasn't concentrated just on that," Archbishop Ruiz said, and the retired pope designed the Year of Faith celebrations to be expressions of "joy and happiness," not protests.

Msgr. Tighe said, "One of the particular achievements of Pope Benedict was showing -- with strong philosophical and theological arguments -- the legitimate claim of faith to having a place in the public square and in public debate."

"In a simpler, more directly pastoral way, Pope Francis is almost literally bringing faith to the public square, particularly in and through the media," he said. "We see especially in social media a huge desire on the part of people to share his words and deeds."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

With joy, let us climb the mountain of the Lord

Another Advent begins this Sunday - time of prayer and preparation - a time-out from hectic distractions, and a time-in for quiet nourishment from the beautiful Advent scriptures.

It's a time for inner activity of prayer, and outer works of generosity to our neighbor.

In the first reading from Isaiah, God invited the divided kingdom of Israel to climb



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

the holy mountain to His house. There He will melt down their swords, and turn their hearts to thoughts of peace.

What seemed to them an impossible dream actually came true seven hundred years later when Jesus was born.

The kingdom was united, and peace ruled the whole world, Scripture

tells us.

The message for us is clear.

We must continually strive to work for a peaceful and just world, so that Christ may have room in all hearts. How?

We must listen carefully to the daily preaching of Pope Francis!

Peace starts in the hearts of believers.

The second reading from Paul to the Romans insists that we wake up, and throw off the works of darkness.

If we follow Paul's advice to walk in the light, then Ad-

DEC. 1

The First Sunday of Advent

READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:37-44

vent is a time for sincere riddance of sinful ways and sluggish response to the teaching of Jesus and His Church.

In the Gospel, Jesus warns us that we must be pre-

pared, for "at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come".

We wonder for how many people, this Christmas will be the last time they will celebrate on this earth.

We need to take this Advent seriously, for the coming of the Lord will be not just a beautiful Christmas, but the actual day of judgment.

As the inscription on an old sundial in an English garden says, "It's later than you think!".

With joy, let us climb the mountain of the Lord!

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

Sex, truth and the illumination of our guilt

Guilt has gotten a lot of bad press recently. We live in an age where guilt is practically always something bad, something to get past with the help of a shrink.

There is such a thing as 'good guilt,' which manifests our own inner awareness of how we have acted against what is good for us

Particularly when discussing sex, people will declare that religion and morality do nothing more than make people feel guilty. Andrew Aaron, a sex and marriage therapist in New Bedford, Massachusetts seems to subscribe to this view: "Through centuries," he writes, "religious education has associated sex with what is wrong and sinful rather than what is sacred. Instead of an expression of the divine, sex is suspiciously regarded as weakness of the flesh. The result of this influence is that sexuality, a natural part of being human, is tainted with shame, guilt, and ambivalence."

Every instance of erotic satisfaction, sexual activity

or orgasm, however, cannot be automatically branded as sacred or as a divine manifestation. We all recognize how easily the unbridled pursuit of sexual gratification can become an exploitative, self-centered and demeaning enterprise.

"Context" matters critically when it comes to getting sex right, and it is too easy in the sexually permissive environment of today's society to miss the core truth that the unique context for human sexual activity is a very specific one, namely, the beautiful setting of marriage, with its mutual commitment and openness to children.

Father Thomas O'Donnell, S.J. in his "Medicine and Christian Morality" distills the matter to its essence in this way: "In the moral order, all deliberately induced venereal pleasure is restricted to marriage and related in some way, either immediately or remotely, to a proper marital act."

From this perspective, the real harms we bring upon ourselves and others when seeking to satisfy the sexual impulse outside of its specific context should, in fact, elicit feelings of guilt on our part. To put it simply, there

is such a thing as "good guilt," which manifests our own inner awareness of how we have acted against what is good for us, and violated the objective moral order.

I recall a story of a woman who committed adultery, and over time she struggled with feelings of guilt. What she ended up doing, in this situation, was to rationalize her guilt away with the help of her therapist. He managed to convince her that she was a "genius of friendship."

The woman became "spiritually thinner" in her relationships with men, and ceased to grow humanly and personally. Simply put, she entered into the worst possible state of spiritual affairs.

The potential that she had for any deep relationships with members of the opposite sex was dashed by the way she resolved her guilt: men became objects for her crafty genius, and her relationships were reduced to power plays and manipulation. She gradually became an empty shell of a woman,

with little left that was genuine inside of her. She had encountered real guilt in her life, but had failed to engage it in a way that could lead to growth, conversion and fulfillment, and her therapist likewise failed her, because he was not sensitive to the value of true guilt and the deepest human needs reflected in that guilt — the need to forgive and to be forgiven.

A few years back, Naomi Wolf wrote about a friend of hers who was a "Cornell-educated, urban, Democratic-voting 40-year-old cardiologist." This friend had once had an abortion, and afterwards she said something Wolf found very interesting: "You know how in the Greek myths when you kill a relative you are pursued by Furies? For months it was as if baby Furies were pursuing me."

No matter what our education or background, no matter what our level of sophistication may be, we have all received the gift of conscience, and the gift of "good guilt" that is ordered



Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk Ph.D.

to helping us confront ourselves and turn away from wrongdoing.

Pushing away our good guilt or hiding it under the rug only makes our situation worse. We are the only creatures in the animal kingdom capable of illuminating our guilt, of asking why we feel guilty. Guilt is like a pain of the soul, and pain often indicates that something is wrong and we should see a doctor. Our guilty feelings about wrongs or evils we have committed should lead us to seek the Divine Physician, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where God's healing touch is personally experienced.

Forgiveness from God and neighbor leads us to healing and wholeness. In this sense, "good guilt" points to possibilities of inner renewal and freedom. By becoming attuned to our guilt, and addressing it honestly, we discover a real cause for hope.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncb-center.org.

AT THE MOVIES

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

The time has come, it seems, to return to Panem, the dystopian North American nation that provides the setting for the satisfying action sequel "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" (Lionsgate), just as it did for the 2012 first installment in the series.

Should they decide to make the return trip, moviegoers will find that, in adapting the second volume in Suzanne Collins' best-selling trilogy of novels, director Francis Lawrence has decreased the intensity of the violence on screen. And his film's moral center is solid.

On the other hand, Simon Beaufoy and Michael de Bruyn's script includes a few vulgarities and at least one sexual flourish not found in the original. So parents will once again need to consider carefully whether this is suitable fare for the targeted demographic of teens.

As viewers of the kickoff will know, together with her

friend, Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson), franchise heroine Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) managed to emerge victorious from the ordeal of the titular tournament.

This annual event sees youngsters drawn at random from the ranks of Panem's oppressed underclass forced to battle to the death for the entertainment of their society's pampered elite.

But it was an act of defiance that led to Katniss and Peeta's shared triumph: Told that only one of them could survive, they threatened simultaneous suicide so there would be no victor, and the authorities relented. This successful stratagem has made Katniss a symbol of resistance to the downtrodden.

With rebellion stirring, Panem's President Snow (Donald Sutherland) is determined to use Katniss as a pawn in his plans for a repressive power play.

Conniving along with him is Plutarch Heavensbee (Philip Seymour Hoffman), the new supervisor of the games.

Katniss and Peeta rely, once again, on the help of Haymitch Abernathy (Woody Harrelson) a hard-drinking veteran of the deadly contest who prepared them for combat last time, and on that of Effie Trinket (Elizabeth Banks), the kind-hearted guide assigned to watch over them when they were first selected.

An unexpected turn of events brings the audience back to the fatal arena for what might be called an all-star version of the Hunger Games. It also resurrects the question why young people would want to flock to such a spectacle, even in fictional form.

The dark theme underlying the proceedings, together with the elements listed below, makes this a safer bet for grownups -- though it may possibly be acceptable for mature adolescents.

The film contains much action violence with occasional gore, a scene of torture, a sexually provocative act with implied nudity, a couple of bleeped-over rough terms, at least one



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE
Josh Hutcherson and Jennifer Lawrence star in the movie "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire."

crude expression and a few crass phrases.

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



SUNSET ON THE TRACKS

Remembering Family, Friends & Special Times In 1950's Fort Covington

With additional chapters on BRUSHTON and TEBOVILLE

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--Msgr. Paul E. Whitmore

"I love the stories...the pictures are amazing too!" --Jennifer DuBose

"A labor of love...and a fascinating perspective"
--Msgr. Peter R. Riani

"I could not put the book down..."
--Evelyn Lamont

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13669

ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid - St. Agnes School will be having a Christmas Bazaar.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Features: Baked goods, gifts, crafts, toys, wreaths, trees, holiday plants and raffle items. Lunch will be served and complimentary babysitting will be available. Vendor space available.

Contact: Kathleen at 518-523-3771

CLINTON

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will have their 5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner.

Date: Nov. 28

Time: Noon

Contact: RSVP by Nov. 25 to 518-594-3253 or olaprayerhouse@gmail.com

CRAFT SHOW

Morrisonville - St. Alexander and St. Joseph is holding its annual craft show

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 9 a.m. to 3

Features: Padre's Cafe with soups, chili and michigans, dessert, Assorted crafts by local crafters, bake and candy shop.

ADVENT ADORATION

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will have Advent Time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the Joyful Mysteries

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Features: Feel free to bring a bag lunch.

SETON CHRISTMAS DINNER

Plattsburgh - The 9th annual Seton Christmas dinner, to benefit Seton Academy and Seton Catholic Central is set

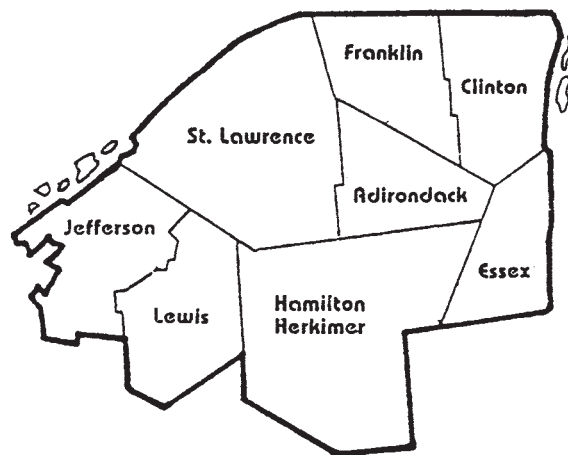
Date: Dec. 8

Time: 12 - 5 pm

Place: Seton Catholic High School

Cost: \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors (55+), \$5 for children ages 5-12 and ages under 5 are free. Take-outs will be \$9 each, can call ahead for take outs (561-4031 ext 121). Any adult who brings an unwrapped toy or food item will receive \$1 off their meal.

Features: Seating is handicap accessible. A variety of theme baskets for raffle. Holiday music preformed by Seton students with a special appearance by Lita Kelly and Jay Lesage. Bake and holiday wreath sale, 50/50 drawings



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.

HEALING MINISTRY

Morrisonville - The Catholic Community of St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's announces the addition of Living Waters Healing Ministry to the Parish.

Date: First Thursday each month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Church

Features: Healing Mass, Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opportunity to receive individual prayer.

QUILT SHOP OPEN

Ellenburg Center - Lost Sheep Quilt and Fabric Shop is now open!

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer,

Hours: Tues. - Sat, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Evenings and other times by appointment. Phone 594-3253 or email olaprayerhouse@gmail.com to come at other times

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.

Theme: "Adoration is homage of the spirit to the 'King of Glory,' respectful silence in the presence of the 'ever greater' God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2628).

Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email

Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

Features: May be pre-ordered starting on Nov. 4 by calling 518-529-6580

FRANKLIN

BENEFIT FOR JOHNSTON FAMILY

Chateaugay - Fundraiser sponsored by Catholic Daughter of Chateaugay to benefit the Candi Johnston family.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall

Features: No charge - donations only. Activities include Chinese Auction, Irish Music by the Duffy's, a dance with the Busco Bandits Band. Donations go to family of Matthew Johnston who died July 5th in a car accident.

CHRISTMAS TEA

North Bangor - St. Augustine's Parish will hold its annual Christmas Tea "Away in a Manger"

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 11 a.m. to 3

Place: Parish hall

Features: Crafts, baked goods, The Cake Walk, a Chinese Auction and raffles plus Tea, Coffee, Punch and Cookies; luncheon available with homemade soups, sandwiches, and beverages.

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

ST. ANN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wells - St. Ann's Church will have its Annual Christmas Party.

Date: Dec. 13

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's Parish House.

Features: Door Prize Drawing. "The price

is right" game. Bring a Covered dish HOT or COLD. Come one, Come all, Young and Old, families and friends.

Contact: Dolores Margies (518) 924-7311

JEFFERSON

ADVENT PROGRAM

Watertown - Holy Family Parish has planned an Advent program featuring Father Robert Barron's DVD series "The New Evangelization"

Dates: Dec. 2, 9 and 16

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30

Place: SSJ Motherhouse Hearthsides Center

Features: Discover ways to engage the people. Learn pragmatic approaches. Share the joy of your faith. Acquire a new sense of passion for Jesus' mission.

Contact: Rectory, 315-782-2468.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Watertown - Holy Family Church is holding holy hours of Eucharistic Adoration for Vocations

Schedule: Monday through Friday following the 9 a.m. Mass at Holy Family Church (9:30 - 10:30 a.m.),

HOLIDAY FOOD FAIR

Clayton - St. Mary's will be having a Holiday Food Fair.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost: Food Fair, \$6; Photo w/ santa 4x6, \$3; Raffle tickets, \$1 each or 6 for \$5

Features: Over 50 special dishes prepared by parishioners from their favorite family recipes will be available for sampling, holiday gift items, photos with Santa. Children's Fun Room provides the little ones the opportunity to create crafts for themselves or to give as gifts at no cost. A free lunch is provided for children ages 3-12. Raffle drawings, 1 p.m.

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of December will be held.

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Evening Prayer, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

ST. LAWRENCE

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Ogdensburg - A Free community Thanksgiving Dinner to be held.

Date: Nov. 28

Time: Doors open at 11:30 a.m., dinner is served at noon

Place: K of C Hall

Reservations: Make reservations by Nov. 25 by calling 393-7990 after 4 p.m.

Features: Volunteers are needed on Thanksgiving Day and on Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Monetary Donations and donations of food stuffs also appreciated. Checks can be made payable to Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Dinner, 721 Hasbrouck Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 Attn: PGK Harry Lucchetti. Food can be dropped off between 4 p.m. and 8. Donations of dessert can be dropped off the night before or Thanksgiving morning. Volunteers are also needed to deliver and provide transportation. If you can volunteer please call 393-7990.

BRUNCH

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

Date: Dec. 8

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center

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

CRAFT FAIR

Gouverneur - St. James School will be having a Craft Fair.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Features: Santa will visit at 1:30 p.m. Items available will include: jewelry, woodcrafts, ceramics, stuffed animals, homemade dolls, leather goods, candles, knitted items, country crafts, Christmas ornaments and decorations, baskets, etc. Lunch available. Admission, a donation.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Massena - Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Bereavement Support Group last Tuesday of each month.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Convent

Features: A gathering of those who have had a recent loss of a loved one.

Contact: 315-769-3137

NOVENA FOR MILITARY

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

Date: Tuesday afternoons

Time: 1:30 p.m.

LATIN MASS

Potsdam - A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday with Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin as the celebrant

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church



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@rcdony.org

A prayer at Thanksgiving

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

The rush of the holidays are upon us. As we sit down to Thanksgiving with family and friends this Thursday, let us take a moment to remember those who live in developing lands and those who dedicate their lives to spreading the word of the Lord to those less fortunate than us. Let us pray for the Missions and show thanks to all those who do so much for so many so far away.

For all who suffer: the diseased, the poor, those denied dignity, and those who live without hope, grant them the peace of knowing that Christ the King will never abandon them nor tire of tending to their needs;

For this great country, where our voices do make a difference, where we have the freedom to live our lives in accordance with our beliefs, where our potential is not limited by our parentage, and where we have the opportunity to raise our families in comfort and abundance, we thank you Lord;

For the children of the world, may they be protected from hunger, abuse, illiteracy, disease, neglect, and violence, and allowed to enjoy lighthearted and carefree childhoods, gently molded by God's laws and loving discipline,

For those tormented by disease, depression, addiction, abuse, and hopelessness, and for those who love and suffer with them, may they be comforted by God's love and God's promise of deliverance,

For all Christians, may we be humble stewards of the gifts given to us by God, and may we set an example of mercy and generosity by becoming involved in efforts to distribute the world's wealth among all of those in need.

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

OBITUARIES

Black Brook — Louis A. Fournier Sr., 73; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at St. Matthew's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Cadyville — Robert A. Robare, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage — Thomas P. Leach Sr., 88; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 at St. James Church; burial in Holland Patent Cemetery.

Champlain — Ronald A. Gooley, 89; Funeral Services Nov. 20, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens.

Chazy — Veronica E. (Guynup) Rushford, 91; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Clayton — Ellen L. (Maloney) Gates, 77; Funeral Services Nov. 16, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Vincent De Paul's Cemetery.

Constable — Esther A. (Gilmin) Plante, 85; Funeral Services Nov. 18, 2013 at St. Francis of Assisi Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery.

Copenhagen — Rosemary Davis Foy, 92; Funeral Services Nov. 18, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Cumberland Head — Florence A. (Trombly) Baker, 84; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at St. Mary's of the Lake Oratory; burial in parish cemetery.

Harrisville — Thomas E. Hawthorne, 69; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Rossie.

Hogansburg — Margaret Tekawonake Lazore Ransom, 93; Funeral Services Nov.

23, 2013 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Madrid — Robert H. Clark III, 66; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in St. John the Baptist Cemetery.

Massena — Allan D. "Mac" McGlaughlin, 66; Funeral Services Nov. 22, 2013 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg — June K. (Mitchell) Barr, 88; Funeral Services Nov. 18, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Ogdensburgh Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Electa A. (Besaw) Davis, 89; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Fairview Cemetery, Hammond.

Peru — Donna J. (Bolton) Aloj, 68; Memorial Services Nov. 23, 2013 at St. Augustine's Church.

Port Leyden — Kyle M. Brown, 23; Funeral Services Nov. 23, 2013 at St. Martin's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Potsdam — Kenneth Regis, 81; Funeral Services Nov. 23, 2013 at the Garner Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Sciota — Joseph O. Neverett, 59; Memorial Services Nov. 18, 2013 at St. Louis of France Church.

Watertown — Joseph James Hawes, 75;

Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Charles Kubinski, 63; Funeral Services Nov. 18, 2013 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.

Watertown — Margaret Mary (Bolivar) Slate, 84; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown — Lawrence C. "Larry" Stumpf, 89; Funeral Services Nov. 19, 2013 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Jonathan Adam Trainham, 36; Funeral Services Nov. 22, 2013 at Holy Family Church.

West Chazy — Michael J. LaFountain, 60; Funeral Services Nov. 22, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

West Chazy — Rita E. (Dougherty) Langlois, 88; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.



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~Leo Archer

Fr. Fish,
Thank you for all that you do for our parish community.

Holy Cross Church,
Hopkinton,
St. Ann's Church, Regis Falls



GENEROSITY

Parishioners of St. Ann's Church in St. Regis Falls donated 234 pounds of non-perishable foods for Thanksgiving to the food pantries in St. Regis Falls and Dickinson Center. Father Alfred Fish, pastor, shown at left, encouraged people to bring items for the food drive each weekend in November up to Nov. 17. A parishioner donated \$50 to be given to the St. Regis Falls Food Pantry to purchase turkeys and hams.



Sacred Heart Parish and Sacred Heart Altar & Rosary of Edwards, N.Y. send thanks to Father Stephen Rocker for all he does for us. We appreciate his pastoral care.

We appreciate our priests

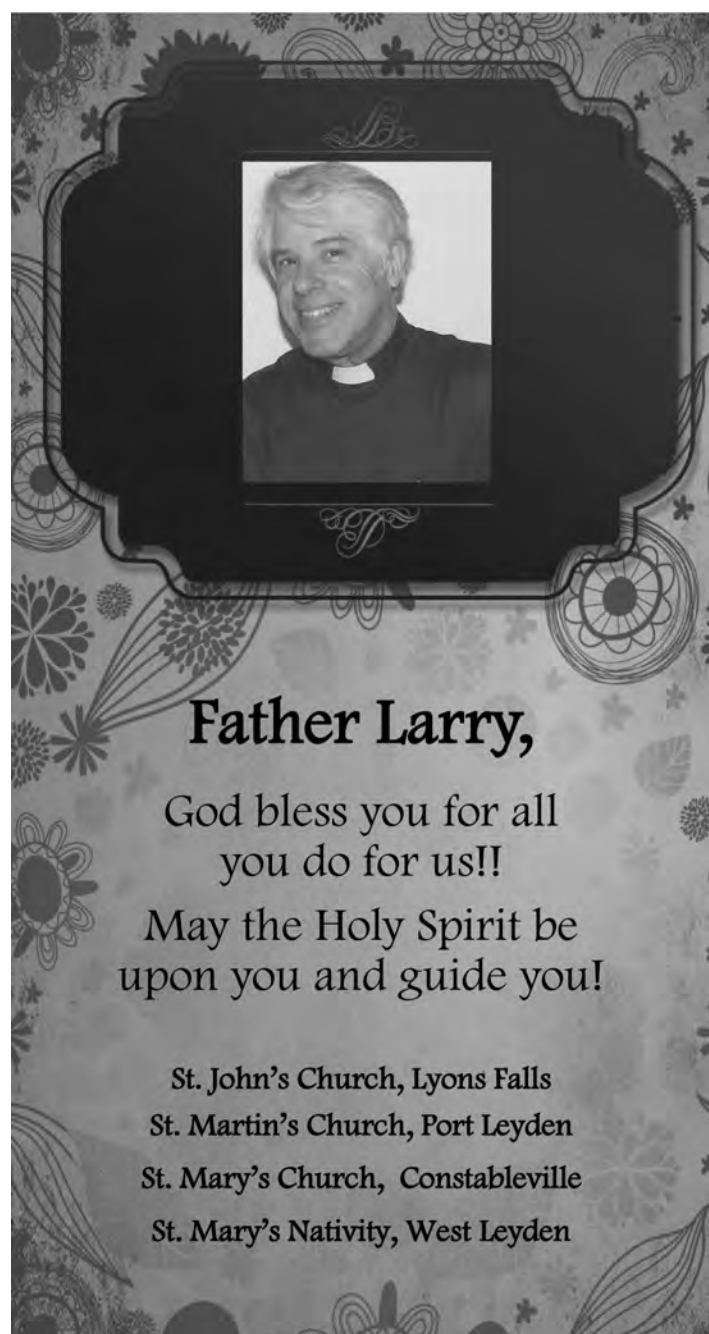
To our priests:
Fr. Mark Reilly Fr. Alan Lamica
Fr. William Muench Fr. Paul Kelly
Fr. Patrick O'Reilly Fr. Steve Kovacevich
Msgr. C. John McAvoy



Thank you for the example of your humble and loving service, and for bringing Christ into our lives.



From the parishioners of the Churches of the Mountains and Lakes in Saranac Lake, Bloomingdale, Gabriels and Lake Clear



Father Larry,

God bless you for all you do for us!!

May the Holy Spirit be upon you and guide you!

St. John's Church, Lyons Falls
St. Martin's Church, Port Leyden
St. Mary's Church, Constableville
St. Mary's Nativity, West Leyden

SMART FAITH



During the fall, members of the parishes of St. Mary's Church in Potsdam and St. Patrick's Church in Colton participated in Father Robert Barron's five-session program, "The New Evangelization." As a follow-up to this program, parishioners attended a Nov. 14 session led by Msgr. Robert Aucoin entitled, "Smartphone Your Way to Heaven." Parishioners had the opportunity to learn how this new technology can be used to help Catholics answer the call of the New Evangelization by allowing easy access to Scripture, Mass text, religious music, the catechism, current Church teaching, news, and much more.