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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 69, Number 32

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 7, 2015

Time to examine conscience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The end of one calendar year and the beginning of another is the perfect occasion to reflect on how well people have used the time and gifts God has given them -- especially how well people have helped the poor, Pope Francis said.

While God is eternal, time

is important even to him, Pope Francis said during a prayer service New Year's Eve in St. Peter's Basilica. "He wanted to reveal himself and save us in history," becoming human to demonstrate "his concrete love."

As a strong winter wind blew outside, Pope Francis

ended 2014 celebrating evening prayer with eucharistic adoration and Benediction, and the solemn singing of the "Te Deum," a hymn of praise for God's blessings.

At the end of a year, like at the end of life, Pope Francis said, the church teaches its

members to make an examination of conscience, "remembering all that happened, thanking the Lord for all the good we received and were able to do and, at the same time, remembering where we were lacking and our sins. Give thanks and ask forgiveness."

Catholic Charities honors CDA

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg honored the Catholic Daughters of the Americas during its 2014 Caritas dinner in October.

The Caritas Award was presented posthumously to Penny Martin who was active in the CDA on the state and local levels.

In her message for the dinner, Sister Donna Franklin, director of Catholic Charities said, "Catholic Daughters of the Americas light up the human community with the brightness of their dedication and commitment to building the Kingdom of God."

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Looking back at 2014

The past year was highlighted by the announcement of a new pastoral vision for diocese

FULL STORY, PAGE 2

THE GREAT MIRACLE OF CHILDREN



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA EPA

Pope Francis hands gifts to children during a meeting with an Italian association for large families to mark the feast of the Holy Family in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Dec. 28. "When people recognize that every child is unique and wanted by God, they will be amazed by what a great miracle a child is," he said. See full story, page 8.

THE EPIPHANY

Bishop reflects on the feast



CNS PHOTO/HEINZ-PETER BADER, REUTERS
Traditional carolers dressed as the Wise Men perform in the presidential office in Vienna Dec. 29. Carolers collect money for Catholic charity projects between Christmas and Epiphany. For this week's Follow Me column, Bishop LaValley writes about the Feast of the Epiphany. "The visit of the magi tells us God has opened the gates of heaven to all people. We know, however, that not everyone chooses to enter into God's Kingdom," he said. "The Gospel narrative about the magi makes clear to us that we have to put some time and energy into finding God and entering into eternal life. Heaven isn't a sure thing."

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EDITOR'S NOTE

2014: turning point in our faith journey

It could be said that the first day of the new year for the Catholic Church of the Diocese of Ogdensburg in 2014 was April 9, rather than Jan. 1.

That's the day that Bishop LaValley delivered the *Proclamation of the Pastoral Vision of the Diocese of Ogdensburg*.

With a standing room only crowd at the Christ Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, the bishop offered three priorities with six "achievable, time-bound goals" towards

which the diocese would strive in its quest to "strengthen the family of faith in the North Country."



Mary Lou
Kilian

In the months that followed committees were established and first steps were taken to "create a culture of vocations, strengthen faith formation in family life and build parishes with living stones."

As 2015 opens, Bishop LaValley encourages each of us to become involved in the "journey which promises heavenly re-

wards." (See his Follow Me column on page 3.)

While 2014 was marked by a turning point in looking towards the future, there were opportunities to reflect on the past as well.

In particular, it was a year to express gratitude to those in consecrated life.

The diocese participated in National Catholic Sisters Week in March and opened its observance of the Year of Consecrated Life in October at the annual Religious Jubilee.

Catholics in the North Country also witnessed profession of vows for two women – Sister

Suanne Marie Johnson as a Sister of St. Joseph and Sister Linh Terese Nguyen as a Sister Adorer of the Precious Blood.

The diocese continued to raise a collective voice for life with participation in the Nine Days of Prayer, Penance and Pilgrimage to stop abortion, the Plattsburgh March for Life, a significant representation at the March for Life in Washington, DC and the Public Policy Day in Albany, a diocesan prayer rally in support of Catholic values in August and an end of life conference featuring Father Tad Pacholczyk in

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Spending year-end time with our pope

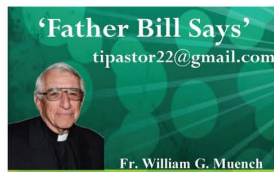
On Christmas Eve, I didn't have the opportunity to watch and spiritually take part in Pope Francis' Christmas Mass. However, I did find its replay on the internet just yesterday.

I spent part of my afternoon being part of that Mass. The Pope's homily was wonderful; I found it most meaningful.

In that homily, Pope Francis often used the word, "tenderness." He spoke often of the tenderness of God – and well as the patience of God and the closeness of God. He said this: "the tenderness of God demonstrates how much God is in love with us – even in our smallness."

The whole Christmas story shows us this tenderness of God.

It starts with the image of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph that we enshrine in our Christmas scenes. We see it in the crèches in Church and in so many Christmas cards. Truly, it is an image of tenderness. The world was anxious for a Savior, for a Messiah and many hoped this Savior would come with power and might. Instead, Our Savior comes in tenderness. "A child is born to us." Pope Francis then challenges us. He asks, "How do we welcome the tenderness of God?" He answers the question for us – "allowing him to



find me, to love me."

Many times I have been asked this same question – how and where do I find God. If we are open and caring, God will find us and guide us and lead us to God's love and peace. So we struggle to develop this openness that is free of distractions.

You and I live in a world, in a culture, that is jammed with distractions. So, again in the words of Pope Francis – "what is most important is not seeking him, but rather allowing him to find me and caress me with tenderness. Do I allow God to love me?"

Quite a question for us – "do I allow God to love me?" How well do I keep open to the love of my God?"

Pope Francis suggests that we live in tenderness especially toward those who are near us, knowing the difficulties and problems of those near us. We live now in a world that needs tenderness today. Our example is the Pope himself. Pope Francis has

come to us smiling, demonstrating a true example of God's love. He truly loves people. He encourages and challenges us all – that we be always ready to listen and care. There is indeed a tenderness that comes through each of his talks.

As we enter this New Year my attention is on Pope Francis and on the Synod on the Family. This synod began with a preliminary session this past October and will be completed with another session in November of this year. During this coming year, the Bishops have been encouraged to survey and listen to the people in their dioceses. This Pope wants to know what people are thinking. The question now is "how can the Catholic Church better support and guide families?"

Pope Francis sets the tone for the synod with his closing talk at the close of the first session. Pope Francis said this, "I have seen and I have heard – with joy and appreciation – speeches and interjections full of faith, of pastoral and doctrinal zeal, of wisdom, of frankness and of courage. And I have felt that what was set before our eyes was the good of the Church, of families, and the supreme law, the good of souls."

This synod is an important time for our Church. The call is to bring new life to the church through the lives of our families. As the Church considers family life, there is also a call to make each parish a family. Our Catholic Church must be a family. Jesus in his ministry made it clear to all that he met – "what can I do for you?"

Pope Francis adds this to his talk at the close of the Synod – "This is the Church, one, holy, catholic, apostolic and composed of sinners, needful of God's mercy."

"This is the Church, the true bride of Christ, who seeks to be faithful to her spouse and to her doctrine."

"It is the Church that is not afraid to dine with prostitutes and publicans. The Church that has the doors wide open to receive the needy, the penitents and not just those who believe they are perfect."

"The Church that is not ashamed of the fallen brother and pretends not to see him, but on the contrary feels involved and almost obliged to life him up and encourage him to take up the journey again and accompany him toward a definitive encounter with her spouse in the heavenly Jerusalem."

"This is the Church, our Mother."

FOLLOW ME

Following the message of the Epiphany

Our readings at Sunday Mass often speak to us directly about how we might address the priorities and goals that we have established as a local Church.

Those we heard at Masses on Epiphany Sunday are no exception.

The visit of the magi tells us God has opened the gates of heaven to all people. We know, however, that not everyone chooses to enter into God's Kingdom.

The Gospel narrative about the magi makes clear to us that we have to put some time and energy into finding God and entering

into eternal life. Heaven isn't a sure thing.

The magi had to travel perhaps hundreds of miles to find Jesus. One lesson I learned from my recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land is that travel must have been extremely difficult.

The hills and mountains covered with rocks and stones, the lifeless desert, the deep valleys and jagged

cliffs, must have made travel treacherous and slow. These travelers had to keep searching, keep moving, even speaking to King Herod and the indifferent Jewish clergy who had all

the answers, but no interest in finding the Messiah themselves. Herod's real interest in finding the Newborn betrayed a jealous paranoia.

Even if we know the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* perfectly, if we don't live our faith, it's all for naught.

For example, Jesus tells us the person who listens to His words and acts on them is like a person who builds his house on rock, whereas a person who listens to his words but does not act on them is like the person who builds his house on sand. It will end up in ruins.

The story of the magi shows us those who sincerely search for Christ will find him, but tragically not everyone is interested in

searching for him sincerely.

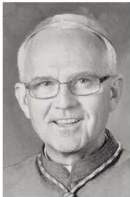
As we strive to build up the House of God in the North Country, we know that each of us can rely on God's grace as we take a step out of our current comfort zone and assist our parish family in addressing our diocesan priorities and goals.

Many individuals from throughout our Diocese have been working diligently on several committees so that our pastors and our parishioners will be provided with concrete steps to help us address our priorities of Creating a Culture of Vocations, Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life, and Building our Parishes with Living Stones. As we have welcomed a

New Year, I hope that one of your resolutions is to become involved in this diocesan-wide process.

Take the first step: ask your pastor what you can do to: Increase vocational awareness; Support youth ministry and family catechesis; and Participate in home visits as part of your parish-wide census. This will not entail a trek of many miles over dangerous landscapes, but a journey of faith that requires energy, trust and a generous heart.

Christ-led, Christ-fed and Hope-filled, this journey promises heavenly rewards. As a family of faith, let us all search together, find, and then follow Him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Blessed New Year!



Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley

2014

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

September. The year featured special gatherings for Catholic of all ages and states of life – the Youth Rally in April in Watertown, Ecumenical Prayer Service in January in Saranac Lake, Rite of Election in March in Ogdensburg, Presbyteral Assembly in May in Lake Placid, Women of Grace Retreat in June in Ogdensburg, Deacon Convocation in June in Lake Placid, a Building Strong Families Workshop in July in Norfolk, Marriage Jubilee in September in Ogdensburg, Harvest Mass in September in Mooers Forks and Superintendent's Day in October in Lake Placid.

Two Catholic schools in the diocese made news under unfortunate circumstances – St. Marguerite D'Youville Academy in Ogdensburg closed its doors at the end of the school year in June and St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga was devastated by a fire during the first week of school in September.

The most significant

parish news of the year was the foundation of St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone July 1. The four parishes which comprised the Malone Catholic Parishes – Notre Dame, St. Joseph's, St. John Bosco and St. Helen's in Chasm Falls – become one parish with Father Joseph Giroux as pastor.

Changes in the diocesan offices during the past year included new names and faces. The diocesan Department of Christian Formation is now known as Faith Formation and Michael Wagner retired after 37 years in the Watertown Regional Office. There are now two, rather than three, regional directors – Deacon Patrick Donahue is in charge of the western side of the diocese, working out of the Ogdensburg and Watertown offices and Pamela Ballantine directs the eastern side, working in Plattsburgh.

In the education office, St. Joseph Sister Shirley Ann Brown retired as assistant superintendent of schools and was replaced by Karen Donahue.

The youth department oversaw another successful season of Camp Guggenheim, this year under the direction of Kelly Donnelly. A Leadership Weekend in October also brought teens to Guggenheim for days of faith formation.

In the office of Family Life, Stephen Tartaglia was hired to serve as director, succeeding Deacon Gary and Gayle Frank who retired at the end of 2013.

In support of all the work of the diocese offices, the Bishop's Fund Office announced that it had raised a record amount - \$1,296,023.37 from 10,513 donors.

Other highlights of the past year included the July 17 blessing of solar panels in the back yard of the Bishop's House, a DOVS pilgrimage to Cap de

Madeleine to pray for vocations, Mission of Hope trips to Nicaragua and the annual Catholic Charities Caritas dinner during which the Catholic Daughters of the Americas were honored.

Other awards during the year went to Tom and Claudia Saunders of West Chazy who received the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service and Michele Bombard of Trinity

Catholic School in Massena who was named Outstanding Catholic School Teacher for the diocese.

And, the diocese bid a sad farewell to two priests who died during the past year, Father E. John Silver on June 6 and Father Norman Pouppore, Nov. 24. Also, Father Wilfred DeRoche, who died Dec. 27, 2013, was remembered at a funeral Mass in the first week of January.

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Catholic Daughters of the America



PHOTOS BY PAT HENDRICK

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg honored the Catholic Daughters of the Americas during its 2014 Caritas dinner in October. The Caritas Award was presented posthumously to Penny Martin who was active in the CDA on the state and local levels. In the photo at left, Bishop Terry R. LaValley presents the Caritas

Award to her husband, Edward of New Russia. Also pictured are Tina Bigelow, regent of Court St. Joan of Arc #867 in Willsboro; Father Scott Seymour, pastor in Morrisonville and Treadwells Mill and state chaplain of the CDA; and Bishop LaValley congratulating Carey Sayles, regent of Court St. Bernard #787 in Saranac Lake. The remarks of Daughters of Charity Sister Donna Franklin from the dinner are printed below.

Catholic Charities celebrates the witness of CDA

By Sr. Donna M. Franklin, DC
Diocesan director, Catholic Charities

"I see clearly the thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal the wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness and proximity. I see the Church as a field hospital after battle. Heal the wounds... Heal the wounds... and you have to start from the ground up." (Pope Francis I, Synod 2014)

Pope Francis sees life and people through the light of the Gospel. Penny Martin had clarity of vision of a world of compassion and caring. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas light up the human community with the brightness of their dedication and commitment to building the Kingdom of God and welcoming all to their table.

We stand on the shoulders of giants. These are the people who shine the Christ-light for us. They provide a clear path for our journey.

The Courts of the Catholic Daughters are named after men and women who were life givers and light bearers. Our Lady, Brother Andre, Kateri Tekakwitha, Dr. Tom Dooley are a few of the names connected with the Courts in the North Country. Their lives made a difference.

Dr. Tom Dooley is one of my heroes. When I was in the sixth grade, my parents gave me a set of his books for Christmas. By the time I finished reading *The Night They Burned the Mountain*, the story of his help in rescuing a group of orphans in Laos, I knew my life would never be the same. His light showed me the way to a life of service and I never turned back.

These amazing people accepted the challenge of living in the light. They accepted the responsibility that comes with seeing and hearing the cries of our brothers and sisters in need. They opened their hearts through prayer and reflection and they acted with faith and conviction.

Each day the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities allow the light of Christ to shine through their service. Over 18,000 people received services through all of the agency's programs in 2013.

We are proud of programs like the Retired Senior Volunteer Program that invites seniors to use their gifts and experience in working with schools and other non-profit entities in Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties. The Foster Grandparent Program in five counties provides a stipend for low income seniors as they work with children who need special attention.

We are honored to sponsor the Ombudsman program in St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis counties. Responsible for 100% of the residents in long term care facilities, the Ombudsman advocate, trouble shoot and provide support to this vulnerable population.

Catholic Charities collaborates with St. Lawrence County Community Services in providing support services for families dealing with a child suffering from severe emotional or behavioral challenges. This Coordinated Children's Services sees high levels of success. 79 children received services in 2013. Only four needed to leave their home for inpatient services.

Counseling, financial assistance, advocacy, collaboration with other agencies, parishes and or-

ganizations are all part of the services and programs provided with care and compassion by the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities.

Choosing to live in the light brings challenges. Remember, that old song, "I can see clearly now the rain has gone"? Remember the next line, "I can see all obstacles in my way"? Clarity brings us face to face with reality. But obstacles are only bumps in the road or streams to wade through. They are not deal breakers.

Pope Francis gives witness to the extraordinary synthesis of humanity and divinity that is the heart of the Catholic faith. (Rev. Louis Caneli, Human development, Issue 1, fall 2014)

That ability to see Christ in the face of another person lights our path. That gift of attentiveness to the grace of the moment allows that other person to see the look of Christ in our eyes and their burden is lightened, if only for a little while. I truly believe that the secret lies in the way Jesus looked at people, seeing beyond their weaknesses and failings (Caneli).

Tonight we are grateful for the legacy of love that Penny has left for us. We celebrate the witness of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas in their commitment to Unity and Charity.

I implore you to not be "bushel basket believers". Come out from that hiding place. Unclench your fists, Open your arms and let your light shine for all to see.

Collectively, we can shine the light of the Gospel on the dark places and join Pope Francis in his mission to heal the wounds of our broken world and warm the hearts of all who come into our lives as gift and grace each day.

To Make Music in the Heart:

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

By Marika Donders
Diocesan director of evangelization

LAKE PLACID - It was a two hour drive there and a two hour drive home, but oh, so worth it.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols with musical selections performed by NAVE -the Northern Adirondack Vocal Ensemble- on Dec. 28 at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid was a highlight of my Christmas.

It was a glorious evening of prayerfully lifting hearts and voices which allowed the spirit to soar. It was as if, as one of the lessons taught: "A Spirit, suspended, waiting ..." was released and set free.

For many, the Lessons and Carols have become an annual event as NAVE performs only these two set concerts for Christmas each year. People of all ages were in attendance: groups of young adults, parents and grandparents with young children passing on an annual family tradition.

Before the welcome by Father John Yonkovic, people milled about the beautifully decorated church. Amidst the branches of light climbing up the columns, the church was filled with excited voices wishing each other a Merry Christmas. Smiles and greeting all around from locals and those who had come from as far away as Malone or Ogdensburg. One grandmother in attendance told me that "they come every year. It makes their Christmas. They love the music."



Musical director Andrew Benware leads the Northern Adirondack Vocal Ensemble (NAVE) in a final practice before the Dec. 28 presentation of Lessons and Carols at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid.

And the music was glorious. As the musical director Drew Benware told me before the concert: "it is a fusion of the passion for music combined with the spiritual that create a synergy of elements."

One thing that struck me was the challenging music - not just for the singers, although the precision and the blending of the voices was impeccable- but also for the listeners in the

congregation. This was not easy music but rather a high caliber art form engaging the listener by pulling them into the intricacies of harmony and tempo to create a direct pathway for the Spirit to lift the soul up to the heavens.

The static harmonies of Arvo Pärt's *Bogoroditse Djevo* (Hail Mary in Russian) was reminiscent of the bells calling the people to prayer. The tension between harmony and dissonance in a piece called *The Lamb*, a Poem by William Blake set to music, pulled us into the mystery of who this Christ-Child truly is.

And just when you thought that our spirits were totally filled with pent up beauty to the point of overflowing, the congregation was invited to release that beauty by joining in the familiar and traditional carols in order to make room for the next lesson.

As I drove home that night through the dark back roads of the Adirondacks, I reflected on the beauty I experienced and the fact that such beauty is even possible. This is the challenge for us and our parishes.

For evangelization to succeed, for the WORD to be able to penetrate our heart and lift our souls to God, we NEED beauty. The performance of Lessons and Carols show us it is possible and people driving from far and wide on a cold Christmas day show us there is a hunger for such beauty. Beauty if not optional, and mediocrity is not good enough. This evening of scripture, music, poetry and prayer raises the bar.

Will we rise to the challenge?

THE FAITH AND FUN OF CHRISTMAS



The Pre-K students at Holy Family School in Malone performed the Nutcracker for their parents, staff and students. There was standing room only for the performance. Shown, from left are Caydence Keating, Reese Hanna, Cora Fitzpatrick, Francesca Bigness, Parker Duso, Serena Hans, Jacob Ellis, Zoey Perkins and Kamille Lucey.



The Knights of Columbus Council 9991 and the Catholic Community of Constable, Westville & Trout River, conducted their third annual Christmas Appeal, collecting over \$2,300. They were assisted with wrapped gifts donated by the Twin Leafs Corporation. Collecting the gifts on Dec. 15 were front, from left, Knights Fred Desilets, Joe Santamore and Father Howard Venette; middle, Grand Knight Rod Lauzon and Myron Brady; and back, Mike Shea and Jim Debyah.

CARTHAGE CHORAL STUDENTS IN CONCERT



Carthage Central High School choral students performed Dec. 18 at St. James in Carthage. "The sound reverberating through the church was truly impressive," said Peter J. Tuner, Carthage Superintendent of Schools. This is the second year that the students performed at St. James.

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Environmental Stewardship

"Seek the Light and the darkness will disappear."

As we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, we are awed by the depth of faith and perseverance of the Wise Men as they followed the Star in their search for new life.

In his poem "Journey of the Magi" T. S. Eliot writes "A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year for a journey, and such a long journey; the ways deep and the weather sharp, the very dead of winter. . . . All this was a long time ago, I remember, and I would do it again. This: were we led all that way for Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly, we had evidence and not doubt. I had seen birth and death, but had thought they were different; this Birth was hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death. We returned to our places, these Kingdoms; But no longer as ease here, in the old dispensation, with an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another death."

As this new year of grace begins, I ask myself "what in my everyday way of doing things needs to die, so that the Light of Christ's love might bring about a birth and new life for the people who walk in darkness of poverty of body, mind and soul?"

In the coming weeks consideration will be given as to how my conscious choices regarding the use of our planet's limited resources affect the quality of life for all.

Announcement

Bishop LaValley has announced that, due to health concerns, Father Garvin Demarais has been placed on permanent disability as of Jan. 1, 2015. Father Bryan Stitt has been assigned to serve as temporary administrator of St. Joseph's Parish in Bombay and St. Mary's of the Fort Parish in Fort Covington.

Rest in Peace

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

- Jan. 7** – Rev. Leonidas Geoffrion, 1954
Jan. 8 – Rev. Michael Moris, 1893; Rev. Frederick C. Hatch, 1961; Msgr. Robert Arquette, 1969; Rev. Leo McCarthy, O.S.A., 1975; Rev. Roland Gaulin, O.M.I., 1984; Rev. Anthony F. Pease, 1997; Msgr. Morris L. Dwyer, 2004
Jan. 9 – Rev. James P. Santoni, O.M.I., 1890; Rev. Joseph Ferdinand Durin, M.S.C., 1897; Rev. Fred Commins, O.S.A., 1924; Rev. Joseph Edward Doyle, 1958; Rev. Jeremiah Albert O'Brien, 1974
Jan. 10 – Rev. Christopher C. Poulin, 1904; Msgr. James O'Driscoll, 1913; Msgr. Frederick P. Diviney, 1961
Jan. 11 – Msgr. John Andrew Cotter, 1964; Msgr. Antheim D. Charbonneau, 1976; Most Rev. Walter P. Kellenberg, 1986
Jan. 12 – Msgr. Francis Joseph Maguire, 1978

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

Protecting God's Children

The **Diocese of Ogdensburg** has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate in this training. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.
 Upcoming programs:
Jan. 22 - 8 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

GO GREEN!

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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Man who tried to kill John Paul II takes flowers to his tomb

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Exactly 31 years after St. John Paul II personally forgave him for shooting and trying to assassinate him, Mehmet Ali Agca returned to the Vatican with a bunch of white roses and laid them at the late pope's tomb. Ali Agca, who was released from an Italian prison in 2000 and extradited to Turkey where he was jailed for killing a journalist in 1979, phoned the Italian newspaper La Repubblica to announce his presence in St. Peter's Square Dec. 27. It was on Dec. 27, 1983, after celebrating Mass in the chapel of Rome's Rebibbia prison, that Pope John Paul personally forgave him during a 15-minute meeting in a cell. Ali Agca had been sentenced to life in prison for shooting the pope May 13, 1981, during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, did not issue a statement about Ali Agca's visit to the late pope's tomb nor about the Turk's repeated requests to meet Pope Francis. "He put his flowers on John Paul's tomb; I think that's enough," Father Lombardi told La Repubblica. The newspaper reported that Ali Agca traveled by "plane, car and foot" from Turkey to Greece, then to Austria, through northern Italy and to Rome. He apparently was not stopped at any of the borders.

Pope warns Vatican officials of 'spiritual Alzheimer's,' other ills

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis' Christmas greeting to the Vatican bureaucracy this year was an extended warning against a host of spiritual ills to which he said Vatican officials are prone, including "spiritual Alzheimer's," "existential schizophrenia," "publicity-seeking, the "terrorism of gossip" and even a poor sense of humor. The pope made his remarks Dec. 22, in a biting half-hour speech to heads of the Roman Curia, the church's central administration, and to cardinals resident in Rome. Popes have often used their annual Christmas speech to review events of the previous year and lay out priorities for the next. Pope Francis' nine-member Council of Cardinals is currently working on an overhaul of the Curia, but the pope's speech did not address specific reforms. Instead, he spoke in general terms of virtues and values, saying he hoped his words might serve officials as a "support and stimulus to a true examination of conscience" in preparation for the sacrament of reconciliation. The pope, who has made criticism of the church's leaders a common theme of his preaching, called the Curia a "dynamic body" naturally vulnerable to "maladies, to dysfunction, to infirmities."

Indianapolis auxiliary bishop appointed to head Vermont diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis has named Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Indianapolis to head the Diocese of Burlington, Vermont. Bishop Coyne, 56, succeeds Bishop Salvatore R. Matano, who was installed last January as the ninth bishop of Rochester, New York. The appointment was announced Dec. 22 in Washington by Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop Coyne, 56, has been an auxiliary bishop in Indianapolis since 2011 and was the archdiocesan vicar general. He will be installed Jan. 29 at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral in Burlington. In a statement, Bishop Coyne said, "I am grateful to Pope Francis for his confidence in me in appointing me to Burlington. Personally, I could not be happier to be assigned here and look forward to returning to my native New England." He added, "While I will miss the great people of Indiana and all of my friends there, I am ready to commit myself fully to the work of the Catholic Church here in Vermont."

WASHINGTON LETTER

'Biggest human rights rally' returns for March for Life

By Sarah McCarthy
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — "The biggest human rights rally in the world," as one regular participant described it, will return to the nation's capital for the annual March for Life Jan. 22.

The 42nd rally on the National Mall and march to Capitol Hill marks the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 ruling in the case of Roe v. Wade that invalidated state and federal restrictions on abortions, legalizing abortion virtually on demand.

Micaiah Bilger, education director of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, said she sees the march as an opportunity to move forward from Roe v. Wade.

"The March for Life is, I think, the biggest human rights rally in the world and it's wonderful to go and be with other people and unite under that cause," Bilger said in an interview with Catholic News Service. "It's important for us to stand up in our nation's capital and say, 'Abortion is a human rights injustice and we want to see all life protected.'"

The Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation usually brings a few hundred participants from around the state, Bilger said. The range of people who attend - from high school students to older men and women who have been going for many years - offers an opportunity for participants to meet others of diverse backgrounds who share the same beliefs about abortion.

"We have a really good, really diverse group of people that go down every year," she said. "There are so many young people who are going to the March for Life nowadays, so many (pro-life) clubs that are popping up ... in high schools and college campuses, and there are ... just so many people who are stepping up and seeing that (abortion) is an injustice."

The March for Life also consistently draws many pro-life groups from college campuses each year. Katie Daniels, a sophomore at Boston College and president of the school's pro-life club, called the march "the highlight of our year," and said she expected about 30 students when their bus leaves campus the night before the march.

"It's a great way to (be) a witness to life outside our campus on a national scale and it's something we look forward to very much as a club, to kind of participate in this broader national dialogue about what it means to be pro-life," Daniels said.

Harvard University will also be sending 20 students to the rally. Jim McGlone, a senior at Harvard who has attended six times, said young people are a significant part of

the movement.

"I think it shows that this is really the future of our country and our culture," he said. "The pro-life movement is alive and vibrant and young and joyous and is really a force in our society that can make a really positive change," he said.

The 42nd rally on the National Mall and march to Capitol Hill Jan. 22 marks the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling in the case of that invalidated state and federal restrictions on abortions

Maggie Bick, a board member of Missouri Right to Life, said she expects about 250 people to join the 72-hour round trip to Washington. Bick said she feels it is important to attend because abortion is not only an injustice, but a mortal sin.

"(Since) our taxpayer dollars are being used to fund the abortion of other people who decide to make that fatal decision, I think we are being complicit in their sin," she said. "That is why it is worth the fight to me to do everything we can to change the laws, diminish the number of abortions and in particular make the drive for not using our tax dollars for abortion."

The federal Hyde Amendment prohibits the use of federal tax funds to pay for abortion, with exceptions for cases of rape, incest and danger to the life of the woman. However, many states cover at least some abortions in their health plans for poor women.

Though the March for Life focuses on abortion, the group representatives explained that their support extends to all human lives, regardless of age.

"Part of our mission is also legislative work, so we work in legislation here in Pennsylvania to make sure that there are resources available for pregnant and parenting moms so they don't feel like they're being pressured to have an abortion or feel like abortion is their only option," Bilger said.

Bick agreed it is important for pro-life groups to assist pregnant women in need. She said many members of Missouri Right to Life participate in pro-life causes beyond the march.

"There are some people focused on post-abortive women and there are many people who do ... counseling at ... (the) one abortion clinic in Missouri," she said. "Yes, we want to see Roe v. Wade overturned, but we also want to address our concerns for these women who are faced with a decision of whether or not to have an abortion."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Christmas ends; public life of Jesus begins

Today we celebrate the final event of the Christmas season.

Jesus is no longer an infant. His private sheltered life is over. Now, in the fullness of youthful manhood, he seeks out his cousin, John the Baptist, who has been preaching a gospel of repentance in preparation for the One who is coming—the One greater than himself.

And the evangelist, Mark, forty years after the Resurrection, makes very clear that John is not the Messiah, in case there are lingering doubts among the former followers of the



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

Baptist. Jesus' call to Mission by God the Father has been with him from before his human birth. It even predates the several covenants God had made with Noah, Abraham, and David.

Today's first reading has remarkable ties with the Gospel for today. In that reading, the second prophet of the book of Isaiah, speaks God's Word to the

people in exile.

In a passage resembling a vendor calling out in the marketplace, God commands the people to "come to the water... You who have

no money, come, receive grain and eat..."

Through the prophet, he urges the people not to spend money on foolish things which do not satisfy, but to stay on track in seeking life through obedience.

God is announcing his intention to establish a new covenant much broader than the former ones which will embrace all peoples in a new epiphany. To do this, He will send a messiah.

Today's Gospel declares that the time is now. As Jesus is baptized by John, the heavens open up, the Father's voice thunders down, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased".

The purpose of this bap-

JAN. 11

The Baptism of the Lord

READINGS

Isaiah 55:1-11

1 John 5:1-9

Mark 1:7-11

tism is certainly not the removal of sin from Jesus, but is rather a commitment ceremony which identifies Jesus as the Messiah. By the action of coming to John, Jesus is openly declaring the start of His mission to remove the ancient curse on Adam and all his descendants.

From the heavens above, the voice of God the Father

is heard ratifying His identity as God's Son. John, too, is now aware that his cousin is being officially "sent". John's work is over.

As the Christmas season ends, the public life of Jesus begins.

Today is also a time for all of us to remember how we have been sent through water and the Spirit to be also a voice of truth and a sign of hope for the people of our day who yearn for new life. For more specifics on what we are to do in this troubled world, listen carefully to the words of our "Christmas" Pope, Pope Francis, who daily urges us to be a light to the nations, and messengers of "the Word.

Pope: be amazed by God's gift of children

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Becoming a mother or father is a gift from God, but women and men have a duty to embrace that gift and be astonished by its beauty, Pope Francis said.

When people recognize that every child is unique and wanted by God, they will be "amazed by what a great miracle a child is," he said Dec. 28, the feast of the Holy

Family.

During an audience with an Italian association for large families, the pope said, "Dear parents, I am grateful for the example of your love of life that you safeguard from conception to its natural end, even with all of life's difficulties and burdens, which unfortunately the government doesn't always help you bear."

Holding the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph up as a model for all the world's families, the pope said, "ma-

ternity and paternity are a gift from God, but welcoming that gift, being astonished by its beauty and making it shine in society, that is your task."

"Each one of your children is a unique creature who will never be repeated in the history of humanity," he said.

"A child is a miracle" that changes the lives of his or her parents, he added.

While each family is "a cell" that together builds the body of society, large families are "a hope for society," he said,

they are "richer, more alive," and governments should recognize the importance of "investing in" large families.

The pope, who is one of five children, said having lots of siblings "is good for you" and better equips new generations with what it takes to share and be united, which is especially needed "in a world often marked by selfishness."

Just a bit later in the day, the pope again highlighted the family, especially the role grandparents play, before praying the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter's

Square.

Close loving relationships between the younger and older generations are "crucial" for both society and the church, he said.

The Holy Family is a simple but powerful model as it radiates "a light of mercy and salvation for the whole world, the light of truth for every human being, for the human family and for individual families," he said.

That light "encourages us to offer human warmth" to those families that, for whatever reason, are struggling with "a lack of peace, harmony and forgiveness," he said.

When parents and children live out their faith together, "they possess an energy that allows them to face even difficult trials, as the Holy Family's experience demonstrates," for example, in their flight to Egypt, he said.



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AT THE MOVIES

INTO THE WOODS

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Despite its fairy-tale roots, and Christmas Day release date, "Into the Woods" (Disney) is an inappropriate choice for youthful moviegoers.

Though initially pleasing, this ultimately problematic adaptation of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's long-running 1987 stage musical reflects on its iconic source material in a way that might misguide impressionable viewers.

As scripted by Lapine, the action wittily interweaves a number of classic children's stories with its main narrative tracing the quest of a village baker (James Corden) and his wife (Emily Blunt) to undo the curse of barrenness placed on his family by a witch (Meryl Streep) whom his father (Simon Russell Beale) long ago wronged.

To break the spell, the childless couple must assemble a series of objects,

each of which is connected to a familiar fable.

Thus they cross paths with damsels-in-distress Cinderella (Anna Kendrick) and Rapunzel (Mackenzie Mauzy), and with their respective princely rescuers (Chris Pine and Billy Magnussen); with pert Red Riding Hood (Lilla Crawford) as she tangles with the wily Wolf (Johnny Depp); and with a peasant boy named Jack (Daniel Huttlestone) who, much to his short-tempered mother's (Tracey Ullman) impending chagrin, has a giant beanstalk looming in his future.

All of this transpires whimsically enough at first under Rob Marshall's direction. In particular, the central duo's mutual devotion appears exemplary, and bears fruit not only in cooperation but in the pastry chef's belated recognition of his spouse's determination and resourcefulness.

But late plot developments lead into brooding reflections on the two-edged

legacy of gaining worldly experience: Is it best to stay at home in a safe environment or to venture into the disorienting terra incognita symbolized by the woods, a confusing landscape where the norms of everyday life are set aside?

"Into the Woods" subverts the conventional idea of a straightforward happy ending, forcing audiences to ponder more convoluted meanings and eventualities. While youngsters would find themselves ill-equipped to engage with such subtleties, at least some older teens may possibly be equal to the task.

The film contains complex moral themes requiring mature discernment, some stylized violence and the mildly abusive treatment of minors. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.



CNS PHOTO/PETER MOUNTAIN, COURTESY DISNEY
Meryl Streep stars in a scene from the movie "Into the Woods."

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND CHRISTMAS PARADE



The Christmas program at Augustinian Academy in Carthage concluded with a Nativity Pageant. Pictured, from left are the three kings, Logan Sadler; Joseph Shawback and Carter Thesier; Mary, Emily Banks; Joseph, Kyle Palmer; shepherd, Bethanee Motes; and angel, Holli Campeau.



The youth group of the Catholic Communities of Cape Vincent, Rossie and Chaumont, as well as the youth group of St. Mary's in Champlain participated in the Cape Vincent Parade Dec. 13. Shown, back, from left, are Alexandria Moots, Skyler Stewart, Mariah Turner, Nick Lindsey, Jesse Turner, Mark Stewart and Kelsi Turner; middle, Paul Stewart and Colby Stewart; and front, Zack Turner, Philip Moots, William Moots and Sharon Turner.

CLINTON

MARCH FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh – The annual Plattsburgh March for life to be held.

Date: Jan. 18
Time: 1 p.m. to 3:30
Place: The march begins at St. John the 23rd Newman Center and concludes at St. John the Baptist Church.
Speaker: Rev. Jason J. McGuire, Director of New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms and President of the New Yorker's Family Research Foundation.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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

Date: Feb. 1
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Place: St. Joseph's Parish Hall

QUILTING CLASSES

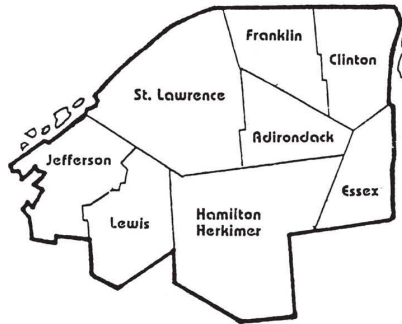
Ellenburg Center - Upcoming Quilt Classes at The Lost Sheep Quilt Shop.
Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks
Schedule:
 • Beginners Quilting Class – Jan. 10, 9:30 a.m. to 3p.m. We'll be making a lap size quilt and you'll learn all the basics of beginning level quilting. Cost \$20.
 • Star Quilt or Winter Star – Jan. 24, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Your choice of two quilt designs. Can be made table topper up to crib size. Cost \$20.
 • Home on the Range Quilt Class – Feb. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Create a fun and easy quilt. Cost \$25.

CHAMPLAIN BUS FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh - Time to sign up for the 2015 Lake Champlain Bus for Life.
Schedule: Meet at St. Peter's Church in on Jan. 21 at 7:15 p.m. for the Jan. 22 March For Life. Arrive in Washington, D.C. early Jan. 22; Free Time in the morning. Rally and March at noon on National Mall; Meet at St. Peter's Church in D.C. at 4:45pm for the trip home.
Cost: \$25
Contact: Karen Smith at 518-566-6229 or Betty Buffett at (518) 536-6640. To sign up for the bus or make a donation, mail your check to St. Peter's Church 114 Cornelia Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Note on the memo line: "Bus for Life."

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Plattsburgh – Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs
Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



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@northcountycatholic.org.

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

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

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Keeseville - There is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday.
Time: 1 p.m. to 4
Place: Immaculate Conception Church

HEALING MINISTRY

Morrisonville - The Catholic Community of St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's holds Living Waters Healing Ministry
Date: First Thursday each month
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Alexander's Church
Features: Mass, Anointing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

FRANKLIN

DEVOTION AND HOLY HOUR

St. Regis Falls – First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held.
Date: First Saturday of each month.
Time: immediately following the 4:30 anticipated Mass.
Place: St. Ann's Church
Contact: 518-856-9656

LATIN MASS

Constable - A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Friday at 5:30 p.m. with Fr. Howard Venette as the celebrant. Mass will also be celebrated every first Saturday at 9 a.m.
Place: St. Francis of Assisi Church.

JEFFERSON

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – The Indian River Knights of

Columbus will be having a Spaghetti and meatball dinner.

Date: Jan. 10
Place: St. Mary's Parish Center
Time: Serving starts at 4 p.m.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.
Date: Jan. 29
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Anthony's Church, Msgr. Sechi Hall
Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.50; under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each
Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers

HOLY HOURS

Adams/Henderson – Holy Hours to be held.
Schedule: First Wed. at St. Cecilia 6:30 p.m.: Jan. 7; Feb. 4; March 4; Third Monday at St. Cecilia 5 p.m. (followed by pot luck) Jan. 19; Feb. 16; March 16; Thursday at Queen of Heaven 5:30 p.m.: ; Dec. 18; Jan. 22
Features: adoration following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Wed.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown – Holy Hour for vocations to be held.
Date: Mon.-Fri.
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Place: Holy Family Church
Features: Eucharistic Adoration & personal prayer
Contact: 315-782-2468

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown - Liferight of Watertown, a pro-life educational organization, meets the first Wednesday of the Month.
Time: 1 p.m.
Place: 312 Sherman St.
Contact: Phone 315-788-8480

ST. LAWRENCE

CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

Ogdensburg - Father Jim Shurtleff will host the Annual Week of Prayer Unity Service.
Date: Jan. 11
Time: 2 p.m.
Place: Notre Dame Church
Program: The theme this year is "The woman at the Well" John 4:1-42. Clergy from local Christian Churches will be participating and Pastor Lynn Sullivan from the First Baptist Church will deliver the homily. Music will be under the direction of Christopher Gould. Choir members of all churches are invited to join the "unity choir" with practice one half hour before the service.

K OF C BRUNCH

Norfolk – The Knights of Columbus Council 11544 will be sponsoring a brunch.
Date: Jan. 11
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Place: Visitation Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$4; Under 5, Free; Family, \$18; Take-outs available

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Ogdensburg - St. Mary's is holding a monthly Holy Hour for Vocations.
Date: Thursday before the First Friday
Time: 7 p.m. concluding with Benediction at 8 p.m.
Place: Deacon Winter Chapel

NOVENA FOR MILITARY

Ogdensburg - Notre Dame Church is holding a Weekly novena for the safety of U.S. military personnel at a new time.
Date: Tuesday afternoons
Time: 1:30 p.m.

LATIN MASS

Potsdam – A Tridentine (Latin) Mass is celebrated each Sunday
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Church
Celebrant: Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday
Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Massena – Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence holds a Bereavement Support Group last Tuesday of each month.
Time: 2 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Convent
Contact: 315-769-3137

COMMUNITY FREE LUNCH

Ogdensburg - The K of Council 258 is starting up its Community Free Lunch Service.
Date: Wednesdays
Time: Noon
Place: K of C Club
Contact: Club Rooms 393-7990 after 4 p.m. any day or on Wednesday's after 10:30 a.m.

NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

24 HOUR RETREAT

Syracuse – A 24 hour retreat to be held.
Schedule: From March 13 at 7 p.m. to March 14 at 7 p.m.
Place: Spiritual Renewal Center
Cost: \$140
Contact: spiritualrenewalcenter.com, phone: 315-472-6546 Email: mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com.

CHRONIC PAIN & LIVING IN CHRIST

Syracuse – Workshop reflects on the spiritual challenges facing individuals with chronic illness or pain.
Date: Jan. 14
Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Place: Spiritual Renewal Center
Cost: \$20 or whatever you can afford
Speaker: Kathy Faber-Langendoen, MD. She is an oncologist and bioethicist who has lived with chronic pain. Kathy also directs adult education programs at Onondaga Hill Presbyterian Church.
Contact: spiritualrenewalcenter.com; Phone: 315-472-6546; Email: mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com

LENTEN RETREAT

Syracuse – Refresh and recharge during Lent at our 24 hour retreat.
Schedule: From March 6 at 7 p.m. to March 7 at 7 p.m.
Place: Christ the King Retreat House & Conference Center
Cost: \$140
Features: Attendees will have the opportunity to hear three inspiring talks, meet with a spiritual director and have time for personal prayer and reflection. Register by March 2 with a \$25 deposit.
Contact: spiritualrenewalcenter.com, phone: 315-472-6546 Email: mail@spiritualrenewalcenter.com.



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSI, Director
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@rcdony.org

Christmas in Quito, Ecuador

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

From time to time, I hear from our real life missionaries working overseas and doing the work of our Lord.

The following passage is an outtake from a letter I recently received from Sister Cindy Sullivan, BVM, on Christmas in Quito where she works tirelessly with the Center for Working Boys in Quito.

Sr. Cindy is a native of Massena, NY. She spoke over the summer on behalf of Mission Coop at five different parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Below she writes about how things like COOP help them to celebrate the holidays with a bit more joy.

"Once again, our large family of families, will get the decorations out of storage, put up the trees, and check the lights. We will have each family bring something to hang on our large trees. They don't have trees in their own humble dwellings.

"We will also get new candles for our Advent wreaths and make sure that we have all the symbols for our Jesse Trees. The children, making their first communion on Christmas Day, will be learning their catechism.

"The children's choir will be tuning up, and the angels, for the play, making their wings. The young leaders will be lining up the readers and music for the novenas and making sure we have our sparklers ready to welcome baby Jesus.

"We will remember you and your family and thank God that we can celebrate His coming because of your generosity! A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!"



Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will.

OBITUARIES

Anna L. DuPre'

OGDENSBURG – A Mass of Christian Burial for Anna L. DuPre', mother of NCC editor Mary Lou Kilian, was held Dec. 20 at St. Mary's Cathedral. Father James W. Seymour, her nephew, presided, and Deacon Thomas F. Kilian, her son-in-law, was homilist.

Mrs. DuPre' died Dec. 17 at St. Joseph's Nursing Home where she had resided for three months.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Thomas; three daughters Mary Lou (Thomas) Kilian of Ogdensburg; Theresa (Richard) Sleasman, Albany; and Jane (Gerald) McGrath, Brewerton; five sons, John (Colleen), Nashua, N.H.; Thomas (Connie), Alexandria, Va.; Peter (Diana), Ogdensburg; Edward (Corinne), Babylon, N.Y.; and Joseph (Ellen), Pella, Iowa; 21 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, two brothers, Robert Seymour and William Seymour; two sisters, Marie Morley and Ellen Bova; a brother-in-law, Peter DuPre', sisters-in-law, Rose Seymour, Clara Seymour, Janet Seymour, Barbara Seymour and Mary Ellen Seymour, and many nieces and nephews.

She was pre-deceased by three brothers, James Seymour, Thomas Seymour and L. David Seymour and a grandson, Thomas Michael McGrath.

Mrs DuPre' born Sept. 4, 1928, the daughter of Lucien and Mary (Brannan) Seymour. She graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1946 and attended the A. Barton Hepburn Hospital School of Nursing. She work as a nurse at Memorial Hospital in New York until her marriage to Thomas E. DuPre Sept. 4, 1928. The couple were married at St. Mary's Cathedral by Father Francis White.

A devout Catholic, Mrs. DuPre' was active in the cathedral parish as a member of the parish choir, funeral choir, Blue Army and was honored as a Woman of the Year.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph's Foundation, 950 Linden St., Ogdensburg, NY, 13669; or St. Mary's Cathedral.

Brushton – Bernard M. Richards, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Ann's Cemetery, St. Regis Falls.

Champlain – Paul E. Barker Sr., 81; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Cadyville – Doris M. (Oshier) DeLisle, 86; Funeral Services Dec. 24, 2014 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Cadyville – Ida Mae Dominy, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St. James Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Dannemora.

Carthage – Ronald D. Covell, 66; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2014 at the Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home.

Canton – Dr. Bernard James Lammers, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Coopersville – James W. Dupee, 77; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Chazy.

Dannemora – Eileen (Beauchemin) Tacy, 93; Funeral Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Elizabethtown – M. Joyce Gilbert, 87; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Elizabeth's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lake Placid – Ruth L. Ouimette Watson, 74; Funeral Dec. 27, 2014 at St. Agnes Church; burial in North Elba Cemetery.

Massena – William J. Gardner, 63; Funeral Dec. 29, 2014 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Doris M. (Smith) Perkins, 77; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Mary's Church.

Massena – Leo L. Pomainville, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2014 at Church of Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morrisonville – Doris A. (Weir) Rose, 82; Funeral Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Norfolk – William H. Ashley, 68; Funeral Services Dec. 24, 2014 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Patricia Jane LaRose, 78; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St.

Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Julie Ann (McKay) Premo, 65; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2014 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Earl N. Stopfel, 80; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2014 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Peru – John Gilbert Marshall, 68; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2014 at the Hamilton Funeral Home.

Plattsburgh – Joyce A. (McKinney) Gilroy, 82; Funeral Dec. 31, 2014 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Beverly A. (Ryan) Messer, 72; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at St. John's Church; burial in St. George's Cemetery, Burke.

Port Henry – LeRoy E. "Jel" Vanderhoof, 87; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church.

Redwood – Elizabeth (Johnson) DeLano, 93; Funeral Dec. 23, 2014 at St. Francis Xavier Church; burial in parish Cemetery.

Schroon Lake – Joyce M. (Schmitt) Lawrence, 80; Funeral Services Dec. 27, 2014 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Ticonderoga – Patricia Ann (Frasier) Forgette, 71; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2014 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

Watertown – Dora Mary Finley Belcher, 98; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2014 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Watertown – Mary F. (Trudell) Dishaw, 86; Funeral Dec. 24, 2014 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Black River Cemetery.

Watertown – Ralph J. Frost, 85; Funeral Service Dec. 30, 2014 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Watertown – Angelina P. (Morgia) Mathieu, 92; Funeral Dec. 29, 2014 at St. Anthony's; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

West Chazy – Leo P. Menard, 75; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2014 at St. Joseph's Church.

West Chazy – Margaret (LaClair) VanNortwick, 83; Funeral Dec. 30, 2014 at St. Joseph's; burial in parish cemetery.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

*The Religious of the Diocese Wish to Thank All
of the Generous People Who Contributed to the
2014 Retirement Fund Collection.
You Will Be Remembered in Our Prayers.*

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Sister M. Judith Baumert
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Sister Mary Paul Blank
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Sister Joan McElwain
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Sister Ellen Donahue
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