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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 70, Number 34

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEB. 10, 2016

## Will you let God save you?

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - God doesn't want to condemn anyone; he wants to save every person in the entire world, Pope Francis said.

"The problem is letting him enter one's heart" to transform one's life, the pope said during his weekly gen-

eral audience in St. Peter's Square Feb. 3.

"This is the heart of God, the heart of a father who loves his children and wants them to live rightly and justly and, therefore, to live in fullness and be happy," Pope Francis said.

The pope continued a series of talks dedicated to divine mercy, looking specifically at how divine mercy and divine justice go hand in hand. "It might seem that they are two things that contradict each other," he said, but they don't because

"it is precisely God's mercy that brings true justice to fruition."

God's justice is different from the human administration of legal justice, which is "retributive, that imposes a penalty on the guilty," the pope said.

## Group for lay ministers meets in Peru

The Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Minister Association (ERCLMA) was formed to provide support for commissioned lay ministers from Clinton, Essex and Hamilton/Herkimer Deaneries. ERCLMA's first event was held Jan. 15 at St. Augustine's Parish Center in Peru.

This is the third group for commissioned lay ministers that has been established in the diocese joining the CLM associations for the St. Lawrence/ Adirondack/Franklin Deaneries and the Jefferson/Lewis Deaneries

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## Message from Bishop Barron

Bishop Barron of LA, who is coming to Lake Placid in September, addressed international eucharistic congress

FULL STORY, PAGE 10

## LENT BEGINS



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley is shown blessing ashes during the 2015 Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg, assisted by Deacon John White and cathedral parishioner Tom Taylor. This week's NCC features Bishop LaValley's message for Lent, the diocesan Lenten regulations and other Lenten features include a centerfold spread about Operation Rice Bowl.

**THE LOVE OF CHRIST IMPELS UP:** Registration for Lenten day of reflection... p. 7

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Crisis is addressed at SSJ gathering



PHOTO BY SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW  
Special agent Roni Dickhaut of the Syracuse Office of Homeland Security was one of the featured speakers at a Prayer Service to End Human Trafficking held Jan. 30 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown. Kristyna Mill, Jefferson County district attorney, also addressed the gathering organized by the Sisters of St. Joseph social justice committee.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## You pray for me. I will pray for you

The season of Lent may have a different *flavor* in our house this year since – as hard as it is to believe (!) – the Kilians have aged out of the fast and abstinence requirement.

I confess this truth with the full knowledge that this threshold doesn't make a bit of difference to most of my Catholic elders. My parents, for example, would have scoffed at the thought. Ash Wednesday is a day for fasting and fish and that's all there is to it!

Still, it might be good for this old Catholic to look at Lent as

something other than a six week diet plan.

It might be good for me to feast a little on some spiritual nourishment over the next 40 days.

For my first course, I'm following a suggestion from more than one friend (including our own Father Muench in his column last week.)

In this Year of Mercy, it would be hard to pass up Pope Francis' new book "The Name of God is Mercy."

So far, I've only read the book jacket which offers some compelling words: "these pages

Mary Lou  
Kilian

## A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

## Another Lent... another Ash Wednesday

We use ashes because they are dirty. I have often taught this idea when speaking to young children about the ashes on Ash Wednesday.

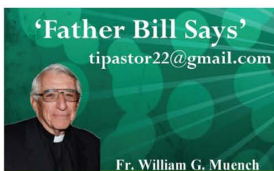
My idea was a way to explain to them why we needed to do something to remember to do something for Lent. We need a way to remember that Lent is about doing something as a program for repenting our sins and changing our lives.

As a reminder and also a dedication to do something for Lent, we put dirty old ashes on our foreheads. I tell them it might be a great idea to leave the ashes on our foreheads all during the time of Lent.

Most of the kids usually don't like that idea – except for some messy little boys.

I realize that in Biblical times a person would drop ashes over his head, as a sign of sinfulness and as a penance for sin. This was a true act of humility. This action was to show others – as well as himself – that he recognized his sinfulness.

So, the ashes became an act of repentance and also an action to dedication to change his life. He accepted the ashes as a true readiness for seeking



conversion to a new life.

This is, of course, the way we begin our time of conversion like Lent. This is the reason we accept the ashes on Ash Wednesday.

We begin the Lenten prayer by calling to mind just who we are. Our Lenten program is then a time for planning a conversion to a better life.

Easter become the goal – for each of us to become a new person in the spirit of Christ's resurrection.

So, here we go again – another Lent – another Ash Wednesday. You have been here before. You know all about Lent, all the rules and opportunities.

My advice is to do something – do something special – a bit of mortification that leads to self-control and conversion. Make your Lenten mortification hurt a bit and be specific with your Lenten penance.

resonate with a desire to teach all those souls who are searching for meaning in life, a road to peace and reconciliation and the healing of physical and spiritual wounds."

Who doesn't want that?

And, along with the words of the Holy Father it would be good for all us to heed the words of our holy bishop.

In his Lenten message (see page three) Bishop LaValley offers some practical suggestions for a fruitful observance of this season.

"The Lenten Season provides the setting where we can avail ourselves of opportunities to grow closer to our merciful Lord," he writes.

"Daily Mass, faith formation classes, Eucharistic adoration, the Stations of the Cross, fasting, and celebration of the Sacrament of Penance are graced means to encounter Jesus, to experience His merciful love, and to deepen our love for Him."

I also appreciate the bishop's exhortation at the close of his Lenten letter: "Let us pray for one another."

As I make my way, through these 40 days, towards a more merciful outlook on the world, I will be grateful that I will be buoyed by the prayers of people I don't even know.

You pray for me.  
I will pray for you.

Do something that will bring you to a new life at Easter.

This week I have been reading a little book by Father Richard Rohr, "What the Mystics Know." It is good stuff. As I was reading, I was caught by a statement that sort give a real purpose for a Lenten goal. Father Rohr writes this: "Christian maturity is the ability to joyfully live in an imperfect world."

So, a good goal for Lent will be to grow in Christian maturity, so that I can live joyfully.

I think that developing Christian maturity begins with prayer and suffering. Lent is a perfect time because Lent is about suffering and prayer.

A good Lent demands that I find a time for silence for some additional prayer.

For me, that means turning off the television and turning it off often, maybe for a whole day or two. It is such a temptation when I have little to do. It so clogs up my brain and keeps the Lord out of my thoughts.

Mass is always the best prayer during the week as well as on Sunday. The Blessed Eucharist gives me a real powerful step on this road to

Christian maturity. The Lord knows the best way to reach us.

Then there is a bit of suffering – doing something as a mortification – doing something to build up self-control. I don't know about you but I always find myself forgetting that it is Lent and what I have decided to do. And yet when I get into the swing of Lent, it certainly is a constant test of my self-control. I must confess to you that I do cheat sometimes and then I have to get back into the program. It is such a good program – I know only too well that it will be good for me.

One more quote from Father Richard about suffering for Jesus:

"Jesus told the first disciples, 'you do not know what you are asking. Until you drink of the cup that I must drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I will be immersed in' (Mark 10:38), you really do not know what I am talking about. You have nothing to say. It is not that we have a message and then suffer for it. It is much more the opposite: We suffer, come through it transformed, and then we have a message!"

## FOLLOW ME

# Lent 2016: Christ-led, Christ-fed, Hope-filled

Our 2016 Lenten journey of faith cannot be isolated from current world events. Dire poverty, mass migration, persecution and unrelenting violence cause such terror in the lives of millions of individuals. Fueled by greed, anger and self-righteous intolerance, hardened hearts are breaking untold fragile lives. Closer to home, joblessness and drug abuse lead to a sense of hopelessness and discouragement.

Pope Francis urges us not

to remain indifferent or to treat as routine such affronts to human life and dignity. Hurting people, near and far, need our care and attention.

Can Lent this Jubilee Year of Mercy be different for you and me?

As I probe the depth of God's mercy and compassion for me, will I muster the Spirit's gift of courage to reach out and accompany the hurting with the same loving concern I receive from God?

The Lenten Season pro-

vides the setting where we can avail ourselves of opportunities to grow closer to our merciful Lord.

Daily Mass, faith formation classes, Eucharistic adoration, the Stations of the Cross, fasting, and celebration of the Sacrament of Penance are graced means to encounter Jesus, to experience His merciful love, and to deepen our love for Him.

As the Holy Father teaches, "what the Church tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy...remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body

and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things," Pope Francis writes, "will we be judged."

While, perhaps, most of us are not able to offer personally these works of mercy to those suffering terrible afflictions across the globe, we can, we must be attentive to the hurting in our neighborhoods.

Many of our parish families have a long history of social outreach to the hurting. Organizations such as Catholic Charities, the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, to name just a

few, along with local Church and community groups are engaged in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. This Lent can be the occasion where I consider my own participation in such works in my own neighborhood.

I pray that through the graces and spiritual strength we receive from our participation at Eucharist and other Lenten devotional practices, God's mercy can clear our vision to see the hurting in our midst and transform our hearts to respond with tenderness and compassion to their needs. Let us pray for one another.



Bishop  
Terry R.  
LaValley

## New lay ministry group holds its first meeting

**PERU** - With approval from Bishop Terry R. LaValley, the Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Minister Association (ERCLMA) was formed to provide support for commissioned lay ministers (CLM) from Clinton, Essex and Hamilton/Herkimer Deaneries. ERCLMA's first event was held Jan. 15 at St. Augustine's Parish Center. in Peru.

### For commissioned lay ministers in eastern deaneries of the diocese

Much like the other two CLM associations - the CLM Association for the St. Lawrence/Adirondack/Franklin Deaneries and the Jefferson/Lewis Deaneries - the purpose of the association is to provide a means for area CLM's to gather two or three times a year to support one another in ministry and participate in events encouraging spiritual growth.

The ERCLMA advisory board is chaired by Tom Hamilton of Morrisonville, who was commissioned in June, 2015. Other members are Deacon John D. Lucero, Jr., and Brenda Smith of Keeseville; deacon aspirant



Tom Hamilton of Morrisonville, chair of the newly established Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Minister Association, welcomes those who attended the Jan. 15 inaugural meeting held in Peru.

David Clark and Starr Burke of Plattsburgh, Mae Rasco, Redford; Deanna Kneussle, Morrisonville; and Janice Morse, Peru.

Deacon Patrick Donahue, coordinator of the diocesan Formation for Ministry program, and St. Joseph Sister Jennifer Votraw, diocesan chancellor and coordinator of ministry to lay pastoral leaders assisted with the



Deacon Patrick J. Donahue, coordinator of the Diocesan Formation for Ministry, program talked about the history of the lay ministry training program.

planning and support for the first meeting.

As participants arrived, a brief survey was given to each Commissioned Lay Minister requesting updated contact information and asking for ideas and suggestions to improve the association as a whole. There are no fees or membership costs to belong to ERCLMA and it's offered to any CLM who would like to take advantage of what it has



Father Scott R. Seymour, pastor in Morrisonville, was the main speaker for the first ERCLMA gathering.

to offer in terms of continual support for all members.

The event was highlighted by two speakers who offered information and inspiration. Deacon Donahue explained the history of lay ministry from its beginning to present day. Father Scott Seymour from Morrisonville delivered the main address, challenging the attendees to reflect on why they became a lay minister and their expectations for ministry.

Advisory board member Mrs. Smith said, "As the evening came to a close, and judging from peoples' comments as they left the meeting, there was a general sense of great support and enthusiasm. The remarks were positive and people seemed to be happy to know ERCLMA is now a reality. For many of them, they are looking forward to upcoming meetings and events."

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, ERCLMA hopes to offer various event: themed conferences with area speakers, retreats, and a possible day pilgrimage to a local area of interest. The next meeting will be in the Spring but final details have yet to be finalized.

Further information is available from Deacon Donahue, at (315) 393-2920 (ext. 1413) or Mr. Hamilton at (518) 572-5675.

#### St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored and glorified throughout the whole world, forever and ever, Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude helper of the homeless, pray for us. Say prayer 9 times a day for 9 days.

RET

# Celina's Story

*A sad - and typical - account of human trafficking in Jefferson County*

By Dave Shampine  
Staff Writer

**WATERTOWN** – “Tell Kris I love her.”

The words were spoken by ‘Celina,’ a prostitute jailed in Rochester, heroin addict in recovery and a victim of human trafficking.

Her message, sent with an undercover cop, was for Jefferson County’s new district attorney, Kristyna Mills.

Mrs. Mills, speaking Jan. 30 at a “Prayer Service to End Human Trafficking” at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, told an audience of about 40 how Celina, her street name, was brought from Rochester to Watertown to help send her pimp to prison, and at the same time be freed from her entrapment.

Also addressing the gathering of clerics, social workers and interested citizens was Roni Dickhaut, a special agent with the department of Homeland Security, stationed in Syracuse.

St. Joseph Sister Bethany Fitzgerald hosting the two-hour session, said the Sisters of St. Joseph worldwide have taken up the fight to end human trafficking.

This session in Watertown was the fourth in as many years to bring awareness that the problem exists here, and to show what the public can do to stop it, Sister Bethany said.

Prefacing Celina’s story, Agent Dickhaut said the handlers establish a relationship with their victims, become trusted and even loved by them, then pay them with heroin, “just enough to keep them going.”

Meanwhile, most of the cash taken in by the victim goes to the pimp. The victim is kept in line with the heroin, but also with intimidation.

The captors know every-



PHOTOS BY DAVE SHAMPINE

St. Joseph Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, host of a Prayer Service to End Human Trafficking held Jan. 30 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown leads the closing prayer with Jefferson County district attorney Kristyna Mills.

thing about the victim, about their families and where they are, so those people can be in harm’s way.

And they tell the captives that they can be arrested for what they are doing and be sent to prison.

“So it is very difficult to get the victims to talk to us,” the agent said. “They don’t trust us. We come out as the bad guys.”

Celina was known to be active in Watertown for some time, and she was arrested. But that distrust in law enforcement, her trust in her pimp, and her failure to escape her addiction made her a worthless witness against the man and the organization which the district attorney really wanted to put away.

The undercover agent – the eventual carrier of the love message – found Celina in Rochester and made a deal. She would return to Watertown, would be arrested and jailed for protection, and would testify against her pimp.

“But he was everything to her,” Mrs. Mills said. “Twenty

minutes after he got her out of jail, he had a needle in her.”

She was lost as a witness again, but later, another attempt was made with her. A “sting” was set up at a hotel, leading to the pimp’s arrest, along with the seizure of heroin and dirty money.

When police conducted their raid, “I was the second person to enter the room, to reassure her that we want to help her,” Mrs. Mills said.

Celina gave the needed testimony and landed her pimp in prison.

Mrs. Mills had charges in Jefferson County dismissed for Celina, but jail time awaited her in Rochester. That jailing and treatment at a detoxification center in Rochester has Celina straightening out her life and sending her gratitude to Mrs. Mills.

Agent Dickhaut said the goal is to not prosecute the victims.

“We want to help them beat their addiction, keep them clean, and give them witness protection,” she said, “so that they can help us put the of-



Special agent Roni Dickhaut of the Syracuse Office of Homeland Security, said “human trafficking victims don’t trust us - we’re the bad guys.”

fenders in prison.”

Human trafficking is second only to weapon crimes in the United States, Agent Dickhaut said, and accounts for a \$32 billion “industry” carried on by well-structured crime syndicates, made up of recruiters, bullies, transporters, money washers, and guards.

Victims of the trade can be found working in massage parlors, brothels, bars and sex clubs, on the street, forced labor, domestic services, factories, agriculture, construction, custodial services, restaurants and hotels.

“In Jefferson County, we have a couple motel operators who are a part of the problem,” Mrs. Mills said. But she was quick to add there are other hotel operators who have tipped off police to suspicious activity.

“If we don’t shut down these organizations, this trade will keep going on,” Agent Dickhaut said.

How big is the problem in Jefferson County?

Mrs. Mills disclosed that recently a 17-year old girl at Alexandria Central School was found to be a victim.

“Statistically, we are sending more drug dealers to prison than any other county in the state,” the DA said. “We are being targeted here. Dealers from around the state know they can make more money here with their heroin sales because we don’t have treatment for the addicts. And they see they can make more money with their sex trade, manipulated by giving heroin to their victims.”

What can the public do? “By education,” the speakers began: making the public aware of what is going on, and then taking steps to “stop the market.” Stop hiring prostitutes. Check credentials of would-be employees, like driver’s licenses, passports, travel documents, something that shows who they are, and where they are from.

If new neighbors have a lot of traffic in and out of the house, call police, telling of your suspicions. The call can be anonymous.

And there is a national human trafficking hotline: 1-888-373-7888.

The need for a detoxification center in Watertown was mentioned. The closest are in Syracuse and at Canton-Potsdam hospital.

“That’s our main problem here,” Mrs. Mills said.

“Lobby your legislators to budget money for a treatment center,” she said. “There are grants available, but we are competing with other areas of the state and nation for a share of the funds.”

With that note, she added a sobering thought: “While victims are waiting to get into treatment facilities, sometimes for up to eight months, they are dying.”

# Sacred Heart Foundation seeks new members

**WATERTOWN** - The Sacred Heart Foundation has announced the selection of officers for 2016 Board of Directors. Jayme St. Croix will be serving as president with Thomas J. Bruno as vice-president. Joseph Butler Jr. will be returning as treasurer, and Dan Villa joins the executive committee as secretary.

The mission of the Sacred Heart Foundation is to spread the word of God by raising funds which provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.

This mission was given to Christ when he said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

While many are not personally able to spread God's



Newly elected member of the Sacred Heart Foundation of Watertown are, from left, Daniel Villa, secretary; Joseph Butler, Jr., treasurer; Jayme St. Croix, president, and Thomas J. Bruno, vice-president.

love throughout the world, a financial contribution to educate such aspiring young men, becomes a valuable

contribution to this mission. Since its inception in 1968, the Sacred Heart Foundation has awarded over \$1.6 mil-

lion to support the formation of priests through the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Locally, the Missionaries of

the Sacred Heart serve in the diocese as priests in the Catholic communities of Cape Vincent, Rosiere, and Chaumont. In Watertown, priests serve in St. Anthony's, St. Patrick's, and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart parishes. Retired Missionaries of the Sacred Heart also serve in parishes in the diocese when the regular parish priests are on vacation.

Individuals can become supporting members of the mission of the Sacred Heart Foundation by becoming a member, attending the annual benefit dinner in September; or entering the Sacred Heart Foundation/Frank Caprara Memorial Golf Tournament in June.

Further information about the foundation is available on [www.sacredheartfoundation.com](http://www.sacredheartfoundation.com) or by contacting the Sacred Heart Foundation office at 315-782-3344.

## DARE TO BE DIFFERENT



The fifth grade students at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh completed the DARE (Define the problem, Assess your options, Respond and make a choice, Evaluate your decision) program Jan. 26. This program is sponsored by the Clinton County Sheriff's Department. Shown with Deputy Malcolm are: Shaylee Staves, Ashton Turner, Jackie Rock-Perez, Isaiah Trunck, and Isabelle Wylie. St. Joseph Sister Helen Hermann, principal, said "Seton Academy is grateful to the Clinton County Sheriff's Department and Deputy Malcolm for making this program available to the Seton Academy students."

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[www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)

- Read Bishop LaValley's columns
- Search archived papers
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**Sacred Heart Foundation**  
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**Our Mission**  
 The Sacred Heart Foundation spreads the word of God by raising funds which provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to be priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart anywhere in the world.

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Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are a minimum of \$10 per year per person.  
 Please check :  \$10  \$20  \$30 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Join on-line : [www.sacredheartfoundation.com](http://www.sacredheartfoundation.com)  
 Or mail this to: Sacred Heart Foundation  
 668 Thompson Street Watertown, NY 13601  
 Contact us at: 315-782-3344, Email: [mail@sacredheartfoundation.com](mailto:mail@sacredheartfoundation.com)

# Lenten regulations for 2016

February 10 is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Season of Lent.

## Abstinence

All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, & Good Friday.

## Fasting

All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are bound also to observe the Law of Fast on the following days: Ash Wednesday (February 10) and Good Friday (March 25). Fasting, that is, eating less, involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Lighter nourishment may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

## Prayer & penance

The entire season of Lent should be observed in a spirit of prayer and penance. Spending extra time in prayer or Bible study, attending daily Mass, voluntary sacrifice and self-denial, combined with works of charity and service to others, are all excellent ways to obey the Lord's command to reform our lives and to prepare for the joyful celebration of Easter.

Parishes are highly encouraged to offer periods of Eucharistic Adoration during the Lenten Season, as well as, the traditional devotions of the Stations of the Cross and the recitation of the Rosary. In addition, during this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope

Francis is asking the Catholic faithful to turn their attention to and live out in an even fuller way this Lent the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

## Sacrament of Penance

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has asked all Diocesan churches to highlight the Sacrament of Penance. In particular, the Holy Father is asking all bishops and priests to dedicate the 24-hour period of March 4 & 5 as "24 Hours for the Lord" with a world-wide celebration of the Sacrament of Penance accompanied by Eucharistic Adoration in all parishes. Parish priests are asked to plan their schedules accordingly to observe this request of the Pope. In addition, parishes might want to adopt the model of dedicating one Lenten evening each week to providing occasion for the Sacrament of Penance, as suggested in previous years.

## Easter duty

All Catholics who have reached the age of reason must confess their serious sins in the Sacrament of Penance at least once a year. They must also receive Holy Communion at least once each year during the Easter season, which this year extends from February 14th, the First Sunday of Lent, until Trinity Sunday, May 22nd.

## Marriage

Although other seasons are more suitable, the celebration of marriage and the Nuptial Mass are not forbid-

den during Lent, according to The Code of Canon Law. When liturgical rules permit, the Ritual Mass for the Celebration of Marriage may be used and the nuptial blessing may be given. However, you should advise the spouses and their guests to exercise proper restraint in accord with the penitential character of Lent.

## Obligation

All Christ's faithful are obliged by divine law to do penance. The days set aside for fast and abstinence in Lent are special ways of doing penance and are an expression of unity for all the Church.

## Chrism Mass

A reminder that this year's Chrism Mass will be celebrated on March 17 at 11 am at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg. Details pertaining to this event will be forthcoming.

## Funerals during the Sacred Triduum

On Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, Funeral Masses may not be celebrated. However, a Funeral Service consisting of the Liturgy of the Word and the Final Commendation may be held in Church.

## Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440. Upcoming sessions: Feb. 11 - 1 p.m., Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown; Feb. 25 - 1 p.m., St. James School, Gouverneur

## Bishop's Schedule

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

Feb. 13 – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 14 – 11 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

2:30 p.m., Rite of Election at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 15 – 7:15 p.m., Novena & Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 16 – 10:30 a.m., Meeting with the Deans and the Episcopal Council at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Feb. 17 – 12 p.m., Mass at Riverview Correctional Facility in Ogdensburg

## Rest in Peace

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

Feb. 10 – Rev. Zephirin Pelloquin, M.S.C., 1944; Msgr. William J. Argy, 2005

Feb. 12 – Rev. Richard O'Donnell, 1949

Feb. 13 – Deacon Edward F. McAuliffe, 1986; Rev. Harry E. Giroux, 2012

Feb. 14 – Rev. John McDonald, 1879; Msgr. Gerald F. Kellogg, 1979; Rev. Charles Joseph Richard, 2007

Feb. 15 – Msgr. James H. Driscoll, 1928

Feb. 16 – Rev. André Marie Garin, O.M.I., 1895; Rev. Joseph Alexander Fournier, O.M.I., 1904

## 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](mailto:terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com) Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

## Environmental Stewardship

### Celebrating Lent

When we think about Lent, sometimes the first thing that comes to mind is 'What will I give up this Lent?'

While fasting holds an important part of our Christian tradition, it is by no means an end in itself. The heart of Lent is "metanoia" or a change of heart that can bring about a 'springtime' of new life within me and to all around me.

The invitation of Lent, then, is first of all a call to immerse ourselves more deeply in God's unconditional love and mercy. However, an authentic response to this love always radiates beyond itself to ALL relationships.

Pope Francis reminds us that "Human life is grounded in three fundamental and clearly intertwined relationships with God, with our neighbor and with the earth itself." Laudato Si: Care for Our Common Home.

He shows us how following in the footsteps of Jesus challenges us to heed the cries of the human family and the cries of the earth. The three practices prayer, fasting and almsgiving given to us by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel, take on deeper meaning when seen in this context.

In the book of Isaiah 58:6-8 he tells us, "The Lord said: Is this not the fast that I choose: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke, setting free the oppressed... Is it not sharing your bread with the hungry... Then your light shall break forth like the dawn."

How can this message be applied to not only the cries of our sisters and brothers but also to the cries of the earth upon which all life depends?

During these next weeks of Lent some suggestions will be given on how these traditional Lenten disciplines can aid us in responding to the challenge to protecting God's creation, to practicing Gospel justice and to nurturing our spiritual lives.

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*A message from the diocesan director of development:*

# Real estate gifts support work of the church

By Scott Lalone  
Diocesan development director

Since the Diocese of Ogdensburg, parishes, Catholic schools and other diocesan organizations or programs are qualified charitable organizations, these groups can sell real estate gifts without incurring tax on the appreciation.

There are a number of ways to make a real estate gift. Some examples include:

- Give the entire property
- As an example, in 1990, Mr. and Mrs. Smith purchased a piece of land for \$10,000. It was recently appraised at \$50,000. If they sell it, they will have to pay tax on the appreciation. However, if they give the deed to the diocese or the beneficiary of their choice, they will be free of tax and also escape the

hassles of having to sell the property.

The donors will also receive a charitable income tax deduction for the appraised value of the property.

- Give a portion of the property

Many people cannot afford to give an entire parcel of real estate, but they can give part of it. A good solution is to give an undivided interest in the property, say 50%. The diocese then works with the owner to market and sell the property.

A bonus for the donors is that they can use the income tax charitable deduction for the gift portion to help offset any taxes due on the other portion.

- Give property and continue to live there

Some donors want to make a major gift to the diocese, their parish, a Catholic

school, ministries and programs of the diocese or Missionary Projects of the Diocese by giving their homes. However, they still need a place to live, so they arrange what is called a life estate gift.

This simply means that they give their residence to the Diocese, obtain a charitable income tax deduction and retain the right to live there as long as they want.

This arrangement removes the property from their estate and relieves them of their personal representative from having to dispose of the house later.

If an individual sells real estate he has owned for a number of years, it is likely he will face a sizable capital gains tax, especially if the property is not his personal residence. Through an outright gift such as property, a

double tax saving is possible.

First, in most cases, the donor you will receive a charitable income tax deduction for the full value of the property. In addition, since the property was given rather than sold, he will not be liable for capital gains taxes on the transfer.

When deciding to make a charitable gift in the form of real estate, it is very important to choose property that meets a number of criteria: the property should be readily saleable, the property's appraised value must equal the amount of the anticipated gift if property is mort-

gaged, tax and other benefits may still be obtained, but special attention should be paid to the manner in which the property is given.

As you can see, your gift of real estate can be of great benefit to both you and the diocese, your parish, Catholic school, or other diocesan organization you choose.

We (Diocesan Development Office - 315-393-2920) would be pleased to discuss your gift plans with you upon request.

As always, seek advice from your financial advisors as you plan gifts of this type.

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## THE LOVE OF CHRIST IMPELS US

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN CHARITABLE APOSTOLATES

**WHEN: Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg, NY**

**PRESENTERS: Deacon Mark & Theresa Bennett & Sr. Donna Franklin, DC**

The day will consist of a morning and an afternoon conference.  
Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Terry LaValley at 11:30 am. Lunch included.

Offering for the Day - \$15 – Please mail the completed registration form along with offering to:

Diocese of Ogdensburg (Lenten Day of Reflection), PO Box 106, Canajoharie, NY 13317

or register online at [www.rcdony.org/lenen](http://www.rcdony.org/lenen) **Registrations due by March 1.**

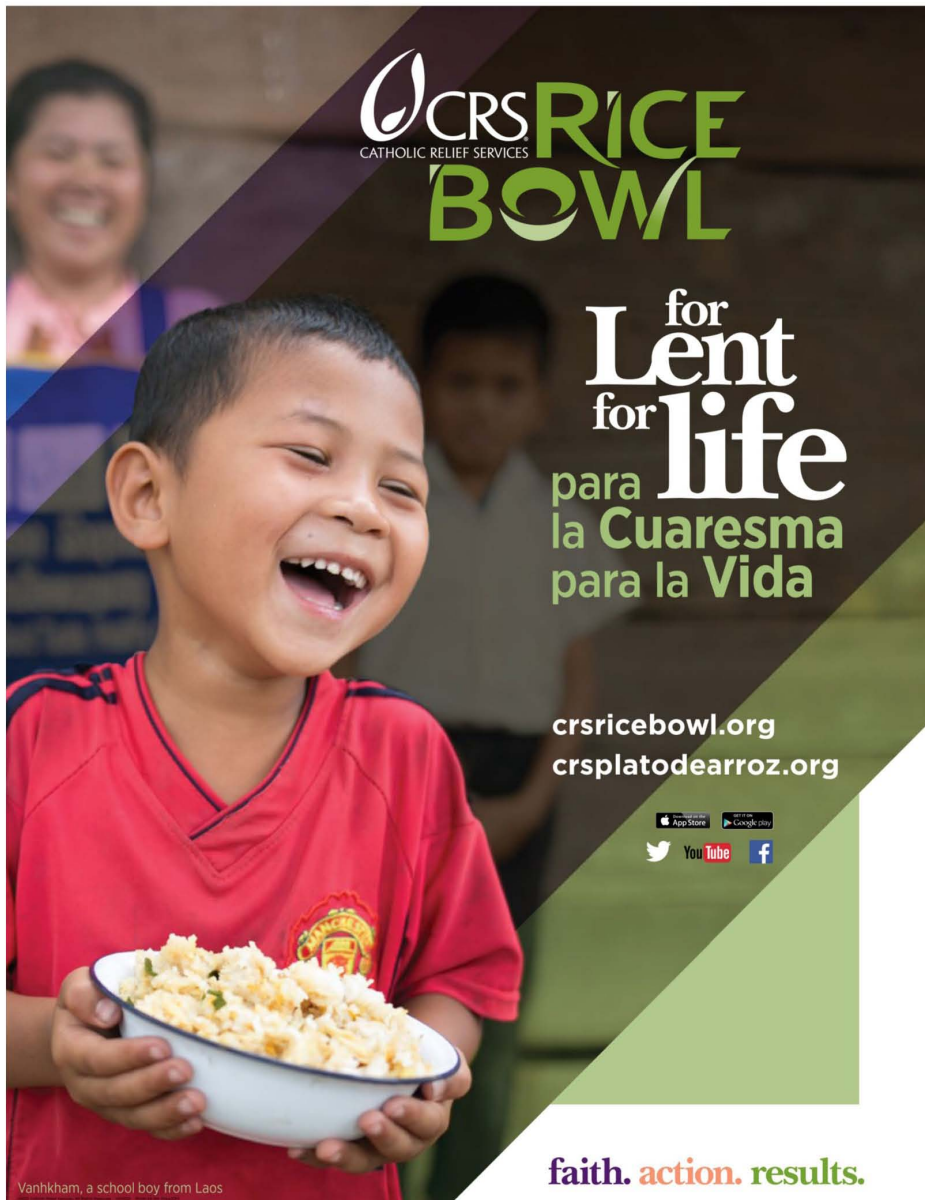
### 2016 LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION

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Vanhkham, a school boy from Laos

## A LENTEN TRADITION

### What is CRS' Operation Rice Bowl?

Entering its 41<sup>st</sup> year, CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program for families and faith communities in the United States who want to put their faith into action. Through CRS Rice Bowl, participants are invited to hear stories about their brothers and sisters in need around the world, and devote their Lenten prayers, fasting, and alms to change the lives of those who suffer in poverty. Participants journey through the 40 days of Lent with a collection of daily reflections and activities included in the CRS Rice Bowl calendar, on the mobile app, and online.

More than 40 years ago, Catholics in the United States wanted to respond to famine in Africa. Could people who were hungry and starving be helped through Lenten prayers, fasting, and almsgiving? The answer was yes—and the help came in the form of a small cardboard box. This marked the beginning of "Operation Rice Bowl" in parishes and other faith communities throughout Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1975. Today, CRS Rice Bowl is a tradition for millions of Catholics in the U.S. who employ the Lenten pillars of praying, fasting, and almsgiving to change the lives of others while enriching their own. CRS Rice Bowl is available in paper, web, and through a mobile app in both English and Spanish.

### CRS Rice Bowl asks us to:

**Pray:** Incorporate global awareness into personal and communal prayer with reflections on the Stations of the Cross, the Seven Sorrows of Mary and the Lives of the Saints—infused with Catholic social teaching.

**Fast:** Turn family or community meals into moments of global solidarity with simple, meatless recipes from countries around the world—and don't forget to learn how to prepare them with Fr. Leo Patinghug in CRS Rice Bowl's Global Kitchen video series!

**Give alms:** What you give us for Lent changes lives! Use your cardboard CRS Rice Bowl or the new CRS Rice Bowl app to track your Lenten sacrifices—and to see *how* your gift changes lives—as you journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.

### About Catholic Relief Services:

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the U.S.



Created in 1943, CRS is motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to assist poor and suffering people in more than 100 countries on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

CRS is efficient and effective. In 2014, 92 percent of our expenditures went to CRS programming that benefits poor people overseas. CRS' programs touch more than 85 million lives.





## MAKE A LENTEN PLAN

*pray*

set aside a time each week to pray and reflect

*fast*

consider what you will give up for Lent to change the lives of others

*give*

set a goal for your CRS Rice Bowl offering

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## A LENTEN TRADITION

### When you give to CRS Rice Bowl...

- **75 percent** of your gift supports CRS' programs around the world. Some examples include: Agriculture projects help farmers improve harvests; water sanitation projects bring clean water to communities; Education projects provide resources and training.
- **25 percent** of gifts remain in each U.S. diocese where they were given for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in those communities. Each diocese uses this differently.

## WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

### Lent is our time of preparation

We begin our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday. During these 40 days, we ponder what it means to "give up, take up and lift up." Using the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we deepen our relationship with Christ and discern where God is working in our lives.

### Once a week during Lent:

- **Stories of Hope** - Meet the individuals and communities that benefit from your Lenten sacrifices to CRS Rice Bowl.
- **Stations of the Cross Digital Retreats** - One-minute video reflections—inspired by CRS Rice Bowl's Stations of the Cross resource—immerse you in Jesus' walk to Calvary—and serve to remind us that even on the way to the cross, Christ reached out to the poor and vulnerable.
- Put your Lenten offerings into your CRS Rice Bowl. You may also return your gift online.



### Download the App

**CRS Rice Bowl App 3.0:** The CRS Rice Bowl app is designed to bring Lent within reach through a mobile device. The full collection of stories, daily reflections and video series; A tool to set and measure Lenten sacrifices; A built-in feature to share Lenten experiences with text and photos through Twitter; A simplified home screen; and Availability in both English and Spanish for both Android and Apple devices.

## Turn your family's dinner table into an experience of global solidarity

Use these holy days of Lent to respond to Pope Francis' call to deepen your family's faith life-and let CRS Rice Bowl accompany your family along the way. Visit <http://www.crsricebowl.org/families> to learn more about the activities below.

- Lenten Kit for YOUR Family
- coloring pages
- Lenten Placemat
- Bring your family together in prayer with printable prayer cards and Lenten Prayer eggs
- Meatless Meals
- Global Discipleship Quiz
- Activity Sheets and

### LOOKING FOR MEATLESS MEALS TO PREPARE THIS LENT?

**Simple Meal Challenge:** We are all called to fast during Lent—so why not share your simple meals with others? Check out the CRS Rice Bowl simple meal recipes (<http://www.crsricebowl.org/recipe>), prepare them each week as a family and share your experience through photos and videos on your social media channels.

All of the information here can be found at: [www.crsricebowl.org](http://www.crsricebowl.org)

### Sopa de frijoles con chayote y arroz

*Bean Soup With Chayote Squash and Rice*

Recipe from Honduras: Serves 4-6



#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 onion, diced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 T fair trade olive oil
- 3 15-oz cans red beans, drained
- 2 c water
- 1 vegetable bouillon cube
- 1 yellow chili, seeded and minced
- 1 jalapeño, seeded and minced
- 1 15-oz can diced tomatoes with liquid
- Juice of 1 lime
- 2 chayote squash, peeled, seeded and cut into cubes (may substitute yellow squash or zucchini)
- Fresh cilantro
- 4 c cooked white rice

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Sauté onion, bell pepper and garlic in oil until translucent. Add beans, water and bouillon, and heat thoroughly. Add yellow chili, jalapeño, tomatoes, lime juice and chayote, and simmer on low for about an hour. Add cilantro and serve over rice.



[crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org)

## Pope speaks to men and women religious at close of Year for Consecrated Life

# 'Vocations crisis needs prayer, not despair'

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Respond to the crisis of vocations with intensified prayer, not despair or a lax admissions process, Pope Francis told women and men religious.

He said he is tempted to lose hope, too, asking God, "What is happening? Why is the womb of consecrated life

sterile?"

But he warned against fast fixes, saying some religious "congregations experiment with 'artificial insemination,'" in which they accept anybody, leading to a host of problems.

The vocations process must be done "with seriousness, and one must discern well that this is a true vocation and help it grow," he told members of religious orders,

secular institutes and consecrated virgins Feb. 1 in the Vatican audience hall.

The pope met with some 5,000 men and women taking part in events in Rome to mark the close of the Year for Consecrated Life, which began Nov. 30, 2014, and was to end Feb. 2, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord and the Jubilee of Consecrated Life.

Handing his written text

over to Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the Congregation for Consecrated Life and Institutes for Apostolic Life, Pope Francis said he preferred to speak from his heart "because it's a bit boring to read" a prepared talk.

Both his prepared text and his impromptu talk highlighted the three most important "pillars" of consecrated life: being prophetic; being near all people; and having hope.

It is important to be obedient while being prophetic, which is always about following God and reflecting his divine love, he told his audience.

Obedience for a religious is not the same as "military obedience," he said; it's about giving one's heart and seeking to discern what is being asked.

If the rules or requirements are not clear, then one must speak with one's superior and always obey the final word, he said. "This is prophecy -- against the seeds of anarchy, which are sown by the devil."

Just doing whatever one feels like is "anarchy of the will," which is "the child of the devil, not God."

Jesus wasn't an anarchist, the pope said; he didn't round up his disciples to fight against his enemies. While he pleaded that God "take this cup from me," he still requested his father's will be done.

Likewise, the pope said, if members of a religious community are asked to obey something that doesn't sit well, then -- he gestured taking a big pill and gulping it down. "Since my Italian is so poor I have to speak sign language," he smiled, adding that "one must stomach that obedience."

Being prophetic is telling and showing the world that "there is something truer, more beautiful, greater and better that we are all called to," he said.

Consecrated men and

women are called "not to distance myself from the people and live in comfort," but to be close to Christians and non-Christians in order to understand their problems and needs, he said.

However, when it comes to offering love and attention, the sisters and brothers who live in one's community get priority, he said, especially elderly members who may be isolated in an infirmary.

"I know that you never gossip in your communities. Never, ever!" the pope said smiling.

Backstabbing and gossip are a danger to religious life, he said.

"Whoever gossips is a terrorist," he said, because they drop harmful words like bombs against others, leaving behind destruction while the attacker walks away unscathed.

"If you feel like saying something against a brother or sister," he said, "bite your tongue. Hard. No terrorism in your communities."

Resolve differences or problems face-to-face with the person in question, he said. But when it's time for general chapters or other forums involving community life, then people need to be forthright in voicing concerns openly and frankly.

He said, "In public, you have to say everything you feel because there is the temptation to not say things during the chapter" meetings, which then leads to resentment afterward.

"During this Year of Mercy, if each one of you were able to never be a gossip-terrorist it would be a success for the church, a success of great holiness. Be brave!" he said.

The pope thanked religious men and women for their work, especially consecrated women. "What would the church be if there were no sisters?" he asked, recalling their presence in Catholic hospitals, schools, parishes and missions around the world.



Join Kathleen Gallagher, Director of Pro-Life Activities & the Catholic Action Network to discuss the Catholic understanding of end-of-life issues as presented in *Now and at the Hour of our Death*.



Also on hand a Catholic Physician and Lawyer will be available to answer questions on planning and the legal matters pertaining to your wishes at the end of life.

**Conference Schedule**  
10:00 A.M. - Opening Prayer & Welcome  
10:30 A.M. - Keynote Address - Kathy Gallagher & JJ Hanson  
11:30 A.M. - Question & Answer  
Noon - Lunch  
1:00 P.M. - *Now and at the Hour of our Death*  
Panel Discussion  
2:00 P.M. - Workshop Time  
2:30 P.M. - Eucharistic Holy Hour  
4:30 P.M. - Anticipated Mass - Palm Sunday



JJ is a former marine, a husband, a father, and a cancer patient. He was diagnosed over a year ago with a very deadly form of brain cancer, and he decided to fight.

## NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH

**Saturday, March 19, 2016**

\*\*\*

*Solemnity of Saint Joseph,  
Patron Saint of a Happy Death*

**10:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

*St. Bernard's Church, Saranac Lake, New York*

*Suggested offering of \$20 accepted to cover the cost of materials.*

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# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Pope, Russian Orthodox patriarch to meet in Cuba, Vatican announces

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- After almost three decades of tense Catholic-Russian Orthodox relations, Pope Francis will meet Patriarch Kirill of Moscow Feb. 12 in Cuba on the pope's way to Mexico. It will be the first-ever meeting of a pope and Moscow patriarch, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, told reporters Feb. 5. As Pope Francis travels to Mexico and as Patriarch Kirill makes an official visit to Cuba, the two will meet at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport and plan to sign a joint declaration, Father Lombardi said. The pope will leave Rome earlier than planned to allow time for the meeting without forcing any changes to his schedule in Mexico, he added. The meeting "will mark an important stage in relations between the two churches," said a joint declaration on the meeting. The Cuba meeting was not an "improvisation," Father Lombardi said; it took two years of intense planning and negotiations to schedule. Even when the idea of a meeting was just a vague hope, both Catholic and Orthodox officials insisted it would have to take place on "neutral" territory rather than at the Vatican or in Russia.

## Vatican joins international appeals for increased aid to Syria

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican joined international appeals for raising money to provide emergency and long-term assistance to the millions of people affected by the crisis in Syria. Archbishop Paul R. Gallagher, Vatican secretary for relations with states, attended the Syria Donors Conference in London Feb. 4 and said the Catholic Church would continue to help the region through its fundraising efforts. The Vatican released a copy of the archbishop's address the same day. The meeting -- co-hosted by the United Kingdom, Germany, Kuwait, Norway and the United Nations -- was meant to gather together leaders from world governments and NGOs to raise funding and support to address the six-year-long humanitarian crisis. The conference website said there are 13.5 million vulnerable and displaced people inside Syria, and 4.2 million Syrian refugees in neighboring countries in need of assistance. U.N. agencies have appealed for \$8.4 billion to help those in Syria and refugees in host countries.

## Relics of St. Padre Pio, St. Leopold arrive in Rome for jubilee

ROME (CNS) -- Thousands of people waited hours outside a Rome church to glimpse the mortal remains of St. Padre Pio and St. Leopold Mandic, two Capuchins popular as miracle workers and known particularly for the long hours they would spend hearing confessions. Pope Francis asked the Capuchins to bring the relics of St. Padre Pio and St. Leopold to Rome for the Year of Mercy, particularly the Feb. 10 celebration of Ash Wednesday and the commissioning of the official "missionaries of mercy." The hearse carrying Padre Pio's crystal coffin was about 90 minutes late getting to Rome's Basilica of St. Lawrence Feb. 3 because pockets and clusters of faithful repeatedly forced it to slow down as it drove from San Giovanni Rotondo, 235 miles to the southeast. Posters pasted up all over the center of Rome giving the detailed schedule for Masses, prayer services and other devotions feature a large photo of Padre Pio and a smaller photo of St. Leopold.

# Christianity 'running on fumes,' Bishop Barron tells eucharistic congress

By Simone Orendain  
Catholic News Service

CEBU, PHILIPPINES (CNS) - Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron said popular culture's message of individuals being "infinitely right" is "repugnant to (Catholics) eucharistic faith." But he also said Christianity is "running on fumes" as it tries to counter the trend of people leaving the church or staying away from the Eucharist.

## What's sad today is so many in the Catholic world have become blasé about the Eucharist

"To stretch out like someone dying of hunger is the right attitude toward the Eucharist," Bishop Barron said at the 51st International Eucharistic Congress. "What's sad today is so many in the Catholic world have become blasé about the Eucharist."

The bishop said only 30 percent of Catholics in the United States actually receive Communion, calling this a "disaster."

At a news briefing after his presentation at the congress, he said that, unlike the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche's ideology of self-invention, Catholic faithful "did not invent (their) own story, we belong to a story" and that is "God's drama."

Bishop Barron -- author of numerous books and a longtime faculty member, then president of Mundelein Seminary, major seminary of the Archdiocese of Chicago -- said the call of the church today is to retain Catholics and attract new ones.

"If the church can't find a way to tell that story in a theo-dramatic way, people will drift away to this easy

self-invention philosophy," he said. "So it is a real challenge to the church. ... We've got to be bold. We've got to be confident. We've got to be smart."

Patrician Brother Peter John Hayes of Ballyfin, Ireland, was in the crowd of about 12,000 who listened, took notes and clicked cameras as the bishop drove home the message of the Eucharist as a meal, a sacrifice and "the real presence" of Christ.

Brother Hayes told Catholic News Service the problem of dwindling numbers of those taking the Eucharist has been on his mind. "When you wonder, 'What do we have to do? What can we do? What can I do? ... At an event like this ... we get it that some of us are on the same road, anyway,'" said Brother Hayes.

The bishop used a reading from the Gospel of St. Luke as an example of the two disciples who did not realize that the risen Lord was right next to them on Easter.

Bishop Barron said they were "walking the wrong way," turning away from God as everyone does, since people are all sinners. And that made it hard to recognize Jesus in their midst. But once they heard his words and were compelled by the power of his life, then begged him to stay, he shared a meal with them and gave the same command he had given the night before he died, "Do this in memory of me."

People ignore Jesus' commands all the time, said Bishop Barron, but "over the centuries that one dominical command has been massively obeyed." That revelation of the pattern of Jesus' life in the breaking of the bread is the moment the faithful "get it" and are no longer walking the wrong

## Editor's note

**Bishop Robert Barron**, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, noted evangelist and creator/host of the Catholicism and the New Evangelization series, will serve as the keynote speaker for the *INSPIRE: Called to Love* vocations summit to be held in Lake Placid Sept. 25

way, he added.

The bishop highlighted the Eucharist as a sacrifice, a theme that he said was the least-known and least-developed.

Bishop Barron emphasized that God does not need the sacrifices of the faithful because he "doesn't need anything," but by returning something to God, they "are united to him."

"The little we bring, if offered to God in the right spirit, breaks against the rock of the divine self-sufficiency and comes back elevated and multiplied for our benefit," he said.

Julius Maquiling, a charismatic minister of 25 years from the Cagayan de Oro Archdiocese in the southern Philippines, said he was struck by this concept of sacrifice.

He also told CNS he was touched to be reminded "that the bread is the true bread, Jesus Christ."

In the talk, Bishop Barron said, "Wealth, pleasure, honor, power ... we sinners, we go lusting after them all time, but they won't satisfy us. Look for eternal things, eternal bread."

When Jesus says his body and blood are given up for everyone, the bishop said: "If he's the word of God, what he says is. What he says reaches into the very roots of something and changes it. Really, truly and substantially present, yes."

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Lent: a time to celebrate mercies of the Lord

It's finally here - Lent, the springtime of the liturgical year, and renewal time for

our own personal journeys to God. A good theme for our First Sunday in Lent in this Year of Mercy might be the Gregorian chant HAVE MERCY, O LORD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

In the first reading from Deuteronomy, Moses is preparing the people to leave the desert sands and joyfully enter the Promised

Land.

Before they begin their new life of freedom and enjoy the fruits of the new Land that the Lord has prepared for them. Moses wants to make sure they will never forget the incredible works of God in freeing them from the shackles of slavery.

And, even though, during

these past forty years, they have grumbled much and have been unfaithful to the Covenant, God has relented and has forgiven them over and over.

He has shown them mercy beyond measure. Now, God commands them to renew that covenant, and, so purified, begin a new life in the lush lands of Canaan.

Moses charges them never to forget the mercies of the Lord, and never to let their children forget.

Lent is a time for us to remember and to celebrate the mercies of the Lord, and to really work on Lenten prayer and penance in our lives.

In the Gospel, we see a parallel to the Old Testament story of the Exodus.

Well over a thousand years after the journey of the Jews through the desert, Jesus embarks on His journey in the desert as messiah and saviour, not just for the Jews, but for all people, past, present, and future.

The Spirit who had overshadowed Him at his baptism in the Jordan, now leads Him into the desert for His initial battle with the powers of Evil.

Satan seeks to probe any human weakness in his adversary. First, he tempts

Jesus to flaunt His power, Why not turn stones into bread?

Later, Jesus will miraculously feed others, but he refuses to let the devil manage his miracles!

Again Satan tempts Jesus to political power and possessions—and Jesus, the poor and humble teacher, refuses.

The last temptation is to pride and glory. Jesus, knowing that His Mission is to win hearts through love and truth, refuses engage in theatrical stunts to win popularity.

Quite soundly beaten, Satan leaves him - for awhile! Angels come and minister to Jesus who is now ready to begin His public ministry.

Lent is a time of great opportunity. As we know from past experience, if we don't quickly adjust our daily patterns and activity right from the start, we will find that the season is over, and we've lost countless opportunities for growing in closeness to our Lord, and to seek His mercy.

As a great help, I would suggest daily meditation on any of the many collections of the words of Pope Francis, especially his new book, "THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY".



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

FEB. 14

First Sunday of Lent  
READINGS  
Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
Romans 10:8-13  
Luke 4:1-13

## Masses in Spanish to be celebrated

### HISPANIC MINISTRY

Mass in Spanish:

St. Paul's Catholic Church  
208 Leray Street  
Black River

Call: 315-773-5672

Sundays, 2:30 pm  
Lent/Easter Seasons

Beginning Sunday,  
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A Meal will follow Mass  
in the Church Hall

Fr. Dan Chapin  
Fr. Bob Decker  
Fr. Chris Looby

### COMMUNIDAD LATINO

Misa en Espanol:

Parroquia San Pablo  
Calle Leray 208  
Black River

Llamar: 315-773-5672

Los Domingos,  
14:30 pm

Cuaresma/Tiempo de  
Pascua

Comenzando Domingo,  
14 de Febrero, 14:30 pm

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en el Salon Parroquial

P. Daniel Chapin  
P. Roberto Decker  
P. Chris Looby

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## AT THE MOVIES

# THE FINEST HOURS

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

The remarkable true story of the most daring small boat rescue mission in Coast Guard history comes to the big screen in "The Finest Hours" (Disney).

In February 1952, a powerful Nor'easter struck the Massachusetts coast, pummeling shoreline towns and wreaking havoc on ships caught in its deadly path. Among these were two oil tankers bound for Boston, the S.S. Mercer and the S.S. Pendleton.

Beset by 60-foot waves and hurricane-force winds, both vessels broke apart. The Mercer, its bow intact, radioed for assistance and was the focus of a major rescue operation.

The Pendleton was not so lucky. The bow and its radio sunk, stranding 36 sailors in the stern, bobbing like a cork in the mighty sea. With no SOS, who would come to their aid?

By chance, the Pendleton pops up on radar at the Coast Guard station in Chatham, headed by Warrant Officer Daniel Cluff (Eric Bana). Despite extreme

conditions, he orders Boatswains Mate 1st Class Bernie Webber (Chris Pine) to muster three men and set out in a wooden 36-foot lifeboat, certainly no match for the storm conditions.

Duty and honor prevail, as Seamen Richard Livesey (Ben Foster), Andrew Fitzgerald (Kyle Gallner), and Ervin Maske (John Magaro) volunteer for duty.

Fellow officers try to dissuade Webber, calling the rescue a suicide mission. Webber's newly minted fiancée, Miriam (Holliday Grainger), is frantic with worry, compounded by the fact that she is terrified of the water.

"In the Coast Guard they say, 'You gotta go out,'" Webber reminds his crew. "They don't say, 'You gotta come back in.'"

As the lifeboat sets out, a David in search of a Goliath, disaster strikes with the first wave. The craft nearly capsizes, and the onboard compass is lost.

With no navigation aid, Webber must pilot in the blind, relying on faith, instinct and a whole lotta luck to find the wreck.

Meanwhile, aboard the Pendleton, engineer Ray

Sybert (Casey Affleck) takes command of the crisis situation. The stern section is slowly sinking, so the survivors must improvise a way to buy precious time while they steer the stern toward land.

"The Finest Hours" is old-fashioned moviemaking on a grand scale. Director Craig Gillespie ("Million Dollar Arm"), working from the 2009 novel by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman, strikes the right balance between striking renderings of Mother Nature's fury (even more impressive than 2000's "The Perfect Storm"), and quieter moments, conveying fear and dread among the rescuers and the rescued.

Happily, Gillespie makes time to show the close-knit community joining in prayer, and an individual fingering a rosary.

As for all that water, bring along your sea legs. The storm sequences are intense



CNS PHOTO/DISNEY

Casey Affleck and Michael Raymond-James star in a scene from the movie "The Finest Hours."

and immersive (especially in 3-D), and could have you reaching for the sick bag.

The film contains extreme storm-based action and scenes of peril, and some crude and profane 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.



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## ALSO PLAYING



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE

Teresa Palmer and Ben Walker star in a scene from the movie "The Choice." 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.

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LENTEN REFLECTION

**Lake Placid** – St. Agnes Church is planning a Lenten program on God's mercy led by Dr. Maura Hearden Felner.  
**Schedule:** Feb. 16, The reality of God's mercy; Feb. 23, The need for God's mercy; March 1, The source of all mercy; March 8, The structure of God's mercy; March 15, The reception of God's mercy.  
**Time:** Liturgy at 5:30 p.m. followed by a light community supper in the school, the one-hour session starting at 7 p.m.,  
**Contact:** To plan appropriately for food and seating please register by contacting the rectory: 523-2200 or stagnes@roadrunner.com before Feb. 10.

CLIMATE CHANGE

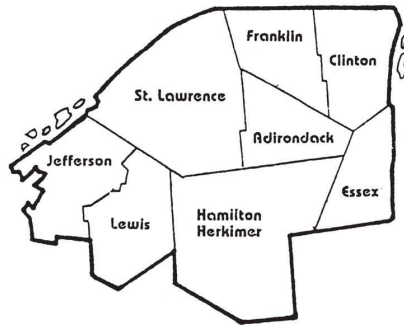
**Paul Smiths** – Climate change as a moral issue discussion to be held.  
**Date:** March 5  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Paul's Smith's College Freer Auditorium  
**Features:** Catholic Climate Change Ambassadors from the Nation are invited to bring the light of faith to the topic of climate change. Dr. Gerry Gacia, head of Cardiology in Rochester, who has spoken several times in our Diocese on care for God's Creation, will be one of the panelists. Event is supported by Catholic Life, Faith and Ecology Groups in the Diocese. The Public is invited. No cost.  
**Contact:** For more information contact Curt Stager at cstager@paulsmiths.edu or Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ at sr-bethssj@gmail.com

CLINTON

SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Peru** - St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 will host an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner.  
**Date:** Feb. 20  
**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 6:30  
**Place:** St. Augustine's Parish center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$7.50; Children 6-12, \$2.50; under 5, Free; Families (parents and children), \$20  
**Features:** Take-outs are available. Dinner profits will assist local charities and council programs.

**SETON SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
**Plattsburgh** – The Seton Catholic National Honor Society is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner.  
**Date:** Feb. 27  
**Time:** 4 p.m. to 6:30  
**Place:** Seton Academy



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.

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children under 12, \$5  
**Features:** Take outs available, money is being raised to build four houses for the Mission of Hope this summer.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**West Chazy** – St. Joseph's Men's Club will host their Annual All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast.  
**Date:** March 6  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to noon  
**Place:** Parish center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$7.50; Children 6-10, \$3; under 5, free

ST. PATRICK'S DINNER

**Peru** - Catholic Daughters' Ct St Monica's will have their Annual St Patrick's Dinner.  
**Date:** March 12  
**Time:** 3:30 p.m. to 6:30  
**Place:** St. Augustine Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 4-12, \$5  
**Features:** Corned Beef or Ham dinner with all the trimmings. Irish Dancers, Traditional Irish music performed by Elisabeth Churchill and George Schnob, Guinness and Baileys for the adults, 50/50 raffle and take out available. Funds will be used to further charitable actions of the Court St Monica Catholic Daughters' of the Americas group.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

**Plattsburgh** – 40 Days for life to be held.  
**Date:** Feb. 10 – March 20  
**Place:** In front of Planned Parenthood  
**Time:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
**Contact:** Nancy Belzile at 518-593-6024 or nancys\_56@hotmail.com. More info at 40daysforlife.com/Plattsburgh

LENTEN ADORATION

**Plattsburgh** - St. Peter's will offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Chapel. Will conclude with Benediction on Tuesday of Holy Week at 7 p.m..  
**Schedule:** Mon. and Tues  
**Time:** 7:30 a.m. until 9 p.m.

FRANKLIN

BREAKFAST BUFFET

**Brushton** – St. Mary's will be having a breakfast buffet.  
**Date:** Feb. 14  
**Time:** 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center  
**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$4; 5 and under, free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, \$25  
**Features:** Take-outs available. Call 518-529-6580. Sponsored by St. Mary's Catholic Church events committee.

DOORS OF MERCY

**Malone** - This Lent, St. Andre Bessette Parish will be offering a special study for the Year of Mercy. "Doors of Mercy"  
**Schedule:** Two sessions being offered beginning Feb 10, Wed. from 10:30 a.m. to noon or Thurs. from 6 p.m. to 7:30  
**Place:** Notre Dame Parish center  
**Cost:** \$10 donation for materials; but all are welcome regardless of ability to give.  
**Features:** Doors of Mercy" is an eight-session, DVD and discussion group based study series exploring God's mercy in the covenants of the Bible, the Divine Mercy devotion, and the ways we can experience hope, healing, and mercy  
**Contact:** Registration forms and infor-

mation can be obtained by calling Michael Jacobs or Rachel Daly at Frassati House (521-3299) or calling the St. Andre Bessette Parish office (483-1300)

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

**Malone** – A Family Guggenheim Winter Event has been planned  
**Date:** Feb. 13  
**Time:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Place:** Holy Family School  
**Cost:** \$10, includes lunch  
**Features:** Fun, food, and prayer. Connect with old friends, meet new friends  
**Contact:** Steve Tartaglia at (315) 393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org, or

JEFFERSON

ADULT BIBLE COURSE

**Evans Mills** – An adult bible course to be held.  
**Date:** Introductory class, Feb. 24  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center  
**Features:** Part DVD and part discussion, running 90 minutes on eight Wednesdays. Start time is 6:30 p.m. Course materials are free.  
**Contact:** Students should register in advance at 767-1065.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Watertown** - Our Lady of the Sacred

Heart Church will hold a Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration.  
**Schedule:** Beginning Good Friday March 25 at 3 p.m. the Divine Mercy novena will begin by praying in the Chapel in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.; Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated April 3 at 3 p.m., there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Singing of the Chapel of Divine Mercy, & a procession. You may bring your own Divine Mercy picture to be specially blessed.  
**Contact:** For more info on Mercy Sunday call Judy at 315-783-7349 or visit www.thedivinemercy.org All parishes welcome.

HIBERNIANS SEEKS MEMBERS

**Watertown** – Ancient Order of Hibernians are looking for new members.  
**Features:** The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) the oldest and largest Irish Fraternal Organization in the World, is looking for new members. Are you a Catholic male, 17 years or older of Irish descent? The AOH will be visiting parishes across the North Country to spread the word about the charitable works we do across our community.  
**Contact:** nnyirish@gmail.com or Pat Keogh 519-1961 or Sean Hennessey 775-0570.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

Correction

The Lenten schedule for the IHC Mystery Players, printed below, is a corrected version of the one printed in the Feb. 10 issue of the North Country Catholic. We apologize for the error.

IMMACULATE HEART CENTRAL SCHOOL MYSTERY PLAYERS LENT 2016: "Oh, The Places We'll Go Tour"

Date	Place	Time
Feb. 12	Summit Village	Watertown 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 17	Holy Family Church	South Deerfield, MA 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 18	Newman Center	UMass-Amherst, MA 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 21	SSJ Motherhouse	Watertown 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 26	Sacred Heart Church	Watertown 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 28	St. Mary's Church	Evans Mills 7:00 p.m.
March 6	St. Mary's Church	Copenhagen 7:00 p.m.
March 11	St. Stephen's Church	Phoenix, NY 7:30 p.m.
March 13	St. Anthony's Church	Watertown 7:00 p.m.
March 17	St. Peter's Church	Rome, NY 7:30 p.m.
March 18	St. Matthew's Church	Voorheesville, NY 7:30 p.m.
March 19	Immaculate Conception Church	Fayetteville, NY 7:30 p.m.
March 25	St. Patrick's Church	Watertown 7:30 p.m.

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



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

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

# Mercy abounds

Lent 2016 is a wonderful time to seriously reflect upon and act upon our lives in light of the Year of Jubilee logo, "Merciful like the Father" taken from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36).

The logo serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (cfr. Lk. 6:37-38). The Gospels truly attest that Jesus was a man of mercy. Responding to his mother's need for wine at the "Wedding Feast at Cana", "Curing the Leper", and "Feeding the Five Thousand" are miracles Jesus performed as merciful responses to human needs.

Mark's Gospel (6:34) reminds us that even when he and his apostles needed rest, Jesus took mercy on a large crowd acting like sheep without a shepherd and sought to teach them. "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy... Jesus by his words, his actions and his entire person reveals the mercy of God" (Pope Francis, *Misericordia Vultus*, 1)

Jesus showed examples of mercy for us to follow and taught the meaning of mercy as people listened to the parable. In the parable of The Straying Sheep (Matt. 18:10-14) Jesus describes a shepherd who lost a sheep. The shepherd is not content to stay with the ninety-nine sheep but searches far and wide to bring back the one that had strayed. In listening to parables, Jesus trusted parables would open hearts to take pity when they recognized the need as did the shepherd. Is there someone we meet on our journey who has strayed? Are we willing to listen as they try to tell us they want to return to the Father? (Fr. John Hardon, *Modern Catholic Dictionary*) explains that "mercy differs from compassion or the feeling of sympathy in putting this feeling into practice with a readiness to assist".

Daily take time to reflect upon the kindnesses that you see and experience as mercy moments; Parents meeting the needs of children with food, clothing and shelter; Elderly looking out for each other; Professional people offering their services with no charge. These moments encourage us to want to open our hearts and eyes to reach out to our brothers and sisters in need.

On my short mission trip to Peru, I saw a little brother find a piece of bread, take a bite and share it with his four siblings. I saw children come down a mountain carrying a pail to fill with soup to carry it back up the mountain so the family could enjoy their one meal for that day...moments of love that I will never forget.

Please offer prayers, your greatest gift, to support and sustain the work of missionaries in developing countries as they share the mercy of Christ. May mercy to people in your midst abound in you this season of Lent.

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

## OBITUARIES

**Brasher Falls** - Richard M. Cudlipp, 63; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Canton** - Marie Elizabeth Creighton, 65; Funeral Services Feb. 8, 2016 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Colton.

**Canton** - Carson A. Emhof, 86; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at St. Mary's Church.

**Chateaugay** - Evelyn F.M. (Miller) Lagree, 94; Funeral Services Feb. 3, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Immaculate Heart Cemetery Churubusco.

**Hogansburg** - Michael F. Smith, Sr., 92; Funeral Services Feb. 4, 2016 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Akwesasne.

**Lake Placid** - Kevin Indzonka Conly, 49; Funeral Services Feb. 6, 2016 at St. Agnes Church; burial in Newburgh.

**Lyon Mountain** - Sean M. Byron, 21; Funeral Services Jan. 30, 2016 at St. Bernard's Church.

**Lyon Mountain** - David J. LaPoint, 65; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at St. Bernard's Church.

**Malone** - Barbara A. Robare, 79; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Massena** - Marty M. Jenkins, 69; Funeral

Feb. 1, 2016 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Mineville** - Robert L. Allen, 93; Funeral Services Feb. 1, 2016 at Church of All Saints.

**Norfolk** - Avis (Lavigne) Haggett, 77; Funeral Feb. 3, 2016 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

**Norwood** - Richard P. Clark, 46; Funeral Feb. 2, 2016 at the Buck Funeral Home; burial in Visitation Cemetery, Norfolk.

**Plattsburgh** - Lois Ann Hyland-Brooks, 86; Funeral Services Feb. 1, 2016 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Augustine's cemetery, Peru.

**Potsdam** - Robert H. Buck, 81; Funeral Services July 8, 2016 at St. Mary's Church.

**Redford** - Bernice (Plumadore) LaHart, 79; Funeral Services Feb. 6, 2016 at

Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

**Tupper Lake** - Marie Rose Gladys (LeBlanc) Kucipeck, 104; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Church.

**Tupper Lake** - Albert M. LaPointe, 88; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at the Stuart-Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in St. Alphonsus Parish Cemetery.

**Watertown** - Mary T. (Blake) Albro, 83; Funeral Services Feb. 4, 2016 at the Cummings Funeral Service, Inc.; burial in North Watertown Cemetery.

**Watertown** - James E. Brett, 87; Funeral Services Feb. 5, 2016 at Holy Family Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Watertown** - M. Suzanne (Keefe) Cuppernull, 84; Funeral Services Feb. 6, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery, Oswego.

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### 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

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# Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

## LEWIS

### LENTE EUCARISTIC ADORATION

**Lowville** – Lenten Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

**Dates:** Feb. 11, 18, 25 & March 3, 10, 17

**Time:** 4 p.m. to 5

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

## ST. LAWRENCE

### COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTERS

**Ogdensburg** – The Commissioned Lay Ministers Association will hold a Lenten afternoon of Prayer and Reflection.

**Date:** Feb. 20

**Time:** 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 followed by Mass at 4

**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral Bishop Brzana Hall

**Theme:** "Communicating God's Mercy" and will prove to enrich your Lenten journey of faith.

**Speaker:** Sr. Jennifer Votraw, SSI, diocesan coordinator of ministry to lay pastoral leaders

**Contact:** Register before Feb. 16 by contacting Jeannie Grizzuto at (315) 393-2920, Ext. 1413 or by email at: jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

### SUNDAY BRUNCH

**Norfolk** – The Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.

**Date:** Feb. 14

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** Fr. Amyot Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children under 12, \$5; Under 5, Free; Family of 4, \$20, each additional \$3; Take-outs available

### LENTE ADORATION

**Massena** – St. Mary's & St. Joseph will be offering Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Mon. & Fri. during Lent.

**Time:** 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**Features:** Spend some extra time with God in prayer. Adoration will be held in the side Chapel here at St. Mary's, just to the left of the sanctuary.

### MANICOTTI MONDAY

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

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

**Place:** Fr. Amyot Parish Center

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

**Contact:** Laurie at 315-384-4242

### FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

**Gouverneur** – A Family Guggenheim Winter Event has been planned

**Date:** Feb. 27

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Place:** St. James School

**Cost:** \$10, includes lunch

**Features:** Fun, food, and prayer. Connect with old friends, meet new friends

**Contact:** Steve Tartaglia at (315) 393-2920 startaglia@rcdony.org,

### FISH & SHRIMP

**Gouverneur** – Fish & Shrimp Fry to be held every Friday.

**Date:** Feb. 12 to March 25

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

**Place:** St. James School

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

**Features:** Take-outs available, phone ahead for faster service and deliveries, 287-0130.

## FAITH FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION



St Peter's faith formation classes in Lowville held an Inter-generational Day Jan. 24. Several of the student's grandparents volunteered to come into their grandchild's class and share the faith traditions their family practiced when they were growing up. The students got to hear how some traditions were familiar, but some were unfamiliar to them as well.

### MOVIE NIGHT AT THE CATHEDRAL

**Ogdensburg** – Movie night at the Cathedral has been planned

**Date:** Feb. 13

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Place:** Brzana Hall

**Features:** *Molokai: The Story of Fr. Damien* Will be featured. Based on a true story, this drama focuses on Father Damien (portrayed by David Wenham), a priest from Belgium who takes up a post at a Hawaiian leprosy settlement. Also starring Peter O'Toole, Sam Neil, Darek Jacobi and Kris Kristofferson. Rated PG-13, 2 hours. Popcorn and soda provided!

**Contact:** Amy at 315-393-3930

### EUCARISTIC 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

### HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

**Ogdensburg** – St. Mary's is holding a monthly Holy Hour for Vocations.

**Date:** Thursday before the First Friday

**Time:** 7 p.m. concluding with Benediction at 8 p.m.

**Place:** Deacon Winter Chapel

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

### RITE OF ELECTION

**Ogdensburg** – The Rite of Election for those entering the Catholic Church at Easter has been set

**Date:** Feb. 14

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

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

### LENTE DAY OF REFLECTION

**Ogdensburg** – A Lenten Day of Prayer & Reflection, a Year of Mercy program, for all involved in charitable apostolates in the Diocese of Ogdensburg has been planned.

**Date:** March 8

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2:30

**Place:** Wadhams Hall

**Program:** The presenters will be Deacon Mark and Theresa Bennett of St. Peter's Parish in Plattsburgh and Daughter of Charity Sister Donna Franklin. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop LaValley at 11:30 am. Lunch will follow. This day is open to all who are involved in the charitable works of our parishes and local communities' members of the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Project Gabriel, Catholic Daughters of America, Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries, Visiting Nurses, etc

**Registration:** There is no fee for the day, but participants are asked to complete the registration form available from pastors or the online registration at [www.rcdony.org/lenten](http://www.rcdony.org/lenten) by March 1. A registration form is also printed on page 7 of this Week's *North Country Catholic*.

### DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

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

**Dates:** 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

[stmarystpatrick.net](mailto:stmarystpatrick.net), 315-265-9680;

Father Douglas Lucia,

[frdoug@twcny.rr.com](mailto:frdoug@twcny.rr.com) or Father Bryan

Stitt, diocesan vocation director

[bstitt@rcdony.org](mailto:bstitt@rcdony.org)

### RACHEL'S VINEYARD

**Saranac Lake** – The spring Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreat will be offered.

**Date:** June 3-5

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge

**Features:** A Rachel's Vineyard retreat offers a safe, non-judgmental environment of hope and healing for those suffering after abortions. The chaplains for the spring retreat are Father Mark Reilly and Father Thomas Higman. The fall Rachel's Vineyard retreat will be held over Labor Day weekend Sept. 2 – 4. Confidential registration forms will be available soon.

**Contact:** For a list of retreat locations or for more information about Rachel's Vineyard visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org) and for local information [www.rcdony.org/pro-life](http://www.rcdony.org/pro-life).

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