

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Looking ahead to March for Life in D.C. | PAGE 7

Pope in 2015: family, ecology and mercy | PAGE 8

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 70, Number 30

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 6, 2016

Mercy gives hope for new year

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The gift of mercy is a light that helps Christians reflect on the past year and radiates hope at the start of the new year, Pope Francis said.

While retracing the events of 2015 may recall moments of both joy and sorrow, it also offers a moment to understand the presence of God who "renews and sus-

tains with his help," Pope Francis said during an evening prayer service in St. Peter's Basilica on New Year's Eve.

The prayer service included eucharistic adoration and Benediction, as well as the singing of the "Te Deum," a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God, for the closing year.

The "Te Deum," he said, is the church's way of giving thanks and recognizing the loving presence of God throughout history.

"With this hymn, we look back at the history of salvation where, through God's mysterious plan, the various events of our life in this past year find" their place and meaning, Pope Francis said.

Although the past year may bring both happy and painful memories, the pope said, it also challenges Christians to ponder on whether world events occurred according to God's will or through people's plans, which are "often loaded with private interests, an unquenchable thirst for power and gratuitous violence."

LOOKING BACK

2015: a year of grace

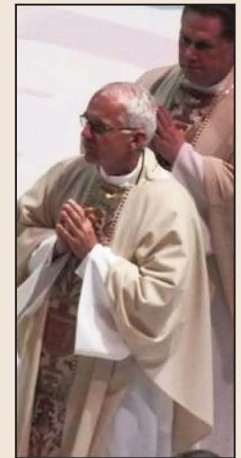


PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Bishop Terry R. LaValley joined other bishops of the United States to celebrate Mass with Pope Francis Sept. 26 at Madison Square Garden in New York City. The papal visit to the U.S. was one of the highlights of the year for Catholics in the Diocese of Ogdensburg as many traveled to New York and Philadelphia for papal Masses. Other highlights of 2015 included continued efforts toward realizing the diocesan vision articulated in Bishop LaValley's 2014 pastoral letter "Find Your Home in Christ."

FULL STORY, PAGE 2

Ecumenical service set for Jan. 17

Week of Prayer

For Christian Unity

"CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE MIGHTY ACTS OF THE LORD"
1 Peter 2:9

Ecumenical Service
St. Peter's Church
Pittsburgh
Sunday, January 17, 2016
2:30 p.m.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Unfold Uganda

Peru native talks to parishioners of St. Augustine's about her efforts to help African women

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

A BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis delivers his blessing as he concludes Mass marking the feast of Mary, Mother of God, in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Jan. 1, 2016.

THANKS FROM RELIGIOUS: For donations to religious retirement appeal... p. 12

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400BISHOP TERRY
R. LAVALLEY

President

REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN

Vice President

SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSJ

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/
General Manager

Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except skipping one week in Jan. and every other week beginning July through Aug. and skipping one week in Dec. by the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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

Editorial Office:

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

Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountrycatholic.org

Entered at the

Post Office:

Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and additional mailing offices at Periodical Postage.

Subscription:

For one year: In-Diocese Rate: \$27 Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30

Matters for publication should be addressed to

PO Box 326 Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and should be received by Thursday prior to publication.

Paper is printed each Monday;

deadline is Wednesday. Member, Catholic Press Association.

POSTMASTER:

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

EDITOR'S NOTE

'Grace-filled opportunities' of 2015

While the jubilee Year of Mercy didn't begin until the final weeks of 2015, the months leading up to that Advent declaration were filled with moments of mercy in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

In his letter for the jubilee year, printed in the NCC on Dec. 2, Bishop LaValley wrote that "many grace-filled opportunities to celebrate God's mercy will be made available to all the faithful in the North Country, both in our local parishes and at special diocesan celebrations.

"These will be occasions when we come together as a family of faith," the bishop said, "to celebrate our God's unconditional love and limit-

less mercy and then, as the Holy Father urges, 'we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God' to others. In this way, we can be living sources of water from which others can drink, introducing them to the healing presence of Jesus Christ, building up our parish families with Living Stones."

This doesn't sound much different than what took place in the Diocese of Ogdensburg in 2015, as our church took significant steps toward realizing our "Christ-fed, Christ-led, hope-filled" diocesan vision.

During the past 12 months, several of our goals were met.

- Under the direction of St.

Joseph Sister Shirley Anne Brown, a diocesan wide census was conducted in parishes throughout the diocese, with hundreds of Catholics knocking on the doors of thousands of their neighbors.

- Under the priority of "strengthening faith formation in family life," Father Christopher Carrara and his committee established diocesan standards for youth ministry, saw more than 30 parishes bring on "competent, qualified leaders" and organized a weekend youth ministry training weekend to assist with their training.

- Father James Seymour led a Living Stones Planning committee which met regularly to determine the best way to meet pastoral needs with the declining number of priests
- Pam Ballantine and her

committee have been working to prepare their report for providing family catechesis for the seven sacraments in each parish, due early this year.

- And the committee to create a culture of vocations, led by Father J. Roger McGuinness has made great strides towards establishing a "We are Called" vocation awareness plan and preparing for Inspire, a summit on vocations set for this coming September in Lake Placid.

Other events during the year have also shown the diocesan commitment to sharing the love of Christ.

The observance of the Year of Consecrated Life continued through 2015 and featured a special day during which four religious communities in Watertown opened their doors to visitors. Religious jubilarians

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Mary Lou
Kilian

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

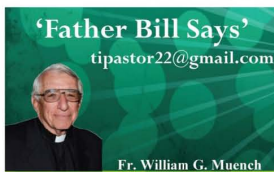
As we begin this special Year of Mercy...

A New Year – a new year that has been dedicated by Pope Francis as a Jubilee Year of Mercy. I begin by wishing all of you a Happy New Year filled with peace and love. In the spirit of Pope Francis may we all be a more forgiving, loving people this year. Bringing Mercy into our lives will lead others to become a more merciful, caring people. A Year of Mercy should and must change this world of ours.

So many things that have happened in this world lately which might result in people becoming angry, even hateful. Pope Francis tells us there is a better way.

He steps up to urge us to understand that the best reaction that will make the world a better place – that is the call to Mercy – love – forgiveness.

As we begin this special year, I want to take this opportunity to ask you to pray in a special way for our Holy Father, Pope Francis. I would like you to join with me as we pray that Pope Francis will be our Holy Father, as Bishop of Rome, for



a long time. Pope Francis has already proven to be a unique gift to our Catholic Church. He has brought to our Church a new recognition of God's love for all people. This is a love that is filled with mercy for all people especially those that the world has put on the fringe of life. We are a better Church because of Pope Francis.

Pope Francis has brought to us a new and better understanding of the Second Vatican Council. As you know I care deeply about the message and reforms of the Council. Pope Francis continues to bring about reform of what must be changed in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council.

There are many things that should be changed. In this regard he has boldly proclaimed

all that he expects of priests and bishops and cardinals so that we never forget the Second Vatican Council. Recently, in a talk to the Vatican Curia he urged them and I am sure he also urges all the rest of us – especially the clergy – to act maturely. That will certainly produce a bit of discussion.

Let me again remind you of how this all started. Pope Francis has been a surprised right from the start. When his name was announced as the newly elected Holy Father – we were all surprised. I know I had no idea who this Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio is – and from Argentina. He had chosen to put his papacy under the patronage of St. Francis of Assisi. I was thrilled. I had recently been fortunate enough to spend a time of retreat for a week in Assisi and had been touched deeply by St. Francis' message, a message of simplicity of life and concern for the poor.

I remember so well that night of his election when Pope Francis humbly asked all in St.

Peter's Square and all the rest of us throughout the world to pray for him. Right from the start he asked us to be part of his papacy through our prayers. That night there was such a moment of silence – a piercing silence – throughout St. Peter's Square. It was truly a time of quiet prayer. This was a very spiritual man who, as pope would lead us in holiness. It was a very humbling gesture. This new Pope had certainly caught my attention.

I like Pope Francis and am truly impressed with his holiness. I am so impressed with all he has done so far; I know that here is more to come. And I am not worried – Pope Francis has put God completely in charge. Personally, I want to be around for a while to see how terrific this Catholic Church will be in the future.

Pope Francis loves people and that is the underlying spirit of all he wants for his Church. He brings something special to our Catholic Church. I am excited about being a Catholic.

On 2015

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

were honored in October, and a Precious Blood Sister and two new Sisters of St. Joseph made new commitments to religious life.

On a sadder note, the diocese bid farewell to the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart who left the North Country in December after nearly 100 years of service.

Youth ministry

Youth ministry took center stage during the year as work on this diocesan goal continued.

In addition to the strides made in parish youth ministry, a new camp program – Catholic Heart Work Camp – brought young people to Wadhams Hall for a week in June. Jackie Francois Angel was the featured speaker at a very successful youth rally held in Plattsburgh in April and Kelly Donnelly served as camp director for another great year of summer camp at Guggenheim. Later in the year, Kelly was named diocesan director of youth ministry, succeeding Deacon Brian Dwyer.

In clergy news in 2015, the diocese mourned Father Robert Cotter who died Feb. 1 at 92 and jubilarians were honored at the annual presbyteral assembly.

Deacons gathered for their annual convocation in May and, during the summer, elected members to a newly established deacon council.

Special events

Special events during the year brought hundreds of Catholics of all ages together for prayer and education. The events included:

- Intentional Disciples workshop in Potsdam
- Commissioning of 77 lay ministers
- Family pilgrimage to Isle la Motte shrine
- Celebrate Christ in Lake Placid for Catholic school teachers and parish religious educators
- Catholic Scout Mass in Tupper Lake
- Harvest Mass in Croghan

Special people

Awards and honors for Catholics in the North Country were announced throughout the year.

Diana Jones of Augustinian Academy in Carthage was named Catholic School Teacher of the Year and St. Joseph Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer received the Sharing the Life of Faith award from the diocesan Faith Formation department.

Janice Shoen, former diocesan development director, received national recognition as a newly appointed member of the National Advisory Council of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops.

Catholic Charities presented two awards at its 2015 Caritas Dinner: John and Jane Pinkerton were presented with the Caritas Award and Timothy and Jeannine McLellan, the President's Award.

Bishop LaValley also presented the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service to the diocese to Henry and Huguette Domingos of Potsdam.

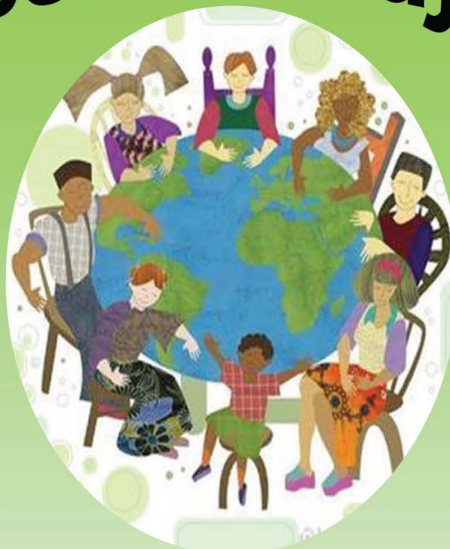
As with most Catholics in the United States, a highlight for people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg was Pope Francis' visit to the U.S. in September. Bishop LaValley joined other bishops of the country for papal events in Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Busloads of Catholics traveled from the north country to Masses at Madison Square Garden and in Philadelphia.

A delegation of family life leaders of the diocese also took part in the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia held in the days before the pope's arrival.

Bishop LaValley, who celebrated his fifth anniversary as Bishop of Ogdensburg April 30, 2015, celebrated special liturgies at parishes and schools and for diocesan gatherings throughout the year. He also guided the diocese in embracing the messages of Pope Francis on the environment, family life and mercy.

Week of Prayer



For Christian Unity

**“CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE MIGHTY
ACTS OF THE LORD”**

1 Peter 2:9

Ecumenical Service

St. Peter's Church

Plattsburgh

Sunday, January 17, 2016

2:30 p.m.

ECUMENISM

from ancient Greek OIKOUMENIKOS:

**“the people of the whole earth who live in a
common house”**

Parishioners of St. Augustine's in Peru hear about unique business

Unfold Uganda

By Mike Langlois
Contributing Writer

PERU - Psychology researchers describe happiness as a combination of life satisfaction and having more positive emotions than negative emotions. Melissa LaReau believes happiness is following your inner voice and pursuing life's passions.

**You can unfold a wallet.
We're also unfolding peace,
hope, and opportunity for
the Uganda women and
their families**

LaReau, a 2003 graduate of Peru High School and aspiring entrepreneur, recently talked to St. Augustine Church parishioners in Peru, New York. She described her role in creating Unfold Uganda, a business designed to help impoverished East African women.

LaReau's twelve-year journey began after graduating high school. She attended Hartwick College, Oneonta, where she received a bachelor's in science and economics. She taught English as a Second Language for a brief time for the Oneonta school district. LaReau then attended Texas A&M and graduated with a master's in international affairs.

Her first foray into the business world was an entry-level economist's position with Ernst & Young, a multinational professional services company.

"This is exactly not what I want to be doing," said LaReau, on her first impression of the corporate world. "I told myself three years and then I have to leave this job. I have to find something that I am more passionate about."

Two-and-a-half years later, LaReau remembered the



PHOTO BY MIKE LANGLOIS

Melissa LaReau is shown with her mother, Shirley LaReau-Kemp, after speaking to parishioners at St. Augustine's Church, Peru, about her role in creating Unfold Uganda, a business designed to help impoverished women of East Africa.

promise she had made to herself and listened to that inner voice. While scanning the online want ads for photo gigs - she had always dabbled in photography - an interesting item popped up.

The position was a fellowship working for a microfinance company which required basic computer and photography skills. The company was the Maryland-based Women's Microfinance Initiative. The job was an operations position in the company's Uganda, Africa, office.

WMI's mission, according to the company's website, is to establish village-level loan hubs, administered by local women, to provide capital, training and support services to rural women in the lowest income brackets in East

Africa so that they can engage in income producing activities.

"I can do that job," recalled LaReau. "I work in international economics, and I wrote my undergrad thesis on microfinance for my economics degree."

The subsequent interview and hiring process moved quickly. Within a few weeks, she was in Uganda acting as the company's only American employee.

The decision meant giving-up a substantial salary with benefits, and collecting only a few hundred dollars per month.

When LaReau submitted a financial report a few months later, WMI's treasurer knew the company didn't have an average employee in

the East African district.

"She (the treasurer) said we didn't know the extent of your skills and experience," said LaReau. "You look like a forensic accountant with the spreadsheet work you are doing."

WMI asked LaReau to create and implement a finance system for the company's East African loan-hubs. The district included Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. "This was very different from a fellowship doing operations," she said. "I was now the East Africa finance director."

Microfinance companies offer high-quality, affordable financial services to low-income people. Typically, these clients live in rural areas and are sustained by trading crops or locally made goods. Women in third world countries constitute a majority of the borrowers. In Uganda, LaReau worked with a staff of 20 local women who cultivated and sold tomatoes.

"We would give training in business planning, marketing, sales, and saving and investing money," she explained. "The women were given one hundred dollars over six months. You can spend one hundred dollars in two minutes (in the U.S.). It's a very small amount, but it's life-changing for them."

WMI's business plan was to make the East African district financially sustainable and pull its operations within ten years. LaReau, who was hired seven years into the program, now had three years to reach the company's goal. She trained a few top performing staff members who were able to successfully continue WMI's business plan.

Although LaReau's contract with WMI was nearing an end, she hoped to continue her work with the East African women.

She became good friends

Editor's note

For more information on Unfold Uganda visit:

Website: www.discoverunfold.com

Email: info@discoverunfold.com

Twitter: [@discoverunfold](https://twitter.com/discoverunfold)

Instagram: [@discoverunfold](https://www.instagram.com/discoverunfold)

Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/discoverunfold>

with Lydia Neumbe, the daughter of WMI's Uganda director. The two women decided to start their own business selling African made goods to an international market. The company would utilize the trade skills of the East African women to produce fashionable women's wallets using local textiles.

LaReau has since relocated to Washington, D.C., to raise venture capital, and Neumbe remains in her native country to set-up the company's operations. LaReau said they decided to name the company Unfold.

"You can unfold a wallet," she explained. "We're also unfolding peace, hope, and opportunity (for the Uganda women and their families)."

"We are naming the company here Unfold Uganda," she added. "If we move to other countries, then we will name it Unfold (for that country)."

LaReau said that Unfold Uganda hopes to add education credits, health care benefits, and begin an apprenticeship program for its employees and their families.

"The main goal is to put the profits back into Uganda and create sustainable jobs," she said. "If we give them the skills and the business training, then they can pass that along to their own children."

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

A SEASON OF JOY



On Dec. 5, ten children received the sacrament of First Reconciliation at All Saints Church in Chaumont, part of the Roman Catholic Community of Cape Vincent, Rosiere, and Chaumont. In front are Maxime Chavoustie, Jordan Alberry and Anna Goetz; back, Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Pierre Aubin, Alexander Hastings, William Hastings, Taylor Nebbia, Khloe Randall, Laura Hastings, and Sarah Hastings. Missing from photo, Yanelle Gamez.



Frances M. Hackett, who will turn 102 in February, enjoyed a visit with Bishop LaValley after the Christmas Day Mass at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Ogdensburg. Mrs. Hackett, a longtime parishioner of St. Mary's Cathedral, spent Christmas Day with her two daughters, their husbands, two of her four grandchildren and five of her seven great-grandchildren.




Parishioners of Immaculate Conception parish in Brownville made Advent wreaths on Nov 28, an annual parish event. Pictured are Father Michael Gaffney, Marlene Johnson and her two grandchildren, Josephine and Madelynn.



The first, second, and third graders from St. Mary's School in Canton went Christmas caroling at the Maplewood Nursing Home in Canton. As the children were singing, an elderly gentleman who hasn't spoken in two years joined in the singing too.

Guide Light Essays
 Inspirational Commentary
guidelightessays.blogspot.com
 Hosted by Holly Middleton

Peaceful Dove Books & Gifts 

164 Boynton Ave. Sq., Ste 304, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901

Bibles, Crosses, Missals, Rosaries, Medals, Cards
Baptism, Wedding & Sacramental Gifts, Statues
Memorial, Candles, Icons, Music, DVDs, Recovery
Willow Tree Products, Seasonal, Maple Syrup & More!
Gifts of the Spirit! Shipping Available!

Hours: M-F 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 (518) 561-5083 www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com
 Mrs. Linda Bracy and Ms. Mary Beth Bracy

BARSTOW

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION BUICK PONTIAC GMC SUBARU

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

For more information, visit our Website at: www.barstowmotors.com


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

MONASTERY CARD SHOP
 Cards for All Occasions

Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.

Precious Blood Monastery
 OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM
 SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM
 400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN
 315-788-1669

Empire State Housing
 We process all VA loans



New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes
 Located on Route 3 (next to the fair grounds)
518-563-8722 or 518-569-0890
www.pwmh.com

WE ARE OPEN ON SUNDAYS 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
YOUR BEST DEAL CAN BE FOUND ON SUNDAY!!

Special: 28x48 used Double, Excellent Condition.
 \$49,900 Delivery and Setup, no tax.

Bishop's Schedule

Jan. 6 - 10:50 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

Jan. 7 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Jan. 8 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
 7 p.m., Canon Law Class for Deacon Aspirants at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Jan. 9 - 4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Jan. 10 - 9:30 a.m., Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg

Jan. 11 - 7:15 p.m., Novena & Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Jan. 12 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

To Report Abuse

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

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri-
 anne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth
 Counseling Services of Northern New
 York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY,
 12923; e-mail: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-
 483-3261; or Father James Seymour,
 the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-
 393-2920, ext. 1340



The Miraculous Prayer
 Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favors. This time I ask you this very special one. Take it Dear Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in our merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen KM

Rest in Peace

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

Jan. 6 – Rev. James D. Phalon, 1974; Deacon George W. Carroll, 1994; Rev. Benoit Dostie, M.S.C., 2007

Jan. 7 – Rev. Leonidas Geoffrion, 1954
 Jan. 8 – Rev. Michael Moris, 1893; Rev. Frederick C. Hatch, 1961; Msgr. Robert J. Arquette, 1969; Rev. Leo McCarthy, O.S.A., 1975; Rev. Roland Gaulin, O.M.I., 1984; Rev. Anthony F. Pease, 1997; Msgr. Morris L. Dwyer, 2004

Jan. 9 – Rev. Fred Commins, O.S.A., 1924; Rev. Joseph E. Doyle, 1958; Rev. Jeremiah Albert O'Brien, 1974

Jan. 10 – Rev. Christopher C. Poulin, 1904; Msgr. James O'Driscoll, 1913; Msgr. Frederick P. Diviney, 1961

Jan. 11 – Msgr. John Andrew Cotter, 1964; Msgr. Anthime D. Charbonneau, 1976; Most Rev. Walter P. Kellenberg, 1986

Jan. 12 – Msgr. Francis Joseph Maguire, 1978

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 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 Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440

Upcoming sessions:
 Jan. 5- 4 p.m., St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh

Environmental Stewardship

Reflection on the Twelfth Day of Christmas

As we conclude our twelfth day of celebrating the Christmas season, we join the Magi in their amazement at the Child so small and fragile yet the Savior of us all.

God used a simple star as a physical sign of his presence, and as a guide for the Wise men to discover the Source of their longings. What made them look up and behold this Star?

They were not the only ones who looked up into the celestial skies of the Universe and found reason to be amazed.

The Psalmist in Ps. 8 prays: "When I see the heavens, the work of your hands, the moon and the stars which you arranged, what is man that you should keep him in mind, mortal man that you care for him?"

Even on Christmas Eve this year several people commented on how amazed they were at the beauty and brightness of the moon in the night sky!

How often in our busyness do we not even think about looking up into the night skies?

What perhaps have we missed that the Creator of Universe desires to communicate to us on our Journey? Maybe like the psalmist His desire is only to delight us with His magnificence and cause us to wonder that He cares for little ones like us.

The Wisemen not only were amazed at what they saw, but they were filled with faith that God was in charge and that He would guide them to the fulfillment of their deepest longings.

What are our deepest longings as we begin this new year of grace?

How deep is our faith in the One who has created the Universe that, like Magi, He will guide us on our spiritual Journey if we but look up and ask?

Visit our website
www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

 Find us on Facebook!




CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Families must open home to God or selfishness will reign, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Families need to open their doors to God and his love or they will harbor an individualism that endangers peace and joy, Pope Francis said on the feast of the Holy Family. Recognizing and encouraging the importance of strong and unified families is especially needed today when "the family is subjected to misunderstanding and difficulties of various kinds, which weaken it," he said Dec. 27 before praying the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square. Marking the Jubilee of Families during the Holy Year of Mercy, the pope dedicated a morning Mass and his noon Angelus address to the example and witness of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The day's Gospel reading "invites families to welcome the light of hope originating from the house of Nazareth," he said in remarks before the Angelus. The Holy Family demonstrates what God desires for all families -- that they be "a special community of life and love," he said. Mary and Joseph teach men and women today to welcome children as a gift of God, to raise them in a way that cooperates with God's divine plan, and to give "the world, with every child, a new smile."

It's important to see Mother Teresa's humanity, says professor

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- When people think of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, they should consider everything about her, said a college professor who once volunteered with the future saint's order, the Missionaries of Charity, in India. "Saints are humble beings; it doesn't mean they're perfect," said Mathew Schmalz, an associate professor of religious studies at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Vatican announced Dec. 17 that the path for Blessed Teresa's canonization can now move forward with the approval of a miracle attributed to her intercession. The founder of the Missionaries of Charity, who died in 1997 and was beatified in 2003, was labeled the "saint of the gutters" for her work with the poor and dying in Kolkata and around the world. Schmalz told Catholic News Service in a Dec. 18 telephone interview said that when he was growing up, Mother Teresa was "held up as an example of someone with incredible faith living Christian life to its fullest." When he was a junior in college, he studied in India and spent some time volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity. Schmalz had a brief encounter with Blessed Teresa when he volunteered at a homeless shelter in New York near a Missionaries of Charity home. He was invited to meet her in one of her visits to U.S. homes run by her order. The tiny woman placed rosaries in the hands of those greeting her. For some reason, she walked past Schmalz, but then turned around and placed a black plastic, rosary in his hands and told him: "Jesus through Mary." That moment has stayed with him for years.

March for Life changes venues, but strengthens its message of ending abortion

By Kurt Jensen
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The annual March for Life, set for Jan. 22, will convene in a new location in the nation's capital for the traditional midday rally.

Because of the ongoing refurbishment of the National Mall and strict new regulations that require temporary flooring to protect the grass, the rally has been moved from the West Front of the Capitol to the Washington Monument grounds.

"We were lucky to get that. It's going to cost us \$70,000, and it's not something we budgeted for," said Jeanne Monahan-Mancini, president of March for Life. "It's the most economical wide-open space we could afford."

Other than the venue, the event, which draws busloads of Catholic parishioners and parochial school students, is expected to remain much the same.

Held since 1974, the march marks the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision in 1973, which legalized abortion.

"Pro-Life is Pro-Woman" is this year's theme.

"We know that abortion takes the life of one and wounds the life of another, so we always try to emphasize ... that there's always hope and healing for anyone who's made that sad decision, and it's very important in terms of our messaging," Monahan-Mancini told Catholic News Service.

It's also intended as a way to blunt critics, "because of the (presidential) election and a lot of the rhetoric about the false 'war on women,'" Monahan-Mancini added.

Retired Baltimore Ravens football player Matt Birk is the headline speaker at the rally and that evening's Rose

Dinner. Monahan-Mancini said she expected at least a couple of Republican presidential candidates to speak at the rally as well, but that any announcement would come just before the event.

The day before the march, Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, will lead a prayer rally at the Planned Parenthood offices in Washington. A youth rally at the Renaissance Hotel follows.

Other march-related activities include a Mass opening the overnight National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Jan. 21 and a Mass the next morning at the Basilica; a Mass and interdenominational prayer service at Constitution Hall prior to the march; and two similar events, Youth Rally and Mass for Life, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington at the Verizon Center and the D.C. Armory.

Two recent events loom over this year's march. Last summer, an anti-abortion organization in California, the Center for Medical Progress, released a series of secretly recorded videos that it claimed show representatives from Planned Parenthood clinics discussing the use of aborted infant parts for profit.

In November, a gunman opened fire at a Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood clinic, killing three and wounding nine. The suspect, Robert Dear, was reported as telling police, "No more baby parts," in an apparent reference to the videos.

The videos are the subject of litigation in U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, where a judge will decide whether the videos should be permanently suppressed because they violate California laws about secret recordings and also con-

tributed to clinic arson. Excerpts of the videos remain available on YouTube.

Even in truncated form, they videos have had an effect, said Michael Ciccocioppo, executive director of Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, a march participant.

"I haven't seen every single video from start to finish, but I've seen parts of all the videos," he said. "When you listen to these doctors sitting around eating their lunch, eating their salad, drinking their wine and talking so callously about what they do and how much they can get for these body parts, I mean it really has exposed to the nation how horrendous these things are that are going on."

Monahan-Mancini agreed that the videos are "very hard to watch." However, she finds them helpful to the pro-life effort.

"The thing with abortion is, it's very much in the dark. It's a violent kind of thing," she said. "The great gift, regardless if you agree with the (recording) approach, is bringing into the light what happens behind closed doors."

"It was just so clear that there was a lack of respect for these little babies," Monahan-Mancini said. "They were just objects, objects for material gain."

As for the Colorado shooter, "That's their responsibility when people like that act in that way," Ciccocioppo said. "It's not the responsibility of the (anti-abortion) movement. This man has nothing to do with us."

"The truth is going to come out one way or the other," Father Pavone said. "The safest way to proceed for the vast majority of those involved in the march is through the peaceful, prayerful activities and legitimate avenues of government."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Jesus is baptized; His public ministry begins

Last Sunday, we celebrated the coming of the Wise Men from the East to let the world know that a tiny child born in Bethlehem is really a King. What Isaiah had foretold five hundred years before has now come true. A Saviour has come for all people. The secret is out! Jesus, as an infant, is already preparing the way for his mission to the world. That mission is to bring the light of God's truth and God's love into the world's ignorance and lack of love.

And so, the Father sends

a star to guide foreign "magi"—wise men—to see the light for themselves.

Today's feast is another "epiphany" of Jesus as He is about to begin his preaching and healing. He receives his official approval from God the Father and the Holy Spirit in a very dramatic scene in the desert. Jesus has left his mother to journey into the desert seeking out his cousin, John.

To the amazement of John, Jesus insists on going down into the water to receive John's baptism of repentance. John protests,



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

then gives assent to Jesus' request.

Here, surrounded by ordinary sinners and seekers Jesus, the sinless One, bends his head and shoulders as John pours the water, Luke tells us that Jesus stays in the water and prays.

We wonder what Jesus was praying about. It is quite likely he is asking the Father to show some sign of His approval for his "going public". His prayer is answered in a most dramatic fashion. The heavens open, a voice thunders "You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased!"

Remarkably, the third Person of the Holy Trinity, in bodily form, takes the form

Jan. 10

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
READINGS

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

of a dove, visible to all onlookers. He, too, endorses Jesus' mission.

For those onlookers who had been wondering if John the Baptist were the Messiah, all doubt is removed. It is Jesus whom God has chosen.

As we close the Christmas season today, can there be any doubt that Jesus has come to invite all people to know the Truth, and, in

love, to share that Truth with one's family and friends.

We, too, have been baptized, not with the baptism of John, but with the Baptism of Jesus Himself, in the water of life and the fire of God's love. At our Confirmation, we were approval to be witnesses to Jesus' message of love and truth.

As 2016 unfolds in what Pope Francis has proclaimed is a Holy Year of Mercy, all peoples have hope and a new opportunity for truth and love to overcome the evil that surrounds us.

Light always has power over darkness, especially when it comes through Jesus Christ and His followers.

VATICAN LETTER

Pope's 2015: Family, ecology, but mostly mercy

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - At the Vatican and on five continents in 2015, Pope Francis continued to encourage and demonstrate a style of evangelization that emphasizes walking with people, listening to them and showing them God's mercy.

From the heart of the universal church to the heart of Africa, the pope showed how Christians with a joyful, living faith take calculated risks, engage in discernment and even debate, and resist the natural temptation to stay safe and cozy at home, letting everything move along like it always has.

On the 1,000th day of his pontificate, which began March 13, 2013, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica and inaugurated the Year of Mercy to help Catholics "rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father, who welcomes everyone and goes out personally

to encounter each of them," he said at Mass Dec. 8.

With his gestures, homilies and speeches, the first 33 months of his pontificate led toward that door in a way very much like the early years of St. John Paul II's energetic papacy prepared him to lead the church into the new millennium, calling Catholics to throw open the doors of their hearts to Christ.

Pope Francis' call, building on St. John Paul's, is for those who have experienced Christ's love to throw open the doors of their churches and their hearts to others, welcoming them in with gestures of tenderness.

He showed a willingness to take risks to spread the message when he decided to anticipate the Holy Year far from the Vatican. Ten days before the jubilee began at St. Peter's, he opened the Holy Door at the cathedral in violence-torn Bangui, Central African Republic, Nov. 29. Despite security concerns, the Vatican newspaper reported, he told

the pilot flying him to Africa that if a landing in Bangui was not possible, "give me a parachute."

Pope Francis' call, building on St. John Paul's, is for those who have experienced Christ's love to throw open the doors of their churches and their hearts to others

Mercy, the family and the environment topped the list of topics repeatedly and insistently discussed by Pope Francis and Catholic leaders across the globe in 2015.

None of the topics was treated just on the level of theory. Discussing concrete situations, though, set off a seemingly endless series of debates, including: Are there situations where justice and truth prevent some expressions of mercy and forgiveness? How far can the church go in acknowledging and welcoming families who do not fully live up to the church's ideal? Is cli-

mate change as real and as dangerous as most scientists say?

Pope Francis kept saying he welcomed the discussion and debate, that it was important and a sign that the church is alive. However, there also were times, particularly at the Synod of Bishops on the family in October, when he indicated that some of the rhetoric had crossed the line. He cautioned synod members against reading their differences of opinion in a "hermeneutic of conspiracy" and against using church teaching as "stones to hurl at others."

The pope and synod affirmed repeatedly that God's ideal for the family is based on the marriage of one man and one woman, united for life and open to having children. Without acting as if every form of modern family life was equally valid, but also without "demonizing others," the pope said at the end of the gathering, the synod wanted "to embrace fully

and courageously the goodness and mercy of God, who surpasses our human calculations and wants nothing other than that 'all would be saved.'"

Pope Francis, who celebrated his 79th birthday Dec. 17, said from the beginning of his pontificate that he would not be a globetrotter and did not particularly like to travel. In 2015, like previous years, his summer break was a "staycation" inside the Vatican and not the change of scenery in Castel Gandolfo his predecessors enjoyed.

Other than enjoying a restful August, though, he added more than 50,000 miles to his frequent-flyer account. He visited Sri Lanka and the Philippines in January; Bosnia-Herzegovina in June; Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay in July; Cuba and the United States in September; and Kenya, Uganda and the Central African Republic in late November.

Each trip featured visits to prisons, hospitals and soup

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AT THE MOVIES

CONCUSSION

By John Mulderig Ca
tholic News Service

Neither the National Football League nor the Federal Bureau of Investigation comes off particularly well in the fact-based drama "Concussion" (Columbia).

But the film's central figure, the Nigerian-born coroner Dr. Bennet Omalu (Will Smith), certainly does.

Given that Omalu's generally admirable character is portrayed as being shaped, more than anything else, by his devout Catholic faith, believing moviegoers will find much to enjoy in this uplifting profile.

Omalu gained fame -- and initially stirred controversy -- as a result of his discovery that repeated jolts to the brain, such as those sustained on the gridiron, can cause a degenerative disease called chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE. The then Pittsburgh-based pathologist, an expert in neurological forensics, came to this conclusion after studying the body of

Steelers' Hall of Fame center Mike Webster (David Morse).

Webster had suffered a mysterious mental and emotional decline before his untimely death of a heart attack at age 50.

As "Concussion" shows us, a number of the League's other veterans found themselves caught in a similar downward spiral. For some, the disintegration ended in suicide.

Together with his celebrated and supportive boss, Cyril Wecht (Albert Brooks), Omalu publishes his findings. They win him the backing of the Steelers' former team physician, Julian Bailes (Alec Baldwin). But they also draw fierce opposition from the NFL whose in-house medical staff -- led by the team doctor of the New York Jets, Elliot Pellman (Paul Reiser) -- schemes to vilify the outsider and discredit his research.

The perils of taking on an institution that, as Wecht puts it, "owns a day of the week, the same day the church used to own," are amply illustrated. As de-

pictured here, they culminate in Wecht's arrest by the FBI on charges that were ultimately dismissed -- and that the screenplay clearly implies were trumped up in the first place.

Since Wecht's indictment could compromise Omalu's employment situation, and therefore his immigration status, things begin to look grim for the avidly patriotic would-be American. He finds a source of moral support, however, in the person of fellow immigrant Prema Mutiso (Gugu Mbatha-Raw).

At the urging of his priest, solitary Omalu has given this newcomer -- a Kenyan native -- shelter as a boarder in his apartment. As the clergyman no doubt foresaw, she enlivens Omalu's moribund social life; as he may not have expected, she also wins Omalu's heart.

Earnest and idealistic, but leavened with humor, writer-director Peter Landesman's picture -- adapted from the 2009 GQ magazine article "Game Brain" by Jeanne Marie Laskas -- has strong appeal for grown



CNS PHOTO/COLUMBIA PICTURES

Will Smith stars in a scene from the movie "Concussion." The Catholic News Service classification 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.

viewers.

Recommendation for a younger audience is hindered, however, by the fact that Omalu's Christian morals do not extend to the bedroom. At his unspoken invitation, Prema joins him there well before there's any question of her meeting him at the altar.

Additionally, the script throws up some salty language. Although not excessive, these wayward words serve to reinforce the idea that patrons would do well

to approach "Concussion" armed with a sound helmet of maturity.

The film contains gory medical images, a premarital situation, about a half-dozen uses of profanity, a couple of rough terms and occasional crude language.

The Catholic News Service classification 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.

Pope in 2015

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

kitchens or other places where Christian charity and mercy take their most concrete forms. He spoke in the halls of power, including at the United Nations and at the U.S. Congress.

Whether soaked repeatedly by rain like he was in the Philippines or baked by the sun like in Cuba, he called on governments to put the needs and rights of their people first, and he called on Catholics to bend down with love and care to help society's most needy and defenseless members.

In the document department, the highlight of the year was the release in June of his much-anticipated en-

cyclical on the environment, "Laudato Si'."

Although forcefully insisting on a need to mitigate climate change and clean up polluted land, air and water, Pope Francis' encyclical took a broader view of ecology and called people to treat all of creation -- including poor people -- with respect and concern because a lack of respect for creation is a lack of respect for God who created all that exists.

At the United Nations in New York, at U.N. offices in Nairobi and in speeches at the Vatican, Pope Francis urged world leaders meeting at the Paris Climate Conference in December to put the needs of the earth and

its inhabitants -- both present and future -- before desires for political or financial gain.

And if mercy must be at the heart of the church's message, "synodality" -- walking together -- must mark its internal relationships, he said. The themes of synodality and collegiality have been present since the beginning of Pope Francis' pontificate and featured in his exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium," published in November 2013. But he developed the notions further particularly when marking the 50th anniversary of the Synod of Bishops.

"The journey of synodality is the journey that God

wants from his church in the third millennium," the pope said Oct. 17.

"A synodal church is a listening church, aware that listening is more than hearing. It is a reciprocal listening in which each one has something to learn."

In a synodal church, he insisted, leadership is not about power, but about service. "We must never forget: for the disciples of Jesus, the only authority is the authority of service; the only power is the power of the cross."

And the cross, he said opening the Year of Mercy, is the clearest sign of God's mercy, love and willingness to forgive sinners.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
**NORTH COUNTRY
CATHOLIC**

is on
FACEBOOK

- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

 Like

CLINTON

MARCH FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh – March for life to be held.
Date: Jan. 17
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Place: From Newman Center to St. John the Baptist Church
Features: Praying for families and their unborn children. Guest speaker, Lori Kehoe, NYS Right to Life will speak at 1:15 p.m. Light refreshments to follow in the Parish Center

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

JEFFERSON

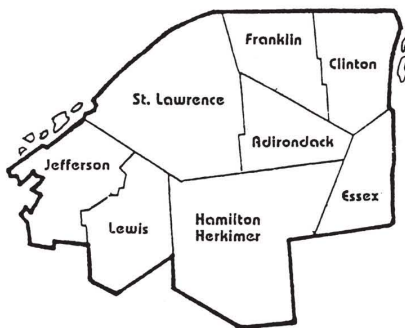
WATERTOWN ULTRAYA

Watertown - The Watertown Ultraya of the North Country Cursillo of the Diocese of Ogdensburg invites you to an Ultraya.
Time: 1 p.m.
Place: St. James Church basement
Features: sharing prayer, song and fellowship for the Fourth Day. If you have

For a New or Used Car

Mort Backus & Sons

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
315-393-5899



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese". Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:
North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
 Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
 e-mail news@northcountycatholic.org.

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

not yet attended a Cursillo weekend, you are welcome to "Ultraya" meetings.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.
Date: Jan. 28
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, \$.75 each
Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers.

LEWIS

HOLY HOUR

Lowville – All are invited to a holy hour.
Date: Jan. 7 & 21
Time: 4 p.m. to 5
Place: St. Peter's Church
Features: Adoration & Silent prayers. Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction.

BUS TO MARCH FOR LIFE IN D.C.

Port Leyden – The Lewis County Right to Life and Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bus trip to the annual March for Life in Washington DC.

Date: Jan. 21 – 23

Cost: Adults, \$25; Youth, Free
Schedule: The bus will leave Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. from Port Leyden Lock 96. We arrive Jan. 22 at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception at approximately 6:30 a.m. Upon arrival, we will tour the Basilica, attend Mass, and eat breakfast. After breakfast we gather on the front steps of the Basilica for photos. We then board the subway to travel to the National Mall. Arriving at the Mall, we listen to speakers prior to attending the March at 11:30 a.m. Regroup after March at St. Peter's Church and board bus at 4:30 p.m. On the return trip we stop for dinner at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant. We will arrive back at Loch 96 in Port Leyden early morning of Jan. 23
Contact: Paul Campeau at (315) 346-6575 or (315) 486-7928. Or Robert Kraeger at 348-8482

ST. LAWRENCE

BRUNCH

Norfolk – The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a brunch.
Date: Jan. 10
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$8; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Family of four, \$20, each additional person add \$3
Menu: Pancakes, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Home fries Ham, Sausage, Toast, Muffins, Omelets: \$3 extra

K OF C ANNUAL MEETING

Ogdensburg – The Annual Meeting of the Msgr. A. D. Charbonneau Council 258 Knights of Columbus Building Association. will be held.
Date: Jan. 14
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: K of C Hall

Features: All Council members, in good standing, are urged to attend. The agenda includes the annual financial report and election of rotating directors.
Contact: Tim Baker 394-1008 or the Club Rooms at 393-7990 after 4 p.m.

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

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Plattsburgh – Bishop LaValley will preside at the diocesan Ecumenical Service.
Date: Jan. 17
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: St. Peter's Church

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Potsdam – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.
Dates: Jan. 17 & 31; Feb. 14 & 28; March 13; April 3 & 17
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Rectory
Features: Reflection and vespers.
Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Father Howard Venette, pastor @stmmaryspatrick.net, 315-265-9680; Father Douglas Lucia, frdoug@twcny.rr.com or Father Bryan Stitt, diocesan vocation director bstitt@rcdony.org



Service Available

D.L. CALARCO
 Funeral Home, Inc.

135 Keyes Avenue
 Watertown • 782-4910

Warm up with Good News!

Visit our website at www.northcountycatholic.org to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.

OR Send this coupon with payment to:

North Country Catholic
 PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal

Inside Diocese \$27 Outside Diocese \$30
 I want to be a Patron: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 Please send my subscription to my e-mail address:
 New Subscription Renewal

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Parish _____



Warm up with a subscription to the North Country Catholic and find out what is happening with the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Follow Pope Francis on Twitter!
www.twitter.com/Pontifex
 #Pontifex

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC HAS GONE GREEN



Here is what one subscriber has to say:



"What a pleasure to be able to read the North Country Catholic online. I am pleased that it has been offered in this manner - as sometimes I don't have time to sit and read a paper - but when I can't sleep at night - I log onto the computer. Very nice gesture - thanks"

To sign up to receive the NCC in your e-mail you can call our office at 315-608-7556



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

Letters of thanks to the diocese

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

As our 2015 year was winding down, I took some time to look over the letters of gratitude that came in from our many visiting Mission Cooperation societies. As you may recall, the Western side Deaneries in our Diocese this year hosted roughly 2 dozen different visiting Missionaries. These wonderful people: Priests, Religious, actual missionaries, came to our Diocese to share their stories, humbly request your sacrifices and prayers and to enjoy a bit of our beautiful countryside in the summer.

From Mission Cooperation visitors

This year, as in every year, you did not let them down. Your contributions to their cause did not go unnoticed. I wanted to share a few of their words with you all, since without you, none of this would be possible. Here are just a few.

The Congregation of the Holy Spirit visited Cape Vincent, Chaumont and Rosiere. Their Mission Procurator said, "... may God continue to bless us all in our service to the mission. ...we look upon these visits as a ministry to the people of your local Church..."

The Divine Word Missionaries visited all four parishes in Watertown. Their Director of Mission Appeals says, "Thank you for welcoming us to the Diocese..... the people who made this gift possible will be remembered in our constant prayers and Masses."

The Glenmary Home Missionaries were in Clayton, LaFargeville, Alexandria Bay and Redwood. Their Director of Development wrote, "We may be of the of Church's best kept secrets, but with your help, we are introducing Glenmary to more and more each year!"

The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement visited the community of Adams and Henderson. Their Mission Appeals Coordinator stated to me that "they continue to be deeply grateful for the privilege of having participated in our Appeal.....the parishes are of great assistance especially those in Brazil and the Philippines....".

So good news and good deeds from here travel far around the globe to make those who don't have anything, a bit happier, healthier and closer to God. The hard work and sacrifice of our Missionaries friends is only possible because of the sacrifices of our local people.

Thank you again for all your blessings. Happy New Year from the Mission Lands!

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

<http://www.rcdony.org/mission-office.html>

OBITUARIES

Alice (Clara) Seymour

OGDENSBURG— A Mass of Christian Burial for Alice (Clara) Seymour, 90, mother of Father James W. Seymour, was held Dec. 30 at St. Mary's Cathedral. Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the Mass with Father Seymour and priests of the diocese celebrating.

Mrs. Seymour died Dec. 27; burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 70 years, Robert William Seymour; 14 children with 12 spouses Paul and Joan Seymour, Mechanicville NY; Joseph and Darlene Seymour, Ogdensburg; Mary and John Elliot, Fulton NY; Barbara and George Kotz, Ogdensburg; Lawrence and Vilma Seymour, Mechanicsville VA; Father Seymour, Morristown; Robert and Judy Seymour, Ogdensburg; John and Renée Seymour, Ogdensburg; Rose and John Gardner, Ogdensburg; Jean and Ronald Bassett, Camillus NY; Ann Hanna, Baldwinsville NY; Susan and Paul Duffy, Rouses Point; Rita and James Crowley, Ogdensburg; and Andrew and Meloni Seymour, Plainfield, Illinois, 32 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by one sister, Rose Seymour, sisters-in-law Marie Morley, Ellen Bova, Janet Seymour, Mary Ellen Seymour, Barbara Seymour and brother-in-law William Seymour, and many nieces and nephews.

She was pre-deceased by her brother, Louis Seguin and in-laws James, Thomas and David Seymour, William Morley, Thomas and Anna DuPré, Herman Bova, Sylvia Seguin and her son-in-law Gregory Hanna.

Mrs. Seymour was born on May 25, 1925 in Ogdensburg, the daughter of Clarence and Mary (Burns) Seguin. She graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1943 and attended the Wallace Secretarial School. She married Robert W. Seymour Jan. 10, 1946 at St. Mary's Cathedral in the presence of Reverend Clarence Devan. James and Rose Seymour, his brother and her sister, attended the couple.

A devout Catholic, she was active in many ministries at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Joseph's Nursing Home; 950 Linden Street; Ogdensburg, NY 13669. Condolences can also be shared online at www.foxandmurrayfuneralhome.com.

Adams - Leslie H. Hobbs, 70; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2015 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in St. Cecilia's Cemetery.

Alex Bay - Frank Cavallario, 93; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at St. Cyril's Church.

Brownville - Delorus M. "Dilly" (Shultz) Hanson, 90; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2015 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Brownville Cemetery.

Brushton - Tina A. (King) Dufrane, 49; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2015 St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery, North Bangor.

Burke - Arlene (Stiles) Day, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2015 at St. George's Church; burial in Burke Center Cemetery.

Champlain - Jeannine M. (Duquette) LaFontaine, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2015 at St. Mary's Church

Chateaugay - Theresa Cassavav LaBarge, 88; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2015 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Colton - Muriel T. (Villeneuve) Kenner, 83; Funeral Services at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Bayside Cemetery, Potsdam.

Copenhagen - Richard Coseo, 90; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2015 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Dannemora - Henry E. Ryan, 101; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Keeseville - Donna J. (Brower) Hanbury, 63; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Keeseville - Bernadette M. (Bezio) Kolonski, 85; Funeral Dec. 30, 2015 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Malone - Louanna M. Goodrow, 79; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2015 at the Spaulding Funeral Home; burial in Notre

Dame Cemetery.

Malone - Bruce P. LaBelle, 66; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2015 at the Brusco-Desnoyers Funeral Home; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Massena - Merlon T. Baxter, 81; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2015 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena - Dorothy (McGregor) "Dottie" Martin, 97; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at the Donaldson Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morristown - Betty A. Gladle, 83; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2015 at St. John the Evangelist Church; burial in Sunnyside Cemetery.

North Bangor - James Farley Benware; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg - Theodore B. Pratt, 78; Funeral Services Jan. 2, 2016 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Peru - Phyllis Mary (Boswell) McCormick, 95; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2015 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Keeseville.

Peru - John J. "Jack" Shortell, 85; Funeral Services Dec. 29, 2015 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Potsdam - Robert Belyea, 93; Funeral Services Dec. 22, 2015 at Garner Funeral Home.

Redford - Charles Hamel, 89; Funeral Services Dec. 28, 2015 at Church of the Assumption.

Ticonderoga - Sally Ann (Clark) Rodd, 76; Funeral Services Dec. 17, 2015 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home; burial in the Valley View Cemetery.

Tupper Lake - Theresa (Frechette) Thatcher, 88; Funeral Services Dec. 31, 2016, at St. Alphonsus Church,

Watertown - Douglas O'Hara, 39; Funeral Services Dec. 23, 2015 at Holy Family Church.

Watertown - Sarah (Coppola) Varno, 79; Funeral Services Dec. 21, 2015 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

*The Religious of the Diocese Wish to Thank All
of the Generous People Who Contributed to the
2015 Retirement Fund Collection.*

You Will Be Remembered in Our Prayers.

*Franciscan Friars of the
Atonement (SA)*

Brother Alan LeMay
Brother Paschal Steen

*The Missionaries of the
Sacred Heart (MSC)*

Rev. Pierre Aubin
Rev. David DeLuca
Rev. Vincent Freeh
Rev. Jonas Tandyu
Brother Peter Marceau
Brother Jean-Paul Paradis

Sisters of St. Joseph (SSJ)

Sister Judy Adams
Sister Mary William Argy
Sister M. Judith Baumert
Sister M. Maurice Black
Sister Mary Paul Blank
Sister M. Victorine Brenon
Sister Mary Ellen Brett
Sister Shirley Anne Brown
Sister Norma Bryant
Sister Jean Marie Chiovitti
Sister Annunciata Collins
Sister Bernadette Marie Collins
Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin
Sister Mary Anne Croitz
Sister Yvonne Therese Cusson
Sister Jane Frances Cutting
Sister Sharon Anne Dalton
Sister Kathleen Mary DeBoalt
Sister Marie Angele Ellis
Sister Mary Louise Fiedler
Sister M. Bethany Fitzgerald
Sister M. Monica Flaherty
Sister Mary Catherine Laboure
Goodbout

Sister M. Aquinas Hagan
Sister Ronald Marie Hax
Sister Noel Chabanel Hentz
Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann
Sister Mary Helen Hermann
Sister Anne Hogan
Sister Suanne Johnson
Sister James Marie Kelly
Sister Marie Cordata Kelly
Sister Mary Rita Kempney
Sister Carol Louise Kraeger
Sister Mary Eamon Lyng
Sister Gabriel Marie Meyer
Sister Cathleen Moore
Sister Sheila Jane Moran
Sister Gregory Munger
Sister Mary Patrick Murphy
Sister M. Teresa Magdalen
Nichols
Sister Juliana Raymond
Sister M. Kateri Rose
Sister Maureen Sweeney
Sister Constance Marie Sylver
Sister Mary Christine Taylor
Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer
Sister Patricia Urbinelli
Sister Jennifer Votraw

*Grey Nuns of the Sacred
Heart (GNSH)*

Sister Rita Frances Brady
Sister Mary Teresa LaBrake
Sister Joan McElwain
Sister Barbara Schiavoni

*Daughters of Charity of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
(FCSCJ)*

Sister Mary Ann Gour

*Franciscan Sisters of the
Atonement (SA)*

Sister Carol Daul
Sister Ellen Donahue
Sister Edward Marie Tesiero

*Dominican Sisters of Hope
(OP)*

Sister Deborah Blow
Sister Stephanie Frenette
Sister Barbara Langlois
Sister Barbara R. McCarthy
Sister Elizabeth Menard

*Mid-Atlantic Community of
the Institute of the Sisters of
Mercy of the Americas (RSM)*

Sister Catherine Cummings
Sister Mary Audrey Hallahan
Sister Brian Marie Latour
Sister Carolyn Madden
Sister Mary Jeannette
Mendonca
Sister Mary Camillus O'Keefe
Sister Carolyn Parker
Sister Janet Peters
Sister Mary Paula Richard
Sister Mary Denise Wilke

Servants of Mary (OSM)

Sister Doris Durant
Sister Mary Juliana Fitzpatrick

*Daughters of Charity of
St. Vincent de Paul (DC)*

Sister Patricia Collins
Sister Donna Franklin

Ursuline Sisters (OSU)

Sister Teresa Byrne
Sister Sheila Murphy

*Sisters of Charity of St. Louis
(SCSL)*

Sister Bernadette Ducharme
Sister Claire Michel Fortier
Sister Joan Marie Lashway
Sister Louella Pelletier
Sister Agnes Racette

*Sisters of the Precious Blood
(APB)*

Sister Martha Emery
Sister Marilyn McGillan
Sister Linh Therese Nguyen
Sister Mary Catherine Pham
Sister Rose Rossi
Sister Elizabeth Washburn

*Sisters of the Cross of
Chavanod*

Sister Maria Flavia D'Costa
Sister Maria Angelica Rebello
Sister Jaquiline Mary Sellappan
Sister Rosy Soosairaj



THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING

THANK YOU FOR SHARING IN THE CARING