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NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUG. 24, 2016

Compassion: 'call to service'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Jesus' compassion toward people in need is not a vague sentiment, but a calling for Christians to bring that same compassion to others, Pope Francis said.

By miraculously feeding thousands of people, Jesus

made an act "of faith and prayer" that "shows the full strength of his will to be close to us and to save us," the pope said Aug. 17 at his weekly general audience.

In his audience talk, the pope reflected on the Gospel reading of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Jesus, he noted, "does not have a cold heart," but rather is moved by those who follow him and "feels bound to this crowd."

However, the pope noted that Jesus is not only concerned with feeding the hungry crowd, but also invites his disciples to take part in feeding them.

"The Lord goes out to meet the needs of men and women and wants to make each one of us concretely share in his compassion," the pope said.

MOTHER TERESA

A model of mercy



St. John Paul II meets Blessed Teresa of Kolkata at the Vatican in this undated photo. For many people, the Catholic Church's Year of Mercy will reach its culmination when Pope Francis canonizes Mother Teresa Sept. 4, recognizing the holiness of charity, mercy and courage. If there is one person who immersed herself in the "peripheries" Pope Francis is drawn to, it was Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. If there was one who showed courage and creativity in bringing God's mercy to the world, like Pope Francis urges, it was the diminutive founder of the Missionaries of Charity.

FULL STORY, PAGE 11

Bishop's Fund: Mercy in Motion



How does the Bishop Fund help people in the diocese? First in a series

FULL STORY, PAGE 6

Meeting Bishop Barron, part 2

Profile on keynote speaker for INSPIRE: Called to Love, Bishop Robert Barron, continues FULL STORY, PAGE 3

YOUNG AND FAITHFUL



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Violet Reyes of Massena and Gabriel Gratto of Morrisonville share their impressions of Camp Guggenheim as part of the *North Country Catholic*'s special issue on the faith of young people in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. See pages 5-10

DO YOU LOVE ME? Families benefit as they keep the Sabbath holy....p. 12

NORTH **COUNTRY** CATHOLIC

Box 326 Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669 USPS 0039-3400 **BISHOP TERRY** R.LAVALLEY President

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and April and every other week beginning July through Aug. and skipping one week in Dec. by the Diocese of Og-

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

Editorial Office: 622 Washington Street,

Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Telephone: (315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountry catholic.org

Entered at the Post Office:

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

Subscription:

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

Matters for publication should be addressed to PO Box 326 Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and should be received by Thursday prior to publication. Paper is printed each Monday; dateline is Wednesday. Member, Catholic Press Association

POSTMASTER:

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

EDITOR'S NOTE

A treasure of young people

Even the most pessimistic of Catholics would be heartened

to read the pages of this week's issue of the NCC, devoted to the "young and faithful" of our diocese.

In a special section, beginning on page 5, we feature the voices of World Youth Day pilgrims, Guggenheim campers and a young man who made the brave decision to travel half-way across the country by himself to learn how to share his faith.

Marika Donders, director of New Evangelization, who coordinated the World Youth Day

Mary Lou

Kilian

trip for the diocese, summed it *people in our diocese: ask* up beautifully as she looked back on the week in

Krakow:

I was struck every evening by the depth of the spirituality and faith or our eight young people, by their openness to encounter Jesus and their trust in the group to share some of their most profound thoughts and feelings.

These eight young people are each unique, but they also are not

unlike the other young people in our diocese who are hungry for Christ in their lives.

We have a treasure of young

them to share their faith with you and really listen to their thoughts and questions, and together with them, continue the journey of faith.

In the first two reports from the young people themselves, Carter Pierce of Heuvelton and Sam Bashaw of Keeseville both just a month out of high school - show a depth of faith that would be remarkable for anybody.

I, for one, am very anxious to read what the rest have to say. And then we have Noah

Arevalo of Crown Point who is still in high school. With help from his mother, Lorraine Turgeon, the former director of

young adult ministry for the diocese, Noah discovered the "Transform Your World" evangelization camp.

Making his first solo plane trip to Atchison, Kansas, he spent a week "in a place that was filled with young people as much in love with the Catholic faith as I am."

"We left camp with a sense of duty - we know Christ and we know what He expects of us and so we are to go out and live it out," Noah wrote for the NCC. "It is in our living the faith in our actions that we will be able to transform the

A treasure of young people? Who could say no!?!

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Musings on family on a warm summer day

So, what to write about on this warm summer day?

Actually, my principal distraction these weeks of August has been the Olympic Games. I continue to enjoy watching the various events no matter what the sport is. I also enjoy the stories about the athletes, stories that are often filled with many surprises. I feel like I have come to know many of these young American athletes rather well. As a matter of fact, I have come to know many from other countries, also. It is fun to watch them win a medal and I am disappointed when one of my favorites fails to win. It is so enjoyable watching all of these sports that I only watch every four years at Olympic time.

I often think about the athletes who do not win a medal. Have you ever thought about how they feel? Consider the many who have dedicated so much to train and work hard for a rather long time - and then be eliminated in the first heat. I will admit that this dedication and preparation have been a good formation for them, making these women and men very outstanding peo-



ple. It certainly helped them to move into excellent careers. I suppose they might still be a bit disappointed not to win a medal.

One of the other things I appreciate is when the television people focus on the athlete's family. I like that. I believe that much of the Olympic adventure is a family affair. From the athlete's earliest years, there have been sacrifices by their parents and the constant support of their whole family. These family stories are truly fascinating.

At the same time, I have learned that many parents, many families, simply will not accept the challenges.

I remember a friend of mine telling me such a story. His daughter - in eighth grade was a talented gymnast. He wondered about Olympics so he investigated. He talked with coaches and parents of elite athletes.

After considering everything, he and his wife decided that the stress on their daughter would be too much. They also realized that their daughter would have to go into special programs. They thought that would be too much. This helped me realize something of the challenges that the Olympians do accept as they develop.

All of this makes me think for a while about the importance of family - in Olympics and in life. One of my joys in being a pastor has been the many, many wonderful families I have known and worked with over the years.

I am constantly impressed with families, with the love and the support that flows through them. I noticed early on that there is something special that come across quickly when you are with a close, loving, happy

At this moment, I think of so many beautiful families. There was the one I joined often for Sunday evening supper – a family of ten children. Each moment with them was a

learning experience for me. And then there was the family of twelve children. I was always so pleased when an invitation came from them to join them for a celebration. Again, it was a fabulous experience for me.

I am certain you remember the constant emphasis that Pope Francis has made about family. He called his first special synod to consider family what can and should the Catholic Church do for families. Pope Francis then summarized the findings of the synod in his magnificent letter, "Amoris Laetitia". It is a won-derful document that makes it clear that the Catholic Church will do all that is necessary to support and help families.

So, I ask you to join me in praying for all families - for happy families, for close families - but also for broken families, for unhappy families, for poor families - and we must pray always for the very idea of family.

May our Catholic Church always be united and alive as a family.

May each parish pray and act together as a family.

INSPIRE: Called to Love, the speakers... Fourth in a series

Bishop Barron and the call to holiness

By Suzanne Pietropaoli Staff writer

"The Church's job is to produce saints!" says Bishop Robert Barron. And he is certainly doing his part.

The former seminary professor and rector is the author of 15 books, a popular media personality and speaker, founder of Word on Fire ministries as well as author of their study programs, and currently Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles' Santa Barbara Pastoral Region.

On Sept. 25, Bishop Barron will keynote INSPIRE: Called to Love in Lake Placid. He spoke recently with the NCC about the message he will bring, the universal call to holiness, and the role of parishes in making people holy.

NCC: What will be the focus of your keynote address?

BISHOP BARRON: I have been looking at different possibilities, but I think I will structure the talk around our common Baptismal identity. In that first sacrament, every person is baptized priest, prophet, and king. There are different types of vocations within that baptismal identity. But all vocations, all forms of the Christian life, come together in exemplifying those three fundamental dimensions of our identity as baptized Christians.

NCC: The subtext of the summit is the universal call to holiness. How would you explain that term?

BISHOP BARRON: Everybody is called to intimacy with God, and to mission. It is the ordinary Christian life to live in deep friendship with God and to be sent on mission. That is the Biblical pattern: God calls people to friendship with himself, and then sends them on mission. Out of prayer always comes mission, and fidelity to the mission, and fidelity to the



CNS PHOTO/KATARZYNA ARTYMIAK

Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Robert E. Barron, shown at the 51st International Eucharistic Congress in Cebu, Philippines, earlier this year, will be in Lake Placid Sept. 25 to keynote *INSPIRE* Called to Love. In part two of an *NCC* interview, Bishop Barron looks ahead to that address, noting that he will talk about the universal call to holiness and the role of parishes in making people holy.

sion increases your holiness. That is not the preserve of a special group, but the call of every baptized person; it is truly universal. The mode of intimacy and the type of mission of course depend on a person's state of life, as St. Francis DeSales points out. But whatever our specific vocation, God calls each of us to intimacy with Christ, and to mission.

NCC: Who, for you, especially exemplifies this holiness to which all are called?

ness to which all are called?

BISHOP BARRON: Thomas

Aquinas, of course, my
great patron saint, who
opened my mind to the
truths of God. His effect on
me has been deep and lasting; it helped make me a
priest, and a strong advocate of serious Catholic formation. When I was young,
Thomas Merton was very
important to me; his writings drew me into a life of
prayer and contemplation.

Dorothy Day is a great hero of mine, as is Flannery O'-Connor—a model of a holy mind and a holy spirit. And of course I am a big fan of G.K. Chesterton and John Henry Newman.

NCC: What encourages people toward holiness?

BISHOP BARRON: Above all, prayer helps people toward holiness. Prayer is steady conversation with God. Human friendship cannot be cultivated apart from intimacy and conversation, and the same is true in our relationship with God. For Catholics, the Eucharist and other sacraments, as well as daily prayer, encourage holiness. So does fidelity to the mission, to doing what God tells you to do. This is important, even if what he asks is simple, or not what you wanted, or doesn't fit into your career plans. I am a big fan of St. Therese of Lisieux, whose "little way" explains this perfectly:

Don't fuss about doing great things, but do small things every day with great love. Prayer, fidelity to the emission, and doing everything with great love will deepen your holiness.

NCC: What distracts people from holiness?

BISHOP BARRON: The call to holiness articulated by the Second Vatican Council has been largely unrealized. Secularism is more rampant now than it was 50 years ago. Ours is the age of what Charles Taylor calls "the buffered self," one closed in on itself and having no deep contact with others and no sense of friendship with Christ. It is all about wealth, pleasure, power and the things of this world. This secularist ideology Is everywhere today, in every song and every movie and everything young people hear. Secularism is the enemy of holiness: you don't pray to a God you don't believe in;

you are busy with your own mission, your own plans and desires; and you don't do small things with great love because you are consumed by great selfishness.

NCC: What is the role of parishes in fostering growth in holiness?

BISHOP BARRON: The priest's whole purpose is to make lay people holy, and the whole purpose of a parish is to be a center of holiness. So there are two things: are you fostering people in prayerful intimacy with Christ, and are you fostering their mission? At its heart, making people holy is the one thing that a priest has to do. A parish priest should draw his people to prayer, and to Mass and the sacraments-and then inculcate a sense of mission and of their purpose in the wider world. If a parish is not a center of holiness, it has lost its identity. We have a crisis in the laity: 75% of Catholics stay away from Sunday Mass, and marriage and birth rates are plummeting. Many have accepted the dis-values of the world. We haven't begun to implement Vatican II's call for the renewal of the laity - that intensification of love for God and for others that can transform the world.

NCC: What inspires people to want to be holy?

BISHOP BARRON: Saints! Saints inspire others to become saints, and it is the Church's job to produce saints. The saint is someone who becomes luminous, who becomes compelling. Holiness is deeply attractive. That's why saints have halos in pictures, to represent the light that comes from them - the light of God's own love. That light is real. I've known super-holy people in my life and they have that quality, that deep attractiveness. People who truly live the life of holiness naturally draw others in.

Rites held for Sr. Cecilia Carey, OP

SINSINAWA, WIS.— A Mass of Christian Burial for Dominican Sister Cecilia Carey, 94, was held Aug. 17 at Queen of the Rosary Chapel at Sinsinawa. She died Aug. 12 at St. Dominic Villa; burial was in the Motherhouse Cemetery.

Sister Cecilia was born Aug. 17, 1921, in Casselton, N.D., the daughter of and Elizabeth Thomas (Mahon) Carey. She spent part of her childhood in Wausau, Wis.

She made her first religious profession as a Sinsinawa Dominican Aug. 6, 1940, and her final profession Aug, 6, 1943. She served in Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska and New York, as well as Bolivia.

Sister Cecilia taught for 28 years and ministered as pastoral associate for 13 years. She served as president of Edgewood College, Madison, Wis., 1967-1977, and as pri-

PLATTSBURGH-Volunteers are in-

vited to take part in 40 Days

for Life – 40 days of prayer

and fasting for an end to

abortion held across the

country- has been set for

Sept. 28 to Nov. 6.

oress of the Sinsinawa Dominican congregation, 1977-1986

In the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Sister Cecilia ministered as pastoral associate at St. Mary Cathedral, Ogdensburg, 1989-1997, and at St. John in the Wilderness Parish, Lake Clear, 1997-2002. She volunteered in the Willsboro and Olmstedville areas, 2002-2007.

She is survived by a sister, Sister Mary Lois Carey, OP; a brother, Mark Carey; nieces; nephews; and her Dominican Sisters with whom shared life for 76 years.

Her parents; a sister, Joyce Simon: and two brothers, Robert Carey and John Carey, preceded her in death.

Memorials may be made to the Sinsinawa Dominicans, 585 County Road Z, Sinsinawa, WI, 53824-9701or online at www.sinsinawa.org by clicking on "Donate Now.

Annual 40 Days for Life set

Participants will stand and

peacefully pray during a 40-

day vigil in the public right-

of-way outside Planned

Parenthood, 66 Brinkerhoff

Further information is

Bishop's Schedule

Aug. 24 - 2:30 p.m., Closing Liturgy for CORE at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

5 p.m., St. Lawrence Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Aug. 25 — 4:30 p.m., Founder's Day Gathering with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dablon Point in Cape Vincent

Aug. 27 – 11 a.m., Mass at Our Lady of the Adirondacks, Ellenburg Center 4 p.m., Mass at St. Alexander's Church in Morrisonville

Aug. 28 - 9 a.m., Mass at St. Peter's Church in Lowville

11 a.m., Mass at Whittaker Park in Martinsburg

Aug.30 - Day of Reflection with the Catholic Daughters in Isle La Motte, Vermont

Aug.31 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

available from campaign

leader: Nancy Belzile 518-

https://40daysforlife.com/lo

cal-campaigns/plattsburgh.

information is

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: Sept. 10 - 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh Sept. 14 - 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh Sept. 14 - 6 p.m., St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga Sept. 15 - 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic

School, Massena

Sept.20 - 6 p.m., St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake

Rest in Peace

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

Aug. 24 - Rev. Louis Lewis, O.M.I., 1938; Msgr. Paul George Brunet, 1991 Aug. 25 - Rev. Damas Guilbault, 1919; Msgr. Hugh P.R. O'Reilly, 1948; Rev. George W. Tobin, 2010

Aug. 27 - Rev. John F. Byrne, 1919; Rev. Ubalde LaRose, 1919; Rev. Edward Henry Bernier, 1962

Aug.29 - Rev. Leo Desmet, 1926; Rev. Thomas F. Driscoll, 2003; Rev. Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, 2013

Aug.30 - Rev. Bartholomew McLaughlin, 1914

OUR READERS WRITE

Excellent article

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Sign-up

(An open letter to Stephen Tartaglia:) Liust wanted to say I loved your article in the Aug. 17 issue of the North Country Catholic. It was excellent!

It was one of the most well thought out interpretations / explanations of the 2nd Commandment that I have ever read! Including both the good and the bad really will give the reader(s) pause before taking the Lord's name in vain usage ever again, as well as that of the individual who is made in His image and likeness.

Thank you and I hope you continue to contribute to the NCC newspaper.

BILL O'BRIEN OGDENSBURG

To Report Abuse

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

Environmental Stewardship

What Time is it? (Part 1)

In the sports' world it is time for the Olympic Summer Games. In the grand opening ceremony in Rio, the unfolding history of Brazil was beautifully portrayed beginning with the Indigenous people up to the present day.

Near the end of the program a sobering video was shown demonstrating the rising temperatures around the globe caused by global warming and climate change. These changes are resulting in the melting of glacier ice and the steady rise in sea level around the globe. The guestion "what time is it for the planet?" was brought to the world - front and center. It was a stark reminder to the countries of the world that our fate is interconnected.

Pope Francis pointed to "What time it is for Catholics?" in Laudato Si: Care for our Common Home. In this Encyclical, rooted in Judo-Christian Scripture and Catholic social teachings, he exhorts us to look at what is happening to "our common home."

After much consultation with world scientists, he pointed to the scientific evidence of climate change and its devastating effects on our brothers and sisters and on the community of the natural

Pope Francis calls all people to a World day of Prayer for the Care of our Home to be observed on Sept. 1. In the Season of Celebration that follows through until October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we are urged to learn more about the present environmental situation, to discover the root causes, and become familiar with the Catholic social teachings that are all embedded in Laudato Si., and examine our own lifestyle that is often driven by consumerism and wastefulness.

Let us pray for guidance of the Holy Spirit to what action each of us can take this week in response to the "cries of the poor of the earth and of our sisters and brothers".

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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"

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YOUNG AND FAITHFUL





Carter Pierce of Heuvelton and Kevin McCullouch of Watertown were two of 11 pilgrims from the Diocese of Ogdensburg to participate in World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, July 25-31. They are shown at left with

Bishop Robert Barron of Las Angeles. At right, Carter consults a map to help the group travel around the city. Each of the pilgrims was invited to share reflections about WYD with the North Country Catholic, Carter's essay is published here.

World Youth Day: a pilgrimage, not a vacation

By Carter Pierce World Youth Day pilgrim

World Youth Day offers so many opportunities. A chance to travel abroad. A chance to see the Pope. A chance to meet new friends. But most importantly, it is an opportunity to meet God in a new, more powerful

So often in day to day life, we get lost in routine and lose our personal connection with God. In Krakow, Poland, we pilgrims were given the opportunity to let go of our other responsibilities and focus more time on

We went to Mass daily, spent hours in adoration, and prayed together morning and night. We saw His beauty in the majestic

churches we visited, in the music at Mass, and in the thousands of other young pilgrims we met.

That is not to say it was all sunshine and roses. Along with the times of pure elation came many moments of physical, emotional, and spiritual distress. It was through these, however, that God picked me up to new heights.

Praying at the Center of Saint John Paul II in front of Pope John Paul's bloodstained cassock, I was struck with flashbacks of a tragedy in my own life. I was overcome with emotion, mourning the painful memory. In that moment, I felt God's comfort and recalled His healing grace which had provided for a miraculous recovery in both the Pope's life and in mine.

In those most vulnerable moments, God touched us and gave us insights into life. For me, I grew in my understanding, my love for my family, my love for God and my trust in Him. God's graces come in unexpected

Then again, on Saturday, I found myself in similar distress. We had just completed the long journey to the Final Mass site, Campus Misericordiae, where the week was to reach its cli-

As the millions of other pilgrims around me filled with joy and excitement, I found myself weighted down by what I had witnessed in the day. I regretted the actions I had seen and in which I had partaken; experiences that seemed to chip away at our Catholic brotherhood in Christ.

Slowly, through prayer, I picked myself up. Then, a complete stranger, Claudio, came to me and confessed that he saw my "heavy heart" and offered to "share weights." It touched me deeply. His message was exactly what I needed to ensure myself of our universal connection.

Despite different nationalities and cultures, we are one in Christ, caring for each other. My spirits instantly shot upward. From the pits into which I had fallen came forth the greatest joy. God's graces come in unexpected ways.

Certainly, the trip was filled with pure joy. However, it was often in the times of trouble that I most allowed God into my life to touch me. Ways in which I had never felt Him before. Ways in which I never would have expected. I have come to discover that when I let Him into my life, He never fails to lift me up, allowing me to become better than before. In these moments, I grew in my relationship with God. I grew in understanding. I grew in faith, love, and charity.

World Youth Day is more than a time for sight-seeing and shopping. It is a time for growth. World Youth Day is not a vacation. It is a pilgrimage. And that is why it was the best experience of my life.

Carter, age 18, is a 2016 graduate of Heuvelton Central School. A parishioner of St. Raphael's Church in Heuvelton, he is heading to Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.with plans to study civil engineering and architecture.

BISHOP'S FUND 2016... MERCY IN MOTION

Bishop's Fund keeps Camp Guggenheim in good shape

By Jim Crowley Chancellor

I grew up in the suburbs of Buffalo. Bills, Sabres, wings, but pop became soda. After 29 years, the North Country is home.

This Diocese contains spectacular natural wonders, incredibly special people and great places to live and raise a family. It also contains so many special, holy places. St. Stephen's in Croghan, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh and Wadhams Hall begins a list of places that moved my heart over the years. All those places and times began with a prayerful space and finish with people open the Holy Spirit.

Nowhere have I experienced the Spirit more often than at Guggenheim.

Stand on the shore by the lodge and understand Elijah hearing the Lord in the silence. Campers on the beach sound like the children coming to Jesus. Every bend on a trail or corner in the dorm offers an encounter with holiness.



As Chancellor, I oversee the maintenance of the Guggenheim Center. What a responsibility! Protect a place of such beauty that so many call home. Keep the dorm and beach attractive so children and families want to experience the love and joy of Summer Camp and Family Camp. Care for a magnificent Great Camp can host retreats and gatherings for lay, religious and clergy, young and old. Make sure buildings are dry, water is clean, and the road is smooth.

Ralph Bennet remains the director doing daily maintenance and a hired contrac-

tor will replace roofs this fall. Those are not my talents. But the Bishop asks that I work wisely, on behalf of the people of the Diocese, with available resources to continue Sister Jennifer Votraw's work and keep the Guggenheim Center a place we long to visit

we long to visit.
Six buildings, five outbuildings, water filtration and septic for eighty needs skilled laborers and elaborate equipment. My wife, Rit,a and I chose to help by giving from our treasure to the Bishop's Fund Appeal. The Appeal supports many wonderful programs including the Guggenheim Center.

As Chancellor, I ask you to consider contribute to the Bishop's Fund as well. Maintaining and improving any facility in the environment of the Adirondacks will never be inconsequential.

Your gift enables us be good stewards to acres of prime Adirondack wilderness while providing a place for Summer Camp, Family Camp, meetings, reunions and retreats so priceless gifts of love and holiness can be given and received for years to come.

BISHOP'S AWARD



Father Thomas Kornmeyer presented Thomas Dishman, a 2016 graduate of Holy Family School, with the Bishop's Outstanding Student Award. The graduation was hosted by St. Francis Assisi in Constable, where Father Kornmeyer serves as pastor.

Youth Rally to be part of *INSPIRE*

LAKE PLACE - The 2016 diocesan Youth Rally will be held in conjunction with *INSPIRE*: Called to Love, the diocesan summit, Sept. 25 at the Olympic Arena.

Young people, in grades six through 12, will attend the keynote address delivered by Bishop Robert Barron and then break off into activities designed for them.

Additional activities being offered are:

- Performance by Full Armor Band
- Wrist rosary making
- Life-size foosball
- Prayer comer
- Teambuilding activities
- Scripture photo booth

Carbon walk and tree planting

Pre-registration is required at www.inspirecalled-tolove.org or through parishes.

Kelly Donnelly, diocesan youth ministry director, encouraged teenagers across the diocese to register. "Gather with hundreds of other teens in Lake Placid on Sept. 25 to make new friends, grow in faith and have fun," she said.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Thirty-five children, 12 young adults and 14 adults praised God in a faith filled fun week this summer at the Greystone Building at Holy Family in Watertown. The children sang, danced, played games, saw puppet shows, made crafts and learned about the people in the Bible – Noah, Jonah, Jesus, Peter, and Paul – with the Deep Sea Discovery theme.

Crown Point high schooler returns from Kansas evangelization camp

Teen aims to 'transform his world'

By Noah Arevalo

Parishioner, Catholic Communities of Crown Point & Moriah

On July 10, I packed my bags and headed to the Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, for the Transform Your World Evangelization Camp.

Transform Your World is a week long camp to train young Catholics to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith to the world. I joined 47 other teens from around the USA to deepen our love for and faith in Jesus, learn more about our faith and discuss life as a young Catholics. We also talked about how to inspire other teens to live that authentic love of God.

The camp is sponsored by Casting Nets Ministry, founded by Chris Stewart, Tony Brandt, and Hector Molina as a way to meet the challenges of the new evangelization.

In addition to Chris and Tony, we were able to meet and spend the week with amazing leaders in evangelization, like Matt Fradd, Jackie Francois Angel, Jim Beckman and Sarah Swafford. They taught us how to develop an authentic prayer life, to talk to our peers about religious truths and moral issues. They inspired us to live authentic, chaste lives and to be, for many, the only Gospel some may ever read.

The week was intense!!

learned and experienced so much I didn't mind. Our days were spent in personal prayer, daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours and Adoration, and inspirational talks by the speakers.

I found out about the camp through my Mom and a Facebook post, and went online to apply. You actually had to apply, submit references from people including your parish priest.

One of the greatest things about camp was that I was in a place that was filled with young people as much in love with the Catholic faith as I am; that is rare. I was anxious before I went since this was me first time on a plane on my own, and I didn't know what to expect except that I wasn't gong to know anyone there.

I never dreamed the impact that this week has had on my life. My spiritual life has deepened and changed forever. How amazing it was to be in an environment that allowed us to be honest and real with one another.

As a young man, it was great to see men sharing

their faith honestly and sharing how they overcame hardships in their own lives.

Now I have the friendship and support from all who experienced this week with me, and we text and chat, and most importantly we pray for one another -- keeping us motivated to become better and better evangelists. I walked away knowing that prayer has to be the center of my life, and I try to get at least 30 minutes of prayer in per day now that I have returned home.

Chris reminded us that now that we had been so close to the light, the dark was going to seem even darker, but the memories of camp continue to shine.

We left camp with a sense of duty - we know Christ and we know what He expects of us and so we are to go out and live it out.

It is in our living the faith in our actions that we will be able to transform the world!

Noah, age 17, will be entering the 12th grade at Crown Point Central School.



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Noah Arevalo, center, a parishioner of the Catholic Communities of Crown Point & Moriah, is shown with Tony Brandt and Chris Stewart, founders of the Transform Your World Evangelization Training Camp at Benedictine College in Achison, Kansas

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CAMP GUGGENHEIM

'A place to joyfully live out faith every day'

By Mary Lou Kilian Editor

SARANACLAKE - "A place to help kids know God, build a personal relationship with Jesus and joyfully live out faith every day."

That's that description of Camp Guggenheim offered by Kelly Donnelly of Plattsburgh who served as camp director for the 44th season of the diocesan summer program.

Founded in 1972, Camp Guggenheim continues to provide weeks of faith building and fun for young people ages 11 to 18.

The program features daily liturgies, arts and crafts, swimming, outdoor adventure programs and a variety of Guggenheim traditions.

Ms. Donnelly, who is also diocesan director of youth ministry, noted that the 2016 program includes special attention to the Year of Mercy.

"Our theme song 'Made' (by Hawk Nelson) focuses on how much God loves us, how each person is perfectly made," she said. "We need to



Kelly Donnelly

know we are loved by God in order to understand mercy for others.

Two campers from Week Three joined their camp director in singing the praises of Guggenheim.

Gabriel Gratto, age 15, of St. Alexander's Parish in Morrisonville, comes to camp because "it's a good way to make connections with Christ and it's a lot of fun."

"I really like the counselors and have made a lot of good friends," he said.

Fourteen-year-old Violet Reyes of Massena, said, "the counselors really make us feel like we're part of a family, so it's home away from

"And, the view is beautiful," said Violet about camp located on lower Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks.

"But the best part," she "is making more

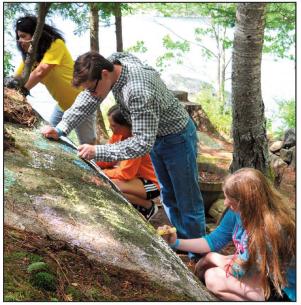
Both Gabriel and Violet appreciated the liturgical experiences at the diocesan

"The Masses are more kidfriendly and more energizing," Violet said, "with good

Gabriel added that "we sing a lot of the same songs as at home but change them up a

Ms. Donnelly credits the camp staff for the successful program..

"We have a strong community of young adults striving to live out their faith," she said. "They are joy-filled, full of love... and fun."



Leialani Dibble of Dickinson Center, Anna Dumas, Chateaugay; Mack Pratt, Watertown; and Michaela Raymond, Peru; use chalk to write prayer intentions on a rock in the Mary Gratto on the Guggenheim property. The faith-building aspect of the camp includes Masses, an evening penance service and prayer time throughout each day. Priests serving as chaplains this year were Father Bryan D. Stitt, Father Douglas J. Lucia, Father Scott A. Belina, Franciscan Father Larry Anderson, Father Martin F. Cline and Father Thomas J. Higman. Bishop Terry R. LaValley also traveled to the camp to celebrate Mass several times during the summer.



Sophia LaValley of Plattsburgh creates a cross with yarn and sticks during her arts and crafts session.



Maurice Bombard of Peru enjoyed time on the beach during his week at Guggenheim.

WYD pilgrims are launched into a culture that revolves around faith

'Catholicism was contagious'

By Samantha BashawWorld Youth Day pilgrim

Imagine a Catholic culture. Impossible to wrap your head around, right?

I thought so too, but then I made the rash decision of attending World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, where God gave me a deserving smack of reality.

The week made me fall in love with being Catholic. I wanted to emulate so badly what I had experienced in Poland

Unbeknownst to me, I was heading to the most Catholic country in the world where 95% of the population are practicing Catholics!

Two years ago when I signed up for World Youth Day, I had no idea the kind of commitment it would become as a person of faith.

By way of plane, tram, and miles of walking, I was launched into the culture of Poland, a culture that revolves around Catholicism.

Upon arriving to Krakow, our group of eleven pilgrims found our way to St. Mary's Basilica right in the heart of the city. The Basilica was our first taste of Poland, and it certainly did not fail us.

The bustle and rising excitement of the outside market, quickly dissipated as we crossed the threshold. It was like a calm had settled over all its inhabitants, leaving only room to focus on the purpose this grand building was designed for.

The vaulted ceilings bore a rich blue color that was dotted with golden stars as a reflection of the sky, and everywhere the eye went, you could see that that reflection was of God himself. God's presence surrounded



PHOTO BY LEAGON CARLIN

Sam Bashaw of Keeseville, one of the diocesan World Youth Day pilgrims, walks in front of St. Mary Basilica in Krakow.

you, but the evidence wasn't just in the largest crucifix I had ever seen or even in the ornate statues of Saints that seemed to be carved from the Creator directly, it was in a lesser blessing.

After praying by myself I decided to walk around and absorb as much as I could of my surroundings.

I began to focus on the people coming in and out of the Basilica. I first noticed a young Polish boy, probably around the age of four or five, walk in to the Church, and immediately genuflect and do the sign of the cross.

I was completely blown away by his sudden reverence that, wasn't a result of his grandmother nudging him, but rather of his own accord.

A couple moments later I found a Polish family of four. Mom and dad were led by two little girls who went by one of the chapels and knelt down to pray. They had their hands clasped together towards their face, eyes closed, with a small furrow between their eyebrows, making me think,

"What could they be possibly praying about?" At their age I knew the Our Father and Hail Mary, the basics, but their prayer seemed much deeper than rattling off recited verses.

I let my eyes go elsewhere, not wanting to disturb their beautiful peace. When I had circled around, I saw that the family had risen from their kneeling position, and had begun walking into the depth of the Basilica. However, one of the little girls appeared cradled under her mother's arm, weeping. Again, I was beyond stunned. There was no doubt that the Holy Spirit had impacted this young girl's life, in a way that I couldn't possibly try to imagine.

Those two moments had left me in awe of the Polish youth, and how their culture instilled the importance of God, as not something to be shameful of, but as a major part of who they are. Now, this was only a glimpse of day one.

We visited more churches that week than I can count, and prayed more than I ever had in my entire life.

Catholicism was contagious. Everywhere you went there would be crosses, pictures of the Virgin Mother, and numerous relics that gave the city an "other worldly" feel.

There was no other way to explain the pure graces we felt, than the simple fact that in Poland they live off a culture of Catholicism.

The ads we saw rarely showed the immoral behavior that seems to be everywhere in the United States. It was beyond beautiful and many of us wished that we could move to Poland,



where going to Church every day was the norm and there was no fear of how others would treat you based on your beliefs.

That week made me fall in love with being Catholic.I wanted to emulate so badly what I had experienced in Poland, but our American culture seems to be too far out of reach to change. So, why not change the culture of my life and of our own lives?

We should not hide away from our faith, or succumb to the immoralities around us, but rise above and praise God as he deserves praise. From there we can impact others' lives, just as those young children and World Youth Day as a whole made an impact on me.

Sam, a parishioner of the Catholic Community of Keeseville, just graduated from Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh.

She will be attending Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut, to study journalism.



WYD coordinator looks at the highlights of the pilgrimage

A week of hospitality, music, love

By Marika Donders
World Youth Day coordinator

A couple weeks ago, ten other pilgrims and I returned from World Youth Day which was a culmination of two years of planning, fundraising and coordinating. It was worth every minute of the preparations to make it all come together.

The question I get most often is what was the one highlight for you? It is really difficult to answer with one favorite event or encounter since it was a week packed with at least a month's worth events and encounters.

Since this was my third World Youth Day, the high-lights for me were not the big events with the pope, rather they were incidentals to World Youth Day.

A saint-filled city

I think the first highlight was the city of Krakow itself. The city is imbued by the Saints and they followed us around everywhere we went. Saint John Paul II was ever present: on people's lips, in various locations and historical moments. Our hotel was a block away from the Archbishop's residence where he had lived and where he had addressed he masses from the same window that Pope Francis used to address the young people who gathered under this window in the evenings.

We visited St. Florian which was Karol Wojtyla's first parish and the John Paul II Center which included the relic of his cassock from when he was shot in St. Peter's square.

We participated in Mass at Wawel Cathedral and saw the altar where Father Wojtyla celebrated his first Masses.

The day we visited Auschwitz and Birkenau, I kept encountering St. Maxi-



PHOTO BY LEAGON CARLIN

Marika Donders, diocesan director of New Evangelization and coordinator of the World Youth Day pilgrimage from the Diocese of Ogdensburg, is pictured with the young women who made the trip to Krakow, Poland. From left are Emily Stauble of Nashua, N.H.; Lillia Woolschlager, Croghan; Ms. Donders, Anna Fisher, Plattsburgh and Sam Bashaw, Keeseville.

milian Kolbe: his relic at the Catechesis site, a scrap of paper with his image on it, a discussion about his life between two strangers on the trolley. That day was also the feast day of Blessed Titus Brandsma, a Dutch Carmelite who died at Dachau.

We visited the Wielicza Salt Mines which is filled with religious carvings made by miners and I met St. Kinga whom I never heard of before. She turned up again that evening as we prayed evening prayer at the St. John II Center. We into a "random" available side chapel and it was not coincidently dedicated to St. Kinga. And then there was St. Faustina, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, Blessed Father Jerzy Polieluszko, ... and the list goes on.

The hospitality

The second thing that stood out for me was the hospitality everywhere we went. The streets of Krakow were taken over by a million and a half young Catholics from all over the world. It would be understandable if

there were residents in Krakow who were annoyed by the inconvenience of closed roads and singing pilgrims everywhere waving flags and clogging restaurants, churches and parks. And yet, everyone smiled and wanted to know where we were from.

Little Polish grandmothers with twinkling eyes who didn't speak English smiled, tried to tell us things in Polish and when we didn't understand would gently pat our hands or make some other gesture of welcome and shared joy.

The most amazing hospitality was at the Dominican Church which is locally known for its ministry to young adults. The church hosted the relic the incorrupt body of Blessed Pierre Giorgio.

Like all the parishes in Krakow the doors were open 24/7. But in addition, the Dominicans had opened their Cloister and created a display of Dominican Saints and, knowing they were dealing with the internet generation, provided free WiFi.

In their back garden, there were bathrooms as well as a large tent with food and drink and places to sit and relax and listen to fellow pilgrims make music or talk with the brothers and volunteers.

I think I could easily have spent the entire week at the Dominican Church and the pilgrimage would have been worth the trip.

The music

The third thing that stood out for me was the music, especially the singing.

Pilgrim groups from all over the world would sing as they walked along. When we would walk into larger churches often there would be Masses being offered in side chapels and you would hear hymns or chants drifting through the Church.

My favorite music was as we were waiting to go into the downstairs chapel of the St. John Paul II Center to venerate the vial of his blood under the central altar. We had to wait because Mass was being offered for a large group of Croatian Pilgrims. During

and after communion, the 300 or so young people sang in four-part harmony without books or notes or sheet music and their voices reverberated off the marble and touched me so deeply that I ended up in tears. It was the only possible response to such beauty. All I could think was: we need to teach our people to sing together again, to create such harmony and beauty which will touch the hearts of all who hear.

Best part of every day

We do need to teach people to sing, to see the beauty around us, to be hospitable and invite people to come and sit and share their story so that we can invite them to encounter Christ in our churches and community.

But then I realized that my favorite part of every day of our pilgrimage was in the evening as our little band of pilgrims would gather.

Before closing the day with evening prayer, we would sit in a circle and share those things that touched us that day, graces received, struggles overcome, encounters with Christ in prayer, in talks, in situations or in the encounter with other pilgrims.

I was struck every evening by the depth of the spirituality and faith or our eight young people, by their openness to encounter Jesus and their trust in the group to share some of their most profound thoughts and feelings.

These eight young people are each unique, but they also are not unlike the other young people in our diocese who are hungry for Christ in their lives.

We have a treasure of young people in our diocese: ask them to share their faith with you and really listen to their thoughts and questions, and together with them, continue the journey of faith.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope: Mercy, pastoral care should guide research on life, family

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Appointing Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia as the new chancellor for the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family and new president of the Pontifical Academy for Life, Pope Francis said he wanted to make sure the two bodies help the church offer better care to people who are hurting. In a letter to Archbishop Paglia, published in the Vatican newspaper Aug. 17, Pope Francis said he believed the Pontifical John Paul II Institute and the Academy for Life should undergo "a renewal and further development" so their research and activity would focus "ever more clearly on the horizon of mercy." "From the Second Vatican Council to today, the magisterium of the church on these themes has developed in a broad and profound way," the pope said. He added that the 2014 and 2015 synods of bishops on the family and his exhortation on the family, "Amoris Laetitia," have "further extended and deepened its content." Appointing Archbishop Paglia to guide the two bodies, the pope said he wanted the institutions to renew their commitment to spreading church teaching on family, marriage and life issues "in relation to the challenges of contemporary culture. The sphere of reflection should be the frontiers," he said. "Even in theological study, a pastoral perspective and attention to the wounds of humanity should never be lacking.

Pope names Dallas bishop head of new office for laity, family, life

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has named Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas to head the Vatican's new office for laity, family and life. The Dublin-born bishop will celebrate his 69th birthday Sept. 2, the day after the new Vatican office officially begins its work. In a statement a few hours after his appointment was announced in Rome, Bishop Farrell said he was "extremely humbled" Pope Francis chose him to lead the new office." I look forward to being part of the important work of the universal church in the promotion of the laity and the apostolate of the laity and for the pastoral care of the family in accordance with the pope's recent apostolic exhortation, 'Amoris Laetitia,' ('The Joy of Love'), and the support of human life," he said. At the same time, Bishop Farrell said he had "mixed emotions" about leaving Dallas, its people and priests. Bishop Kevin Farrell is the brother of Bishop Brian Farrell, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Both brothers were ordained to the priesthood for the Legionaries of Christ, but the Dallas bishop was later incardinated in the Archdiocese of Washington and served as an auxiliary bishop there 2002-2007. Pope Francis, in a brief apostolic letter formally establishing the new "Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life," said the office should respond "to the situations of our age and adapt to the needs of the universal church."

VATICAN LETTER

The mercy-filled life: Mother Teresa embodied what Pope Francis teaches

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

WATICAN CITY (CNS) – If there is one person who immersed herself in the "peripheries" Pope Francis is drawn to, it was Blessed Teresa of Kolkata.

If there was one who showed courage and creativity in bringing God's mercy to the world, like Pope Francis urges, it was the diminutive founder of the Missionaries of Charity.

For many people, the Catholic Church's Year of Mercy will reach its culmination when Pope Francis canonizes Mother Teresa Sept. 4, recognizing the holiness of charity, mercy and courage found in a package just 5-feet tall.

Ken Hackett, U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, worked closely with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity in his previous positions at the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services. He was at her funeral in 1997, her beatification in 2003 and will attend the Mass where she will be declared a saint.

"Where Mother pushed the Missionaries of Charity was to the edge, to the most difficult places," said the ambassador, who said he visited her houses "all the time, everywhere."

"They were always way out there, both geographically and with the people who absolutely fell through the cracks," he said.

Mother Teresa opened homes in Ethiopia during the communist military dictatorship, in the most destitute neighborhoods of Haiti's capital, in Rwanda after the genocide and in Yemen, where four Missionaries of Charity were murdered in March.

"When there was war, when there was fighting, there they were," Hackett said. "They stayed."

Mother Teresa demonstrated that living a life committed to mercy took "selflessness and courage," he said.

Her courage also was demonstrated in her ability to "speak truth to power," he said. Mother Teresa visited the United States regularly, speaking to Catholic groups, opening homes and meeting with presidents, including Ronald Reagan, George Bush and Bill Clinton. "She was straight out against abortion," the ambassador said. "From conception to death - she was the whole thing and didn't pull any punches."

Like Pope Francis, he said, Mother Teresa drew energy from personal, one-on-one contact with people and consciously chose

to live as simply as the poor she befriended and tended.

In life and after her death, Mother Teresa faced criticism for not using her fame and contacts to advocate more directly for social and political change to improve the lives of the poor she served.

"You can find all the things she wasn't," the ambassador said, "but what she was was much more important than what she wasn't. She was a model and now she will be a saint."

Valeria Martano, Asia coordinator for the Community of Sant'Egidio, said, "We are talking about a woman who broke out of the existing framework of what was expected of a Catholic woman in the 1940s. And, like Pope Francis, she chose to make her life a denunciation" of injustice.

"Her witness was testimony that things can change," Martano said. "She did not speak of justice so much as do justice."

"Mother Teresa chose to understand the world through the eyes of the least of the least, what Pope Francis would call the periphery," said Martano, who also leads Sant'Egidio programs in the poorest neighborhoods on the southern edge of Rome. But it is not just about "going out," Martano said. For both Pope Francis and Mother Teresa, she said, everything starts with prayer.

The founder of the Missionaries of Charity insisted that she and her sisters were "contemplatives in the midst of the world," she said. "It was not just about doing." Mother Teresa's prayer took her to the periphery and the peripheries were key to her prayer.

"What Mother Teresa lived, Pope Francis teaches constantly: compassion in the face of pain and never accepting indifference in the face of suffering," said Archbishop Matteo Zuppi of Bologna, Italy.

For the archbishop, Mother Teresa modeled "a church close to the poor, a church that is mother to the poor and that lives the joy of serving the poor."

Revelations after her death that she suffered a "dark night of the soul," decades of feeling abandoned by God, are for Archbishop Zuppi a further sign of her deep immersion in the lives of the poor and forgotten.

"Her spiritual director would say that thirst is knowing there is water and longing for it," he said. "She was a woman who made the thirst of Christ on the cross her own. She lived that thirst."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Learning the lessons of humility

The readings this Sunday are all about humility.

We read In the wisdom book of Sirach, "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God."

From the very beginning of Pope White Francis' reign, he has constantly impressed people around the



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

world with his genuine and authentic humility, begging

people to pray for him, refusing to live in the Apostolic Palace, falling on his knees to wash the feet of prisoners.

A second piece of advice in Sirach is for us to be good listeners. "...an attentive ear is the joy of the wise". It is by listening with full attention when people speak to us that we

ourselves can learn so

much

On the other hand, St. Thomas tells us that pride "breaks the chain of charity and unity."

Jesus himself said, "Learn of me, for I am meek and humble of heart". He urges us to be like children, "for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

In today's Gospel from Luke, Jesus also gives advice about conducting ourselves with humility.

He counsels his fellowguests at the banquet not to push and shove their way into the best seats. Why? **AUG.28**

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time READINGS

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a Luke 14:1, 7-14

Because there is chance that the host might have to send us down to a lower place if one more important than we are needs our seat.

Let others decide our social rank rather than declaring our own importance. Did Jesus speak with "tongue in cheek" when he adds: "If you take a lower place in the first place, won't you be honored when you're told to take the higher place you really wanted!"?

Humility is truth, we are told. A humble person knows that any excellence he or she may possess comes from his right use of the grace of His Creator and the generous love of Jesus.

St. Teresa used to say, "Teresa alone is nothing. Teresa and Jesus can accomplish all things"!

DO YOU LOVE ME? KEEP MY COMMANDS

Sabbath: spend time together, eat, talk, pray

Kids often say funny things when you're teaching them about God.

Some kids say "Our Father who art in Heaven, how did you know my name?"

My daughter Sophia thought the third commandment was "to keep the Sabbath the whole day."

Ironically, she was right. On the sixth day God created the animals and humans and on the seventh day God rested. We are distinguished from the other animals because we were made in the image and likeness of God.

Being created in the image of God means that humans were given the gift of reason and free will. Using these gifts to love as God does is what is meant by the likeness.

The Catechism says that "of all visible creatures, only man is able to know and love his creator."

The constant struggle for human beings is to use their

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gifts of reason and free will to love. When they choose to sin rather than to love, they act more like animals than they do like God.

What does it mean to keep the Sabbath holy?

Something is called holy when it is set aside for a sacred purpose. We are to put aside our normal work and shift to working to grow closer to God; from laboring like a beast of burden to worshipping God. In this type of work we find rest.

As Jesus says, "Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest...for my yoke is easy and my burden light.

The word liturgy, which we use for our worship services, comes from the word *leitourgia* in Greek which means the work of/for the people.

Moses asks Pharaoh to let the Hebrews go out into the desert to worship God. Pharaoh refuses, saying that there is too much work to be done. Pharaoh wants to have dominion over the people as if they were animals.

Moses says that if the Hebrews are not allowed to worship God, they may be

struck by a plague or by the sword.

If we fail to keep the Sabbath holy, there are conse-

quences for us as well. The natural consequences of failing to get enough rest are many. Rest rejuvenates your body and your mind. Rest prevents injury and allows muscles to repair themselves. Rest effects our immune system, cognitive ability, memory, stress level and mood. Inadequate rest increases acci-

dental death, weight gain, high blood pressure, and puts more stress on the heart. It effects every system of the body.

Some people say that they feel closer to God in nature, or alone at home, but this does not fulfill the commandment.

We are required to worship together as a community because we are created in God's image and the Trinity is a community of three persons.

When we attend Mass we experience God in the Liturgy of the Word, in the

gathering of the people, in the priest who is an *alter Christus*, and in the Eucharist.

> People who, for one reason or another, are not allowed to receive the Eucharist may experience God in other ways at Mass.

People who are divorced and remarried will frequently feel unwelcome at Mass and may not come. As a result, their children do not benefit from experiencing God and re-

ceiving the sacramental grace at Mass. It is very important to be sensitive to their situations and to make efforts to include them and help them feel welcome.

As parents, we are instrumental in helping our children form their identities, to know what it means to be beloved children in the family of God as well as members of our earthly family.

To strengthen these components of their identity, children need to spend time with both families, and this is another reason why it is important to keep the Sab-

bath day holy.

Without a solid sense that they are children of God, they will easily fall victim to the multitude of false gods that society offers, and will not know who they are.

This was a recurring problem for the ancient Israelites and a struggle for families throughout history.

Families spend very little time together, perhaps 15 to 30 minutes per day. Increasing this is easy, but requires routines.

As a child I spent many Sunday afternoons at my grandparents' house. Most of the time we had cousins, uncles and aunts there as well. We would spend time together, eat and talk. After Mass each Sunday we would get jelly donuts and a newspaper. The children would look at the comics while the adults read the rest of the newspaper. Some families play board games together. Pam Stenzel recommends

that when your children reach the dating age, have the person they are dating spend Sundays with your family, including going to Church.

In a nutshell, spend time together, eat, talk and pray!



Stephen M. Tartaglia

AT THE MOVIES

Ben-Hur

By John Mulderig Catholic News Service

Few films come to the screen with the kind of storied pedigree that lies behind "Ben-Hur" (Paramount).

Subtitled "A Tale of the Christ," Civil War Gen. Lew Wallace's best-selling 1880 novel, which had previously been made into a wildly successful stage play, first reached audiences of the newfangled cinema way back in 1907. Since that adaptation was completely unauthorized, however, a lawsuit resulted that still stands as a landmark in the development of copyright protection.

Flash-forward nearly two decades and an epic-scale 1925 production starring Ramon Novarro and Francis X. Bushman becomes, reputedly, the most expensive silent film ever made. This version struck critical gold and won popular favor, though the financial outcome - given that outsized budget - was murkier.

The popularity of biblical themes and swords-andsandals derring-do in the Hollywood of the 1950s made an update of "Ben-Hur" almost inevitable. And so the last year of that decade saw the release of director William Wyler's 212-minute extravaganza in which Charlton Heston, in the title role, stepped into a chariot and made movie history at breakneck speed.

All that represents quite a historical and cultural burden for director Timur Bekmambetov and his collaborators - including executive producers Mark Burnett and Roma Downey - to bear in bringing his "reimagining" to the screen. Which is a shame, since, considered strictly on its own terms, his iteration of Wallace's classic story makes for a reasonably satisfying action picture.

The bad news for believers -- whose hopes may have been raised by the participation of Burnett and Downey, fixtures in the world of Christian-oriented media projects - is that, primarily because of a poorly written script, this "Ben-Hur" fails to convince when Wallace's religious theme comes to the fore.

It arrives by way of what must still be a familiar plot to many, at least in its initial setup: First-century Jewish prince Judah Ben-Hur (Jack Huston) lives a prosperous life in Jerusalem, where he carries on a friendly rivalry with his Roman adopted brother, Messala (Toby Kebbell), and finds happiness through marriage to his true love, Esther (Nazanin Boniadi).

After Judah gives shelter to Dismas (Moises Arias), a young zealot who was wounded fighting against foreign rule, however, disaster strikes the House of Hur. So, too, does betrayal since Messala, now an influential army officer on the staff of Pontius Pilate (Pilou Asbaek), refuses to risk his career by helping the family that took him in as a child.

Consigned to the miserable existence of a galley slave, and certain that the other members of his clan -including his mother, Naomi (Ayelet Zurer), and sister, Tirzah (Sofia Black-D'Elia), for whom Messala once carried a torch -- have all been executed, Judah thirsts for revenge against his foster sibling. Until, that is, multiple encounters with Jesus



(Rodrigo Santoro) open his eves to the value of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Although the role of Dismas, whose subversive activities substitute for those loose roof tiles that got Heston in trouble, is an innovation, the epic sea battle and that trademark chariot race remain. Aficionados of the 1959 version may find these lacking, but they're serviceable enough when weighed in isolation.

The real trouble arises when screenwriters Keith Clarke and John Ridley turn from mere diversion to something deeper. By skimping on the careful and time-consuming character development that would have been needed to make Judah's ultimate conversion believable, they doom the religious dimension of "Ben-Hur" as surely as Dismas does its protagonist and his household.

What viewers are left with is the cinematic equivalent of Lutheran theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer's cheap grace, a redemption unjustified and unpersuasive precisely because it's unearned.

Though the causalities that litter the arena as the movie's most famous sequence progresses would normally suggest recom-



CNS PHOTO/PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES INC Jack Huston stars in a scene from the movie "Ben-Hur."

mendation for mature viewers only, other elements are discreet enough that attendance by older teens would probably not be out of place.

The film contains generally stylized but harsh violence with several grisly deaths and some gore as

well as a nongraphic marital bedroom scene. 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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ADIRONDACK

FALL RETREAT

Saranac Lake - Fall Weekend retreat for adults to be held.

Place: Guggenheim Lodge Dates: Sept. 16-18

Cost: Suggested Offering \$145 Theme: "Pondering the 'Gospel of Creation'*(taken from Laudato Si)

Features: Facilitated by Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ and will include a guided nature walk by Paul Gabaldi, Adirondack guide and published nature photographer, times to pray and to share with others the spiritual wisdom revealed by God in Autumn. Mass will be offered by Fr. Paul Kelly during the weekend.

Contact: Space limited. For more information, call 315-212-6592 or email srbethssj@gmail.com.

CLINTON

TURKEY DINNER

Lyon Mountain - St. Bernard's to have their Annual Roast Turkey Dinner.

Date: Sept. 11 Time: Noon to 5 p.m.

Place: Lyon Mountain American Legion

Post 1623 Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$7; under 5, Free; EMT's, Firefighters & Police Offices will be offered Free dinners.

Features: 50/50 and raffle tickets to be sold. Take-outs available by calling 735-4372 or 593-7567.

Contact: For more info, call 593-2052

SETON SCHOOLS

Plattsburgh - Families of students from Pre-Kindergarten (3 & 4 year olds) through Grade 12 can arrange for a private, personalized campus tour.

Contact: Development Office at (518) 561-4031 or email admissions@thesetonschools.org.

OLA FOUNDERS DAY

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

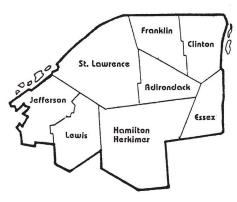
Date: Aug. 27 Time: 11 a.m.

Features: Father Jack Downs is scheduled to present a program on Mercy. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the Mass for the day and a Spaghetti Dinner will follow

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

HOST PARENTS WANTED

Plattsburgh - Seton Catholic is seeking host families for international students



The North County 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.

Features: Seton is currently accepting applications for fall 2016. Each family receives a monthly stipend to offset the expense of hosting a student.

Contact: (518) 561-4041.

CLOTHES, SHOES DONATION CENTER

Plattsburgh - Drop unwanted clothes, shoes, sheets, blankets, bedspreads, towels, curtains and stuffed animals in our BLUE drop box.

Place: Seton Catholic

Features: Seton receive 5 cents per pound of donations. You can also donate cans and bottles in our redemption box.

PROGRAMS AT OLA

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer program for the coming months 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 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Plattsburgh - Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednes day, Thursday, and Friday.

Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adora tion Chapel, downstairs

Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m Contact: call 518-561-5083 or email Sjohnsadoration@aol.com

FRANKLIN

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Burke - St. George's Church will hold a Spaghetti Dinner.

Date: Sept. 18

Time: Noon to 4 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: Raffle on prizes of \$100 - \$75 \$50 for donation of \$1 each.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Brushton — St. Mary's Church events committee to have a breakfast buffet.

Date: Sept. 11

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

Place: St. Mary's Parish center Cost: Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$4; under 5, Free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, \$25 (Mother, Father, and school age children)

Contact: Take-outs available by calling 518-529-6580

SATURDAY DEVOTION

St. Regis Falls – First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held the first Satur day of each month.

Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass Place: St. Ann's Church Contact: 518-856-9656

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Old Forge – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call to

the Roman Catholic Priesthood.

Dates: Sept 4 and 18; Oct 2, 16, 30; Nov 13; Dec 4; Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2 and 23; May 7

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Bartholomew's Rectory, 189 Park Ave, Old Forge

Features: Reflection, Vespers & dinner. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.

Contact: If you plan to attend or for more info contact: Fr. Howard Venette, pastor.stbarts@roadrunner.com/ 315-369-3554; or Fr. Bryan Stitt, bstitt@rcdony.org.

JEFFERSON

WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

FREE SUMMER CONCERT

Alexandria Bay - 8th Annual Free Summer Concert: Raising a Joyful Noise.

Date: Aug. 28 Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Cyril's Church

Features: Please join the world traveled St. Cyril's Choir, under the direction of Rebecca Rose. The choir will be performing a program of religious and patriotic music all revolving around the theme of Ubi Caritas - peace and love.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for vocations Date: Mon.-Fri.

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Place: Holy Family Church

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown - Liferight of Watertown meets the first Wednesday of the Month.

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: 870 Arsenal Street.

Features: The office has a variety of pro-life videos, books and educational materials which may be borrowed.

Contact: Phone 315-788-8480

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville – September Divine Mercy devotions will be held.

Date: Sept. 4

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.

Contact: 348-6260

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: Nadine Logan 315-376-7391.

Nlogan@twcny.rr.com

ST. LAWRENCE

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

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

Dates: Sept 4 and 18; Oct 2, 16, 30; Nov 13; Dec 4; Jan 29; Feb 12; Mar 5; Apr 2 and 23; May 7

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Features: Reflection and vespers. No reservation necessary. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.

Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Father Stephen Rocker, pastorsmsp@ gmail.com, 315-265-9680; orFr. Doug Lucia, frdoug@twcny.rr.com or Fr. Bryan Stitt, bstitt@rcdony.org.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena - First Saturday Rosary to be

Date: Sept. 3 Time: 3:15 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Church

Features: The Rosary followed by a 15minute private Meditation. Confession will be available starting at 2:45. The Saturday Mass Vigil is at 4 p.m.

EUCHARISTIC 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

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 Features: Homemade meat-filled manicotti and/or homemade spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad,

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE





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

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

Gratitude for support of MPDO

By Sister Mary Ellen, SSJ Diocesan Director

Thank you to all the parishioners in the deaneries of St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis in the Diocese of Ogdensburg who so generously supported the annual Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg Collection on July 30th – 31st. I thank you especially from the people supported through this annual collection we assist at our former mission parish in Mollendo, Peru, the Bishop's Latin America Appeal and other world projects deemed necessary by our Rishop.

projects deemed necessary by our Bishop.
2016's theme for MPDO is "Give Local- Glean Global
Good". The late Father George F. Maroun, who founded
the MPDO annual collection, carefully crafted it and its
specific goals. Each year, a new poster is designed to
help promote the collection in our parishes. This year's
poster was designed by assistant, Molly Ryan, in April
2016 and as usual, featured a local picture. The completed poster shipment arrived in the mission office the
day following Fr. Maroun's untimely death. He had no
idea that he would be featured in the local picture in
this year's poster.



The selected photo that Molly chose - shown above - showcases our Bishop, Terry R. LaValley and me, presenting a check from the MPDO collection that was hand delivered just days later to Mollendo. Fr. Maroun was travelling to Mollendo, Peru to visit Padre Andres Marquez and his parish, St. Martin de Porres, to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. Many years ago, Fr. Maroun served as Pastor in St. Martin de Porres Parish and continued to his close ties to its people even after he his return to the United States. He visited often with groups from the Diocese to celebrate, worship and see the progress there first hand.

This is only one of the many gifts that has wiped away many tears of people globally who say "Ogdensburg has been so good to us". Thank you again to the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for their generosity towards the MPDO collection as we remember Fr. Maroun. God Bless!

OBITUARIES

Black Brook — Sally J. (Nelson) Fournier, 77; Funeral Services Aug. 15, 2016 at St. Matthew's Church.

Brasher Falls — Grace E. (Rufa) Best, 87; Funeral Aug. 19, 2016 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage — Patrick J. O'Meara, 66; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2016 at St. James Church; burial in Hermon Cemetery.

Chaumont — Sherry Lee Carr, 85; Funeral Services Aug. 15, 2016 at All Saints Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery

Dannemora — Leslie "Butch" Jordan, 66; Funeral Services Oct. 1, 2016 at St. Joseph Church.

Harrisville — Verna A. Foley, 80; Funeral Aug. 17, 2016 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lyon Mountain — Frances A. (Petrashune) Gould, 96; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2016 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Malone — Susan Ann (Griffith) Gibson, 68; Funeral Services Aug. 13, 2016 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Morningside Cemetery.

Massena — Robert J. Fournier, 41; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2016 at Phillips Memorial Home.

Massena — Dennis F. Keleher, 51; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2016 at the Donaldson Funeral Home; burial in Riverside Cemetery, Norwood.

Massena — Marsha S. Mattice, 66; Funeral Aug. 16, 2016 at the Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

GO GREEN!

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

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

Ogdensburg — Joseph M. Cosentino, 89; Funeral Services Aug. 15, 2016 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg — Frances M. Finnegan Hackett, 102; Funeral Services Aug. 19, 2016 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Peru – Tracy Lee Pray, 41; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2016 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Evergreen Cemetery, Keeseville.

Plattsburgh — Stella M. (Snide) Dubuque, 99; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2016 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Mooers Forks.

Rosiere — Devin M. Wood, 28; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2016 at St. Vincent de Paul Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Watertown – Arthur R. Pacific, 84; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2016 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

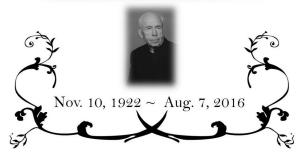
Westville — Louva M. (Dame) Dustin, 96; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2016 at Our Lady of Fatima Church; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery, Malone

Willsboro — Irene Mae Hulse, 92; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2016 at St. Philip of Jesus Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.



Pastor Emeritus of St. Patrick's Parish, Colton





Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

DIOCESAN EVENTS

MEN'S RETREAT

Saranac Lake - Catholic's Men's Retreat to be held.

Date: Sept. 9-11

Place: Camp Guggenheim

Cost: \$100 includes meals and lodging Features: Are you ready to step "Into the Breach"? Based on Bishop Olmsted's Apostolic Exhortation "Into The Breach", weekend participants are encouraged and challenged to reclaim and live the virtues of Christian masculinity. Outdoor

activities include canoeing and hiking. Contact: Online registration coming soon or for more information please

contact John Miner 518-354-0727 jdminer@roadrunner.com

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake - Come celebrate family at Family Guggenheim.

Date: Oct. 7-9

Features: A four day get away in the Adirondacks to hike, swim and praise with other faithful families! Families 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 together.

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

Fr. Christopher Looby

at St. Mary's Church

Shrines of Italy

April 18 - 28, 2017

of Evans Mills

presents...

VOCATION PILGRIMAGE

Join Bishop LaValley Will lead a pilgrimage to pray for Vocations.

Date: Oct. 11-13

Cost: Single Occupancy \$460, Double Occupancy \$335/each

Features: Mass and tour at Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, MA, Holy Hour, Mass and tour of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany, visit to Norman Rockwell Museum, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, and 1 lunch, buses with pickups in Watertown, Ogdensburg, Potsdam, Plattsburgh, Schroon Lake, Space limited, sign up today! (Non-refundable payment due August 27.

Contact: Call Anne at (315) 353-2950 or Connie at (315) 265-2762.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Saranac Lake - After-abortion Healing Retreat to be held.

Date: Sept. 2 − 4

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: If you or a friend are suffering after an abortion, consider attending a Rachel's Vineyard retreat. Chaplain for the fall retreat is Fr. Bryan Stitt. A confidential registration form is located at www.rcdony.org/pro-life.

Contact: Colleen Miner 518-524-0774

INSPIRE: CALLED TO LOVE

Lake Placid - The diocesan vocation summit, with internationally known speakers, has been set

Date: Sept. 25

LIFE OF FAITHFUL SERVICE



PHOTO SUPPLIED

Deacon Francis (Frenchy) Siskavich of St. Bernard's in Lyon Mountain, and his wife of 66 Years, Myrtle, are pictured with Bishop LaValley at the Clinton Deanery Bishop Fund's reception held Aug. 11 at St. Augustine's in Peru . Deacon Siskavich, who turns 90 on Oct. 4, was ordained in 1985 and remains active in ministry as a deacon.

Time: 9 a.m. Place: Olympic Center Complex Features: Free all day conference with keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron, the creator and host of the Catholicism series. Other speakers include George Weigel (biographer to Pope St. John Paul II), Jennifer Fulwiler (author and radio host), Bishop Christopher Coyne (Bishop of Burlington, VT and Chairman of the USCCB Communications Committee). Come pray together and be inspired by our speakers and each other so that together we can cultivate a culture of vo-

Contact: For more information, full schedule and to register, go to www.inspirecalledtolove.org.

NEIGHBORING DIOCESES

COMMEMORATIVE MASS

Isle La Motte, VT — St. Anne's Shrine will host a special Mass commemorating the 350th Anniversary of the First Catholic Mass in Vermont and the region

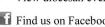
Date: Sept. 11

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Features: Bishop Christopher Coyne will be the principal celebrant and Jesuit Father Michael Knox, who has specialized in 17th Century Jesuit history in the New World, will be the homilist.

Visit our website www.northcountrycatholic.org Read Bishop LaValley's columns

- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more
- Find us on Facebook!



You're Invited! Special Travel Presentation

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St. Mary's Church

8408 S. Main Street, Evans Mills, NY 13637

To RSVP or for more information, call 315.265.4340

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