

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE**

Poll: New Yorkers  
reject expansion of  
abortion | PAGE 12

Reaching out to  
college-aged  
Catholics | PAGE 16

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEB. 20, 2013

## FINAL MONTH OF A PAPACY



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Benedict XVI leaves on a wheeled platform after celebrating Ash Wednesday Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Feb. 13. The service was expected to be the last large liturgical event of Pope Benedict's papacy. The pope announced Feb. 11 that he will resign at the end of the month. See pages 10-11 for more coverage.

## Bishop LaValley's statement on the pope's retirement

The Church, indeed, the whole world has been so richly blessed these last eight years through the pontificate of Pope Benedict XVI. While the (Feb. 11) announcement of his retirement at the end of this month came as a complete surprise, one can certainly understand it, given the grueling schedule of the Successor of St. Peter.

I have special affection and respect for the Holy Father who appointed me three years ago as the Fourteenth Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The prophetic and compassionate leadership of this man of deep faith inspires such hope in millions of people, Catholic and non-Catholic, throughout the world.

The Church of Ogdensburg joins people of good will everywhere in a prayer of deep gratitude for this holy man.

We now pray for the Church as she prepares to elect and entrust his successor to the Petrine Office.

### IT'S TIME TO RENEW

The annual *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign begins Sunday in all the parishes of the diocese. Bishop LaValley writes that subscribing to the *NCC* is especially important in this Year of Faith

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

### Lay Ministry Sunday

A day to honor 800 commissioned lay ministers, pray for 50 to be commissioned and announce new formation classes for September

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

### Around the Diocese

PAGES 14 & 16

## Prayers for Pope Benedict

Bishop LaValley has requested that each parish of the Diocese of Ogdensburg celebrate a Mass for Pope Benedict XVI in the coming weeks.

The bishop will offer a diocesan Mass for the pope Friday, Feb. 22, the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, at 12 Noon at St. Mary's Cathedral. He has invited the faithful to join him at the cathedral.

The diocesan Office of Worship, has provided new prayers for the celebration of Mass during this period. Among the suggested Prayers of the Faithful: *That Pope Benedict XVI, who has served the Church faithfully as Supreme Pontiff, may find peace and consolation as he turns to a life of prayer for the Church, we pray to the Lord'*

NORTH  
COUNTRY  
CATHOLICBox 326  
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669

USPS 0039-3400

BISHOP TERRY  
R. LAVALLEY

President

MSGR. ROBERT L. LAWLER

Vice President


SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSJ

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager


 Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except issue after Christmas, one week in January, one week

in March and every other week in July by the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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

## Editorial Office:

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

## Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

## E-mail:

news@northcountrycatholic.org

Entered at the  
Post Office:

Ogdensburg, NY 13669 as Periodical Postage.

## Subscription:

For one year:

In-Diocese Rate: \$27

Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30

Matters for publication should be addressed to PO Box 326

Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and should be received by Thursday prior to publication.

Paper is printed each Monday; dateline is Wednesday. Member, Catholic Press Association.

## POSTMASTER:

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

## EDITOR'S NOTES

## For less than a cup of coffee each week...

Who would have thought – just 10 days ago – that 2013 would become such a critical year for the Catholic Church?

Yes, we knew that the Year of Faith was continuing.

Yes, we knew that, in our diocese, there would be ordinations to the priesthood and diaconate and a commissioning to lay ministry?

But a new pope? Pope Benedict XVI's shocking announcement on Feb. 11 that he would step down from the papacy at the end of the month has been a source of sadness, concern, gratitude and curiosity among Catholics around the world.

Personally, I see Pope Benedict's decision as a sign of

great generosity and humility.

It's rare for anyone to back away from a position of power, but our pope understands that the Catholic Church needs a leader with boundless energy and good health, especially in these most challenging times.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York expressed it perfectly. The pope's announcement is "is but another sign of his great care for the church," he said. "The Holy Father brought the tender heart of a pastor, the incisive mind of a scholar and the confidence of a soul united with his God in all he did.

"We are sad that he will be resigning," Cardinal Dolan said, "but grateful for his eight years of selfless leadership as suc-

Mary Lou  
Kilian

cessor of St. Peter. "

This BIG news along with the rest of our good news about the Year of Faith, special liturgies, parish events and so much more offer endless reasons for Catholics in the diocese to welcome the *North Country Catholic* into their homes.

For less than a cup of coffee every week, the *NCC* offers an unmatched source of unity, evangelization and information for the 94,000 Catholics spread across 12,000 square miles in northern New York.

The *North Country Catholic* provides instant Catholic news (the announcement of the pope's resignation appeared on the *NCC* Facebook page just after 6 a.m. on Feb. 11 and Bishop LaValley's statement before noon) as well as solid analysis of critical Catholic

events in our printed publication.

Bishop LaValley has urged every Catholic family in the diocese to subscribe to the diocesan newspaper, especially during this Year of Faith.

And, in this year more than any other, we can *guarantee* that more big Catholic news is coming!

Renew, start a subscription or buy a gift subscription during this year's campaign or directly through our office by calling 315-608-7556

And, if you can, send enough for a couple weekly cups of coffee to help us continue our outreach online, where everything is free!

(Check out this week's centerfold for the list off all such generous subscribers – for whom we are most grateful – from 2012.)

## FR. BILL SAYS...

## Strengthening our friendship with Jesus

*"I call you friends, since I have made known to you all that I heard from my father... The command I give you is this, that you love one another." (John 15:14)*

At the Last Supper, Jesus tells his apostles of God's great love for them and *his* great love for them and that he wants to be their - and our - friend.

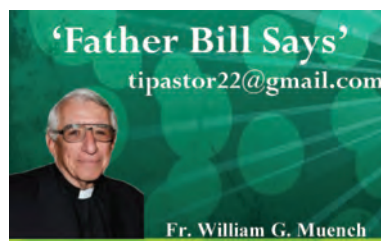
The purpose of our spiritual life as Catholics is to cement our friendship with Jesus – to establish a strong relationship with Our Lord and Savior.

So, there are times during our Church year - like Lent – for us to dedicate ourselves to doing something to renew our relationship with the Lord.

During Lent, we find time for more prayer, especially by participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass more often. The Mass, after all is our best prayer.

In the Mass, we meet Jesus in a very special way – a sacramental way. In the Holy Eucharist, Jesus truly becomes one with us.

In this retreat that we call



Lent, we take on acts of mortification – "giving up something" – so as to open ourselves to a better relationship with the Lord. Lent is about allowing God to enter our lives as we again recognize God's great love for us and work to strengthen our relationship with Jesus.

This is about divine revelation. We believe that we know God in faith through divine revelation. We believe that God reveals himself to us so that we know all that we need to know about God and how God expects us to live.

The Second Vatican Council dedicated an entire document to revelation – the *Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum)*.

This document teaches us that divine revelation is more than a collection of facts about God, but rather that God shares his very self with us through our relationship with Jesus.

Our approach to revelation in the spirit of the Council is a personalistic approach to God. God comes to us in way we can recognize – person to person – through the person of Jesus.

Our approach to God is through Jesus. Jesus sums up all revelation for us.

As Christians, we allow God to be part of our lives through a good relationship with Jesus. Again, I want to remind you that the best way for us to establish that relationship is through our participation in the Mass.

In the Mass, we read the Scriptures, discover Jesus in the Gospels and find Jesus throughout the whole Bible. We learn of his life and the fullness of his message. This is God reaching out to us as we allow Jesus to become more a part of our lives.

In the Eucharist of the Mass, we truly and sacramentally unite ourselves with the Lord, Jesus.

In this sacrament, as we receive the Blessed Eucharist in Holy Communion, Jesus truly becomes one with us, bringing us the love of the Lord and truly increasing our friendship with Our Savior.

I often tell people never to leave Jesus in the Church. Rather, allow the Lord to become part of your life in all you do in this world. Through this sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, truly the Lord Jesus is one with us.

May we never forget that the Lord wants to be one with us. May our lives show to the world that we are friends of the Lord Jesus.

So, I encourage people to recognize that the best spiritual activity during Lent is frequent attendance at Mass.

Find the opportunity for each time you participate in the Mass, your friendship with the Lord will become stronger and more alive.

FOLLOW ME

# Year of Faith and the NCC

On Oct. 11, 2012, we joined Pope Benedict XV in a *Year of Faith* with a determination to strengthen our personal relationship with Jesus and to share that faith with others.

As the *Year of Faith* continues through 2013, I hope that we will all proclaim, even more boldly, the gift of our precious Catholic faith.

Our diocesan newspaper, the *North Country Catholic* is a vital means that we have to help us embrace this lifelong mission.

Since 1946, every bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg has relied on the *North Country Catholic* to be a source of information, evangelization and unity

Catholics who live in our North Country diocese.

During these challenging times, it is more important than ever that we welcome a Catholic perspective on the news of the day into our homes.

During the past year, new features have been added to the paper – Making Sense Out of Bioethics, weekly reflections by Father Bill Muench and personal faith stories from Catholics across the diocese – which offer education and inspiration to every reader.

The *North Country Catholic* certainly helps us to embrace our faith as informed parishioners.

This weekend the annual *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign begins

in all the parishes of the diocese. I know that those who subscribe to the *North Country Catholic* enjoy reading the timely and relevant articles on prayer, scripture, Church and religious news that are featured every week.

If you are a current subscriber of the *North Country Catholic*, please renew your subscription in this week's campaign. Why not consider obtaining a subscription as a gift for a family member? I invite those who don't currently subscribe to consider how important it is today to be an informed Catholic Christian and allow our diocesan newspaper to be a vehicle to help them and their families grow in faith.

I hope that you accept my invitation to welcome the *North Country Catholic* into your home.



**Bishop Terry R. LaValley**

## PRIESTS MEET NEW DIRECTOR



At a Feb. 12 gathering of the priests of Clinton Deanery, Sheri King, new regional director of Catholic Charities spoke with the clergymen. Above, front, from left are Ms. King and Deborah Long, administrative assistant at the office; back, Msgr. Joseph Aubin, founding director of the regional office; Father Scott Seymour, a member of the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities; and Father Patrick Mundy, recently retired at St. Peter's and past regional director, and Almost all the priests in the deanery attended at the meeting held in the Emmaus Room at St. Peter's in Plattsburgh.

# Lay Ministry Sunday: day to celebrate and pray

By Patrick Donahue  
Formation for Ministry program coordinator

The Feb. 10 observance of Lay Ministry Sunday has provided us the opportunity to celebrate with the nearly 800 commissioned lay ministers in the diocese, and keep in special prayer the 50 candidates who will become commissioned June 30.

With Lay Ministry Sunday, the Formation for Ministry campaign has officially "kicked off," providing a challenge to those in the pews to serve in a more active role in the life and the mission of the church.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley said, "By virtue of our baptism, each of us has the responsibility of proclaiming what our God has done for us... The Church is so enriched through the ministry that our commissioned lay ministers offer to their local parishes."

As changes continue in our parishes throughout the diocese, the need for well-trained commissioned lay ministers has perhaps never been greater.

**More lay ministers will be commissioned in June; New Formation for Ministry classes will begin in the fall**

The Formation for Ministry program, initiated by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana in 1990, has a rich legacy in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Since that time nearly 1000 laypersons have discerned their call to ministry and completed the program.

The two-year program includes eight courses of study in Church, sacraments, Christology, communications, moral theology, social justice, spirituality and scripture.

Areas of ministry include

catechetical ministry, parish outreach ministry, and youth ministry; all candidates will receive training in serving in liturgical ministry such as lector, Eucharistic minister and sacristan.

In addition there are required retreats and workshops that participants attend over the two year period that help develop personal spirituality and ministry.

Classes are held weekly, in the evening.

Following successful completion of the program, candidates become commissioned into ministry service.

The bishop presides at the commissioning liturgy is presided at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg.

Sites for the next Formation of Ministry program have already been selected and include Morrisonville, Massena, and Watertown. Those interested in applying

for the program should first meet with their pastors. Application forms are available in all parishes.

"This is an excellent means of gaining personal knowledge of our faith and of preparing to participate more fully in the faith life of the parish family," Bishop LaValley said. "We must, no matter our age, learn more about our faith."

"Let us pray that more women and men will step forward and enjoy learning

about the richness of our Catholic faith and commit to fuller participation in their parish through their enrollment in the Formation for Ministry Program," the bishop said.

Further information about the Formation for Ministry program is available from Patrick J. Donahue, program coordinator 315-393-2920 ext. 412, or email pdonahue@dioogdensburg.org or from the website www.dioogdensburg.org/formation.



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

**Plattsburgh Wholesale Homes**

New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes

7109 State Route 9

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

www.pwmh.com

YEAR OF FAITH...STORY OF FAITH

# Sister of Hope... woman of faith

By Rachel Daly  
Staff writer

**PLATTSBURGH** - I've known Dominican Sister Debbie Blow for about five years, ever since my first trip to Nicaragua with the North Country Mission of Hope (of which she is co-founder and executive director).

**Underlying her role in the remarkably successful humanitarian and spiritually based work of the Mission of Hope is the fact that Sister Debbie is a person of extraordinary faith**

In that time, I've had the opportunity to see firsthand the fruits of her labor and that of the Mission's now-enormous network of volunteers - hungry children fed, home-shelters built, medical care given, orphans' lives touched, and the list goes on much longer.

Yet underlying her role in the remarkably successful humanitarian and spiritually based work of the Mission of Hope is the fact that Sister Debbie is a person of extraordinary faith, and one whose life represents a beautiful unfolding of the kind of story only God could have envisioned.

An early stirring of faith for Sister Debbie occurred at her First Communion.

"Without necessarily understanding the theology of it," she said, "I knew that I was being invited into something special."

Then, in eighth grade, she found herself in Sister Stephanie Frenette's religion class, where she says, "Everyone, especially the girls in that class, wanted to be like Sister Stephanie."



MISSION OF HOPE PHOTO

**Dominican Sister Debbie Blow, director of the North Country Mission of Hope, is shown with one of the Nicaraguan children served by the 15-year-old humanitarian organization. Sister Debbie says that when she looks into the eyes of the children, she feels like she is looking into the eyes of God.**

It was there that she started to realize that she might be called to become a sister.

She underwent some ups and downs in her faith life as she journeyed through high school, but by the time she went away to college, she was "doing the 'I'll-do-anything-except-be-a-nun' thing."

However, a serious illness brought her home from college, where suddenly, all God seemed to be saying to her was, "Listen to Me."

Finally, in December of 1973, she realized what she needed to do. She talked to her boss and told him she was leaving to become a religious sister, and though he offered to pay her double - DOUBLE - if she would stay, it only increased her assurance that she was doing the right thing.

That very same winter, Sister Stephanie drove her to Massachusetts in a snowstorm to begin her formation as a Dominican Sister of Hope.

After her formation, she began teaching middle school religion and



English at St. Peter's School in Plattsburgh. "It felt right," she says.

She loved encouraging the kids to ask the tough questions about their faith.

She later became principal, and though again, everything seemed to be going great, as the years unfolded, she somehow still felt like she needed something more.

A turning point came in 1995 when she went on a year-long sabbatical to a place in New Hampshire called the "Berakah," Hebrew for "place of blessing."

There, she updated her studies in theology, met religious sisters from around the world, and spent time in prayer and reflection.

The experience brought her a great deal of healing, and she underwent what she calls a second conversion.

She would later look back and see this as a way in which God was preparing her for what was to come.

In 1996, she became a religion teacher and campus minister at Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh, and in

1998, she led a group of students down to Nicaragua to help serve in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch.

She recalls that it was there, looking into the eyes of the children, that she truly felt she was looking into the eyes of God.

In the midst of her trip, as she drove home from the orphanage with a bus full of tearful students, one of her them asked her, "Sister, do you know what the greatest sin would be?" The answer he gave was, "If we never came back."

In time, Sister Debbie realized that she was in fact being called to go back. At that point, her words to God were, "If this is what You want, You're going to have to lead me."

And she was not disappointed. Shortly afterward, with the help of Eve McGill and Yamilette Flores, the North Country Mission of Hope was born.

Now, Sister Debbie makes several trips to Nicaragua each year, and the Mission has expanded to include volunteers from around the country and around the world.

The Mission continues to make a remarkable difference, and though the needs of the poor are endless, the stories of hope which arise from the missionaries' hard work and self-sacrifice leave no doubt that it is all worthwhile.

Sister Debbie says that her role in the Mission is the culmination of all that it means to her to be a Dominican—especially a Dominican Sister of Hope—and a person of faith.

"I can now look back and see that there was such a plan," she said, "and it wasn't mine."

Her life is a living witness to the fact that God is seeking to do great things with us, and a beacon of the Gospel to all those whom her life has touched.

## Peaceful Dove Books & Gifts

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



- Bibles, Crosses, Rosaries, Medals, Baptism, Cards
- Lourdes Water, St. Br. Andre, & Respect Life Items
- Sacramental Gifts, Statues, Candles, DVDs, Music
- Variety of Lenten Resources and Materials
- Willow Tree Products, & Maple Syrup.

Shipping Available!

Hours: M-F 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(518) 561-5083 [www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com](http://www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com)

## BARSTOW

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION BUICK PONTIAC GMC SUBARU

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

For more information, visit our Website at: [www.barstowmotors.com](http://www.barstowmotors.com)

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

## MOP MALONE OFFICE PRODUCTS

Dean Lamica  
Sales Representative

333 West Main St., Malone

1-800-894-6626

518-483-6600

RESPECT LIFE

# Helping women: suggestions for lawmakers

By Kathleen M. Gallagher  
 Director of Pro-Life Activities  
 New York State Catholic Conference

Abortion is a hot topic at the New York State Capitol these days, which is curious for a couple of reasons.

First, the procedure was legalized here in 1970, three years before Roe vs. Wade. And while the abortion lobby is declaring the need "to protect women's freedom to choose," no one can point to any evidence that the abortion choice is at risk. Quite simply, it's not.

Second, it's now crystal clear that New Yorkers have more than enough access to abortion. The numbers in our state show an abortion rate of 33%, compared to a national average of 19%.

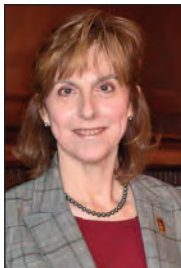
And a new statewide poll finds that New Yorkers – yes, even progressive, Democratic, pro-choice New Yorkers – say there is sufficient access to abortion here. (See page 12 for poll information)

So enough already. Abortion ends the lives of developing children. When you peel back the masks of "freedom" and "choice," the reality of abortion is revealed. It is unlike a tonsillectomy or an appendectomy because "no other medical procedure involves the purposeful termination of a potential life" (U.S. Supreme Court, Harris v McRae).

Moreover, abortion hurts women.

CNN just completed an on-line report which asked women, "Have you had an abortion? How do you feel about it now?"

The vast number of responses were filled with suffering, guilt and regret. Stories of marriage breakdowns, depression, alcoholism. Even the voices which said they didn't regret their abortion spoke of feeling "empty" and "numb." Most women felt they had no "choice" at all.



Kathleen Gallagher

Deep down, everyone knows abortion is not a "good." That's why elected officials who call themselves "pro-choice" continue to say they want to make abortion "rare."

That's why 73% of New Yorkers believe abortion should be a "last resort," according to the recent poll.

So let's have at it. Let's work together to give women real choices and decrease the devastation that abortion brings.

Here are some suggestions for lawmakers:

- Drop the push to pass the so-called "Reproductive Health Act." There is no piece of legislation that is less necessary or more dangerous than this one. New Yorkers overwhelmingly (80%) oppose unlimited abortion on demand through nine months of pregnancy, which this legislation would enshrine in our law. The goal is less abor-

tion, not more.

- Restore funding for the Maternity & Early Childhood Foundation which funds prenatal care and parenting assistance for single low-income young moms.

The Foundation was zeroed out in the proposed Executive Budget and lumped in with 88 other health-related programs, which would have to compete for reduced funding in a re-structured process.

Government needs to put its money where its mouth is and show at-risk mothers and infants that we can love them both.

- Make sure New York's policies are family-friendly. Governor Cuomo gets it right when he aims to reasonably accommodate pregnant women in the workplace. Of course pregnant workers should be accommodated!

I'll never forget the time immediately following the birth of my first child, when I discovered that my state disability payments lasted for six weeks, but licensed day care providers couldn't take my baby until he was eight weeks old. Huh? Just what was I supposed to do for that two-week period?

We need to fix any contradictions or discrimination in our law to ensure that our policies value childbirth and motherhood.

- Enact a "Woman's Right to Know" law to give women considering abortion full information regarding the risks, alternatives and facts about the procedure, and sufficient reflection time to think it over. Thirty-five states have such laws on the books; not New York. Don't New York women deserve fully informed consent?

- Promote adoption as a positive choice. How about tax deductions or credits for families who adopt? Or funding for agencies that provide pregnancy counseling and supportive services

to frightened young girls at no cost? This cost is ultimately passed on in adoption fees, which can become prohibitive for prospective adopting families. Or how about a state-financed public relations campaign to encourage adoption, particularly of special needs kids and children in foster care? Let's communicate clearly that adoption is a viable option.

Those are five steps that would move New York State in the right direction.

Surely that's an agenda everyone can live with!

**IS THE SPIRIT CALLING YOU TO?  
 LAY MINISTRY?**



**FORMATION FOR MINISTRY**

*Formation for Ministry is a two year program sponsored by the Diocese of Ogdensburg providing Academic, Pastoral and Spiritual Formation Since 1990 for Catholic adults ministering or seeking to minister in their parish.*

**Now Accepting Applications for Classes Beginning September 2013 in: Morrisonville, Massena and Watertown**

See Your Pastor for more information or  
 Contact: Patrick J. Donahue, M.Div Program Coordinator  
 Phone: 315-393-2920  
 E-mail: [pdonahue@dioogdensburg.org](mailto:pdonahue@dioogdensburg.org)  
 Website: [www.dioogdensburg.org/formation](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/formation)



**FORMATION FOR MINISTRY**  
 Yes! Please send me an Application for the Formation For Ministry program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parish \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Formation for Ministry program is a recipient of gifts made to the Bishop's Fund Appeal*

**Warm up with Good News!**

Visit our website at [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org) to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.  
 OR Send this coupon with payment to:  
**North Country Catholic**  
 PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317  
 \*\*Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal\*\*

Inside Diocese \$27  Outside Diocese \$30  
 I want to be a Patron:  \$35  \$50  \$100  \$250  
 New Subscription  Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my subscription to my e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_



# Diocesan statement on scam

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has released the following statement about the State Police Investigation into an alleged scam at St. Mary's Church in Waddington.

"A police investigation into an alleged scam at St. Mary's Church in Waddington was reported in local newspapers recently. The Diocese is

aware that such an investigation is taking place as the result of a complaint filed with the State Police by Monsignor Lawler and another individual.

Monsignor Lawler is cooperating fully with the State Police investigation. Because the matter is under investigation by the New York State

Police and the Diocese does not want to jeopardize that investigation, the Diocese has no further information to disclose at this time.

As was mentioned in the newspaper report, Msgr. Lawler was taken advantage of in this scam. I want to express my personal gratitude and that of the entire Diocese for Monsignor Lawler's many years of outstanding service to the Diocese and his wonderful concern and care for the needy of the Diocese.

I ask you to join me in praying for Monsignor Lawler and expressing our support for him during this difficult time."

## ST. MARY'S CAR RAFFLE



Enter for your chance to win a **2013 Toyota Corolla or \$12,000 CASH!!!**

(Winner pays NYS sales tax) Drawing will be held March 31, 2013.

All proceeds to benefit St. Mary's Church in Canton and its ministries.

Call the parish office at 315-386-2543 or fill out the form below for tickets.

**St. Mary's Church**  
68 Court Street  
Canton, NY 13617

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

NCC

## SAINT JAMES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GOUVERNEUR, NEW YORK

Is seeking applicants for the position of  
**PRINCIPAL**

For the School Year 2013-14

Applicants should:

- Have a Master's Degree in Education and/or Education Administration/Supervision;
- Be a practicing Catholic;
- Have experience as a successful Catholic School administrator;
- Give evidence of administrative leadership skills in the areas of Catholic identity, instructional evaluation, management, promotion and maintenance of an effective learning environment and public relations.

A comprehensive salary and benefits package consistent with experience is provided.

To apply, please send cover letter, application, resume, copies of transcripts and letters of recommendation, no later than April 15, 2013 to:

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ,  
Superintendent of Schools  
100 Elizabeth Street  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Application on line: [www.dioogdensburg.org](http://www.dioogdensburg.org) at the Catholic School Office link.

## JOB OPENING

**Sacred Heart Foundation has an opening for a skilled office Administrative Assistant.**

**20 hours per week/ four day work week. Experience with database computer software essential. Send resume to:**

**Kathleen Mastellon,  
Sacred Heart Foundation,  
668 Thompson St.,  
Watertown, NY, 13601**



is on

FACEBOOK



• Find Us

• Like Us

• Follow Us



TO ADVERTISE IN THE NCC

Call Christine: 315-608-7556

## Bishop's Schedule

**Feb. 20** - 12 p.m., Staff Lenten Day of Prayer at Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg

**Feb. 21** - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

**Feb. 22** - 12 p.m., Diocesan Mass for Pope Benedict XVI on the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

**Feb. 23** - 4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

**Feb. 24** - 2:30 p.m., Rite of Election at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

**Feb. 25** - 11 a.m., Mass at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown

**Feb. 25** - 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg

**Feb. 26** - 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

## 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 preregister at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

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

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

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

## To Report Abuse

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

## Environmental Stewardship

### The Season of Lent

*"From the moment you put piece of bread in your mouth you are part of the world. Who grew it? Who made the bread? Where did it come from? You are in relationship with all who brought it to the table. We are least separate and most in common when we eat and drink."*

**Thomas Merton**

• Pause in prayer before eating to be grateful for the bounty of creation and the many hands that helped to bring this food to your table.

• Lent & fish...select seafood that is good for you and the oceans. Check a consumer guide to sustainable seafood at [www.edf.org](http://www.edf.org).

• Eat less fast food and highly processed food this week. HINT: Shop the perimeter of the store. Most food in the middle aisles of supermarkets are preprocessed and packaged.

See: [www.lent45.org](http://www.lent45.org)

"Lord, to those who are hungry, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice."

**Latin American Prayer**

## Rest in Peace

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

**Feb. 20** - Rev. Lucian Leger, O.M.I., 1874; Rev. Daniel O'Riordan, O.M.I., 1897

**Feb. 21** - Rev. Charles A. Paquette O.M.I., 1925; Rev. John J. Kelly, 1944

**Feb. 22** - Rev. Edward Tortel, O.M.I., 1901; Rev. Peter H.J. Ryan, 1930

**Feb. 23** - Rev. Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M., 1908; Rev. Edward Blanchard, 1922; Rev. André Payette, O.M.I., 1976

**Feb. 24** - Rev. George Belanger, 1932; Rev. William J. Murphy, C.S.C.O., 1959

**Feb. 25** - Rev. William Howard, 1888; Rev. P.J. O'Connell, O.S.A., 1895; Rev. James J. Duffy, 1912; Msgr. L. Kevin Connors, 1971

**Feb. 26** - Rev. Francis X. LaChance, 1916; Rev. John F. Wiley, 1984

# HAPPY YEAR OF FAITH



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN  
Agnes Guile, a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls, baked and decorated a "Year of Faith Cake" that was shared at the Feb. 12 Year of Faith committee meeting in Colton. William Amoriell of Colton and St. Joseph Sister Mary Eamon Lyng of Watertown display the creation.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR



PHOTO BY CAITLIN SCHULTZ  
Students at Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh celebrated Chinese/Lunar New Year Feb. 12. The photo shows a group of Seton's international students celebrating. In front, from left, are Jin Gu, Tai Danjie, Skylar Ding, Raina Wang and Julie Nguyen; back, Francis Yang, David Zhu, Jason Kang, Yukai Wang, Vinny Bui and Chen Da.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC



'As the *Year of Faith* continues through 2013, I hope that we will all proclaim, even more boldly, the gift of our precious Catholic faith. Our diocesan newspaper, the *North Country Catholic* is a vital means that we have to help us embrace this lifelong mission.'

~Bishop Terry R. LaValley



Photo by Betty Steele

Call our office at 315-608-7556 or visit our website to sign up or renew at your parish during our campaign Feb. 23 & 24

[www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)



Become our fan on Facebook



The North Country Catholic is grateful for the financial support it receives from its extraordinary patrons, sustaining patrons, special patrons and patrons.

We take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge those people who supported the mission of the Catholic Press in 2012 with a gift of \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$35. Thank you for the continued generosity.



Extraordinary Patrons \$250

Msgr. Joseph Aubin, Plattsburgh Paul and Christine Boyea, Chateaugay Glenn R. Burdo, West Chazy Msgr. Bernard E. Christman, Indian Harbor, FL Mr. and Mrs. John L. DuPré, Nashua, NH Mr. and Mrs. Thomas DuPré, Ogdensburg John and Marguerite Eckman, Waddington Tom and Mary Lou Kilian, Ogdensburg Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Ogdensburg Gerald and Sheila Lindsey, Long Lake Fr. Doug Lucia, Canton, NY Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Martinck, Dexter Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McGrath, Brewerton, NY Rev. William Muench, Ticonderoga Major Victor A. Pawlewicz, Plattsburgh Msgr. Paul Whitmore, Watertown

Sustaining Patrons \$100

St. Cecilia's Church, Adams Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan Mr. and Mrs. Kevin O'Rourke Reverend Norman E. Poupore Fr. Patrick A. Ratigan St. Cyril's Church, Alex Bay Rev. Douglas Comstock Deacon Bernard Slate Mr. and Mrs. Walentuk St. Mary's Church, Canton Mr. and Mrs. Walter Christy Mr. and Mrs. Denis Jones St. James Church, Carthage Reverend John Cosmic The CC of Cape Vincent, Rosiere and Chaumont Daniel & Nancy Villa St. Mary's Church, Champlain Mrs. Celine Paquette Mr. and Mrs. Paul Seymour St. Patrick's Church, Chateaugay Rev. John Looby Mr. Kenneth O'Neill St. Mary's Church, Clayton Mrs. Betty Jacobs St. Patrick's Church, Colton Mr. and Mrs. John Gray Jr., The CC of Constable, Westville, & Trout River, Constable Deacon and Mrs. Garry Burnell St. Stephen's Church, Croghan Rev. Daniel Chapin

St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabethtown Rev. Peter R. Riani St. Edmund's Church, Ellenburg Faye & Loyal Gregory St. Mary's of the Fort Church, Fort Covington Mr. and Mrs. Phil Leroux Church of the Assumption, Gabriels Mr. and Mrs. Robert White St. James Church, Gouverneur Dr. & Mrs. Timothy Monroe St. Patrick's Church, Hogansburg Miss Dorothy Tyo St. Mary's Church, Indian Lake Rev. Phillip T. Allen Malone Catholic Parishes Lionel Gagnon Ms. Donna Hanus Sacred Heart Church, Massena Connie Coto Mr. and Mrs. Leo Debien, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gray Mr. & Mrs. John C. Kozsan Reverend Donald J. Manfred St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena Mr. and Mrs. James George Mr. and Mrs. John Lamay St. John the Evangelist Church, Morristown Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Moore St. Therese Church, Newcomb Mr. and Mrs. John Sullivan Church of the Visitation, Norfolk Deacon and Mrs. Lawrence Connelly Charles J. Robinson The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor Ms. Yolande Chenaillie Notre Dame Church, Ogdensburg Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Roca Reverend F. James Shurtleff St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg Mrs. Richard Baildon Rev. Kris Lauzon St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh Msgr. Dennis Duprey St. Patrick's Church, Port Henry Mr. Patrick Sullivan St. Mary's Church, Potsdam Mr. and Mrs. Henry Domingos Mr. and Mrs. William Manning Mr. and Mrs. Frank Revetta Church of the Assumption, Redford Shirley Otten St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Church, Rouses Point Mr. and Mrs. Stephen LaFave Deacon and Mrs. Garry Burnell St. Bernard's Church, Saranac Lake Rev. Alan J. Lamica Mr. and Mrs. James Murnane

Our Lady of Lourdes, Schroon Lake Rev. Richard S. Sturtz St. Mary's Church, Ticonderoga Mrs. Virginia LaPointe Church of the Holy Family, Watertown Mr. and Mrs. William Morgan Reverend Steven M. Murray St. Anthony's Church, Watertown Mrs. Vincent Frattali St. Patrick's Church, Watertown Deacon and Mrs. Kevin Mastellon Mr. Ronald Monnat Mr. and Mrs. David O'Neill St. Philip's Church, Willsboro Fr. Mickey Demo Stanley C. Flora Others Dr. Harold Chaskey, Plattsburgh Mr. Patrick Cunningham, Williamsville Donaldson Funeral Home, Massena Bob and Lenore Layng, East Rockaway, NY Rev. Gerald F. McGrath, Lauderdale Lakes, FL Mr. and Mrs. James George Mr. and Mrs. John Lamay Patrick J. Murphy, Weehawken, NJ Linda Perrin, Williston, VT Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sleasman, Albany

Special Patrons \$50

St. Cecilia's Church, Adams Ms. Rose Pirro St. Cyril's Church, Alex Bay Mr. and Mrs. Gary Grausgruber Mr. and Mrs. C. Richard Snow Holy Name Church, Altona Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Trudo The CC of Holy Name and St. Matthew, Au Sable Forks Mrs. Ann Cordick Mrs. James George Rev. Kris Lauzon St. Paul's Church, Black River Mr. and Mrs. William Flynn, III St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls Stan & Carol Crump Mr. Jim Crump Mr. and Mrs. Hector Foisy Christine Leahy & Jay Kilcoyne Mr. and Mrs. Maurice LeMieux Immaculate Conception Church, Brownville Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien St. Mary's Church, Brushton Mr. and Mrs. John J. Byrnes Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Curran John C. Russell Mr. and Mrs. Terry Trudeau CC of Burke and Chateaugay Gerald and Helen Ryan St. James Church, Cadyville Mr. and Mrs. John Miner

St. Mary's Church, Canton Jeannine C. Ballard Lawrence Casey Mrs. Edgar Cloce Mr. and Mrs. Paul Howard Brian Kurish Catholic Community of Cape Vincent, Rosiere & Chaumont Ms. Verna Docteur Gary & Ellen Wood St. James Church, Carthage Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Roche St. Helen's Church, Chasm Falls Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Russell Andrea Savage Sacred Heart Church, Chazy Rev. Raymond Moreau Mr. and Mrs. Donald Recore St. Mary's Church, Clayton Vivian Black Francis Farrell Jean Heady Rev. Arthur Labaff Joyce Larkin Mr. and Mrs. Mascott Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Zicari St. Patrick's Church, Colton Beverly & Frank Kearing CC of Constable, Westville & Trout River Mr. and Mrs. John T. Fleury Albert McGuire St. Mary's Church, Copenhagen Donald Green St. Stephen's Church, Croghan Mrs. Juanita Briot Robert and Brenda Buholtz Mr. Ralph Grimmer James and Karen Hoch Mr. and Mrs. Duane Kloster Mr. William Monnat Mr. Donald Proulx Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Proulx St. Joseph's Church, Dannemora Ms. Anne E. Clancy Mrs. Eleanor Mayette Mrs. Bertha Pombrio St. Edmunds Church, Ellenburg Marie Cayea St. Mary's Church, Evans Mills Mr. and Mrs. John Delles St. Mary's Church, Glenfield Mr. and Mrs. Steve Carlson St. James Church, Gouverneur David Bradford Dale Bush Bud Paige St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton Margaret Chambers Ed and Joan Lumley Dr. Carolyn Pierce Rev. James Seymour St. Mary's Church, Indian Lake Patricia Leonard St. Brendan's Church, Keene John Fehlner The CC of Keeseville Ernest Bedard Judith McCusker Msgr. Leeward Poissant

St. Mary's Church, LaFargeville Anne & Edward Walldroff St. John's Church, Lake Clear Rev. Robert Lamitie Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sayles St. Agnes Church, Lake Placid Miss Anne Moorehead Mrs. Catherine M. Sponable Rev. John Yonkovig St. James Church, Lake Pleasant Rev. Sony Pullick St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Manke Rev. Joseph Morgan Mr. and Mrs. William F. Morley, Jr. Daniel Pearson Victor Pisani St. Bartholomew's Church, Old Forge Mark A. Techmanski St. Augustine's Church, Peru Mr. and Mrs. Peter Keenan Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kelley Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Remillard Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia Mrs. Phyllis Donaghy Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh Mr. Edwin Leupold St. John the Baptist Church, Plattsburgh Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Branon Joyce Trudeau - Connors and Thomas Connors Mrs. Josephine Garratt Samuel Kleinman Mr. and Mrs. George Miller William & Barbara Murray Mr. and Mrs. Greg Sherman St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh Michael and Joan Howley Mr. and Mrs. Herb Ryder Eleanor Tart The CC of Moriah Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Allen Joan Rotella St. Martin's Church, Port Leyden Eva Sessions St. Mary's Church, Potsdam Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bouvier Mr. and Mrs. John Castle St. Raymond's Church, Raymondville Fr. Jack Dodge Church of the Assumption, Redford Cathie Chauvin St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point Mr. and Mrs. Donald LaBombard St. Ann's Church, St. Regis Falls Karl M. Martin St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor Mr. and Mrs. Mark Phillips Francis Sharlow

Ed DuPré, Babylon, NY Mr. and Mrs. David Hagan, Huntersville, NC Lori Hanno, Castorland, NY Rev. Jeffrey Hubbard, S.S., Washington, DC Rev. Donald H. Karlen, Remsen, NY Gerard Killoran, Northville, NY Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lowe, North Hudson, NY Fr. Bernard Menard St. Cecilia's Church, Adams Rev. Father Vin Long Mr. and Mrs. William C. Ose St. Cyril's Church, Alex Bay Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Helvig Mr. and Mrs. Robert Markert Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Nelson Mr. and Mrs. Peter Palamar Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shepherd Miss Katherine Welsh Holy Angels Church, Altona Fred Barcomb Mr. and Mrs. Owen Lafountain Mr. and Mrs. Leward Lucia Ellen Montgomery Holy Name Church, Au Sable Forks Mrs. Gene Devlin Deacon John J. Ryan St. Paul's Church, Black River Fr. Garvin Demarais Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blankenbush Mr. and Mrs. Geno Martini St. Joseph's Church, Bombay Fr. Martin Cline Mr. and Mrs. Errol McElwain Jr. St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls Mr. and Mrs. Francis Fisher Mrs. Sally LaVare Mr. and Mrs. Ray Martin CC of Brownville and Dexter David Corey Nancy Horeth Mrs. Marie Macaulay Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ransiear Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ryan Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Snyder Anne Valentine St. James Church, Cadyville Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Defayette Mr. and Mrs. David Learned Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Miner St. Mary's Church, Canton Mrs. Irene Kreneski Norma Lapoint Mrs. Helen McDonald Brad Mintener Mr. and Mrs. William O'Horo Anias & Nomia Thornton St. Vincent de Paul Church, Cape Vincent Jack Knapp Art & Carolyn Montondo

St. James' Church, Carthage Joseph Brosk Fr. George F. Maroun Mrs. Joanne Raycraft St. Mary's Church, Champlain Mr. Hector Bedard Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Louis Bedard Catherine Goolley Mr. John Paul Tetreault St. Helen's Church, Chasm Falls Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hart Sr. Mary Elizabeth Looby St. Patrick's Church, Chateaugay Linda A. Ryan Sacred Heart Church, Chazy Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Baker Mr. and Mrs. William Tisdale Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley St. Mary's Church, Clayton Mrs. Barbara Holtz Mrs. Loretta Lanzione Mr. and Mrs. Tim Orvis St. Patrick's Church, Colton Mr. and Mrs. Brian MacDougall St. Francis of Assisi Church, Constable Mrs. Pat Matthews St. Joseph's Church, Coopersville Mr. and Mrs. Dale Reynolds St. Mary's Church, Copenhagen Rosemary Fry Mr. Raymond Hebert St. Stephen's Church, Croghan Lorna F. Ashcroft Brad and Susan Gydesen Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Monnat Elizabeth Peters Douglas Robbins Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Crown Point Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kiely Mrs. Carol Stanley St. Joseph's Church, Dannemora Leo and Phyllis Maggy Theresa Pellerin St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabethtown Cheryl Hutchins St. Edmund's Church, Ellenburg Lawrence & Diane Lagree Yvonne Taylor Linda and Jr Trombley St. Mary's Church, Evans Mills Abbie Sorrell St. Mary's of the Fort Church, Fort Covington Mr. and Mrs. Glen Davis Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery French Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henault Mrs. Janet Mainville Church of the Assumption, Gabriels Mrs. Elaine Sater St. James Church, Gouverneur Mr. & Mrs. Dan Caruso Albert Desormeaux Mrs. Lillian Legacy Rev. Steven Rocker Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wahl

St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton Lois Breckenridge Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr Reggie Pierce Rick and Shelly Reed Lisa Smithers St. Patrick's Church, Hogansburg Ms. Joanne Reyome Holy Cross Church, Hopkinton Jack Kelley St. Brendan's Church, Keene Mr. and Mrs. Royce Reed The CC of Keeseville Mr. and Mrs. Richard Boulrice John Gillen Irene Haines Mr. and Mrs. James King Mrs. Patricia LaBounty Peter Lacy St. John the Evangelist Church, LaFargeville Mr. and Mrs. Fred LaClair Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lawrence David & Lynette Robinson Mary Walldroff St. John in the Wilderness, Lake Clear Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Darrah Mark Zagrobelny St. Agnes Church, Lake Placid Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reiss Betty Strack Ms. Shirley Vincent Ss. Philip and James Church, Lisbon Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hollis Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Puelo St. Henry's Church, Long Lake Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kentile Mr. and Mrs. Lew Plumley John and Joyce Rayome St. Lawrence Church, Louisville Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith St. Peter's Church, Lowville Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cartier Mrs. Mary Martin Daniel Pisaniello Dee Tuttle St. Bernard's Church, Lyon Mountain Mrs. Jean Chase James and Linda Kowalowski Abbie Sorrell St. John's Church, Lyons Falls Wilfred Grenier St. John the Baptist Church, Madrid Mr. and Mrs. John Newtown A. Raymond Patenaude Malone Catholic Community Mr. and Mrs. Joel Avery Mr. and Mrs. James Besaw Mr. and Mrs. Randy Cutler Notre Dame Church, Ogdensburg Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Basta Ms. Elizabeth Bernhard Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bouchard Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Carroll

Patrons \$35

M. J. Farrell Mr. and Mrs. John Joly Ann Lesperance Emily Mallette Mrs. Clifford Montroy Mr. and Mrs. Terrance Ryan Susan Sebastian Michael Tooley St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg Deacon and Mrs. Frank Bateman Mr. and Mrs. Charles Calcaterra Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Denoncourt Mr. and Mrs. David Franz Mr. and Mrs. Scott LaLone Ms. Rita Lewis Mr. and Mrs. John Mellon Helen T. Parish Mr. and Mrs. John Pinkerton Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ruggeri Sally E. Rusaw Mr. and Mrs. Bill Seymour Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Seymour Mr. and Mrs. Gary Sovie Deacon and Mrs. John White St. Bartholomew's Church, Old Forge Lynne D. McCormick Sophia Roffe St. Augustine's Church, Peru Mr. and Mrs. Hensel Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manchester Mr. and Mrs. Brian Mulcahy St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia Phyllis Dobson Mr. and Mrs. John McKinley Julia Noone Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Perkins Mr. and Mrs. Ryan VanTassel Our Lady of Victory Church, Plattsburgh Ms. Michele Carpentier Ms. Aline Cote Dr. John Middleton Tim and Paula Schares Joe and Jill Schofield Sisters of Charity of St. Louis St. John the Baptist Church, Plattsburgh Mr. and Mrs. Andy Cappiello David and Mary Clark Kevin and Sarah Cosgro Fr. William L. Gordon Mr. and Mrs. John Jarvis Leslie Marvel Dawn McDonagh Mr. Herling Sorrell Dave and Cathy Witkowski St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh Mark Bennett Mr. and Mrs. Roland Dumas Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gladue Ceil Johnson Mr. and Mrs. John Hatch Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whalen The CC of Moriah Rev. Scott D. Fobare Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Lemza Albert Mayer

Suzanne Morse Alton Supernault St. Martin's Church, Port Leyden Larry Beltowski St. Mary's Church, Potsdam Margaret Bradshaw Margaret M. Curtin Frank Lenney Jennifer Myers St. Raymond's Church, Raymondville Stephen Karlberg Michael LaShomb Church of the Assumption, Redford Hubert Wood St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point Mr. Joseph Bailey Ms. Patricia Carey Mr. Albert Gokey Mrs. Thelma LaFountain Mr. Leonard Martinsen Mary Racicot St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor Mr. Robert Brennan Lester Daymont Mrs. Charles McWilliams Mrs. Anne Thomas St. Bernard's Church, Saranac Lake Mr. and Mrs. Philip Capone Mr. and Mrs. Peter Crowley Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fisher Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Keough Mr. and Mrs. Michael Leahy Miss Carolyn Miller Deacon Fred Oberst Mrs. Margaret Ratigan Rev. Mark Reilly Mr. Kenneth Wiley Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Schroon Lake Mr. and Mrs. Michael Colleary Rosemary Haroff Mrs. Michelle Michelsen Lee St. Theresa's of Avila's Church, Theresa Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowak St. Mary's Church, Ticonderoga Mr. and Mrs. Richard Liddell Mr. and Mrs. James McKee John Peterson St. Alphonsus - Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Boudreau Eileen Carrow Mr. and Mrs. Steven Crate Deacon and Mrs. James Ellis Mr. and Mrs. Larry Keniston Mrs. Eleanor LaVigne St. Mary's Church, Waddington Mrs. Marilyn Ayotte Mrs. Mary Fobare Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jahne Church of the Holy Family, Watertown Edmund F. Becker Mr. and Mrs. Keith Caughlin

Mr. Gary Charlebois Linda Giltz Ms. Patricia Fanning Mr. and Mrs. William J. Heldt James Lafferty Joyce McDermott Deacon Edward Miller Frank Lenney John Powers Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown Paul T. Higgins Mr. and Mrs. Paul Reese Deacon & Mrs. John J. Trombly Ms. Suzanne Williams St. Anthony's Church, Watertown Margaret Foti-Alteri Mr. and Mrs. Querino Alteri Sally Grzesiak Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mandeville Mr. Anthony J. Marra Mrs. Joseph Palumbo Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Pepe St. Patrick's Church, Watertown Mr. and Mrs. William Bamann Mr. Robert Capone Ms. Carolyn Fitzpatrick Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gefell Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hanley Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Izzo Dr. and Mrs. David Stabins St. Joseph's Church, West Chazy Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Boyd Mr. Howard Chauvin Rev. J. Roger McGuinness Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sanders St. Philip Neri Church, Westport Theresa Floyd Jean Paquette St. Philip of Jesus Church, Willsboro Joseph Barnaby Jr. Mrs. Rita Devan Other Barbara Corron, Delmar, NY Margaret A. Delisle, Hiawassee, GA Mary Dillenback, Fishers Landing, NY Mr. James F. Dwyer, Port Ewen, NY Kevin Giroux, Grahamsville, NY Ms. Carol D. Kovach, Gilbert, AZ Adrian Lavoie, Dagsboro, DE Mr. and Mrs. George E. Miller, N. Fort Myers, FL James D. Ratican, Oswego, NY Ms. Mary Spodola, Hicksville, NY

This listing reflects extraordinary patrons, sustaining patrons, special patrons and patrons from January 1, 2012-December 31, 2012. Although every effort has been made to include the names of every patron, some mistakes are inevitable. If, however, an omission or error has occurred, we do apologize. Please notify us at 315-608-7556 so that we may we may correct our records.



# Precedent and sacrifice

*Papal decision offers options for the future*

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - For a Catholic so aware of the importance of tradition, even traditions with a small "t," Pope Benedict XVI had to know he was setting a precedent by resigning.

"This development will offer options that maybe were not too obvious before this courageous decision of Pope Benedict," said U.S. Cardinal Edwin F. O'Brien, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

Meeting the press in Boston, the city's Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley agreed, saying the pope's decision "will obviously have an effect going forward."

Pope Benedict described his decision to be the first pope to resign in almost 600 years as the result of intense prayer and an examination of his conscience before God. Once in six centuries does not set a rule, but the understanding reception that the pope's decision has received within the church suggests that it will not be another 600 years before it happens again.

As head of a spiritual community that now numbers about 1.2 billion members all over the world, the pope did not approach the decision as a secular leader would. While he obviously talked to a few people about it, the 85-year-old pope described it as a matter of personal conscience, which implies he may have discussed it with a trusted spiritual guide, but did not seek broad consultation or a consensus.

Even though Pope Benedict and his older brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, are very close, the elder Ratzinger told reporters at a news conference Feb. 11 he was "very surprised" by his brother's



CNS PHOTO/DONATELLA GIAGNORI, POOL

**Aides assist Pope Benedict XVI as he walks in procession from the portico of St. Peter's Basilica for Ash Wednesday Mass at the Vatican Feb. 13. The service was expected to be the last large liturgical event of Pope Benedict's papacy. The pope announced Feb. 11 that he will resign at the end of the month.**

decision, but understood why he did it.

Confirming what the Vatican press spokesman had said, Msgr. Ratzinger told the British Broadcasting Corp. that his brother had been considering stepping down for months; he also told the BBC that the pope's doctor had advised him not to take any more trans-Atlantic trips.

"When he got to the second half of his 80s, he felt that his age was showing and that he was gradually losing the abilities he may have had and that it takes to fulfill this office properly," Msgr. Ratzinger told the BBC.

In prayer before God, Pope Benedict had to face important conflicting values: the

tradition of a pope serving until death; the faith statement - often repeated by Blessed John Paul II - that God would relieve a pope from office when it was time, meaning the pope would die; and the practical energy needed to minister to a far-flung flock in an age of instant communication where events hit the Internet before any considered, prudent response can be formulated.

An ecumenical partner and esteemed theological colleague of Pope Benedict's said he was not totally surprised by the pope's decision. Anglican Bishop Rowan Williams, who stepped down in late December as the archbishop of Canterbury and

head of the worldwide Anglican Communion, told Vatican Radio he and Pope Benedict spoke last March about the possibility of being able to retire and devote one's life completely to prayer and study.

"In our last conversation, I was very conscious that he was recognizing his own frailty, and it did cross my mind to wonder whether this was a step he might think about," Bishop Williams told Vatican Radio.

While the bishop would not release details of his private conversation with the pope, he said, "It was a sense I had that he was beginning to ask the question, 'Is it possible to carry on with a good

conscience,' and I'm sure it must be in his mind that for all the previous pope's immense courage and the example he set in shouldering on to the end, it might not be - now - for the best interests of the whole church."

Loosening the tradition of leadership until death is a matter the Eastern Catholic churches and even the worldwide Jesuit order have been coming to accept, especially since the Second Vatican Council and particularly given the fact that people live longer today, even in increasing physical and mental frailty.

Jesuit Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, the former Jesuit superior, was required to obtain Pope Benedict's permission to announce his intention to step down in 2008, the year Father Kolvenbach turned 80. A few days after Jesuit Father Adolfo Nicolas was elected to succeed Father Kolvenbach, the new superior told reporters it was unlikely any Jesuit leader again would feel an absolute obligation to serve until death.

In a speech to seminarians of the Diocese of Rome Feb. 8, three days before he announced his resignation, Pope Benedict made a remark that, in hindsight, could help people recognize both the sacrifice Blessed John Paul made by staying in office as Parkinson's disease ravaged his body and the sacrifice of Pope Benedict stepping down.

Like St. Peter, he said, "we, too, are called to accept the martyrological aspect of Christianity, which can take very different forms."

"The cross can have very different forms," Pope Benedict told the seminarians, "but no one can be a Christian without following the Crucified One, without also accepting the moment of martyrdom."

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## On Ash Wednesday, pope preaches on humility, Christian unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Celebrating what was expected to be the last public liturgy of his pontificate two weeks before his resignation, Pope Benedict XVI preached on the virtues of humility and Christian unity and heard his highest-ranking aide pay tribute to his service to the church. Jesus "denounces religious hypocrisy, behavior that wants to show off, attitudes that seek applause and approval," the pope said in his homily during Mass in St. Peter's Basilica Feb. 13. "The true disciple does not serve himself or the 'public,' but his Lord, in simplicity and generosity." Coming two days after Pope Benedict announced that he would be the first pope in 600 years to resign, the Mass inevitably took on a valedictory tone. "For me it is also a good opportunity to thank everyone, especially the faithful of the diocese of Rome, as I prepare to conclude the Petrine ministry, and I ask you for a special remembrance in your prayer," the pope told the congregation, including dozens of cardinals and bishops, filling the vast basilica. The Ash Wednesday liturgy, traditionally held in two churches on Rome's Aventine Hill, was moved to St. Peter's to accommodate the greatest possible number of faithful. At the end of the Mass, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who as secretary of state is the Vatican's highest official, voiced gratitude for Pope Benedict's pontificate of nearly eight years.

## Pope to live in Vatican monastery established by Blessed John Paul

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican monastery where Pope Benedict XVI intends to live began its life as the Vatican gardener's house, but was established as a cloistered convent by Blessed John Paul II in 1994. When Pope Benedict, 85, announced Feb. 11 that his age and declining energies prompted his decision to resign effective Feb. 28, the Vatican said he would move out to the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo while remodeling work was completed on the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican Gardens. Pope Benedict said it was his intention to "devotedly serve the holy church of God in the future through a life dedicated to prayer." Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, told reporters Feb. 12 he did not know when the remodeling work would be finished and Pope Benedict could move in. He said, however, that because the monastery is small, the pope would be joined by a small staff, but another community of cloistered sisters would not be moving in. The monastery -- a building of about 4,300 square feet -- had 12 monastic cells and a chapel. The complex, mostly hidden from view by a high fence and hedges, includes a vegetable garden. It occupies about 8,600 square feet on a hill to the west of the apse of St. Peter's Basilica. Over the past 19 years, different orders of cloistered nuns have spent fixed terms of three-five years in the monastery. The first community was Poor Clares, then Carmelites, Benedictines and, most recently, Visitandine nuns. The Visitandine community left in November, and by early December the Vatican press office had told Catholic News Service that the monastery would be remodeled before anyone else moved in.

# Pope Benedict's resignation will set in motion period of transition, Feb.28 at 8 p.m.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -While the surprise resignation of Pope Benedict XVI is a first for the church in centuries, it also leads to a complicated period of transition that ends in the election of a new pope.

Regulated by ancient traditions and recent rules, the period between popes - known by the Latin term "interregnum" - will begin exactly at 8 p.m. Rome time Feb. 28, a date and time Pope Benedict stipulated in a declaration he made Feb. 11 for when the See of Rome and the See of St. Peter will be vacant.

Normally the interregnum begins with a pope's death and is followed by a period of mourning.

This time the pope will resign from his ministry and spend a short period of prayer at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, before moving to a monastery at the Vatican.

The rules governing the interregnum are matters of church law, not dogma.

The apostolic constitution "Universi Dominici Gregis" confirms that as long as the Holy See is vacant, the universal church is governed by the College of Cardinals, which cannot, however, make decisions normally reserved to the pope. Such matters must be postponed until the new pope is elected.

Until there is a pope, the Roman Curia - the Vatican's network of administrative offices - loses most of its cardinal supervisors and cannot handle any new business.

The College of Cardinals is to deal solely with "ordinary business and matters which cannot be postponed." At present, there are 209 cardinals, and all of them are asked to meet in Rome to help administer the transition period.

The College of Cardinals does this through two struc-

tures: a general congregation, in which all the cardinals are to meet daily; and a particular four-member congregation, consisting of the chamberlain of the Holy Roman Church, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, and a rotating team of three cardinal assistants.

Only those cardinals under age 80 will be eligible to vote in the coming conclave. Cardinals who are age 80 or over by the time the "sede vacante" begins Feb. 28 are excluded from the closed-door proceedings. There will be 117 cardinal-electors on that date.

As chamberlain, Cardinal Bertone is to administer the goods and temporal rights of the Holy See until the election of a new pope.

Meanwhile, the dean of the College of Cardinals, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, is charged with making preparations for a conclave to elect a new pope, and the cardinals must set the time for the conclave to start.

The word conclave comes from Latin, meaning literally "with key," and reflects the previous tradition of locking the cardinals in an area where they would spend day and night until the new pope's election.

On the day set for entry into the conclave, the cardinal-electors assemble in St. Peter's Basilica to attend morning Mass. In the afternoon, they walk in procession to the Sistine Chapel, located just to the north of St. Peter's.

The voting may begin that afternoon with one ballot; on following days, normally two ballots are held in the morning and two in the afternoon.

A pope is elected when he obtains a two-thirds majority, reflecting a change Pope Benedict established in 2007 that effectively undid a more flexible procedure intro-

duced by Blessed John Paul.

According to the new rule, the two-thirds-majority rule cannot be set aside even when cardinal-electors are at an impasse.

If the cardinals are deadlocked after 13 days, the cardinals pause for a day of prayer, reflection and dialogue, then move to runoff ballots between the two leading candidates. A papal election will continue to require a majority of two-thirds of the voting cardinals.

All voting is secret, in writing, on paper ballots, which are deposited in a receptacle by each elector, then counted. Ballots are taken to any cardinals residing at the Domus Sanctae Marthae but who are too sick to come to the Sistine Chapel.

After each morning and afternoon round of voting, the ballots are burned.

By tradition but not by rule, they are burned with special chemicals to produce the black smoke signifying an inconclusive vote, or white smoke if a new pope was elected. Due to confusion in the past as people in St. Peter's Square tried to determine what color smoke was coming out of the Sistine Chapel smokestack, the basilica's bell is also rung to confirm a successful election.

Once a new pope has been elected, he is asked if he accepts the office - he is encouraged but not bound to do so by current rules - and is asked to choose a name.

Traditionally, the senior member of the cardinal deacons -- currently Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, 69 -- announces the successful election results from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica. After the new pope has donned papal robes, he proceeds to the balcony, where he greets the public and offers his first blessing.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## Meeting God 'up close and personal'

How many times in our lives do we wonder if God is real, and does He have a face. He seems so absent from every day living.

Certain privileged people, however, are treated to a God who is "up front and personal".

On this second week into Lent, our readings are about two such happenings.

Over five thousand years ago, Abram (he's not yet called Abraham) is undergoing a test from God before he receives extensive land in

covenant.

God asks Abram to perform a strange animal sacrifice. In the ancient world around the Mediterranean, this sacrifice signified a covenant pact between two parties. If either party breaks the promise, they will be treated like those animals that are split open.



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

The sacrifice is prepared, and Abram is awaiting divine action in consuming the split animals.

He becomes frightened as a cloud plunges him in

darkness for several hours. After a fiery torch passes through the sacrifice, God completes His promise.

God was definitely "up front and personal"!

We find another experience of God getting personal in today's Gospel.

It takes place on a high mountain as Jesus and a few of his apostles journey to Jerusalem.

Notice how afraid Peter, James, and John are when they see Jesus suddenly transfigured in light. The Master seems quite at home in the glory of Tabor, talking with Moses and Elijah.

The great Law-giver and the great Prophet talk to

FEB. 24

Second Sunday of Lent

READINGS

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus who is the Law and who will fulfil an ancient prophecy. We wonder what they talked about.

Perhaps Jesus is telling them that soon, he will bring them to everlasting encounter with light, as soon as he has risen from death. Then, like Abram, they are plunged into the

darkness of a cloud. In the cloud, the voice of the Father, thundering from heaven, tells the frightened apostles to listen to His beloved Son. When the three apostles open their eyes, everything is back to normal.

If we're really serious about Lent, we'll take the Transfiguration experience as Jesus intended. As he taught a lesson in patience and hope to Peter, James, and John, so he teaches us to listen and wait. Lent is a time for us to do a lot of listening and a lot of praying. Eventually, Jesus will lead us to the light of understanding and joy at Easter.

## NEW YORK STATE OF MIND...

## Poll: New Yorkers reject abortion expansion

By Dennis Poust

Director of Communications  
New York State Catholic Conference

As pro-abortion advocates continue to push for the so-called "Reproductive Health Act," a new statewide poll reveals that voters overwhelmingly oppose expanding the state's abortion laws and, indeed, favor greater restrictions on abortion than what is already in law.

While a majority of respondents (55 percent) described themselves as "pro-choice," two out of three (66 percent)

said there is sufficient access to abortion in the state.

When informed of the actual number of recorded abortions each year (111,000), the number of people who agreed there is sufficient access to abortion rose to 79 percent, with only 7 percent of respondents disagreeing that there is sufficient access to abortion in the state.

The survey, conducted Jan. 27-31, 2013, by McLaughlin and Associates, found that only 17 percent of likely voters approve of unlimited abortion on demand through the ninth month of preg-

nancy, which would be permissible under the "Reproductive Health Act."

Conversely 80 percent of voters disapprove of such a policy, 61 percent of them strongly.

Among the survey respondents, 47 percent identified themselves as Democrats, 29 percent as Republicans and 22 percent as independents.

In other findings:

- 92 percent oppose abortion for selecting the sex of a baby;

- 89 percent oppose abortion for reducing triplets or twins to a single child;

Neither of these would be restricted if the Reproductive Health Act's "fundamental

right" to abortion is enshrined in state law.

Additionally:

- 75 percent oppose allowing non-doctors to perform abortions (permitted under the proposed abortion expansion plan); and

- 71 percent oppose forcing Catholic hospitals to allow abortions (permitted under the proposed abortion expansion plan).

With regard to regulating abortion:

- 87 percent support providing information about options and risks to pregnant women before they make an abortion decision;

- 78 percent support a 24-hour waiting period prior to an abortion; and

- 76 percent support parental notification for mi-

nors' abortions.

None of these common-sense regulations overwhelmingly supported by voters would be permitted under the abortion expansion plan.

"These poll results should send a strong message to government officials: New Yorkers, even those who self-identify as 'pro-choice,' don't want more abortion in the state," said Kathleen M. Gallagher, director of pro-life activities for the New York State Catholic Conference.

"The public desires prudent and reasonable regulations on the abortion procedure," she said. "New Yorkers want abortion to be truly rare. Politicians promoting the radical agenda of groups like Planned Parenthood and Naral are out of step with everyday New Yorkers, be they Republican or Democrat."

The survey was paid for by the New York City-based Chiaroscuro Foundation.

The Catholic Conference represents New York State's Bishops in matters of public policy.

## NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC HAS GONE GREEN

You now have the option to start receiving your *North Country Catholic* in your e-mail rather than in the mail. Fill in your information and send this form to

Please switch my current *NCC* subscription to E-mail

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Account Number (found on your mailing label) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

PO Box 326  
Ogdensburg,  
NY 13669  
OR Call  
Christine at  
315-608-7556  
to make the  
change

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



## AT THE MOVIES

## SAFE HAVEN

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

Somehow it just wouldn't be Valentine's Day without a gooey adaptation of a tale by Catholic novelist Nicholas Sparks, the current master of the romantic drama.

This year, it's "Safe Haven" (Relativity), Lasse Hallstrom's screen version of Sparks' 2010 novel of the same title.

Hallstrom is a veteran of the genre, having directed the Sparks-based "Dear John" in 2010.

This latest cinematic confection, however, has a morally dubious core that will leave ethically conscientious audience members with an unpleasant after-taste.

All of the requisite Sparks elements are present here: an attractive couple, a tear-jerking love story, a pair of adorable kids, and a beautiful setting along the North

Carolina coast.

There's also a hint of mystery and a menacing backstory reminiscent of the 1991 Julia Roberts weepie, "Sleeping with the Enemy."

Katie (Julianne Hough) steps off the bus in the seaside town of Southport and decides to stay. She's been running from something sinister but is now determined to make a fresh start in a decidedly Rockwellian place with friendly people and family values to spare. So she gets a job, buys a cabin in the woods, and paints it yellow, a "happy color."

She heeds the wisdom of her new neighbor, Jo (Cobie Smulders), who proclaims, "Life is full of second chances."

Once Katie lets down her defenses and learns to trust others, her life is full of Alex (Josh Duhamel), a lonely widower who runs Southport's general store.

Katie warms to him and his two moppets and, be-

fore long, the music swells, the sun sets in glorious reds and oranges, oysters are consumed, slow dances are lingered over - and love blossoms.

Not so fast, as Katie's past begins to catch up with her, threatening the safe haven she has found. The gun-toting Kevin (David Lyons) arrives on the scene, having doggedly pursued Katie for some time.

Delving into the details would constitute a spoiler. Suffice it to say that Kevin's appearance is not only bad news for Katie and Alex, but for viewers committed to Judeo-Christian values as well.

The film contains brief violence, an ambiguous attitude toward marital fidelity, nongraphic adulterous sexual activity with fleeting partial nudity and a few instances each of profane and rough language.

The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose



CNS PHOTO/RELATIVITY

Julianne Hough and Josh Duhamel star in a scene from the movie "Safe Haven."

problematic content many adults would find troubling.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is

PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

## FEBRUARY FUN



Members of the Tupper Lake Youth Group are pictured setting up for the Family Life - Mardi Gras Dinner held Feb. 10 at the Holy Ghost Parish Center. From left are Alyssa Tarbox, Malorie McLearn (holding one of the 30 gift baskets auctioned off during the evening), Nick Rich and Thomas Barton.



Father Joseph Elliott is all decked out for the Mardi Gras celebration at Sacred Heart Rectory in Massena.



Altar servers from St. James Major Parish, Lake Pleasant; and St. Ann Parish, Wells; were treated to a "Winter Picnic" at Oak Mountain by Father Sony Pulickal, pastor. Children and their parents enjoyed an afternoon of tubing followed by a pizza party and games.

**CLINTON**

**LENTEN ADORATION**

**Plattsburgh** – St. Peter's Church will offer weekday adoration during Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday after the morning daily Mass at 7 AM and will end with Benediction at 7 PM on Wednesday of Holy Week.

**Schedule:** Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Fri. after 7 a.m. Mass until 7 p.m.; Mon. only After 7 a.m. Mass until 9 p.m.

**Contact:** To sign up for one hour a week of adoration or for more information, call the rectory at 563-1692 or email kjeleshouse@verizon.net.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

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

**Date:** March 3

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

**Place:** St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall

**CORNERED BEEF DINNER**

**Peru** – Court St. Monica of St. Augustine's is having its annual Corned Beef Dinner.

**Date:** March 16

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

**Place:** St. Augustine Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children 4-12, \$4

**Entertainment:** Don-Yo DJ Service

**SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER**

**Plattsburgh** – The Elizabeth Seton Chapter of the National Honor Society will host a spaghetti and meatball dinner.

**Date:** March 23

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

**Place:** Seton Academy

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; children under 12, \$5

**Features:** All profits will go toward the Seton Catholic "40 Days of Hope" project.

**SOUP-SALAD-BREAD**

**Altona** – Holy Angels will hold Soup-Salad-Bread Wednesdays during Lent.

**Place:** Parish Hall

**Time:** 5:15 p.m. to 6:30; 6:30-7 pray before the Blessed Sacrament with Stations of the Cross; 7 p.m. Celebrate Mass.

**Contact:** Sandy or Fr. Gilbert at 518-236-5848

**TAG SALE**

**Mooers Forks** – The Mooers K of C Auxiliary will be sponsoring a Tag Sale.

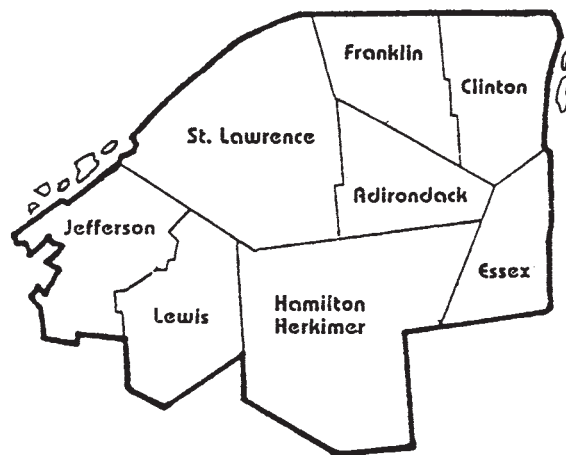
**Dates:** March 8, 9 & 10

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Place:** St. Anne's Church Hall

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**West Chazy** – St. Joseph's Men's Club present their Annual All You Can Eat Pan



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.

cake Breakfast.

**Date:** March 10

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Place:** Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$6; Children 6-10, \$3; under 5, Free

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM**

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

**Dates:** Feb. 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 toolaprayhouse@gmail.com

**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 olaprayhouse@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 chapel

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

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

**ESSEX**

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**

**Elizabethtown** – St. Elizabeth's will hold its annual St. Patrick's Day dinner.

**Date:** March 17

**Time:** 2 p.m. to 6

**Place:** Parish Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$11; children under 12, \$5  
**Features:** Corned Beef or Ham, cabbage, carrots, potatoes with drink and dessert. Take-out available after 1:30 p.m. Tickets for a cash raffle and other items

**LIVING OUR FAITH**

**Schroon Lake** - As part of the Year of Faith program at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and Saint Joseph's Church, "Living Our Faith": The Catechism of the Catholic Church" Will be presented

**Schedule:** Fridays at 4:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church, Olmstedville; Sundays at 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes, Schroon Lake. **Features:** A summary of the catechism, known as YOUCAT, is available at \$11.25.

**Contact:** For further information, call (518) 532-7100.

**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**

**BEREAVEMENT MEETING**

**Watertown** – An ecumenical bereave-

ment Meeting is to be held.

**Date:** Feb. 25

**Time:** 7 p.m.

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

**Program:** Kathy Sheley, Will talk on "Healing Through Helping".

**LENTEN RETREAT**

**Evans Mills** – Father J. Michael Gaffney is presenting a compact Lenten retreat for busy Catholics.

**Date:** Feb. 24

**Time:** 2:30 p.m. to 4:30

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

**Features:** Covered-dish supper follows.

**Contact:** 315-628-4291 or 315-629-4425 for more information.

**HOOF AND FEATHER DINNER**

**Evans Mills** – The Indian River K of C will have a Hoof and Feather Dinner, featuring beef stew and /or chicken & biscuit

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

**Date:** March 2

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Cost:** \$5 per person

**DOLLAR DINNER**

**Watertown** – The Knights of Columbus Watertown Council #259 will be having a Dollar Dinner.

**Date:** March 20

**Time:** 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Place:** IHC Intermediate School

**SPAGHETTI SUPPER**

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

**Date:** Feb. 28

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

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; children \$4.50; under 3, free; sauce, \$5 per quart meatballs are \$ .75 (Please bring your own containers)

**Features:** Take-outs begin at 4 p.m.

**CATHOLICISM SERIES**

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

**Dates:** March 4, 11, 18, 25

**Time:** 7 p.m. to 8:30

**Place:** Hearthside Center at the Motherhouse SSJ

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

**LEWIS**

**DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS**

**Houseville** – Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of March to be held.

**Date:** March 3

**Time:** 3 p.m.

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

**Features:** Vespers (Evening Prayer). Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.

**Contact:** 348-6260

**ST. LAWRENCE**

**VIRTUAL TOUR OF ST. PETER'S**

**Ogdensburg** – Father Bryan Stitt will lead a virtual tour of the Basilica of St. Peter

**Date:** March 14

**Time:** 7p.m.

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

**Program:** This "Virtual Tour" is offered as part of the Year of Faith to help people taste again for the first time the joy of Pilgrimage. Father Stitt, who currently serves as diocesan vocation director work as a tour guide at St. Peter's Tour guide from 1999 to 2001.

**K OF C BRUNCH**

**Norfolk** – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.

**Date:** March 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

**LENTEN PARISH MISSION**

**Massena** – The Catholic Community of Massena/Louisville will host a Lenten Parish Mission.

**Schedule:** March 11 – New Evangelization, the Power of God's Word with Mass at St. Mary's Church; March 12 – Driving into God's Healing Presence, Mass with Communal Anointing for the Sick at Sacred Heart Church; March 13 – The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me: Renewing your contract to do God's Work, Mass at St. Mary's Church.

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Features:** Fr. Doug Lucia Will speak on the theme "Tools for Beginning A New Life." **Contact:** St. Mary's Parish Office at 315-764-0239 or Sacred Heart Parish at 315-769-2469

**FISH & SHRIMP FRY**

**Gouverneur** – St. James School will be having a Fish & Shrimp Fry every Friday during Lent.

**Date:** through March 29

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free

**Features:** Take-outs available, phone ahead for faster service, 287-0130. For deliveries call 287-0130

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



## 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

# Statement on the decision of Pope Benedict to retire

**NEW YORK**—Father Andrew Small, OMI, National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, has issued the following statement:

On behalf of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, I offer our prayers and deep affection to our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, chief missionary of the Church, as he steps aside from the Chair of Peter into a new life of retirement, of quiet prayer and of continued devotion to the Lord.

When I was introduced to Pope Benedict in 2011, the Pope immediately recognized the tremendous love that American Catholics have for him and for the Church: "Great works," he said to me, smiling, acknowledging the generosity of Catholics here at home for the Church throughout the world.

The Pope's decision to retire is a characteristic act of love for the whole Church, above all else. He has offered us an example of true humility. The consummate teacher, he continues to show us that only in union with Christ are all things possible.

Like St. Paul, Pope Benedict XVI has poured out his life in service of God, the Church and the poor. He has not yet run his race to the very end. We pray for him as he enters this next stage of his life. And as we do, we commit ourselves to the ongoing Year of Faith, asking that it may bring renewed energy to the mission of the Church. In this period of transition, we pray for the Church, confident that the Lord remains close to us, now in a special way. God Bless the Pope!

*The Pontifical Mission Societies were given the title "Pontifical" in 1922 and have special responsibility in the Universal Church. They are under the direct canonical jurisdiction of the Holy Father who, together with the entire body of Bishops, remind the faithful of their baptismal call to mission, as they gather basic support for more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Pacific Islands and Latin America. The Pontifical Mission Societies include the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the Missionary Childhood Association, the Society of St. Peter Apostle, and the Missionary Union of Priests and Religious.*

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will  
[www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice](http://www.dioogdensburg.org/missionoffice)

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

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

Find us on Facebook!



## OBITUARIES

**Champlain** — Carol C. (Trudeau) Castine, 88; Funeral Services Feb. 11, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Champlain** — Constance R. "Connie" Wells, 60; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Chateaugay** — Frances (Bassford) Gardner, 98; Funeral Services Feb. 15, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Mooers.

**Edwards** — Rosemarie Ann (Adams) Oelschlager, 73; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2013 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

**Lowville** — Catherine A. "Kaye" Sweet, 89; Funeral Services Feb. 14, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Florida National Cemetery.

**Malone** — Ernest George Lancto, 84; Funeral Services Feb. 14, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Mineville** — Beverly A. (Baldwin) DeZalia, 68; Funeral Services Feb. 15, 2013 at All Saints Church.

Follow Pope Benedict XVI on  
Twitter!  
[www.twitter.com/Pontifex](http://www.twitter.com/Pontifex)

#Pontifex

**Ogdensburg** — Cecilia M. Perkins, 52; Funeral Services Feb. 12, 2013 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Felipe Tanglao, 64; Funeral Service Feb. 15, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — William F. "Buck" Tebo, 80; Funeral Services Feb. 11, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** — Michael Whyte, 67; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2013 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Ogdensburg Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Melvin E. "Mel" Bennett Sr., 87; Funeral Services Feb. 15, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Marion M. DeCelle, 92; Fu-

neral Feb. 11, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** — Shawn J. Fleming, 45; Funeral Services Feb. 14, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Redwood** — Carolyn E. Coleman Pratt, 73; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2013 at St. Francis Xavier Church.

**Watertown** — Clairetta A. Kehoe, 81; Funeral Services Feb. 11, 2013 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Cecelia's Cemetery.

**West Chazy** — Joyce H. Cramer Nephew; Funeral Services in the spring at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Oakwood Cemetery.

**Westport** — Marjorie M. (Lawrence) White, 96; Funeral Services Feb. 12, 2013 at St. Philip Neri Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**MONASTERY CARD SHOP**  
Cards for All Occasions  
*Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.*  
**Precious Blood Monastery**  
OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM  
SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM  
400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN  
315-788-1669

## Order your 2013 Diocesan Directory!



\$15.00  
each

The Official 2013 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.  
**Order online at [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org) for faster delivery or fill out the form below.**

Make checks payable to:  
North Country Catholic  
PO Box 106  
Canajoharie, NY 13317

(Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery when mailing in)

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ directories

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

## Hungry for the truth

By Amanda Conklin

Campus Minister, St. Mary's, Canton

Our Church is heading into a transitional stage as the Cardinals will soon enter the conclave in Rome to elect a new pope, and the youth and young adults of our Church are more important now than ever. Our Church depends on the younger generations to uphold the teachings and integrity of the faith. Many recognize this urgent need to reach out to the youth, but aren't sure how exactly to go about this ministry.

I've found that there needs to be a fine balance between fellowship and formation with the young people of our church.

Sometimes it can be difficult for youth ministers, catechists and campus ministers to avoid leaning either too far toward pizza and game night or too far toward Master's level Theology. This is one thing that I've quickly discovered as I continue my vocation as Campus Minister for St. Lawrence University and SUNY Canton. The students don't want "fluff," but they also need to start at a level they can comprehend.



CONKLIN PHOTO

Anna Padovani of Delhi, N.Y., a freshman at St. Lawrence University, explains the process for canonization of saints in the church during a recent meeting of the St. Lawrence University Newman Club.

I dove head first into my position with St. Mary's Church in August. Eager to use my Theology degree, I immediately began to make grand plans for the Campus Ministry program. I had so many ideas running through my head and even kept a journal so that whenever another idea popped up, I could save it for the upcoming semester. Sometimes, God has a different plan. I started off my first semester itching to delve into Theology, even beginning a book study using C.S. Lewis' "The Screwtape Letters." It became clear to me very early on, that it wasn't going to work. At our first meeting to discuss the book, I looked

around the circle of students and saw blank faces and confused looks. Many had never heard of C.S. Lewis. They weren't used to the writing style, and it was agreed upon by all that maybe we should try something else. I left the meeting feeling a little defeated, knowing that I'd have to take a different approach to sharing Catholic theology with the students.

As I pondered what to do, The Holy Spirit quickly reminded me of one of the most important elements of the Catholic faith, relationship. Most of the students didn't know each other and only one or two knew me as they had attended Camp

Guggenheim when I was a counselor. I began to realize that once we had a community formed through relationship, then I could begin to unpack the beautiful, though sometimes complex, Theology of the Catholic Church.

I've already learned many lessons from my short time so far as Campus Minister. One of the biggest is that, there are no cut and dry approaches to young adult ministry. There really can be no lesson plans, no one set way. Every group of young people is different. The young people of today's generation do not live in a black and white culture. They are faced with many

difficult situations and questions but they are hungry for the truth.

College students don't leave their faith responsibility with mom and dad at home. They are becoming adults, taking ownership of their faith. They are faced with some of the same temptations as High School students, but in a more intensified way. It is so important to not only encourage them to make the right decisions, but to give them the reasons why those things matter, the tools to form their morality and foster virtue.

When children are young, we often teach them the basics of the faith. As College students, they need to learn the connection between faith and reason in order to dialogue with their peers and transform their faith foundations into a solid support for the rest of their life.

Let us continue to pray in a special way this Lenten Season for the youth of the Church and those who minister to them. It is certainly a difficult job, but as a Church, it should be one of our top priorities. After all, they are the future of our Church.

## Around the diocese

## ST. LAWRENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## LENTEN MISSION

**Ogdensburg** — St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame Parish are sponsoring a Lenten Mission.

**Date:** March 4,5,6

**Presenter:** Father Scott D. Fobare, pastor of St. Mary and St. Joseph in Massena

**Topic:** Celebrating & Living My Faith.

Schedule follows:

**March 4:** Cultivating Friendship with God (living fully), 7 p.m. Mass and homily at St. Mary's Cathedral, confessions follow session

**March 5:** Giving Ourselves to God (liv-

ing freely), 7 p.m. Mass and homily at Notre Dame Church, confessions follow session

**March 6:** Encouraging a Life of Communion (living HOLY lives) 7 p.m. Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

## CATHOLICISM SERIES

**Norfolk** — The Church of the Visitation's Catholicism program has begun for the Lent and Easter season.

**Schedule:** Tuesday mornings — 9 a.m. Mass followed by a light social; 9:45 a.m. DVD presentation by discussion.

Wednesday evenings — 5:30 p.m. Mass followed by a light social; 6:30 p.m. DVD presentation followed by discussion.

**Contact:** 315-384-4242 for more information

## FISH DINNERS DURING LENT

**Star Lake** — St. Hubert's Church will have fish dinners every Friday during Lent.

**Date:** through March 22

**Time:** 5 p.m.

**Costs:** Adults, \$9; Seniors, \$8

**Features:** Deep fried or oven baked.

Take-outs call 848-3612

## DURING TURBULENT TIMES

**Ogdensburg** — Dr. Barbara Walker & Patricia Kelley of COPE Consulting Services are presenting a program "Holding Steady During Turbulent Times"

**Date:** Feb. 27

**Time:** Two sessions 10 a.m. to noon or 5 p.m. to 7.

**Place:** Off the Hook Bed and Breakfast, 7 Butternut Street (off Rt. 37, Lisbon)

**Cost:** \$10 per person, includes meal

**Features:** This workshop will provide a strong start in taking control of grief and understanding its effect on us and the people in our lives.

**Contact:** 315-393-3287 for reservations

## 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:** On Wednesdays, Feb. 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

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## RITE OF ELECTION

**Ogdensburg** — Bishop LaValley will preside at the annual Rite of Election for Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates for those preparing to enter the Catholic Church.

**Date:** Feb. 24

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

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