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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 71, Number 26

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 9, 2016

All people long for mercy

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Authentic religions help people understand that they are, in fact, loved and can be forgiven and are called to love and forgive others, Pope Francis said.

"We thirst for mercy, and no technology can quench that thirst," the pope told Jewish, Christian, Muslim,

Buddhist, Sikh and other religious leaders.

"We seek a love that endures beyond momentary pleasures, a safe harbor where we can end our restless wanderings, an infinite embrace that forgives and reconciles," the pope told the leaders Nov. 3 during an audience at the Vatican.

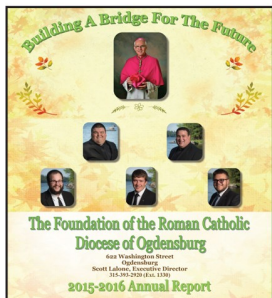
The leaders were in Rome for a conference on religions and mercy organized by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the International Dialogue Center, which was founded in 2012 by Saudi Arabia, Austria and Spain with the support of the Holy See.

"Sadly," the pope said, "not

a day passes that we do not hear of acts of violence, conflict, kidnapping, terrorist attacks, killings and destruction.

"It is horrible that at times, to justify such barbarism, the name of a religion or the name of God himself is invoked," Pope Francis told the group.

Annual report of diocesan Foundation



The report of the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg includes information about the mission of the Foundation, methods of giving, its financial position and more.

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God's Mercy in God's Country

Burying the dead in the age of cremation

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AT THE BLUE MASS



PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

New York State Police Sgt. Gabriel Ward, his wife Christine and daughter, Melanie, parishioners of Sts. Philip and James Church in Lisbon, brought the Offertory gifts to Bishop LaValley at the first diocesan Blue Mass Oct. 30. St. Joseph's Church in Malone. They were led to the altar by Father Thomas Higman, master of ceremonies for the liturgy. See pages 3 and 5 for more.

IN SUPPORT OF VOCATIONS

'Come Holy Spirit, come'



PHOTO BY FR. THOMAS HIGMAN

Rhonda Gruenewald of Houston, author of "Hundredfold: A Guide to Parish Vocation Ministry," served as keynoter at the Hundredfold Vocations Conference at the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk on Saturday. Father Thomas J. Higman, associate vocation director for the diocese, said that more than 30 parishes were represented at the gathering. As she traveled to the North Country, Mrs. Gruenewald asked for prayers in a Facebook message. "They have 100,000 Catholics in the diocese, but we are expecting over 100 attendees, which is more than enough to bring about a culture of vocations," she wrote. "Come Holy Spirit, come!"

CELEBRATING JUBILIANS: Sister Flavia D'Costa, SCC, observes 25 years... p.6

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EDITOR'S NOTE

‘We love you and we have your back’

“We love you and we have your back”

With these words, Father Chris Carrara of Lowville welcomed a church-ful of police officers, border patrol agents, corrections personnel and their families to the first diocesan Blue Mass Oct. 30 at St. Joseph's in Malone.

It wasn't surprising to see Father Carrara open the celebration. Men and women in law enforcement have always been close to his heart.

As a teenager in Seldon, Long Island, Father Carrara served as a volunteer fire fighter.

During his 22 years as a priest for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, he has been a chaplain for police agencies and fire departments, responding to the needs of police officers, firefighters and victims of crimes, accidents and tragedies.

When Bishop LaValley announced that the diocese would alternate the annual diocesan Harvest Mass with a Blue Mass, appointing Father Carrara to the planning committee was a no-brainer.

And so, Father Carrara's words “we love you... we have

your back” showed a deep - and personal - connection between people who go to work with guns at their waist and the rest of us who pray for them, and pray in gratitude that we have them.

The stirring celebration opened with the posting of the colors by officers in dress uniforms, walking in formation, leading into the national anthem.

At the conclusion of the Mass, the flags were taken down, (more appropriately called “the retiring of the colors”) and every officer in the congregation was invited to join in the recessional and meet the bishop at the exit of the church.

The deacons, readers, gift bearers were all part of the law enforcement community.

It's not an easy time to work as a police officer, FBI agent or a corrections officer. During the Mass, we prayed for a state trooper who had recently been killed in the line of duty. Drug busts, prisons incidents and tragic accidents are all-too-common headlines in our local newspapers.

All of these selfless, courageous officers put their own lives on the line - day in and day out - to protect ours.

Reminding them that we know this, appreciate it and are praying for them seems like a perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon.



Mary Lou
Kilian

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

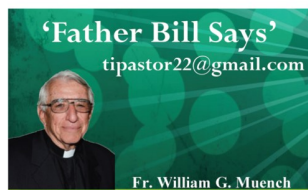
Story of the little man in a tree: our story

I was so pleased that the story about Zacchaeus, the tax collector, was the Gospel reading on a recent Sunday. This story is one of my favorite Gospel readings. Zacchaeus has become one of the more delightful characters in the Gospels and his story has a message for us all today.

I am sure you can imagine what it all looked like with Zacchaeus climbing up that sycamore tree. He was a short man which was a good thing. Otherwise, he would not have had to climb up a tree in order to have a good look at Jesus and might have been lost in the crowd. Jesus would have never noticed him.

I see a lesson in all of this. Somehow seeing Zacchaeus up in that tree, Jesus knew it was the perfect time to do something a bit dramatic. I am sure it was a risk for Jesus. Would Zacchaeus react poorly? However, Jesus recognized something special about Zacchaeus.

As you remember, Zacchaeus was not exactly a respectable person - he was a tax collector and a wealthy person. He was not well liked by his neighbors. Yet, Jesus singles him out for his attention. Zaccha-



Fr. William G. Muench

eus proved to be open and ready.

I believe that the Zacchaeus' story is our story. Jesus wants to notice in us what he noticed in Zacchaeus, each and every day. Jesus looks to our faith; Jesus looks to us for a heart that is open to God's love. Jesus wants to be with us in love.

I believe that Jesus reaches out to us every day.

Just as it was with Zacchaeus, such an experience with Jesus will always be a complete surprise. When we live with faith - a strong and alive faith - we will be able to recognize Jesus as he strives to enter our life and our heart.

We should be open to God's surprises every day. The Lord may come in all sorts of ways - ways that God chooses - ways that are truly surprises. It could possibly be at Mass, or in prayer; another person

could bring the Lord to us. It could just be a time when walking out of doors, sometimes just a quiet moment.

Like Zacchaeus, we will know when the time comes if our heart is open and loving. We will know exactly when Jesus wants to come to invite us to stay with him.

What did Jesus recognize in Zacchaeus? Thinking it over, I suspect that Jesus looked up in that tree and recognized a certain humility in Zacchaeus. Jesus saw a child-like spirit. This man, despite his wealth, was able to be little; he was actually child-like. He was open for conversion.

Many spiritual writers have encouraged Christians to be child-like, to be little in the sight of God. This means developing a spirit of humility so Jesus can find an opening, so that he can become part of our lives.

Humility means that we honestly know ourselves, that we recognize our path to become a good person, a Christ-like person.

My friend, Catherine Doherty, says this - “What you do matters - but not much! What you are matters tremendously.”

Jesus recognized that quality in Zacchaeus. He recognized that Zacchaeus knew what he hoped to be and was not afraid to change, not afraid of conversion.

I suspect that like you I was quite surprised by Zacchaeus' conversion. Remember, “Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over.”

Wow! This is truly immediate conversion. Is that what the Lord expects from us? I think so. It may never be quite as spectacular as with Zacchaeus, however, I am certain something must happen when we meet the Lord, when the Lord comes to be with us. Jesus will guide us to know what it is that will truly transform our lives into what they should be.

What will happen? It may be something that must be removed from life that blocks our relationship with God - or possibly, something we should be doing to make our relationship with God so much closer. These are often small things yet, they will be real conversions.

These little steps are the miracles of the Christian life.

FOLLOW ME

In gratitude for our 'guardian angels'

Bishop Terry R. LaValley's homily for the first diocesan Blue Mass held Oct. 30 at St. Joseph's Church in Malone

What has come to be known as the *Blue Mass* has been traditionally celebrated in the Fall because this is when the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel (on Sept. 29). St. Michael is considered the head of the angelic armies and the patron saint of police officers and security forces. In a certain sense, all of you in Law Enforcement, Homeland Security, Park Service, and Corrections are like guardian angels who defend us against the evils of our day.

Yes, evil is all around us and because of your vocation of service, too often, you see it up close and the brutal havoc that evil brings when it has its way.

We call this the *Blue Mass* because it is the most common color of your uniforms. You form a thin blue line that protects and defends our communities from evil and all that would harm us.

An archbishop once commented that "celebrities win notoriety because they 'show off,' heroes who place themselves in harm's way for the safety of others, win honor because they 'show up.'"

Yes, you are there to form the blue line and we thank God. May we never forget how fragile the world is in which we live. May we never take you for granted.

There's no doubt that we live in troublesome, terror-filled times. Many are frightened. The sanctity of every human person is too often rejected and violently trampled upon.

We are sickened by man's inhumanity to humanity as we watch the news. Being bombarded by such disregard for human life, our hearts can become hard-



PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

At the conclusion of the Oct. 30 Blue Mass at St. Joseph's in Malone, Bishop LaValley greeted the law enforcement personnel who attended the liturgy, including Kevin Mulverhill, Franklin County Sheriff.

ened. We can become disillusioned, cynical and quite negative.

You and I begin to question a wrongdoer's ability to make amends, to right wrongs and start again. We can become judgmental, maybe even revengeful. Mercy and forgiveness are far from our minds and hearts - once a criminal, always a criminal, it seems.

Soon Clinton Correctional will mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of its beautiful chapel dedicated to St. Dismas, the Good Thief. We remember how Dismas acknowledged his criminal behavior as he hung alongside our crucified Savior. On that Mount, on that very day, he was promised paradise by Jesus. An onlooker, another criminal, scoffed at the whole idea.

There is hope for every one of us! Our First Reading from the Book of Wisdom calls this to our attention: "Lord, you rebuke offenders

little by little, warn them and remind them of the sins they are committing, that they may abandon their wickedness and believe in you, O Lord." Yes, Lord, we do believe that every person is redeemable. It's never too late, if they decide to turn to You.

In our Gospel story, Zacchaeus, tax collector and extortionist extraordinaire, joined the crowd to see this Wonder-Worker. Short of stature, Zacchaeus made the effort to climb a tree to see Jesus, and then everything, everything changed. His encounter with Jesus caused him to give away what he had greedily obtained.

In the middle of great disbelief and the scoffing of pious onlookers, Zacchaeus scandalously hosted Jesus at his very home.

There is hope for every one of us. Yes, Lord, we do believe that every person is redeemable. It's never too late. We dare not scoff!

We all yearn to live in

peace and harmony. Sometimes, as Rodney King wondered years ago, "Why can't we all just get along?"

Because society has yet to provide the justice about which our Bible speaks, all you public servants will continue to serve in harm's way. Because the human person continues to carry

the effects of original sin and fails to live up to our baptismal calling, we will sin against our neighbor and your presence is required as we suffer the consequences of such behavior.

We trust in your protection from those unable or unwilling to repent, mend their ways and live in peace, from those who refuse to respect their neighbor.

My sisters and brothers, we need to continue to foster the truths that our faith hold so dear: the worship of God alone; obedience to His commandments, including respect for every human life; protection of marriage and family life; freedom to live our faith in the public square; and justice due every human person. We have much to do!

Paul writes to the people of Thessalonica in our Second Reading, telling them that he always prays that God will bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith. Christ-led, Christ-fed, Hope-filled, that's our prayer, too.

May God keep you safe, you who protect and serve us so faithfully here in our beloved North Country. You have our trust, our continuing gratitude, and our promise of prayers.

May God be praised... forever may God be praised!

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CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY... BURY THE DEAD



PHOTO BY DEACON KEVIN MASTELLON
St. Peter and Paul Cemetery in New Bremen

Cremation has changed the burial business

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Staff Writer

WATERTOWN - "Following the most ancient Christian tradition, the Church insistently recommends that the bodies of the deceased be buried in cemeteries or other sacred places."

The sentence is found in the new instruction regarding the burial of the deceased and the conservation of the ashes in the case of cremation (August 15, 2016).

The sentence references Canon Law and does not change Church teaching. The Church "prefer(s) the practice of burying the bodies of the deceased, because this shows a greater esteem towards the deceased. Nevertheless, cremation is not prohibited, 'unless it was chosen for reasons contrary to Christian doctrine'."

Writing in U.S. Catholic magazine a year ago, Katie Bahr cited statistics from the National Funeral Directors Association that cite cremation as the preferred method of disposition for 45.4 percent of those who died in the United States in 2013. The Association projects that number will increase to 71 percent by 2030.

Bahr wrote, "One of the most fundamental changes taking place in funerals today is the dramatic rise in cremations."

But, one thing that has not changed is the value of the person who has died. We must treat that person with love and respect, in death as in life

Msgr. Robert Aucoin

Cemeteries have been wrestling with the implications of burying cremated remains for years. Family members often argue that the cost of purchasing a plot for the urn containing the ashes should be less than for a casket. If they already have an easement for a plot they think the cemetery should discount the opening fee.

In reality the cemetery's expenses have not changed whether the burial is for a casket or an urn. Perhaps the time required to open the grave is less but all other expenses, i.e. the staff, the maintenance of the grounds and the perpetual care for the plot remain fixed. Cemeteries are facing that reality.

If the cemetery's rates re-

flected different pricing, cemeteries are now beginning to bring the charges for the burial of an urn in line with the burial of a casket.

There are 101 Catholic cemeteries in the Diocese of Ogdensburg according to Chancellor James Crowley. All of the cemeteries are owned and operated by parishes.

Diocesan statistics show the busiest cemeteries (number of interments) are in Malone, Watertown, Massena and Ogdensburg. The Diocese has not collected information on the number of mausoleums and crematoria associated with those cemeteries.

While cemeteries wrestle with the cost of burial there is a greater concern for the decision of families not to bury cremated remains at all. Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin, pastor of St. Patrick's and St. Anthony's in Watertown, is responsible for Glenwood Cemetery and Mausoleum. He recalls the traditional two-day wake, church funeral Mass and casket burial as the norm.

"Families are forgoing the wake, the Mass and burial," Msgr. Aucoin said. "By doing so, they are denying themselves an opportunity to pray for the deceased and themselves; they are deny-

ing themselves the opportunity to grieve and to remember."

Msgr. Aucoin acknowledges the Church acceptance of cremation but takes exception to the treatment of loved ones after the body is cremated.

"I abhor ashes being divided among family members and dispersed around the country," he said.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued the instruction referred to earlier because of the growing trend world-wide of not burying cremated remains.

"If your aunt's remains are on your fireplace mantel," Msgr. Aucoin noted, "she will be in your memory, but what of your grandchildren and great grandchildren? Will they even know who she was? I fear she will be discarded."

The instruction specifically addressed that and similar issues: "The conservation of the ashes of the departed in a domestic residence is not permitted. It is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful departed in the air, on land, at sea or in some other way, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects. These courses of action cannot be legitimized," the instruction

concludes, "by an appeal to the sanitary, social or economic motives that may have occasioned the choice of cremation."

Six years ago in Watertown the family of a man who had recently died responded to press accounts of cremated remains abandoned at funeral homes by arranging for their proper interment. Working with the local funeral directors and Glenwood, a crypt in the cemetery mausoleum was purchased.

Three dozen urns were brought to the mausoleum. Each was catalogued and entered in the cemetery records with the appropriate information for each of the deceased. Three priests took part in the commendation of the remains.

A similar service will be held later this year and additional abandoned remains will be interred.

Cremation, more than any other single factor, has caused funeral homes and cemeteries, particularly Catholic Cemeteries, to alter their business practices.

One thing has not changed Msgr. Aucoin notes, "that is the value of the person who has died. We must treat that person with love and respect, in death as in life."



The first diocesan Blue Mass, held Oct. 30 at St. Joseph's Church in Malone, offered prayer and support for law enforcement officers and their families. Above, Bishop LaValley is shown with some who took part. From left are Shelly Rosteck, pastoral associate of St. Peter's in Lowville; her brother James Rogers of Ogdensburg, a lieutenant for the New York State Department of Corrections, Bishop LaValley, Katie Rogers, Lt. Rogers' daughter, Father Christopher Carrara, pastor in Lowville and chaplain of the Jefferson Lewis County Sheriffs, FBI; and Father Carrara's friend Peter Cincotta, chaplain of the Selden, N.Y. fire department.

At the Blue Mass

By Colleen Miner
Staff writer

MALONE-Hundreds of law enforcement and correction officers and their families gathered at St. Joseph's Oct. 30 for a Blue Mass. Bishop LaValley, the main celebrant, was joined by many diocesan clergy in this collaborative effort to both thank the officers and to pray for the safety and well being of all the law enforcement community.

Members of the federal, state and local agencies were present in dress uniform, alongside their spouses and children.

While this is the first time a Blue Mass was offered on a diocesan level in our diocese, many dioceses celebrate a Blue Mass annually for those employed in the public safety field. The color blue relates to the blue-colored uniforms predominately

used by police services.

The Blue Mass is expected to be offered every other year, in the fall, the opposite years of the traditional Harvest Mass. The date of this year's Blue Mass was in conjunction with the Feast of the Archangels (Oct. 29): St. Gabriel, St. Raphael and St. Michael, the patron saint of police officers.

The diocesan Public Policy Committee suggested the idea of a Blue Mass in the diocese to Bishop LaValley and a committee was formed to plan the day.

Members were Father Christopher Carrara, chaplain of the Jefferson Lewis County Sheriffs, FBI; Elizabeth Daugherty, St. Mary's, Clayton; Marika Donders, diocesan evangelization director; Father Douglas Lucia, episcopal vicar for worship and family life; Father Shane Lynch, chaplain, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Watertown Police Department,

FBI Albany; and John Miner, retired New York State Police investigator.

Prior to the processional for Mass, a multi-agency color guard presented and posted the colors, and those assembled sang the National Anthem. The Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree honor guard participated in the procession.

Law officers participated in the Mass by proclaiming the readings and Gospel and presenting the offertory gifts.

Among the deacons who assisted at the Mass were Deacon Gerald Savage, retired chief of the Tupper Lake Police Department; Deacon John Drollette, retired det./sgt. of the Plattsburgh Police Department; and Deacon Bryan Bashaw, chaplain of Upstate Correctional Facility in Malone.



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CELEBRATING OUR JUBILARIANS

Of flip flops, snow and faith

Sister Maria Flavia D'Costa, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod serving in Wassertown, is celebrating her 25th year of religious life this year. Here, she shares of reflection of her life and ministry.

I am Sister Maria Flavia, originally from India. I was born and raised in a very devout Catholic family. Both my parents were very spiritual and were very strict when it came to the practice of our Catholic faith. My grandparents too, were very instrumental in nurturing the seed of my vocation. They instilled in me love for God and respect for elders. Prayers were very much part of our daily routine. Every night before retiring to bed the family gathered together to pray the rosary.

I studied in a Catholic School, where we had many Sisters as our teachers. I was fascinated by the lives of some of the Sisters and could not figure out what made them so happy all the time.

During religion class I learned about God and the lives of Saints. Every school vacation I looked forward to sleeping in, however my mother, strict as she was, had other plans for us. It was mandatory that we attend the daily morning Mass. In doing so I developed a great love for the Eucharist.

As I was growing up my mother taught me a prayer that she wanted me to say at Mass during the consecration time. The prayer was: "Dear Jesus show me in what way you want me to serve you." Young as I was this prayer did not mean anything to me but I prayed it daily at Mass. In fact, I pray it even today.

I had the opportunity of visiting an orphanage run by the Sisters of Mother Teresa when I was an eighth grader. I saw the Sisters distributing clothes and food

to the poor children and as each child received it one could see a big smile on the faces of these children.

Sister Maria Flavia D'Costa, SCC 25 years

I was deeply touched and moved and thought to myself "When I grow up, I want to be, someone like that - one, who will bring a smile on the faces of people."

One day, during Mass, at consecration time when the priest lifted the host I heard a voice within me saying--- COME FOLLOW ME.

Initially I chose to ignore but later it became more distinct, and there was no doubt in my mind that God was calling me.

I approached my Pastor and shared with him my experience. He encouraged me to keep praying. I attended three vocation camps and realized that my vocation was, to the religious life.

I shared this joy with my mum and dad who willingly allowed me to pursue my dreams. And so at a very young age of 17, I left my beloved family and joined the family of the Sisters of the Cross and dedicated my life to the service of God and His people.

Looking back today I have no regrets for answering

Rest in Peace

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

- Nov. 10** – Msgr. Francis M. Kenny, 1954; Msgr. Raphael A. Hoffman, 1968
Nov. 11 – Rev. Victor VandenHende, 1939; Rev. Edward O. Hervieux, 1947; Msgr. Bernard E. Christman, 2012
Nov. 13 – Rev. S. Alphonse Vollmer, 1931; Rev. Victor Van den Hende, 1939; Bp. Francis J. Monaghan, 1942
Nov. 14 – Msgr. Edward Joseph Pierce, 1980
Nov. 15 – Rev. Medard Zywicki, M.S.C., 1980; Rev. J. Lee Snow, 2003

this CALL. I am a Sister in this Order for 24 years now, and I can truly say that I and my family has been richly blessed.

In 2009 I was asked by my Superiors to come to the United States as we have one community here. Was it easy to say YES???? Definitely No. But I remembered God's words to Moses-Leave.Trusting in God I graciously accepted the challenge and stepped up the plane in my flip flops into two feet of snow. Believe me, this was the first time I saw snow in my life.

Fear and anxiety embraced me, as I took up my new ministry, but the warm welcome extended to me by the diocese, the parishes and the people around, soon made me feel at home.

I realized that people are much the same everywhere and the differences in our cultures make our lives beautiful.

While the greatest adjustment I have had to make was with the snow and the severe winter, but today I can say with pride that every barrier has melted away before God's will.

It's when we say YES to his call that everything be-

comes easy. I have been so happily surprised with what a rich and rewarding experience this has become.

God bless you all.

Bishop's Schedule

Nov. 10 – 10 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Church followed by visit to St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga

Nov. 11 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Nov. 12-17 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishop's General Meeting in Baltimore, MD

Nov. 19 – 4 p.m., Mass & Closing of the Jubilee Holy Door at St. Mary's Cathedral

Nov. 20 – 5:30 p.m., Thanksgiving Dinner, Special Religious Education Program at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School Gym, Watertown

Nov. 21 – 9 a.m., Prayer Service and Visit to St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake

11:30 a.m., Prayer Service and Visit to St. Agnes School in Lake Placid

Nov. 22 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Nov. 23 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact: **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY, 12923; e-mail: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Fr James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

Environmental Stewardship

WAKE UP CALL

Recently National Geographic aired on TV a program entitled BEFORE THE FLOOD.

At first one might think that this program was about Noah before the flood. However, the "flood" that this documentary refers to comes from facts presented by current scientists and researchers on what is happening to the waters on the planet.

They give some predictions based on these facts on what will happen to our common home, if we do not pay attention and take some concrete actions NOW.

Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*, is praised during the Program for its recognition of this most critical life issue and its moral obligation to repent and change.

Along with major religions of the world our Catholic leaders, popes, bishops, and countless religious communities have been speaking of this reality of the rising of the seas and its impact on all people and species for many decades.

The immediate impact will be felt most by those who have fewest resources to cope with the approaching "flood." This includes the poorest of our sisters and brothers and the species that will become endangered or extinct as a result in these predicted changes in climate.

While this presentation gives us a WAKE-UP call to what is happening to the earth, it does not leave us hopeless.

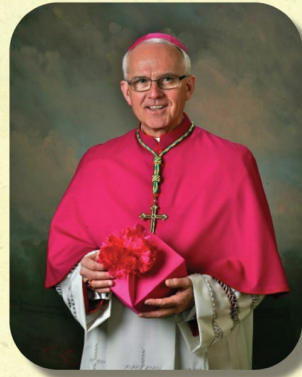
Rather it provides us with ways that we can make a difference both by personal life choices and by making our voices heard to those who make decisions on the political and economic level regarding environmental concerns.

You can assess the program on YouTube with the title Before the Flood.

Consider watching it with family and/or friends.

Bring the light of our faith to this reality, by reading together *Laudato Si* and discussing how we can respond together to this critical challenge of our times..

Building A Bridge For The Future



The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

622 Washington Street
Ogdensburg
Scott Lalone, Executive Director
315-393-2920 (Ext. 1330)

2015-2016 Annual Report

Passing Our Living Faith to Future Generations



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As I reflect on our recent Vocations Summit – *INSPIRE: Called to Love* and on our established Diocesan Priorities and Goals, it becomes clear that our parishes, our ministries and outreach services are **“Building a Bridge for the Future.”**

I have often said living our faith is similar to snorkeling or scuba diving. One can swim along the surface, stay along the top where it is safe and just look from a distance, or one can take the plunge, go deeper to really see and appreciate what is there.

We can go to Church on Sunday, greet our pastor and fellow parishioners after Mass and wait again until the following Sunday to do the same thing, or we can dig a little deeper, develop a closer relationship to Jesus Christ, find our home in Christ, renew our faith, nurture hope and discover love. We can help one another and gain the true sense of “Being Church.”

The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, N.Y. has an important role in the future growth of the Catholic Family here in the North Country. In 2007, the Foundation was established in order to **“Build a Bridge for the Future”** and continue a strong sense of commitment to “Being Church”, realizing we need to meet the needs of tomorrow for the Diocese.

Since that time, forty-six endowments have been created. A list of endowments and their beneficiaries are on the back page of our insert. These endowments help ensure the future of our parishes, schools, ministries, missionary projects and nursing home. Please take a moment to review these as well as our mission statement and an explanation of what a Catholic Foundation is, how it works, as well as methods of giving.

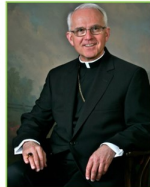
I am extremely grateful to those who have had the generous foresight in contributing to the Foundation to benefit the future work of the Church. These gifts are a perpetual source of revenue for their beneficiaries.

As I am pleased to present you this 2015 Annual Report, I would also like to express my gratitude to the Board of Directors for their willingness to serve, provide proper financial oversight, ensure legal, ethical integrity and ensure effective organizational planning for the Foundation.

Wishing God’s blessing to you and your loved ones, I am

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg



The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg Statements of Financial Position

	6/30/2016	6/30/2015
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 187,261	\$ 125,496
Accrued Interest	1,837	6,460
Investments at Fair Value	5,027,260	5,282,514
Charitable Gift Annuities	1,852	1,852
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 5,218,210	\$ 5,416,322
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(85,514)	(88,804)
Temporary Restricted	1,273,096	1,546,609
Permanently Restricted	4,030,628	3,958,517
Total Net Assets	5,218,210	5,416,322
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 5,218,210	\$ 5,416,322

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Foundation is to pass our living faith to future generations by financially supporting the charitable, spiritual, educational and temporal works of the Catholic Community of the Diocese of Ogdensburg by accepting donations or endowment funds from donors and the administration of these funds.

In fulfilling its mission, The Foundation will:

- Provide estate planning and charitable giving information and assistance.
- Provide gifting vehicles in which the Church or related entities are the designated beneficiary.
- Provide responsible and financial management and distribution of earnings that further the mission of the Catholic Church.

Catholics are called by God to protect human life, to promote dignity, to defend those who are poor, to strengthen the Church and to seek the common good. The Foundation exists to help Catholics live out this sacred mission of the Church, through the wise stewardship and thoughtful sharing of their financial resources.

The Foundation will provide permanent endowments and memorial funds for donors who want to give lasting support to parishes, schools, religious and social service ministries in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Board of Directors

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg
President

Reverend Joseph A. Morgan
Vicar General
Vice President

Mr. Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer
Treasurer

Reverend Kevin O'Brien
Pastor
Attorney

**Reverend Thomas
Kommeyer**
Pastor

**Sister Shirley
Anne Brown**
Hammond, NY

**Deacon Guy
Javarone**
Watertown, NY

Mr. Philip Cosmo
Ogdensburg, NY

Passing Our Living Faith to Future Generations



THE FOUNDATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

Dear Friends,

Establishing an endowment in the Foundation of the Diocese of Ogdensburg is a wonderful way to provide a lasting and meaningful gift to something you hold near and dear to your heart. It can also be a naming opportunity, for example in remembrance of someone.

With the generosity of the people in our Catholic Community, 46 Endowments (see back page) have been created since the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, NY Foundation was incorporated in 2007 to "Build a Bridge for the Future." Donors enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that their gift will give steady annual income to the causes that have been most meaningful in their lives. Beneficiary choices can include:

- The Diocese of Ogdensburg
- The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
- Your Parish or Catholic School
- The Education of Priests & Seminarians
- The Priests Retirement Fund
- The Priests Disability Fund
- The Bishop's Fund
- Any Ministry or Program of the Diocese
- Catholic Charities
- Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
- St. Joseph's Nursing Home
- Any Diocesan institution of your choice

You can create your own endowment (minimum gift of \$5,000) or add any size gift to one that already exists. There are a variety of giving options that our office can assist you with. As you prayerfully consider a gift, know that we will work with you to clearly define your wishes.

Thank you to those who have generously supported the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg and our mission.

Sincerely yours,

Scott M. Lalone
Scott M. Lalone
Executive Director

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

We recognize and understand as a Catholic Foundation entirely separate from the Diocese but in all ways accountable to both the Diocese and our donors, we are sustained by public trust and laws that confer upon us a special responsibility to society and the Roman Catholic Church. We further acknowledge that this responsibility can be met by full, open and public disclosure of all our affairs.

HOW THE FOUNDATION WORKS

The Foundation solicits and receives planned gifts to benefit the people and communities of the Diocese as designated by donors. Prudent financial management of the funds is entrusted to the Board of Directors comprised of distinguished Church, business and civic leaders. A professional staff administers the day to day operation of The Foundation and oversees the distribution of annual earnings from the funds. Assets are managed by investment professionals.

TO CONTACT THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

FOUNDATION OFFICE

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg

Or Call: Scott Lalone Executive Director 315-393-2920
(x1330)

Methods of Giving

Type of Gift	Form of Gift	Benefit to Church	Benefit to You
Outright Gift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Stocks/securities • Real estate • Insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perpetual income • Interest income used by The Foundation, parishes, schools and organizations in diocese 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income tax deduction • No capital gains tax on Appreciated gifts
Wills & Bequests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Real estate • Personal property • Percentage of estate • Remainder of estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bequest will be held in perpetuity and invested to fund The Foundation needs as designated by the donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible estate tax deduction • Opportunity to make perpetual gifts
Charitable Gift Annuities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Stocks/securities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon the death of the donor or last surviving annuitant remaining assets generate interest income for The Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible estate tax deduction • Opportunity to make perpetual gifts
Insurance Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name The Foundation as policy owner and/or beneficiary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives full face value of policy upon death of the donor, or may receive current surrender value prior to donor's death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to make substantial future gift to The Foundation at current manageable cost • Income tax deduction for value of the policy when transferred • Premium payments may be deducted as gifts
Real Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home • Land • Vacation Home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives the proceeds from the sale of the property at your death or sooner if so desired by the Donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be given with life use • Can be given without incurring tax on the appreciation
Charitable Remainder Trusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Stocks/securities • Real estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation receives substantial future gifts to support the work of The Foundation and the charities named by the donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variable or fixed income • Option to defer income • Income tax deduction • Reduction of estate taxes • No capital gains tax on appreciated gift (or deferred in some instances)
Retirement Plan/IRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name The Foundation as beneficiary of death benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant gift upon death of donor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to make a major gift • Estate and income tax savings
Endowment Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any of the above types of gifts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final beneficiary(ies) will have a perpetual source of revenue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making a lasting gift that is a permanent legacy of your faith

Endowments Established in the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, Inc.

Reverend Norman Poupore Endowment – Support of Priests' Disabilities
Catholic Charities Endowment – Corporate purposes
Society of the Sisters of St. Joseph Endowment – Corporate purposes
Society of the Propagation of the Faith Endowment – Corporate purposes
St. Joseph's Home Foundation Endowment – Corporate purposes
Catherine Aurelia Endowment – Bishop's Charities and Religious Works
Reverend Anthony A. Milia Endowment – Support of the Diocesan Archives
Building For Tomorrow Endowment – Operating expenses of the Catholic Community of Alexandria
Education of Seminarians Endowment – Funding to the annual operating budget
Faylene LeRoux Endowment – Support of Catholic Education
Formation For Ministry Endowment – Parish financial assistance and annual operating budget
Guggenheim/Hughes Endowment – Support of capital needs of Guggenheim Center
Leona Schlafly Endowment – General purposes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
Reverend James Meehan Endowment – Special care of priests
St. Mary's Cathedral Endowment – Support of general operations
Joseph & Joyce Sylvester Endowment – General operating needs of St. Anthony's, Watertown
Guggenheim Maintenance Endowment – Maintain the main camp building, boathouse and grounds
Spratt Memorial Endowment – Support capital needs
St. Alexander's Catholic Education Endowment – Support of Catholic education at parish
Alice Austin Trust Mass Endowment – Masses at St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor
Lawrence R. Robinson Trust Mass Endowment – Masses at St. Andrew's Church, Sackets Harbor
St. Augustine's Church Endowment – General purposes of St. Augustine's at Peru.
Margaret Brothers Endowment – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point
Victor West Endowment – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church, Rouses Point
St. Mary's Champlain NY Endowment – Support of St. Mary's Academy and St. Mary's Church
Reverend W. Cyril Rapin Endowment – Support of disabled priests
Good Samaritan Endowment – Christian charity to the people of the North Country
Holy Family Strauss Educational Endowment – Promote Catholic education
Deacon Adam Crowe Scholarship Endowment – Education of Seminarians
William Cornish Endowment – St. Henry's Church, EWTN, Diocese
Donald J. Grant Endowment – General purposes of RC Community of Brownville & Dexter
St. Lawrence Church Endowment – General purposes of St. Lawrence Church in North Lawrence
St. Patrick's Church Shamrock Endowment – General purposes of St. Patrick's Church in Brasher Falls
Queen of Heaven Church – General purposes of Queen of Heaven Church
Church of St. Patrick/Stumpf Family – Catholic Education
ME Walton Good Samaritan Endowment – Needs of parishioners at St. Cyril's and St. Francis Xavier
Special Care of Priests Endowment – Funding for annual operating budget
Alice Austin Mass Endowment – Masses at Queen of Heaven Church, Henderson
St. Francis of Assisi Endowment – 50% Diocese, 50% Covenant House
William L. Patnode Endowment – Education of Seminarians
Gertrude J. Tyo Endowment – Education of Seminarians
Chapin, McCarthy, LaBelle Families Endowment – General purposes St. Augustine (North Bangor)
Chapin, McCarthy Families Endowment – General purposes St. Martin de Porras, Peru (Missionary Projects)
St. Patrick's & Mother Cabrini's Shrine of Peru, NY Endowment – General purpose of Shrine.
Thomas and Ann Fiacco Endowment – General purposes St. Mary's Catholic School, Canton, NY
Thomas and Ann Fiacco Endowment – General purposes Trinity Catholic School, Massena, NY



PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS AS OF JUNE 30, 2016 - \$4,030,628

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Catholic Church never likely to ordain women, pope says

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM SWEDEN (CNS) -- The Catholic Church insisting that it cannot ordain women to the priesthood and episcopacy is a teaching likely to last forever, Pope Francis said. After being hosted by the Lutheran Church of Sweden, which is led by Archbishop Antje Jackelen of Uppsala, the nation's first woman primate, Pope Francis was asked Nov. 1 if the Catholic Church might one day have women priests and bishops. As he has done in the past, the pope responded that the question was settled in 1994 by St. John Paul II, who taught that because Jesus chose only men as his apostles, the ordination of women in the Catholic Church is not possible. He was asked, "Really? Never?" And he responded, "If one carefully reads the declaration of St. John Paul, it goes in that direction, yes." In one of his briefest airborne news conferences, Pope Francis spent just over 40 minutes with reporters and answered six questions ranging from Sweden's newly restrictive immigration policy to the role of women in the church. He also was asked about his experience with charismatics and Pentecostals, the roots of his concern about human trafficking, secularization in Europe and his meeting in late October with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

Church's focus on the poor based on Christ's ministry, cardinal says

MUNDELEIN, Ill. (CNS) -- Because Christ came to the world in poverty and first proclaimed the Gospel to the poor and marginalized, the church now has an obligation to be present to the poor, according to Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. It is only by accepting poverty of spirit that the faithful can free themselves to follow Christ, he said, saying he was speaking of "poverty as a way of evangelization in the spirit of Pope Francis." Cardinal Muller made the remarks the morning of Oct. 28 as he addressed a group at Mundelein Seminary. While he was in Chicago the weekend of Oct. 29, he also celebrated Masses, including at Holy Name Cathedral. In 2014, Pope Francis appointed the cardinal, a native of Manz, Germany, as head of the congregation that promulgates and defends church teaching. "A disciple of Christ must not bind his heart to passing riches, to fancies of power and worldly honors," Cardinal Muller said at Mundelein. "He has been liberated from false idols in order to serve others with all his material goods and all the talents of his spirit and mind in order to become like Jesus. This is the authentic freedom given to us by Christ."

Pope signals importance of diplomacy with red hat in Syria

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- As nuncio to Syria, Cardinal-designate Mario Zenari resides in Damascus. Even though the city does not come under attack as much as Aleppo, there are constant mortar attacks, and it makes him think of the nation's children. If the attacks make him scared, he told Vatican Radio, he can only imagine what the children are experiencing, especially when so many experience much worse, like "seeing homes collapse on top of them, having to flee because their home or village was destroyed." He has said that by choosing to give him a red cardinal's hat, Pope Francis was not only honoring the people and the steadfast presence of a papal representative in the war-torn nation. "It's a gesture of love for the martyred Syrian population and it is also a gesture of supporting diplomacy," Cardinal-designate Zenari told SIR, the news agency of the Italian bishops' conference.

Parents play pivotal role in encouraging and supporting vocations

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - When young people feel called to the priesthood or religious life, they can't keep it a secret. Eventually, they need to break the news to their parents.

And whether their parents expected the news or are pleasantly surprised or shocked by it, their response carries a lot of weight.

Father Mark Ivany, director of spiritual formation at a minor seminary in the Archdiocese of Washington, said it makes a big difference when seminarians feel their parents' support.

But he also says "the Lord is never outdone though," meaning the vocational call can still be followed without a parent's enthusiasm, but it might be more of a challenge.

Sister Mary Angela Woelkers, a 27-year-old Sister of the Servants of the Pierced Heart of Jesus and Mary, said it was a "great blessing" to have her parents support her decision to become a sister, but she also clarified that it didn't mean they "joyfully carried me to the convent."

She felt called to religious life when she was 18 but didn't tell her parents about it until a year later.

"Now looking back, I think of it like dating," she said, adding, "If I were dating, maybe I'd tell my parents, but I wouldn't bring him home to meet Mom and Dad until I knew for sure."

Sister Mary Angela, who grew up in Great Falls, Montana, and is now on a mission assignment in Rome, thinks she would've been able to pursue her vocation even if her parents hadn't supported her.

"The call of the Lord was

very strong and I think that I would've been able to follow it even in the midst of great adversity, but it's been an immense gift from the Lord for me and for my parents that they were open to receive the vocation," she told Catholic News Service in an Oct. 27 Skype interview.

It's important your children know you support them and are praying for them to discern God's will for them

When she broke the news to her parents, her father's response was: "This is something very serious, like getting married," which she was glad to hear because she wasn't sure how he would react.

And now, two years after Sister Mary Angela professed her final vows, she said her parents continue to be open to her vocation, or as she put it: "They want to know more and to walk with me."

That's also the attitude of Barb and Tom Niezer of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, Indiana, whose son Daniel is studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Barb Niezer said she and her husband "continue to pray that God's will be done."

"We've learned a lot through Daniel. As much as we want (his priesthood), it's not our decision or his, it's the Lord's," she said.

She also said she and her husband didn't do anything particularly unique to set the foundation for their son's calling, instead she attributes it to the Holy Spirit, to going to church every Sunday as a family and being involved in parish life.

She also said she and her husband encouraged their

four children to have an open mind about a religious vocation.

Beth and Brendan Glasgow, parishioners at St. Peter's Church in Olney, Maryland, and the parents of two seminarians, similarly stressed they didn't do "anything extraordinary" in their home lives to lead their sons on their current path.

What they did, Beth Glasgow told CNS, was "allow the Holy Spirit to do extraordinary things."

She founded a group called Joyful Mothers of the Cross, which includes other mothers of seminarians who get together once a month to pray for their sons and other seminarians and just to connect with each other.

She said she never had misgivings about her sons' decisions because she personally knows many happy priests.

She said it is harder for some parents to let their children follow this call or trust that they will be OK and not be lonely.

It's important your children know "you support them and are praying for them to discern God's will for them," she said, adding that the more this prayer is said, the easier it becomes to embrace their calling.

Father Ivany, who is based at the St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington and also is the director of priest vocations in the Washington Archdiocese, said it breaks his heart when seminarians don't have their parents' support, a trend he says has been on the rise.

"The reality is these parents love their sons, but they might have had a bad experience with the church" or a distrust that comes from society or the modern culture, he told CNS.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

A time for prayer, not panic

Only two weeks ago, we celebrated the Feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed.

The closing of the Year of Mercy, and the closing of the Holy Door in Rome, and the closing of thousands of other Holy Doors around the world will sober up all believers.

Three of the most "frequently asked questions"

among people these days are: "When will the world end?" and "HOW will the world end?" and "How will we know that it's coming?"

Today's readings give us at least partial answers to those questions.

The first reading from Malachi lets us know there will be a judgement day with burning heat.

All the proud and evildoers will end up as stubble, while the just will experience healing. The Thessalonians, like

many early Christians, thought that the Second Coming of Christ was imminent.

Some of them had thought it was useless to go to work any more. They just lounged around and gossiped about their neighbor.

To those people, St. Paul, in his second letter to them, tells them to "cool it", be patient and more disciplined.

He tells them to "work quietly and to eat their own food".

In the Gospel, many asked Jesus when the Second Coming will occur, and what

NOV. 13

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Malachi 3:19-20a

2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

Luke 21:5-19

war against each other, along with insurrection within nations.

In nature, there will come awesome earthquakes, famines, and plagues.

What should we all do?

Certainly, panic is not the answer, or crying out: "Stop the world, I want to get off." Rather, we must pray and trust in a merciful God who loves us, and wishes all for whom He shed His Blood to be saved.

We need to continue our works of faith and to listen! "By perseverance, you will secure your lives" Jesus tells them.

the signs will be. Jesus tells them that those who are faithful will be harassed and imprisoned. Many will be martyred.

All of this will give them an opportunity to witness to Jesus' teachings.

Before this, nations will

TV EYE

Pediatricians urge screen-time limits for kids

By Mark Pattison

Catholic News Service media editor

WASHINGTON (CNS) - The American Academy of Pediatrics issued a new policy statement in October, saying that the younger children are, the less time they need in front of screens.

"More children, even in economically challenged households, are using newer digital technologies, such as interactive and mobile media, on a daily basis and continue to be the target of intense marketing," said the academy's statement, "Media and Young Minds."

It issued a list of 10 things parents should do when it comes to their child's screen time. Not all of them will be easy, especially if parents

have fallen into bad habits, or let their children fall into them. But at least parents -- and grandparents -- can't say they haven't been given guidelines.

Will parents listen?

These recommendations:

- Avoid digital media use, except video-chatting, in children younger than 18-24 months.
- For children ages 18-24 months, if parents want to introduce digital media, choose high-quality programming and use media together with a child. Avoid solo media use in this age group.
- Do not feel pressured to introduce technology early; interfaces are so intuitive that children will figure them out quickly once they

start using them at home or in school.

- For children ages 2-5, limit screen use to one hour per day of high-quality programming; the academy listed the evergreen "Sesame Street" as an example of "well-designed television programs" that can "improve cognitive, literacy, and social outcomes for children 3 to 5 years of age." It also stressed that parents should "co-view" with their children, help children understand what they are seeing and help them apply what they learn to the world around them.
- Avoid fast-paced programs - young children do not understand them as well - apps with lots of distracting content, and any violent content. In the app realm, the academy listed PBS and the creator of "Sesame Street" and the Sesame Workshop as examples of

creators of apps that have "shown efficacy in teaching literacy skills to preschoolers. Unfortunately, most apps parents find under the 'educational' category in app stores have no such evidence of efficacy, target only rote academic skills, are not based on established curricula, and use little or no input from developmental specialists or educators."

- Turn off televisions and other devices when not in use.
- Avoid using media as the only way to calm your child. Although there are intermittent times such as medical procedures and airplane flights when media is useful as a soothing strategy, there is concern that using media as strategy to calm could lead to problems with limit setting or the inability of children to develop their own emotion regulation. Ask your pediatrician for help if needed.
- Monitor children's media content and what apps are used or downloaded. Test apps before the child uses them, play together, and ask the child


what he or she thinks about the app.

- Keep bedrooms, meal-times, and parent-child playtimes screen free for children and parents. Parents can set a "do not disturb" option on their phones during these times.
 - No screens 1 hour before bedtime, and remove devices from bedrooms before bed.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics didn't place the burden solely on parents. It also had recommendations for pediatricians and the industry behind TV, video games and apps.
- For the latter group, the association said to formally and scientifically evaluate products before making educational claims; make high-quality products accessible and affordable to low-income families and in multiple languages; eliminate advertising and unhealthy messages on apps; and help parents to set limits by stopping auto-advance of videos as the default setting, as well as develop systems embedded in devices that can help parents monitor and limit media use.

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

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www.twitter.com/Pontifex

 #Pontifex

AT THE MOVIES

HACKSAW RIDGE

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells his disciples, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

That statement is vividly realized in "Hacksaw Ridge" (Summit), which recounts the extraordinary heroism of Army medic Desmond T. Doss (Andrew Garfield) during the Battle of Okinawa in the closing days of World War II.

A committed Christian and conscientious objector who refused to bear arms, Doss was nonetheless eager to serve his country. He single-handedly saved the lives of more than 75 wounded soldiers while under constant enemy fire, earning him the Medal of Honor, awarded by Congress.

Director Mel Gibson, working from a screenplay by Andrew Knight and Robert Schenkkan, presents his fact-based drama in two parts. The first probes Doss' childhood and upbringing in rural Virginia, while the second unfolds on Okinawa, atop a jagged cliff nicknamed "Hacksaw Ridge" for the brutality of the Japanese offensive there.

War is indeed hell, as Gibson pulls no punches in extreme battle scenes reminiscent of "Saving Private Ryan." Awash in blood and gore, with heads blown off and soldiers set afire by napalm, the violence is no

doubt realistic, but will necessarily restrict this film's audience to those adults willing to endure such sights.

We first meet Desmond as a spirited boy (Darcy Bryce) who is losing a fistfight with his older brother, Hal (Roman Guerriero). Desmond picks up a brick and strikes Hal, knocking him out cold.

Recoiling in horror, the boy fears he has killed his sibling (shades of Cain and Abel). He hasn't, but the incident shakes him to the core, and inspires his steadfast pacifism.

"To take another man's life is the greatest sin of all," his kindly mother, Bertha (Rachel Griffiths), reminds her son, citing their beliefs as Seventh-day Adventists.

Fast forward 15 years, and both sons have enlisted, to the dismay of their abusive father, Tom (Hugo Weaving). A veteran of World War I, he knows firsthand the horror and futility of war.

But Desmond is keen to play his part, despite the misgivings of his fiancée, local nurse Dorothy Schutte (Teresa Palmer). "While others are taking life, I will be saving it," he reassures her.

Needless to say, Desmond faces ridicule and beatings by his fellow recruits at boot camp, who regard him

as a freak and coward. The platoon's leader, Sgt. Howell (Vince Vaughn), and the company's commander, Capt. Glover (Sam Worthington), make his life miserable, and lobby for his discharge.

But Doss holds firm, calling himself a "conscientious cooperator." A military court rules that he may serve as a medic, and not bear arms.

Once on Okinawa, Doss proves his mettle and earns the respect of his platoon as he runs back and forth on the battlefield to remove the wounded. His nearly superhuman actions would seem farfetched were they not true.

As might be expected with Gibson at the helm, "Hacksaw Ridge" does not sideline Doss' religious convictions, which are integral to his story and his performance on Okinawa. With Dorothy's Bible in his breast pocket, Desmond utters the cry, "Please God, let me get one more," as he repeatedly plunges back into the abyss.

References to baptism and the resurrection give "Hacksaw Ridge" a transcendent, messianic quality that draws comparison with Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ." As did that film, "Hacksaw Ridge" uses the pain and bloodletting it portrays to inspire viewers with



CNS PHOTO/CROSS CREEK PICTURES

Andrew Garfield stars in a scene from the movie "Hacksaw Ridge."

a redeeming Christian message.

The film contains graphic war violence with much gore, a scene of marital sensuality and considerable crude language.

The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.



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ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid – St. Agnes School to have its Annual Christmas Bazaar.
Date: Dec. 3
Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Features: Toys, trees, wreaths, poinsettias, gifts, baked goods, crafts, raffles and so much more. Lunch will be served and childcare is available.
Contact: Vendor space is available. Please call 518-523-3771 or email at infor@stagneslp.org

CLINTON

FALL CRAFT FESTIVAL

Chazy – The Fabulous Fall Craft Festival to be held.
Date: Nov. 19
Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center
Features: 25 vendors from New York and Vermont. Hot lunches, raffle, baked goods, hundreds of handcrafted items.
Contact: Noreen Barcomb, csacred-heart@twcnr.ny.com, 518-846-7650

HARVEST DINNER

Morrisonville – The RCC of St. Alexander and St. Joseph hosting their Annual Harvest Dinner.
Date: Nov. 13
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Place: St. Alexander's parish hall
Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free
Features: Turkey Dinner with all the fixings, with Bake Shoppe, silent auction, raffle. Takeout is available.

TURKEY DINNER

Lyon Mountain – All you can eat Turkey Dinner to be held.
Date: Nov. 12
Time: 4 p.m. to 6:30
Place: Lyon Mountain American Legion
Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 5-12, \$5; under 5, Free

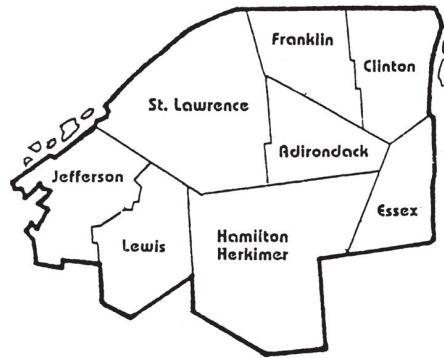
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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 ohnsadoration@aol.com

FRANKLIN

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Brushton - St. Mary's is holding a breakfast buffet.
Date: Nov. 13



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.

Time: 8 a.m. to 12:30
Place: St. Mary's Parish Center; take-outs available, call 518-529-6580
Menu: fried/scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash, home fries, pancakes, French toast, homemade donuts, toast, beverages
Price: Adults, \$8; seniors, \$7; children 6-12, \$4; children five and under free; immediate Family of five or more (mother, father, and school age children), \$25

SATURDAY DEVOTION

St. Regis Falls – First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held the first Saturday of each month.
Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass
Place: St. Ann's Church

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Old Forge – Discerning men are invited to consider the call to the priesthood.
Dates: Nov. 13, Dec. 4; Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2 and 23; May 7
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Bartholomew's Rectory
Features: Reflection, Vespers & dinner. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.
Contact: Fr. Howard Venette, pastor.stbarts@roadrunner.com/ 315-369-3554;

JEFFERSON

ENVIRONMENTAL PRESENTATION

Watertown – Presentation on "The Global Water Crisis: Abroad and at Home" to be held.
Date: Nov. 20

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30
Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse
Speaker: Dr. Adrienne Rygel, Associate Professor and Department Chair of Civil and Environmental/Engineering Technology, SUNY Canton.
Features: She will speak on water issues at the global and national level and discuss the issues. Discussion on the local concerns will follow. The event is sponsored by Social Justice Committee of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Public is invited. Event is free. Light refreshments

PATRIOTIC ROSARY

Watertown – Recitation of the Patriotic Rosary to pray for our country will be held in anticipation of Election Day on Nov. 8
Date: Nov. 7
Time: 7:15 p.m.
Place: St. Anthony's Church

JINGLE BELL RUN

Carthage – Augustinian Academy to have a 5K Fun Run and 1.5 mile walk
Date: Dec. 10
Time: 10 a.m.
Cost: \$25 for 5K; \$15 for 1.5 mile walk; \$30/\$20 after Nov. 15
Features: Register by Nov. 15th to be guaranteed our exclusive Fleece Ear Warmer. Register online at imathlete.com and search for Jingle Bell Run. All proceeds to benefit Augustinian Academy.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ADORATION

Watertown – The St. Joseph Cupertino chapter of the Secular Order of Francis-

cans will sponsor adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for vocations
Date: Nov. 26
Time: 10 a.m. to Noon
Place: St. Anthony's Parish

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – St. Anthony's Church Altar Rosary Society is to have a spaghetti dinner.
Date: Dec. 1
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers
Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall
Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each

CURSILLO MEETINGS

Carthage – The Jefferson/Lewis Cursillo holds its monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.
Time: 6 p.m. to 8
Place: Community Room of St. James Church
Features: All Cursillistas are encouraged to attend. We also welcome those interested in deepening a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
Contact: Anne Seegebarth
 ams2962@gmail.com, 315-783-4596

WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sackets Harbor – St. Andrew's Church has scheduled weekly exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on every Friday.
Time: 5 p.m. to 6

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown – Holy Hour for vocations
Date: Mon.-Fri.
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Place: Holy Family Church

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the Month.
Time: 1 p.m.
Place: 870 Arsenal Street.
Features: The office has a variety of pro-life videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.
Contact: Phone 315-788-8480

LEWIS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville – All are invited to Exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Silent Adoration, and Benediction.
Date: Nov. 17
Time: 4 pm. to 8
Place: St. Peter's Church

ST. LAWRENCE

K OF C BRUNCH

Norfolk – Knights of Columbus Brunch to be held.
Date: Nov. 12
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$8; under 12, \$5; Under 5, free; Immediate family four, \$20 (additional person above 4 is \$3 extra; Omelets, \$3 extra

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL AUCTION

Canton – St. Mary's School to have their 13th Annual Auction.
Date: Nov. 18
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Cost: \$15 in advance, or \$20 at the door.
Features: Hors d'oeuvres, beverages and live entertainment by A Fine Line. More 200 items will be available for bidding in silent and live auctions. Items include handmade gifts (jewelry, pottery, quilts), local artwork, gift certificates from local restaurants and businesses, antique furniture, a piano, more
Contact: To purchase your ticket, donate an item, or for more information please call St. Mary's School at (315) 386-3572.

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Potsdam – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.
Dates: Nov. 13, Dec. 4 Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2 and 23; May 7
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Rectory
Features: Reflection and vespers. No reservation necessary. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.
Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Father Stephen Rocker, pastorsmsp@gmail.com, 315-265-9680; or Fr. Doug Lucia, frdoug@twcnr.ny.com

CRAFT SHOW

Brasher Falls – St. Patrick's Altar Rosary Society will be sponsoring a craft show.
Date: Nov. 12
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: K of C Hall
Cost: Adults, \$1; Students, \$.50; under 5, Free
Features: Luncheon is available. Artists and crafters from several counties will display their items. There will be a bake sale and raffle.

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



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

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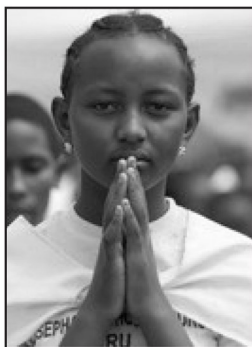
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mbrett@rcdony.org

Gratitude for Mission Sunday

Your generous missionary spirit means so much to those who serve in mission dioceses and especially to the Diocese of Ogdensburg Mission Office.

With your help, a new diocese is established in India, as the Church continues to reach out to those who do not yet know Christ. With your help, a catechist in Nigeria is supported as he travels throughout the country, to far-away villages, to speak to all about Jesus and proclaim His Gospel. With your help, a young man is able to prepare for the priesthood in Pakistan, prepared to serve the suffering in his homeland, bringing to them the "Good News" of Jesus' love and His peace.



We have witnessed natural disasters and the devastation it causes people in developing countries. Through your generosity many people will know of Christ's love, in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and the remote regions of Latin America. For our Holy Father and Chief Missionary, Pope Francis, that the Lord might strengthen him in faith and courage as he proclaims loving mercy to be lived out in the daily lives of the faithful, and all who turn to God, let us pray to the Lord.

For all civil leaders of nations, that they may govern their people justly, work for lasting peace, and show compassion to all immigrants, let us pray to the Lord.

For all missionaries of mercy who go to the peripheries, that they may give witness to the Lord's loving kindness and patient understanding, let us pray to the Lord.

For all who support the missionary efforts of the Church throughout the world through prayer and sacrifice, that the Lord will console, pardon and instill hope, let us pray to the Lord.

Such "good news" happens in the Missions year after year with your help through the Pontifical Mission Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Please know that I am most grateful for your generosity and prayerful support.

While World Mission Sunday is celebrated only once a year, I hope that in the months ahead you will continue to remember the missionary work of the Church, especially in your prayers. If you have given to the Mission Sunday collection in your parish, I say again, "thank you." If you have yet to give, I once again ask you to be as generous as you can. Thank you and please continue to pray for missionaries throughout the world. We are in their prayers!

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

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

OBITUARIES

Alexandria Bay — Robert F. O'Connor, 89; Funeral Services Oct. 31, 2016 at St. Cyril's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Watertown.

Brushton — Lena Marie (Frazier) Lopex, 65; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2016 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Carthage — Peter Abbass, 82; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2016 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Champlain — Martha H. (Mattot) LaValley, 83; Funeral Services Nov. 2, 2016 at St. Mary's Church.

Chateaugay — Wesley E. "Wess" Pickering, 72; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery, Constable.

Croghan — James S. Kerfien, 76; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2016 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in Riverside Cemetery Annex, Beaver Falls.

Glenfield — Marie (Levesque) Burnham,

88; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2016 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Brantingham Cemetery.

Keeseville — Harold David "Joe" Busha, 87; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2016 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Malone — Genevieve V. (Tebo) Charland, 73; Funeral Nov. 3, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Malone — Richard W. "Dicky" Lane, 65; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2016 at the Brusno-Desnayers Funeral Home.

Moriah — Anthony P. Adamowicz, 75; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Florence G. (Devins) Donah, 68; Funeral Services Oct. 30, 2016 at the Brown Funeral Home.

Port Henry — Mary F. (Kimball) Ezzo, 94; Funeral Services Nov. 4, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church.

Ogdensburg — Frederick H. Needle, 78; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Star Lake — Kathy Ann LeRoux, 54; Funeral Services Nov. 2, 2016 at the Hawley Funeral Home.

Ticonderoga — Robert L. Hill, 76; Funeral Services Nov. 8, 2016 at the Wilcox & Regan Funeral Home.

Watertown — Claire Louise (Monette) Coughlin, 82; Funeral Services Nov. 5, 2016 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Watertown — Peter Fazio, Jr., 92; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2016 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Carolyn (King) Greene, 81; Funeral Services Oct. 31, 2016; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Brian M. Lynch, 59; Funeral Services Oct. 31, 2016 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home.

Pope offers new beatitudes for saints of a new age

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

MALMO, SWEDEN (CNS) - The saints are blessed because they were faithful and meek and cared for others, Pope Francis said.

At the end of an ecumenical trip to Sweden, Pope Francis celebrated the feast of All Saints Nov. 1 with a Catholic Mass in a Malmo stadium. He highlighted the lives of the Swedish saints, Elizabeth Hesselblad and Bridget of Vadstena, who "prayed and worked to create bonds of unity and fellowship between Christians."

The best description of the saints - in fact, their "identity card" - the pope said, is found in the beatitudes from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which begins, "Blessed are the poor in spirit."

And, he said, as Christian

saints have done throughout the ages, Christ's followers today are called "to confront the troubles and anxieties of our age with the spirit and love of Jesus."

New situations require new energy and a new commitment, he said, and then he offered a new list of beatitudes for modern Christians:

- "Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.

- "Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized and show them their closeness.

- "Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover him.

- "Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

- "Blessed are those who

renounce their own comfort in order to help others.

- "Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians."

"All these are messengers of God's mercy and tenderness," Pope Francis said. "Surely they will receive from him their merited reward."

Registered Catholics in Sweden number about 115,000 - just over 1 percent of the population. But with recent waves of immigration, especially from Chaldean Catholic communities in Iraq, local church officials believe the number of Catholics is double the reported figure.

Reflecting the multicultural makeup of the Catholic Church in Sweden and the rest of Scandinavia, the prayer intentions at Mass were read in Spanish, Arabic, English, German and Polish, as well as in Swedish.

VOCATION PILGRIMAGE TO SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY



Bishop Terry R. LaValley led a pilgrimage to Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, Oct. 11-13 to pray for vocations in the Year of Mercy. The pilgrimage featured Mass and tour at Divine Mercy Shrine, Holy Hour, Mass and tour of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Above, the bishop and the pilgrims are shown in the shrine.

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Parents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

To counter that, the minor seminary has events during the school year to include seminarians' parents and families.

It's not like the old days, he noted, when a pastor would drop off a young man at the seminary and he might not see his parents for a year.

As Sister Mary Angela pointed out, joining a religious order doesn't have to mean being cut off from one's family. Instead, she described it as a "definite re-ordering," noting that she doesn't call her parents every minute of the day, but she keeps in regular contact with them, especially through social media.

Her parents are also able to say they didn't lose a daughter when she became a sister.

"Instead, they joke that they gained 30 more," she said, by calling the other sisters in her order the in-laws.

Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday Father Bill. I knew you as Billy.
Here is a picture of your hole in one.
I sure do miss you.
You 6th grade buddy Rita Maroney!!

GO GREEN!

Receive the *NCC* in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world.
E-mail cward@diogodensburg.org to sign up today.