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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 69, Number 40

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MARCH 25, 2015

## 'Children are a blessing'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Children are a blessing for humanity and for the church, bringing new life and energy to families and society, Pope Francis said. Unfortunately, he said, too often children are society's "great rejected ones, because they aren't even allowed to be born!"

Continuing a series of general audience talks about the family March 18, Pope Francis said it was troubling that so many European countries have a birthrate so low that their populations are declining or would without immigration.

"Children bring life, happi-

ness, hope -- and even troubles, but that's life," he said. "Obviously they cause worries and sometimes problems, but a society with those worries and problems is always better than a society that is sad and gray because it has no children."

Pope Francis, who spent

more than half an hour kissing and blessing babies and children in St. Peter's Square, said little ones are not diplomats and have not yet learned "the science of duplicity." And they let people know exactly what they are thinking, sometimes to their parents chagrin.

## Bishop speaks in support of Fort Drum

Bishop Terry R. LaValley was among the speakers at a March 20 Listening Session in support of Fort Drum, sponsored by the Department of the Army.

"In promoting and protecting the common good, our leaders should pay heed to the tremendous gift a Fort Drum, running on all cylinders, is to this portion of the North Country and understand its vital contributions that build up not only the local economies, but enhance so much the quality of life of this precious portion of rural America which we know and love," he said.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Intentional Disciples

Workshop on Sherry Weddell's book *Forming Intentional Disciples* to be held May 30 in Potsdam  
FULL STORY, PAGE 6

## A PAPAL ENCOUNTER



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Every year the Pontifical College Josephinum brings its class of third theology students on pilgrimage to Rome during their Christmas break. This year, Ogdensburg seminarian Todd Thibault had the opportunity to serve for and meet Pope Francis.

## IT'S TIME TO REGISTER

At Catholic schools



PHOTO BY ZACK LEADER

Bishop LaValley shows support for the Catholic schools in the diocese with annual Masses and visits to each of the schools. Here, he is pictured as he celebrates Mass with the students at St. Mary's in Canton. For this week's spring education issue, St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools, offers "a dozen reasons to choose a Catholic school," noting that the schools combine Catholic faith and teaching with academic excellence. "A Catholic school education is a vital means to pass on our faith, the strong foundation that will prepare our children and young people for life both here and hereafter," Sister Ellen Rose said.

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**CHRISM MASS:** To be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the cathedral... p. 2



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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## Catholic schools living the vision

As we prepared for the publication of our annual "it's-time-to-register-at-Catholic-schools" issue of the *North Country Catholic*, the editor made a special request to the principals.

They were asked to share the efforts their schools have made in addressing the goals and priorities outlined by Bishop LaValley in the Pastoral Vision of the diocese that he proclaimed at last year's Chrism Mass.

If only there was room to print all the material that arrived, illustrating how the schools are working hard to "create a culture of vocations,

strengthen faith formation in family life and build parishes with living stones."

Instead, we're offering just a taste of what's going on as our children "find a home in Christ" within the walls of their classrooms.

Bishop LaValley opened his proclamation of the vision with a "sacred purpose:"

*Christ-led, Christ-fed and hope-filled, the Diocese of Ogdensburg joyfully invites the people of the North Country to the journey of faith through the proclamation of the Gospel, the celebration of the Eucharist and the sacraments and the*



Mary Lou  
Kilian

*loving service of neighbor.*

There's no denying that this is happening in every one of our Catholic schools.

The Gospel is proclaimed throughout the day, not just in religion classes.

School Masses are part of every schedule.

And, "loving service of neighbor" is just the way of life at these schools.

In just a few examples:

The Faith Community Service at IHC and 40 Days of Hope for the Mission of Hope at Seton give our high school students awareness of needs around the world and a means to respond.

The elementary students in Saranac Lake are making baby blankets for Catholic Charities and students at Trinity in

Massena collected 2000 items for the local food pantry through their "Souper Bowl."

Our Catholic school children also learn the beauty of living in a Christ-like family as they take care of each other in times of devastation, as at St. Mary's in Ticonderoga, and hardship, as the Holy Family family in Malone discovered this winter when frozen pipes kept them out of their building.

Anne Marie Wiseman, former principal at Holy Family and now its director of advancement, put it all into perspective: "We made our home elsewhere, bringing with us the most important aspect of who we are: A Christ-like learning community."

Truly living the vision!

## A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## Chrism Mass: a true celebration of unity

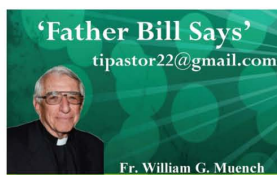
One of the Lenten celebrations I find truly meaningful and I must say enjoyable is the Chrism Mass when all the priests of the diocese join with the Bishop at the Cathedral.

As the name indicates, this Chrism Mass is the Mass at which the Bishop blesses the sacred oils that will be sent to all the parishes of the diocese for use in the sacraments that will be conferred during this year.

Also during this Mass, the priests are asked to renew their priestly promises. The Chrism Mass is usually celebrated on Holy Thursday (or a day near it – but always associated with Holy Thursday.) On Holy Thursday, the Church remembers the Last Supper when Jesus ordained his apostles as the first priests.

So this Chrism Mass each year is an anniversary of each priest's ordination – a perfect occasion for the renewal of priestly promises.

At the Chrism Mass, the Bishop invites the priests to renew their promises by asking them three questions. The Bishop stands before the priests as the chosen and properly ordained leader of a dio-



Fr. William G. Muench

cese. This emphasizes the importance of the relationship between the Bishop and his priests. In this moment, the Bishop makes clear his expectations of them and the Church's expectations of them. The words of the ritual give the Bishop an excellent opportunity of reminding the priests the promises that they made at their ordination.

So I would like to take a moment to share with you the questions of this renewal of their priestly promises. In the first question, the Bishop reminds the priests of what this renewal is all about. He says: "Beloved sons, on the anniversary of that day when Christ our Lord conferred his priesthood in his apostles and on us, are you resolved to renew in the presence of your Bishop and God's holy people, the promises you once made?" This renewal is not a simple

internal spiritual renewal. This is meant to be very public renewal before the Bishop and the people of the diocese. The priest is asked to promise to remain faithful to their ordination as a priest.

So, the next question. The Bishop brings up the concern of the Church with the priest's relationship with the Lord Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. He asks the priests "if they are resolved to be more united and more closely conformed to Jesus." This question is interesting – the priests are asked if they are ready to be "more" united and "more" conformed to Jesus.

The priests are asked if they are resolved to "deny themselves and confirm those promises about sacred duties towards Christ's Church." They are encouraged to reaffirm their love and pledge they made on the day of their priestly ordination.

Then, in the next question, the Bishop asks the priests about their resolution in carrying out their ministry – he mentions their constant stewardship of the Holy Eucharist and the other liturgical rites. Further on, they are asked to

reaffirm their readiness to discharge faithfully the sacred office of teaching, following Christ the Head and Shepherd. Then, he adds, "not seeking any gain, but moved only by zeal for souls." After each question the priests are to say, "I am." The Bishop then turns to the people in the congregation seeking their prayers and support for their priests. He then goes on to ask for prayers for himself. He says, "And pray also for me, that I may be faithful to the apostolic office entrusted to me in my lowliness and that in your midst I may be made day by day a living and more perfect image of Christ, the priest, the Good Shepherd, the Teacher and the Servant of all."

So, the Chrism Mass is truly a celebration of a diocese as the priests and many of the people of the diocese join together at the Cathedral Church with their Bishop to pray together and to bless and prepare the sacred oils for the sacraments at each of the parish Churches of the diocese.

This is truly a magnificent celebration and recognition of the unity of the Church in our diocese.



FOLLOW ME

# 'Keep our Fort Drum strong'

Bishop LaValley's address to the visiting Pentagon group at the March 20 Listening Session in support of Fort Drum at Jefferson Community College

For six years, I was enlisted in the U.S. Navy in the advanced electronics field. Four of those years, I was stationed as a cryptologic technician at Corry Station in Pensacola. One of my additional duties there was to serve as the Command Briefer. Whenever VIP's made official visits to the Base, one of their first stops was to join the Commanding Officer, and other top brass of the Command, to listen to me give an overview of the Base, to speak of what this Naval Technical Training Center had to offer the Navy and its contributions in meeting the overall military needs of our nation.

I'll never forget a presentation I made to one of the VIP visitors, Admiral Bobby Inman. I began my presentation to him and his entourage, as I normally did, by giving a broad description of the Base and I began to spew out lots of statistics about its impact. He stopped me in mid-sentence, and asked me to talk about myself, not the Base. He was interested in the Base's impact on me—the person. Don't think this sailor's ears didn't turn red as I squirmed and stuttered, responding with no script.

Tonight, I'd like to do likewise for just a moment, hopefully not to squirm and stutter, but to look at the personal dimension of Fort Drum. Certainly, more knowledgeable people than me can share with you statistics, giving you specifics of what a full strength Fort Drum has to offer the Army and how it contributes crucially to meeting the military needs of our nation today and tomorrow. Others can provide you with the numbers that tell of the huge multi-faceted impact that Fort Drum has on this area. I'm sure what you will hear is not unlike, in many respects, the impact on other communities where other military bases call home. But, I would argue that there is something distinctly different about the Fort Drum community. I know that you are concerned about persons and the common good, as Admiral Inman's comments reflected such interest to me so many years ago. Permit me to explain.

It was back in 1995 that our North Country was



Several Sisters of St. Joseph joined thousands of Fort Drum supporters at the March 20 rally and listening session in support of the military base. Sister Annunciata Collins, above left, principal at Augustinian Academy, Carthage, says that over 50% of her students are from the families of Fort Drum. She and her faculty have reached out to make the school the "home for Fort Drum families."

rocked by the news that Plattsburgh Air Force Base was closing. The news was devastating on so many fronts. Not only have many of the women and men of our beloved North Country gladly and proudly sacrificed for our nation through enlistment in the military services, but this area where I grew up has also sacrificed economically and culturally with the closing of the Air Force Base. The North Country should not have to suffer that devastating blow and its widespread ripple fallout again.

It's no secret, often, we feel that we don't have the population, the votes that would make a significant impact on policy decisions that affect us. Fundamentally, an important role of the Government is to promote and secure the common good. Not only is our nation's common good protected when its borders are secured and

those who would wreak terror and violence on peoples are silenced, the common good is also promoted and protected when a nation's people are secure economically and its children are enabled to grow up in their hometowns with the ability to learn about and experience the richness that other cultures offer, such as the rich diversity that the Fort Drum military community brings here. The common good of the North Country, in many ways a forgotten place on the national map, is promoted, enhanced and protected with the presence of a full-strength Fort Drum.

In my pastoral visits, I see first-hand, how our soldiers and their families bring such a wealth of gifts to our schools and area communities: new faces and new families challenge our youngsters, and our not-so-young-sters, to grow intellectually and culturally. Our schools warmly embrace and have much to learn from our military families. Our soldiers and their loved ones benefit as well, for example through our adopt-a-platoon program, by our prayerful support for them during deployments and with our parishioners' genuine care and support for families while their loved ones are away serving us, so often, in harm's way. In fact, not long ago, our diocesan newspaper, the *North Country Catholic* won a national press award on a special feature story that illustrated beautifully the close relationship of the families of Ft. Drum and the area communities.

Surely, every affected area that seeks to preserve its military presence lobbies for its continued existence and growth. Emotions, understandably are heightened. But hasn't our North Country already sacrificed its fair share? In promoting and protecting the common good, our leaders should pay heed to the tremendous gift that a Fort Drum, running on all cylinders, is to this portion of the North Country and understand its vital contributions that build up not only the local economies, but enhance so much the quality of life of this precious portion of rural America which we know and love.

I'm so proud to call the North Country "home." I urge you to consider the common good, in its broadest understanding. Keep our Fort Drum strong and complete, continuing its full and vital presence here in the Watertown area. Thank you. God Bless America!

## Army hears Bishop LaValley at Listening Session

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon  
Staff writer

**WATERTOWN**—The Department of the Army's Listening Session on the potential effects of sequestration budget cuts attracted thousands of local residents to a rally and formal session Friday night at Jefferson Community College.

Those who spoke expressed concern about the future of Fort Drum and its resident division of infantry. Many speakers also took Congress to task for introducing mandatory cuts the

defense budget, period. Among the four dozen speakers was Bishop Terry R. LaValley. Others included the Lt. Governor of New York, Kathy Hochul; both of New York's US Senators (via recorded video) Charles Schumer and Kirstin Gillibrand; Congresswoman Elise

Stefanik and local representatives serving in the New York State Senate and Assembly.

Sequestration is a legislative tool that forces cuts in spending across the board for federal agencies, the Department of Defense included. Congress included

the threat of sequestration in the Budget Control Act of 2011 as a way to encourage compromise on deficit reduction efforts. The US Army reacted to the first budgetary requirements by reducing its worldwide force structure from 570,000 to 490,000.

Continued on page 10



## IT'S REGISTRATION TIME AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

# A dozen reasons to choose a Catholic school

By Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ  
Superintendent of Schools

Every morning as I drive to work I pass an abandoned house. When I first noticed the house some ten years ago it had the "empty look" of an uninhabited, unattended building. Over the years the house has continued to deteriorate. A section of the roof has caved in, windows have been broken and the clapboards have fallen off or hang insecurely from portions of the house. Now the house tilts precariously to one side with wide open spaces on all sides of the building. I suspect it will not survive another season. A spring wind will likely bring the house down.

The house reminds me of Jesus' saying about building a house. He drew a comparison between the wise man who built his house on rock and the foolish man who built his house on sandy ground.

The house built on rock withstood torrents of rain and wind. "It did not collapse; it had been solidly set on rock" (Mt. 7:25). It was a different story for the house built on sand. "The rains fell, the torrents came, the winds blew and lashed against the house. It collapsed under all this and

was completely ruined" (Mt 7:27).

A Catholic school education offers a firm foundation . . . a firm foundation in faith, knowledge, community and service to others. A Catholic education prepares children and young people to live as children of God who are destined for eternal life.

Recently I saw a poster provided by the National Catholic Education Association which listed a dozen reasons for choosing a Catholic school. Catholic schools:

- offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence.
- partner with parents in the faith formation of their children.
- set high standards for student achievement and help them succeed.
- provide a balanced academic curriculum that integrates faith, culture and life.
- use technology effectively to enhance education.
- instill in students the value of service to others.
- teach children respect for self and others.
- emphasize moral development and self-discipline.
- prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders.

- have a 99 percent high school graduation rate.

- cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective.

- provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

During the past year we have been encouraged to take to heart these words: *Fine your home in Christ: Renew Faith, Nurture Hope, Discover Love*. Our home is indeed in Christ. When we listen to and live His word, He comes to us and makes His home in us. We live in Him. He is the foundation of our lives.

Unlike the house I drive by daily that is slowly crumbling and soon will be unable to withstand the elements, our house, when it is built on Christ, stands firm. A Catholic school education is a vital means to pass on our faith, the strong foundation that will prepare our children and young people for life both here and hereafter. The twelve Catholic schools spread across our diocese will be holding registration for the 2015-16 school year in the coming weeks.

If you have school aged children and live in an area where one of our Catholic schools is located I hope you will call the principal and arrange to visit the school. Experience first-hand the "dozen reasons for choosing a Catholic school."



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AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

# LIVING THE VISION

Schools join in efforts to achieve the priorities and goals of Diocesan Pastoral Vision



**STRENGTHENING FAITH FORMATION IN THE FAMILY:**

Two sixth grade students of Seton Academy and their families participated in the First Reconciliation and First Eucharist program at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh. They made their First Communion on January 17. Celebrating the occasion are Ingrid Baggett with her parents Mike Baggett and Cristina Trutia-Baggett, Msgr. Dennis Duprey, pastor; and Gabriella Cote with her parents Marie Anne Mavrovic and Marc Cote.



**CREATING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS**

Catholic schools in the North Country regularly welcome guests who share their faith, talent and vocation stories with the children. At left, Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan director of vocations, visits a classroom at Trinity Catholic School in Massena. At right, St. Joseph Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, diocesan superintendent of schools, talks with children at Immaculate Heart Central Primary School in Watertown.



**CREATING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS**

St. Joseph Sister Suanne Johnson and some of her fourth grade students at Augustinian Academy in Carthage read a vocation flyer for the diocesan Sisters of St. Joseph, and look at pictures of seminarian Todd Thibeault and of priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg as a springboard for a discussion on vocations to the consecrated life and the priesthood.



**BUILDING PARISHES WITH LIVING STONES**

Cayden LeRoy and Jessie Carlson, students at St. Agnes School in Lake Placid, assist at the Catholic Schools Week Mass at St. Agnes.



# Forming Intentional Disciples workshop set for May 30

POTSDAM - Keith Strohm of the Catherine of Siena Institute will offer a one-day conference based on Sherry Weddell's book *Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus*.

The event will be held May 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 at the Potsdam Student Union Multipurpose Room.

Marika Donders, diocesan director of the Office of New Evangelization said, "This practical conference and

workshop will help you understand the meaning of the New Evangelization and the urgent need for our parishes to become houses of discipleship.

"The workshop focuses on the need to awaken the personal faith of our laity so that they will become more capable of putting their gifts and talents to use in the parish communities," she said.

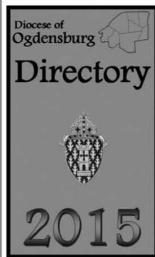
Strohm is the Director of Faith Formation for Queen of the Rosary parish in Elk

Grove Village, Illinois, and the Executive Director of Lay Formation Resources, an apostolate that provides parish and diocesan staff with assistance in the creation of formation programs, days of reflection, retreats, and parish missions designed to proclaim the gospel, build disciples, and equip lay apostles for their work in the world. He is currently studying for his Master of Divinity degree at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

The workshop will be appropriate for commissioned lay ministers and Formation for Ministry candidates, parish and diocesan staff, deacons and deacon candidates, parishioners interested in deepening their own faith and becoming more active in Church ministry and parish life.

The cost is \$40 per person (includes lunch). Registration may be made through [www.rcdony.org/fid](http://www.rcdony.org/fid) or by contacting the Office of Evangelization at 315-393-2920, 1380.

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## Bishop's Schedule

**March 25** – 4 p.m., Mass and Dinner with the Daughters of Charity in Ogdensburg

**March 26** – 11 a.m., Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**March 28** – 5:30 p.m., Mass of the Lord's Passion at St. John the Evangelist Church in Morristown

**March 29** – 11 a.m., Mass of the Lord's Passion at St. Mary's Cathedral

**March 30** – 7:15 p.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

**March 31** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

## Rest in Peace

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

**March 25** – Rev. Michael D. Charbonneau, 1909

**March 26** – Rev. Jean P. Bernard, O.M.I., 1885; Rev. Thomas J. Rodgers, O.S.A., 1971; Msgr. William E. LaVallee, 1976

**March 27** – Rev. Bernard Marron, 1927; Rev. Henry Cormerais, 1938; Rev. Lawrence J. Gerrity, O.S.A., 1981; Rev. John L. Gallagher, O.S.A., 1982

**March 28** – Rev. Francis McShane, O.S.A., 1932; Rev. Walter C. McMahon, 1978; Rev. Lawrence A. Mallette, 1989; Rev. Joseph P. Trombley, 2001

**March 29** – Rev. Joseph Taney, 1880; Rev. J. Aime Troie, 1955; Rev. Ross A. Garnsey, 1986; Rev. Euclid Marier, 2003

**March 30** – Rev. Joseph Chartrand, O.M.I., 1960

**March 31** – Rev. Louis Lopic, 1873; Rev. Gabriel Volkert, 1873; Rev. Henri Langlais, O.M.I., 1980

## To Report Abuse

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

**Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terri-  
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12923; e-mail: [terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com](mailto:terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com) Phone: 518-  
483-3261; or Father James Seymour,  
the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-  
393-2920, ext. 1340

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## Environmental Stewardship

### No Water, No Life

There is an African proverb "You think of water only when the well is dry."

Recently during our sub-zero days many of the people of the north country know what it is like to wake up and discover there is no running water!

That means no water to brush teeth, make coffee, cook breakfast, wash dishes, do laundry, and the list goes on as the day unfolds.

Even the food we eat needs water to grow; i.e. 1 apple = 70 liters, 1 slice of bread = 40 liters, serving of vegetables = 20 liters, large steak = 2015 liters.

Is it any wonder that Jesus used water as the symbol of the spiritual life and our infusion into God's life through baptism?

Another West African proverb that says "Filthy water cannot be washed."

There is only 2.5% of the total water on the planet that is fresh.

When I think of the pollution of our waters in our local communities and all around the world, I ask myself "How can my choices regarding products I purchase for cleaning my kitchen, my bathroom, my house help to protect from harmful toxins this precious limited gift of water?"

When I go to the store and see that "green products" often cost more, I am tempted to buy the cheaper brand.

However, during Lent I have begun to see another aspect of the practice of almsgiving.

My purchase of products that safeguard this precious commodity that all life depends on, can indeed be another way of giving alms, one that will ensure a better life for all of my sisters and brothers and all of God's creation.





IT'S REGISTRATION TIME AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

# Finding a home in Christ

The Holy Family School's response to frozen water crisis shows 'we are a family in every sense of the word'

By Anne Marie Wiseman  
Holy Family School, Malone

A frozen water line during the February school vacation kept the faculty and students out of our Holy Family School in Malone until March 4.

We made our home elsewhere, bringing with us the most important aspect of who we are: A Christ-like learning community.

There were some things that reminded us that we were still a family. We prayed, read, studied, and cared for one another. Older children read to the younger children. We said grace before lunch and we ate all together. We began and ended our day with prayer.

The adults assured the children that they were there for them through actions and words. We learned that a building is not who we are. We are a family, in every sense of the word.

Our regional clergy and parish administration were there for us, hearing Lenten confessions on our assigned day. They and their custodial staff checked in on us on a regular basis. We were in comfortable, safe surroundings and we made the "best" of things.

We truly proved that we have "...found our home in Christ:" with "...renewed faith" and we "...discovered love."



The parish priests offered great support to the students of Holy Family School in Malone as frozen pipes kept the children out of the school for several days. Here Father Justin Thomas, parochial vicar of St. Andre Bessette Parish, shares lunch with second grader Liam Davis.



The older children spent time reading to younger children during their days away from their regular classrooms. Above, sixth grader Jenna Warner reads to Eryn Petrelli.



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## IT'S REGISTRATION TIME AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Every year as part of 40 Days of Hope for the Mission of Hope, Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh holds a lock-in. Part of the lock-in is a lesson in social justice and how young people can respond. The school has offered Hunger Banquets and lessons on what it is like to be homeless. Students in this picture, while using sleeping bags, experience sleeping on the floor. In front is Kelsey Hulbert; back, from left, Megan Ashline, Kaitlyn Dorrey, Reilly Boule, Liz Thomas and Cailene Allen.



Jasmeet Aujla, a senior at Immaculate Heart High School in Watertown, placed third in the New York State American Legion Oratorical Contest Feb. 28. Jasmeet entered the local contest in December and progressed through a series of regional and zone competitions. She prepared a nine-minute speech on the constitutional amendment giving women the right to vote. Additionally at each competition she was required to give a three-minute extemporaneous speech on another randomly selected amendment. Jasmeet receives thousands of dollars in scholarship money as a result of her success in this competition.



St. James School in Gouverneur celebrates Catholic Schools Week by inviting guest readers into the classrooms. After the guest finished reading, the students formed a prayer circle around the person and said a blessing over them. One of this year's invited guests was a village police officer. St. James is holding open enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year. Kindergarten registration is April 14 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 and preschool (3 year olds) and UPK (4 year olds) registration is on April 13 from 5 p.m. to 6:30. Further information is available at 287-0130.

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IT'S REGISTRATION TIME AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

# School is 'overwhelmed' by generous gift

By Pam Arzberger  
Sixth grade teacher at  
St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga

TICONDEROGA - St. Mary's School has been gifted with a complete set of iPad Air tablets for their Middle School.

The gift was presented to the school by the Parish of St. John the Baptist in Plattsburgh. Father Timothy G. Canaan is the Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church.

St. Mary's School was destroyed by an arson fire on September 5, 2014 and lost everything in the school including their computers and technology. The Middle School is temporarily housed in the basement of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ticonderoga.

This gift provides every Middle School Student at St. Mary's School an iPad Air to use for the duration of 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Another anonymous donor provided each student with a bluetooth keyboard to be used with the iPad App "Pages".

"The iPad Air is great. I don't have to carry stacks of books around all day. It has everything on it", says seventh grader, Kylee Bennett



Shannon Jordan, a student at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, works on an iPad that was given to the school by St. John the Baptist Parish in Plattsburgh. The parish provided every middle school student at St. Mary's School with an iPad Air to use for the duration of sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

who is currently reading the Holocaust allegory *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, by John Boyne, on the iPad Air.

"I love that I have my own to use and can store my work on it throughout the day," she said.

The gift of iPad Airs and

keyboards will provide all Middle School Students the opportunity to research, write reports, study, and present on all they have learned.

Since the gift has been received, St. Mary's 6th - 8th graders have logged in over



Seventh grader Talandra Hurlburt puts her iPad away.

30,000 math problems through the IXL math program, read and were quizzed on the comprehension of over 200 nonfiction articles for ELA, learned food and eating vocabulary and dialogue in French, read articles and completed evaluations on many historical subjects such as Ancient Egypt, WWII, and the Holocaust, and continually achieve passing scores on comprehension tests through Renaissance

Learning, better known as Accelerated Reader.

Through the iBook App students have the opportunity to read thousands of books as a class or as an independent reader. Middle Schoolers have also written and typed papers on Ancient Egypt, WWII, and creative writing short stories using their devices and printers in the school.

"So many people have been incredibly wonderful to us since the fire, but this generous gift from the Parish of St. John the Baptist in Plattsburgh is overwhelming," said St. Joseph Sister Sharon Dalton, principal of St. Mary's School.

"It has changed the studies and possibly the lives of our Middle School Students," she said. "They have an incredible urge to learn about a wide variety of subjects, the sky is the limit!",

"We will never be able to express our gratitude enough for this wonderful gift of technology," Sister Sharon said. "It is giving each of our students the opportunity to learn in a state of the art environment."

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## THE GRAND MARSHAL



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERITZ

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, grand marshal of the 25th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City, waves to the crowd as he marches in the parade March 17.

## Fort Drum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Most of the reduction was realized through attrition, elimination of temporary manpower requirements of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and a reduction of 11,000 troops stationed abroad.

Now the Army is preparing for further cuts with no more "fat to trim" according to an Army spokesman. Potential force reduction could mean another 50,000 positions eliminated. The Army is trying to figure out where the required savings of billions of dollars under sequestration will come from.

That is what brought all those people to the JCC campus on a Friday night in March. They came to speak their mind directly to the Pentagon's representatives about Fort Drum, the major resident unit at the Fort, the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) and the economic and social impact a major reduction at the Fort would mean.

Bishop LaValley spoke of the "intimate relationship" the people in the communities surrounding Fort Drum have with the men and women, soldiers and civilians, who work at the installation. In his spoken comments the Bishop drew



MASTELLON PHOTO

Bishop LaValley speaks in support of Fort Drum at March 20 Pentagon Listening Session. See page 3 for full statement.

spontaneous applause when he said, "God bless Fort Drum."

The Pentagon officials heard briefings throughout the day on the economic impact of Fort on the local economy and the potentially devastating effect of significant cuts in the division's manpower. One report places the reduction at

nearly 16,000 troops.

Bishop LaValley was reminded of his own responsibility as a "command briefer" while serving in the US Navy. He recalled starting a briefing one day for Admiral Bobby R. Inman about the Navy Technical Station where he served when Inman stopped him "in mid-sentence" and wanted to know how the Naval Station affected him as a person. It was that theme the Bishop voiced to the hearing officers. The economic impact aside, the potential personal loss that would be felt by a force reduction at Fort Drum needed to be considered in any review of Fort Drum.

The one hour rally in the college's gymnasium was followed by the formal listening session. It lasted three hours. The Army has almost completed its series of sessions. The final one is at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas March 24. Then the Army will factor-in data and comments received from all the Army communities in determining the look of the future Army.

The final approval of a plan rests with the Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, a former Congressman for Northern New York and an unwavering supporter in Congress of Fort Drum.

## Pope: Church 'is the house of Jesus' and must always be open

By Laura Ieraci

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The church "is the house of Jesus," and Christians must welcome everyone, even bringing those who are unable to make their way on their own, said Pope Francis at morning Mass March 17.

People who are sad or "sick in their soul" or who have "made many mistakes in their lives" may, at a certain point, feel the Holy Spirit inspire them to go to church, the pope said. But, after mustering up the courage to go, they will often find unwelcoming and judgmental Christian communities with their "doors closed" to them.

Mimicking unwelcoming parishioners, Pope Francis said they tell people, "You made a mistake here and you cannot (enter). If you would like to come, come to Sunday Mass, but stay there, don't do more."

In this way, "that which the Holy Spirit does in people's hearts, Christians -- with a psychology of doctors of the law -- then destroy," the pope said at the Mass in the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

"Who are you to close the door of your heart to a man, to a woman who has the will to improve, to re-enter the people of God because the Holy Spirit stirred their heart?" he said.

Pope Francis went on to say that such incidents are disappointing for him and he insisted that the church must have its doors always open.

"It is the house of Jesus and Jesus welcomes. Not only does he welcome, he goes out to find people, just as he went to find (the paralytic)," said the pope, referring to the day's Gospel reading (Jn 5:1-16). "If people are wounded, what does



CNS PHOTO/STEFANO SPAZIANI, POOL

Pope Francis goes to confession during a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican March 13. During the service the pope announced an extraordinary jubilee, a Holy Year of Mercy, to be celebrated from Dec. 8, 2015, until Nov. 20, 2016. At his March 17 morning Mass, Pope prayed for the conversion of the whole church to the mercy of Jesus.

Jesus do? Does he reprimand them because they are wounded? No, he carries them on his shoulder. And this is called mercy."

And when God approaches his people, calling for mercy and not sacrifice, the pope continued, this is what he means.

The pope added that Lent is the time to avoid making the same mistake as those who bear contempt against Jesus' love for the paralytic because, having healed him on the Sabbath, it may seem contrary to the law.

He concluded with a prayer for the conversion of the whole church to the mercy of Jesus.

"And this way the law will be fully accomplished because the law is to love God and neighbor as ourselves," he said.



# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Pope Francis calls death penalty 'unacceptable,' urges abolition

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis came out squarely against the death penalty once again, calling it "unacceptable" regardless of the seriousness of the crime of the condemned. Pope Francis met with a three-person delegation of the International Commission Against the Death Penalty March 20, and issued a letter on the occasion urging worldwide abolition. Citing his previous messages against the death penalty, the pope called capital punishment "cruel, inhumane and degrading" and said it "does not bring justice to the victims, but only foments revenge." Furthermore, in a modern "state of law, the death penalty represents a failure" because it obliges the state to kill in the name of justice, the pope said. Rather, it is a method frequently used by "totalitarian regimes and fanatical groups" to do away with "political dissidents, minorities" and any other person deemed a threat to their power and to their goals. "Human justice is imperfect," he said, and the death penalty loses all legitimacy within penal systems where judicial error is possible. Increasingly, public opinion is against the death penalty, in view of the effective means available today to restrain a criminal without denying them the possibility to redeem themselves and of a "greater moral sensitivity regarding the value of human life," Pope Francis said.

## Catholic advocates push Congress for a budget that protects poor

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Catholic advocates are pressing Congress to make the needs of poor and vulnerable people a priority as legislators hammer out a federal spending plan for 2016. The advocates told Catholic News Service they want to prevent trillions of dollars in social services spending from disappearing over the next decade as Congress seeks to balance the federal budget and reduce the nation's growing debt. Their actions unfolded in recent weeks as they learned of Republican plans to remake the way social services such as Medicaid and food stamps are funded. In meetings with individual members of Congress, they have stressed that the needs of hungry, homeless and unemployed people must be the country's highest priority. "There are millions of people at stake in these decisions," said Brian Corbin, senior vice president for social policy at Catholic Charities USA, which has joined with Catholic Relief Services and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in meetings on Capitol Hill. "They all have a name and a face and based on our principle of human dignity, that name and that face and that family, those really are important to making issues of poverty real."

## U.N. says Pope Francis will visit morning of Sept. 25

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) -- U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomed the announcement that Pope Francis would visit the United Nations the morning of Sept. 25 to address the U.N. General Assembly. Ban noted that the pope's visit came during the United Nations' 70th anniversary, in which its members would make decisions about sustainable development, climate change and peace. He said he was confident the pope's visit would inspire the international community to redouble its efforts for social justice, tolerance and understanding. The United Nations did not release the detailed itinerary for the meetings, part of a larger papal visit to Washington, New York and Philadelphia. In February, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, announced that Pope Francis will address a joint meeting of Congress Sept. 24, making him the first pope to do so.

# Despite low Catholic marriage numbers, some see trend turning around

By Nate Madden  
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The number of Catholic marriages in the United States is at its lowest point since 1965.

Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate keeps records of Catholic Church statistics going back to 1965, tracking such things as the total number of priests, the Catholic population of the United States, and the number of baptisms and marriages per year.

The statistics show that while there were over 420,000 Catholic marriages in 1970, that number has dwindled to just over 154,000 for the year 2014.

"There's no definitive answer" for this trend, according to Mark Gray, a senior research associate and poll director at the center. He cited some of the leading hypotheses about the decrease.

"We're seeing an increase in cohabitation," he said, which can "create a hurdle to receiving the sacrament of marriage, depending on the parish or diocese's policies," Gray said in an interview with Catholic News Service. "There's also the notion of a destination wedding trumping the traditional notion of getting married within the church."

And there has been "no increase in Catholics marrying non-Catholics that might lead us to believe that they're marrying in other churches," he explained.

"Some things have changed culturally. ... The church just isn't seen as important" to many young Catholics, Gray remarked.

Tim Staples, director of apologetics at Catholic Answers in El Cajon, California, told CNS that "though a particular bishop may grant per-

mission for a Catholic to be married outside of an actual Catholic church, the law of the church does not permit it, ordinarily speaking.

"And this is fitting," he said. "For Catholics, there must be an official representative of the church present (or a proper dispensation given) in order for there to be a valid marriage, or, we could say, for one to be married in the church.' Thus, it is fitting that one be married 'in a church' in order to be properly married 'in the church.'"

Despite these numbers, Gray remains optimistic about the future of the sacrament of matrimony.

"We've historically seen changes in the past ... much like the baby-boomer generation. Things were different before World War II. Mass attendance was down, as were baptisms and (sacramental) marriage rates, but the baby-boomer generation saw a time of cultural change, so it's difficult to predict what's going to happen."

With regard to young people in the church, Gray said that "millennials are a little more traditional, a little more romantic and more interested in marrying in the church. They're looking for their soulmate ... so we're starting to see that sort of a cultural shift among the youngest generation of Catholics."

Last October, Jeff and Alice Heinzen, a married couple from Wisconsin, served as auditors to the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family. Alice is director of the Office for Marriage and Family Life in the Diocese of La Crosse and Jeff is the president of McDonnell Catholic Schools in Chippewa Falls.

At the synod, they said, they "observed a reverence for marriage, a profound love for families and a grave concern for the pastoral chal-

lenges that families face across the globe. All of the testimonies, discussions and personal stories gave witness to the light and darkness of family life in every corner of the world.

One of the several "take-away" messages of the synod for American Catholics, according to the Heinzens, is "to remain accountable to the truths that come from God (when it comes to marriage.) We must never stray or be led away from the Gospel message when we deal with families."

"Perhaps the greatest challenge (to marriage) both here and abroad," they told CNS in a joint email, "is the triumph of self-reliance over self-sacrifice. Today's culture values independence over interdependence. The need to commit oneself to another in marriage makes little sense when the perceived outcome is 'me' and not 'we.'"

However, like Gray, the Heinzens also see a cultural renewal emerging on the Catholic marriage front.

"One of the most positive cultural trends that we see is a shift in catechesis from a child-centered focus to a parent-centered focus," they said. "This trend allows parishes to utilize the basic desire found in most parents' heart to provide the very best for their children. ... This shift in the catechetical approach is bearing great results because parents learn how to become primary educators for their children."

As the U.S. bishops' 2006 teaching statement "Married Love and the Gift of Life" puts it, marriage "is a lifelong commitment of love between a man and woman. It is an intimate partnership which husbands and wives learn to give and receive love unselfishly, and then teach their children to do so as well."



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## The Passion: a walk with Jesus in his suffering

If ever there was ever a time for Christians everywhere to make reparation for the presence of evil in our world, it is this Holy Week.

The sufferings of many thousands of Christians this year from radical Islamists is all part of the sufferings that our Saviour took with Him to the Cross.

Threats made to Pope Francis by Isis reminds us of the taunts and jeers of those who brought about Christ's death for the salvation of the world.

Holy Week begins this Passion (Palm) Sunday with the waving of palm branches and cries of "Hosanna to the King".

We can imagine a stranger in Jerusalem asking, "What's happening?" A shopkeeper would reply excitedly, "They're going to make this Jesus a King!"

King for a day! What a shallow mockery that is repeated with blows and spit-

tle by the soldiers just a few days later! A thorn-crowned King! How fickle their allegiance really is.

Now, his heart is really broken as He sees how He has failed to win their loyalty and love.

This year, the Gospel of Mark is used for the Passion narrative, the horrors of the Passion are proclaimed, and

we must with reluctance raise our voices with the crowd clamoring "Crucify Him!".

How could have events had accelerated at such a dizzying pace between Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday?

The forces of darkness were never more vicious in their attempt to terminate the Mission of Jesus on this earth.

That the religious leaders of that time were made instruments of evil is a tragic lesson to all religions, even to the present day.

That these leaders scan-

dalized their own people, making them agents of falsehood, is another warning to those of unwary and careless piety. How easily the righteous can be lulled into blind activity that can do harm! We wonder if any of the many that Jesus healed in his journeys were among those crying out against Him..

The Passion narrative is the most poignant story ever written about the sacrifice of the innocent to evil, and the blind consent of crowds to those who rule. It is a powerful lesson for our times.

The first reading from the 50th chapter of Isaiah speaks of the Suffering Servant with the well-polished tongue who patiently but boldly speaks the saving truth "to a weary world".

How skillfully the Church shows us that, long ago, God foretold the depths of suffering His Son would endure, setting his face "like flint", not flinching, not turning back.

St. Paul's second reading is all about Jesus' "kenosis",



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

MARCH 29

## PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

At the Procession of the Palms:

Mark 11:1-10

At Mass:

Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

the emptying out of His divine glory, that He might become the humble servant, human like us in all things but sin. No wonder every knee must bow at the mention of His name!

How the early Church fought to maintain the doctrine that Jesus is both God and man. What a stupendous sacrifice for our redemption!

The Church is a master of drama in the liturgies of this week. In the use of the Celerant and two readers for the Passion this week, and in the congregations' voice, we all become part of the action.

Most feel embarrassed to cry "Crucify Him!", with the palm branches still in our hands. We feel like hyp-

ocrites. Yet our sin is what placed us in that position. It helps drive home the crime of decide!

St. Mark presses the question, "Who is Jesus?" all through his gospel. As we watch the heaven's darken and hear the thunder, we cry with that centurion, "Indeed this was the Son of God!"

We should beat our breasts at the realization of what our sins have done!"

The shock of the liturgies of Holy Week compresses two thousand years of the battle between good and evil. We need to suspend all other activities, quiet our busy-ness, and focus on the events of this week.

It's all in the sacred Liturgy, the local penance services, the Thursday night adoration and the Good Friday veneration of the Cross.

As we walk with Jesus in His suffering, may we keep ever present to our minds and hearts the many Christians displaced from their homes, fleeing for their lives, carrying Jesus' cross all over again.

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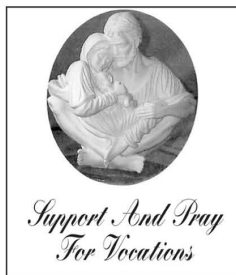
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## OUR READERS WRITE

## St. Mary's Academy yearbooks needed

Did you attend St. Mary's Academy in Ogdensburg?

The St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES School Library System has been working with the Northern New York Library Network to digitize local high school yearbooks and make them available online through the New York Heritage website at <http://newyorkheritage.org>. The pub-

lic high school collections in our service area are nearly all scanned, and now we're looking for the former Catholic high school yearbooks.

Through contacts with the Catholic elementary schools and local historians, we have located a few years but would like to have the complete collection if possible.

We are looking for any yearbook prior to 1925, 1926-37, 1948, 1953, 1955-57, 1959, 1961-63, 1965, 1969.

If you have any of these yearbooks and are willing to loan them to us to be scanned, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Natalie Panshin, Information Services Librarian, at (315) 386-4504 ext. 10201 or [npanshin@silbooces.org](mailto:npanshin@silbooces.org) for more information.

KELLY L. WILSON

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## NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC HAS GONE GREEN



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## AT THE MOVIES

# THE DIVERGENT SERIES: INSURGENT

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

Teenagers are still on the run - when they're not too busy killing one other - in "The Divergent Series: Insurgent" (Summit), the follow-up to last year's kick-off of the futuristic franchise.

Based on the second book of the trilogy by Veronica Roth and directed by Robert Schwentke ("The Time Traveler's Wife"), "Insurgent" is faster-paced and sleeker-looking than its predecessor, with echoes of "The Matrix" in its stylish 3-D slow-motion action sequences.

But it also ramps up the violence and moral ambiguity, placing this film squarely outside the proper reach of younger adolescents.

For the uninitiated, the setting is post-apocalyptic Chicago, a walled city run with an iron glove by Jeanine Matthews (Kate Winslet). She oversees a regimented system whereby people are divided into fac-

tions, each representing a different virtue: Candor (honesty), Amity (peace), Erudite (knowledge), Dauntless (bravery), and Abnegation (selfless).

Those who are not easily classified are called Divergents. Their independent nature is a threat to the status quo, and Jeanine commands that they be hunted down and killed.

Enter our heroes, Tris (Shailene Woodley) and her mentor-lover Four (Theo James). When we last saw this duo, they had recruited an army from members of their Dauntless faction and foiled Jeanine's dastardly plan - though at the cost of Tris' parents' lives.

Now they're renegades on the run. An elaborate cat-and-mouse game ensues, as both sides try to gain the upper hand.

"Dark times call for extreme measures," Jeanine proclaims. "I am seeking the greater good."

Tris would make the same claim. Circumstances have transformed our initially meek teen into a battle-

hardened Joan of Arc. Internally, though, she's conflicted, torn by a desire for revenge yet wracked by guilt, blaming herself for the deaths of so many, and unable to seek forgiveness for her sins.

To Tris' credit, she stakes out the moral high ground when possible. She's also concerned about others, including her brother, Caleb (Ansel Elgort), and fellow Dauntless member Peter (Miles Teller). Their allegiance to the cause is questionable, and neither is to be trusted.

Amid the mayhem, new characters are introduced. Johanna (Octavia Spencer), saintly head of the Amity faction, offers sanctuary to the rebels on her farm outside the city.

Though presumed dead for years, Four's mother, Evelyn (Naomi Watts), turns up as the creepy leader of an underground army. She has a score to settle with her old friend Jeanine, and seeks sunny boy's help.

As "Insurgent" lumbers toward its explosive climax,



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE

Kate Winslet and Shailene Woodley star in a scene from the movie "The Divergent Series: Insurgent."

the death count rises. And chivalry clearly has no place in this version of the future, where men hesitate neither to beat women to a pulp nor, when the occasion seems to demand it, to slaughter them.

The film contains intense violence, including scenes of torture, nongraphic non-marital sexual activity and some crude language. The Catholic News Service clas-

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

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 #Pontifex

## SETON HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL



Students at Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh rehearse for their school's annual musical. This year they performed Disney's "High School Musical" March 20-21.



Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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## ADIRONDACK

## RUMMAGE SALE

**Lake Placid** – Rummage sale to be held.

**Date:** April 25

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

**Place:** St. Agnes School Gym

**Features:** Donations may be dropped

off at school starting April 6

**Contact:** call at 523-3771 or email at info@stagneselementary.com

## CLINTON

## APOSTLES FOR LIFE PRAYER

**Plattsburgh** – The Annual Apostles for Life Prayer Service to be held.

**Date:** April 3 (Good Friday)

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Place:** 66 Brinkerhoff St., near Planned Parenthood

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Plattsburgh** – Divine Mercy Sunday to be observed.

**Date:** April 12

**Schedule:** Exposition begins at 12:15 p.m. in the Church; Sacrament of Reconciliation Chapel from: 1:15-2:15 p.m.; Video: Jesus, I Trust in You, Emmaus Room at 12:20 p.m.; Divine Mercy Chapel and Prayer Service at 2:30 p.m. and concludes with Benediction. There will be a Blessing of religious objects.

## SPRING BRUNCH

**Altona** – Holy Angels church to have an all you can eat buffet spring brunch.

**Date:** April 12

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children under 12, \$3

**Features:** Baked Virginia Ham, Pancakes and more. Bake sale and craft tables. Call 236-5848 to reserve craft table.

## SCHOOL OF HEALING

**Ellenburg Center** – Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will have a special prayer training class.

**Date:** April 9-12

**Cost:** \$35 non-refundable fee due

March 22

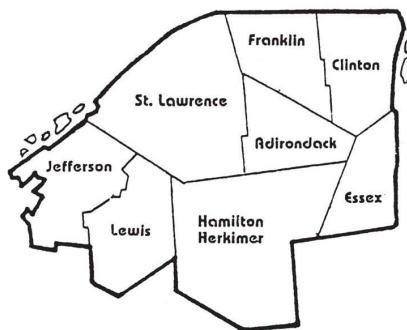
**Features:** Introduction to the Foundations of Healing, History of Healing in the Church, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and practical experience prayer ministry Rooms available for overnight guests. Commuters welcomed.

**Contact:** olaprayerhouse@gmail.com or call 518-594.3253

## WEEKDAY LENTEN ADORATION

**Plattsburgh** – This year St. Peter's Church will offer Lenten weekday adoration.

**Schedule:** Mon. and Tues. after 7 a.m. Mass until 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@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

**Place:** St. Frere Andre's Chapel

**Features:** Adoration will end with Benediction at 7 p.m. on Tues. of Holy Week.

**Contact:** To sign up for one hour a week of adoration, call the rectory at 563-1692 or stop in the Chapel anytime during adoration hours.

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

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

## RUN FOR THE ROSES GALA

**Altona** – Seton Academy will have their second annual gala.

**Date:** May 2

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

**Place:** Rainbow Banquet Hall

**Cost:** \$40 per adult, or \$300/table of 8

**Features:** To benefit Seton Academy and Seton Catholic. Dinner choices include roast beef, stuffed chicken breast, or vegetable stir fry. There will be a cash bar and cake for dessert. Program will feature a "hat" walk if you care to show off your creative side. Sign up before April 16.

**Contact:** 518-825-7386 to sign up.

## BLESSSED 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

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Malone** – Divine Mercy Sunday to be observed.

**Date:** April 12

**Schedule:** The 11a.m. Mass at Notre Dame Church (St. Andre's Parish), Malone, will open the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. From noon until 3 p.m. the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for individual adoration. Confessions will be heard 1 p.m. to 2:50. At 3 p.m. Devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday will begin. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be sung and there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Contact:** Fr. Joseph Giroux, at the St. Andre's Parish Office, (518) 483-1300.

## HOLY FAMILY GALA

**Malone** – Holy Family School will be having a Gala.

**Date:** April 18

**Time:** Cocktails at 6 p.m., Dinner at 7 p.m., dancing following dinner.

**Place:** Holy Family School

**Cost:** Adults, \$75

**Features:** Dinner by Donovan's Steak and Ale. Environment by Fountains Enchanted Florist.

## JEFFERSON

## WAY OF THE CROSS

**Clayton** – The Franciscan Mystery Players of St. Mary's Parish to present "Way of the Cross".

**Schedule:** March 27 at St. Peter's Church, Lowville and April 3 at St. Mary's Church, Clayton.

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

**Features:** A dramatic multi-media presentation of the Passion and Death of the Lord. Through the use of special lighting, inspirational music, drama, and soul-searching meditations, it becomes a prayerful vehicle for the Lord's spirit to forgive, heal, and renew.

## DAY OF RETREAT

**Watertown** – A day of retreat has been planned.

**Date:** March 29

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 4:30

**Place:** SSJ Motherhouse

**Features:** "Lenten Journey" will focus on deepening our friendship with the Lord by exploring different ways of praying. Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, will be the presenter.

**Cost:** Suggested offering - \$25.

**Contact:** call: 315-212-6592 or email: srbethssj@gmail.com. by March 25

## IHC OPEN HOUSES

**Watertown** – Immaculate Heart Central School to hold open houses for new and prospective families.

**Primary/intermediate schools:** March 24 at 6 p.m., Primary School; April 22 at 6 p.m., Intermediate School; May 19 at 6 p.m., Primary School; July 15 at 6 p.m., Intermediate School Aug. 17 at 6 p.m., Intermediate School.

**Jr./Sr. high school:** March 25 at 6 p.m., April 21 at 6 p.m., May 20 at 6 p.m. July 15 at 6 p.m., Aug. 16 at 6 p.m.,

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Watertown** – The Altar Rosary Society

will be having a spaghetti supper.

**Date:** March 26

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

**Place:** St. Anthony's Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.50; under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$7.5 each

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

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Watertown** – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church will hold a Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration.

**Schedule:** Beginning Good Friday at 3 p.m. the Divine Mercy novena will begin Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated April 12 at 3 p.m., there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, & a procession. Bring images to be blessed

**Contact:** For more info on Mercy Sunday, call Judy at 315-783-7349 or visit www.thedivinemercy.org

## HOOF AND FEATHER DINNER

**Evans Mills** – Hoof & Feather Dinner to be held to benefit Indian River K of C

**Date:** March 28

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

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6;

Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

**Features:** Includes turkey gravy and biscuit, sliced pork loin, green beans, cole slaw, homemade desserts and beverage.

## LIFERIGHT MEETING

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

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**NEW Place:** 870 Arsenal Street.

**Features:** Liferight is incorporated as a pro-life educational organization. The office has a wide variety of videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.

**Contact:** Phone 315-788-8480

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

### IMMACULATE HEART CENTRAL SCHOOL MYSTERY PLAYERS LENT 2015

Date	Place		Time
MARCH 28	Christ the King	Albany	7:30 P.M.
MARCH 29	St. Jude	Wynantskill	7:30 P.M.
MARCH 30	St. Stephen's	Phoenix	7:30 P.M.
MARCH 31	St. Martin of Tours	New Hope, PA	7:30 P.M.
APRIL 1	St. Rose of Lima	Newtown, CT	7:30 P.M.
APRIL 3	St. Patrick's	Watertown	7:30 P.M.

www.ihschools.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players



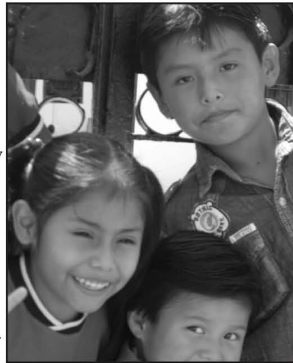


## The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
 Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director  
 622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669  
 (315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296  
 mbrett@rcdony.org

# Why Mission?

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



First heard at Baptism, the call to share our faith is truly connected to every moment of every day. The Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) offers young Catholics and their families opportunities to make those daily connections

At Baptism, God places into the hearts of all a special missionary calling, asking a generous response.

Children have received this calling, as has each religious educator / catechist. In a special way, religious educators / catechists have been called not only to be Disciples of Christ, but also to make disciples for Him.

The task of ministering to children is vital indeed. Through their love, their witness, their prayers and sacrifices, young Catholics open new pathways to evangelization among those who have yet to encounter the love and hope of Jesus Christ and His "Good News."

Young people are generous and enthusiastic, eager to use their talents to bring the Good News "to the ends of the earth."

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches: "Those who with God's help have welcomed Christ's call and freely responded to it are urged on by love of Christ to proclaim the Good News everywhere in the world."

It directs further: "All Christ's faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation, by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in Liturgy and prayer."

The Catechism provides the beginning of what should be considered the single greatest Catholic need in the world today, namely, to understand what we believe.

Recognizing that youth are a vital part of the life of the church today, they must be engaged and challenged to live out their baptismal call to the principle mission of the church.

Thank you to all who participate in the Missionary Childhood Association's teachings.

And a special salute to the all those who spend their time, talent and treasure on the religious education of our children. God Bless

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

## OBITUARIES

**Brownville** - Elizabeth W. "Betty" (Ward) Mitchell, 86; Funeral Services March 21, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Brushton** - Marie T. (LaBombard) Mayville, 84; Funeral Services March 19, 2015 at St. Mary's Church.

**Carthage** - Richard V. Hutchings, 82; Funeral Services March 21, 2015 at the Lundy Funeral Home & Cremation Service Inc.

**Chaumont** - Marlyne F. (Planty) Radley, 71; Funeral Services March 18, 2015 at All Saints Church; burial in New Cedar Grove Cemetery.

**Dannemora** - Gertrude (Pickersgill) Gilroy, 88; Funeral Services March 17, 2015 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Fort Covington** - Janet F. Mainville, 82; Funeral Services March 24, 2015 at St. Mary's of the Fort Church.

**Fort Covington** - Zofia Odorowski, 90; Funeral Services March 19, 2015 at St. Mary's of the Fort Church.

**Hammond** - Rollande R. (Campeau) Martin, 82; Funeral Services March 18, 2015 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

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**Henderson** - Jean McGivney Leonard, 91; Funeral Services May 9, 2015 at Queen of Heaven Church.

**Keene** - Mary Argenta LeClair Reed, 80; Funeral Services March 14, 2015 at St. Brendan's Church; burial in Norton Cemetery.

**Lowville** - Gertrude (Leviker) Boshart, 71; Funeral Services March 14, 2015 at Isenker Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

**Lowville** - Robert C. Britton, 91; Funeral Services March 19, 2015 at the Sundquist Funeral Home.

**Malone** - Madonna Eleanor Poupore Towle, 86; Funeral Services March 19, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Massena** - Cynthia M. (Daley) Scott, 80; Funeral Services March 19, 2015 at the Phillips Memorial Home.

**Massena** - William H. Spooner, 86; Funeral Services March 17, 2015 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** - Sandra (Kozaryn) Fox, 64; Funeral Services March 20, 2015 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** - Edward T. Wicks, 74; Funeral Services March 20, 2015 at Notre Dame Church.

**Plattsburgh** - Alan H. Breyette, 66; Funeral Services April 10, 2015 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** - Robert L. Collins, MD., 67; Funeral Services March 18, 2015 at St. John's Church.

**Plattsburgh** - Evalyn E. Holzer, 76; Funeral Services March 21, 2015 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Rouses Point** - Joseph E. LaVoie, 92; Funeral Services March 23, 2015 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Garden, Ellenburg Depot.

**Watertown** - Nelson Navarra, 91; Funeral Services March 23, 2015 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

## REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

PRAYER SUGGESTION

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

Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of our priests, pray and intercede for (...)

April  
  
 The Holy Eucharist

(With ecclesiastical approval)

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY **APRIL 2015**

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 A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated.  
 The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: Diocese of Ogdensburg [www.myvocation.net](http://www.myvocation.net)  
 Vocation Society



## SCHOOL DAYS...SCHOOL DAYS



With the assistance of a generous gift from Stewart's Shops, St. Mary's School in Canton is improving its security system to enhance the safety of the students. Pictured are Ross Cruikshank, Emily Quinell, Everett Palmer, Marissa Page, Brody Van Buren, Matt Robinson, Madison Hoy, Julie Terrance, manager at Stewart's on Gouverneur Street; and Pamela Neal, principal of St. Mary's School.



The fourth and fifth grade religion classes at St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake are shown with baby blankets they made for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court St. Bernard. The court's annual Baby Shower for Catholic Charities will be April 19 at 10 a.m. Mass at St. Bernard's Church.

## Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## JEFFERSON

**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

**Contact:** 315-782-2468

## LEWIS

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**Houseville** – The Feast of The Divine Mercy will be celebrated.

**Date:** April 12

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

**Schedule:** The film *Pope of Mercy*, will be shown in the church hall at 2 p.m. Reconciliation will begin at 2:30. At 3 p.m. The Divine Mercy Celebration will include: The Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image, Exposition, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, homily and Benediction. Features: Rev. John Mikalajunas, Pastor of Holy Trinity Church of Utica, will be the Guest Celebrant. A cover dish reception will follow in the church hall.

**Contact:** 348-6260.

## ST. LAWRENCE

**TRINITY SCHOOL GALA**

**Massena** – The first annual Trinity Catholic School Gala, April in Paris, has been planned

**Date:** April 18

**Time:** 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Cost:** \$60 per person

**Features:** Imagine a night on the town, in an elegant Parisian atmosphere, with fine wine, full bar, a five-course dinner, dancing and comedic entertainment. Tickets for this event are on sale now after Masses and in the school office.

**Contact:** www.TrinityCatholicSchool.net

**DINNER AND THEATER SHOW**

**Brasher Falls** – A dinner and theater show will be held.

**Date:** April 25

**Time:** 5 p.m.

**Place:** Knights of Columbus

**Cost:** \$30; Seniors (55), \$27. Must be paid by April 15

**Features:** "A Tomb with a View". There will be a cash bar. This will benefit the heating equipment fund.

**Contact:** Terry Grant 389-4116

**PARISH CENSUS**

The Ogdensburg parishes of St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame Church along with St. Raphael's, Heuvelton and Ss. Philip & James, Lisbon will be conducting a door-to-door census as part of the diocesan "Find Your Home in Christ" census initiative.

**Dates:** starting the week of April 13th and concluding the week of May 4th.

**Features:** Parish volunteers will be wearing identification tags. When they come to your door, please welcome them. Your kindness is appreciated.

**FISH & SHRIMP FRY**

**Gouverneur** – Fish and shrimp fry to be held every Friday during lent.

**Date:** Feb. 20 – April 3

**Place:** St. James School

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:15

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

**Contact:** Take-outs and deliver available, phone 287-0130 for faster service

**FRIDAY FISH DINNER**

**Star Lake** – St. Hubert's will hold fish dinners every Friday during lent.

**Date:** Starting Feb. 20

**Time:** 5 p.m.

**Cost:** Dinners, \$10; kids under 10, \$5

**Features:** Deep fried or Oven baked fish. Take-outs available

**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.

**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.

**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

**Date:** Wednesdays

**Time:** Noon

**Place:** K of C Club

**Contact:** 393-7990 after 4 p.m

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

**CHRISM MASS**

**Ogdensburg** – All the faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are cordially invited to the Chrism Mass

**Date:** March 26

**Time:** 11 a.m.

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

**Features:** Bishop Terry R. LaValley Will led Renewal of Priestly Commitment, the

Blessing of the Holy Oils and the consecration of the Sacred Chrism for use in all the churches of the Diocese.

**CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP**

**Ogdensburg** – Catholic Heart Work Camp has announced that they are putting on a week of camp in Ogdensburg

**Date:** June 28 to July 4

**Features:** Groups of high school and college students and their chaperones from across the Northeast will be converging at Wadhams Hall to take part in 5 days of service, prayer, fellowship, and fun.

**Contact:** Go to

www.heartworkcamp.com for more information and to register your group.

**SUMMER DIRECTED RETREAT**

**Ogdensburg** – Save the date to spend some time with the Lord at the 2015 Summer Directed Retreat.

**Date:** June 21-26

**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Cost:** \$450 which includes retreat, lodging, food and linens

**Directors:** Rev. Roger McGuinness, Rev. Douglas Lucia, Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSS, Sr. Mary Elizabeth Looby, GNSH, Sr. Marlene Butler, GNSH

**Features:** The directed retreat is offered in an atmosphere of silence, while giving the opportunity for daily one-on-one meeting with a spiritual director, along with daily Mass.

**Contact:** For more information please email inquiry@wadham.edu