

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Year of Faith...Story of Faith of Sister Eamon Lyng | PAGE 4

Archbishop discusses importance of traditional marriage | PAGE 11

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

APRIL 10, 2013

Women: privileged witnesses

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Women have a privileged role in the church because of their ability to pass on the faith through love, Pope Francis said.

"Women have had and still have a special role in opening doors to the Lord, in following him and communicating his face, because the eyes of faith always need the simple and profound look of love," the

pope told an estimated 50,000 people in St. Peter's Square April 3.

"This is the mission of women, of mothers and women, to give witness to their children and grandchildren that Christ is risen," he said. "Faith is professed with the mouth and heart, with the word and love."

In the second weekly public audience of his pontificate, Pope Francis resumed a

series of catechetical talks on the creed begun by Pope Benedict XVI in January.

Commenting on the words, "rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures," the pope noted that the New Testament gives women a "primary, fundamental role" as witnesses of Jesus' resurrection. He cited the passage in Mark Chapter 16 in which women find an empty tomb and an angel

who tells them that Jesus is alive. "Here we can see an argument in favor of the historical truth of the resurrection," Pope Francis said.

"If it had been an invention, in the context of that time it would not have been linked to the testimony of women," since the Jewish law of period did not consider women or children as "reliable, credible witnesses."

GETTING TO KNOW HIM

Pope Francis' favorite things



GREGORIO BORGIA, AP VIA CNS

This photo by AP photographer Gregorio Borgia of Pope Francis embracing 8-year-old Dominic Gondreau, who has cerebral palsy, captured the attention of people around the world. The moment took place after the new pontiff celebrated his first Easter Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican March 31. As the World gets to know the new pope a few of his favorite things are revealed.

FULL STORY, PAGE 10

Bishop's Fund Appeal nears goal

Valerie Mathews, diocesan director of the Bishop Fund appeal reports that the 2012-2013 appeal reached 98.45% of its goal as of April 4.

Donations totalling \$1,230,651 have been received in cash and pledges from 10,294 households across the diocese.

That means the Bishop's Fund is just \$19,348 away from its \$1.25 million goal.

The Bishop's Fund office can accept donations by mail or online.

Details are on page 3.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

The Beauty of Belief

Musicians and artists are invited to join a celebration of art music in the Year of Faith set for Aug. 18

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

THIS IS MY BODY



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop LaValley presided at the Easter Vigil at St. Mary's Cathedral. He is shown with Deacon Francis Bateman and Father Joseph Morgan, cathedral rector and new vicar general for the diocese.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: It's time to register for the 2013-14 school year

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Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except issue after Christmas, one week in January, one week in March and every other week in July by the Diocese of Ogdensburg, 622 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Editorial Office:

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

Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountry
catholic.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

We are getting so close to the finish line!

Do you have a couple bucks to spare?

I have a perfect suggestion on where they should go!

Valerie Mathews, our Bishop's Fund director, reported this week that the annual diocesan appeal has reached more than 98% of its goal.

In fact, only \$19,348 is needed for us to top the magic \$1.25 million figure.

According to her report, this year's contributions have come from 10,294 households.

That means, if all of us just added another \$2, we'd sur-

pass where we'd need to be!

With the election of a new pope, the continuation of the Year of Faith and the celebration of Easter, there's a lot of buzz surrounding the Catholic Church these days.

We must be ready to take advantage of this interest and nurture every tiny bud of faith that we see.

With the resources provided by the Bishop's Fund we can suggest that parents send their kids to Catholic Schools or Guggenheim or the upcoming youth rally.

We can direct our friends who wonder what the church offers to special events sponsored by the family life, campus ministry or young adult offices.

We can make sure our leaders are as prepared as they need to be through seminary, diacon and lay formation programs.

In his Easter message, Pope Francis called on us to be channels of mercy, justice, peace.

Every dime distributed by the Bishop's Fund contributes to those ideals as we strengthen the Catholic voice in the North Country.

Pay a visit to www.rc-dony/development and add a few dollars to your donation or slip a couple bucks in an envelope and drop it in next week's collection basket.

An Easter gift to your church... a perfect way to celebrate the Season!



Mary Lou
Kilian

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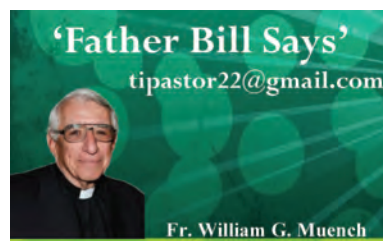
Poetic nature of priests... and all people

I would like to share with you an idea that I came upon today in a book written especially for priests. This book is written by Father Ronald D. Wintherup, a Sulpician priest. (The Sulpician Fathers are dedicated to the education and formation of priests.) The chapter that caught my attention today was entitled, "The Priest as a Poet."

As I read, I realized that many of the qualities suggested for priests would be wonderful for all Catholics.

A poet is someone who writes poems. However, the word poet also means "someone who is especially gifted in the perception and expression of the beautiful and lyrical." A poet deals with words. The priest and Catholic People, the People of God, deal with the Word of God. The Gospels present Jesus – the Son of God – as the Word of God.

The Second Vatican Council, in the Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, tells priests, "The People of God is formed into one in the first place by the Word of the living God, which is quite rightly sought from the mouths of priests." Priests and people must apply the Word of God to the circumstances of their lives. The Word of God can change a person's vision and give direction to life. This is important for priests – important for all



Catholic people.

I would like to share with you a couple of the qualities that characterize a poet. First off, the primary skill of a poet is a keen power of observation.

For a priest, the challenge is to carefully recognize what is happening in his parish, in the Church, in the world. This can – and should – have a profound influence on every priest's ministry. Knowing what is important will truly influence his preaching.

All Catholic people can and should have such a power of observation. All parishioners can and should recognize the real needs and concerns in their parish and community. This is how they will truly carry out their ministry to make their world a better place and make their parish better and more alive.

Another quality that is mentioned as essential is that poets are in touch with the essential experiences of human existence such as life, death, love, violence, war, hatred, God and mystery.

For a priest, this awareness

adds something very important to his ministry and his own spiritual life. For everything he does as a priest, these opportunities to be immersed in these experiences of human existence will also profoundly influence his preaching.

I again believe that this would be such a great quality for all Catholic people. Being touched by the experiences of human life is essential for all Catholics.

Can you imagine the spirit of a parish where the Catholic people truly are aware and influence by these important – essential – experiences of life?

When I think of priest as a poet, I think of Bishop Robert Morneau, the auxiliary Bishop of Green Bay, who came to the

diocese several years ago to lead a Wadhams Hall Pastoral Institute. He is a poet and uses poetry, his and others, in his writings and teachings and preaching.

Bishop Morneau adds this to this discussion: "Music, art and literature have the power not only to inform us about God, the world and ourselves but they also carry a mysterious power to transform us and to help us realize our potential." He also said, "How this happens has never been definitely described. That it happens is beyond doubt."

(May I add that Bishop Morneau is the only poet I have played golf with – I won't tell you how badly he defeated me!)

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Bishop's Fund nearing goal

The 2012-2013 Bishop's Fund Appeal reached 98.45% of its goal as of April 4 with \$1,230,651 received in cash and pledges from 10,294 households across the diocese.

That means the Bishop's Fund is just \$19,348 away from its \$1.25 million goal.

"The Bishop's Fund Appeal is the source of funding for the vital ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg," said Valerie Mathews, Bishop's Fund director. "It supports ministries that bring hope, encourage perseverance, offer education, promote unity and help build foundations for life. Thank you to all who have contributed to this year's appeal

Donations may be sent to The Bishop's Fund Appeal, PO Box 150, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or online at www.rcdony.org/development by clicking on "Donate Now" in the menu bar at the top of the page.

"Your gift, whatever the amount, helps the diocese reach out to thousands each year," Mrs. Mathews said. "If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider a gift to support this year's appeal."

MSC scholarships awarded to 44

WATERTOWN— The Sacred Heart Foundation has approved \$72,000 in scholarship awards to 44 men in various stages of clerical and religious formation around the world. The successful candidates - Missionaries of the Sacred Heart priests, deacons and seminary students - reside in seven countries on four continents.

The Sacred Heart Foundation founded in 1967 is a not-for-profit organization with offices in Watertown. In its 45-year history, the foundation has distributed more than \$1 million in scholarship funds.

The mission of the Sacred Heart Foundation is to provide scholarships for the training, education and maintenance of future priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Funding can also be provided for continuing education for priests, seminarians and other religious members of the MSCs undergoing courses for academic, scientific, professional, and vocational education.

The largest number of individual awards went to the Province of Cameroun. Other recipients are located in MSC Provinces in the United States, Columbia, Brazil, Fiji, India and Indonesia.

This year the SHF Board also endorsed support for 40 MSC to attend the biennial Conference of Americas. The conference enables MSC superiors and formation directors to discuss and exchange issues related to formation of candidates. The outcomes of this conference will significantly affect how formation of candidates is accomplished in South and Central America. This meeting will impact how future MSC priests and brothers are educated and formed in their vocations.

To support the Sacred Heart Foundation contact the Foundation at 668 Thompson Street, Watertown, NY 13601, (315) 782-3344, email mail@sacredheartfoundation.com or visit the website: www.sacredheartfoundation.com



Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan vocation director; Drew Benware, Saranac Lake; Chris Gould, Lake Placid and Andrew Lauria of Wells met recently to plan an art and music event for the Year of Faith. "The Beauty of Belief" will be held Aug. 18 at Hosmer Hall of SUNY Potsdam with a visual art display opening at 3 p.m. and concert beginning at 4.

Coming: The Beauty of Belief

"The Beauty of Belief - a celebration of art and music in the Year of Faith" has been planned as part of the diocesan Year of Faith observance.

The event will be held Aug. 18 at SUNY Potsdam's Hosmer Hall. The program will open with a visual art display

beginning at 3 p.m. followed by a concert at 4.

Organizers are now seeking musicians to share high quality choral, vocal, or instrumental pieces that are sacred and spiritually influenced.

Demos may be sent to

beautyofbelief@rcdony.org

Artists who are interested in sharing the beauty of the faith through art should contact Year of Faith art committee members Carol Gonthier at 315-212-5004 or Donna Smith at 518-521-7256 for more information.

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YEAR OF FAITH...STORY OF FAITH

A journey of love and faith

Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSI
Superior, Sisters of St. Joseph, Watertown

All glory, praise, and thanksgiving to God for this wondrous journey of love through faith! The abundance of God's love has been abundantly poured out in my life!

The power of God's love has come to me in unexpected ways and surprises. I believe that God will unfold and manifest His love if we trust in Him at all times. I have learned that God's ways and thoughts are never the same as mine.

Over and over, I am deeply grateful for the gift of my parents who lived and practiced the Catholic faith. Their own faith had been nourished from their own family lives.

My father's brother and sister had already dedicated their lives to priesthood and consecrated lives. I thank my Mother and Dad who nurtured, sustained, and strengthened my faith journey and continue to do so from heaven above.

My parents' love for each other was expressed in having five children of whom I am the oldest. Each of us knew and experienced God's love when my mother would trace the Sign of the Cross on our foreheads as infants and we would pray for each member of the family.

Beginning to know God

It was in the home that we began to know God, His presence, and His love. Each room had a crucifix and in our living room, not only was there a crucifix on the wall, but holy pictures of Jesus and Mary as well.

Our home was consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The picture was enthroned over our piano in the center of our living room. There was never any question Who was the center of our lives.

It was my father's daily practice to make a visit to Holy Family Church after work that inspired me to want to be with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Every Saturday, we went to Confession as a family. Sunday morning, the whole Lyng family was at Holy Family Church, Watertown for Mass.

Msgr. Albert Farrell, Msgr. Robert McCarthy, and Msgr. Anthony Milia were strong influences in our Catholic formation as our pastor



Sr. Mary Eamon Lyng, SSI

and assistants.

My parents wanted to continue our faith formation with Catholic education. I graduated from Holy Family School and Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA) where I was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

One of the many treasures of being at IHA was the availability of making daily visits in the chapel, looking up at the stain glass window of the Last Supper that was above the tabernacle.

Entering Religious life

Daily Mass became a way of life for me during my high school days. It was these opportunities and experiences that my nurtured my desire to grow in God's love and to be of service to His people that sparked the desire to enter Religious Life as a Sister of St. Joseph.

Sister Rosa Mystica Bailey, who taught me twice at Holy Family School, had always been a rock for me in a time when my mother had a long illness. Throughout my school years, she continued to walk with me on my faith journey. She forever became a friend who influenced my vocation to enter as a Sister of St. Joseph.

I entered at Mater Dei College, Og-



densburg in September 1963. After a year as a postulant, I received the habit. It was Sister Rosa Mystica who dressed me in my habit in June of 1964.

I am still in awe of the great privilege of having the "best" of teachers at Mater Dei College who taught Theology and Philosophy.

Msgr. Milia's love of Scripture, Msgr. Peter Riani's love for Christ and the Church, and Msgr. Paul Joly's preciseness for Logic, truly deepened my spiritual formation and prayer life.

I was privileged to further my Biblical Studies at Providence College, Rhode Island where the Word of God began to truly take flesh within me! The Dominican Fathers were the inspiration for my desire to know the Word of God.

How grateful I am to God, to my Community, and to the many places I have ministered for the opportunity to have taught Scripture. It has also been a privilege for me to teach so many people in the Formation Ministry Program and dedicated men in the Diaconate Program for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

My faith has grown because I have experienced the desire of each one to know God more deeply through His Word.

In the faces of children

It was always the faces of the children that I taught in the Catholic schools across the Diocese from the shores of Lake Champlain, to the Adirondack Mountains, to the tip of the Canadian border, and to the shores of the St. Lawrence River that I learned that it is a little child who leads the way to know God more clearly through humility and simplicity.

The ministry of being teacher and principal in the Catholic Schools broadened my vision to see children become who God intended them to be. The best means of evangelization that we have today is our Catholic Schools. It is there that the children learn Gospel values across the curriculum.

Taking on new roles

After 34 years of Catholic school teaching, my faith was going to be challenged to become the Formation Director for the Diocese of Ogdensburg Department of Education. I traveled around the Diocese learning the names of teachers and seeing the children they taught. They, too, taught me more than I could ever teach them.

Being a Catholic School teacher is a call to witness his/her faith in order to shape the child's heart into the heart of Jesus. What a privilege and an honor to have been part of the process.

After six years in the Department of Education, there was an opening to be Director of Evangelization.

Sister Mary Ellen Brett had led the people of the parishes to form small communities to share their faith through the *Disciples in Mission* program. The reason for the Church to exist is to evangelize.

From this mission, the people of God were strongly encouraged "to go out to the world" to proclaim the Good News and to build the kingdom of God. How would they continue to go out to others to witness the faith?

Now was my opportunity "to go out" to all the parishes to continue their life-long learning through a program called *Why Catholic?*

I experienced the deepening of the people's faith and it was extended outward in a variety of ways to encourage them to deepen their own faith, to bring a friend with them to Church events, and to be a witness of their faith to those who have never heard of Jesus.

I was energized and enthusiastic about being "out there" facilitating workshops and retreats.

What further deepened my faith was the response of so many people who filled St. Mary's Cathedral for the St. Paul Event in 2009 and for this Year of Faith's Opening Prayer Service: Witnesses of Faith.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

Finding a 'mission moment'

By Kelly Donnelly
NCC columnist

It's difficult to find the right words to describe my week in Nicaragua with Mission of Hope. Inspiring, eye-opening, difficult, exciting, fun, unique...all of these words are true, yet none truly capture my week.

I knew from going on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic, going on Habitat for Humanity builds, and other volunteer opportunities that it would be a transformative week.

Yet, like all truly grace-filled experiences, I was unable to anticipate the exact emotions, experiences, and realizations I would experience.

I was filled with joy seeing the happiness and appreciation that the Nicaraguans have.

I was filled with gratitude for the many blessings I have as I saw the poverty facing so many.

I was filled with hope as I saw the dedication of the



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Kelly Donnelly, a teacher at Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh, is shown above with other participants of February's North Country Mission of Hope trip to Nicaragua. She reflects on her experiences here.

other Missioners, particularly of my students and other teens on the Mission.

When I was on a home shelter build with a group of people, I knelt down to play with a child at one point.

He was playing with several

small plastic dinosaurs in the dirt, and as I began interacting with him. All of a sudden, I noticed a piece of glass lying in the dirt, and immediately thought that I should pick it up and remove it so that he didn't

hurt himself.

At the same moment, he picked up the piece of glass and began playing with it as if it was another dinosaur -- it was obviously one of his toys.

That was my "Mission mo-

ment". It was one of those moments that I couldn't begin to anticipate, but immediately flooded me with emotion.

I thought about how different this child's life is from my own. I thought about how no matter how much I try to serve, love, and educate myself, I can never truly understand what it is like to live in poverty.

For me, a glass shard is trash, a slight danger, something to give little thought to. For him, it was toy, a treasure.

Yet, I also thought about the fact that despite my inability to ever truly grasp his, or anyone else's life, being conscious and loving about others' lives is so necessary. It reminded me of an afterword to a book I read where the author said, "Trying to understand is vital to our humanity."

It truly is. Christ entered the world to share in our humanity, and it is through sharing in one another's humanity that we can grow together.

A journey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The enthusiasm of the people's faith to journey across the Diocese is a testimony of a deep commitment to the power of the Holy Spirit to renew the Church.

I am so grateful that I have had the privilege to have been plunged into the power of God's love as a pilgrim on this journey of love through faith. Who knows the mind of God? His ways are unsearchable and His wisdom is beyond me, but I have come to trust in Him more each day.

Again the challenge of a new beginning was upon me as I was asked to leave the Diocesan family to be with

the Sisters at our Motherhouse. This was to become a ministry of love, compassion, and care to the Sisters who shaped and formed me in my early years of education.

Now, it was my turn to return all that had been given to me back to them through love and service.

God's ways and thoughts are certainly not my ways and my thoughts. All I desire is that I radiate the face of Christ and that someday that God's will be done and that our thoughts and ways will coincide with each other so that God's Kingdom will continue to be fulfilled and come to full fruition.

It is In This Place, at the

Motherhouse, that I was able to reflect back to my days at IHA's chapel, and to be in our present chapel 49 years later to look up at the stain glass window of the Last Supper over the tabernacle and pray: "We are gathered at table as one in the Lord. We are gathered as people who are living the Word. Our hearts and our spirits are nurtured by grace. It is Jesus who fills us. He is here in this place".





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More state funds for schools

ALBANY - The state budget agreement reached by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and legislative leaders increases funding for Catholic and other religious and independent schools by \$13.5 million over the governor's proposed budget released in January.

The funds include an additional \$9 million in reimbursements for the Comprehensive Attendance

Policy (CAP) program, as well as \$4.5 million in a new funding stream for school safety grants in reaction to the horrific massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., as well as other school shootings around the country.

The restoration comes after a strong lobbying effort by the New York State Catholic Conference and a

coalition of independent and religious schools, as well as in response to nearly 14,000 email message sent by members of the Catholic Action Network. Religious and independent schools received just over \$94,000,000 in Mandated Services Aid in this year's budget, as well as \$43.5 million for Comprehensive Attendance Policy reimbursement.



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Bishop's Schedule

April 15 – 11 a.m., Bishop's Fund Priest's Advisory Committee meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

5 p.m., Mass, dinner, and evening of recollection with the Altar Rosary Society at St. Joseph's Church in West Chazy

April 16 - 9:30 a.m., Diocesan Envisioning Team meeting with the Catholic Leadership Institute 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 pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 403.

April 10 - 6 p.m., St. Mary's Church, Clayton

Aug. 29 - 8 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

Rest in Peace

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

April 10 – Rev. Maurice Morin, M.S.C., 1976

April 11 – Rev. John P. Whalen, O.S.A., 1947

April 13 – Rev. Callistus Scheid, O.F.M. Conv., 1854; Rev. Emil Krancewicz, O.F.M. Conv., 1974

April 14 – Msgr. Richard F. Pierce, 1935; **April 15** – Msgr. Peter O.

LaRose, 1918; Rev. Alfred J. Chevalier, 1996

April 16 – Deacon Vernon J. Chamberlain, 1993

To Report Abuse

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

Environmental Stewardship

Did you know that

...Pope Francis mentioned our need as Catholics to protect and care for the beauty of creation ten times during his inaugural address? "When people ignore God's plan inscribed in nature... or they treat each other with disrespect, the way is opened to destruction, and hearts are hardened."

Tips for living more lightly...

- Take time to listen to the sounds of the returning song birds, and join in praising God for Creation.
- Consider alternatives to harmful pesticides for your gardens and lawns this year protecting the purity of our ground water.
- Plant some seeds inside to grow your own fresh produce and flowers to enjoy in the summer reducing transportation costs for buying in the super markets.

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THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE... LET US REJOICE

EASTER AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

Elizabethtown parishioners celebrate with their new pastor



PHOTOS BY PAT HENDRICK

Father Francis Flynn, who has served as pastor of St. Elizabeth's in Elizabeth and St. Philip Neri Church in Westport since September, sprinkles water on members of the congregation at the Easter Sunday Mass in Elizabethtown.



Jack Hanby carries the cross, leading the procession at the beginning of the Mass.



Paul Fenton presents the Offertory gifts to Father Flynn

Carolyn Karcher read from the Scriptures for the Easter liturgy. St. Elizabeth's Parish is comprised of about 150 families. The formation of St. Elizabeth's was a dream of one its native sons - Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams, the first bishop of Ogdensburg who dedicated its cornerstone in 1881.



Mary Davey, left, directed the choir for the special liturgy. The choir members shown above are Jane Hoskins, Janice Hutchins, Sue Deugan, Sharon Hutchins, Kim Matthews, and Aileen Geiling. Missing from picture is Dan Mousseau, guitarist.

Watertown youth theater group shares talents and dollars

Stage Notes: performance with a purpose

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

WATERTOWN - Five years ago, Ticia Marra began Stage Notes as a way to show children how to use their gifts in a positive way while doing good for others.

Since then, the theater group has donated thousands of dollars toward the community, locally as well as internationally.

The group, whose motto is "Performance with a Purpose" currently has 16 students, from seventh to twelfth grade.

Ms. Marra explained her idea started as a way to teach students that their art can make a difference.

"Passion for musical theater and performing doesn't have to be selfish," she said. "They can take a gift God gave them and do something with it. Everything is for a greater good. There can always be a purpose beyond just to get up and sing.

"Their talent is a gift, and it should be shared," she said.

Along with sharing talent, the group also helps others by donating proceeds from its performances.

This year, Stage Notes will present *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* in June at the Black River Valley Club and give to this year's chosen or-



Ticia Marra, liturgical music director at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown, has directed Stage Notes for the past five years. The young people in the group have donated thousands of dollars to charitable organizations through the years.

ganization, the Watertown Urban Mission.

Over the years, Stage Notes has donated approximately \$12,000 to the Heather A. Freeman Foundation, a non-profit organization of Watertown.

Last year, the group also gave \$2,000 to the Delaney Bay Fund toward the con-



Stage Notes member LJ White is pictured at The New Voice House of Life Orphanage in Leogane, Haiti in what was then, their dining area. Stage Notes donated \$2000 to the Delaney Bay Fund for the construction of a new dining area for the orphanage to protect the children from the elements as well as give them new dining tables.

struction of a new dining area for The New Voice House of Life Orphanage in Leogane, Haiti. The project which is currently underway will protect the children from the elements and give them new dining tables.

"That teaches the kids that our neighbors aren't just in our community," Ms. Marra said. "Also, it's something they can point to and say we raised the money for that."

One member of Stage Notes, Rachel Sousa, said that the group helped her to grow, not just as a performer, but as a person. The seventeen-year-old has been in the theater group for five years.

"Every single performance I have been involved with through Stage Notes has had

a meaning and a purpose behind it, and knowing that your art is ultimately making a difference in someone's life is the most rewarding feeling in the world," she said. "Stage Notes is a group of inspiring, dedicated people that use their passion for the arts to give back to our community and simply bring joy to people's lives."

Students in the theater group traveled to New York City March 1, where they stayed overnight, saw a Broadway performance of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and met the cast, including a question and answer session.

Another 17-year-old member of the theater group, Emily Thompson, said, "Stage Notes has given me a sense of family outside my

own home. It has shown me that hard work and perseverance pays off and that you can achieve whatever you want to accomplish as long as you don't give up.

Stage Notes has helped me grow into the person I am today," she said. "and I can honestly say I don't know where I would be without my Stage Notes family's continuous support."

Ms. Marra, a native of Watertown and the liturgical music director of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, began the group in a private studio setting. After students audition at the beginning of the school year, she works on building trust and community with them.

Using theater games and group activities, Ms. Marra said she wants to make sure they trust one another, and creating a positive, safe place for them is important to her. The year culminates with the fund raising performance in June.

Ms. Marra, a vocal performance major, deliberately chose not to pursue a professional career in performance and chose to stay in the North Country to teach lessons.

"There is not a day I regret that decision," she said. "The more I do theater company, the more I know God brought me to that place. I try to use all the talents he gave me to inspire students and teach them what I feel theater should be. I am so grateful to be able to do that."

To celebrate the group's fifth anniversary, they will present a Broadway Review called "A Salute To Broadway" on Friday, April 12 at the Stag The Black River Valley Club. Notes alumni will make cameo appearances and a newly created younger theater group, Stage Notes Junior, will have its first performance.

In the past, Stage Notes performances to raise money have included *Godspell*, *Grease* and *Bye Bye Birdie*.

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HISTORY DAY WINNERS



A number of junior high students at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga competed in History Day at Fort Ticonderoga March 9. St. Joseph Sister Sharon Dalton, principal; and Lori Fox, social studies teacher at St. Mary's school are pictured with the first and second place winners from the school, many of whom will go on to Cooperstown for the New York state level competition. The students who participated were Ronald O'Neill, Sabastian Sprouse, Riley Manso, Zachary Spaulding, Kathleen O'Neill, Stephania Zelinski, Clayton Spaulding and Natalie O'Neill.

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Mission Vitae for Rev. Fr. Timothy G. Canaan



Father Timothy Canaan has been a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg since 1993. Father Timothy is presently the pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of Saint John the Baptist in Plattsburgh, NY. Father Timothy also serves the diocese as its Director of Campus Ministry. Shortly after Father Timothy's ordination to the priesthood he began preaching retreats in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. He has preached close to 20 Parish Missions; in addition to the parish missions he has been the retreat director for Commissioned Lay Ministers, Candidates for Confirmation, and Vocation Candidates. Father Timothy's gift of preaching enables him to preach the gospel message through the use of real-life stories and everyday situations.

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First Night - April 14:

Adoration and Healing in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

Second Night - April 15:

Come to the Water and the Spirit
Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Third Night - April 16

You are my Witnesses!
Celebration of the Holy Eucharist



Homebody, soccer fan, tango-lover - some papal pastimes revealed

Pope Francis: a few of his favorite things

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Here are a few of Pope Francis' favorite things, which he revealed in a series of interviews granted while he was archbishop of Buenos Aires.

The interviews are in the book, "Pope Francis: Conversations with Jorge Bergoglio" by Sergio Rubin and Francesca Ambrogetti, which was originally published in 2010 under the title "El Jesuita" ("The Jesuit"). It is not yet available in English.

- **Favorite sports:** When he was young, the future pope played basketball, but he loved going to the stadium to watch soccer with his whole family to see their favorite team, San Lorenzo. He lamented that the fan scene is not what it used to be. At the worst, "people would yell at the referee that he was a bum, a scoundrel, a sellout ... nothing in comparison to the epithets they use today," he said.

- **Favorite city:** "I love where I live. I love Buenos Aires." He has traveled in Latin America and parts of Europe, including Ireland "to improve my English."

However, he said, "I always try to avoid traveling ... because I'm a homebody" and got homesick easily.

- **Favorite way to stay informed:** Newspapers. He said he turned on the radio only to listen to classical music. He had thought he'd probably start using the Internet like his predecessor, the late-Cardinal Juan Carlos Aramburu of Buenos Aires, did "when he retired at 75."

- **Favorite mode of transport as cardinal archbishop of Buenos Aires:** The subway, which he would always take to get around "because it's fast; but if I can, I prefer the bus because that way I can look outside."

- **Favorite pastime:** As a boy, he liked to collect stamps.

Today, "I really like reading



CNS PHOTO/SAN LORENZO ATHLETIC CLUB HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

Pope Francis, while he was still Argentine Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, posed with young men after celebrating a 2011 Mass at the sports complex of the San Lorenzo soccer club, of which he is known to be a fan, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

and listening to music."

- **Favorite authors and books:** "I adore poetry by (Friedrich) Holderlin," a 19th-century lyric poet; Alessandro Manzoni's "The Betrothed" ("I Promessi Sposi"), which he said he has read at least four times; Dante Alighieri's "The Divine Comedy"; and anything by Fyodor Dostoevsky and Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges.

The pope recalled that even though Borges was an agnostic, "he'd recite the 'Our Father' every evening because he had promised his mother he would, and died with a sense of 'religious comfort.'"

- **Favorite music:** "Leonore" Overture No. 3 by Ludwig

van Beethoven conducted by the late-Wilhelm Furtwangler, "who, in my opinion, is the best conductor of some of (Beethoven's) symphonies and works by Wagner."

- **Favorite dance style:** tango, which he said he loves "very much. It's something that comes from within." He said he danced the tango when he was young "even though I preferred the milonga," which is an older form of tango with a faster rhythm.

- **Favorite movie:** "Babette's Feast" because it shows the transformation of a group of people who took denial too far and didn't know what happiness was, he said. The sumptuous meal helps free them from their

fear of love, he said.

He also likes Italian neorealism films, which often confronted the social, economic and moral consequence of World War II, but added that as archbishop he didn't have much time to go to the movies.

- **Favorite painting:** "The White Crucifixion" by Marc Chagall. The scene "isn't cruel, rather it's full of hope. It shows pain full of serenity. I think it's one of the most beautiful things Chagall ever painted."

- **Favorite person:** His grandmother Rosa, who helped raise him when he was little, taught him his first words of Italian and passed on her deep religious sensibility.

- **Favorite saint he turns to in time of need:** St. Therese of Lisieux. He kept a photo of her on his library shelf with a vase of white roses in front of it.

"When I have a problem I ask the saint, not to solve it, but to take it in her hands and help me accept it."

- **Favorite virtue:** "The virtue of love, to make room for others with a gentle approach. Meekness entices me enormously! I always ask God to grant me a meek heart," he said.

- **Worst vice to avoid:** "The sin that repulses me most is pride" and thinking of oneself as a big shot. He said when it has happened to him, "I have felt great embarrassment and I ask God for forgiveness because nobody has the right to behave like this."

- **Typical reaction to unexpected announcements:** He freezes. When Pope Francis was elected pope and appeared at the central balcony, many noticed he looked rather stiff. Turns out that's how he reacted when he was named auxiliary bishop in 1992 and how he reacts "to anything unexpected, good or bad, it's like I'm paralyzed," he said.

- **Things he would rescue in event of a fire:** His breviary and appointment book, which also contains all of his contacts, addresses and telephone numbers. "It would be a real disaster to lose them."

"I'm very attached to my breviary; it's the first thing I open in the morning and the last thing I close when I go to sleep."

He also keeps tucked safe between its pages his grandmother's letters and her last words to her grandkids before she died. She said that in times of sadness, trouble or loss, to look to the tabernacle, "where the greatest and noblest martyr is kept," and to Mary at the foot of the cross so that they may "let fall a drop of salve on the deepest and most painful wounds."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope urges doctrinal office to act 'decisively' against sex abuse

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis reaffirmed the importance of responding decisively to the problem of the sexual abuse of minors by members of the clergy and called on the Vatican office dealing with suspected cases to continue carrying out its mandate. During an April 5 meeting with Archbishop Gerhard L. Muller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the pope discussed the office's various responsibilities. However, he made a particular point of highlighting its work to counter clerical sexual abuse, telling Archbishop Muller he wanted the congregation to continue with the policies of retired Pope Benedict XVI wanted and "to act decisively concerning cases of sexual abuse," the Vatican said in a written statement released after the meeting. The pope, the statement said, asked the congregation to continue: "promoting measures that protect minors, above all; help for those who have suffered such violence in the past; necessary procedures against those found guilty; (and) the commitment of bishops' conferences in formulating and implementing the necessary directives in this area that is so important for the church's witness and credibility." The pope also assured victims that they had a special place in his heart and prayers.

Allowing over-counter sale of contraceptives to all ages 'simply wrong'

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- An April 5 decision by a New York federal judge to lift age limits on purchases of over-the-counter emergency contraceptives should be "appealed and overturned," according to an official of the U.S. Conference of Bishops. "No public health consideration justifies the unregulated distribution of such drugs to children," said Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the USCCB's Secretariat for Pro Life Activities. "Many studies have shown that wider access to 'emergency contraception' among young people does not reduce pregnancy or abortion rates, but can contribute to higher rates of sexually transmitted disease," she said in a statement. The ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Edward Korman in Brooklyn, N.Y., said that within 30 days, the Food and Drug Administration must make emergency contraceptives available to women of all ages. Korman said the case wasn't about the potential misuse by 11-year-olds of the contraceptive called the morning-after pill or "Plan B." He said the number of girls that age likely to use the drugs was minuscule. Plan B, known generically as levonorgestrel, uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex.

Catholic educators focus on technology at convention in Houston

HOUSTON (CNS) -- More than 8,000 Catholic educators at the annual National Catholic Educational Association convention April 2-4 in Houston included catechists, teachers and administrators who teach preschoolers to high school students in cities and rural areas across the country and around the world. One thing the entire group seemed to have in common was the realization that technology is a major part -- or should be -- of their daily work. The convention included more than 60 workshops on technology and about 30 exhibits in the exhibition hall that promoted technology for classrooms and schools. This year, the participants for the first time also could make use of an app for smartphones to search for sessions, speakers and exhibitors or find their way around the George R. Brown Convention Center. "Technology is in the forefront for our members," said Karen Ristau, NCEA president. "Catholic educators are eager to bring the latest technological advances into our schools, parishes, colleges and seminaries."

Traditional marriage 'important for the social good,' says archbishop

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Traditional marriage between one man and one woman is really about the good of children and families, and the "good of families" is about "the good of society," said the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage.

"That's in the natural order, that's the way marriage exists in nature, that's why marriage is important for the social good," said Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco.

"Nature promotes a child having a father and a mother. There's no way a child could come into the world other than with a father and a mother," he added.

The Catholic Church opposes same-sex marriage "because we favor preserving the definition of marriage in the law as it exists naturally," he told Catholic News Service. "What we're really opposed to is marriage redefinition.

"Our opponents in the debate ... favor not expanding the right of marriage but redefining it to be something different from what it is to include the union of two people of the same sex," he said. "One could ask, 'Well why should it stop there, why can't it include other types of unions, such as multiple partners?'"

Archbishop Cordileone spoke to CNS March 26 in Washington. That morning, he addressed the March for Marriage rally on the National Mall. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was a co-sponsor of the event.

Before gathering to listen to speakers, rally participants marched from the Mall to the steps of the Supreme

Court and back. That day, the justices heard oral arguments on the constitutionality of California's Proposition 8, the law banning same-sex marriage.

The next day, they heard oral arguments in a challenge to the federal Defense of Marriage Act. Known as DOMA, the 1996 federal law defines marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife."

"The church's teaching ... is correct" about marriage being between one man and one woman, Archbishop Cordileone told CNS. "We know the vast majority of people, maybe even our own people, think that we're wrong. But the church has a lot of wisdom.

"We've been dealing with the human condition for 2,000 years. We've seen a lot and we've lived through a lot and the church has a deep mine of wisdom to share, and I think we need to do a better job of mining it so we can share it with our people," he added.

A lot is at stake in the marriage debate, he said.

Marriage is either a "conjugal, comprehensive union of a man and a woman who come together to form a family and so that their children can be joined to them as a family," he said, "or it's about a relationship between two -- or for that matter potentially more -- adults that the gov-

ernment gives recognition and benefits to for the mutual benefit of the adults.

"These two definitions of marriage are incompatible. We can't have both at the same time. Only one can stand," he said.

The assault on the institution of marriage didn't just start with the push to legalize same-sex marriage, he noted.

In "the social revolutionary movements of the '60s and '70s ... we see the markers of the redefinition of marriage. ... No-fault divorce was a huge blow to marriage," Archbishop Cordileone said. The advent of artificial birth control and "so-called open marriages and swinging" are other factors that over past few decades, he said, have undermined what the Catholic Church and all societies through the ages have understood to be the components of marriage.

"It's what we call the three goods of marriage: permanence, fidelity and openness to offspring," he explained.

"Vastly different human societies ... cultures, religions ... living in very different types of areas, from mountaintops to deserts to jungles to cities to small towns, have basically understood that (marriage) is to bring men and women together in a public sexual union for the sake of the procreation of children and upbringing of children."

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Exciting events mark the weeks after Easter

The weeks following Easter narrate events that are as exciting for us who read them now several thousand years later as they must have been to contemporary witnesses then.

Peter figures prominently in today's Scriptures. He has gone back to his original occupation of fishing. Six others, including John, have accompanied him.

As they sit in the dark through the long night, nothing much is happening.

Then, as the dawn breaks, they hear a voice across the

waters calling to them: "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" As they reply "No", the voice suggests to them that they try the right side. As the nets strain from the huge haul, John is the first to recognize the Lord's voice.

As usual, impulsive Peter immediately jumps into the water and swims to shore. There he finds a charcoal fire with bread freshly prepared.

As they gather in amazement and joy, they broil some fish and eat breakfast with Jesus.

The Master breaks the silence with a quiet question,

"Peter do you love me more than these?"

Eager to be reinstated in Jesus' good graces, "Peter instantly affirms that he does. As Jesus asks him twice more, and Peter humbly reaffirms his love, the others hear Jesus thrice stated command to Peter, "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep".

Thus has the Lord forgiven Peter his denials, but has also singled him out to head the infant Church.

The primacy of authority that Jesus bestows on Peter at the seashore is amply demonstrated by Peter's amazing eloquence in preaching and his firm leadership of the early community following the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pente-

APRIL 14

Third Sunday of April

READINGS

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

lenges our pleasure-seeking culture with all of its unjust exploitation of the weak and defenseless, prison doors close on those who pose a danger to the status quo.

Our new Pope Francis, in his Easter day message in St. Peter's Square, urged all people in Rome and throughout the world to accept the power of Love and to be channels of that love to heal and restore both the physical environment that is a gift from God, but also the broken relationships and the crimes of hate of nations and individuals.

May our Holy Father's fresh and invigorating leadership restore trust and confidence in the Church and in its teachings.

cost.

Our first reading today shows the outrage and swift reaction of the Jewish Sanhedrin to the spread of Christianity.

Strong and often vicious opposition to the gentle power of love has been repeated over and over again through the ages, even to our own times.

Whenever the real Truth of Jesus' teaching chal-

THE HOLY LONGING

God is revealed as *redeemer*, not as a rescuer

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI
NCC columnist

Before you get serious about Jesus, first consider how good you are going to look on wood!

That's a line from Daniel Berrigan that rightly warns us that faith in Jesus and the resurrection won't save us from humiliation, pain, and death in this life.

Faith isn't meant to do that. Jesus doesn't grant special exemptions to his friends, no more than God granted special exemptions to Jesus. We see this everywhere in the Gospels, though most clearly in Jesus' resurrection.

To understand this, it's helpful to compare Jesus' resurrection to what Jesus himself does in raising Lazarus from the dead.

The Lazarus story begs a lot of questions. John, the evangelist, tells us the story: He begins by pointing out that Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, were very close friends of Jesus.

Hence, we are understandably taken aback by Jesus' seeming lack of response to Lazarus' illness and the request to come and heal him. Here's the story:

Resurrection shows that God doesn't ordinarily intervene to save us from humiliation, pain, and death; rather he redeems humiliation, pain, and death after the fact.

Lazarus' sisters, Martha and Mary, sent word to Jesus that "the man you love is ill" with the implied request that Jesus should come and heal him. But Jesus' reaction is curious. He doesn't rush off immediately to try to heal his close friend. Instead he remains where he is for two days longer while his friend dies. Then, after Lazarus has died, he sets off to visit him.

As he approaches the village where Lazarus has died, he is met by Martha and then, later, by Mary.

Each, in turn, asks him the question: "Why?" Why, since you loved this man, did you not come to save him from death? Indeed, Mary's question implies even more: "Why?" Why is it that God invariably seems absent when bad things happen to good people?

Why doesn't God rescue his loved ones and save them from pain and death?

Jesus doesn't offer any theoretical apologia in response. Instead he asks where they have laid the body, lets them take him there, sees the burial site, weeps in sorrow, and then raises his dead friend back to life.

So why did he let him die in the first place? The story begs that question: Why? Why didn't Jesus rush down to save Lazarus since he loved him?

The answer to that question teaches a very important lesson about Jesus, God, and faith, namely, that God is not a God who ordinarily rescues us, but is rather a God who redeems

us. God doesn't ordinarily intervene to save us from humiliation, pain, and death; rather he redeems humiliation, pain, and death after the fact.

Simply put, Jesus treats Lazarus exactly the same way as God, the Father, treats Jesus: Jesus is deeply and intimately loved by his Father and yet his Father doesn't rescue him from humiliation, pain, and death.

In his lowest hour, when he is humiliated, suffering, and dying on the cross, Jesus is jeered by the crowd with the challenge: "If God is your father, let him rescue you!" But there's no rescue. Instead Jesus dies inside the humiliation and pain. God raises him up only after his death. This is one of the key revelations inside the resurrection: We have a redeeming, not a rescuing, God.

Indeed, the story of the raising of Lazarus in John's Gospel was meant to answer a burning question inside the first generation of Christians: They had known Jesus in the flesh, had been

intimate friends with him, had seen him heal people and raise people from the dead, so why was he letting them die? Why wasn't Jesus rescuing them?

It took the early Christians some time to grasp that Jesus doesn't ordinarily give special exemptions to his friends, no more than God gave special exemptions to Jesus.

So, like us, they struggled with the fact that someone can have a deep, genuine faith, be deeply loved by God, and still have to suffer humiliation, pain, and death like everyone else.

God didn't spare Jesus from suffering and death, and Jesus doesn't spare us from them.

That is one of the key revelations inside of the resurrection and is the one we perhaps most misunderstand. We are forever predicating our faith on, and preaching, a rescuing God, a God who promises special exemptions to those of genuine faith:

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS

SUNSET ON THE TRACKS

SUNSET ON THE TRACKS, a new memoir by Jack Boyle, celebrates family, friends and special times in 1950's Fort Covington.

Prominent in the chapters is the role of his Catholic faith as he recalls the influence of those who inspired him in his growing-up years.

He mentions the humility, simplicity and consistency of his father's prayer life, including the hand blessings on the family meals at Grace, the quiet prayer on his knees at bedtime, his private annual retreats to Oka, the Trappist monastery in Canada, and the final Hail Mary said aloud (according to the hospital nurses), as his father finished his earthly stay after a short illness.

On visits to his grandmother, May Peets, in Brush-ton, the author notes the Friday evening rituals of the Rosary, with everyone, save her husband (who was lame), on their knees.

A convert to Catholicism, she also planned regular family visits to St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Notre



Jack Boyle

Dame du Cap de la Madeleine and St. Anne de Beaupre in Quebec City.

"The fast-paced driving of my grandfather on these trips assured a sincere prayer of thanks by everyone for safe arrival," adds Boyle.

There is the compelling influence of Father Edmund Dumas, who was his parish priest for many years, from the time the author was five years of age through his teenage years.

"He was a personable and dynamic individual who lived life to the fullest, but

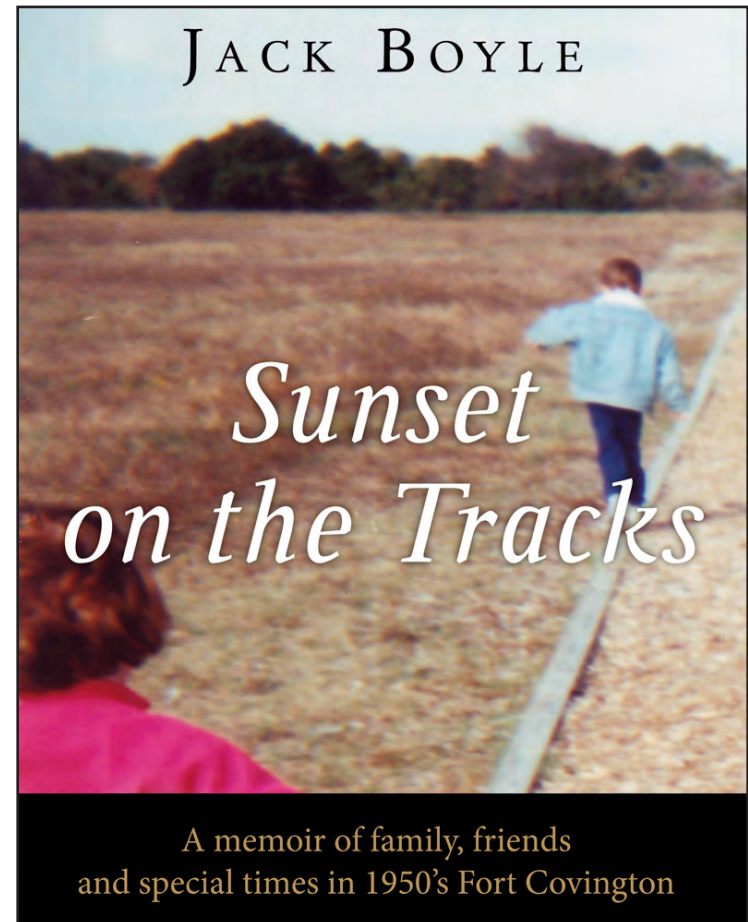
was totally committed to 'Holy Mother, the Church' and the priestly life in all its dimensions," says the author.

Boyle recalls moving and impactful sermons, Msgr. Dumas' warm and engaging affect with parishioners and joyous "perks," along with the other altar boys, on ski trips, hockey games at the Montreal Forum and annual venison stew dinners as a reward for service.

The author's mother, Mae Boyle, was the parish choir director and organist for many years, and most of that time worked without compensation. She worked tirelessly for a positive result and received many accolades for the quality of the liturgical music presented at St. Mary's of the Fort Parish.

What she probably appreciated most though, says the author, was the gratitude expressed by the pastor at the end of services on Christmas Eve. "That seemed to make it all worthwhile," he says.

"I am especially grateful to



Msgr. Paul Whitmore," says the author, "who encouraged me to write when I was a student at Wadhams Hall back in the early 60's. I hope he will be glad for the en-

couragement!"

SUNSET ON THE TRACKS is available at \$20 from Sunset Books, 112 Palmetto Court, Milford, PA 18337.

God is revealed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Have a genuine faith in Jesus, and you will be spared from life's humiliations and pains! Have a genuine faith in Jesus, and prosperity will come your way! Believe in the resurrection, and rainbows will surround your life!

Would it were so! But Jesus never promised us rescue, exemptions, immunity from cancer, or escape from death. He promised rather that, in the end, there will be redemption, vindication, immunity from suffering, and eternal life. But that's in the end; meantime, in the early and intermediate chapters of our lives, there will be the same kinds of humiliation, pain, and

death that everyone else suffers. The death and resurrection of Jesus reveal a redeeming, not a rescuing, God.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.



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CLINTON

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

Plattsburgh – A Little Rock Scripture Study "Good News in New Places" has been planned

Date: Tuesdays, April 23 – June 18

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Cost: \$15 donation

Features: Good News in New Places studies the earliest stage of the journey of the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Registration: Call the Parish Office or fill out a registration form in the Atrium.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Peru – St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 will host an "All You Can Eat" spaghetti dinner.

Date: April 20

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

Place: St. Augustine's Parish Center; Take-outs available

Cost: Adults, \$7.50; Children 6 to 12, \$3.50; under 5, free

CHICKEN AND BISCUITS

Mooers Forks – All you can eat Chicken & Biscuits dinner has been planned

Date: April 20

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Ann's Church; Take-outs available by calling 236-6118.

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

Date: April 14

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

Place: St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall

CLIMATE AMBASSADOR

Plattsburgh – Dr. Gerry Gacioch, Chief of Cardiology at Rochester General Hospital's Heart Institute who is also one of the nation's twenty-one Catholic Climate Ambassadors trained by the Catholic Climate Covenant to speak.

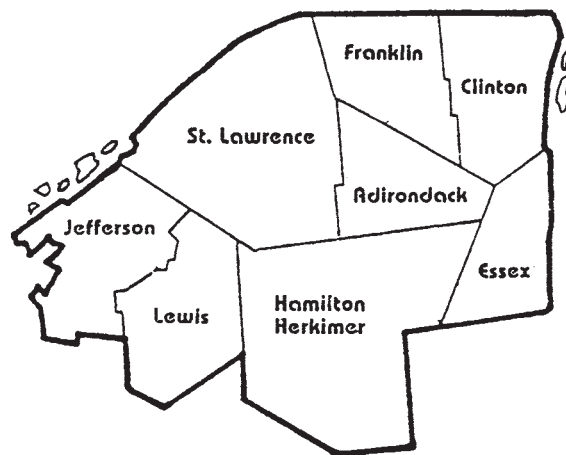
Date: April 21

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: Emmaus Room, St. Peter's Church

Features: The presentation will focus on What is climate change; [2] Why should we care?; [3] Catholic teachings and traditions associated with environmental stewardship; [4] Mitigation and adaptation to climate change; and [5] What we can be doing as individuals and together. There is no admission fee.

Contact: individuals who wish to attend are encouraged to telephone the St.



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.

Peter's Church Rectory at 563-1692 several days in advance of the presentation to reserve space.

SPRING BRUNCH

Altona – Holy Angels Church will be having an All You Can Eat Spring Brunch.

Date: April 14

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

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children un 12, \$3

Features: Bake Sale and Craft Sale. Call 236-5848 to reserve craft table.

HEALING MASS

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks will be offering a Healing Mass.

Date: April 17

Time: 4 p.m.

Features: Fr. Doug Decker will preside at Mass and Anointing followed by individual prayer for your intentions by or prayer ministers.

RSVP: Email olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253.

SCHOOL OF HEALING PRAYER

Ellenburg – Our Lady of the Adirondacks will be offering a Level 1 Training Course of Christian Healing Ministries School of Healing Prayer.

Date: April 25-27

Features: A foundational, practical approach to developing a prayer ministry and offers a Scriptural basis for God's gift of healing prayer. Student learns how to be an effective prayer minister through the use of video presentations by Francis and Judith MacNutt, discussion and praying over each other in groups. Registration and fees

due by April 15. Course limited to six. Overnight accommodations available.

Contact: Email olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594-3253.

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.

Theme: "Adore the Eucharist as the most Holy Trinity's free gift for the life of the world." (Pope Francis).

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Time: 1 p.m. to 4

Place: Immaculate Conception Church

PRAYER MEETING

Plattsburgh – A weekly prayer meeting will be held every Wednesday (except the first Wednesday).

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church, St. Brother Andre' Chapel.

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP

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

Time: 2 p.m.

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

Features: praying the Rosary, The Divine Chaplet, centering prayer

ESSEX

LIVING OUR FAITH

Schroon Lake – As part of the Year of Faith program at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and Saint Joseph's Church in Olmstedville, "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

LIFERIGHT PRESENTS FR. TAD

Watertown – Liferight is sponsoring a luncheon and educational presentations by Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, a regular columnist in the *North Country Catholic*.

Date: April 20

Schedule: The program begins at 11:30 a.m. "Loving Those with Disabilities" followed by lunch and a second presentation at 12:30 p.m. "Dealing With End of Life Issues."

Place: Carriage House Savory Café

Cost: \$15

Contact: Mickey Squier at 782-2297 or Joan Boulio at 639-6688

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FR. COSMIC

Carthage – St. James and St. Mary's Parishes are holding a 90th birthday party for Father John Cosmic.

Date: April 14

Time: Open house, 1 p.m. to 4

Place: Augustinian Academy (Mechanic St. entrance)

LENT 4.5 PROGRAM

Watertown – "Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus, embracing Christian Simplicity", this six week program explores ways of living in harmony with Creation, God and the whole human family.

Date: April 11, 18 and 25

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11 OR 6:30 p.m. to 8.

Place: Hearthside Hospitality Center at Sisters of St. Joseph motherhouse

Cost: \$5 per session for materials and

light refreshments

Presenter: Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ

Contact: 324-5718 or 782-3460;

www.lent45.org for more information

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: April 25

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 (Bring containers)

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

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Evans Mills – "A Quick Journey Through the Bible" – Join us for this introductory "Great Adventure" course in Catholic scripture study.

Date: Eight Mondays beginning April 15

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Features: DVD lectures by Jeff Cavins, discussion and home study.

Contact: Advance registration is required by April 10 at 767-1065.

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown – An Ecumenical Bereavement meeting to be held.

Date: April 22

Time: 7 p.m.

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

Speaker: Sr. Jackie Sellappan RN and Pastoral Associate at St. Anthony's Church. Sr. Jackie, originally from India, will speak about "Spiritual Wholeness and Healing".

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Evans Mills – There will be a Spaghetti Dinner to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.

Date: April 13

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$7; senior citizens, \$5; children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

LIFERIGHT MEETING

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

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: 312 Sherman St.

Features: The office has materials on infanticide, assisted suicide, euthanasia and chastity.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480; website: www.liferight.org.



The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669

(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296

mbrett@rcdony.org

Education in the Missions

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

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

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

When browsing through some of the Missionary Childhood Association materials, I came across this acrostic. An acrostic is a poem or series of lines in which certain letters – usually the first in each line – form a name, motto, or message when read in sequence. This acrostic happens to be a poem-prayer for the Missions.

May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship and live
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever
Amen

Prayer is a unique journey. Prayer is very personal. A common definition of prayer is the deepening of one's personal relationship with God. How the Lord meets and speaks with each of us is a deeply personal gift. May we continue to encourage our children to pray and know God's love.

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

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

Find us on Facebook!



OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Janice M. (Osborne) Rhino, 69; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at Holy Name Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Bloomington – Thomas "Tommy" John Darrah, 59; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Paul's Church.

Champlain – Marjorie M. (Castine) Duquette, 90; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Coopersville – Lawrence "Larry" C. Barcomb, 79; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Dannemora – Mary Ellen Gero, 80; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church.

Ft. Covington – Robert J. Francis Sr., 87; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Mary's Church.

Gouverneur – Varlee (Martin) Crosby, 50; Funeral services April 6, 2013 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Hogansburg – Barney J. Cole, Sr., 82; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Akwesasne.

Lake Placid – Annette N. (Nahmensen) Albright; Funeral Services April 1, 2013 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Madrid – Eunice A. (Doud) Wagner, 75; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in Madrid Cemetery.

Massena – John Ray Robillard, 87; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Margaret "Peggy" Ruddy Lyon, 96; Funeral services at Church of

the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Massena

Mineville – Kelley Sherman Hughes, 51; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at All Saints Church.

Mooers Forks – Grace T. (Sweet) Barnaby, 85; Funeral Services April 3, 2013 at St. Ann's Church; burial in Union Cemetery.

Norfolk – Philip Michael Lynch Jr., 51; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

North Bangor – Grenda M. (Czuryla) Chapin, 65; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Norwood – Benjamin Charles McGregor, 85; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Andrew's Church.

Ogdensburg – James Adams, 72; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Marguerite "Margie" L. (LaVenture) Barney, 89; Funeral Services April 3, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – Gerard A. Lespinasse, 73; Funeral Services April 1, 2013 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Riverside Cemetery, Rossie.

Ogdensburg – Valerie Irvine, 41; Funeral Services April 8, 2013 at Frary Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – Claire Lillie (Parker) Miller, 90; Funeral Services April 1, 2013 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Olmstedville – Beverly R. (Watson) LaBounty, 73; Funeral Services April 1, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church.

Plattsburgh – Patrick C. Collins, 88; Funeral Services April 5, 2013 at St. John's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens.

Plattsburgh – Rita "Margaret" (Light) Thompson, 92; Funeral Services April 3, 2013 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Potsdam – Bonnie L. (LaBrake) LaPoint, 71; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – William Edward LaTray Jr., 59; Funeral Services April 5, 2013 at Holy Name Church.

Waddington – David L. Sharlow, 78; Funeral Services April 5, 2013 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Warrensburg – Auguste Martin "Charlie" Beaudet, 91; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at Alexander Funeral Home; burial in St. Therese cemetery, Newcomb.

Watertown – Frederick L. Bulger, 84; Funeral Services April 3, 2013 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery, Watertown.

Watertown – Patricia Ann (Marks) Hatfield, 67; Funeral Services April 4, 2013 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Sally H. (Mosher) Semione, 76; Funeral Services April 6, 2013 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in North Watertown Cemetery.

West Chazy – Mary M. Monahan, 81; Funeral Services April 5, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

West Chazy – Marie E. (Kimball) Hobbs, 88; Funeral Services April 2, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in East Beekmantown Cemetery.

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LEWIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

ALTAR ROSARY MEETING

Lowville – Members of the St. Peter's Rosary-Altar Society has scheduled their April Luncheon/Meeting.

Date: April 10

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Features: New members are welcome.

RUMMAGE SALE

Lowville – The Rosary-Altar Society to sponsor a rummage sale.

Schedule: April 11 from 2 p.m. to 7 and April 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church Hall

Features: Coffee and donuts available on Friday and lunch will be served starting at 11 a.m. Bag sale at noon.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Port Leyden – The fifth annual spaghetti dinner sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 92 has been planned.

Date: April 18

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: Port Leyden Community Hall

Cost: Adults, \$6; Students, \$3; under 5, Free

Contact: Take-outs and Deliveries available by contacting 348-6738

K OF C BRUNCH

Lyons Falls – The South Lewis Knights of Columbus will be having an all you can eat pancake brunch.

Date: April 21

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. John's Church

Cost: Adults, \$6; Children 5-12, \$3; under 5, Free

PARISH MISSION

Croghan – St. Stephen's Parish is sponsoring a Year of Faith mission on the theme "Taste Again for the First Time" this Easter Season.

Date: April 14-16

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Stephen's Church

Speaker: Fr. Timothy Canaan, Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church and Director of Campus Ministry.

ST. LAWRENCE

K OF C BRUNCH

Brasher Falls – A Buffet Brunch will be held.

Date: April 14

Place: K of C

Time: 9 a.m. to Noon

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

UNTOLD BLESSING SERIES

Ogdensburg – St. Mary's Cathedral will be presenting another series by Fr. Robert Barron called Untold Blessings, a seven-week series.

Date: Beginning April 18

Time: From 10 a.m. to 11:30 and 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: Brzana Hall

Cost: Workbooks are \$11

Contact: Bill O'Brien, by email at wili315@aol.com.

Features: Check out the YouTube video on the series at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVYrm_7v33c

K OF C SHOWTIME

Ogdensburg – the Msgr. A.D. Charbonneau Council #258 Knights of Columbus to sponsor Showtime Spring Show.

Schedule: April 20 at 7:15 p.m.; April 21 and 22 at 1:30 p.m.

Place: OFA Auditorium.

Cost: Adults, \$5; Students, \$2; under 5, Free

Features: Showtime Chorus, Younger Generation and several guests including but not limited to Don Woodcock and Dan Pearson, Brian Nichols and Heuvelton Central School Junior Chorus. Showtime proceeds benefit local organizations and charities in Ogdensburg and the surrounding communities.

LIFE CHAIN PLANNED

Potsdam – Life Chain is to be held as a prayerful witness for the unborn babies.

Date: May 11

Time: 1 p.m. to 2.50

Place: Along Market and Main Street.

FRANCISCAN MYSTERY PLAYERS



The Franciscan Mystery Players of Clayton are shown at the completion of their 2013 season of presenting "The Way of the Cross." During Lent, the group performed in Sackets Harbor, Constania, Vestel, Lowville, Chaumont and, on Good Friday at their home parish of St. Mary's in Clayton. Above, first row are Reba Gushlaw, Kimberly Korcz, Claire Sheley and Katie Beeles; second, Candie Pecor (female voice) Haley Hauck, Parker Morse, Danny Swartz, Peyton Morse, Erick Lange, Will Cummings, Allison Jones, Chris Newhook and Mariah Turner; and back, Charlie Stage (lights) Steffanie Korcz (assistant director) Tim Orvis (lights), Christine Woodley (director) and John Pecor (male voice).

Gather and get signs at 12:45 p.m. in parking lot across from Roxy Theater. Features: Life Chain will happen rain or shine. We encourage all ages to participate. Don't forget chairs, hats and water.

Contact: Chris LaRose at 315-403-8123

BRUNCH ON APRIL 14

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

Date: April 14

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Visitation Parish Center

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

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

Contact: 315-384-4242

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, 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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday.

Time: 9 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

TRIP TO SHOW IN SYRACUSE

Ogdensburg -Notre Dame Altar & Rosary is sponsoring a bus trip to Landmark Theatre to see Daniel O'Donnell.

Date: Sept. 11 at 7 p.m.

Features: Tickets are \$125 which includes show ticket, S&W bus fare (leaves from Donut King) and dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant.

Contact: Call Cherie @393-5050 or 393-7158 or Joyce @713-4457.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL ROSARY

There will be a continuous praying of the Rosary throughout the world.

Date: May 5

Time: 2 p.m.

Features: We encourage you to participate by praying twenty decades of the

Rosary. The intention is for "World Peace, Life, and Family." Our Blessed Mother is a force for Faith. Who better to lead and guide us than she who is the Mother of Faith. Pray alone, with family, or with friends. There are no other requirements. We encourage you to take part in this wonderful opportunity to join in prayer with our brothers and sisters, all over the world, who will be praying for these intentions.

DIOCESAN YOUTH RALLY

Plattsburgh - The annual diocesan Youth Rally is set

Date: April 27

Place: Seton Catholic Central

Features: Chris Stefanick is keynote speakers; registration through parishes.

SYMPOSIUM ON ENVIRONMENT

The Religious Sisters and Brother of the diocese are holding a symposium "Awakening the Dreamer: Symposium on Environment Sustainability."

Dates: April 13, Saranac Lake, Adirondack Medical Center; April 14, Watertown, Sisters of St. Joseph

Time: 1 p.m. to 4

Presenters: Mercy Sister Diane Guerin and Claire Maier, a Mercy Associate.

Contacts: Sr. Sheila Murphy, 518-483-2880 or Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, 315-34-5718

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