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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 70, Number 24

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 18, 2015

## Biggest shortage: lack of love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) With God's light, Christians learn to look within themselves with truth and look upon others with love, Pope Francis said.

Inspired by Christ, people can look at the world with a new pair of eyes to see others "not as obstacles to overcome, but as brothers and

sisters to welcome," he said at the Vatican Nov. 12.

The pope was meeting with members of the Guanelian Family, a group of individuals and associations inspired by the life and charism of St. Louis Guanella, the Italian founder the Servants of Charity, the

Daughters of St. Mary of Providence and the Confraternity of St. Joseph.

Meeting some 5,000 members on a pilgrimage to Rome, Pope Francis told them that if he were to imagine what their founder - who died in 1915 - would tell them today, he said it would

be "to trust, look and hurry."

"People have to trust in the fact that God cannot help but love his children no matter what, he said. "If we are distant from him, we are longed for; when we draw close, we are embraced; if we fall, he picks us up; if we are repentant, he forgives."

## New youth director is named

Kelly Donnelly, a teacher at Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh, has been hired as the diocesan director of youth ministry.

She succeeds Deacon Brian Dwyer who resigned in September after five years in the position.

"Kelly comes to the position with a strong background in education, faith formation and experience with the youth of our diocese," Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin said, diocesan director of the Office of Faith Formation, who made the announcement Nov. 12.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Film addresses abuse by clergy

Bishop LaValley issues a statement about 'Spotlight'... Catholic News

Service reviews the movie

FULL STORIES, PAGES 3 & 13

## BLESS THIS HOUSE AND ALL WHO LIVE HERE



PHOTO BY FATHER SCOTT BELINA

"O God... grant to your servants who will live in this house these blessings: to listen to you in faith, to speak to you in prayer, to seek only you in their work, to find you in all they do, and to become witnesses of the Gospel," Bishop Terry R. LaValley prayed as he blessed the newly established Frassati House in Malone Nov 1. Father Joseph W. Giroux, above right, pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone, brought the evangelization initiative to the community. During an open house at the former St. John Bosco rectory, Bishop LaValley blessed five young missionaries who will engage in evangelization work in the Malone area. See pages 8-9 for full story.

AT YOUTH CONGRESS: Local teens write about once-in-a-lifetime event... p. 16

## 'ATTACK ON PEACE FOR ALL HUMANITY'



CNS PHOTO/IAN LANGSDON, EPA  
Armed police officers go on foot patrol around Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris Nov. 14. Dozens of people were killed in a series of attacks in Paris Nov. 13. The initial Vatican statement after the attacks follows: "Here in the Vatican we are following the terrible news from Paris. We are shocked by this new manifestation of maddening, terrorist violence and hatred which we condemn in the most radical way together with the Pope and all those who love peace. We pray for the victims and the wounded, and for all the French people. This is an attack on peace for all humanity, and it requires a decisive, supportive response on the part of all of us as we counter the spread the homicidal hatred in all of its forms."

FULL STORY, PAGE 10

NORTH  
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## No second class citizens among us

Laypeople are not second-class members at the service of the church hierarchy, but are disciples of Christ called to "enliven every environment, every activity and every human relationship according to the Gospel."

Pope Francis could certainly be talking about laypeople in the Diocese of Ogdensburg when he sent this message Nov. 10 to participants of a workshop marking the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, which de-

finied the role, vocation and mission of laypeople in the Catholic Church.

Laypeople living out their vocation in our part of the world is the focus of page after page of this week's *North Country Catholic*.

First, we have the announcement of our new diocesan director of youth ministry, Kelly Donnelly who says she is "extremely passionate about youth ministry...I look forward to working with youth ministers and youth to help bring teens closer to Christ."

On pages 8-9, we feature the story of five more young adults who will be sharing their ministry in the Malone area as residents of the new Frassati House.

"Our focus is evangelization - living, focused on Jesus, with 'Go and make disciples' as our mindset," explained one of the Frassatians, Rachel Daly, (a familiar name to *NCC* readers). "We have received the treasure of our faith; now we turn ourselves outward and share with others," she said.

The extraordinary work of

the Catholic Daughters of America, lay members of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the Office of New Evangelization also receive well deserved attention this week.

Pope Francis said that the Vatican Council did not just highlight the importance of the laity in the church, but defined their role as a vocation.

I think he'd be proud of all of our disciples who are joyfully living out their vocations in our midst.

MLK

## A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## Developing an attitude of gratitude

Are you the one who leads the grace for dinner on Thanksgiving Day? Well, it is about time you started preparing your prayers. Now, I know that most of you wait to the last minute to think of something to say and then come up with whatever jumps into your mind. Today I want to encourage you to take some time to prepare your prayer right now for this year's Thanksgiving.

To begin - take a moment to bring gratitude into your life. By that, I mean that you stop to recognize a profound thankfulness for the wonderful people and events that have been part of your life - especially this year.

This brings a spirit of gratitude into your heart and form a profound relationship with God who has constantly blessed you. This makes you a grateful person, someone living in gratitude. Then you will be able to help yourself and also others recognize how grateful they should be right now.

Such a spirit of gratefulness begins as you develop a deep gratitude for yourself. Realize now how special you are. God has blessed you and continues to watch over you. So, be grateful.

Now, I know that you are going to tell me of the many times you have felt rather mediocre, the times when you have been very upset with yourself. In this moment, let me urge you to just stop. Stop a moment in prayer and then recognize all that you have done - with God's help - to make a difference in many people's lives, in the lives of your own loved ones. So, be grateful!

At this moment, I would like to share with you a conversation I had the other day with a fellow, who was a stranger. He



was describing for me a recent time when he had observed someone in the mall, someone that he and his friends considered different, sort of odd.

He admitted to me that he had made fun of this person as he joked with his friends. Now he really felt upset with himself.

I suggested that at moments like this we should all remember that meaningful statement that is probably familiar to all of us - "There but for the grace of God, go I." I was blessed so much by the Creator who made me just who I am and the Lord loves me just like I am. I definitely should be a grateful person since God loves me as I am. I should be grateful that I am who I

am.

So, back to your prayer for this year's Thanksgiving grace. As you compose your prayer, do so as a grateful person allowing your gratitude to fill your prayer. Now you must help all the others to become grateful people also, grateful for who they are, grateful for their family and loved ones and all the opportunities they have to reach out to them, grateful for the others, even the strangers, who have touched your life.

Now, this is not a simple task but at that moment as the prayer at this Thanksgiving table, you can personally lead everyone to recognize their gratefulness and how to make their life more grateful.

So, chose well your words and allow the spirit of gratitude from the Lord fill your words with your love for them all, your thankfulness that they are with you. That indeed is the final ingredient - love.

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## Kelly Donnelly named new director of youth ministry

OGDENSBURG — St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan director of the Office of Faith Formation, has announced that Kelly Donnelly, a teacher at Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh, has been hired as the diocesan director of youth ministry.

She succeeds Deacon Brian Dwyer who resigned in September after five years in the position.

"Kelly comes to the position with a strong background in education, faith formation and experience with the youth of our diocese," Sister Ellen Rose said. "She will assist with the diocesan youth ministry program on a part time basis, namely preparing for Guggenheim and the implementation of the diocesan vision for youth ministry, until she assumes the position full time on July 1, 2016. This arrangement allows Kelly to complete her teaching re-



Kelly Donnelly

sponsibilities at Seton Catholic for the current school year."

Ms. Donnelly grew up in Tupper Lake and completed her undergraduate work at Siena College with a major in English and Education and minor in Franciscan Service and Advocacy. After graduation, she spent a year serving in Wilmington, Delaware with Franciscan Volunteer Ministry, where she

taught in the education department of a women's prison, tutored adult ESL (English as second language) students, and worked with parish youth.

She then returned to the North Country to teach at Seton Catholic and complete her Master's Degree of Education in Curriculum and Instruction through SUNY Potsdam.

Ms. Donnelly is currently in her sixth year teaching English and Religion at Seton

Catholic. She also serves on Seton's Campus Ministry team, which sponsors events such as Seton's 40 Days of Hope initiative, retreat days, lock-in, and hikes. She is a parishioner of St. Peter's Church.

For the past two summers, Ms. Donnelly has directed Camp Guggenheim and is involved with local and diocesan youth ministry events. She was a member of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Smart Goal Committee and is currently a member of the Living Stones Planning Committee.

She enjoys reading, traveling (especially going on pilgrimages), kayaking, cross-country skiing, and volunteering.

"I am extremely passionate about youth ministry and feel incredibly blessed to begin working as the diocesan youth director," she told the *North Country Catholic*. "I look forward to working with youth ministers and youth to help bring teens closer to Christ."

## Bishop LaValley issues statement on film 'Spotlight'

Although many in the North Country may not have seen the movie *Spotlight*, it has gained considerable interest and attention. This movie is the recounting of the team of investigative reporters at the Boston Globe who broke the Catholic Church's clergy sex abuse story in January, 2002, mainly concerning the Archdiocese of Boston. While such a movie could be a "Church-bashing" film, it is not.

Bishop LaValley stated that any vehicle, such as this movie, that can raise the awareness of the crime of sexual abuse of minors serves a worthy purpose.

The response of the Church to these horrific crimes has been multi-layered. Many changes implemented in the last 13 years have helped to make the Church today a leader in the fight against abuse.

In the Diocese of Ogdensburg, steps taken include:

- Zero-tolerance policy, permanently removing from ministry cleric who sexually abused a minor at any time
- Mandatory background checks on adults who interact with children
- Safe environment policies preventing opportunities for abuse

- Safety training for both adults and children
- Independent audits to assure that the diocese remains in full compliance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

Our Church provides assistance to victims and their families who were sexually abused as minors by clergy. Such vigilance is vital to honoring the victims, preventing further abuse and opposing such abuse in any form.

## IT'S AUCTION TIME AGAIN



St. Mary's School in Canton will hold its Twelfth Annual Auction Night Nov. 20, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the school's gymnasium. Over 250 quality items including antique furniture, gift baskets, home decor, several pieces of quality artwork and over 75 gift certificates to local restaurants, salons, golf courses, skiing and other recreational activities will be featured in both silent and live auctions. Tickets to this event are \$15 per person in advance or \$20 at the door. Tickets are available at the school or church rectory. The cost includes hors d'oeuvres, adult beverages and entertainment by local jazz favorite "A Fine Line." New this year, we will be accepting credit cards at checkout. For more information, call St. Mary's School at 386-3572. Pictured in the photo displaying some of the items which will be up for bid are Matthew Gainey, Yeukai Mujuru, Father Douglas Lucia, pastor; Pamela Neal, principal; Bishop Terry LaValley, Autumn Ames and Ross Cruikshank. In the wagon are Gavin Schryver and Eleanor Bailey.



### Parkinson's Pins For Sale

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Thank you Fr. Kevin,  
for loving us as much as  
we love you!  
We are especially grateful for  
your guidance and leadership  
throughout the past year and  
in our newly  
constructed school.

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*Celebration continues after Mass in newly renovated church hall*

# CDA Court marks 95th anniversary

By Shawn Ryan  
Staff writer

DANNEMORA - Court Mother Admirable #592 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas celebrated its 95th anniversary Oct. 18, with a Mass and gathering at St. Joseph's Church.

Father John M. Demo, presided at the Mass with assistance from Fathers Francis Flynn and Scott Seymour, and Deacon Edward Mazuchowski.

The liturgy featured a Lighting of the Candles ceremony, with candles representing the past, present and future of Court Mother Admirable. They were lit by Bertha (Bert) Pombrio, the longest active member, Regent Nancy Clancy, and Shirley Bruce, the newest active Court member, respectively.

"You will find all of the Lord's goodness manifested in all of the daughters," said Father Demo in his homily. "No one can look for a steadier source of support for the Church than the Catholic Daughters. One can look at the local and national projects the Catholic Daughters are involved with, and have



Members of the CDA Court Mother Admirable are shown with Father John M. Demo, pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Dannemora, during the recent 95th anniversary celebration of the Dannemora Catholic Daughters court. Pictured are Louise Mazuchowski, Nancy Clancy, Robin Canning, Anna Lucia and Maggy Talford.

to be inspired."

Father Demo pointed as well to his 27 years' of experience as a priest, and said that through all the parishes he has attended he has not seen another Catholic organization with better attendance at meetings, and that this support leads directly to

their willingness to serve as a charitable organization.

In his remarks, Father Flynn echoed those sentiments.

"There is no Catholic organization that I have seen who does more than the Catholic Daughters does, at the local, state, national and international level," he said.

## Church renovations

After the Mass, Court Mother Admirable members

and their families retired down the newly built stairway at St. Joseph's, to the freshly renovated Church Hall under the Church.

After several years of planning and renovation, the church hall was officially opened in October with a wine tasting fund-raiser; St. Joseph's hosted its first harvest supper just a few weeks ago.

The new facility features an opened up floor plan with

unfettered access to the new serving line, a new walk-in cooler, new cooking and serving equipment, as well as access directly from the church via the new staircase, and an elevator for handicapped access.

Prior to the renovation, people had to leave the church, and walk around to an outside entrance, or tackle a precariously steep spiral staircase.

Another major part of the renovation is a new heating system, replacing a loud and inefficient steam furnace.

"It's been a long process, starting with asbestos abatement last fall, and getting all the contractors and sub-contractors together," said Dick Lynch, head custodian and project coordinator. "But now we have an open, cleaner looking, more functional space.

According to Father Demo, he projects the heating system to be the largest positive to the renovation.

"The Church will realize the biggest gain in the new heating system. The new system is 98 percent efficient; much better than the old system," he said.

"And the improvements in the kitchen are really phenomenal," he said.

Together, Court Mother Admirable and St. Joseph's Church are ready to embark on their next 95 years.



Bert Pombrio, the longest active member of Court Mother Admirable, lights the candle representing the past of the Catholic Daughters during the 95th anniversary celebration. Other candles represented the present and the future of the CDA court.



Guests enjoyed the facilities of the newly renovated St. Joseph's Church hall during the parish's annual harvest dinner. Other upgrades included a new heating system.

# St. Augustine's erects solar panel system

By John T. Ryan  
Contributing writer

PERU - Many of the thousands of people who crowded the St. Augustine's Parish Center grounds during the September 19-20 Applefest were surprised to find solar panels behind the St. Vincent's Thrift Store and Roger's House. If they looked across Main Street behind St. Augustine's Cemetery they saw a much larger solar panel array being erected.

When fully operational the system will supply most of the power needs of St. Augustine's Church, the parish's maintenance garage, the former St. Vincent's Thrift Store, the rectory, the current St. Vincent's Thrift Store and Roger's House, the parish's household goods/Christmas shop.

Father Alan Shnob, pastor of St. Augustine's explained, "I started thinking about solar panels when Bishop LaValley installed a solar system at his residence in Ogdensburg. I think they confirm the Holy Father's call to conserve the world's resources. They're also about more than saving energy. They're a sign that our parish is looking to the future. We're looking to future generations. We're passing on a legacy to them."

The project is financially feasible thanks to the generosity of St. Augustine's parishioners, parish savings, the hard work of St. Vincent's Thrift Store and Roger's House volunteers, a \$30,000 New York Research and Development Authority (NY-SERDA) grant and a \$20,000 gift from St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273. Edge Design and Consulting in Plattsburgh is the project designer and installer.


Bishop Terry A. LaValley blessed the panels Oct. 3 following the 4:30 p.m. Mass during which Bishop LaValley assisted in the initiation of a Junior Catholic Daughters Court in the parish; another indication the parish is looking to the future.


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(Reprinted with permission from the Peru Gazette)



PHOTO BY JOHN RYAN

One of the solar panel arrays serving St. Augustine's Parish in Peru can be seen at St. Vincent's Thrift Shop. When fully operational the solar panel system will supply most of the power needs of St. Augustine's Church, the parish's maintenance garage, the thrift store, the rectory and Roger's House, the parish's household goods/Christmas shop.


SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



## CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

# WORKING ON THE MARGINS

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## Special Collection to be held with Black and Indian Mission

### November 21-22, 2015

## BISHOP'S FUND 2015... UNITED AS ONE FAMILY

## Supports Office of New Evangelization

By Marika Donders  
Director, Office of New Evangelization

One thing that I am still getting used to as the Director of the Office of the New Evangelization is the name change: It used to be the Office of Evangelization and it is really a mouthful to introduce myself as the Director of the New Evangelization.

### What is so NEW about the Office of the New Evangelization?

You might ask what the difference is, what is so NEW about the New Evangelization?

Saint John Paul II explained it this way: "Evangelization, he insisted, cannot be new in its content, since its theme is always the one gospel given by Jesus Christ. If it arose from us and our situation, he says, it would not be 'gospel' but mere human intervention, and there would be no salvation in it. Evangelization, however, can and should be new in its ardor, its methods and its expression. It must be heralded with new energy and in a style and language adapted to the people of our day." (John Paul II and the New Evangelization by Ralph Martin and Peter Williamson, editors, Servant Press 2006.)

So, despite the name change, the work of the office really hasn't changed drastically. We are still working to share the Gospel, the Good News which is that Jesus loves us so much that he came

among us, lived and preached the Kingdom of God, died for our sins, rose and now, heaven is opened to us. Because of what He has done, we can now enter into relationship with Him and that relationship will change our lives.

Primarily the Office works to offer resources and training to parishes and other groups so that they can form others to become disciples of Christ. But in the New Evangelization, we are also looking to use new tools and methods at our disposal. So in addition to workshops, recommending books and resources to parishes and groups, we are also using social media and other communication tools to get the message out. We manage Facebook pages and a Twitter account and write blog posts.

We are also constantly looking for new methods that have worked in other places and times which we may want to try in our own parishes and families. We will share these ideas in our new diocesan newsletter called eNotes so that parishes can share them or see which might work for them.

So what can the Office of the New Evangelization do for you or your parish?

We offer a variety of workshops, such as an eight-session workshop using the book *Forming Intentional Disciples*. We can design workshops or talks specifically for your group or parish: perhaps a talk or a series on one of the Church documents on evangelization such as *Go and Make Disciples* or the *Joy of the Gospel*, or how your parish

can use Social Media to reach out and evangelize. We can help your parish start an evangelization team or offer a retreat or day of reflection for an existing evangelization team.

Together with other departments, such as Family Life or Formation for Ministry, we can also offer larger events and conferences to support parishes and staff to become disciples and evangelizers.

For more information about how we might assist you, please don't hesitate to contact our office: You can reach me, Marika Donders, via email at [mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org) or by calling 315-

393-2920 ext. 1380.

You can also find us online at [rcdony.org/evangelization](http://rcdony.org/evangelization) where you can find links to our blog and Facebook pages.

### Bishop's Schedule

**Nov. 16-19** – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Meeting in Baltimore, MD

**Nov. 21** – 4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**Nov. 22** – 11 a.m., Installation Mass of Rev. Thomas Kormmeyer as Pastor of the Catholic Community of Burke and Chateaugay at St. Patrick's Church

5:30 p.m., Dinner for the Special Religious Education Program at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Watertown

**Nov. 24** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**Nov. 25** – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

### Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from Atoneement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440. Upcoming sessions: **Nov. 21** – 9:30 a.m., Immaculate Heart Central School, Watertown

### Rest in Peace

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

**Nov. 20** – Rev. Robert J. Booth, 1939  
**Nov. 21** – Msgr. Joseph L. Tierney, 1968

**Nov. 22** – Rev. Bernard Caraher, 1893;  
Rev. James F. Lamitie, 2010

**Nov. 23** – Rev. Louis Brisson, 1963

**Nov. 24** – Rev. Bernard McCabe, 1857; Rev. G.P. Berneche, 1950; Rev. Norman E. Poupore, 2014

### To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact:

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### Environmental Stewardship

#### Seize an Opportunity

We are so blessed to have members of the Mohawk tribe as part of the Diocese.

In Chapter 4 of *Laudato Si*, entitled "Integral Ecology," Pope Francis notes that... "it is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. They are not merely one minority among others, but should be the principle dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their land are proposed. For them, land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God, and from their ancestors who rest there, as sacred space with which they need to interact if they are to maintain their identity and values." (#146)

On Sunday, November 21 the USCCB invites us to support the Campaign for Human Development/Black and Indian Missions.

One way to respond to this Campaign is to offer a prayer of gratitude to God for the many gifts the Native People have contributed to our own history.

For example, did you know that many historians claim that Ben Franklin and some of the founding fathers used ideas contained in the Great Law of Peace, the founding Constitution of the Iroquois Confederacy, to create the structure for the our Constitution?

Did you know that the white pine tree is the peace tree for our native Mohawk people? During a time of war between the tribes, they were called by the Peacemaker to "bury their hatchets" under this tree. Does that phrase sound familiar?

Did you know that Native People see that all things connected in the web of life, and therefore, all are to be respected, just as Pope Francis calls us to do regarding all of Creation?

A second way to respond is to support their efforts to protect their land and their culture wherever they are in jeopardy.

Thirdly, we can support our native sisters and brothers throughout our Nation through financial contributions to this Campaign.

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

 #Pontifex



**Attention  
Snowbirds**  
going south for the winter!

Notify our office so you don't miss a single issue of the *North Country Catholic*! Call (315) 608-7556 with your winter address.

# Local MSC lay members join national gathering

Lay members of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart from the Watertown area were among those who took part in the second national meeting of the organization June 8-12 in Center Valley, Pennsylvania.

Lay members were present from the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, MSC Sisters, and MSC priests and Brothers.

There were members from California, Texas, Illinois, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York.

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Mike Camilli opened the three-day event with a paper *A Renewed MSC Missionary Energy of the Chevalier Family*.

Guest speaker, Father Hans Kwakman, a MSC priest from Issoudon, France, was unable to attend because of illness. However, lay members were able to present Father Hans' notes.

Lynn Ditlow a Lay MSC from Pennsylvania gave a presentation on *The Social Dimension of Father Chevalier's Charism and the Role of the Laity*.

MSC members Mary Myers and Beverly Hennigan of the Watertown group presented Father Hans' book, *Fr. Chevalier's Charism and the Identity of the Chevalier Family*.

Suzanne Williams, also of the Watertown group, presented plans and ministries of the lay members in New York.

Throughout Wednesday and Thursday, groups from each state gave reports and presentations about their group's activities and ministries.

Break out talks and discussions were positive about the

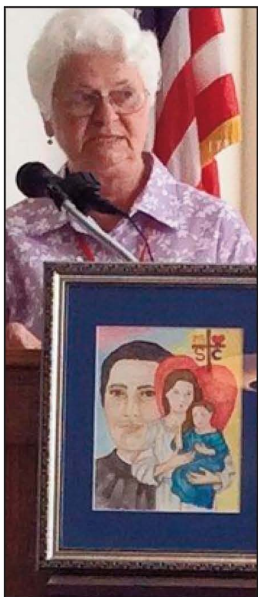
future of the laity in the United States.

The meeting closed with a prayer service led by Mary Myers that expressed the spiritual qualities of the Sacred Heart.

On June 12, Feast of the Sacred Heart, the gathering closed with the Mass of the Sacred Heart, with Father Raymond Diesbourg, MSC Provincial, presiding.

Prior to the Mass, Lynn Ditlow and Mary Myers led the wrap up discussion on what was discussed, the importance of the gathering and the next course of action for the laity.

A core team consisting of members from different parts of the United States will be formed to later become representatives on the international level.



PHOTOS SUPPLIED  
Beverly Hennigan, left, and Mary Myers, above, lay members of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart from the Watertown area, made presentations during the second national meeting of the organization June 8-12 in Center Valley, Pennsylvania.



The Black and Indian Mission Collection (BIMC) exists to help diocesan communities to build the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God.

Every year, it is the amazing generosity of Catholic faithful just like you who enable the Black and Indian Mission Office to support the following important priorities:

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BIMC grant funds help offices of Black Catholic and Native American ministries to sponsor events and formation to encourage the Christian life in culturally appropriate ways. Mr. Ansel Augustine, shown here with a friend, coordinates the Office of Black Catholic Ministries in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.



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# Frassati House

*St. Andre Bessette Parish in Malone welcomes five young missionaries*

By Suzanne Pietropaoli  
Staff writer

**MALONE**-Excitement filled the air November 1 as St. Andre Bessette parish officially welcomed five young missionaries to its new Frassati House.

At the heart of this new apostolate are five young people with backgrounds in theology, who have come from near and far, to live a simple and prayerful community life.

Together they will serve the New Evangelization through their work in youth and young adult ministries, adult faith formation, and parish retreats. After more than a year of prayerful discernment, extensive interviews, and careful planning, this fresh expression of the New Evangelization has become a reality.

## Open house

An open house on All Saints' Day drew friends and parishioners to the former St. John Bosco rectory, now home to the new community.

The afternoon event, highlighted by a ceremony of blessing and dedication led by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, allowed parishioners and missionaries to get to know each other.

In those interactions, the work of Frassati House was well begun.

Father Joseph W. Giroux, pastor of St. Andre's, who en-



PHOTO BY FR. SCOTT BELINA

Bishop Terry R. LaValley traveled to the newly established Frassati House in Malone - the former St. John Bosco rectory - to bless the home and the five young missionaries who will engage in evangelization work in the area. From left are Bishop LaValley, Father Joseph W. Giroux, pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish; and Frassati residents Rachel Daly, Katie Brizek, Lauren Numrich, Michael Jacobs and Zachary Monson.

visioned this new approach to evangelization in the parish, noticed it immediately.

"Just look around: people are smiling because this is something that makes them feel good about being Catholic," he said. "These five young people are every bit as much missionaries as those who go to distant countries, because our own back yard is as much a mission field as any other."

"The witness of young people willing to come to Malone, a place they do not know, because they love Jesus and love his Church and want others to do the same: this is the mission of Frassati House," Father Giroux said. "This is clearly

the work of the New Evangelization."

## Enthusiastic parishioners

St. Andre's parishioners share Father Giroux's enthusiasm.

For Vic Sciarino, "Frassati house is a sign of hope that all, especially the young, will come to know the joy of the Gospel."

Judy Pelkey shares that hope: "We are blessed to have these young people come to Saint Andre Bessette. Their presence here will energize our parish, is already energizing our parish."

Ursuline Sister Sheila Murphy is likewise impressed: "There is a lot of interest with these people, and there is a lot of vitality here. And that is exactly what we need!"

Barbara Winthrop-Benware agrees: "This is such a wonderful and much-needed mission. We need young people in the Church, and they have a calling to share their

faith. I think this idea may catch on. It would be great to see other empty rectories used this way."

Her husband, Dan Benware, concurs. "This is a great idea! It is an opportunity for people who can't commit for a lifetime—but can take time out of their lives—to serve the Church in this way."

Speaking from 60 years in religious life, Ursuline Sister Teresa Byrne observes, "I think Frassati House is just wonderful. Years ago, people wanting to serve the Church had few options—the lifelong commitment of religious life or priesthood."

"A new possibility like this one seems to be a real fruit of Vatican II's promise of full participation by the laity in the life of the Church," Sister Teresa said.

## Little pocket of wider church

Frassati House missionary Rachel Daly sees the new

community as "a little pocket of the wider Church. An important aspect of Frassati House is that we will be living in community, which allows us to be our own cell within the parish. We will have the advantage of '1+1=3': young people living and working together is an opportunity for the joy to multiply.

"Our focus is evangelization - living, focused on Jesus, with 'Go and make disciples' as our mindset," Ms Daly said. "We have received the treasure of our faith; now we turn ourselves outward and share with others.

"Knowing our various stories, it is very obvious that God called us here," she said. "God's initiative inspired Father Joe and also, Father Joe's reaching out to each of us."

## Bishop's support

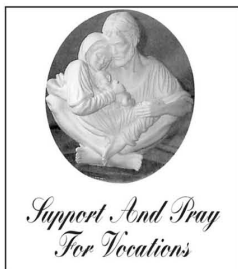
Bishop LaValley has, of course, been part of this initiative from its inception.

"I understand that evangelization does not have a one-size-fits-all program," he explains. "Father Joe approached me with the concept for Frassati House. The concept was sound, as is Father's leadership. I said, 'Let's see if the Spirit is home.' We have to think big and pray big!"

"I am very happy to be here for the opening of Frassati House," Bishop LaValley said. "I am glad to support such evangelistic endeavors."

One of the prayers from the ceremony of blessing and dedication speaks beautifully to the purpose of Frassati House and its missionaries.

*"O God... grant to your servants who will live in this house these blessings: to listen to you in faith, to speak to you in prayer, to seek only you in their work, to find you in all they do, and to become witnesses of the Gospel."*





## Who is Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati?

Born into privilege in Turin, Italy, on April 6, 1901, Pier Giorgio even as a child had a close relationship with God. Despite lack of encouragement from his parents, the boy organized his life around prayer, daily reception of Holy Communion, and generosity to those in need.

Pier Giorgio joined the Society of St. Vincent DePaul when he was 17; he devoted much of his spare time to caring for the sick and for orphans. His family remained unaware of Pier Giorgio's charitable work until after his death, when thousands of those he had helped lined the streets to pay tribute to their benefactor.

As a university student,

Pier Giorgio studied mining engineering, joined the Third Order Dominicans, pursued his athletic interests—especially mountain climbing, and enjoyed music and the arts. His deep prayer life continued, as did his selfless efforts on behalf of the needy in Turin. Then, at the age of 24, Pier Giorgio contracted polio—apparently from a sick person he was tending.

On July 4, 1925, Pier Giorgio died. After his death, as the depth and breadth of his faith and good works became known, Pier Giorgio came to be known as an effective intercessor.

He was beatified May 20, 1990.

[Learn more at <http://frassatiusa.org>.]



Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

## Who's who at Frassati?

### Who Are Malone's Frassati House Missionaries?

• Peru, NY, native Rachel Daly is familiar to NCC readers. A graduate of Plattsburgh's Seton Catholic High School and the University of Dallas, Rachel entered the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal in the Bronx. Despite the beauty of that experience, she discerned that God had other plans for her life - and he sent her to Malone. "I have always held a special place in my heart for the Church of the North Country," Rachel said, "and this year I am looking forward to serving her as part of the new and exciting venture of Frassati House."

• Katie Brizek hails from Sparta, NJ, and graduated from Christendom College in May. This past summer found her volunteering in Chile with the Sisters of the Christian Life Movement. There she discovered a passion for working within the parish to create a strong, supportive, spiritual community.

"I am enthusiastic about helping St. Andre's to grow its community," Katie said. "I look forward to meeting lots of people and to seeing how God works through their lives in the coming year."

• Minnesota native - and avowed Vikings fan! - Michael Jacobs is a 2012 graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, where he majored in Theology and Cate-

chetics. Along with this academic background, he brings with him a great joy in his faith, and a strong desire to share it with others.

"I'm really excited to be a parish missionary here at St. Andre Bessette," Michael said. "Malone is a beautiful town, and very welcoming to us."

• A native of Latham, NY, Lauren Numrich graduated from Siena College in 2012 with a degree in Religious Studies. Since then, she has lived as a missionary in youth ministry, including a year in Australia with NET Ministries.

"Upon my return from Australia, after prayer and discernment, the Lord called me here to help pioneer Frassati House and serve the parish of St. Andre's," Lauren said. "I am eager to serve and see how God will work this year."

• Hailing most recently from Kansas, Zachary Monson graduated from Benedictine College there in 2015. In addition to his major in Evangelization and Catechesis, Zachary earned a minor in music with a focus on classical guitar. As well, he brings a "reignited" passion for Christ, and experience in catechetics.

"It's great to be here," Zachary said. "Frassati House is an amazing opportunity, and I am excited to be able to minister to the people of St. Andre Bessette Parish."

## Bishop LaValley to lead Holy Year of Mercy Catholic Italy Pilgrimage

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# Pope: nothing can justify terrorist attacks

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- "This is not human," Pope Francis said after a night of terror in Paris left more than 120 people dead and more than 200 people injured.

As French authorities investigated the almost simultaneous attacks Nov. 13 on at least six different sites - outside a soccer stadium, inside a concert hall and at four restaurants - Pope Francis spoke briefly Nov. 14 with the television station of the Italian bishops' conference.

"I am shaken and pained," the pope said. "I don't understand, but these things are difficult to understand, how human beings can do this. That is why I am shaken, pained and am praying."

The director of the television station recalled how the pope has spoken many times about a "third world war

being fought in pieces."

"This is a piece," the pope responded. "There are no justifications for these things."

**I am shaken and pained.**

**I don't understand, but these things are difficult to understand, how human beings can do this. That is why I am shaken, pained and am praying**

On social media, Islamic State militants claimed responsibility, but Pope Francis insisted there can be no "religious or human" excuse for killing innocent people and sowing terror. "This is not human."

French authorities reported Nov. 14 that eight terrorists were dead after the night of attacks; six of them committed suicide and two

were killed by police, who stormed the concert hall where the terrorists had taken hostages and where the majority of victims died.

Cardinal Andre Vingt-Trois of Paris issued a statement calling for calm and for prayers, not only for the Paris victims, but also for the victims of recent terrorist attacks in Lebanon and in Africa.

He urged all parishes to strictly follow the security guidelines of the police, but also asked for special memorial Masses over the weekend. He said he would celebrate a special Mass for the victims Nov. 15 in Notre Dame Cathedral.

"May no one allow himself to be defeated by panic and hatred," the cardinal said. "Let us ask for the grace of being peacemakers. We must never lose our hope for peace if we work for justice."

Just a few hours after the attacks occurred, Jesuit Fa-

ther Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, issued a statement saying the Vatican was "shocked by this new manifestation of maddening terrorist violence and hatred, which we condemn in the most radical way."

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, sent a message in the pope's name to Cardinal Vingt-Trois calling the attacks "horrific" and relaying the pope's prayers for the victims, their families and the entire nation.

"He invokes God, the father of mercy, asking that he welcome the victims into the peace of his light and bring comfort and hope to the injured and their families," Cardinal Parolin wrote.

The pope also "vigorously condemns violence, which cannot solve anything, and he asks God to inspire thoughts of peace and solidarity in all."

Father Lombardi was asked about security concerns

throughout Europe, and particularly whether the terrorist attacks would impact plans for the Year of Mercy, scheduled to begin Dec. 8.

"These murderers, possessed by senseless hatred, are called terrorists precisely because they want to spread terror," Father Lombardi responded in a statement. "If we let ourselves be frightened, they have achieved their primary goal."

"Naturally," he said, "there is a need to be prudent and not irresponsible, to take reasonable precautions, but we must continue to live, building peace and mutual trust."

"I would say the Jubilee of Mercy is more necessary than ever," Father Lombardi said. Preaching God's love and mercy also is a call for people to love one another and reconcile with each other. "It is exactly the response needed in times when people are tempted not to trust."

## Seeks end to 'cold, fearful church' that forgets Christ

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

FLORENCE, ITALY (CNS) -- Meeting workers and addressing a major gathering of the Catholic Church in Italy, Pope Francis demanded an end to economic exploitation, to clerics "obsessed" with power, to apathy among youth and to a cold, fearful church that forgets Christ is always by its side.

"These times of ours demand that we experience problems as challenges and not like obstacles: The Lord is active and at work in the world," he said Nov. 10 inside Florence's Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore -- the third-largest church in Europe.

In a trip that covered a normal 8 a.m.-to-5 p.m. workday, the pope rallied workers, young people and hundreds of church leaders representing the entire Italian peninsula; he met with the sick, kissed babies, admired Renaissance artwork

and venerated an ancient relic. He ate lunch with the poor and homeless and celebrated Mass in a city soccer stadium.

Speaking to hundreds of Italian cardinals, bishops and laypeople attending a national congress held only every 10 years, the pope gave a lengthy, yet clear indication of where their discussions and pastoral mission should be heading.

"We must not tame the power of the face of Jesus," who takes on the face of the humiliated, the enslaved and "the emptied," he said.

A divine Christ reflects a very human gaze of humility and selflessness, and he insists his disciples follow the beatitudes like he did, the pope said.

"We must not be obsessed with power," the pope said, even if it is a useful or seemingly innocuous way of getting things done. Otherwise the church "loses its way, loses its meaning."

Standing at a lectern be-

neath a stunning painted dome ceiling representing the Last Judgment, the pope said the beatitudes indicate whether the church is following its mission or is only thinking of protecting its own interests. Measuring oneself against the beatitudes "is a mirror that never lies," he said.

Reading animatedly from his written remarks, the pope also found moments to offer a bit of humor, like when warning church leaders against various temptations.

"I'll present at least two" temptations, but not a huge list of 15 like he spelled out in a memorable pre-Christmas address to the Roman Curia in 2014, he said to applause and laughter in the pews.

Do not feel superior and place complete trust in structures and perfect plans, he said. This focus on the abstract and on security "often leads us to take on a style of control, harshness, regula-

tion."

When "facing evils or problems in the church," he said, "it is useless to seek solutions in conservatism and fundamentalism, in the restoration of outdated conduct and forms" that are no longer culturally relevant or meaningful.

Christian doctrine, in fact, isn't a closed system void of questions or doubts, but is alive, restless, animated. Its face "isn't rigid, its body moves and develops, it has tender flesh. Its name is Jesus Christ."

The same spirit that drove Italian explorers to seek new worlds, unafraid of storms and open seas, can drive the church in Italy, Pope Francis said, if it lets itself be driven by the breath of the Holy Spirit, "free and open to challenges of the present, never in defense out of fear of losing something."

He also told priests and bishops to be shepherds, "nothing more. Shepherds." To illustrate what that looked

like, the pope told a story of a bishop who was riding the subway during rush hour.

It was so packed, there was nothing to hold onto, and "pushed right and left" by the swaying car, the bishop leaned on the people around him so as not to fall. A bishop will find support, he said, by leaning on his people and through prayer, he said.

Underlining the importance of caring for the poor - who know well the suffering and face of Christ, the pope asked God to protect the church in Italy from all forms of power, facades and money.

"I like a restless church in Italy, ever close to the abandoned, the forgotten, the imperfect," the pope said.

"I want a happy church with the face of a mother, who understands, accompanies, caresses. Dream for this church, too, believe in this, innovate with freedom," he told the bishops, pastors and lay leaders.

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Laity are disciples, not 'second-class members' of church, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Laypeople are not second-class members at the service of the church hierarchy, but are disciples of Christ called to "enliven every environment, every activity and every human relationship according to the Gospel," Pope Francis said. The pope sent a message Nov. 10 marking the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, which defined the role, vocation and mission of laypeople in the Catholic Church. In his message, the pope said that the Second Vatican Council did not just highlight the importance of the laity in the church, but defined their role as a vocation. The proclamation of the Gospel "is not reserved to some 'mission professionals,' but should be the profound aspiration of all lay faithful who are called to evangelize by virtue of their baptism," he said. The pope said that while the council's teachings have contributed to the growth of lay formation, its application challenges "every generation of pastors and laypeople, because it is a priceless gift of the Holy Spirit that must be accepted with gratitude and a sense of responsibility."

## Leaders hope film prompts new look at church's efforts on abuse

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic leaders, both ordained and lay, said in op-ed essays they welcomed the attention certain to be paid to the Catholic Church upon the nationwide release of the movie "Spotlight," which chronicles the Boston Globe's uncovering of the clergy sex abuse scandal in the Archdiocese of Boston in 2002. In the essays, they say the changes made by the church since the revelations made by the Globe have made children safer. "No institution in the United States has done more in recent years than the Catholic Church to take proactive steps to protect children from the evil of sexual abuse," wrote Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington in a Nov. 2 letter emailed to Catholics in his archdiocese. "While the film focuses on events of the past, viewers may think that the film is portraying the present situation in the church, concluding that nothing has changed in the church's response to the sexual abuse of minors," said Francesco C. Cesario, chairman of the U.S. bishops' National Review Board. "However," Cesario added, "it is important to realize that the church has implemented numerous successful steps in the years since the revelations of abuse."

## Sister who cooks for soup kitchen wins prize on 'Chopped'

CHICAGO (CNS) — It looked like prayer and the Lord were on Franciscan Sister Alicia Torres' side as she won a special Thanksgiving competition on the Food Network's "Chopped," which aired Nov. 9. On the show, Sister Alicia, 30, a Franciscan of the Eucharist of Chicago who ministers at Chicago's Mission of Our Lady of the Angels, competed against three other chefs who, like herself, work in soup kitchens. In the first round, the chefs made appetizers using typical Thanksgiving leftovers of turkey, cranberries, green beans and potatoes. They were given similar ingredients to make entrees and then dessert. The chefs competed for a \$10,000 donation to their charity. Sister Alicia said competing on "Chopped" deepened her faith experience. "I didn't expect that. I was very confident going into the competition that I very much could win," she told the Catholic New World, Chicago's archdiocesan newspaper. "And there were many people praying for me leading up to the competition and on the day of the competition." The fact that she was able to go on the competition at all was a sign from God, she said. "I mean, come on. Why did God take me to this place and on this show if he wasn't going to do something really powerful with it?"

## VATICAN LETTER

# Holy Year calls for human barriers to tumble down

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — For a spiritual leader who denounces a world divided by walls, a church shuttered by cliques and hearts hardened to compassion, opening wide the Holy Door for the Year of Mercy will be a significant and symbolic moment for Pope Francis.

In Catholic tradition, the Holy Door represents the passage to salvation — the path to a new and eternal life, which was opened to humanity by Jesus.

It also symbolizes an entryway to God's mercy — the ultimate act by which he comes to meet people. Mercy is "the bridge that connects God and humanity, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness," the pope wrote in "Misericordiae Vultus" ("The Face of Mercy"), instituting the Holy Year of Mercy.

Doors have always had a special meaning for the Catholic Church, according to the late-Cardinal Virgilio Noe, the former archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica.

"The door of a church marks the divide between the sacred and profane, separating the church's interior from the outside world. It is the boundary defining welcome and exclusion," he wrote in the book, "The Holy Door in St. Peter's" in 1999.

The door is also a symbol of Mary — the mother, the dwelling of the Lord — and she, too, always has open arms and is ready to welcome the children of God home. Pope Francis was scheduled to open the door Dec. 8, the feast of Mary's immaculate conception.

But the door especially represents Christ himself — the one and only way to eternal life. As Jesus said, according to the Gospel of John (10:9), "I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."

The Holy Year traditionally begins with the opening of the Holy Door to represent a renewed opportunity to encounter or grow closer to Jesus, who calls everyone to redemption.

Jesus knocks on everyone's door; he years to accompany and nourish everyone. "If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me," the Book of Revelation quotes him as saying.

But doors are also narrow, Cardinal Noe wrote, and people must stoop with humility and "be brought down to size by conversion" in order to be "fit" for eternal life.

That is why passing through a Holy Door is part of a longer process of sacrifice and

conversion required for receiving an indulgence granted during a Holy Year. A plenary indulgence, the remission of temporal punishment due to sin, is offered for pilgrims who also fulfill certain other conditions: reception of the sacraments of penance and the Eucharist, visits and prayers for the intention of the pope and performing simple acts such as visiting the sick.

This spiritual process of encounter and conversion is made tangible in the elaborate rituals developed over time for the opening of the Holy Door.

The symbolic ceremony of opening a Holy Door came more than a century after the first Holy Year was proclaimed in 1300.

Pope Martin V, in 1423, opened the Holy Door in the Basilica of St. John Lateran for the first time for a jubilee. Next, Pope Alexander VI called for all four Holy Doors in Rome to be opened at Christmas in 1499 for the Jubilee of 1500.

Starting in the 16th century, the ceremony to open the door in St. Peter's Basilica included the pope reciting verses from the Psalms and striking the wall covering the Holy Door with a silver hammer three times.

Masons completed the task of dismantling the brick and mortared wall, which represents the difficulty and great effort required to overcome the barrier of sin and to open the path to holiness.

Some have found meaning in the fact that Jesus had five wounds and St. Peter's Basilica has five doors. Opening the Holy Door recalls the piercing of Jesus' side from which poured forth blood and water, the source of regeneration for humanity. The Holy Door of St. Peter's, in fact, is decorated with 16 bronze panels depicting the story of Jesus, in his mercy, seeking his lost sheep.

The symbolism of the hammer in the hands of the pope represents the power and jurisdiction God gives him to cast away the stones of sin, chink open hardened hearts and break down walls separating humanity from God.

The removal of the wall also conjures up pulling away the stone that sealed the tomb of Lazarus, whom Jesus resurrected from the dead.

For the closing of the door at the end of the Holy Year, the traditional rite included the pope blessing and spreading the mortar with a special trowel and setting three bricks for the start of a new wall — a symbol of the spiritual rebuilding of the Lord's house as well as the ever-present human temptation to put up new barriers against God with sin.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## Church year ends as we honor Christ the King

Today marks the last Sunday of the Church year. It is the Feast of Christ the King, celebrating the coming of the Son of Man on the clouds of heaven at the end of time.

How we welcome these readings this year! They give us hope that, despite the violence, wars, and crimes against humanity of our times, God's justice will prevail at the end.

Just when we seem to be heading for cosmic, social, economic, and political disaster, we are reminded that God is still in charge, and that we belong to a kingdom that will never fail us, an

eternal kingdom of justice, peace, and love.

God speaks to us today through the writings of two great visionaries -- the Old Testament prophet, Daniel, and the New Covenant writer, John. Although they are "dream visions," we can confidently believe that they carry God's inspired truth.

Daniel wrote at a time of great distress for the Jews under the Greek ruler, Antiochus Epiphanes II. Such visions gave the people courage to endure, just as today's second reading about Jesus "coming on the clouds of heaven" encourages us.

In John's time, Christians were already suffering persecution under the Emperor Domitian. As Jesus was with the Father at the creation of the world, so will He be the one to judge all nations at the end of time. He says of Himself in John's vision, "I am the Alpha and the Omega" (the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet). He is our past, our present, and our future King.

St. John's words are so very comforting: "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, to him be the glory and power forever and ever. Amen."

In the Gospel, Jesus boldly affirms to Pilate that



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

NOV. 22

## The Feast of Christ the King

## READINGS

Daniel 7:13-14

Psalm 93:1-2, 5

John 18:33b-37

He is that Son of Man who will come on the clouds of heaven as a king. In effect, Jesus is saying, "Don't worry, Pilate. I'm not here to take your job, or to de-throne Caesar, for my kingdom is not political but spiritual. It's not on your maps!"

When Jesus affirms that His whole purpose is to testify to the truth, Pilate cynically asks, "What is truth?" If Pilate had waited for an answer, would he have be-

lieved it? Would he have dared to act on it?

We can ask the same questions about today's world leaders. More to the point, how do we ourselves react to the truth that Christ is the world's universal king to whose rule all must submit before the end of the world?

This, too, is the constant message of our present spokesman for Christ our King, Pope Francis. He urges every nation on this earth to strive for justice for every one of their subjects, and to work always to end war and violence.

We are assured that, at the end of time, Christ's kingdom will rule, and evil will be overcome by His truth.

CHRISTUS VINCIT, CHRISTUS REGNAT, CHRISTUS IMPERAT!

## AT THE PAPAL AUDIENCE

## A family that doesn't eat together is 'hardly a family'

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A family that chooses to watch TV or play with their smartphones rather than talk at the dinner table is "hardly a family," Pope Francis said.

"When children at the dinner table are glued to the computer, or the telephone and do not listen to one another, they are not a family, they are retired," the pope said Nov. 11 during his weekly general audience.

Continuing his catechetical series on family life, the pope reflected on the theme of togetherness, manifested at the dinner table. The pope said that "to share a meal -- and not just food, but also affection, stories, events -- is a fundamental experience."

The pope said Christians have a special vocation to foster family togetherness. The dinner table, he noted, is the place chosen by Jesus to teach his disciples and where he summarized the meaning of his death on the cross "that nourishes true and everlasting love."

For this reason, the family feels "at home" at the celebration of the Eucharist where they bring their "experience of togetherness and open it to the grace of a universal coexistence, of the love of God for the world."

"Through the participation in the Eucharist, the family is purified of the temptation to be closed in on itself; it is strengthened in love and fidelity, and stretches the boundaries of brotherhood according to the heart of Christ," the pope said. "There are no little ones, orphans, weak ones, defenseless, wounded and disillusioned, desperate and abandoned ones that the eucharistic togetherness of the family can't nourish, refresh, protect and care."

However, the pope said that there are obstacles to family togetherness and Christians are called to overcome them. At the dinner table, he said, families speak and listen, but "there can't be any silence that is not the silence of monks but of selfishness, of the cellphone, of the television."

"When there is no togetherness, there is selfishness and each one thinks of him- or herself," the pope said. Advertisements have picked up on the loss of animated family meals and instead offer "a listlessness of snacks and hankering for sweets while so many of our brothers and sisters remain far from the table. What a shame!"

Christian families who embrace this calling of togetherness, "cooperate with the grace of the Eucharist, which has the power to create an always new communion that includes and saves," he said.

## OUR READERS WRITE

## Vaccinations save lives

I am writing in response to the "Our Readers Write" letter in the November 11, 2015 edition of the NCC.

As a veterinarian I know that vaccinations save lives. Parvo virus in dogs, distemper virus in cats and rabies virus in all domestic (and wild) mammals are fatal diseases that we can prevent with timely vaccination programs.

Many of us who are 50 or older would not be around if not for the polio and smallpox vaccination programs that we "participated in" fifty plus years ago.

The vaccine for "sexually transmitted diseases" that the writer alludes to is probably Gardasil. The vaccine helps to protect the recipient from four of the major papilloma viruses that can lead to genital warts or cervical cancer months or years after infection.

In order to be effective the vaccine needs to be given before the person is exposed to these viruses. The four papilloma viruses in the vaccine are usually spread through intimate contact.

Most people are going to be sexually active at some point in their lives, why bury your head and pretend that your child is not going to ever have any sexual contact with another person? Once a person is infected with one or more of

these viruses, it may be with you for life. Why not give your child some insurance against these sexually transmitted diseases? Their future spouse may be infected and bring it to the marriage bed.

The writer attempts to link contraceptives, abortion, same-sex marriage and vaccination to pharmaceutical companies and big government controlling our lives and she is mistaken in my opinion.

The next time she steps on a rusty nail (tetanus) or has child or grandchild attend a daycare with a whooping cough outbreak will she refuse vaccination then?

TONY BEANE, DVM  
CANTON

## Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the *North Country Catholic*.

- Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300.
- We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to [news@northcountrycatholic.org](mailto:news@northcountrycatholic.org)

AT THE MOVIES

# SPOTLIGHT

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

The clergy abuse-themed drama "Spotlight" (Open Road) is a movie no Catholic will want to see. Whether it's a film many mature Catholics ought to see is a different question entirely.

This hard-hitting journalism procedural - which inescapably invites comparison with 1976's "All the President's Men" - recounts the real-life events that led up to the public disclosure, in early 2002, of a shocking pattern of priestly misconduct within the Archdiocese of Boston. In the process, the equally disturbing concealment of such wrongdoing on the part of high ranking church officials also was laid bare.

One of the picture's themes is the way in which Beantown's inward-looking, small-town mentality contributed to the long-standing cover-up. For the supposed good of the community, locals suppressed the knowledge of what was happening, subconsciously choosing not to see what was transpiring just behind the scenes.

So it's appropriate that the whitewash begins to peel away with the arrival of a stranger to the Hub, the newly imported editor of the Boston Globe, Marty Baron (Liev Schreiber). Marty's outsider status isn't just based on his geographical origins; he's also Jewish.

Perplexed that his paper has devoted so little attention to the earliest cases in what would become, over time, an avalanche of legal actions against clerics, Marty commissions the investigative unit of the title, which specializes in in-depth investigations of local stories, to dig deeper.

Led by even-keeled Walter "Robby" Robinson (Michael

Keaton), the Spotlight team - which also includes tightly wound Mike Rezendes (Mark Ruffalo), intrepid Sacha Pfeiffer (Rachel McAdams) and relentless research whiz Matt Carroll (Brian d'Arcy James) -- uncovers a wide-spread and sickening scandal involving scores of clergymen and hundreds of young victims.

**See Bishop LaValley's statement on 'Spotlight' on page 3**

Director and co-writer Tom McCarthy maintains a taut rhythm as he focuses primarily on the dogged professionalism required to breach the walls of secrecy surrounding a respected, and therefore protected, institution. And his script, penned with Josh Singer, apports blame across a broad spectrum that includes the Globe itself -- John Slattery plays veteran editor Ben Bradlee Jr., whose semi-willful blindness to the problem typifies the attitude discussed above.

Like most of his colleagues, Slattery is a former Catholic, distanced from, but not -- initially at least -- embittered toward, the faith in which he were raised. Witnessing the further fraying of the reporters' already fragile ties to the church adds to the overwhelming sense of grief Catholic viewers will feel throughout "Spotlight." Yet this generally accurate chronicle can provide them with a valuable insight into one of the

darkest chapters in ecclesiastical history.

The movie is open to a few criticisms, large and small, however. The portrayal of Boston's then-archbishop, Cardinal Bernard Law (Len Cariou), is predictably negative. But it also includes details that are subject to interpretation.

Thus Cardinal Law's gift to Marty of a copy of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" is treated as a both a religious and social snub. Yet Cardinal Law played an important role in translating that landmark text into English, so his gift may have been motivated more by a sense of pride in one of the most significant accomplishments of his career than by a desire to cut the newcomer down to size.

Much more significantly, the screenplay's uncritical adoption of the results of research conducted by expert A.W. Richard Sipe (a figure heard but not seen) opens its analysis to legitimate questioning.

The thesis that the scandal was the inevitable outcome of the Latin church's tradition of priestly celibacy -- a discipline Sipe maintains is routinely violated by fully half the clergy, thus creating a culture of secrecy



CNS PHOTO/OPEN ROAD FILMS  
Rachel McAdams, Mark Ruffalo and Brian d'Arcy James star in a scene from the movie "Spotlight."

among them -- is ill-founded, to say the least. To dispute that theory, however, is not at all to downplay the horrifying nature of what unfolds under this otherwise painfully illuminating "Spotlight."

The film contains mature themes, multiple, sometimes coarse, references to perverse sexual acts, several uses of profanity as well as a few rough and numerous crude terms. The Catholic

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



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## CLINTON

## SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid – St. Agnes Elementary School to have a Christmas Bazaar.

Date: Dec. 2

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

Features: Toys, trees, wreaths, baked goods, poinsettias, gifts, crafts, raffles, silent auction. Vendor Space Available.

Contact: Kathleen Murphy at info@stagnesp.org or at 518-523-3771

## PAINT AND SIP

Chazy – The Sacred Heart Ladies will be sponsoring a Paint and Sip Party.

Date: Nov. 18

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center

Cost: \$30 per person

Features: Includes all supplies, snacks and "sipping". Reserve your spot now.

Contact: 846-7650 or 570-7747

## CRAFT FESTIVAL

Chazy – Sacred Heart Church will be sponsoring a Fabulous Fall Craft Festival.

Date: Nov. 21

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center

Features: Over 25 vendors from New York and Vermont. Hot lunches, raffle, baked goods.

Contact: Sharon Nephew at 493-2914 or Noreen Barcomb at 570-7747

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

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

## HEALING MINISTRY

Morrisville – The Catholic Community of St. Alexander's and St. will have Living Waters Healing Ministry.

Date: Dec. 3

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Church

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

## FRANKLIN

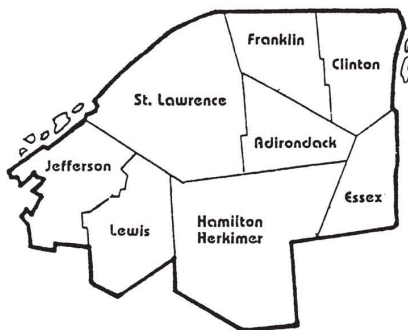
## SATURDAY DEVOTION

St. Regis Falls – First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held the first Saturday of each month.

Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass

Place: St. Ann's Church

Contact: 518-856-9656



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.

## JEFFERSON

## BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown – An Ecumenical Bereavement Meeting to be held.

Date: Nov. 23

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Hearthsides Hospitality Center

Speaker: Sister Norma Bryant, SSJ

Topic: "The Holidays: How Can I Get Through Them?"

## PILGRIMAGE TO SHRINE

Clayton – A bus trip sponsored by St. Mary's, with pilgrims from St. Cyril and Cape Vincent parishes will be taken to St. Marianne Cope Shrine and Museum in Syracuse.

Date: Nov. 18

Cost: \$40

Features: Guided tour of the museum, have some time in the gift shop, visit the Church of the Assumption, and attend a Mass. A stop for lunch, not covered in the cost, will be made in Syracuse.

Contact: Call 686-3398 or stop in the rectory for further information or to sign up for this trip.

## THIRD ORDER FRANCISCANS

Watertown – The St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity of the 3rd Order of Secular Franciscans will meet on the last Sunday of the month.

Date: Nov. 29

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Holy Family Parish, McCarthy Hall

Contact: Judie Johnson, 904-318-2687 or yankeejudy213@yahoo.com

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.

Date: Nov. 19

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.50; under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each

Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers.

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

Watertown – Advent in Scripture and Song to be held

Date: Dec. 13

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: St. Patrick's Church

Features: Lessons and Carols, scripture and music to celebrate this Advent season. Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 2:00 pm in St. Pat's Church in Watertown, NY.

Contact: For more information contact: Dc. Kevin Mastellon: 315-782-5045 or kmastellon@spwatn.org

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the Month.

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: 870 Arsenal Street.

Features: The office has a variety of pro-life videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480

## LEWIS

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: Dec. 6

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: The program includes: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

Contact: 348-6260

## LEWIS HOLY HOUR

Lowville – All are invited to a holy hour.

Date: Nov. 19

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Chapel

Features: Adoration prayers, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Lowville – Middle School Youth Group to meet.

Date: Nov. 18 and third Wednesday of each month

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

## ST. LAWRENCE

## MANICOTTI MONDAY

Norfolk – Manicotti Monday is the first Monday of every month.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 4 p.m. to 6:30

Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$9.75; Under 5, Free

Features: meat-filled manicotti and/or spaghetti and meatballs. The meal includes the main course, tossed salad, Italian bread, beverage and dessert.

Contact: Laurie at 315-384-4242

## FAREWELL TO GREY NUNS

Ogdensburg – A farewell celebration for the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart will be held

Date: Nov. 29

Time: 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: A reception will follow in the Brzana Hall

## ST. MARY'S ANNUAL AUCTION

Canton – St. Mary's School to have their 12th Annual Auction.

Date: Nov. 20

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's School Gym

Cost: Pre-sale, \$15; At the door, \$20

Features: Night entertainment, delicious food, and socializing. Over 200 people bid on 400 items and a live and silent auction. Please consider donating genuine antiques, artwork, jewelry, a service you may be able to provide, new sports equipment or new home décor items just to name a few. Please drop off dona-

tions at the school 8 a.m. to 4 p.m..

Contact: For ticket information call St. Mary's School at 315-386-3572.

## 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

## 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

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Potsdam – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.

Dates: Nov. 22; Dec. 6 & 13; Jan. 17 & 31;

Feb. 14 & 28; March 13; April 3 & 17

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Features: Reflection and vespers. No reservation necessary, just come along.

Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Father Howard Venette, pastor

@stmaryspatrick.net, 315-265-9680;

Father Douglas Lucia,

frdoug@tcwnc.ny.com or Father Bryan

Stitt, bstitt@rcdony.org

## MARCH FOR LIFE PILGRIMAGE

Washington DC – College students and young adults from the Diocese of Ogdensburg are invited to join a pilgrimage to the annual March for Life

Date: Departure Tuesday afternoon, Jan.

19; return Jan. 22 after the March. (Reg-

ister by Dec 15, 2015)

Cost: \$175 per adult

Features: The Pilgrimage will include the Vigil Mass for Life at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Jan. 21 as well as the March for Life Jan. 22, visits to shrines and Memorials, offering opportunities for prayer, witness, fun.

Contact: Father Timothy Canaan, Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry

frtm@broadstreetcatholics.org Space is limited. Registrations are only complete with payment no later than Dec. 15.



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

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# Thoughts on the Missions from the Holy Father

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

This month, we look ahead to Thanksgiving and spending time with our family and loved ones. Thanksgiving opens the door to the period of Advent and the Christmas season. October was Mission Month. So as we say goodbye to another Mission Month where so many were so generous, I thought it was fitting to include some thoughts from Pope Francis from MISSION Magazine. Pope Francis says, "The reason for our hope is this: God is with us, and God still trusts us".



By virtue of our Baptism, we are called upon to be Missionaries. Pope Francis says, "Through us and our actions, it will be He "who prays and forgives, gives hope and consolation, serves our brothers, helps those in need." MISSION Magazine connects the words of Pope Francis with stories of those who give by going to the Missions, service in Jesus' name, the poor, the forgotten and the marginalized. Through our very own Mission Vocation calling, we are called upon to "go by giving" to the Missions with prayer and sacrifice. Remember, Pope Francis calls upon us to "embrace with tender affection" by supporting the service.

Pope Francis says, "The one who loves, gives... gives things, gives life, gives oneself to God and to others." Pope Francis with his wisdom, pushes us to think about what we are doing in our day to day lives to promote our missionary vocation. This alone is reason to give thanks at Thanksgiving.

With the time year when need is most deeply felt by those near and far, take some time to reflect upon your words and deeds, your needs versus those with needs in the developing lands. Put things into perspective about what we have here given the great deficits so far away and so close to home. Making God's world a better place starts at home, it starts with you. Our Missionary spirit inspires us to remain at home welcoming others into God's family of faith.

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will.  
<http://www.rcdony.org/mission-office.html>

## OBITUARIES

**Brownville** – Darlene Anne (Carney) May, 70; Funeral Services Nov. 14, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. Vincent of Paul Cemetery.

**Canton** – Lee F. Richards, 73; Funeral Services Nov. 10, 2015 at St. Mary's Church.

**Gouverneur** – Franklin John Boyd, 70; Funeral Services Nov. 13, 2015 at the French Funeral Home; burial in East Riverside Cemetery.

**Gouverneur** – Ernest H. Griebisch, 88; Funeral Services Nov. 14, 2015 at St. James Church.

**Keeseville** – Theresa J. (Busha) Burrell, 79; Funeral Services Nov. 10, 2015 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Massena** – Mary D. (Kellison) Beaudoin, 73; Funeral services Nov. 14, 2015 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Visitation Cemetery, Norfolk.

**Massena** – Lynn R. Bouchard, 64; Funeral Services Nov. 10, 2015 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

**Massena** – Raymond J. Fenton Sr., 89; Funeral Services Nov. 7, 2015 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – James H. Mainville, 79; Fu-

neral Services Nov. 12, 2015 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

**Massena** – Robert C. Williams, 88; Funeral Services Nov. 9, 2015 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Colton.

**Moers** – Dora M. Filion, 83; Funeral Services Nov. 9, 2015 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum, Ellenburg.

**Ogdensburg** – Seraphia "Robert" Bruyere, 84; Funeral Services Nov. 13, 2015 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Plattsburgh** – Raymond F. "Ray" Lavoie, 80; Funeral Services Nov. 14, 2015 at St. Peter's Church.

**West Port** – George "Oakley" Daniels, 80; Funeral Services Nov. 9, 2015 at St. Philip Neri Church; burial in parish cemetery.

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## YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICES

# 'Gathered here we see, we are one family'



Maureen Pierce, back, a 14 year old parishioner of St. Raphael's Parish in Heuvelton, is shown with friends from Peru, the Philippines and Mexico during the World Meeting of Families Youth Congress

## Maureen: my dream became a reality

By Maureen Pierce, age 14  
St. Raphael's Parish, Heuvelton

I have always dreamed of meeting and becoming friends with people from all over the world. At the World Meeting of Families, this dream became a reality.

The World Meeting began with the greatest prayer on Earth: the Mass. People from many nations joined to-

gether to celebrate their faith.

Then, youth and parents separated to go to their respective "congresses". I attended the Youth Congress throughout the week. At the Youth Congress, there were many booths at which you could spend your time. Some examples were the "Helping Hands" booth, where you helped pack bags of food to send to needy

people, and the "Swing with the Sisters Dance Party" booth.

For teens, there was a café that had speakers such as Fr. Mike Schmitz, Brain Butler, and Jason and Crystalina Evert. These people gave inspiring talks and touched my heart with their meaning.

For younger kids, there was an area with snacks and entertainment.

At the beginning and end of each session, all people attending the Congress gathered for songs and prayer at the "main stage". Each day followed much the same pattern, with Mass in the morning and then going to the Congress.

While at the Congress, I met people from over the world. I now have friends in Peru, the Philippines, and Mexico. As the Youth Congress' theme song says: gathered here we see, we are one family.

At the Congress, I learned more deeply that Catholics all over the world really do belong to one family.

### Editor's note

Maureen and Meaghan Pierce, daughters of Kelvin and Carolyn Pierce of Heuvelton, were among thousands of young people from around the world who took part in the World Meeting of Families Youth Congress, held simultaneously with the adult congress Sept. 22-25. The girls reflect on their experiences here:

## Meaghan: so many people from so many places

By Meaghan Pierce, age 13  
St. Raphael's Parish, Heuvelton

Never have I seen so many people from so many places as at the World Meeting of Families. The conference in Philadelphia was truly a world meeting. Families from all the ends of the earth came to hear keynote speakers, meet other families, and catch a glimpse of Pope Francis on his U.S. tour.

Since I was twelve, I was part of the Youth Congress, a wonderful opportunity to meet other kids my age from all different cultures. Every morning, we would all meet at the main stage for prayer and songs by guest singers. Then we scattered to the various activities situated around the room where we were housed.

There were booths where you could make rosaries for missions, pack food for the impoverished in Africa, or just shoot some hoops. There was the Ascension Café where you could pick up some snacks or listen to guest speakers.

At the end of the day, we would all gather again to pray and praise.

I will never forget the trip to the Meeting of Families, and I don't think anyone else who went will either.



Thirteen year old Meaghan Pierce is pictured at left with new friends she made during her time at the World Meeting of Families Youth Congress.

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