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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 71, Number 40

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEB. 22, 2017

'Never lose hope in God's love'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christians must never lose hope and should remind themselves that God loves them even at their worst, Pope Francis said. God's love provides "security" both in difficult moments and even when "I have done something terrible and

evil," the pope said Feb. 15 during his weekly general audience.

"No one can take this security from us. We must repeat it like a prayer: God loves me. I am sure that God loves me!" he said.

Among the thousands of

pilgrims present at the Paul VI audience hall were numerous student groups from Europe, including several children's choirs from Italy and Spain.

When greeting the Italian-speaking pilgrims, the pope was interrupted by each

choir who broke out in song to greet him.

Despite several applause, one choir continued singing to the amusement of Pope Francis. He laughed heartily while praising them for their persistence in finishing the entire song.

POPE GOES TO COLLEGE

Encourages 'intellectual charity'



CNS PHOTO/MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

Pope Francis gestures as he talks during a Feb. 17 meeting at Roma Tre University. Addressing the fear of immigrants, dissatisfaction with a "fluid economy" and the impatience and vitriol seen in politics and society, Pope Francis told Rome university students to practice a kind of "intellectual charity" that promotes dialogue and sees value in diversity.

FULL STORY, PAGE 7

Bishop on 'welcoming the stranger'

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has issued a statement on migrants and refugees noting that "the current worldwide refugee and immigration crisis brings us face to face with our Baptismal call to be a beacon of hope for all people."

"Our Catholic faith compels us to unclench our fists and open our arms, as Jesus did on the cross," the bishop said. "Opening our minds and hearts to acknowledge that we are part of the human community will motivate us to think and behave as people of welcome and compassion."

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Rites held for Deacon Wells

Deacon David P. Wells, 72, who served parishes in Heuvelton and Lisbon, died Feb. 11

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

VOCATION DAY AT TRINITY CATHOLIC



Several Sisters of St. Joseph shared their vocation stories at Trinity Catholic School in Massena this past week as the school observed Vocation Day during Catholic Schools' Week. The day began with a Vocation Prayer Service with the students and faculty. Pictured from left are St. Joseph Sisters Mary Gregory Munger, Judy Adams, Diane Marie Ulsamer, Maureen Sweeney, former Trinity principal Joan Rufa and Sister Bernadette Marie Collins. Sister Shirley Anne Brown, missing from the photo, also shared her vocation story with the children.

IT'S ALMOST TIME: Ideas for observing Lent in homes, parishes.. p. 4

NORTH
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EDITOR'S NOTE

Aren't we lucky to be Catholic?

Every so often it's good to be reminded about how lucky we are to be Catholics.

Sometimes the reminder comes when it's least expected.

For me, it happened this past Friday on a day of funerals at St. Mary's Cathedral.

In the morning, mourners packed the church to bid farewell to Deacon David Wells.

Fellow deacons, priests, family members and friends came for all over the diocese to honor a gentle man who spent his life



Mary Lou
Kilian

answering the call to serve others – in Vietnam, as a nurse and, long after others embraced retirement, as a deacon.

The pews of the cathedral weren't filled because Deacon Wells was famous or wealthy. They were filled because, as Catholics, we know that this man of God had wealth beyond measure. He shared it in the love he showed every day to every person he met.

As one group of mourners left the cathedral, another came streaming in, this time to

say goodbye to a woman who had given 93 years of faithful service to her family, church and community.

As this funeral neared its end, her eldest son offered memories of his mother. In the course of his storytelling, the son talked about another funeral he recently attended. There, the mother of his friend who had died made a memorable statement: "isn't it wonderful to be Catholic?!"

It's wonderful indeed when the rituals and beliefs of our faith carry us through the most painful days.

It's wonderful, too, we can look to Catholic teachings to

answer the most vexing questions of the day.

Bishop LaValley does that for us this week in his statement on migrants and refugees.

Echoing Pope Francis, the bishop reminds us that Catholics are called to welcome the stranger.

We are called to respect every life and move through our days with the same kind of sacrificial love Jesus showed to us.

This is certainly not an easy undertaking but the tools our faith gives us - prayer, the Eucharist and each other - make it all possible.

Lucky lucky us!

FATHER MUENCH SAYS

The homily: essential part of every Mass

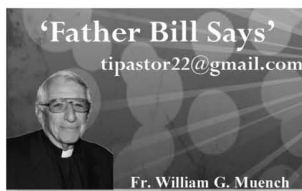
The recent issue of *America Magazine*, a Jesuit publication, brought up some questions about what priests say in their homilies at Mass. In particular, the magazine brings up a discussion of involving politics and current events in the homilies and how these ideas touch our faith in the Lord Jesus.

I know that I have wondered sometimes just what I should bring up in a homily. I know that no matter which parish I visit to offer Mass that this congregation is probably divided – whether it is political affiliations or sometimes local situations.

I know that I feel that I might be construed as offering an endorsement because of something I say so I step away to avoid creating divisions instead of building communion with God in my homily.

I do know that there are some contemporary issues in which the teaching of the Church is clear although they may not be clear to all Catholics. So these issues unfortunately can still be divisive; they demand a deeper explanation.

There are many questions and concerns about what to bring up in a homily. Let me



Fr. William G. Muench

share with you some of my own ideas about homilies with you.

The homily is an important and necessary part of every Mass. The Second Vatican Council encouraged all priests or deacons to present a homily at every Mass.

The homily is meant to be rather different from a sermon. A homily is based on the Scripture readings of that Mass; the message and lessons for a homily should come from the Scriptures assigned for that Mass.

A homily depends on our trust in God. We accept what comes in the Scriptures that are assigned for this particular feast day.

Let me tell you a little of my path to becoming a preacher. It began with a gift. That gift was being involved in a public speaking program during my college days at Wadhams Hall. The professor of that program

was Father Joseph Bailey.

I must say that he was tough on us. I remember well the anxiety each time it was my turn to speak. He was so challenging yet, so successful with us. I know personally that he transformed me from a timid high kid into a more confident speaker.

Preaching is an important part of every priest's ministry. I love to preach; it has been a most enjoyable part of my life as a priest. I realize that my ordination means above all my call to celebrate the sacraments of the Church, especially the offering of Mass.

Mass is a powerful moment in my own life, truly a constant transforming moment. The celebration of Mass brings Christ more completely into my life and into my ministry.

I have the privilege of bringing the presence of Jesus to the people of each congregation through the Holy Eucharist. Celebrating the Sacrifice of the Mass allows me to draw a com-

munity together into a family. We, priests, because of our ordination, are allowed to say the same words that Jesus spoke at the Last Supper, consecrating the bread and wine to the Body and Blood of Christ.

For me, the heart of my life as a Catholic Christian and as a Catholic priest, is the Blessed Eucharist. It is such a powerful sacrament. Reception of the Holy Eucharist unites Jesus to all of us in such a beautiful way. The sacrament becomes truly a part of us. We never leave Jesus in Church – Jesus becomes a part of all we do as his disciples.

It is all about gratitude. The word Eucharist means thank you. The Mass is a celebration of our gratitude to our God. The message of our preaching is gratitude.

All that I say in a homily is wrapped up in my gratitude to the Lord for all that Jesus did for the Church, gratitude for all the gifts with which the Lord has blessed me.

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FOLLOW ME

Welcoming the stranger

How should we respond to this reality (World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2017)?

With this simple question, Pope Francis places before us the invitation and the challenge to live the Gospel mandate of welcoming the stranger.

The current worldwide refugee and immigration crisis brings us face to face with our Baptismal call to be a beacon of hope for all people. Jesus welcomed the children. He reached out in compassion to the sick and the outcast. He never turned His gaze away from the marginalized. Every broken person who encountered Jesus found themselves in the presence of one who restored their dignity and worth.

The majority of refugees are fleeing war, persecution, oppression and other violence. These individuals and families are seeking safety, economic security and a better life. Our own North Country hosts several hundred men and women who migrate here to provide essential labor for the dairy farms and apple orchards. How do we think about and speak about these men and women? How do we include them in our community or parish? What type of outreach do we provide to them? Their goal is to earn money for their families.



**Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley**

Most of them will return home after two or three years. Will they take home stories of the kindness and hospitality of the people of the North Country or will they return to their country with stories of rejection and hostility? We are the ones who will make the difference as to which story becomes the on-going narrative.

Many of our brothers and sisters in our global community are suffering. Forced to flee their homes and their countries, they experience exploitation, violence, hunger and homelessness. They live in fear.

As long as they suffer, we suffer. Their pain is our pain. Demeaning rhetoric and hateful behavior towards our suffering brothers and sisters should leave us heartbroken. We all agree that fair, efficient and stringent vetting policies and practices are needed. No one argues against secure borders. However, we must remain vigilant that our policies are not based on exaggerated fear, racism, ethnic oppression or religious intolerance.

Other than our Native American brothers and sisters, we all claim an immigrant past. Many of our families came to the United States because they were fleeing religious, economic and other types of oppression and persecution.

Our nation experiences a deep richness in culture when ethnic groups live in peace with one another and share their diversity.

**Our Catholic faith compels us to
unclench our fists and open our arms,
as Jesus did on the cross.**

Our industries, universities, healthcare systems and other institutions are strengthened by the gifts and talents of our immigrant neighbors.

Our Catholic faith compels us to unclench our fists and open our arms, as Jesus did on the cross. Opening our minds and hearts to acknowledge that we are part of the human community will motivate us to think and behave as people of welcome and compassion. We will be capable of allowing the light of the Gospel to shine on this current humanitarian crisis. It is only then that we can answer Pope Francis question "How should we respond to this reality?"

I invite you to pray for all of us. May our hearts and minds be open to living the Gospel values of charity, justice and hospitality. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters who are suffering from violence, persecution and oppression. Let us join together to pray for our global community. May peace be the goal and the reality.

Funeral held Friday for Deacon David Wells, 72

OGDENSBURG—A Mass of Christian Burial for Deacon David P. Wells, 72, was held Feb. 17 at St. Mary's Cathedral. He died Feb. 11 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse.

Entombment followed at Foxwood Memorial Park.

Surviving is his wife Dorothy "Dot" Wells; a son David (Alison) Wells of Norwood; two daughters Jo Ann "Jan" (Cory) Cunningham of Ogdensburg; and Julie (Lewie) Bice of Ogdensburg; a brother Robert (Sheila) Wells of Ogdensburg; eight grandchildren Robert & Chelsea Bice, Emma Wells, Hunter Tull, Calvin Tulp, Jude Wells and Amber & Katie Cunningham along with many nieces, nephews & cousins.

A brother Michael Wells and a sister Judith Ann Ramie predeceased him.



**Deacon
Wells**

Deacon Wells was born Jan. 23, 1945 in Ogdensburg, a son of the late Michael L. and Aleen (Arnold) Wells. He graduated from Ogdensburg Free Academy and continued his education at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric School of Nursing and Syracuse University where he earned his nurse practitioner license.

He entered the US Navy in 1962 during the Vietnam War, and earned his honorable discharge in 1967. He and his wife were married Nov. 20, 1965 at the St. Paul's Church in San Francisco, California.

During his career he was employed at Massena Memorial Hospital as a nurse practitioner for many years and later transferred to the Massena VA Hospital where he also worked as a nurse practitioner and clinical di-

rector until his retirement in 2007.

He was ordained a deacon Oct. 5, 2013 by Bishop Terry R. LaValley at St. Mary's Cathedral. He served at St. Raphael's Church in Heuvelton and other area churches when needed.

Deacon Wells was a member of the Knights of Columbus where he held 4th degree status and enjoyed traveling, camping, watching grandchildren's sports & assisting with their games. He also enjoyed listening to country music and the

"oldies," watching Heuvelton Central School Bulldog Sports and spending time with his family.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Richard Winter Cancer Center or the Diocese of Ogdensburg Deacon Program.



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Ideas for observing the Season of Lent . . . for parish or at home

Counting down to 40 days

By Marika Donders

Diocesan Director of the New Evangelization

I know that it seems we just gotten back to the green vestments of ordinary time, but now is the time to think about Lent. Sometimes we think that in order to make a difference, we have to do something big in our parishes – a big program with lots of participants. But this year, rather than think of one big event, consider doing several smaller projects. After all, Jesus started with twelve disciples and he called them one or two at a time. Start small, impact a few people who can then impact others.

Hold a Mardi Gras celebration

The Tuesday before Lent is Mardi Gras (literally Fat Tuesday). The celebrations could be something as simple as a pancake dinner (traditionally, pancake dinners were one way to use up bacon, eggs and butter before Lent started). You can also add some beads and play some New Orleans Jazz music. If you want to get a little more elaborate, consider playing games or having arts and crafts such as creating Mardi Gras masks for the kids (and those young at heart). The great thing about Mardi Gras is that even non-Catholics celebrate it (who doesn't like a party?), but most don't know the connection to Catholicism or the celebration of Lent. It's an informal teachable moment.

Invite people for Ash Wednesday

When your parish did the census, did you find any Catholics who no longer attend Mass? Consider sending them an invitation to join the parish for Ash Wednesday. It could be something simple, like having parishioners personally invite neighbors, or printing



up invitations to mail out. If you do invite them, it would be good to have another follow up "easy entry" event planned during Lent to which you can invite them. They may not be ready for Stations of the Cross, but perhaps they would be open to come to a simple meal of soup and bread or perhaps a movie night (see below).

Soup and bread meals during Lent

Plan one or several simple community meals of soup and bread. Ask several parishioners to bring in crockpots of soup, ask others to bring bread. Provide plates/bowls, napkins, spoons and cups water (or coffee) to drink. Keep it simple. Perhaps have a printed prayer for people to pray grace together, which they can take home to use with their families. Add a free will offering basket for alms to offer to a food pantry or St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Lenten Movie Night

There are a lot of wonderful inspirational movies or movies that will make you think about our faith, or about the human condition. Some suggestions would be: The Way (about the pilgrimage to Santiago), Schindler's List (Poland during WWII), Romero (about Bishop Romero of El Salvador), Shadowlands (about CS Lewis and his love for Joy

Gresham), Of Gods and Men (about the Trappist monks in Algeria threatened by terrorists who must decide whether to go or stay). There are many other movies that you might consider. It would be helpful after watching the movie to have a short discussion. It could be something as simple as asking people what struck them in the movie, what moved them? If you add a time of spontaneous prayer inspired by the themes of the movie at the end of the evening, you can turn the a simple movie night into a Cinema Divina.

Deepen our Lenten Devotions

Often, we participate in Lenten devotions more out of habit (it is simply what we do as Catholics) rather than as an intentional way to encounter Jesus Christ in a deeper level. This does not mean that we should give up our devotion such as Stations of the Cross or Penance services, but rather, that we also need to give people an opportunity to reflect on the experience. Have you used the same booklets for the Stations of the Cross for the past 20 years? Perhaps get another set of meditations or have someone add a 5-minute personal reflection on some Lenten theme at the beginning. It could be something as simple as having someone share why they attend Stations of the Cross or

something as expansive as someone sharing their experience of walking the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem. Perhaps include special intentions for the evening, offering the Stations of the Cross for someone who is suffering or in need.

Lectio Divina:

Gather a small group of interested individuals to pray Lectio Divina in a group for up to ten people, perhaps using the Gospel of the upcoming Sunday. It is a simple process guided by the Holy Spirit. One person reads the Gospel, and people listen and silently reflect on the reading. Another person reads the Gospel again, and those who wish share a word or a phrase that stood out for them without any discussion or explanation. A third person reads the Gospel again and those who wish share how either their own word or the word of phrase that others brought forward affects their life, how it speaks to them. A fourth person reads the Gospel one last time, and when people are ready, they leave silently, carrying the Word with them to ponder in their heart.

Create a book sharing group/video program discussion group:

There are many resources available, from daily meditation booklets specifically geared to the Lenten journey, to books written with

small group faith sharing in mind, which include discussion questions at the end of each chapter. Another option would be to read an encyclical such as Laudato Si or Joy of the Gospel. Or perhaps you want to consider simply learning more about your faith, for example discussing the US Catechism for Adults a chapter at a time. For those who do not like to read, you could do something similar with videos – For example using the Symbolon program, one of Father Barron's programs such as the Pivotal Players or Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues, or one of Ascension Press' programs on Scripture such as a Walk through the Bible. If your parish subscribes to Formed – the online resource by Augustine Institute, you could even ask the group to watch the material at home, and then just come together for the discussion. Again, it does not need to be complicated, but it should be something to challenge the participants to go just a little deeper.

Create a planning group or Evangelization/Leadership Team:

Perhaps your parish can to create a group during Lent to help plan for the future. Using resources such as Forming Intentional Disciples by Sherry Weddell, or Divine Renovation by Fr. James Mallon you use the Lenten Season to form and teach a team of collaborators to look at how the parish may become a School of Discipleship and how existing ministries can "be tweaked" to provide parishioners with an opportunity to encounter Christ.

For Lenten Resources for 2017, see the Evangelization Blog: rcdony.org/evangelization/blog.html or contact Marika Donders at mdonders@rcdony.org.

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Diocesan Vocation Office sets regional gatherings

OGDENSBURG—The Diocesan Vocation Office has scheduled regional meeting for all those involved in parish vocation ministry

Any parish without vocation ministry may also send parishioners to any of these

meetings.

The meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 on the following dates:

- Feb. 25: St. Augustine Parish Center, 3029 Main Street, Peru
- March 4: Hearthside

Room, SSJ Motherhouse, 1425 Washington St., Watertown

- March 11: St. John's Parish Center, 6148 State Route 30, Lake Clear
- April 8: Parish of the Visitation Parish Center, 3 Morris St., Norfolk

During the meetings, the participants will review the goals of the WE ARE CALLED diocesan vocation plan. There will be discuss of ideas that have worked well and what is required for further progress. Participants will also hear about the annual parish reporting mechanism for vocation ministry

Registration should be made at least three days ahead of the meeting by emailing or calling: Diocesan Vocation Office (Cathy Russell, Coordinator) crussell@rcdony.org 315-393-2920.

DOVS seeks members

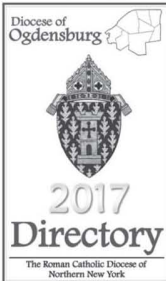
In other vocation news, the diocesan DOVS (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is seeking new members.

DOVS is a group of people who pray for and work to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the diocese. They meet most months, plan events to thank priests and religious and annually take a pilgrimage.

The next meeting will be held March 15.

Further information is available from Connie at 315-265-276 or the Vocations Office at 315-393-2920.

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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

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St. Joseph

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Bishop's Schedule

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

Feb. 25 – 4 p.m., Rite of Acolyte at St. Mary's Cathedral

March 1 – 12 p.m., Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Rest in Peace

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

Feb. 22 – Rev. Peter H. J. Ryan, 1930

Feb. 23 – Rev. Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M., 1908; Rev. Edward Blanchard, 1922; Rev. André Payette, O.M.I., 1976

Feb. 24 – Rev. George Belanger, 1932; Rev. William J. Murphy, C.S.C.O., 1959

Feb. 25 – Rev. William Howard, 1888; Rev. P.J. O'Connell, O.S.A., 1895; Rev. James J. Duffy, 1912; Msgr. L. Kevin Conners, 1971

Feb. 26 – Rev. Francis X. LaChance, 1916; Rev. John F. Wiley, 1984

Feb. 27 – Rev. Ferdinand Grenier, O.M.I., 1872

Feb. 28 – Rev. J. H. Tabaret, O.M.I., 1886

Environmental Stewardship

Concern rooted in the Bible

Regardless of where we choose to stand in the debate of whether climate change is real or not, and what is causing it, as Catholics we believe that we have been given a sacred trust by God set forth in Genesis 1-2 to care for creation.

This "common home" we call planet earth is the source from which our bodies are fashioned, molded and sustained by daily as are all other species of life.

The challenge we face as Christians is how do we safeguard and protect the quality of life on this planet? We only need to look at the cities around the world to witness the need to wear masks to protect from carbon emissions from coal industries and motor vehicles to know that our health depends upon what we do now.

We need only to listen to the daily news to realize the challenge before us to ensure access to clean water for all. These concerns are not about politics; they are about justice rooted in the Bible. "What you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do unto Me."

Our daily choices affect not only our own health but that of all our brothers and sisters, and all living creatures. Looking around our local communities that have invested in cleaner energy options can be an inspiration for us to learn more about them and find out how we can invest in a healthier environment now and for our children.

Consider making this a priority this week.

Mark your calendars

Dr. Gerry Gacloch, chief of cardiology at Rochester General Hospital's Heart Institute who is also one of 17 Catholic Climate Ambassadors trained by the Catholic Climate Covenant, is slated to offer a presentation April 2 at 1 p.m. in the Emmaus Room at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh.

The presentation will focus on Catholic teachings associated with climate change and environmental stewardship for year 2017 – especially associated with Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home, the encyclical from Pope Francis; and what people can be doing as individuals and doing together.

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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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Nationwide rallies call on Congress to defund Planned Parenthood

CHICAGO (CNS) -- The organizers of rallies held across the country Feb. 11 to call for defunding Planned Parenthood said their message to Congress is to redirect taxpayer's money to facilities that "do a better job meeting the real health care needs of women and families without specializing in abortion." More than 15,000 people attended 229 rallies held in 45 states. Eric Scheidler, executive director of the Pro-Life Action League in Chicago, was the national organizer of the rallies, or #ProtestPP. Other groups coordinating the events included Citizens for a Pro-Life Society, Created Equal, 40 Days for Life and the Susan B. Anthony List. "This is a nationwide event, but at the same time, it is a local community concern," Schiedler said in a statement. In rallying to tell "Congress to quit sending money to an organization that specializes in killing children," participants also declared "that they do not want Planned Parenthood to continue operating in their neighborhoods." According to its 2014-15 annual report, Planned Parenthood receives \$553.7 million annually in government health service grants and reimbursements, which is 43 percent of its overall revenue. Federal money is allocated to the organization through Medicaid and public family planning services. Planned Parenthood performs 34 percent of U.S. abortions.

Trump administration urged to do all it can to 'care for creation'

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Quoting Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si'," three Catholic leaders wrote to U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson Feb. 17 urging the Trump administration to do all it can to care for creation both domestically and globally. "The Judeo-Christian tradition has always understood the environment to be a gift from God, and we are all called 'to protect our one common home,'" the leaders told Tillerson in a joint letter. It was signed by Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, who is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Domestic and Human Development; Bishop Oscar Cantu of Las Cruces, New Mexico, who is chairman of the USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace; and Sean L. Callahan, who is president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services. The letter emphasizes the importance of adaptation policies and specifically calls for continued U.S. support of the Paris climate agreement as well as the Green Climate Fund, which provides poorer nations with resources to adapt to and mitigate changing climate realities.

Advocates expect to see more asylum seekers cross Canadian border

TORONTO (CNS) -- Canada can expect to see more asylum seekers crossing its nearly 6,600-mile, mostly unguarded, border with the United States as enforcement toughens at the U.S.-Mexican border and President Donald Trump continues to issue executive orders to restrain refugee arrivals, advocates said. "It appears things will get worse for refugees (in the U.S.)," Scalabrinian Father Vincenzo Rosato told The Catholic Register, Canadian Catholic weekly. "The whole situation is creating a lot of uncertainty." The Scalabrini order is dedicated to serving migrants and refugees worldwide and runs safe houses for refugees along several borders, including the U.S.-Mexican border. The forces that have driven about 300 refugee claimants to cross into Manitoba from Minnesota and North Dakota since last April -- including more than 40 who have arrived in Emerson, Manitoba, in just two weeks -- may mean that the Scalabrinis have to set up similar safe houses near the Canada-U.S. border, Father Rosato said. "This could become a real exodus and a new phenomenon," he said. "If we have to provide for the immediate needs, I think we would be ready."

Counteract vitriol by toning it down, talking less, listening more, pope says

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) - Addressing the fear of immigrants, dissatisfaction with a "fluid economy" and the impatience and vitriol seen in politics and society, Pope Francis told Rome university students to practice a kind of "intellectual charity" that promotes dialogue and sees value in diversity.

"There are lots of remedies against violence," but they must start first with one's heart being open to hearing other people's opinions and then talking things out with patience, he said in a 45-minute off-the-cuff talk.

"It necessary to tone it down a bit, to talk less and listen more," he told hundreds of students, staff and their family members and friends during a visit Feb. 17 to Roma Tre University.

Seated on a platform facing an open courtyard, the pope listened to questions from four students, including Nour Essa, who was one of the 12 Syrian refugees the pope had brought to Rome on a papal flight from Lesbos, Greece, in 2016.

The pope said he had received the questions beforehand and wrote a prepared text, but he preferred to answer "from the heart" and be "more spontaneous because I like it better that way."

Asked what "remedy" could counteract the world's violence and how to live well in such a fast-paced, globalized world of "social networks," the pope said today's frenetic pace "makes us violent at home."

Family members don't bother saying "good morning" to each other, they absentmindedly say "hi" or eat together in silence, each absorbed with a smartphone, he said.

The faster the pace in life,

the more people become "nameless" because no one takes the time to get to know the other, ending up with a situation where "I greet you as if you were an object."

The tendency to de-personalize others, which starts in one's own heart, at home and with relationships, "grows and grows and it will become violence worldwide," he said.

"In a society where politics has sunk very low.... one loses the sense" of building up civic life and social harmony, which is done through dialogue.

Pope Francis commented on the way many electoral campaigns and debates feature people interrupting each other. "Wait! Listen carefully to what the other thinks and then respond," he said, and ask for clarification when the point isn't understood.

The pope said universities must be places dedicated to this kind of openness, dialogue and respect for a diversity of opinions and ideas.

An institution cannot claim it is offering higher education if there is no "dialogue, discussion, listening, where there is no respect for how others think, where there is no friendship, joy of play," he said.

People go to university to learn and listen, but not passively, the pope said. It is a place to actively seek the good, the beautiful and the true, as a journey done together over time.

He also critiqued the so-called "fluid economy," which leads to a lack of stable, "solid" employment.

Networked trades and transactions in which a person can make - like a business friend of his did - \$10,000 in 10 minutes trading commodities is an example of this "fluid" economy, he said.

This "liquidity" erases "the culture of work" and every-

thing that is "concrete" about labor "because you cannot work and young people don't know what to do," which can lead them to addictions or suicide.

"Or the lack of work leads me to join a terrorist militia. 'At least I have something to do and have meaning in my life.' It's horrible," he said.

Essa, the 31-year-old Syrian woman, told the pope she, her husband and small boy were living in a refugee camp in Lesbos until "our life changed in one day, thanks to you."

She asked the pope to address the fear of immigrants, saying she remembered a journalist on the papal flight a year ago asking about people's fear of those coming from Syria and Iraq and whether they threatened Europe's Christian culture.

"How many invasions has Europe had?" during its long history, the pope asked.

Europe has been built upon invasions and movements of peoples, he said. "Migration is not a danger, it is a challenge to grow," he said.

It is only logical that people migrate to escape from conflict, exploitation, hunger and lack of development, he said.

"Don't exploit. Don't be the bullies that go to exploit" these nations already suffering so much, he said.

While trying to grapple with the way times change, he said, it's also true some things just stay the same. "If we don't learn to understand life as it comes, we will never ever learn to live it."

Life is like being a "goalie" where people have to be alert and ready to grab the ball from whatever direction it comes, Pope Francis said. Today "is a different age, that is coming from somewhere I didn't expect, but I have to take it, I have to take it as it comes without fear."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Do not worry... I will never forget you

Of all the emotions which affect our thoughts and memories, the emotion of fear lingers in our minds and memories long after the actual experience that caused it.

Perhaps we had locked ourselves out of our car late at night in a deserted parking lot. Where to turn for help?

We all remember the fear that gripped his country on 9/11/2001. Often fear causes us to panic with an overreaction that doesn't really eliminate what caused our fear in the first place—and causes more harm than good.

In today's first reading, the Israelites have just come out of exile. They're dis-

couraged. They think God has forgotten them.

And so, through the prophet Isaiah, God says the most comforting words to them, "Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you".

As Israelites desperately needed to hear those words, so do we. Often and often again we have fears that God has forgotten us, forgotten that He ever created us.

May we say those words to ourselves whenever our fear of abandonment paralyzes our hearts with fear.

And listen how the Gospel fits in so well today



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

with Christ's teaching on fear. A large crowd is gathered on a mountain, giving rapt attention to the words of Jesus. You're part of the crowd. How very consoling are the words you hear from Jesus: "...do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear...look at the birds in the sky, they do not sow or reap...yet your Heavenly Father feeds them.."

You strain to hear more, as Jesus tells you not to worry about what you are to eat or drink or wear!

"Oh you of little faith, Your Heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first the Kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness and all these things will be given you besides...Do not worry about tomorrow, tomorrow will take care of itself. Suf-

FEB. 26

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Isaiah 49:14-15

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

cient for a day is its own evil."

What wonderfully soothing words, and they are so true for us today!

They have power to quiet our fears and calm our nerves--if we have sufficient faith to trust in Him.

We are tempted to question Jesus' words when we see such discouraging scenes of starvation and death in countries around the globe, and even in our own nation.

Then we must remember

that Jesus did not place the whole burden on God the Father.

In our second reading today, St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that all in the community are "servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God".

Doesn't that remind us that much of the burden is ours?

Remember what St. James told us. "If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled', without things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (Jas 2:14).

It is today's community of faith, the contemporary "Body of Christ", that must help make the promises of the Sermon on the Mount a reality.

FROM THE HOLY FATHER

Lack of prayer turns God's word into philosophical idea

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Without spiritual courage and a love for Jesus, the word of God will be proclaimed as just "a good, philosophical or moral idea," Pope Francis said.

A preacher "may say something interesting -- something moral, something that will make you feel good, a philanthropic good -- but there is no word of God," the pope said during Mass in the chapel of Domus Sanctae Marthae. In his homily Feb. 14, the feast of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Pope Francis said the world needed missionaries and "brave heralds" of the Gospel like the two great evangelists and co-patron saints of Europe.

Reflecting on the day's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, in which Paul and Barnabas announce the good news to the Gentiles, the pope said the word of God

must be preached with "frankness and strength."

He also commented on the day's Gospel of St. Luke in which Jesus sends out 72 disciples to preach the good news, noting that Jesus highlights how necessary it is for those who preach the Gospel to also pray.

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest," Jesus said. The pope explained that Jesus' words express the importance of prayer when planting the seed of God's word so "that the Lord may water this seed and it may sprout."

"Without prayer, you can have a beautiful conference, a beautiful instruction: good, good! But it is not the word of God. The word of God can only come from a prayerful heart," he said.

Jesus' command for preachers to "go as lambs among wolves," the pope said, reminds Christians that a "true preacher is one who knows he is weak, who knows he can't defend himself." Citing St. John Chrysostom, Pope Francis said if a preacher goes as "a wolf among wolves, the Lord will not protect you; you will defend yourself alone."

"When a preacher believes he is too intelligent or when the one who has the responsibility of bringing the word of God forward wants to be crafty," it does not end well, he said.

Like the patron saints of Europe, Christians are called to continue the mission of the great heralds of the church, "who have sown and helped make the church grow in the world" through prayer and humility.

OUR READERS WRITE

Defund Planned Parenthood

This past weekend, America spoke out and asked the 115th Congress to reroute taxpayer dollars from Planned Parenthood, including Planned Parenthood of the North Country, Plattsburgh to comprehensive health care centers.

More than 225 #DefundPP events took place in 43 states and the nation's capital, drawing tens of thousands of people rallying to protest tax dollar support of Planned Parenthood.

Each year Planned Parenthood performs over 320,000 abortions, 34% of the annual total. They provide less than 2% of manual breast exams, less than 1% of pap smear tests, and zero mammograms for women in America. That's not addressing women's health, reproductive or otherwise.

Why not redirect our tax money to Federally Qualified Health Centers that provide a wider range of health care services and a higher standard of care?

Reallocating tax dollars to supporting legitimate providers of comprehensive women's health care frees us from having to deal with Planned Parenthood's

increasingly negative image. Congress has investigated Planned Parenthood's involvement in harvesting and selling fetal tissue.

Do we really want that kind of business in our neighborhood?

I urge Plattsburgh and North Country NY - area residents to call your US Senators Chuck Schumer 202-224-6542 & Kristen Gillibrand 202-224-4451 or US Representative Elise Stefanik 202-225-4611 and insist that they defund Planned Parenthood now!

NANCY BELZILE
WILLSBORO

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the *North Country Catholic*. Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300. We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org

AT THE MOVIES

JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 2

By Kurt Jensen
Catholic News Service

The stylized, nearly cartoonish nihilism and resulting high body count in "John Wick: Chapter 2" (Lionsgate) create most of the apparent appeal of this second drama about a professional assassin.

The rest, as directed by Chad Stahelski from Derek Kolstad's script, consists of small moments -- quite small, since there's nearly no dialogue -- of mordant and questionable humor.

Violently pulled out of retirement, Wick (Keanu Reeves) arrives in Rome for an assignment.

"Are you here to see the pope?" a worried-looking Winston (Ian McShane), the owner of the Continental Hotel, asks. Assured that's not the case, Winston tells

Wick that he has a room available to use as a base of operations.

The Continental is also the name of a secret international network of assassins of which Wick is the indisputable star, since he's acrobatic, amazingly versatile and fearless. He also, in this episode, has a bounty on his head, so when he's not shooting or committing mayhem in a muscle car, he's being shot at.

The core story has Wick unwillingly drawn into a plot to seize a seat at the High Table, a criminal enterprise. Italian playboy Santino D'Antonio (Riccardo Scamarcio) wants the seat held by his fur-adorned sister, Gianna (Claudia Gerini).

To get it, he orders Wick to treat Gianna with extreme prejudice.

Since a previous life-or-death commitment to San-

tino leaves Wick with no choice but to accept this mission, he takes to it in the manner of James Bond being equipped by Q. He'll have to face off against Gianna's loyal bodyguard, Cassian (Common). And Santino has a large squad of goons who don't wish to see Wick get away alive.

It's not a movie that requires concentrated attention. What's needed instead is a tolerance for -- and enjoyment of -- elaborately choreographed stunts and chase sequences.

The film contains pervasive action violence with little blood, a suicide and brief full female nudity. The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R --



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE

Keanu Reeves stars in a scene from the movie "John Wick: Chapter 2."

restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

ALSO PLAYING



CNS PHOTO/FOX

Dane DeHaan stars in a scene from the movie "A Cure for Wellness," a creepy, but otherwise pointless horror exercise. A Wall Street business executive (DeHaan) is dispatched to a Swiss spa to convince a higher-ranking colleague (Harry Groener) who has mysteriously decided to remain there permanently that he must instead return to headquarters to sign off on a big pending merger. As the young wheeler-dealer eventually discovers, however, despite the soothing manner of the resort's proprietor (Jason Isaacs), something is profoundly amiss, and his own chances of ever leaving the place are remote. The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted.

IMMACULATE HEART CENTRAL SCHOOL MYSTERY PLAYERS

LENT 2017: "Jesus Turners Falls Again"


Date	Place		Time
March 5	Summit Village	Watertown	2:00 p.m.
March 10	St. James	Gouverneur	7:00 p.m.
March 12	St. Cecilia's	Adams	7:30 p.m.
March 16	St. Bartholomew's	Old Forge	7:30 p.m.
March 17	Our Lady of Peace	Turners Falls, MA	7:30 p.m.
March 18	Christ the King	Albany	7:30 p.m.
March 24	Holy Family	Watertown	7:30 p.m.
March 26	Notre Dame	Ogdensburg	7:30 p.m.
April 1	St. Joseph's	West Chazy	7:30 p.m.
April 8	First United Methodist	Watertown	7:30 p.m.
April 9	St. Peter's	Lowville	7:30 p.m.
April 14	St. Patrick's	Watertown	7:30 p.m.

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

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

 Find us on Facebook!



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- Like Us
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 Like

CLINTON

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh - 40 Days for Life, days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion are set

Date: March 1 to April 9

Time: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Place: public right of way outside of Planned Parenthood

Contact: Nancy Belzile 518-593-6024
<https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/plattsburgh/>

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST

Mooers - All you can eat breakfast to be held to benefit new church doors.

Date: March 5

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's Hall

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

Contact: For take-outs call 236-6118

K OF C PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Plattsburgh - K of C to have a pancake breakfast.

Date: March 12

Time: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: Our Lady of Victory Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6 to 12, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: 50/50 chances available.

CLIMATE AMBASSADOR

Plattsburgh - The Diocese of Ogdensburg and St. Peter's Church to present Climate Ambassador Dr. Gerry Gacchio.

Date: April 2

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: Presentation to focus on Pope Francis' encyclical on Environmental Stewardship entitled Laudato Si, Care of our Common Home, plus why Catholics should care about our the environment

Contact: Denise Tetrault at spchurchdenise@primelink1.net or at 518-563-1692.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Treadwell Mills - St. Alexander and St. Joseph to hold pancake breakfasts.

Dates: March 5, April 2 and 23

Time: 8 a.m. to Noon

Place: St. Joseph's Hall

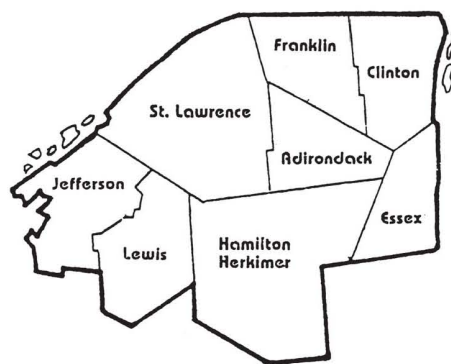
Cost: Adults, \$7; kids, \$3; under 5, Free

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Plattsburgh - The Sacred Heart Fraternity Secular Franciscan Order meets the second Sunday of the each month.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: St. John's Holy Family Chapel.



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.

LENTEN ADORATION

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's Church will offer Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament during Lent on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Features: Concludes on Tuesday of Holy Week with Benediction at 7 p.m.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Plattsburgh - St. John's Academy, Mount Assumption Institute and Seton Catholic Central are planning a joint reunion.

Date: May 26-28

Contact: Susan FitzPatrick Pellerin, spellerin@thesetonschools.org with contact information

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs
Time: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

FRANKLIN

HEARTS ON FIRE

Malone - Hearts on Fire to be held the first Friday of the month.

Schedule: 7 p.m., Praise & Worship Holy Hour; 8 p.m., Bonfire, snacks & Fellowship

Place: Notre Dame Church

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Malone - Five first Saturdays in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are set
Schedule: 7:40 a.m., Rosary; 8 a.m., Mass

Place: Notre Dame Church

SATURDAY DEVOTION

St. Regis Falls - First Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour to be held

Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass
Place: St. Ann's Church

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Old Forge - Discerning men are invited to consider the call to the priesthood.

Dates: March 5&26; April 9 and 23; May 7 & 21

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Bartholomew's Rectory

Features: Reflection, Vespers & dinner. Juniors in high school and older.

Contact: Fr. Howard Venette, pastor.stbarts@roadrunner.com/ 315-369-3554;

JEFFERSON

SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills - Spaghetti and Meatball dinner to be held to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.

Date: March 4

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Contact: 629-4678

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown - An Ecumenical Bereavement Meeting to be held.

Date: Feb. 27

Time: 7p.m.

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse hospitality room

Program: Joyce Combs, Bereavement Coordinator of Hospice of Jefferson County, on challenges of a new year

PETER PAN at IHC

Watertown - IHC to present their High School Musical, Peter Pan.

Date: March 3 at 7 p.m. and March 4 at 1 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$10; Students, Seniors, and Military, \$8; under 5, \$6

Features: Our students will be soaring to new heights with the help of flying and production experts, Flying With Foy. <http://flybyfoy.com> Peter Pan is presented in through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for Vocations to be held every Tuesday.

Time: 3 p.m. to 6

Place: St. Anthony's Church

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - The St. Joseph Cupertino Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Date: Feb. 25

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Place: St. Anthony's Church

Features: The purpose is to pray for vocations to priesthood, religious life.

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 315-788-4359

CURSILLO MEETINGS

Carthage - The Jefferson/Lewis Cursillo holds its monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month.

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Place: Community Room of St. James

Features: All Cursillistas are encouraged to attend. We also welcome those interested in deepening a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Contact: Anne Seegebarth ams2962@gmail.com, 315-783-4596

WEEKLY EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sackets Harbor - St. Andrew's has scheduled weekly exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on every Friday.

Time: 5 p.m. to 6

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for vocations

Date: Mon.-Fri.

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Place: Holy Family Church

LEWIS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville - All are invited to one hour of exposition, silent adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, benediction.

Date: Feb. 16

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of March to be held.

Date: March 5

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: The program includes: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction. At 2:25 p.m., before the monthly devotions, the first DVD of a monthly 10-part series entitled: Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, will be presented.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

ST. LAWRENCE

ST. RAPHAEL'S FOOD PANTRY

Heuvelton - St. Raphael's Food Pantry will be open every Friday.

Time: 9 a.m. to 11

Place: Parish Center

Contact: Father O'Brien at 315-393-2920 or 315-344-2383.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Massena - Monthly Holy hour for Vocations to be held on First Fridays.

Date: March 3

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

BISHOP BARRON STUDY PROGRAM

Massena - Begin the journey from sin to sanctity with Bishop Barron's 9 week study program "Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues".

Date: Tuesdays through April 4

Time: 2 p.m. to 4 and also offered at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30

Place: St. Mary's Social Hall

Cost: No Charge (though a free will offering will be accepted)

Contact: Visit website at www.massenacatholics.com or call the parish Rectory at 315-769-2469.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena - St. Mary's & St. Joseph's parish offers a Eucharistic Holy Hour and Benediction.

Time: Thursdays, immediately following the 8:15 a.m. Mass until 10 a.m.

Place: St. Mary's

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
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@rcdony.org

As we approach the Lenten season

From the Director's Desk
Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
Diocesan Mission Director

Sacrifice. Many times our daily lives are already full of great sacrifice. We can experience illness or loss of a loved one, economic stress or setbacks, and so many different types of daily pain and challenges. We offer these to Jesus. We remember His own sufferings for us on the Cross. Knowing that, we can reach out, with Jesus' love, to those in greater need, in greater darkness.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is always featuring stories from the developing lands where real life missionaries are slowly making a difference. This Lent, we talk of Sister Augustine and the Sisters in her Religious Community are doing just that in a village in South Africa. At St. Anthony's Clinic in Witbank, South Africa, the Sisters there are providing medical help for more than 1,400 children each year and healing with the mercy of Jesus. Most of the children there are alone and have suffered the loss of their parents from HIV/AIDS. Sister Augustine explains, "Each child we meet offers an opportunity for us to see and serve the Lord. Through our care, we strive to provide not only healing but also enduring hope."

This Lent, with your prayers and Lenten sacrifice to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, you can make a gift of "enduring hope"! Your gift helps sustain the work of Sister Augustine, as well as priests, Religious and lay catechists in the Mission Church who help to relieve suffering as they reach out with the hope that sustains us as well on our own dark days.

Through your sacrifice, you are sharing your love with the poor, reminding them of Jesus' great sacrifice for us and giving them a glimpse of the hope of His Resurrection! I am most grateful for your missionary heart and spirit of sacrifice. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your family during this Lenten Season and especially at Easter!

God Bless from the Mission Office.

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

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OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Mary (Dolan) Keating, 92; Funeral Services Feb. 15, 2017 at Holy Name Church.

Brasher Falls – Kathleen T. "Katie" Collins, 80; Funeral Feb. 18, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Brushton – Elizabeth M. (Hanna) Mayer, 51; Funeral Services Feb. 14, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Bombay.

Brushton – Norman G. Tatro, 71; Funeral Services Feb. 15, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

Cadyville – Marvin K. Weaver, 84; Funeral Services Feb. 14, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Champlain – Reginald A. Mayo, 78; Funeral Services Feb. 13, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

Gouverneur – Trina Marie (Gale) Holmes, 50; Funeral Services Feb. 11, 2017 at the Green Funeral Home.

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Harrisville – Bryan C. Zink, 55; Funeral Services Feb. 16, 2017 at Frary Funeral Home.

Hogansburg – Anthony John McDonald, 53; Funeral Services Feb. 17, 2017 at St. Regis Church.

Hogansburg – Mae V. Tarbell, 92; Funeral Services Feb. 16, 2017 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Malone – Clytis C. Primeau, 75; Funeral Services Feb. 17, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in the Saratoga National Cemetery, Schuylerville.

Massena – Patricia A. (Martin) Larabee, 76; Funeral Services Feb. 16, 2017 at the Donaldson Funeral Home; burial in Massena Center Cemetery.

Morrisonville – Jean A. (LaComb) Williams, 78; Funeral Services Feb. 18, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Jean R. Brown, 90; Funeral Services at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – Elizabeth Elliott Leonard, 93; Funeral Services Feb. 17, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Plattsburgh – Theresa Rose (Collins) Conroy, 85; Funeral Services Feb. 16, 2017 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Barbara Jean (Guay) Fretette, 83; Funeral Services Feb. 17, 2017 at St. Peter's Church.

Plattsburgh – Jacqueline E. (Girard) Maille, 87; Funeral Services Feb. 18, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown – Ramon F. "Ray" LaLone, 84; Funeral Services Feb. 18, 2017 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in St. Cecilia's Cemetery.

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FAITH AND LEARNING WITH AN ARTISTIC FLAIR



Aiden and Lucas Mott, fourth grade students at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh, show their family poster to their classmates. The poster shows how the Mott family is called to love. The school families made posters showing how they are called to love and these posters are displayed in the front hall during Catholic School Week.



Mrs. Ilisco's third grade class at Trinity Catholic in Massena, tried their hand at making their own totem pole this week. After completing a unit on the Northwest Pacific Native American tribes called the Snohomish and Suquamish, the "Owl Clan" class broke into groups and created one section of the pole, each. They then assembled the whole structure and marveled at each section's diversity and beauty.

Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

ST. LAWRENCE

LENTEN ADORATION

Massena – Lenten Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to be held.

Date: Beginning March 3 every Mon. and Fri during Lent

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

Place: St. Mary's Church family room

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

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

Dates: March 5;

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

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

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena – St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction and Adoration every Friday

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DEACON FORMATION INFORMATION

The Deacon Formation Program for the Diocese of Ogdensburg is offering Informational Sessions for Pastors and all interested parties.

Schedule: Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m., Church of the Visitation, Norfolk

March 8, 6:30 p.m., Sister of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown

March 15, 6:30 p.m. St. Peter's Church (Emmaus Room), Plattsburgh

Contact: Deacon John

White at jwhite@rcdony.org.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Norfolk - The Cursillo Movement of the Ogdensburg Diocese is sponsoring a Day of Recollection open to all diocesan parishioners

Date: March 4

Time: 10 a.m. to 5

Place: Our Lady of the Visitation Church and Parish Center

Features: Bishop LaValley, Father Jack

Downs and Father Timothy Canaan will make presentations. Father Albert Hauser and two laypersons will share their personal witness. There will be opportunity for prayer and recollection in front of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession after each set of talks. The day ends with 4 p.m. anticipated Sunday Mass celebrated by the bishop at St. Andrew's Church in Norwood

Contact: Registration by mail, email or phone by Feb. 25: Ken and Kathy Racette, 679 Cumberland Head Rd, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; kathyracette@gmail.com, kracette1@gmail.com, 518-314-1505 or 518-578-3056.

LENTEN RETREAT FOR YOUTH

Diocesan Youth Council is hosting a peer-led Lenten retreat open to all students in grades 6-12.

Dates: March 25 in Malone; March 26 in Canton

Features: The event is free, but participants must pre-register and bring a bagged lunch.

Contact: Details and registration can be found at www.rcdony.org/lentenretreat.

CAMP GUGGENHEIM REGISTRATION

Registration for 2017 season for Camp Guggenheim is now open through www.rcdony.org/camp.

Features: Weeks one through five are specifically designated for 12-15 year olds, while Week Six is just for 16-18 year olds.

Contact: For more information contact the Office of Youth Ministry at 315-393-2920 or vlalonde@rcdony.org or visit camp website: www.rcdony.org/camp/guggy

YOUTH RALLY REGISTRATION

Watertown – The 2017 diocesan High School Youth rally to be held.

Date: May 6

Place: IHC

Cost: \$25 before April 1, \$30 after

Features: This full-day event will feature keynote speaker Paul J. Kim, prayer, interactive workshops, games, and Mass presided by Bishop LaValley. Each group attending needs to have one Virtus-trained and background-checked adult for each eight students. Youth leaders can register themselves and youth at www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally.

Contact: Kelly at kdonnelly@rcdony.org

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.

Date: Next meeting is March 15

Contact: Call Connie at 315-265-276 or the Vocations Office at 315-393-2920

REGISTER FOR NCYC BY MARCH 1

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) will be held in Indianapolis.

Date: Nov. 16-18

Features: A group from the Diocese of Ogdensburg will be traveling to this conference where youth from across the country gather to pray, hear renowned speakers and performers, and participate in a variety of interactive programs. Interested students must be in grades 9-12 during the '17-'18 academic year. A deposit and registration is due by March 1, and registration is limited.

Contact: Get details and register at www.rcdony.org/youthncyc/ncyc