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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 71, Number 8

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JUNE 8, 2016

Pope: God loves humble hearts

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - While the prayer of a proud person isn't strong enough to reach God's heart, the prayer of a humble and contrite heart is capable of opening wide the door to his mercy and love, Pope Francis said.

"God has one weakness: He has a weakness for the humble ones. In front of a humble heart, God opens his heart

fully," Pope Francis said June 1 during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

The pope continued his catechetical series on prayer, focusing on Jesus' parable of the Pharisee, who prayed with arrogance of his own assumed righteousness, and the tax collector, who would "not even raise his eyes to

heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'"

The Pharisee "prayed to himself," and his prayer was a display of his own merits and sense of superiority disguised as a "prayer of thanksgiving toward God," the pope said.

Jesus' parable, he continued, is a reminder for all

Christians that it is not enough to "ask ourselves how much we pray, but we must also ask ourselves how we pray."

Although life may run at a frantic pace, the tax collector's humble prayer shows "the value of intimacy and silence" which "allows God to meet us and speak to us," Pope Francis said.

NCC honored by Catholic Press Assoc.



North Country Catholic earns honorable mention for Best Coverage of Vocations to Priesthood, Religious Life or Diaconate: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

For Seton Schools

Susan FitzPatrick Pellerin is named Director of Advancement for Plattsburgh Catholic schools
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NEWLY ORDAINED



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

Deacon Michael J. Jablonski leaves St. John's Church in Plattsburgh following his ordination as a transitional deacon May 28. Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the ceremony. Deacon Todd E. Thibault, ordained earlier this year, is shown at his right. Both men are expected to be ordained priests for the Diocese of Ogdensburg in the coming months. More photos on page 5.

MEET THE STAFF: Nate, Abigail, John, Katy & Maura will be at Guggenheim, p.16

FOR YEAR OF MERCY

Pope leads priests' retreat



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO
Pope Francis carries a bouquet of flowers as he arrives to give a talk at a retreat for priests at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome June 2. The pope placed the flowers in front of the Marian icon, "Salus Populi Romani," (health of the Roman people). Walking next to the pope is Cardinal Santos Abril Castello, archpriest of the basilica. The retreat has been described as a "crash course" on mercy in priestly ministry.

FULL STORY, PAGE 11

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

President

REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN

Vice President

SR. JENNIFER VOTRAW, SSI

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager



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Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Mercy in the countryside

One of the many publications that regularly crosses my desk is "Catholic Rural Life," a quarterly magazine that seeks to "apply the teachings of Jesus Christ for the social, economic and spiritual development of rural America.

While the Catholic Rural Life Organization is based in Minnesota, it's a group that can certainly speak for us in Northern New York.

Doesn't this sound familiar?

Once the backbone of American society, today's rural communities face a number of challenges, both spiritual and material. A decline of priests and religious in the country-

side have left pastors of rural parishes stretched thin, hindering catechetical formation and a faith that truly lives. Simultaneously, poverty, unemployment, and an exodus of young people to urban areas have depleted America's rural communities of its characteristic win-some vitality.

Catholic Rural Life aims to revitalize the American countryside by training and equipping rural men and women to take leadership in their communities, parishes, and households. We believe that rural living represents a way of life worthy of promotion and protection, and is nat-

urally conducive to authentic spiritual and moral formation.

We recognize the unique connection between the Church and the countryside, well aware that the majority of priestly and religious vocations come from rural communities. With this in mind, it is no understatement to say that rural communities remain vital to the well-being of not only the country, but the Catholic Church.

Certainly one way that we in rural New York State can take leadership in revitalizing the American countryside is by practicing works of mercy, especially during our ongoing Year of Mercy.

Again, borrowing from the Catholic Rural Life Magazine, our efforts don't need to be

heroic. We can respond to basic needs of humanity by giving blood, volunteering in a nursing home or visiting a cemetery to pray for those we have lost.

More simple suggestions: "The next time you make a recipe that can easily be frozen, make a double batch and donate one to your local food pantry or soup kitchen."

"Take time on a Saturday to stop and visit with an elderly neighbor."

So many who sit next to us in the pews of our own parishes live mercy-filled lives without thinking about it but we all should think about it.

Every action of mercy makes a difference for our families, our communities, our Catholic Church.

Mary Lou
Kilian

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Discovering our happiness... every day

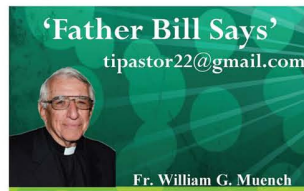
When I am undecided what to write to you, I do take some time in prayer. As usual the Holy Spirit comes through for me. Actually, this is what happened today.

Just this morning, I turned on a podcast as I was dressing using one of those apps on my telephone. I just accepted whatever turned up. It turns out the series that I discovered is called "Live Happy Now." It did seem rather interesting, so I listened.

This particular program was basically about happiness. It was an interview with a writer, Neil Pasricha who begins with his belief about how most of us, men and women, approach life. Most of us, he says, live our lives as problem solvers.

The day begins with a list of things to do – problems to solve – we approach these questions and concerns with one hope: that we will get them over and done with. It is all about a search for answers and often, it becomes a very stressful adventure.

His ideal, his suggestion of us is to begin with happiness.



He says this, be happy first since happiness is a choice. His message, it seems to me, is that the day should begin for us with a recognition of how blessed we are and how happy we should be that we are able to live this day. Such a spirit transforms a day, transforms the challenges that will be ours. He calls his blog 1000 Awesome Things. He sees awesome in things and events that would probably surprise us.

Here is what I discovered. This man's ideas are truly wonderful, even awesome. However, I have learned much of this from My Lord, Jesus Christ. This became even more recognizable to me in the Mass that celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Scriptures of the Mass pro-

claim to us God's great, even passionate love of God for us. And even more God loves us first. We do not earn God's love – God loves us even in our sins. We are a loved people and this is the cause of our happiness.

Each day when I remember in prayer God's great love for me, my day begins with joy and happiness and with deep gratitude, even enthusiasm. The day will be filled with great joy; even the simplest things will reflect happiness to me because of God's great love.

The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a powerful recognition of Christ's great love for us all. I know that you have seen a statue or painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your parish Church. Many of you have this image at home. Be sure to notice closely each of the meaningful facets in the image. Jesus' love for us is shown as the heart of Jesus coming right out of his chest right through his robes.

This heart of Jesus is surrounded by a crown of thorns. His powerful love is shown en-

flamed. Above it all is a cross. Jesus demonstrated his love for us thorough his passion and crucifixion, accepting it all for us in love. Recognizing this love of Our Lord, the love of Jesus floods our lives as Christians with happiness and gratitude.

Discovering our happiness and realizing in gratitude God's great love for us means that every day, every part of a day will be filled with the recognition that the Lord is reaching out to us. Indeed, we must be so grateful for this happiness. So many things that we may consider unimportant or even boring suddenly become special and joyful.

My prayer is that you discover these opportunities each day of your life. We can and should come up with our own 1000 Awesome Moments with Jesus. What can they be? A chance meeting, a brilliant idea, something that jumps off a page that we are reading, or something we hear. Each of these become very special – simply because we are filled with God's gift of happiness.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH CELEBRATE



Forty years ago, on May 30, 1976, the Sisters of St. Joseph moved from their Motherhouse on 362 West Main Street, Watertown to the new Motherhouse on 1425 Washington Street. The Sisters celebrated this anniversary with a Mass and luncheon May 28. The day's program featured a slide presentation of special events of the last 40 years and sharing of stories and memories of the move and experiences of the past four decades. Above, the six living major superiors of the Sisters of St. Joseph are shown at the luncheon. Seated is Sister Victorine Brenon; standing, Sisters Mary Ellen Brett, Annunciata Collins, Mary Eamon Lyng, Jennifer Votraw and Bernadette Marie Collins. Below, Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Richard Kennedy was the celebrant and homilist at the anniversary liturgy with nine priests concelebrating.



New advancement director is named at Seton Schools

PLATTSBURGH - Susan FitzPatrick Pellerin, currently the Director of International Students at Seton Catholic has accepted the position of Director of Advancement for The Seton Schools, succeeding Lynn Gilbert, who was recently appointed to the principal position effective July 1.

"The Education Council of The Seton Schools is excited to announce the appointment of Susan F. Pellerin to the position of Director of Advancement, said Mr. Chris Hay, president of the Education Council. "Suzy Fitz' is a longtime member of our Seton family, as an alum of St. John's Academy (SJA) Class of '77, parent of three successful Seton Catholic graduates, and valuable member of Seton Catholic's staff for nearly nine years.

"Mrs. FitzPatrick Pellerin has volunteered and supported St. John's Academy, Seton Academy and Seton Catholic for over twenty-five years, and we are proud to welcome her into this important role as we embrace new goals and directions for The Seton Schools," he said.

Mrs. Pellerin speaks highly of her roots in Catholic education and looks forward to welcoming new families and all of our alumni 'home' to Seton Catholic.

"I have always felt passionate about the Catholic education that my parents, siblings and I received at



Susan FitzPatrick Pellerin

both St. John's Academy (SJA) and Mount Assumption Institute (MAI)," she said, "and I am also very thankful that our three boys received that same gift at Seton Catholic.

Plattsburgh is blessed to have these fine schools and my hope is that together we can ensure that future generations will have the same opportunities to experience what it is like to be part of the Seton family," Mrs. Pellerin said.

The Seton Schools will be posting the position of Director of International Students following Mrs. Pellerin's appointment, and will be seeking qualified candidates to join our Seton family in the near future.



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CHEVROLET

Catholic author offers presentation at Immaculate Heart Central School

Speaker warns about New Age practices

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

WATERTOWN - With humor and a sharp wit, Catholic author Susan Brinkmann addressed approximately 50 people at Immaculate High School May 13 regarding the dangers of New Age beliefs and practices.

According to Ms. Brinkmann, the bottom line is to beware of false prophets, to learn to discern and to protect oneself through prayer and acquisition of knowledge.

"New Age is nothing but false prophets," she said. "They are wolves in sheep's clothing. Remember that by their fruits you will know them. Jesus is in a league all his own. Nobody can compare to him."

Ms. Brinkmann's discussion included information about yoga, Eastern meditation, reiki, acupuncture, mediums, the devil, the occult and many New Age "self-help" and motivational books.

The New Age movement doesn't recognize the presence of evil, she said, and often has the occult interwoven into many practices.

Self over divine

One of the main characteristics is the emphasis of the self over the divine. Other elements are pantheism, the belief everyone is divine, that we ourselves are the ultimate authority, that there is no good or evil, there is no need for grace, people can perfect themselves, and that Christ is another prophet and not the divine Son of God.

Other common beliefs of New Age are that plants and animals are equal to humans and that the universe has intelligence known only to the "enlightened," Ms. Brinkmann said.

"New Age is characterized by 'I decide what the truth is.' Grace is replaced by self-en-



PHOTO BY KRISTINA DEAN

Author and speaker Susan Brinkmann, left, is shown after her May 13 presentation at Immaculate Heart Central in Watertown during which she addressed the dangers of New Age beliefs and practices. She is pictured with two Women of Grace representatives who joined her in leading a training session for potential Young Women of Grace facilitators at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse May 14. In the center is New Jersey Regional Coordinator of Women of Grace Susan Jacobsen. At right is New York Regional Coordinator Mary Dillenback of Fishers Landing. Ms. Jacobsen and Mrs. Dillenback co-authored the Facilitator/Teacher Guide to the Young Women of Grace Study.

lightenment," she said.

Calling it the human potential movement, she said there was a long list of self-help and motivational books and personalities that teach "you can make anything happen with your mind."

They use methods which are cult-like she said and likened some techniques to brainwashing. Some businesses and companies have built teamwork sessions in which can have eastern religious and world views.

"Is it bad to think positively, no, but when you say you are going to change reality with your mind, that's when you cross the line," she said.

Begin to question a program if it says the mind is God, if it claims to have secret knowledge, often through angels, guides or a channel, or if critical thinking is discouraged, she said.

Ms. Brinkmann also warned about anything that talks about achieving enlightenment, which uses eastern meditation to "enter into an altered state."

Altered states, including hypnosis, can open a person to the supernatural realm and contact with spirits who are really demons, she said.

Tactics to watch are a repeated mantra, certain body postures and movement, and blanking the mind, she said.

"The dangers cannot be overstated," she said. "Emptying the mind is not a dialogue with God. This is not prayer."

Controversial topic

The author also tackled the controversial topic of yoga which uses certain stretches and body postures based on Hindu gods.

Through yoga, Hindus aim to achieve total liberation

from the human condition. The eight limbs or levels of yoga are how they ascend to enlightenment.

The religion encourages a chant sound to call forth pagan gods; it invites the gods in, she said. Some body positions are celebrations of the gods, and the poses reenact the stories of the Hindu deities and are a form of worship.

"The Hindus are very devoted to this," she said. "They are a very peaceful people. Yoga is the center of their life."

Ms. Brinkmann stressed that yoga is not an exercise. "It's not just a motion," she said. "It means something they believe in. They are very offended by what we've done. We've degraded it."

Hindus did not create yoga to stretch muscles and make people limber, she said.

Yoga often causes serious

injuries as well, Ms. Brinkmann said, although this is not well publicized because it is a 27 billion dollar industry in the United States and is "too big to fail," she said.

Beware of reiki

Another practice to avoid is reiki, Ms. Brinkmann said. There are no medical standards for this practice, she said, and anyone can get a certificate to practice. It relies on a spirit guide who uses the practitioner as a channel.

Proponents for reiki claim that they heal with the Holy Spirit, Ms. Brinkmann said, but in reality "they could be calling anything down on you."

Ms. Brinkmann ended her discussion by warning about the devil and his powers of evil. He will use any means against us, she cautioned.

"He uses his incredible powers against us," she said. "He has no power against God, so he goes after us. He is a liar, he uses deception and he hides behind every-

thing. "When a medium calls out, guess who answers? He is a diabolical entity who hates you. He doesn't care if you don't believe. This is why no one can dabble in the occult," she said.

God will never work through a medium, she said. He doesn't need a medium's help. So who is appearing? The demonic entities are behind it," she said.

After her presentation, Ms. Brinkmann answered audience questions.

She is the author of *Learn to Discern: Is it Christian or New Age?* (2008) and is the staff journalist for Women of Grace and a frequent guest on EWTN's Women of Grace show with Johnette Benkovic.

Ms. Brinkmann is a member of the Third Order of Discalced Carmelites (secular) and also wrote *The Kinsey Corruption* (2004).

CALLED TO SERVE

NEW DEACON ORDAINED

Bishop Terry R. LaValley ordains Deacon Michael Jablonski May 28 at St. John's Church in Plattsburgh



PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

Deacon Michael J. Jablonski is shown with his parents, Joseph and Rachel Jablonski, and Bishop Terry R. LaValley after his ordination as a transitional deacon May 28 at St. John the Baptist Church in Plattsburgh. Deacon Jablonski will assist at Holy Family Church in Watertown this summer before returning to the Pontifical College Josephinum for a final year of seminary study before his expected ordination as a priest in 2017.



Bishop LaValley imposed his hands on the new deacon's head in the moment of ordination.



During the ordination liturgy, each of the deacons present - including Deacon John Lucero of Keeseville - came forward to offer the new deacon a sign of peace



During the rite of ordination, Deacon Jablonski prostrated himself before the altar as he and the assembly joined in a Litany of Supplication, asking for God's mercy and the intercession of all the saints to send down the Holy Spirit upon him.

Registration open for INSPIRE: Called to Love

LAKE PLACID – Registration is underway for INSPIRE: Called to Love, the diocesan Vocations Summit set for Sept. 25 at the Olympic Center Complex.

The free all-day conference features a keynote address by Bishop Robert Barron, the creator and host of the *Catholicism* series, as well as presentations by other internationally known Catholic speakers.

The purpose of the Vocations Summit is to celebrate the universal call to holiness and its manifestation in the

vocations of Christian marriage and family life, the single state, the consecrated religious life, and the ordained priesthood and diaconate.

The doors open at 9 a.m., Bishop Terry R. LaValley will lead the opening prayer at 10:30 a.m. and Bishop Barron's presentation will begin at 11.

Afternoon breakout sessions will feature George Weigel, biographer of Pope St. John Paul II; Jennifer Fulwiler, author and radio host; and Bishop Christopher

Coyne, Bishop of Burlington, Vermont, and Chairman of the USCCB Communications Committee.

The annual diocesan Youth Rally will be a component of the Vocations Summit; the youth will attend Bishop Barron's keynote address and then participate in their breakout session and activities, joining at the conclusion of the day for Mass.


The summit will close with the celebration of Mass at 3:15 p.m.

Further information, the full schedule for the day and registration forms are available at www.inspirecalledtolove.org.

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

- Read Bishop LaValley's columns
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Bishop's Schedule

June 9 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St.

Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

1 p.m., Meeting with the Priests of Jefferson & Lewis Deanery at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

June 11-17 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Spring Assembly in Huntington Beach, CA

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440. Upcoming sessions:
June 9 - 6:30 p.m., Woodman Life Office, Boynton St., Plattsburgh
June 20 - 9:30 a.m., Camp Guggenheim, Saranac Lake

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

Rest in Peace

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

June 8 – Rev. James J. McGowan,

1961; Deacon Ronald Cornea, 1995

June 9 – Rev. James Bolton, O.S.A.,

1925; Rev. John W. Ryan, 1982

June 10 – Rev. Augustus Gaudet,

O.M.I., 1895; Rev. Alfred J. Boulteric,

1952; Rev. Rupert P. Hajna,

O.F.M.Conv., 1979

June 11 – Rev. Lawrence K. Brady,

1993

June 12 – Rev. Eugene A. Kelly, 2001;

Rev. Francis J. Coryer, 2012

June 14 – Rev. Hermidas Mayer,

1927; Rev. Thomas A. Kiley, O.S.A.,

1954; Rev. William J. Deacy, O.S.A.,

1960; Rev. Arthur Desrosiers, 1963;

Msgr. Walter T. Cleary, 1968

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC HAS GONE GREEN



Here is what one subscriber has to say:



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

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

Environmental Stewardship

"...too much tilling and not enough keeping."

A master gardener once remarked that successful gardening is about growing soil. It is the care that one takes in keeping the soil rich that will produce good fruits.

In Father James Martin's Ten Things You Need to Know about Laudato Si, he notes: "Discussions about ecology can be grounded in the Bible and Church tradition. Chapter 2 shows how the call to care for creation extends back as far as the Book of Genesis where mankind was called to 'till and keep the garden of the world.' – "but sadly we have done too much tilling and not enough keeping."

Pope Francis notes that "the harmony between the Creator, humanity and creation as a whole was disrupted by our presuming to take the place of God and refusing to acknowledge our creaturely limitation. This in turn distorted our mandate to "have dominion" over the earth (Gen. 1:28) and . . . has encouraged the unbridled exploitation. . . ." This is not a correct interpretation of the Bible as understood by the Church. "Tilling" refers to cultivating, ploughing or working, while "keeping" means caring, protecting, overseeing and preserving. This implies a relationship of mutual responsibility between human beings and nature.

"Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations." (Para. #66,67)

As we celebrate this one year anniversary of Pope Francis' Laudato Si on June 18, let us pray that we and the whole world may grow with the wisdom and strength needed to nurture, protect and preserve the gift of life and the climate that supports it.

Consider one action that can make this prayer become a reality this week.

What an anniversary gift!!

A VOICE OF FAITH

Healing power of a vineyard

By Andrew Lauria
Contributing writer

Working in a vineyard is an amazing thing; amazing because you are afforded the opportunity to participate in one of the oldest forms of farming known to man, amazing because you are directly responsible for bringing such a sensitive crop to its perfected end, and amazing because in the midst of this arduous task, you are personally transformed by the process.

Somehow, through the working of my hands with the plants, repeating the same process over and over, literally thousands of times, I began to come to life again

To work in a vineyard is to participate in a work that is totally and completely involving of your whole self.

There are many references to vineyards and wine in scripture. One of the most well-known is John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."

Just as popular is the record of Christ's very first miracle; turning water into good wine. Not to mention the very important use of wine in the liturgy. You almost have to be a wine drinker to fully understand scripture!

I had the opportunity to live and work on a vineyard/winery for a year, and I was surprised by how my faith became more alive as a result of the experience. It was a jam-packed, whirlwind year that was lined with challenge, adventure, suffering, and a lot of growth.

At the time I intellectually



Andrew Lauria, center, of Wells spent a year working in a vineyard in Virginia shortly after the death of his mother. He is shown with winemaker Theo Smith and Matt Hewitt, another member of the production team.

understood the work that I was doing, but I didn't understand the work that it was doing to me.

It was a very challenging year of my life and not because of the multiple poison ivy-induced visits to the emergency room, visits where my ethnicity was regularly mistaken because of the effects of the Virginian sun on my Sicilian skin.

No, it was a difficult time as I arrived on the vineyard shortly after the death of my mother.

I needed to get out of Dodge in order to begin the grieving process, and it was a willing friend who hired me to work under him on the vineyard.

I moved to Northern Virginia with the single intention of just getting away from the trauma that I had just experienced. Nobody at the winery knew why I had suddenly appeared, and I preferred it that way. I began right away with annual spring pruning. I spent all day, every day, outside working hard and I loved it.

Some days I would be alone, pruning or leaf-pulling very long rows of vines and I would lose track of time. I would think about all sorts of things but a lot of the time I just focused on the sunshine and the plant in front of me. Somehow, through the working of my hands with the plants, repeating the same process over and over, literally thousands of times, I began to come to life again.

Although the problems of my life hadn't necessarily worked themselves out, I regained my energy and my desire to live a full life began to increase. There is a new perspective that comes as a result of placing yourself at the foot of your thoughts and allowing yourself to just be there.

This is what happens in our life with Christ. He works out our problems, he listens to our call, and he

slowly but deliberately forces us to grow in new ways, sometimes clipping our leaves to let in more light, sometimes removing entire sections of our trunk in order to redirect our life entirely.

And sometimes the neighboring vine is removed because it has become sick and has died. Vines grow in new ways when not hemmed in by old neighbors.

I lived this experience first-hand. I worked so hard to encourage each plant to grow in a particular way in order to help it produce the best fruit possible.

Christ worked so hard on me to help me get back on my feet, shake off the depression and fear, and get my life moving again. And even though I didn't find the answers to many questions that I was asking during that chapter in my life, I did find Christ encouraging me to take larger risks, to come to a better understanding of the true desires of my heart, and to start living with the courage to pursue those things.

Through a supportive team dynamic, countless hours of hard labor, and a little bit of sunshine, I too grew like a vine that year, one that continues to grow better fruit each season.



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SPRINGTIME IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

FACES OF FAITH



Some members of the Memorare Legacy Society of the Diocese of Ogdensburg recently gathered at St. Mary Cathedral for a Mass and luncheon. The Memorare Society is a group of pastors and parishioners who have named either a parish, Catholic school, favorite ministry or program, Missionary Projects of the Diocese, St. Joseph's Nursing Home or the diocese as a beneficiary in their will, life insurance policy or a charitable gift annuity. Above, seated from left, are Father Richard Sturtz, Loretta Lanzione of Clayton, and Judy and Patrick Pearson of Watertown; standing, Bishop Terry LaValley, Scott Lalone, executive director of the diocesan Office of Development, Father Bryan Stitt, Father Joseph Morgan, vicar general, and Father Daniel Chapin. The Memorare Society has 30 members throughout the diocese. Further information is available from Scott Lalone at 315-393-2920 or slalone@rcdony.org.

PHOTO BY KELLY BURTH
A class of 36 children received First Holy Communion May 15 at St. Bernard's Church in Saranac Lake. Pictured are 35 of the students with pastor, Father Patrick Ratigan, and parochial vicar, Father Thomas Higman.



Bishop LaValley recently heard confessions and celebrated Mass at Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora. Pictured with him are Deacon Frank Bushey, chaplain; his wife, Cindy; daughter, Marie; Msgr. Dennis Duprey who assisted with confessions and Dr. John Ettling, President of SUNY Plattsburgh with his wife, Lisa Lewis.



The Altar and Rosary Society of Holy Family Church in Watertown sponsored a Mother's Day bake sale. Funds raised help to provide for the needs of the altar such as linens, wine, hosts, vestments and candles. The group has also sponsored youngsters at Camp Guggenheim and collects warm lap robes to distribute to parish shut-ins at Christmas. The ladies featured here are Loretta Esposito, Teddy Laplante, Florence Heldt and Joyce Surace.




FAITH | WORSHIP | WITNESS



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THE WEEKEND OF
JUNE 11 & 12, 2016

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Neighbors to the north facing challenges of evangelization in a changing era

Quebec parishes becoming missionary centers

By Philippe Vaillancourt
Catholic News Service

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) - Catholic parishes in Quebec province have undergone transformation in recent years as most of them were merged into new entities. But perhaps the biggest challenge lies ahead as the Catholic Church promotes what it calls a "missionary turning point."

The challenge far exceeds the closure and merging of parishes and selling of churches that have been occurring for many years. It is seen more as a spiritual challenge that demands church structures to be themselves converted

The so-called turning point is detailed in a 30-page document published by the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops in January in which it is presented as the ultimate finality of the ongoing parish reorganizations.

For the assembly, the challenge far exceeds the closure and merging of parishes and selling of churches that have been occurring for many years. It is seen more as a spiritual challenge that demands church structures to be themselves converted.

"It's not about creating, next to our ongoing programs and activities, a missionary component aimed at those who don't know Christ. It's about converting all of our pastoral activities to make them missionary," says the document.

It also asks Catholics to ponder if the parish reorganizations really are missionary in nature or if they are just meant to preserve a status quo and save money.

Father Marc Pelchat, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Quebec, explained that the turnaround rests on two

main ideas: elaborating within each local community a pastoral evangelization project and making sure the project is managed by the baptized themselves.

Parish reorganizations should not be done simply to compensate for the declining number of priests because it is a process in which everyone must participate, Father Pelchat said.

"Parish reorganization should rekindle an evangelization project, to go toward groups and people with whom we have no contact," he explained. "For that, we need a conversion of our organization, but also of our pastoral vision, our mentality, and our means of action. We mustn't get entangled in our structures, we need to free some time."

In upcoming years, church leaders will not only ask parishioners to accept major structural changes in the parishes they have always known, but they also will ask them to get more involved in the church's spiritual mission.

The process already is underway in some Quebec dioceses, such as the Diocese of Trois-Rivieres, halfway between Montreal and Quebec City.

"So far, the local reaction is great. We're, of course, well aware that this process leaves some people wary and worried," said Jasmine Johnson, diocesan director of communications. "But we're all in this together. We're implementing this project in close partnership with the grassroots communities."

The diocese is completing the early stages of implementing the missionary turnaround. Diocesan leaders have met the members of the base communities, discussing the mission of the church and the responsibilities of the baptized members themselves.

Diocesan officers and local leaders, called "peers," regularly meet to discuss church leadership, faith education



CNS PHOTO/PHILIPPE VAILLANCOURT, PRESENCE

The exterior of St. Pascal de Kamouraska Church in St. Pascal, Quebec, is seen in a 2011 photo. The church is one of the many places where local faith communities are undergoing a change to become missionary in nature.

and the quest for meaning. About 130 of these peers have met so far and they return to share what they have learned in discussions with their local communities.

Trois-Rivieres has only a dozen active priests, Johnson said, adding that there's no indication that these figures may change anytime soon.

Yet, she says, parishioners must avoid thinking that adopting a missionary attitude is a strategy to respond to the lack of priests.

"We want to be close and supportive of our local faith

weigh in the alternatives," Johnson said. "We're, of course, well aware that some people won't be happy by some of the decisions that will be taken. Some parishes will quickly take the missionary turnaround; others will have to be accompanied all the way through. Yet, it must not be a top-down process. The decisions must come from the grass-roots communities themselves. That's the whole idea of the process."

Further east along the St. Lawrence River, the Diocese of St. Anne de la Pocatiere also is on track for such a missionary turnaround. The diocese had 200 priests in 1976; however, it has ordained just eight priests in the last 40 years. Father Simon-Pierre Pelletier, the diocese's vicar general, said it would be irresponsible to let the 26 remaining priests maintain the status quo.

"What's at stake right now is the inevitable death of an age-old model of the church. Nobody loves to see something agonize and die," Father Pelletier said.

He expressed confidence that the diocese will eventually succeed in its parish reorganization plan. In a few years he expects that a diocesan missionary team will likely go to local parish communities supported by lay people.

Taking a step aside to contemplate the ongoing process in the aforementioned dioceses, Father Pelchat remains confident yet cautious about the missionary turnaround because some communities may not be able to go through the entire process.

"The missionary turnaround will most likely be a partial success," he said. "Some local faith communities will probably vanish. The remaining Christians will gather together differently. The idea of the parish isn't called into question, but its structure has already changed. It must change. And it will change again."

communities. Yet, we're so stuck-up and worried about the future of our church buildings that we're running out of money to properly do that kind of community outreach," Johnson said.

The next step of the missionary turnaround will address human and financial resources, as well as the future of church properties. Some parishes and local communities must face difficult decisions, which may involve the closure of some churches.

"I'm fully convinced that our people will be able to

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Take the high road, Bishop Coyne tells Catholic communicators

ST. LOUIS (CNS) -- In today's age of cyberbullying and online vitriol, be sure to take the high road and build people up rather than tear them down, Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Burlington, Vermont, told Catholic communicators attending the Catholic Media Conference. "What can I say to make things better? What are the words that may impart grace to those who hear?" the bishop, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Communications, asked the group to consider June 2. He said he knew the journalists in the room were "acutely aware of the significant decline in the tenor of public discourse" during the last few years, a fact that is readily apparent in publications' comment boxes and social media. In such an environment, the bishop urged communicators to lift up good examples of humanity, charity and grace and if possible, "engage in some form of active ministry to others: feeding, housing, counseling, visiting or praying." "We have to be even more careful to be reflective rather than reactive," he added saying there is already enough anger and coarseness out there. "Let's just not add to it."

Extreme faith: God makes big demands, gives infinite love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Catholicism is a faith of extremes where God makes tough demands while always offering his unconditional love, a U.S. bishop told priests taking part in their jubilee for the Year of Mercy. When preaching or communicating church teaching, some priests might emphasize the high ideals needed for holiness and others might underline God's loving, inclusive embrace of even his wayward children, Auxiliary Bishop Robert E. Barron of Los Angeles told Catholic News Service June 2. But these two poles are not mutually exclusive, he said. "We are not an 'either-or' religion, we're the great 'both-and' religion" in which nothing can get in the way of divine mercy -- "it moves into the arena of sin, it can never be trumped," he said. Bishop Barron was one of seven priests chosen to offer a catechesis on mercy during the Jubilee for Priests and Seminarians in Rome June 1-3. He presented his talk to English-language speakers at the Basilica of St. Andrea della Valle June 1.

Church needs courageous women like Mary, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The church needs the service of the many women who continue to follow Mary's example of courage and service despite the odds, Pope Francis said during Mass May 31. Women who serve with joy to bring their families forward in life, to ensure their children's education and who "face so many adversities and who heal the sick" are courageous, the pope said. Commemorating the feast of the Visitation, when the pregnant Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist, the pope said the memorial is a "breath of fresh air" that highlights the importance of joy in Christian life. Christians who are sad, he said, can seem "ugly" and although "they think they are Christian, they are not fully." Joy is the Christian message "which today's liturgy gives us as a gift." The pope noted Mary's courageous service in visiting her cousin Elizabeth despite being pregnant herself. "Service is a Christian sign. Those who do not live to serve," serve very little purpose in life. "To serve with joy: this is the attitude that I would like to underline today. There is joy and also service; always (willing) to serve," he said.

VATICAN LETTER

Rome retreat: Pope offers 'crash course' on mercy in priestly ministry

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The spiritual retreat Pope Francis offered priests and seminarians as part of the Jubilee of Priests could be seen as a "crash course" on the role of mercy in priestly ministry.

His series of three meditations in three Roman basilicas June 2 and Mass June 3 were to be "a full immersion because Pope Francis' heart is immersed in the heart of Jesus the Good Shepherd," said Archbishop Jorge Patron Wong, secretary of seminaries at the Congregation for Clergy.

The pope wanted the jubilee for priests and seminarians to be a time to step back from busy schedules and "find a bit of respite, relief, solace in the heart of the Good Shepherd, in the arms of the good Lord's mercy," the archbishop said.

The three days of prayer, reflection and liturgies aim to help priests sharpen their focus on Christ and his infinite love and mercy, and recall that all graces and gifts received were given "not because we are great or worthy of his love, but because he is merciful," the archbishop said.

In his meetings with clergy, homilies and through his own lived example, Pope Francis has already given priests clear standards and concrete advice, filling some with a mixture of inspiration and fear.

"You certainly brought about a Copernican Revolution" for the church with this new manner of speaking, living and interacting with people, one priest told the pope during a Q & A in Caserta, Italy, in 2014.

Because, he said, the pope was triggering an existential crisis for priests, he asked what they needed to do to be the right kind of pastor for the third millennium.

While the priest lamented that the church always seems behind the times, the pope disproved the image of a revolution, saying the energy needed to bring God's mercy to the world is not about upheaval, but about revolving always and every day around Christ.

The priestly ministry is centered on Christ, and past popes have focused on very different, yet interlocking, aspects of the Good Shepherd when they've talked about the role of the priest.

St. John Paul II liked to emphasize holiness - God's "incessant call to sanctification" and the need to strive to be saints.

His own priestly ordination fell on the feast of All Saints and, celebrating his 50th anniversary Nov. 1, 1996, he explained how ordination gives priests the unique power to bring the sacraments to the people, which helps them on their path to leading holier lives.

"The priest exists to offer the faithful the means Christ made available for this journey of progressive sanctification," he said. By offering the sacraments, "the priest becomes the servant of sanctity and communion of the baptized."

Pope Benedict XVI often emphasized the priests' special familiarity with and dedication to God's truth. The priest, as pastor, was to guide the faithful along the right path that leads to true joy and happiness.

"As priests we must communicate to people the joy for the fact that the right way in life has been shown," he said, concluding the Year for Priests in 2010.

The Good Shepherd, for Pope Benedict, was also a strong fearless guardian. The shepherd's staff must be used, he said, to "protect the faith against counterfeiters, against tendencies that are, in reality, disorienting." And the staff is also strong support to help one "walk on difficult paths and follow the Lord."

Yet that strength and determination are found in humility and tireless service, he showed, when he held up St. John Vianney -- the patron saint of parish priests - as the role model for priests.

"The Cure of Ars was very humble," he said in his letter declaring the Year for Priests. "A good shepherd, a pastor after God's heart, is the greatest treasure which the good Lord can grant to a parish, and one of the most precious gifts of divine mercy," he quoted the priest as saying.

So many of the virtuous qualities Pope Benedict highlighted in St. Vianney mirror the same things Pope Francis has been underlining.

The French priest was "a great hospital of souls," he was available day and night for his people, "ready to listen and offer forgiveness"; he knew it was not the sinner who returns to God, but "God who runs after the sinner and makes him return to him," Pope Benedict wrote in his letter.

Pope Francis told priests in Rome that his focus on mercy comes from St. John Paul, who had the prophetic intuition "that this was the time for mercy," and that "slowly it progressed" from there.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Common theme: God's unbelievable mercy

Another Sunday whose whole theme is God's mercy.

Pope Francis, is so anxious that the world draw closer to the God who created us with such love that he focuses our attention on mercy as "the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness".

The common theme of God's unbelievable mercy ties together the first reading about King David's plea for forgiveness for his terrible sin of murder and adultery, and the Gospel about the sinful woman who



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

throws herself on the mercy of Jesus as he dines at the house of Simon the Pharisee.

Again, Pope Francis has said that Jesus is "the face of God's mercy".

David, the best king in all of Israel's history, had nevertheless given in to lustful desires. His desire for Bathsheba was so uncontrolled that he deliberately had her husband murdered, then took his attractive wife for his own pleasure.

When the prophet, Nathan very bravely confronts David about this sin, the King breaks down and begs forgiveness of God.

Considering all the great favors God had bestowed on David - protecting him from Saul, providing divine assistance against David's enemies, giving him a glorious kingdom, the king had already seriously offended God by his ingratitude.

Add to this his serious sins of murder and adultery, and we are amazed that the Lord still loves David, and forgives him!

The Gospel gives us another instance of God's mercy at a banquet in the house of Simon, the Pharisee.

A woman comes into the banquet room uninvited, and shocks the whole gathering by her actions.

Bursting into tears, she falls at Jesus' feet. She

JUNE 12

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13

Galatians 2:16, 19-21

Luke 7:36—8:3

breaks every social rule by letting down her hair, touching this man, and even kissing his feet. Then, she pours soothing oil over those feet.

Jesus not only does not prevent her from doing this, but even explains to Simon that her great faith has merited God's forgiveness for her sins.

Then, Jesus concludes with a very human touch.

Jesus points out to Simon that his neglect of providing water and oil for his guests as they arrived, has been more than made up for by the behavior of this well-known sinner.

The second reading from Galatians tells us that faith is the necessary condition for receiving mercy. St. Paul's words declare that it is faith that merits God's forgiveness.

Without faith, David would never have asked for God's forgiveness, nor would the penitent woman of this Gospel, whose great faith and love so pleases Jesus.

Only through God's mercy will we ever know the blessedness and joy of heaven.

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

Research on embryos and the '14-Day Rule'

Arguments in favor of research on human embryos typically play off our unfamiliarity with the way that we ourselves once appeared and existed as embryos.

Humans in their tiniest stages are indeed unfamiliar to us, and they hardly look anything like "one of us." Yet the undeniable conclusion, that every one of us was once an embryo, remains an indisputable scientific dogma, causing a "fingernails on the chalkboard" phenomenon for researchers every time they choose to experiment on embryos or destroy them for research.

To enable scientists to get beyond the knowledge that they're experimenting on or destroying fellow humans, clever strategems and justifications have had to be devised.

Among the more successful of these approaches has been the well-known "14-day rule." This rule, as noted in a recent article in the journal *Nature*, repre-

sents "a legal and regulatory line in the sand that has for decades limited in vitro human-embryo research to the period before the 'primitive streak' appears.

Historically speaking, the 14-day rule arose largely as a mechanism for justifying what had previously been considered immoral, even unthinkable, research.

This is a faint band of cells marking the beginning of an embryo's head-to-tail axis... The formation of the primitive streak is significant because it represents the earliest point at which an embryo's biological individuation is assured.

Before this point, embryos can split in two or fuse together. So some people reason that at this stage a morally significant individual comes into being."

Most people have an instinctive moral awareness

when they reflect on the reality that adults come from embryos.

A particular conclusion organically follows, namely, that any decision to interrupt an embryo's growth and development involves a willingness to destroy a prospective infant, child, teenager, and adult.

Even the natural potential for the splitting and fusing of embryos does not substantively alter the fact that adults arise from embryonic origins when traced back far enough along their particular developmental trajectories. If anything, the possibility that an early embryo might divide and make twins means that a decision to destroy such an embryo might involve "double" the evil, since two future adults are being exploited and exterminated rather than just one.



Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk Ph.D.

It is also worth emphasizing that the 14-day rule, despite protestations to the contrary, has not actually restricted real-world human embryo research to any appreciable degree, because scientists have lacked the ability, until quite recently, to culture human embryos in the lab for any length of time beyond about a week.

In fact, it was only in 2016 that several new studies figured out how to grow human embryos beyond what the 14-day rule might forbid.

The rule, thus, was an agreed-upon convention of no practical significance for any researchers who may have been carrying out experiments on embryonic humans in recent decades.

Considering the fact that the rule may now actually begin to hamper what some of them are interested in

doing, they are pushing, unsurprisingly, to "revisit" and "recalibrate" the rule.

Historically speaking, the 14-day rule arose largely as a mechanism for justifying what had previously been considered immoral, even unthinkable, research.

The rule enabled serious human rights violations to proceed apace under the pretext of providing restrictions and regulatory limitations. By feigning that the 14-day-rule was somehow an ethical tenet grounded in biological facts, promoters of the rule devised a clever way of offering lip service to the moral status of the human embryo.

They implied that one could show respect for the human embryo through the establishment of such a rule, even though the rule objectively demonstrated no more respect for vulnerable humanity than German researchers during the war would have, had they declared a "14-year rule",

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AT THE MOVIES

ME BEFORE YOU

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

The folks behind the grand-scale weepie "Me Before You" (Warner Bros.) clearly intend their audience to come to the multiplex armed with an abundant supply of tissues. Regrettably, though, any tears shed by viewers of faith will turn out to be bitter ones.

What begins as a charming love story with a strong pro-life message veers off course toward a climactic endorsement of behavior no one committed to scriptural values can accept.

That's a pity, because director Thea Sharrock's adaptation of the 2012 novel by Jojo Moyes (who wrote the screenplay) initially has a lot going for it: an attractive, talented cast and a poignant Cinderella story that tugs at the heartstrings.

Louisa "Lou" Clark (Emilia Clarke) is a vibrant 26-year-old with a single goal in life: to support her tight-knit family. Her father, Bernard (Brendan Coyle), is out of work, so it's up to Lou to

bring home the bacon in the quaint English town they call home.

Despite her total lack of relevant experience, Lou throws caution to the winds by becoming caretaker and companion to wheelchair-bound local resident Will Traynor (Sam Claflin).

Handsome, wealthy and adventurous, Will was on top of the world until he was struck by a motorcycle in an accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down.

Now, two years later, he's become withdrawn, bitter, and cynical. Needless to say, Lou provides a much-needed breath of fresh air. Slowly but surely, she wins her charge over with her quirky style and appealing demeanor.

"I have become a whole new person because of you," Will says.

Predictably, the couple fall in love, and Lou envisions their future together.

So far so good. Lou's sincere, tender devotion to Will is exemplary, reminding viewers that life is to be cherished in every circum-

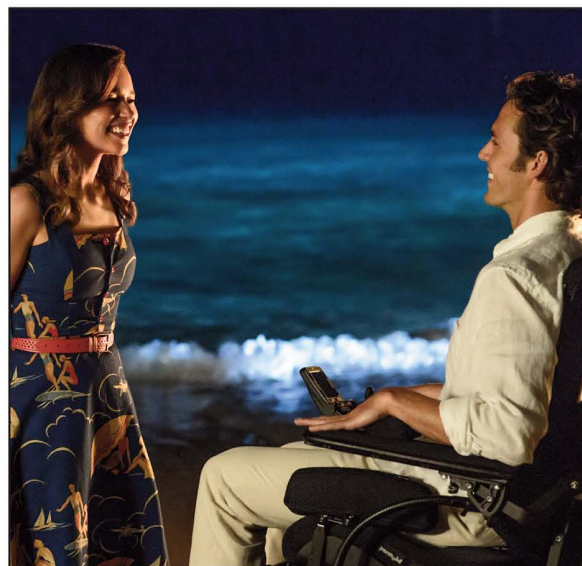
stance -- all the more so where disability has rendered it vulnerable.

Some of the dialogue expresses an equally positive outlook. "You only get one life," Will admonishes Lou. "It's actually your duty to live it as fully as possible."

With all that to the film's credit, accordingly, it comes as a perplexing shock when Will, who has already attempted suicide once, persists in a plan to travel to Switzerland where he can "die with dignity" and no longer be a burden to society.

Not everyone, of course, is supportive of Will's death wish. Lou is devastated, whisking Will off to the tropics in an effort to convince him that life is worth living. Her mother, Josie (Samantha Spiro), calls Will's plan murder.

Yet Will's supportive but smothering parents, Stephen (Charles Dance) and Camilla (Janet McTeer), are resigned to losing their son. And the script ultimately puts an unmistakable seal of approval on Will's blatant rejection of the gift of life.



CNS PHOTO/WARNER BROS.

Emilia Clarke and Sam Claflin star in a scene from the movie "Me Before You."

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is crystal clear on this topic: "We are stewards, not owners, of the life God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to dispose of." (2280) With an active movement afoot to legalize so-called euthanasia, it's as distressing as it is surprising that a romantic drama intended as popular entertainment should so flatly contradict that fundamental

truth.

The film contains a positive view of assisted suicide, implied nonmarital sexual activity and a couple of profanities.

The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Research

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

namely, that only concentration camp inmates below the age of fourteen would be experimented upon.

Whether 14-days or 14-years, such rules at root constitute mere contrivances to justify unethical science.

As bioethicist Daniel Callahan observed back in 1995: "I have always felt a nagging uneasiness at trying to rationalize the killing of something for which I claim to have a 'profound respect.' What in the world can that kind of respect mean? An odd form of esteem--at once high-minded and altogether lethal."

Hence, the broader strategic goal of conventions like the 14 day-rule has been not to identify or set in place any objective moral lines, nor to acknowledge authentic moral concerns, but to circumnavigate those very concerns by means of the convention, and achieve particular pragmatic outcomes, most notably: the continued expansion of the research, the minimization of "public outcry and backlash," the continued availability of research funding, and the avoidance of legally restrictive embryo-protective measures that might be debated by justly-concerned legislatures.

The ultimate goal of a convention like the 14-day rule has been to establish the idea, erroneous at its core, that prior to a certain arbitrarily-determined time point, developing human beings can be deemed sufficiently different from us that an "us and them" chasm can be used to justify their violent exploitation.

Father Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National

Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncb-center.org



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CLINTON

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Peru - St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 will host its 30th annual charity golf tournament.

Date: June 17

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Adirondack Golf and Country Club

Cost: \$300

Features: The four-person scramble, awards dinner in the clubhouse.

Contact: Obtain entry forms and information from Greg Lombard at 643-0242 or email gnetlombard@charter.net

12TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Plattsburgh - The Roman Catholic Community of St. Alexander and St. Joseph is hosting its 12th Annual Golf Classic.

Date: July 8

Time: Shotgun start at Noon

Place: Barrack's Golf and Country Club

Features: Team registration will include the following, green fee, cart, complimentary welcoming gifts and awards dinner featuring "Delores" Famous Chicken BBQ.

Contact: To register send four person team info and check for \$240 payable to R.C.C St. Alexander & St. Joseph Golf Classic, 1 Church Street, Morrisonville NY 12962 no later than July 1. Barracks members welcomed, please call for details. Business Sponsorships and Family Memorial. Sponsorships are available, call for details. Forward all inquiries to Cheryl Dodds at 518-572-4622 or Jackie Black at 518-561-5039.

OLA FOUNDERS DAY

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer to celebrate Founders Day.

Date: Aug. 27

Time: 11 a.m.

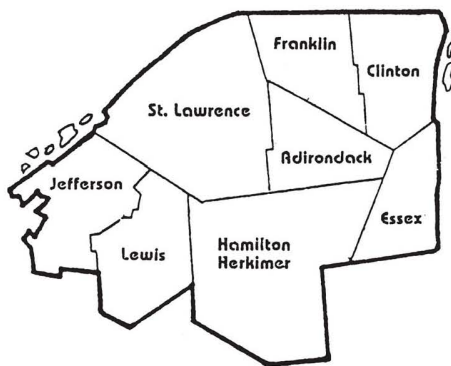
Features: Bishop LaValley will offer Mass and a lunch will follow

Contact: For reservations or information call 518-594-3253 or email olahouse@gmail.com

SUMMER PROGRAM AT OLA

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer program for the summer has been announced.

Schedule: Each first Saturday through Nov. Rosary will begin at 11 a.m. (with confessions available) and Mass will be offered at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch.; Each third Saturday (Except Aug.) there will be a retreat day on a theme of Mercy starting at 10 a.m. with Mass and lunch. Reservations are required. The House of Prayer will be opened each weekday



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.

from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Contact: For reservations or information call 518-594-3253 or email olahouse@gmail.com

ESSEX

8TH ANNUAL NUN RUN

Ticonderoga - St. Mary's School is holding its The 8th Annual Nun Run

Date: June 11

Time: Registration 9 a.m.; Run and Walk at 10

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children, \$5; Family, \$20; T-shirts, \$10

Features: Prizes, free raffle drawing & barbecue

Contact: Call school: 518-585-7433

FRANKLIN

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Malone - St. Andre's Parish is holding its GIGANTIC Annual Garage Sale.

Date: June 8-20 (Closed Sundays)

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Notre Dame parking lot

Features: Furniture, tools, baby items, toys, books, bedding, miscellaneous.

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

SUMMER HEAT GOLF TOURNAMENT

Wells/Speculator - The 5th Annual St. Ann's & St. James' "Summer Heat" Golf Tournament will be held.

Date: July 23

Time: Shotgun start at 8 a.m.

Place: Lake Pleasant Golf Course

Cost: \$65 per person. includes a cart

Features: The format is Foursomes/Scramble. All the proceeds go towards supporting neighbors in Lake Pleasant,

Piseco, Speculator and Wells needing heating assistance next winter. Lunch and prizes will be provided. Sign-up is at the ClubHouse, St. Ann's or St. James Churches. Donations and Sponsors graciously accepted to St. James Church, PO Box 2214, Speculator, NY 12164

Contact: For information, please call Richard at 548-3635/ rsnyder304@hotmail.com or Sue at 924-5557/ spsail@citlink.com

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Speculator - Father Sony Pulickal is turning 60 and has invited the parishioners of St. Ann's and St. James Churches for a birthday dinner.

Date: June 12

Time: Cocktails at 5 p.m. and buffet dinner at 6 p.m.

Place: The Inn

Cost: \$20 per person includes tax, tip

Features: Father requested no gifts
Contact: Call Barbara Tracy 548-4555 or Ronni Royal 924-7661 to sign up.

JEFFERSON

HEALING MASS

Clayton - St. Mary's Church will hold its annual Healing Mass and Antoine Tetrault Memorial Service.

Date: June 11

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: During Mass the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered and immediately following Mass will be prayer teams, to pray for individual needs. A social time, with refreshments, will take place in the Parish Center. The

Tetrault family will be available to share stories about their grandfather, Antoine.

Contact: St. Mary's at 315-686-3398 or website www.stmarysclayton.org

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: June 23

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Anthony's Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

LEWIS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville - All are invited to worship the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chapel, Silent Adoration, and Benediction.

Dates: June 16

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

PARISH BUS TRIP

Lowville - St. Peter's is sponsoring a bus trip to benefit Loaves and Fishes.

Date: Oct. 10-12

Place: Samson the biblical being presented at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster PA.

Cost: \$389 for 40 or more and \$404 for less than 40.

Features: This trip includes The performance of Samson, 2 nights stay, 2 breakfast, 2 dinners, Guided tour of the Amish Countryside and more. We will pick up in Lewis and Jefferson County.

Contact: For more information or to sign up call Nadine Logan 315-376-7391. Nlogan@twcny.rr.com

ST. LAWRENCE

WOODEN BEAR RAFFLE

Canton - St. Mary's School is raffling off a Wooden Bear.

Cost: Tickets are \$2 each or 4 for \$6

Features: you can also buy tickets at St. Mary's Chicken BBQ on June 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Contact: 386-3572

LAY MINISTER RETREAT

Ogdensburg - All commissioned Lay Ministers are invited to a retreat.

Date: June 10 from 7 p.m. to June 12 at 12 p.m.

Theme: "Called to Church"

Features: Presenter is Fr. Louis Sogliuzzo, S.J., a staff member at the Spiritual Renewal Center and at the Christ the King Retreat House in Syracuse.

Contact: Registrations and payments can be completed online at:

www.rcdony.org/formation or by contacting Jeannie Grizzuto at: jgrizzuto@rcdony.org - (315) 393-2920, Ext. 1413.

CHICKEN BBQ

Canton - St. Mary's to have their annual Chicken BBQ and festival.

Date: June 12

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

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 5-9, \$5; under 5, free

Features: Games from 12 to 2 p.m.; Dunkin' Booth, Sno-cones, Popcorn, Sack races, Bean Bag toss, cake walk and 50/50 raffle. Eat in or take out.

K OF C BRUNCH

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

Date: June 12

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

FEAST DAY OF ST. PETER AND PAUL

South Colton - Please join us for the Vigil Mass for Feast Day of SS Peter & Paul.

Date: June 28

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Paul's Oratory

Features: Father Howard Venette, pastor of St. Patrick's Parish and St. Mary's Parish, will be celebrant of the Vigil Mass and lead a procession to the Sacred Heart Shrine. An ice cream social will follow. Bring a lawn chair.

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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake - Come celebrate family at Family Guggenheim.

Date: Three Sessions: Aug. 11-14; Aug.

18-21; and Oct. 7-9

Features: A four day get away in the Adirondacks to hike, swim and praise with other faithful families! You will enjoy engaging workshops, free time for the beach and nature and rest, fishing, liturgies, family rosary, campfires, a variety show, prayer, and lots of time to play.

Contact: Deacon Henry and Dayna Leader dleader@rcdony.org 315-287-2874



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

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

A love for teaching and brotherhood

By Brother Warren Perrotto, MSC.
Contributing Writer

Below is an outtake from the monthly periodical by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart called "A New Heart for a New World" in March of this year.

As an MSC Brother for 49 years and teacher for over 30 years, my goal in life is to be the Heart of God in the world and accompany the students in both happy and sad moments, including cheering in their victories as well as becoming a Simon of Cyrene to help them carry their heavy burdens and crosses. Like the "meek and humble heart" of Jesus, I strive to make their yoke and burden easier so that Christ may increase in their lives.

This impact comes across clearly from the many former students I have on Facebook and the comments written in my yearbooks as well as the personal notes. I enjoy staying connected with my students offering our MSC spirituality and charism through theological concerns and social issues.

I am especially grateful for the wonderful experiences teaching English in Colombia, South America for the past several months. I am having a great time getting to know my students in the classroom, as well as during field trips or during the many extra-curricular activities they invite me to. Other than teaching English, I have also taught various theological, business and Spanish course as well as MSC Lay formation.

Brother Warren at IHC

When asked about Brother Warren, Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann stated that Brother Warren is a former member of the Faculty of the Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown. Sister Cecilia, current Vice Principal at IHC, shared some memories of Brother Warren's time at IHC.

"Brother Warren was already teaching at IHC in Watertown when I arrived there. He was a teacher of both Religion and Psychology. I have several memories of Brother Warren. First and foremost, he loved his vocation as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart Religious brother. He was always very happy to remind us each year of the anniversary of his Religious vows on Saint Joseph's Day."

"Brother loved his students. He was present at many of the student activities such as ball games, dances, variety shows to name a few. We had great fun writing the scripts of the variety shows and practicing with the students."

"Brother Warren was very helpful to me when I came to IHC on many occasions. I was pleased to see Brother Warren honored by his Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Community this year. On a personal note, I was happy to read about Brother Warren. It's a joy to read about his enthusiasm for his missionary endeavors whether he's serving in our country or in the developing lands."

OBITUARIES

Altona — Earl Joseph Morrow, 86; Funeral Services June 3, 2016 at Holy Angel's Church; burial in Holy Angel's Cemetery.

AuSable Forks — Betty A. (Rhino) Ryno, 84; Funeral Services May 31, 2016 at Holy Name Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Brushton — Ann E. McMann, 84; Funeral Services May 28, 2016 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Champlain — Kenneth Champagne, 57; Funeral Services June 9, 2016 at St. Mary's Church.

Champlain — Louis Joseph Glaude, 84; Funeral Services June 4, 2016 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Chateaugay — George William Douglas, 84; Funeral Service June 1, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Eastside Cemetery.

Keeseville — Claire M. (Hogue) Reid, 82; Funeral Services June 4, 2016 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Rouses Point.

Keeseville — Dorothy Helen Ryan; Funeral Services May 27, 2016 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lake Placid — Mark Daniel Snyder, 62; Funeral services June 1, 2016 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Lowville — Rollian F. Martin, 91; Funeral June 1, 2016 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — Denise A. (Boucher) Ashline, 58; Funeral Services June 2, 2016 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Malone — Margaret T. (LeDuc) Brand, 87; Funeral Services June 6, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Morningside Cemetery.

Malone — Norman W. Dumas, 95; Funeral Services June 9, 2016 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Malone — Steven Robert Rust, 63; Funeral Services June 3, 2016 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena — Julia Long, 85; Memorial Services May 28, 2016 at Sacred Heart Church.

Mineville — Patricia A. (Connors) Allen; Funeral Services May 23, 2016 at All Saints Church; burial in Catholic Cemetery, Moriah.

North Lawrence — Phyllis (Crump) Brown, 76; Funeral Services May 31, 2016 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Therese M. (Gagnon) Courneene, 80; Funeral Services June 6, 2016 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Katherine "Kay" (Elderbaum) Courtemanche, 80; Funeral June

1, 2016 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, Malone.

Plattsburgh — Eugene S. "Gene" Lefevre, 84; Funeral Services May 31, 2016 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery, Morrisville.

Port Henry — Philomina A. Ezzo, 88; Funeral Services June 3, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Moriah.

Watertown — Grace (Welch) Martin, 103; Funeral Services June 2, 2016 at Cummings Funeral Services, Inc.; burial in St. James Cemetery, Carthage.

Watertown — Keith J. Robbins, 87; Funeral Services May 28, 2016 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Winthrop — Patricia M. "Patsy" Arquitt, 73; Prayer Service June 7, 2016 at Ham-mill Funeral Home.



State Street • Carthage

June 23rd, 24th, & 25th
Thursday and Friday 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Games of Chance

*Black Jack *Big Six Wheel *Pull Tabs

RAFFLE - Prizes: 2 First - \$500 * Sellers of 1st Prizes: \$50 each * 10 Second Prizes - \$100 each
\$1 per Ticket • 6 for \$5 • 12 for \$10 • 18 for \$15
\$\$\$ Drawing Saturday June 25th \$\$\$

Entertainment: Reptiles Forever, DJ and More!

Ontario Amusement Rides



Saturday - Wristband Day ~ 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

FOOD

Italian ~ Lebanese ~ American ~ Polish

•Beer & Wine Tent •Ice Cream •Clams •Salt Potatoes •Fried Bread Dough
Special Priced Meals for Children Saturday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.



GUGGENHEIM 2016

MEET THE STAFF



Nate Pultorak

My name is Nate Pultorak, and I am 20 years old and a Theology major at Franciscan University of Steubenville. I am currently discerning the priesthood in Franciscan's Priestly Discernment Program.

Even though I am from the Chicago area, I am proud to consider the North Country to be a second home, attending St. Rita's in Deferiet whenever I visit.

This will be my first year working at Camp Guggenheim, and I am very much looking forward to being with the camper and helping them experience the love of God in this Year of Mercy!



Abigail St. Louis

Hello! My name is Abigail St. Louis and I am so very excited and blessed to be able to spend my summer at Guggenheim this year.

I am a freshman in the Nursing program at Clinton Community College in upstate New York, am an active member of St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's parish in Morrisonville.

This year will be my first year working at Guggenheim, and I am very excited to spread God's word and love. Guggenheim has always been a place for me to go as a camper, to grow in my faith and with God, and I can't wait to help others to do the same.



John McBride

My name is John McBride. I am originally from Saranac Lake, but currently reside in Waterbury Vermont. My home parish is St. Andrews, a small but welcoming community.

I am a Sophomore majoring in English, Writing, and Mass Communications at Assumption College in Worcester Massachusetts.

This is my second year serving on staff and I am humbled to be able to serve and give back to a community that has given me a fuller understanding and appreciation of my Catholic faith that I live out in my life daily.

I look forward to working with the youth of the Diocese by showing them how Awesome being Catholic is.



Katy Sherman

Hi, my name is Katy Sherman and I grew up in Lake Placid and Malone where I attended St. Agnes School and Holy Family School but now I currently reside in Melbourne, Florida. This upcoming fall I will be a sophomore at Ave Maria University.

I have been going to Camp Guggenheim ever since I was little with my family and attended Teen Camp for five years. This will be my first year on staff and I am overjoyed to have the opportunity to share Christ's love with all the campers, new and returning!!

Camp is truly my "Home Away From Home" and I am so ready for a summer full of hiking, swimming, and PRAISING!!



Maura Bobak

Hello my name is Maura Bobak. I am from St. Stephen Parish on Grand Island, NY. I attended Franciscan University for Nursing.

This is my third summer working at the beautiful Camp Guggenheim. I am very excited to be working at camp this year.

To be able to celebrate the sacraments each day and share the joy of Christ with the campers in such a beautiful setting on the lake is truly paradise!

More profiles in next week's NCC

Visit www.rcdony.org/youth for information and registration forms. Weekly sessions begin June 26