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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 22

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

OCT. 25, 2017

Faith brings hope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christians can find hope even at the hour of death, which faith teaches is not a closed door but a wide-open passage to a new life with Christ, Pope Francis said.

While all men and women are "small and helpless in

front of the mystery of death," Jesus' victory over death assures Christians of the joy of the resurrection, the pope said Oct. 18 during his weekly general audience.

Despite chilly temperatures in Rome, thousands gathered in St. Peter's Square

to greet the pope who rode around St. Peter's Square, stopping frequently to greet pilgrims and kiss babies. Making sure one child was kept warm, the pope pulled up the hood of the baby's jacket before he was taken back to his parents.

Continuing his series of talks on Christian hope, Pope Francis reflected on death, which is "a reality that our modern civilization tends to eradicate" so completely that "when death comes to us or those around us, we are unprepared."

Meet a seminarian



NCC FILE PHOTO

Nicholas Olley, a parishioner of St. James Minor Church in Carthage, is in his second year of college at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Happy Birthday, Sr. Catherine

St. Joseph Sister Catherine

Laboure Goodbout turns

100 this week.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUBILARIANS



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Four of the nine religious women celebrating special anniversaries in 2017 are shown with Bishop Terry R. LaValley following the Religious Jubilee Mass Oct. 15 at St. Mary's Cathedral. From left are Mercy Sister Brian Marie Latour, St. Joseph Sister Cathleen Moore, Bishop LaValley and St. Joseph Sisters Marie Cordata Kelly and Mary Paul Blank, all celebrating 60 years of religious life. Unable to attend were St. Joseph Sister Victorine Brenon, 70 years; St. Joseph Sisters Mary Maurice Black, Gabriel Marie Meyer and Mary Kateri Rose, 65 years; and St. Joseph Sister Marie Angele Ellis, 60 years. Autobiographical sketches of the jubilarians are on pages 4-5.

BISHOP'S FUND: Supports efforts to 'build a culture of vocation'.... p. 6

CELEBRATE CHRIST

'Called to Lead'

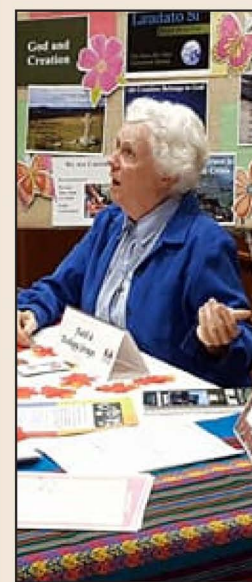


PHOTO BY PAM BALLANTINE

St. Joseph Bethany Fitzgerald, representing faith and ecology groups of the diocese, was one of the exhibitors at Celebrate Christ 2017 held Oct. 20 and Oct. 22 at the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid. Keynote speaker Christopher Lowney spoke to Catholic school personnel on Friday and parish catechetical leaders Saturday on the theme "Leadership Lessons from Pope Francis: Doing the Laundry, Dusty Shoes and the Monastery Bell." Full coverage of Celebrate Christ will be published in next week's NCC.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Consecrated diocese? Yes, it matters

Between the time this paper was sent to the printer and the time that it landed in mailboxes, the Diocese of Ogdensburg experienced a bit of an upgrade.

On Sunday afternoon all the parishes and people of the diocese were consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Bishop LaValley presided at the special liturgy, held at St. Mary's Cathedral on the 65th anniversary of its dedication.

The Prayer of Consecration was based on the Consecration

that Pope St. John Paul II prayed 35 years ago in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.

Mary Lou
Kilian

That makes it especially appropriate as the universal church observes the 100th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions.

In last week's *North Country Catholic*, Dr. Maura Hearden Fehlner of Keene wrote a powerful reflection on the reasons why this consecration matters.

To consecrate yourself, she wrote, means to entrust yourself entirely to someone. "Strictly speaking,

we can only consecrate ourselves to God because we are his," Dr. Hearden Fehlner wrote. "However, when the Church speaks of consecration to Mary, it means we are giving ourselves to God through Mary."

"To the extent that we entrust ourselves to her motherly care and conform to her immaculate example, our diocese will receive great graces," she said.

Our diocese has certainly been the beneficiary of great graces in recent months with new deacons and blessed opportunities for Catholic educators, married couples, law

enforcement personnel and youth but there is still plenty of space for more.

"Oh, Immaculate Heart! Help us to conquer the menace of evil which so easily takes root in the hearts of people of today and whose immeasurable effects already weigh down upon our modern world and seem to block the paths toward the future," the bishop prayed on Sunday.

We don't have to think hard or long about the menacing evil threatening us as individuals and as part of a community, parish, country, world.

Yes, this consecration really matters!

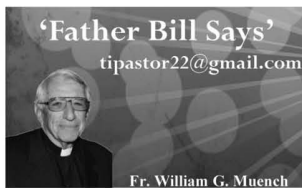
FATHER MUENCH SAYS

Living with a well-formed conscience

Recently, I discovered a new saint – new to me anyway. I was wandering through some of the you-tube videos on my computer and came upon the life story of Franz Jaegerstaeter. Jaegerstaeter was condemned to death and executed by the Nazis in 1943 at the age of 36 for refusing induction into the Nazi army and was beatified in 2007 by Pope Benedict XVI – Franz

Franz Jaegerstaeter lived his life in a town in Upper Austria. The German government had invaded and ruled over Austria, demanding the men of Austria to be inducted into the Nazi army. Jaegerstaeter was married and had three daughters. The story goes that although he underwent basic military training, he received an exemption from involvement in the military because he was a father and farmer. During that time he was the sacristan at the parish church and a member of the Third Order of St. Francis.

In 1943, that exemption was removed. He was formerly inducted into the Nazi army but he refused induction claiming to be a conscientious objector. He considered the war and the Nazi cause to be morally unac-



ceptable. He was arrested. He was executed. He was truly a martyr.

Franz's story was not recognized until years later. Now many have learned of him and written about him. One witness to his life and sanctity was his wife, Franzista, who lived many years after Franz's death until the age of 90.

Following conscience – we, Christians, trust in the notion of conscience. The Catholic Catechism for Adults reminds us: "The formation of a good conscience is another fundamental element of Christian moral teaching. Conscience is a judgment of reason by which the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act."

We are referred back to the Second Vatican Council. In the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et spes*), there is a

section on the Dignity of Moral Conscience (16).

This document helps us to understand more about conscience. "The voice of conscience calls all to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, tells all inwardly at the right moment: do this, shun this." We all have in our heart in our heart a law inscribed by God. St. Paul writes in the Letter to the Romans: "They show that the demands of the law are written in their hearts."

Franz Jaegerstaeter was challenged by the call of conscience. He could have lied to the Nazis and served in the army. This could have saved his life but he chose to follow his conscience.

"*Gaudium et Spes*" goes on to say: "Hence, the more a correct conscience prevails, the more do persons and groups turn aside from blind chance and try to be guided by the objective standards of moral conduct."

I decided to use the story of Franz Jaegerstaeter on the Sunday when the Gospel was about – "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."

In that Gospel story, the Phar-

isees ask Jesus, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" to test Jesus – if he says the tax to Caesar was lawful – the Hebrew people would be upset with Jesus. If he considers it not lawful, the Romans would react against Jesus. So, he cleverly says: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Christians are citizens of the country in which they live. They owe the fact that they are able to life in peace and security too its forces of law and order. Christians are citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. To it they owe certain other privileges and to it they also have obligations.

Christians can sometimes be faced with a real dilemma – how to be a Christian in a secular world when the laws may often be unchristian. True Christians will strive to be good citizens of their country and at the same time good citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. They will fail neither in their duty to God nor to their fellow men and women. But as Christians our first and deepest loyalty is to God. Our well-formed conscience must be our guide.

Sister of St. Joseph to celebrate 100th birthday

WATERTOWN - Sister Catherine Laboure Goodbout, a Sister of St. Joseph for 67 years, will celebrate her 100th birthday Oct. 29.

A native of Canton, she is the daughter of the late Ernest and Mary LaPierre Goodbout.

Sister Catherine graduated from Canton High School in 1936 and received a bachelor's degree in education from the University of New York State College of Potsdam.

Sister Catherine worked as a secretary at St. Lawrence University, Canton, before entering the Sisters of St. Joseph on March 24, 1950.

She received the habit six months later and professed her final vows on September 24, 1955.

She celebrated her 65th anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph in 2015.



Sr. Catherine Laboure Goodbout, SSJ

Sister Catherine taught at primary levels at various schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg including St. John's, Morristown; Holy Name, AuSable Forks; St.

Joseph the Worker, Mineville; St. James, Gouverneur; St. Joseph's, Massena; St. Andrew's, Norwood; and Holy Name School, Tupper Lake.

Sister Catherine also taught catechism, made home visits and taking census for parishioners at St. Cecilia's, Adams; Sacred Heart, Massena; and Holy Name, AuSable Forks, where she served as school secretary and librarian.

Since retiring in 1995, Sister Catherine has resided at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse where, for more than 15 years, she made home and hospital visits to shut-ins and patients at local nursing homes and hospitals.

Today, Sister Catherine ministers to her community's sisters who live at the motherhouse with her smile and prayer.

MEET OUR SEMINARIANS

'I can't remember when I didn't want to be a priest'

By Catherine Russell
Diocesan Vocation Coordinator

Nicholas Olley, in his second year of college at the Pontifical College Josephinum, is the son of Duane and Monica Olley and a parishioner of St. James the Minor Church in Carthage.

The family often prayed together while Nicholas was growing up. As he looks back, he credits these prayer times with planting the seeds of his vocation to priesthood. It doesn't hurt that he has an uncle who is a priest of the order Fathers of Mercy as well!

As often as he could, he attended Camp Guggenheim where his faith continued to deepen.

Nicholas graduated from Augustinian Academy and Carthage Central School and attended Jefferson Community College prior to entering the seminary.

While in high school, Nicholas was in the chorus and acted in the school musicals. Because of his carpentry skills and ability to work with his hands, Nicholas was relied upon to help with set construction.

Also in high school, Nicholas saw a need for a youth group so he started one with some of his friends. At the same time, he was active in his church as a server at Mass, a member of the Vocation team and Liturgy Committee.

The faith heroes Nicholas most admires are Francis of Assisi, St. John Paul, St. Padre Pio and St. Andrew. When he prays, he likes to use the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and he loves the Mass.

Nicholas is a typical north country resident who en-



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO
Nicholas Olley of Carthage has begun his second year of college at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

joys country music, hunting and hiking. And he like to eat steak and prime rib!

When asked why he wants to be a priest, Nick replies, "I can't remember a time I didn't want to be a priest. I want to say Mass and bring the sacraments to the people."

He credits his uncle and his pastors Father Cosmic, Father Maroun and Father Robinson with most influencing his decision to enter seminary. Growing up, he was able to spend a lot of time around priests and saw their joy and how happy they were.

His favorite scripture quote is "Be not afraid." Nick thinks it is a great way to live life in today's world and who can disagree with that?

As far as advice for a man considering priesthood, Nicholas offers, "Pray. Explore different types of priesthood, diocesan and religious, and find someone to talk to about it."

FOR COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTERS



PHOTO BY JESSE SOWIE

"To be an effective disciple in mission... am I ready to change, to be transformed by the power of God's Spirit?" This was the message from Bishop Terry LaValley as he spoke at the fourth annual Commissioned Lay Ministry (SLFA) dinner meeting Oct. 11 at the Church of the Visitation/Father Amyot Parish Center in Norfolk. The event was attended by approximately 90 priests, deacons, CLM's and guests from across the diocese. The Commissioned Lay Ministry Association offers several retreats, dinners and events throughout the year designed to enrich one's spiritual life and faith formation. To continue to remain in contact with the association and be informed of any upcoming events, call or email any changes or updates to contact information to Jeannie Grizzuto at jgrizzuto@rcdony.org or call 315-393-2920 ext 1413.

Meet our religious jubilarians

Nine religious women celebrate special anniversaries in 2017

75TH JUBILEE

Sister Victorine Brenon, SSJ

I was born in Carthage, the daughter of Victor and Florence McAvoy Brenon, one of ten children, two of whom were Sister Geraldine and Sister Rita Marie, both Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown.

I attended a country school for grades one through five, and Augustinian Academy in Carthage until graduation in 1941.

Following my novitiate, I attended Marywood College in Scranton, PA, graduating with a BS degree in Education. I received my MS degree from Plattsburgh State University. Graduate studies were pursued at Ypsilanti State University in Michigan, and Notre Dame University, in Indiana.

I taught in several diocesan schools: Bishop Conroy, Ogdensburg; Champlain Academy, Port Henry; St. Joseph's School in Danemora; as well as Holy Family and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Schools in Watertown.

I have been in community and school administration, and served as Secretary of the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal. My final years of ministry was visiting shut-ins at St. James Parish in Carthage.

Now that I'm retired I appreciate the time to pray, read, and telephone shut-ins.

70TH JUBILEE

Sister Maurice Black, SSJ

Before I entered the convent, my name was Evelyn Elizabeth Black. I was born six miles west of Tupper Lake in Piercefield, the oldest of 13 children. My parents were Aloney and Madeline Brown Black.

We lived in Piercefield, until the mid 1930's, when the paper mill closed and

Editor's note

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at a Mass in celebration of the anniversaries of vowed religious in the Diocese of Ogdensburg Oct. 15 at St. Mary's Cathedral. Autobiographical sketches of the nine jubilarians appear on these two pages.

moved to a rented farm outside of Bombay. After seven years, our family bought the farm and my brother Glenn now lives there.

We had a lot of simple fun growing up. We enjoyed softball as a family, my father playing with his children. My mother with one or two babies in arms, was our cheerleader. My parents taught us responsibility and hard work.

God was a big part of our lives. We went to church regularly and received the Sacraments. After we moved to Fort Covington, we went to St. Mary's School there. I graduated from Fort Covington High School in 1946 and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Fall of 1946.

I graduated from Villanova University with a BS in Education from the College of St. Rose in Albany with an MS in education, nursery school through grade 6, and in Special Education for the Disabled. I also received an AA degree in Religious Studies at Mater Dei College.

I served God's people at our diocesan schools, and involved for several years at St. Patrick's Children's Home. For nearly 40 years, I taught religious education to the disabled.

My 70 years have been very fulfilling. I thank God for all of His blessings.

Sister Gabriel Marie Meyer, SSJ

Friday, the 13th of November, 1925, what a lucky day for me! I was born the

third child to John and Anastasia (Marilley) Meyer. We lived on a farm outside the village of Croghan and were members of St. Stephen's Church.

I was blessed with an older sister, Elizabeth, (who died at age two) and an older brother, Harold, who is also deceased, two younger brothers George, (deceased) and Donald and two younger sisters, Helena and Norma.

My education started in a one-room school for the first eight years, then Beaver Falls High School and Watertown School of Commerce. I worked as a secretary for three years before entering the Sisters of St. Joseph Community. My education continued in their Normal School. I received my B.S. in Education from the College of St. Rose in Albany. I taught the intermediate grades in various schools of the diocese before attending St. Patrick's School of Social Work, Ottawa, Canada to obtain my M.S.W degree.

My ministry continued at St. Patrick's Children's Home, Catholic Charities and as pastoral associate at St. James Parish, Carthage, St. James Parish, Gouverneur and St. Martin/St. John, Port Leyden/Lyons Falls.

I am now retired and living at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown. God has blessed me with a joyful, fulfilling life in His service.

Sister Kateri Rose, SSJ

Jubilee is a time to celebrate life and to celebrate the Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown, who have been a blessing in my life since I entered the community.

As I look at my circle of life with its unique spiritual, educational, and personal growth opportunities,



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Mercy Sister Brian Marie Latour and **St. Joseph Sister Mary Paul Blank** leave the cathedral as the jubilee Mass concludes. **St. Joseph Sister Cathleen Moore** is behind them and **St. Joseph Sister Marie Cordata Kelly** is hidden.

linked to the privilege of life in Community, along with a "work net" of relationships and interactions with a vast array of people from many walks of life, I am humbled and grateful to our Heavenly Father who sustains and guides my life, goals and dreams along the way.

My parents, John Martin Rose and Tress Mary, were a joy and blessing, as were my brothers and sisters, who were always ready to encourage, and support me.

I have an MA and an MS in education and have taught in many diocesan schools, as well as Mater Dei College run by the Sisters of St. Joseph. In addition, during my later years, I have been a member of the Altar and Rosary Society, worked as a Basic Literacy Volunteer, and ESOL instructor, as well, a Religious Education Coordinator. I am also a North Country artist.

I look forward to more life-giving years, as I continue to journey with my Sisters and friends.

60TH JUBILEE

Sister Brian Marie Latour, RSM

Sister Brian Marie was born on December 28, 1939, in Saranac Lake, the oldest daughter of Tuffield A. and M. Elizabeth Kennedy Latour.

She attended St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake, and graduated in 1957 from Saranac Lake High School.

Sister Brian Marie entered the Sisters of Mercy in Tarrytown, NY on September 8, 1957.

She attended Mercy College and was a graduate of Manhattanville College with a BA in Music in 1962.

Since she attended Manhattanville at the time of the beginning of the Liturgical Renewal, Sister Brian Marie was exposed to great teachers of Gregorian Chant, as well as those beginning the teaching of modern liturgical hymns.

She received her Master's Degree in Education from SUNY Potsdam in 1968.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Jubilarians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Sister Brian Marie was received for profession of first vows on August 16, 1960, and final vows on August 16, 1965.

She spent years teaching elementary school at St. Cecilia' School in Manhattan, St. Patrick's School, Brasher Falls; St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake; Holy Ghost Academy, Tupper Lake; St. John's Academy, Plattsburgh. She was the last principal of St. John's School in Plattsburgh and the founding principal of Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh. Sister Brian Marie was also an interim principal at St. Agnes School, Lake Placid.

Sister worked at the Susan Devin Residence in the Bronx, St. Michael's Home on Staten Island, and was the Director of Activities at Mercy Hospital, Watertown. She spent six years in Pastoral Ministry at St. Patrick's in Brasher Falls, NY. Later, she was the local coordinator of the Motherhouse Community in Dobbs Ferry, NY

Since 2007, Sister Brian Marie has been working the AfterCare Program at Seton Academy. She is a member of St. John's Parish, Plattsburgh, where she serves as lector, Eucharistic Minister, and a member of the Altar-Rosary Society.

Sister Marie Angele Ellis, SSJ

Sister Marie Angele, a native of Carthage, is the daughter of the late Toufee and Angele Hobeiche Ellis.

A graduate of Augustinian Academy, Carthage; Central City Business Institute, Syracuse; and SUNY Potsdam, she pursued a business career as a medical secretary in Syracuse, before entering the Sisters of St. Joseph in September 1956.

She received the habit from Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg in 1957, and made her Final Profession in 1962.

Sister Marie Angele taught at a number of diocesan schools, and in 1963 to

1997 was the Community Treasurer. From 1973 to 1981, she was assistant Superior General.

Sister Marie Angele has served on the Diocesan Finance Council, and was Pastoral Associate at St. James Parish in Carthage, until her retirement in 2015.

Sister Cathleen Moore

Sister Cathleen Moore (Sister Emmanuel) is the youngest child of Edward and Hazel Spilman Moore.

She graduated from Morristown Central High School in 1956, and in the fall of that year, entered the Novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Watertown. Sister Cathleen received her BA in elementary education from SUNY Potsdam. She later pursued her MA in Religious Education from St. Michael's College in Winooski, Vt.

Sister Cathleen has ministered in schools and parishes throughout the Ogdensburg Diocese as a teacher, principal and Director of Religious Education. Her motto is, "Where there are people, there is ministry to be done".

Sister Cathleen ventured into the study of Cosmetology and worked in this ministry for about 15 years, in both hair salons and nursing homes in Syracuse. She was the Catholic Chaplain for Loretto

Cunningham/Fahey Nursing Facility in Syracuse, for many years. She enjoyed being with the residents, their families, employees, and volunteers.

Sister Cathleen enjoys celebrating the differences of each season. She appreciates and enjoys being with her community and with her families and friends. Sister celebrates life daily, by her thoughts, words and actions.

Sister Mary Paul Blank, SSJ

Sister Mary Paul was born in Wilno, Ontario, a small town in the center Algo-

nquin Park known as "God's country." She entered religious life at age 21.

Sister Mary Paul graduated from Toronto Teachers College in teaching methods and in academics. She received her BA from Toronto University, and her MA in Theology from St. Bonaventure's University.

She taught in Toronto, Hamilton and St. Gregory's School in Oshawa, Ontario. Her teaching career continued at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Watertown, where she opened the preschool. She also taught at Augustinian Academy in Carthage, Seton Catholic High School in Plattsburgh, and St. Mary's Academy in Champlain.

Blessed with a special gift and love of teaching, Sister Mary Paul worked wonders with many children who struggled to read, as well as gifted children, instilling in them wonder and love of God and His wonderful gifts, creativity and love for learning.

After a busy life of prayer, instilling love of God in young people, and the ministry of teaching, if religious ever retire, Sister Mary Paul now resides at the Motherhouse in Watertown, caring daily for over 100 plants throughout the house, decorating the dining room for the seasons and special feasts, helping wherever needed, and enjoying extra time for prayer.

Sister Marie Cordata Kelly, SSJ

Sister Marie Cordata Kelly was born in AuSable Forks



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph at age 17. She graduated from SUNY Potsdam, with a BS in Education, and later earned Master's Degree in Business Education and Office Supervision from The Catholic University of America, as well as a Master's Degree in Theology from St. Bonaventure University.

Sister Cordata enjoyed teaching for a total of 53 years in the Ogdensburg Diocese, including St. Andrew's School in Norwood, St. Mary's School in Fort

Covington, St. Joseph the Worker School in Mineville, St. Mary's School in Massena, Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown, and Seton Catholic Central High School in Plattsburgh, as well as St. Mary's Academy in Champlain.

Sister Cordata now serves as secretary to the Major Superior, at the Motherhouse. She enjoys interacting each day with the Sisters, employees, and volunteers, while especially enjoying extra time for prayer.

May God's richest blessings be yours

75 years
Sister Mary Victorine Brenon, SSJ

70 Years
Sister Mary Maurice Black, SSJ
Sister Gabriel Marie Meyer, SSJ
Sister Mary Kateri Rose, SSJ

60 Years
Sister Marie Angele Ellis, SSJ
Sister Cathleen Moore, SSJ
Sister Mary Paul Blank, SSJ
Sister Marie Cordata Kelly, SSJ

ONE BREAD...ONE BODY... ONE FAMILY

Bishop's Fund supports work of Vocation Office

By Catherine Russell
Diocesan Vocation Coordinator

The diocesan vocations office, with wonderful support from the annual Bishop's Fund, has always promoted vocations to priesthood and consecrated life.

Creating a culture of vocation

However, the mission of the office was expanded when Bishop LaValley established the three priorities leading us into the future.

The first priority is creating a culture of vocation. In the introduction to the WE ARE CALLED diocesan vocation plan, we find the words of the Bishop: "The first vocation each of us acquires by virtue of baptism is to become a saint, to be holy... We will build a culture where such awareness of our baptismal call is nurtured and where church vocations are encouraged and celebrated."

What does that mean? Many of us grew up accepting that it was only the nuns and priests who were called to be holy, to be saints. The rest of us could just show up for Mass on Sunday, put money in the collection and lead a decent life. Yet the beautiful vocation to be faithful laity should never be reduced to that!

By virtue of Baptism, each



of us received the gift of a vocation to love, to holiness, to sainthood and a mission for the Kingdom!

Pope Francis says it this way, "To be saints is not a privilege for the few but the vocation of everyone."

To that end, the Vocation Office works with the parish vocation ministry teams throughout the diocese, providing support and resources so that all may realize this call.

Gradually, the word is spreading that vocations to priesthood and consecrated life will surface once we all realize our own vocation to be a true disciple of Jesus and pray for more workers in the vineyard.

Are you reading about our nine seminarians? Keep the prayers coming!

The office collaborates with other departments, like the Youth Department, to plan activities on the theme of vocation, family and discipleship.

One such activity was the

middle school retreat that took place at Camp Guggenheim this fall. The event was attended by about 100 students who learned that God calls them to a mission for the Kingdom!

The Vocation Office, with support from the Bishop's Fund, accompanies men discerning priesthood. Operation Andrew dinners and discernment retreats are offered annually throughout the diocese. These provide opportunities for men to talk with the Bishop and priests about the vocation to priesthood. A summer retreat and Christmas gathering for our seminarians is planned as well.

So, THANK YOU to everyone who donates to the Bishop's Fund! Wonderful work is being done because of you! May God bless you each and every day and may we continue to help create a culture of vocation in our diocese.

Rest in Peace

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

- Oct. 25** – Rev. J. Michael Duvic, O.M.I., 1917
Oct. 26 – Rev. J. G. Lavoie, O.M.I., 1908
Oct. 27 – Rev. John M. Fagan, O.S.A., 1966; Msgr. George Norton Whittaker, 1971; Msgr. Gerald H. Service, 2002
Oct. 28 – Deacon Richard Gaebel, 2008; Msgr. George M. Phillips, 2011
Oct. 29 – Rev. James R. Scanlon, 1880; Rev. Peter F. Cody, 1888; Rev. John Canning, 1998; Deacon Robert V. Ruddy, 2013
Oct. 30 – Rev. Michael F. Burns, 1921; Rev. Thomas E. Owen, 1945; Rev. Peter N. Butler, 1973
Oct. 31 – Rev. James Rooney, 1863; Rev. Lucien Jean, M.S.C., 1964; Rev. Ivan G. Boyea, 1996

Bishop's Schedule

Oct. 26 – 9 a.m., Prayer Service and Visit to St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake

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

Oct. 27 – 9:30 a.m., Opening School Mass at St. James Church in Gouverneur followed by visit to St. James School

Oct. 28 – 9 a.m., Mass for the Confirmation Destination Family Catechesis Program at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Constable

Oct. 29 – 9:30 a.m., Opening School Mass at St. James Minor Church in Carthage followed by Visit to Augustinian Academy
 7:15 a.m., Novena and Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Oct. 30 – 10:30 a.m., Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Nov. 1 – 10 a.m., Mass and Installation of Readers and Acolytes at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, OH

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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, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Fr. James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button. Upcoming sessions:
Oct. 25 – 6 p.m., St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga
Oct. 25 – 1 p.m., Diocesan offices, Ogdensburg

Environmental Stewardship

'Hope Amidst Crisis'

Recently eight people from our Diocese including a student who attends the University of Vermont participated in a Conference at St. Michael's College in Colchester entitled "Action for Ecological Justice: Celebrating a Year of Creation."

This conference, sponsored by the Catholic Church in Vermont, was part of a yearlong, statewide, intentional focus on embracing the message of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical letter, *Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home*.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Carolyn Woo, a former president and CEO of Catholic Relief Service, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic Community in the United States, brought a message of hope to the more than 200 people who attended the Conference.

She noted that though "we are in the midst of a crisis, it is important to focus on what can be done to take better care of the Earth."

Dr. Woo stated "Hope is where you believe that action can make a difference."

Among the responses to the change in climate, which disproportionately affects the world's poor, Dr. Woo suggested socially investing with companies that have good ratings for healthy living, clean water, renewable energy, zero waste and disease eradication. Even if it is as little as a \$50 investment, it counts. You don't have to sacrifice financial returns.

Dr. Woo sees hope in the momentum in the area of clean energy, and she encouraged the creation of 'green job fairs' to encourage young people to pursue careers in this industry.

To reduce carbon emissions in the environment, she suggested the use of solar farms, plant-rich diets, wind turbines, reduced food waste and refrigerant management. Care of the Earth, she emphasized, 'transcends politics,' and it needs each of us working together to create a more sustainable future for all.

To learn more about *Laudato Si* and how to put the message into practice, plan to come to the October-ECO-Fest sponsored by the Watertown Faith and Ecology group on Sunday, October 29. See Calendar of Events on page 14 of this Week's NCC.



**Attention
Snowbirds
going south for the winter!**

Notify our office so you don't miss a single issue of the *North Country Catholic*! Call (315) 608-7556 with your winter address.

SPECIAL PRAYER AND CELEBRATIONS IN OCTOBER

FACES OF FAITH



The congregations of St. Ann's and St. James' of Wells and Speculator held a service Oct. 13 commemorating the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. St. Ann's congregant, Rosemary Reo, second from the left in the blue skirt, organized the event which was held at the Town of Wells Pavilion. She also provided handmade rosaries. The service featured litanies, hymns, prayers and recitation of the rosary.



PHOTOS BY MARIKA DONNERS

About 40 pilgrims took part in the DOVS (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) annual pilgrimage to pray for vocations. The group traveled to Syracuse Oct. 10 where they visited the St.



Deacons Ronny Gingerich and Thomas Yousey served their first Mass at St. Peter's Church, Lowville, Oct. 7, a day after they were ordained at St. Mary's Cathedral. The clergy of St. Peter's are shown after the Mass. From left are Deacons Ronald Pomerville and Kenneth Seymour, Father Christopher Carrara, pastor; and Deacons Gingerich and Yousey. A parish wide reception for the new deacons followed in the parish hall.



Catholic Daughters Courts Little Rose 1300, Ellenburg; and Our Lady of the Snows 1548, Lyon Mountain; hosted the Past Regents Memorial Mass on Sept. 30 at St. Bernard's Church in Lyon Mountain, with Bishop Terry LaValley, presiding. The celebration continued at the American Legion in Lyon Mountain with guest speakers, Helene Shepard, National Regent and Heather Rave, State Regent.



Marianne Cope's Shrine and Museum, above left, and joined Bishop LaValley for Mass at the newly renovated Immaculate Conception Cathedral. Pictured at right, the bishop spends time with one of the pilgrims during the bus ride south.



RESPECT LIFE MONTH

“Behold, I am with you always,
until the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:20

This month's editions have been graciously supported by the following parishes, organizations & individuals:

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- ◆ St. Agnes Church, Lake Placid
- ◆ St. John's Church, Madrid
- ◆ St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
- ◆ St. Mary's Church, Waddington
- ◆ St. Patrick's Altar & Rosary Society, Watertown
- ◆ St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls
- ◆ St. Lawrence Church, North Lawrence
- ◆ Fr. Bryan Stitt
- ◆ Fr. Justin Thomas
- ◆ Trinity Catholic School
- ◆ Gabriel and Christine Ward
- ◆ Youth Department
- ◆ John & Mary Zurlo, St. Mary's Champlain

**We invite you to visit the
RESPECT LIFE OFFICE website at:
www.rcdony.org/pro-life**

More information can be found at www.usccb.org/respectlife



OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Praying Mom home to Jesus

By Eileen Greenwood

Catechetical director, St. Stephen's, Croghan

One month and I can still remember how the night Mom flew away felt. We had sat by her for eight days and nights. She was brave. Kind. So caring and more worried about us than herself. She was frail, and her hand in mine felt like I was holding a precious baby bird and I was gentle with it...

We all took turns sitting beside her, reassuring her how much we loved her. We all heard her say over and over I love, love, love you. God bless you. God love you.

We all saw her minister to every single person who came through the door. She would welcome them. Tell them thank you. Say God bless you. She would smile through her pain, even as we cried through it for her suffering.

I remember the brown chair I pulled close to her bed so I could sleep holding her hand in mine. I remember the bar of the hospital bed under my upper arm and how it felt cold and left bruises but I didn't care. I needed to be right there. Time was precious and we knew it. And she would call for me and I had to be where she could see me and to gaze into her beautiful brown eyes and try to empty my love and my strength into her to give her courage.

On the last morning a pale yellow butterfly flew up to me and I just knew that it was her day to earn her wings. I remember telling my husband Tim that and we stood together that morning hands together as we prayed for her to be able to go home to Jesus peacefully and suffer no more.

Tears poured down our faces as we stood hand in hand that morning knowing that today would be so life-changing for us. She had lived in our home for 25 years. It was not easy to say to Jesus "take her from us, give her peace" because we knew what we were facing would be so difficult. But we did it together.

I am so grateful that we had each other to cling to through this. I am so grateful God said "marry this man!" because what strength and courage and faith and tender love he has brought to my life. I could not have made it through those beautiful, sad, emotional, glorious, and heart-wrenching days without him. He stayed with me that last final night.

Earlier that day towards evening, we had gathered with family in a circle of love around the bed. We stood together with family and we poured our heart out to her in a prayerful goodbye. I stood there listening to the words of our family, loving each of them for their love for Mom, and for being there with us.

I remember waiting for my turn, praying to the Spirit to guide me and then I just let everything out of me in a prayer that may have been the most fervent and emotional yet. I spoke of gratitude for the legacy she would leave behind, that her children and her grandchildren know what an amazing and wonderful Grandma and Mother she was, that they would always know of her love.

It was one of the most beautiful and precious times I have been blessed to witness in life. I will forever remember and be grateful for that circle of love for Mom. We prayed her Home to a place of no pain and no suffering, a place of peace and joy. We prayed her into the loving arms of childhood friends and high school classmates.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

'The face of God looking straight into me'

By Andrew Lauria
Contributing writer

I was sitting on the front porch of my neighbor, who happens to be my older brother, when a shirt and shoe-less four year old boy went running by with some sort of home-made stick weapon in hand.

Being an uncle and neighbor of four beautiful, adventurous children under the age of six is a perpetual source of hope and joy

He was yelling for his older brother, who seemed to have climbed too high in a tree and was afraid to come down. A very outspoken two year old girl followed her brother up the hill toward the tree that echoed with a timid voice. She didn't have shoes or a shirt on either. All the while, a newborn baby rests in her mother's arms as she finishes her feeding.

We laughed on the porch. All was well.

Being an uncle and neighbor of four beautiful, adventurous children under the age of six is a perpetual source of hope and joy. They are the face of God



Uncle Andrew Lauria takes a 'selfie' in front of the family pumpkin patch with Vinnie, making a silly face; sister-in-law Rachel holding Anna and baby Sarah; and Anthony. Here he writes about how the openness to life of his brother and sister-in-law is an openness to joy.

looking straight into me with eight coffee-colored eyes. Sometimes when my two year old niece comes up to me with that grin that says she is happy to see me, my eyes tear up and my faith in the goodness of God's human creation is immediately boosted.

I often think about this amusement and inspiration that comes from next door and it is no surprise to find the source of such life is my brother and sister-in-law, who have opened up their own lives to bring four beautiful children into the world. Their openness to

life is reflected by the openness to joy that radiates from their children.

I was recently with my brother in a group of people when someone congratulated him on the birth of his fourth kid. They laughed and said "that must be a lot". And he beamed a huge smile and said "Yes, yes it is a lot".

I have never seen my brother smile so much as since his second daughter was born just a few weeks ago. His openness to life has brought him a joy that I have never before seen in him.

His smile says it all; to be open to life is to be open to joy. This is something that is universally true, regardless of vocation or state in life. To be open to life means that we are open to the possibility found in another person, to be looking always for ways to support the development of our neighbor, to help the need of our best friend, to just hold the door for the old man using a walker. To be open to life means that we are open to the possibilities that come from God's end-

less capacity to love His creation. To say that we are Catholic means that we are open to life, that we welcome our neighbor, help the stranger, and smile and laugh all the while with a tremendous joy that comes directly from His love for us.

And this brings me back to the four little ones with whom I share a driveway. As a single person, to be open to life means to be open to their lives, open to the new ways their personalities are unfolding every day, open to their unending inquiry about the universe, to be open to their simplicity, their joy, the incredible reality that in their sincerity lies the opportunity for me to reconnect with the simplicity of God.

To be open to life is to be open to God working through the lives of these tiniest of angels, who recall the child inside of me.

Sitting on that porch, we just smile at the comedy show that is happening before us. I watch my brother go and rescue his son from the tree while the two others "help" him. My sister-in-law puts the baby on her back as she burps from her meal. And in this scene lies all the hope necessary for a bright and beautiful future.

Praying

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

We prayed her home to her parents, her husband, and her children. And we prayed her home to Jesus, to his gentle, loving arms and the focus of her whole life.

We always knew she loved us and we saw it in everything she said and did. But we also knew she placed God first, loved Him first, and we were okay with that.

And that is why, after those long eight days were over, and it was time to walk out of that room, to leave her, I could do it. Everything that was amazing and beautiful

about my Mom had flown away, and there was no more reason to stay.

We walked out of the hospital at dawn. The sun had just started to come up.

The birds were singing the most beautiful song I had ever heard and I knew, with every fiber of my being that it was for her, that God arranged that just for her...and for us. And it was peaceful. Going home to our children I felt incredibly peaceful, and just so thankful.

Because Mom had gone home to her loved ones. And I was going home to mine.

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Adult Children of Alcoholics is a recovery program for adults whose lives were affected as a result of being raised in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional family. It is based on the success of Alcoholics Anonymous and employs its version of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

For more information on ACA, go to www.adultchildren.org

VATICAN LETTER

Papal challenge: Respect all life, oppose death penalty

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)— Pope Francis' recent statement that the death penalty is incompatible with the Gospel focused less on a government's role in protecting its people and more on the need to defend the sacredness and dignity of every human life.

At least from the time of Blessed Paul VI in the 1960s, the Catholic Church has been increasingly critical of the use of capital punishment, even while acknowledging centuries of church teaching that a state has a right to punish offenders, including with the death penalty.

St. John Paul II, in his 1995 encyclical letter, "The Gospel of Life," wrote of his alarm at "the extraordinary increase and gravity of threats to the life of individuals and peoples," but said one sign of hope was the increasing opposition around the world to capital punishment. "There is evidence of a growing public opposition to the death penalty, even when such a penalty is seen as a kind of 'legitimate defense' on the part of society. Modern society, in fact, has the means of effectively suppressing crime by rendering criminals harmless without definitively denying them the chance to reform," he wrote.

Two years later, Pope John Paul had the Catechism of the Catholic Church revised to strengthen its anti-death penalty posture. The text now says that, "given the means at the state's disposal to effectively repress crime by rendering inoffensive the one who has committed it, without depriving him definitively of the possibility of redeeming himself, cases of absolute necessity for suppression of the offender 'today ... are very rare, if not practically nonexistent.'"

Opponents of the death penalty cheered St. John Paul's move, and theologians called it a "development" of church teaching.

Death penalty opponents also welcomed Pope Francis' even stronger position against capital punishment, but his words set off a debate between those who saw his position as a further development of church teaching and those who saw it as a "change" that contradicted both the Bible and the traditional position of the Catholic Church.

Edward Feser, a professor of philosophy at California's Pasadena City College and author of "By Man Shall His Blood Be Shed: A Catholic Defense of Capital Punishment," told Catholic News Service that St. John Paul's teaching was "a nonbinding prudential judgment," which was in line with centuries of church teaching recognizing the

right of states to impose the death penalty.

And, writing in Britain's Catholic Herald Oct. 15, Feser said that if Pope Francis "is saying that capital punishment is always and intrinsically immoral, then he would be effectively saying -- whether consciously or unconsciously -- that previous popes, fathers and doctors of the church, and even divinely inspired Scripture are in error."

But Jesuit Father Jan Dacok, a professor of moral theology and theologian at the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court, said the church always insisted there were limits to the conditions under which a state could legitimately impose the death penalty. St. John Paul, he said, emphasized those limits to the point of saying that now that it is easier to keep a murderer in jail for life, the necessary conditions for legitimacy are "practically nonexistent."

Pope Francis took a further step forward, Father Dacok said. The pope "did not change church teaching, but places it on a higher level and points out the path toward its perfection."

"What is accomplished with the death penalty?" the Slovakian Jesuit asked. "Do you obtain the true repentance of criminals? Do you offer them the possibility of correcting their ways, of asking for forgiveness?"

"No," he said. "With the execution, the death, you irreversibly cancel the entire dynamic of hope" for repentance, conversion and at least some attempt at reparation.

"Obviously, Pope Francis cannot change the laws of individual countries, because that's the competence of legislators," Father Dacok said. "But he can continually encourage respect for the sacredness of every human life, because the death penalty truly is not necessary."

Because security and justice can be served without capital punishment, he said, the urgent matter today is to demonstrate respect for the sacredness of every human life, "even the life of public criminals responsible for the death of others."

Father Robert A. Gahl Jr., a professor of ethics at Rome's Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, said Pope Francis "continues the recent development of doctrine regarding the centrality of mercy for the Christian faith and the urgency to promote a culture of life in today's throwaway culture," where abortion and euthanasia are accepted.

"Pope Francis wants the church to offer a radical example of the defense of all human life," Father Gahl said. And "without condemning all past practices, he vigorously demands the elimination of the death penalty."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Callista Gingrich confirmed U.S. ambassador to the Holy See

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The Senate confirmed Callista Gingrich as the new U.S. ambassador to the Holy See. Voting late Oct. 16, senators approved her nomination 70-23. More than 20 Democrats joined Republicans in supporting Gingrich, the wife of former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a vocal ally of President Donald Trump. Gingrich, 51, a lifelong Catholic and a former congressional aide, has been president of Gingrich Productions, a multimedia production and consulting company in Arlington, Virginia, since 2007. She was expected to present her credentials at the Vatican in the coming weeks. Gingrich's associates welcomed the vote. Among them was Msgr. Walter R. Rossi, rector of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, where Gingrich has been a longtime member of the choir. "Callista has been part of our shrine family for two decades and so, as any family rejoices when good news arrives, we rejoice with Callista," Msgr. Rossi said in an Oct. 17 statement. "Both Callista and Speaker Gingrich are wonderful supporters of our ministry here at Mary's shrine, especially our music program."

St. John Paul gave his life 'completely to God through Mary,'

NEW YORK (CNS) -- St. John Paul II "looked at the world with Mary's eyes and saw man in need of mercy," the postulator of the pope's canonization cause told Massgoers Oct. 12 at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in New York. "Mary's eyes are the eyes of a mother. Her gaze embraces us and reads what is in our hearts," said Msgr. Slawomir Oder, who was the homilist at a special vigil Mass to mark the 100th anniversary of the last Marian apparition at Fatima, Portugal. Mary appeared to three shepherd children at Fatima in 1917. She first appeared May 13, and the apparitions continued once a month until Oct. 13. "Mary looks at us with a mother's tenderness and she is able to reach our hearts to see our deepest needs," Msgr. Oder said. "In her eyes, there is no judgment and condemnation. There is only maternal love. She looks at us in the same way as she looks at her Son beneath her heart. The tenderness of Mary's maternal glance is a prelude to mercy. It invites us to come to her, so that we can experience it ourselves."

Groups settle in lawsuit against HHS contraceptive mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Dozens of Catholic groups that challenged the contraceptive mandate of the Affordable Care Act have reached a settlement with the U.S. Justice Department, they announced late Oct. 16. The groups, including the Archdiocese of Washington and the Pennsylvania dioceses of Greensburg, Pittsburgh and Erie, were represented by the Cleveland-based law firm Jones Day. Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl wrote an Oct. 16 letter to archdiocesan priests saying the "binding agreement" ends the litigation challenging the Health and Human Services' mandate and provides a "level of assurance as we move into the future." The Washington Archdiocese was one of dozens of groups challenging the mandate, which went to the Supreme Court last year in the consolidated case of *Zubik v. Burwell*. Although it was most often described as the Little Sisters of the Poor fighting against the federal government, the case before the court involved seven plaintiffs and each of these combined cases represented a group of schools, churches or church-sponsored organizations. Pittsburgh Bishop David A. Zubik, whom the case is named for, said he was grateful for the settlement which he described as an "agreement with the government that secures and reaffirms the constitutional right of religious freedom."


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Part D Prescription Drug Coverage	No	Yes, with \$0 copay for preferred generics \$125 deductible	Yes, with \$0 copay for preferred generics \$0 deductible
Preventive Dental	None	Yes	Yes
Hearing Device Discounts through TruHearing³	No	Yes	Yes
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¹These are 2017 amounts and may change for 2018. ²You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. ³Fidelis Care partners with TruHearing for discounted purchases of hearing devices. ⁴My Advocate Program, offered through a company called Altegra, connects members to money-saving programs, discounts, and services that may be available. Premiums, copays, coinsurance, and deductibles may vary based on the level of Extra Help you receive. Please contact the plan for further details. This is not a complete listing of plans available in your service area. For a complete listing, contact the plan. The benefit information provided is a brief summary, not a complete description of benefits. For more information, contact the plan. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits, formulary, pharmacy network, premium and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1 of each year. This information is available for free in other languages. Please contact our Member Services number at 1-800-860-8707 (TTY: 1-800-558-1125). Fidelis Care is a Coordinated Care plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the New York State Department of Health Medicaid program. Enrollment in Fidelis Care depends on contract renewal.

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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

The connection between God's law and joy

Our readings on this Sunday are all about God's law.

At first, this can strike a sour note in us, as in "Oh, no! I've gotta do this, I've gotta do that!!!"

We need to stop right there and remember that we don't "gotta" do anything. We can stop reading right now, and run off to our corner and play a computer game.

Or, we can ask ourselves "What's so great about law? I'm depressed enough. I need some hope in my life.



**Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore**

Maybe there's a connection between law and joy".

There is! In the first reading, we read that section of Exodus that focuses on what the Jewish law had to say about treating the most vulnerable in their society with dignity and compassion, including foreigners.

"If you ever wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry.

My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword".

So the law was very con-

cerned about the poor and the helpless. hat a soft heart that God of the Ten Commandments must have, and He commands society and individuals to have just as kind a heart.

In today's Gospel, the religious leaders are asking Jesus what He thinks about the Law. What's the Creator's message in a nutshell? What's the most important Law? Jesus wins the day by combining two laws into one - the first from Deuteronomy and the second from Leviticus.

Every devout Jew had these written on their doorposts. "You shall love the

OCT. 29

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

READINGS

Exodus 22:20-26

1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Matthew 22:34-40

Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two com-

mandments."

So Jesus tells us that God's purpose in giving the Law is to command that His creatures try to match His intense love for all of them. NO EXCEPTIONS.

St. Paul in his first epistle to His beloved Thessalonians tells us of the joy that results from obeying the Law: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

If we understand that ALL God's law is actually the law of LOVE, then our depression will quickly turn into joyful living!

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

When is it a sin to make a referral?

During World War II, if a contractor had been asked to construct a building knowing that it would serve as a gas chamber in Auschwitz, it goes without saying that he ought not agree to do it.

By laying the foundation and supervising the plumbing, electrical and duct work, he would be contributing to, or enabling, the subsequent commission of atrocities against prisoners in the concentration camp.

But significant concerns would also arise if he were to reply: "I'm sorry, I have a moral objection to building this structure, but let me put in a call to a colleague who is a contractor, and he will do it for you."

By placing the call, he would still be a part of the causal chain leading to the building of the facility, and to the subsequent evils that would be carried out in it.

By making a referral to engage someone else's services for something immoral, we can still be involved in, and responsible for, the

commission of grave evils.

By making a referral to engage someone else's services for something immoral, we can still be involved in, and responsible for, the commission of grave evil

Among medical professionals, situations can likewise arise in which they may be tempted to make a referral for an immoral procedure, supposing that because they are not doing the procedure themselves, they are now morally "in the clear."

For example, a pharmacist who lives and works in a state or jurisdiction where physician-assisted suicide has been legalized may be asked to fill a prescription for suicide pills. By declining to fill that prescription, he or she avoids immediately cooperating with a customer's immoral deci-

sion to commit suicide.

But it would still raise moral concerns if the pharmacist said to the customer: "Let me pass this prescription to my co-worker, because, although I cannot fill it, he can help you out."

The first pharmacist remains a contributor in the chain of events leading up to the carrying out of the evil act, and he would be cooperating in evil by making the referral to his co-worker.

A "referral" in moral terms is when the person who refuses to do the immoral procedure himself or herself directs the requesting person to another individual or institution because the other individual or institution is known or believed to be willing to provide the immoral procedure in question.

The decision to offer the referral indicates that the

one doing it is choosing, at least implicitly, to help the requester carry out the evil act, and such implicit willing of evil acts can never be morally acceptable.

Making a referral can also convey a sense of tacit acceptance and approval of that evil, and therefore the referring provider can also become guilty of wrongdoing by giving scandal.

Someone who gives scandal helps to form the immoral will of another. In fact, the term "scandal" in theology refers to any action, word or deed that leads another to sin.

Of course, a pharmacist could simply decline to fill a suicide pill prescription. He may have to pay the consequences for his refusal, but it certainly would be a valid and courageous option for him to give witness to the injustice of assisted suicide laws.

But that may not be the



**Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk
Ph.D.**

only way to approach the situation. A conscientious pharmacist could also say to the customer, "There may be other pharmacies around here that can assist you," or even, "there may be others working at this pharmacy who can assist you," and leave it at that. This would not be a referral, but a simple statement regarding commonly available public knowledge.

The pharmacist could then return the prescription to the customer, rather than passing it to a co-worker, and the customer would then have to initiate a new "causal chain" or series of choices as he or she seeks to obtain the immoral medications, looking around and inquiring about who might fill the prescription. This removes the original pharmacist from the causal chain, avoids making a referral to a colleague, and diminishes or eliminates responsibility for any subsequent evils that the customer may end up committing.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AT THE MOVIES

THE FOREIGNER

By Kurt Jensen
Catholic News Service

Jackie Chan takes a sharp turn from his typically genial screen personality to become the vengeful father of a London terrorist victim in "The Foreigner" (STX).

In this efficiently suspenseful adaptation of Stephen Leather's pulp thriller "The Chinaman," director Martin Campbell and screenwriter David Marconi have produced an unembroidered drama about resurgent Irish Republican Army violence and bureaucratic treachery.

There are explosions aplenty as well as displays of military survival skills and quite a few of Chan's well-timed kicks and punches. None of the protagonist's bombs are intended to damage anything but property, however.

He's grieving dad Ngoc Minh Quan, and he's trying to get the attention of government officials any way

he can. As a former American-trained guerrilla during the Vietnam War, moreover, he's as adept at explosives and trap-setting as any urban terrorist.

Vigilantism is always a troubling theme for believing moviegoers. So, despite his precautions -- he also avoids using guns -- it's disturbing that Quan is meant to be cheered in the manner of a cowboy hero as he searches for justice.

Although the story has a modern setting, the source novel, written in 1992, was published five years before the IRA's cease-fire with the British forces in Northern Ireland. So, while Irish terrorism seems anachronistic here, the idea is that mass killings are everywhere and that a parent's quest is universal.

On the strength of his personality and the intelligence of the script, Chan also escapes any ugly stereotypes of a wily, inscrutable Asian.

After his daughter Fan (Katie Leung) is murdered in

a bombing that kills 19, Quan, who also lost his wife and two other daughters to Thai pirates while escaping China years before, expects to see Fan's killers arrested through the usual channels. But Liam Hennessy (Pierce Brosnan), a deputy prime minister with substantial political ambitions, is slow to respond and uncooperative once he does.

Quan then attempts to bribe a police inspector, Richard Bromley (Ray Fearon). But when that effort fails, he focuses all his energy on Hennessy, whose old ties to the IRA are as complicated as his relationships with his wife and mistress.

The result is a multilayered story that, although telegraphing many plot points too soon, avoids cynicism and makes for a taut journey, albeit one with a high body count.

The film contains a vigilantism theme, gun and physical violence, fleeting gore, implied sexual activ-



CNS PHOTO/STXFILMS

Jackie Chan and Pierce Brosnan star in a scene from the movie "The Foreigner."

ity, a few profanities and frequent rough language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults.

Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Referral

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Regrettably, pharmacists and other health care professionals today are coming under increasing fire from the culture around them as they are being told, as part of their job description, that they have to ignore their well-formed consciences and fill prescriptions for suicide pills, the abortion pill or contraception.

Yet a double-standard is clearly at work, for if the prescription were for something a pharmacist knew would be used as a date rape drug to take advantage of a woman at a party, everyone would declare the pharmacist to be a moral

hero for refusing.

To sum up, then, a great deal of care, vigilance and determination is needed not only for us to avoid committing certain evils, but also to avoid making a referral for those evils to be carried out by others.

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



THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

PRAYER SUGGESTION

Eternal Father, we lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen
(With ecclesiastical approval)

Mass
Rosary
Fasting
Day Offering
Eucharistic Adoration
Offering of Sufferings
Divine Mercy Chaplet

Or whatever the Lord inspires you to offer Him

November
Holy Souls

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY 1	REV. J. MICHAEL GAFFNEY 2	REV. ADRIAN GALLAGHER 3	REV. GARRY B. GIROUX 4
REV. JOSEPH W. GIROUX 5	REV. L. WILLIAM GORDAN 6	REV. ROLLAND A. HART 7	OUR PASTOR 8	REV. ALBERT J. HAUSER VF 9	REV. PETER G. HELFRICH 10	REV. THOMAS J. HIGMAN 11
REV. VICENTE F. JAZMINES 12	REV. DANIEL T. KEEFE 13	REV. PAUL J. KELLY 14	POPE FRANCIS 15	BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS 16	REV. JOHN P. KENNEHAN 17	REV. THOMAS E. KOMMEYER VF 18
REV. STEVE KOVACEVICH 19	REV. DONALD F. KRAMBERG 20	REV. ARTHUR J. LABAFFE VF 21	RETIRED PRIESTS 22	REV. ALAN J. LAMICA 23	REV. JAMES F. LAMITTE 24	OUR PASTOR 25
REV. KRIS C. LAUZON 26	REV. CLYDE A. LEWIS 27	REV. CHRISTOPHER J. LOOBY 28	DECEASED PRIESTS 29	REV. JOHN J. LOOBY 30		

For more information visit us online at: www.mprpapolate
A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated.
The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: www.myvocation.net

ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid — St. Agnes School Christmas Bazaar and Craft Show to be held.
Date: Dec. 2

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Place: St. Agnes School
Features: Trees, wreaths, holiday plants, toys, gifts, crafts, baked goods raffle items. Vendor space is available with costs between \$35 - \$45.

Contact: Kathleen Murphy at the school at 518-523-3771 or by email at info@stagneslp.org for more information or to reserve your space.

CAR RAFFLE WINNER

Lake Placid — The winner of the Car Raffle for St. Agnes School was Ms. L. Clark from Lake Placid.

CLINTON

CLMs CELEBRATING MARY

West Chazy — Commissioned Lay Minister Marian Feast day to be held.
Date: Oct. 28
Time: 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph's Church
Cost: \$10

Contact: Starr Burke at sburke7035@gmail.com; register online at www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-layministers/clm-event-registration.html or send a check by mail to The Diocese of Ogdensburg, PO Box 106, Canajoharie, NY 13317, write ERCLM on the memo of check.

TURKEY HARVEST DINNER

Morrisonville — St. Alexander's Church to have a Turkey Harvest Dinner
Date: Nov. 12

Time: Noon to 5 p.m.
Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; 5 and under, \$5

Features: country store, silent auction
Contact: For take-out, 518-561-5039

FRANKLIN

HARVEST DINNER

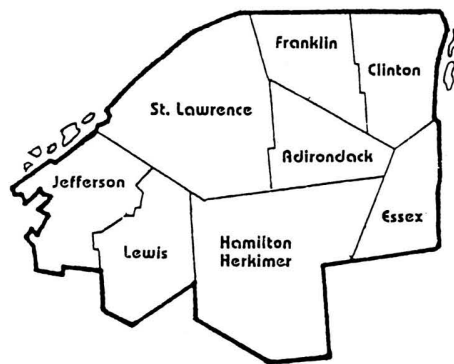
North Bangor — The CC of St. Augustine's will be hosting a Turkey Dinner.
Date: Oct. 29

Time: Noon to 4 p.m.
Place: John C. Dwyer Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$10; Senior Citizens, \$9; Children under 12, \$6; under 5, Free

JEFFERSON

OCTOBER ECO-FEST

Watertown — Second Annual October Eco-fest to be held with the theme "To Heal a Wounded World, We Need a Rev-



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.

olution of Love."

Date: Oct. 29
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4:30
Place: Hearthsides Center, Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse
Features: program will explore ways to protect God's creation for generations to come, embrace justice for all, and seek an ecological spirituality. Sponsored by the Watertown Faith & Ecology Group. Event is free. Light Fall refreshments served. Donations accepted.

Contact: Reservations are requested since seating is limited. To reserve a place, call 315-782-3460 or e-mail srbethssj@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills — Spaghetti & Meatball dinner to be held to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.
Date: Nov. 4

Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Mary's Parish Center
Cost: Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

FACES OF ADDICTION

Watertown — A program "Making sense of the Opioid Crisis" is planned
Date: Nov. 12

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:30
Place: Motherhouse of Sisters St. Joseph
Speaker: Anita Seefried-Brown, MS, CPP-G

Features: Who should attend: faith leaders, lay leaders, parents, educators, grandparents, adolescents, Sunday school teachers

CRAFT FAIR SEEKS VENDORS

Watertown — Holiday Craft fair to be held and vendors wanted.
Date: Nov. 18
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: IHC intermediate Gymnasium
Cost: \$25 per table
Features: Reach a large customer base just in time for Christmas shopping.
Contact: ihchasc@gmail.com

ELECTION NIGHT DINNER

Alexandria Bay — Annual Election Night Ham Dinner to be held.
Date: Nov. 7
Time: Take-outs start at 4 p.m.; serving from 5 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Cyril's Church
Cost: Adults, \$9; Children, \$5; under 5, Free; Take-outs, \$9.50
Contact: For deliveries call Joanne Fitch at 315-955-5504

HARVEST HAM DINNER

Black River — Harvest Ham dinner set
Date: Oct. 26
Time: 4 p.m. to 7
Place: St. Paul's Church
Cost: Adults, \$9; Seniors (65+), \$8; Children 5-12, \$4; Families, \$25; under 5, Free

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown — St. Anthony's Altar Rosary to have a spaghetti dinner.
Date: Oct. 26
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall
Cost: Adults, \$8, Children, \$4; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meat-

balls, \$.75
Features: Take-out available at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers

PRAYER FOR HUMAN LIFE

Watertown — Join us for a peaceful prayerful presence as we pray for renewed respect for all human life.

Date: Every day during October
Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Place: Across from Planned Parenthood

Contact: For transportation contact Richard Doell at 315-788-1201

LEWIS

CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER

Lions Falls — A Chicken and Biscuit dinner to be held.
Date: Oct. 24
Time: 5 p.m.

Place: St. John's Church
Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4; under 5, Free
Features: Proceeds will go to St. John's Altar and Rosary and St. Mary's Catholic Church Youth Group.
Contact: Take-outs and deliveries are available by calling 315 348-8945.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville — Divine Mercy Devotions to be held for the month of Nov.
Date: Nov. 5

Schedule: At 2:25 p.m. before the monthly Devotions, we will view "Mary's Knight," from the DVD Series: Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told by Fr. Michael Gaitley M.C. At 3 p.m. the program includes: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

HARVEST DINNER

Gouverneur — Harvest dinner with all the trimmings.
Date: Nov. 2
Time: 4:30 p.m. until all are served
Place: St. James School
Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 12 and under, \$5; 5 and under, Free

CRAFT SHOW

Brasher Falls — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Patrick's Church will hold its annual craft show.
Date: Nov. 4
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: K of C Hall
Cost: Adults, \$1; Students, \$.50; under 5, Free
Features: Luncheon and refreshments

BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

Star Lake — St. Hubert's will have a Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale.

Date: Nov. 4
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Place: Parish Hall
Features: Hand crafted items, gift baskets, live wreaths, raffle, and silent auction. Coffee and donuts served at 9 a.m.; Lunch served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Massena — The Greater Massena Catholic Parishes will hold their annual Bazaar.
Date: Nov. 11
Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Social Hall
Features: family activities items for purchase, tasty foods, raffle and a homemade turkey dinner.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DOVS LUNCHEON

Norfolk — The Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society (DOVS) invite you to be their guest at a luncheon.
Date: Nov. 15
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center
Speaker: Fr. Ray Moreau on "Bored At Mass?"
Contact: Anne at 315-353-2950 or Connie at 315-265-2762

OPERATION ANDREW

Two Operations Andrew dinners have been set.
Schedule: Nov. 8, at St. Anthony's Church in Watertown; Nov. 30 at St. John Bosco Church in Malone
Time: 5 p.m.

Features: Prayer, dinner and discussion on vocations for young men, middle school age and older, and parents. Holy Hour to know your vocation, vespers and dinner to follow with Bishop LaValley and area priests.
Contact: RSVP to: Cathy Russell, Vocation Coordinator at crussell@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920

DOVS MEMBERS SOUGHT

D.O.V.S (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is a group of people who pray for and work to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our diocese is seeking new members. DOVS meets most months, plan events to thank priests and religious and annually take a pilgrimage.
Contact: Call Connie at 315-265-2762 or Cathy at the diocesan Vocations Office at 315-393-2920



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

Thank you!

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

With your help, churches in new dioceses around the world in places like India can be built and maintained, as the Church continues to reach out to those who do not yet know Christ.

From Pontifical Mission Societies on World Mission Sunday

With your help, catechists in Africa can be supported as they travel throughout the country, to faraway villages, to speak to all about Jesus and proclaim His Gospel.

With your help, young men answer their vocation and are able to prepare for the priesthood in places like Pakistan, to serve the suffering in their homeland, bringing to them the "Good News" of Jesus' love and His peace.

Our world is a full of sadness lately. We have witnessed natural disasters and the devastation it causes people both here and in developing countries. Through your generosity many people will know of Christ's love, in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and the remote regions of Latin America.

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

While World Mission Sunday is celebrated only once a year, I hope that in the months ahead you will continue to remember the missionary work of the Church, especially in your prayers. If you have given to the Mission Sunday collection in your parish, I say again, "thank you." If you have yet to give, I once again ask you to be as generous as you can.

I encourage you also to pray the World Mission Rosary. Each of the five decades of the World Mission Rosary has different colors that represent different mission regions of the world: Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania and Africa. Thank you and please continue to pray for missionaries throughout the world. We are in their prayers!

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will. www.rcdony.org/mission



OBITUARIES

Adams – Jody J. Towles, 54; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2017 at Piddock Funeral Home; burial in Rural Cemetery.

Carthage – Rita M. (Bodfield) Ashcroft, 99; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 18, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in New St. James Cemetery.

Clayton – Leona (McCrea) Kittle, 96; Mass of Christian Burial June 1, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Fort Covington – Anne Marie McDonald, 69; Funeral Services Cappiello – McKenzie and Cosgrove Funeral Home.

Madrid – Kim E. Thrasher, 56; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2017 at the Phillips Funeral Home; burial in Chase Mills Cemetery.

Malone – June Cosgrove Hefti, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 23, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church.

Massena – Frederick B. Cook, 84; Funeral Services Oct. 17, 2017 at the Phillips Memorial Home.

Potsdam – Ruth F. Garner, 101; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 23, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Redford – Marguerite "Peg" (Fitzgerald) Defayette, 73; Mass of Christian Burial at Church of the Assumption.

Saranac Lake – John "Jack" Dennis Buckley, 88; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 14, 2017 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Roy Garrow, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 20, 2017 at Holy Name Church.

Watertown – Steven L. Petrie, 37; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 21, 2017 at Holy Family Church.

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The NCC will be honoring our priests in the Nov. 22nd issue of the paper.

We invite you to send a message to your pastor, spiritual advisor or priestly friend.

\$20 - a 1 column X 2 inch ad with a short message (e.g., Father Smith, we appreciate your service, from the Jones Family)

\$40 - a 2 column x 2 inch ad featuring your message, a photo or graphic design

\$135 - Quarter page ad

\$250 - Half page ad

\$475 - Full page ad

If you have a specific budget that is not listed we can design an ad based on that.

If you would like your ad in color please add \$25 (The *North Country Catholic* provides design services)

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Nov. 13, 2017

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CELEBRATING FATIMA IN TICONDEROGA



SCHOOL PHOTO

St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga celebrated the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima at St.

Mary's Church, saying the rosary together and praying a Novena. Father Kevin McEwan, pastor, is shown in back with the students and faculty members.

YOUth Lead brings 66 teenagers to Guggenheim

By Kelly Donnelly
Diocesan youth ministry director

SARANACLAKE - YOUth Lead, the annual leadership weekend retreat for high schoolers was held Sept. 29 to Oct. 1 at Camp Guggenheim. This year, 66 teens gathered for the weekend to grow in ser-

vant-leadership.

The theme of this year's weekend was the parable of the sower. The teens participated in a variety of prayers, workshops, and discussions centered around this parable in regard to leadership. From looking at how using the gifts God has given each of us to do His will to learn-

ing about saints whose lives are good examples of holy leadership, the participants had many opportunities to experience, pray, and discuss how they are each called to be leaders for Christ.

During the weekend, prayers included a walking Lectio Divina reflection, confession, Adoration, and Mass.

Spending time with other teens who are passionate about living out their faith was another highlight of the weekend. Whether the youth were playing volleyball, cards, or enjoying conversation with each other, the participants were united in faith and fellowship, building new friendships and enjoying one

another's company.

At the end of the weekend, the teens planted seeds to bring back to their home parishes. This plant is intended to be a reminder as they go forward that each person is called to be a humble leader in their parishes, serving in whatever way is needed.



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