

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Funeral held March 10 for retired bishop of Syracuse | PAGE 13

Bishops react to bill to replace Obamacare | PAGE 14

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 71, Number 43

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MARCH 15, 2017

## Of the bible... and cell phones

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christians should care about reading God's messages in the Bible as much as they care about checking messages on their cellphones, Pope Francis said. As Christ did in the desert when tempted by Satan, men and women can defend themselves from temptation with the word of

God if they "read it often, meditate on it and assimilate it" into their lives, he said before praying the Angelus with those gathered in St. Peter's Square March 5.

"What would happen if we turned back when we forget it, if we opened it more times a day, if we read the messages of God contained in

the Bible the way we read messages on our cell-phones?" the pope asked the crowd. "The Bible contains the word of God, which is always relevant and effective. Someone once said: What would happen if we treated the Bible like we treated our cellphones?"

While the comparison be-

tween the Bible and a cell-phone is "paradoxical," he added, it is something that all Christians are called to reflect on during the Lenten season. "If we have the Word of God always in our hearts, no temptation could separate us from God and no obstacle would deviate us from the path of good."

## FROM ASHES TO EASTER

### The journey through Lent

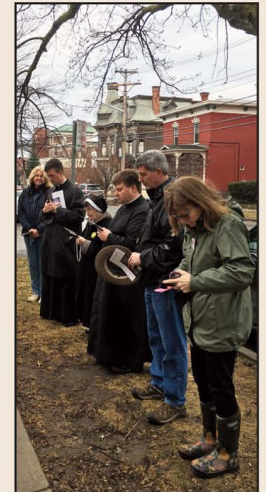


PHOTO SUPPLIED

Participants of 40 Days for Life in Plattsburgh kicked off their prayerful presence in front of Planned Parenthood on Ash Wednesday. The days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion will continue through April 9. Pro-lifers are invited to stand and peacefully pray in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood in Plattsburgh daily 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Among those shown on Ash Wednesday are Father Bryan Stitt, Father Thomas Higman, John and Colleen Miner, diocesan directors of respect life ministry; and Nancy Belzile, local coordinator of 40 Days for Life.

## Report of special funds in this diocese

Michael J. Tooley, diocesan fiscal officer, presents the annual Special Funds report in this week's *North Country Catholic*.

Special funds are monies that the diocese holds for specific purposes such as disability insurance, mission projects, priests' retirement, lay employees' retirement and unemployment insurance.

The report also includes an accounting of the Diocesan Trust Fund and messages about the report from Mr. Tooley and Bishop LaValley.

FULL STORY, PAGES 7-12

## Hearts on Fire in Malone

St. Andre Bessette Parish offers special First Friday celebrations of prayer and fellowship

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

## ON THE WAY TO BECOMING CATHOLIC



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Yeukai Mujuru, a sixth grader at St. Mary's School in Canton signs the Book of the Elect at the Rite of Election March 6 at St. Mary's Cathedral as his sponsor, Jamie Burns, looks on. Yeukai and other catechumens will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist during the Easter Vigil at parishes across the diocese. See page five for more photos of the Rite of Election.

**RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION:** Don't miss a single issue of the *NCC*... page. 15

NORTH  
COUNTRY  
CATHOLICBox 326  
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669  
USPS 0039-3400**BISHOP TERRY  
R. LAVALLEY**  
President**REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN**

Vice President

**JAMES D. CROWLEY**

Secretary-Treasurer

**MARY LOU KILIAN**

Editor/

General Manager



Publish 45 issues per year. Weekly except skipping every other week beginning July through Aug. and skipping one week in Dec. by the Diocese of Ogdensburg.  
622 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

**Editorial Office:**622 Washington Street,  
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.**Telephone:**

(315) 608-7556

**E-mail:**news@northcountry  
catholic.org**Entered at the****Post Office:**Ogdensburg, NY  
13669 and  
additional mailing offices as  
Periodical Postage.**Subscription:**For one year:  
In-Diocese Rate: \$27  
Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30

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

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

## EDITOR'S NOTE

# Do small things with great love

One of the benefits of working for the Diocese of Ogdensburg is that once or twice a year we are invited to leave our offices and head to Wadhams Hall for a few hours of prayer.

The past Friday we were blessed by the presence of Father Timothy Canaan who traveled from Plattsburgh to lead us in reflections for Lent.

A gifted storyteller, Father Canaan offered some personal parables to illustrate his theme (taken from

a familiar quote of Mother, our Saint, Teresa of Calcutta): "do small things with great love."

What a timely message for all of us.

As we make our way through these weeks of Lent, sticking with the goals we set on Ash Wednesday gets a little harder every day.

Perhaps just adding something "small" to our daily routine will enrich this penitential season for everyone in our midst.

This week, it's easy to think

Mary Lou  
Kilian

of small gifts that, when shared with love, would make a huge difference to the people in our world.

When the thermometer mistakes mid-March for January, we can't go wrong with offers to go outside and start the car.... share a cup of hot chocolate.... walk the dog.... fill the car with gas... the list is endless.

The small things we do with our church family and in our lives of faith can make a big difference too.

Father Canaan talked about taking a moment to introduce ourselves to people in church

who we don't know... especially when it's people we see week after week.

And wouldn't it be good to take a second moment to thank the celebrant, homilist or musician who helped to bring us closer to God on a given Sunday?

Of course, we can never go wrong by adding the smallest of prayers – "thank you, God," "help me, God" "watch out for my loved one, God" – to our prayerful conversations.

Small things... great love... huge rewards for all.

Thank you, Mother Teresa and Father Timothy, too!

## FATHER MUENCH SAYS

## A Lenten journey with Thomas Merton

For Lent, I have decided to get back to reading the works of my favorite saint and spiritual guide, Thomas Merton.

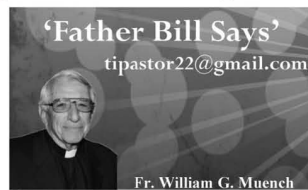
I hope that you remember something about him. A spiritual writer who was a Trappist monk, he died in a tragic accident in 1968 at the age of 53. Yet, his works continue to be published and read my many.

I first encountered Merton's writings when I was in high school. I remember that I wrote a paper in my senior year about the Trappist monks and found a great deal of information from Merton's writings.

I don't remember the mark Miss Conklin gave me on that paper; I do know that she was a bit surprised at my subject. And, I know that that investigation began a lifelong friendship for me in the writings of Thomas Merton.

For me, I began with Merton's autobiography, "The Seven Story Mountain," that he wrote in his early years in the monastery. This book described his early life and his journey to becoming a Catholic and then all that drew him to becoming a monk.

He entered the Trappist order at the Gethsemani Monastery in Kentucky. A few years ago I was fortunate enough to make a retreat at



Fr. William G. Muench

that Monastery.

I was surprised and pleased in 2015 when Pope Francis mentioned Thomas Merton in his talk to the U.S. Congress. The Holy Father chose four great Americans to speak about in his talk.

He said this, "My visit takes place at a time when men and women of good will are marking the anniversaries of several great American. I would like to mention four of these Americans, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton.

I am certain that those senators and representatives were rather surprised when Pope Francis choose Merton as one of the great Americans to talk about.

He said this about Merton, "He remains a source of spiritual inspiration and a guide for many...Merton was a man of prayer, a thinker who challenged the certitudes of his time and opened new horizons

for souls and for the Church. He was also a man of dialogues, a promoter of peace between people and religious."

Thomas Merton, entered the Monastery in 1941 at 26 years old. He published his autobiography, "The Seven Story Mountain," in 1949 and it became a best seller to the surprise of many. It certainly captured my attention.

After that, he wrote many books and articles concerning prayer and spirituality and peace. He also was an accomplished poet. He became an important guide for many of us.

Merton wrote a great deal on prayer. He led us to a deeper understanding on bringing the presence of God alive in our lives through prayer, especially contemplative prayer. He showed us that this contemplation was not only for monks in their monasteries – it was for all of us out in the world. He showed us that we were all called to be contemplatives.

For Merton, contemplation is an actual experience of God through prayer. We are to open our hearts to the presence of our God in silent, wordless prayer.

Contemplative prayer is an awakening – our opportunity to be aware of who we truly are

through the presence of God. Contemplation is a rebirth. In contemplation, we journey inward and discover a union with God and with one another. Merton made his confident belief that ordinary active persons as well as the monks are called to be contemplative.

Also, Thomas Merton was a man of peace who wrote often calling us all to bring peace into our own lives and into our world.

The road to peace that he encouraged in his message is a journey through the spirit of nonviolence. The only way that people can truly be peacemakers is when they reject anger and violence as a solution. The only way to live well in peace is to throw off all that leads to violence.

So, Merton wrote often calling upon nations to reject war and violence and stockpiling armaments. Rather they must work together to bring peace.

Too many world leaders see the only solution is to find power in more and more bombs and bullets. Guns continue to bring violence to neighborhoods, even families.

So we must all learn the lesson – and bring that lesson to our youth – violence and weapons lead only to unhappiness and sadness.

*St. Andre Bessette Parish offers Praise and Worship Eucharistic Holy Hour each First Friday*

# Hearts on Fire

By Suzanne Pietropaoli  
Staff writer

**MALONE-** "I love to go, and I always leave Hearts on Fire with a heart full of joy!"

Twelve-year-old Ciara LeRoy is describing the Praise and Worship Eucharistic Holy Hour she attends each First Friday at St. Andre Bessette Parish. Her sister Sydney, 13, is equally enthusiastic: "This is very lovely, and very inspiring. And we really enjoy singing the music we know from Guggenheim."

Aimee Le Roy echoes her daughters' enthusiasm. "We love it! The girls look forward to it all month, and so do I. The prayer and singing are beautiful, and very uplifting."

For Dave Petrelli, "This is an incredibly faith-filled experience. Sometimes I wonder what we were doing before we had this amazing opportunity!" To his daughter, Lauryn, 14, "This Holy Hour is really beautiful, especially the music!"

Tammy Brooks describes Hearts on Fire as "very heart-touching. It is so spiritual, and knowing the love the Lord has for us is just overwhelming."

Her high-school age daughters agree: Ashley describes the experience as "very spiritual," while Jessica finds it "really faith-filled."

But one need not be a teenager (or parent of one) to appreciate this extraordinary time of Adoration, prayer, and praise.

"What could be more beautiful," asks Kim Shackett, "than coming to Adoration and being present with the Lord, talking with him and hearing his voice? It is quite an experience; it even made me cry."

Megan Stark agrees: "What a wonderful event! I am so thankful we have it right here in our parish. I love Eucharistic Adoration, but Praise and Worship takes it to a whole new level. There is something so beautiful about singing to the Lord. I am so grateful that Father Giroux has brought this to our parish!"

But this experience is not limited to parishioners. Leagon Carlin, third-year college seminarian at the Josphinum, attended Hearts on Fire on March 3 and brought along some fellow seminarians who were visiting over college break.

Despite sub-zero temperatures and a two-hour round trip from his home in Plattsburgh, Leagon was clearly delighted to be at Hearts on Fire.

"It is amazing to see so many campers from



PHOTO BY FATHER BRYAN STITT

**Father Scott Belina, parochial vicar of St. Andre Bessette in Malone, carries the monstrance during the March 3 Hearts on Fire at Notre Dame Church. The parish sponsors this Eucharistic holy hour - which also features a bonfire and time for fellowship - each First Friday. Father Joseph Giroux, pastor, has invited people from around the region to join the gatherings. The next Hearts on First is set for April 7 at 7 p.m.**

Guggenheim here, and so many of their parents," he said. "It is inspiring to see so many people gathered to worship the Lord around the Eucharist, source and summit of our faith.

"How blessed we are that the Lord gave us this way to praise him," Carlin said. "This makes me want to be a priest more than ever."

Hearts on Fire is, indeed, for everyone, as St. Andre Bessette pastor, Father Joe Giroux, makes clear.

When the parish hosted a mission to close the Year of Mercy, there was a desire to offer something that would appeal to the young—and the discovery that it actually appealed to everyone!

"We scheduled a Praise and Worship Holy Hour

and asked Joey Izzo, a talented musician and long-time Guggenheim staff member, to come and lead music," Father Giroux said. "It went so well that we thought of offering it regularly, followed by a time of fellowship.

"Though the idea of a bonfire originated with an event for teens, folks of all ages enjoy it—even when cold weather forces us to gather around a virtual bonfire in the parish center," he said.

The parish hosted its first Hearts on Fire: Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with a Praise and Worship Holy Hour Dec. 2.

"We are blessed that Joey Izzo has committed to leading music," Father Giroux said. "I see teenagers who know this worship style from Guggenheim: no surprise there. But I am surprised and encouraged by the number of older parishioners who keep coming.

"It is powerful to watch this prayer bridging the generations," the pastor said. "Whole families come, too, which is a great thing to see."

How does this kind of prayer fit into the Catholic experience?

"Praise and Worship," says Father Giroux, "enriches our relationship with God and strengthens our participation in the Mass.

"This prayer is not a substitute for Sunday Mass," he said. "God wants more for us than one hour a week—so ought God not get more from us? He can't say to us in one hour on Sunday everything that is on his heart, nor can we say to him everything that is on our hearts in that one hour.

"Hearts on Fire offers another opportunity to be refreshed and renewed, and to give praise to the God who loves us," Father Giroux said.

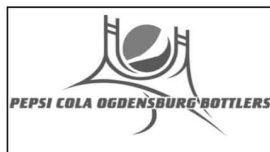
Glad as St. Andre's Parish is to be hosting this event, the pastor points out, "It has always been our hope that people from around the region feel free to come and take part in Hearts on Fire and to fellowship with us. We share the same faith and worship the same God; all are welcome!

"We especially hope that people from the area will join us April 7, which marks 'The Light is On for You' here at St. Andre's, (Notre Dame Church)," he said. "Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin Thursday evening, April 6, at 7 p.m. and will continue until 8 p.m. Friday. Confessions will be heard Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 and from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday.

"The Hearts on Fire Holy Hour from 7 p.m. to 8 will close the day, followed by a bonfire and fellowship," Father Giroux said.

## GO GREEN!

Receive the *NCC* in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world.  
E-mail [cward@dioogdensburg.org](mailto:cward@dioogdensburg.org)  
to sign up today.



Follow Pope Francis on  
Twitter!  
[www.twitter.com/Pontifex](http://www.twitter.com/Pontifex)

 #Pontifex

## SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Visit our website [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org) to subscribe online by clicking on "Subscribe by Credit Card", top right corner or call our office at 315-608-7556 to subscribe by phone

COMPLIMENTS OF

## FRANK J. WALTERS ASSOCIATES

**Consulting Actuaries  
for the  
Lay Employee and  
Priests Retirement Plans**

58-13 Seabury Street  
Flushing NY 11373-4825

Tel: (718) 779-8404  
Email: fjwainc@aol.com

Proud to serve the  
Diocese of Ogdensburg

**PINTO MUCENSKI HOOPER VANHOUSE & CO.,**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, P.C.

42 Market St.  
Potsdam, NY 13676

Phone: 315 265 6080  
Fax: 315 265 3530

301 Ford Street  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Phone: 315 393 7502  
Fax: 315 393 9231

443 S. Main St.  
Massena, NY 13662

Phone: 315 769 7430  
Fax: 315 769 8377

Members : American Institute Certified Public Accountant  
NYS Society of Certified Public Accountants

### IMMACULATE HEART CENTRAL SCHOOL MYSTERY PLAYERS LENT 2017: "Jesus Turners Falls Again"

Date	Place		Time
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.ihschools.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players](http://www.ihschools.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players)

### Plattsburgh Wholesale Homes

We process all VA loans



New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes

Located on 7109 State Route 9

Exit 39 of the Northway, across from the city beach of Plattsburgh

**518-563-1100 • www.pwmh.com**

WE ARE OPEN ON SUNDAYS 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
YOUR BEST DEAL CAN BE FOUND ON SUNDAY!!  
Special: 28x48 used Double, Excellent Condition.  
\$49,900 Delivery and Setup, no tax.

### Immaculate Heart Central School Watertown, New York

Is seeking applicants for the position of  
**ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL**  
For the School Year 2017-18

Applicants should:

- Possess a Master's Degree in Education and/or Education Administration and Supervision;
- Be a practicing Catholic;
- Have successful experience(s) in a Catholic school;
- Give evidence of administrative leadership skills in the areas of Catholic identity, instructional evaluation, management, promotion and maintenance of an effective learning environment and public relations.

A comprehensive salary and benefits package consistent with experience is provided.

To apply, please send cover letter, application, resume, transcripts and letters of recommendation, no later than March 30, 2017 to:

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ,  
Superintendent of Schools  
100 Elizabeth Street  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

BISHOP PRESIDES AT CELEBRATION MARCH 5 AT ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

# THE RITE OF ELECTION OF ELECTION

And Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the Rite of Election of Catechumens and Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates March 6 at St. Mary's Cathedral. The catechumens will receive all three of the Easter Sacraments - baptism, the Eucharist and confirmation - while the candidates have already been baptized. Dominic Natali, right, is a candidate from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Watertown. He and his sponsor, Richard Oakes, met with the bishop during the ceremony.



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

Heather Capen-Rock, a candidate from St. Peter's in Plattsburgh, right, is shown with her sponsor St. Joseph Sister Bethany Fitzgerald.



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

Father Scott Seymour, pastor of the Roman Catholic Community of St. Alexander and St. Joseph in Morrisonville, will welcome two catechumens and four candidates into the Catholic Church during the Easter Vigil at his parish. Charles Prather is one of the two who will be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist for the first time.



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Bishop LaValley greets candidate Victoria Gagnon of St. Mary's Cathedral.



PHOTO BY BETTY STEELE

The catechumens from parishes across the diocese listen to Bishop LaValley as he asks them to publically express their intention to be admitted to the Easter Sacraments before they are invited to sign the Book of the Elect.

# Funeral held Dec. 22 for Sr. Agnes G. Racette, SCSL, 97

PLATTSBURGH—A Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Agnes Gail Racette, 97, a Sister of Charity of St. Louis, was held Dec. 22 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Sister Agnes, formerly known as Sister Ursula of the Sacred Heart, died Dec. 19 at the Plattsburgh Rehabilitation and Nursing Home Center, (formerly Evergreen Valley Nursing Home). Burial was in St. Peter's Cemetery.

The third oldest in a family of four brothers and four sisters, she was born on March 30, 1919 to the late Louis A. and Ursula M. (Suprenant) Racette in Redford. She was predeceased by both her parents, her siblings and their spouses – Armand (Emma) Racette, Bernard (Florence) Racette, Roland (Vanessa) Racette, Rita (Gerald) Hahn, Genevieve (Donald) Strong, Bernadette (Myles) Hughes, Olive Burdo and sister-in-law Marian Racette.

Sister Agnes entered Sallaz

Academy in Redford, where she spent her high school years guided by the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis. She followed her call to the religious life and on Feb. 1, 1937 entered the Sisters of Charity of Saint Louis in Bienville, P.Q., made her First Profession on Aug. 25, 1939 and her Final Profession on Aug. 25, 1945 at Bienville, Levis, Quebec.

She obtained her Bachelor of Science Degree from the College of St. Rose in Albany and a Master of Religious Studies Degree at the University of Ottawa.

Her Mission Appointments were at Our Lady of Victory Academy, Plattsburgh; in Keeseville, in Valcartier, Quebec; and three communities in Connecticut: Brookfield, Cheshire and Oakville.

Sister Agnes served as a teacher as well as house bur-sar, superior, provincial councillor, and principal. On Nov. 20, 1999 she was one of

the inductees in the Clinton County Catholic Schools Wall of Acclaim.

Her special interests were oil painting, nursery school, caring for plants, recycling greeting cards to distribute to the residents at the nursing homes during the holiday season, Word Search, reading, and ministry of prayer.

In 1989 Sister Agnes retired in the Sisters Convent in Plattsburgh and on Nov. 23, 2009 sickness required that she make her home at the then Evergreen Valley Nursing Home in Plattsburgh.

Survivors include her brother Jerry Racette of Redford, brother-in-law Reginald Burdo of West Chazy, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and members of her Religious Community.

Donations in Sr. Agnes memory may be made to Our Lady of Victory Church.

## Rest in Peace

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

- March 15** – Rev. Charles J. McMorrow, 1898; Rev. Howard G. Goiser, 1984
- March 16** – Rev. William MacDermott, 1913; Msgr. Noel V. Zimmerman, 1994
- March 17** – Rev. Francis Parisian, 1955
- March 18** – Rev. Joseph Murtagh, 1928
- March 19** – Rev. Andronique Blaig-nier, 1958; Msgr. Thomas J. Robillard, 2009
- March 20** – Most Rev. Joseph H. Conroy, 1939



*Support And Pray  
For Vocations*

## Bishop's Schedule

**March 15** – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

**March 16** – 11 a.m., Priest Personnel Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

**March 18** – 11 a.m., St. Joseph's Day Mass followed by a luncheon at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

4 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Nativity Church in West Leyden

6 p.m., Mass at St. John's Church in Lyons Falls

**March 19** – 8:30 a.m., Mass at St. Stephen's Church in Croghan

10 a.m., Mass at St. James Minor Church in Carthage

4 p.m., Lewis Deanery Mission Mass at St. Peter's Church in Lowville

**March 20** – 7 p.m., Lewis Deanery Mission Mass at St. Peter's Church in Lowville

**March 21** – 7 p.m., Lewis Deanery Mission Mass at St. Peter's Church in Lowville

## CORRECTION

The name of one of the new acolytes in the photo published in the March 8 issue of the *NCC* was omitted. Michael J. Howley of St. Peter's Parish in Plattsburgh is among the deacon candidates installed as an acolyte Feb. 28. The *North Country Catholic* apologizes for the error.

## To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, PO Box 2446, Plattsburgh, NY, 12901; e-mail: terri-annyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

## Environmental Stewardship

### The two feet of Christian service

Imagine that you are sitting down along the river on a warm summer day, and suddenly you see a baby floating down the river. Immediately you run down to save the little one and call for help. But, when you look up and see more babies coming down the river, you begin to ask "Where and why are these babies in the river?"

This story reflects that love has two ways of responding to the needs of others as Christians.

One 'foot' is direct service in acts of charity to meet the baby's needs; the other 'foot' is social change in removing the causes of why babies are in the river in the first place.

Being good stewards of God's creation also has two feet...

One 'foot' could be adopting a "carb/on diet" during Lent to reduce the amount of CO2 that I contribute to air pollution as one way. The other 'foot' could be to look it from a global perspective as Pope Francis does in *Laudato Si*. "An interdependent world not only makes us more conscious of the negative effects of certain lifestyles and models of production and consumption which affect us all; more importantly, it motivates us to ensure that solutions are proposed from a global perspective, and not simply to defend the interests of a few countries. Interdependence obliges us to think of one world with a common plan... A global consensus is essential for confronting the deeper problems... Such a consensus could lead to... developing renewable and less polluting forms of energy, encouraging a more efficient use of energy." (#164)

Suggested Lenten Practice this week:

Learn more about the Paris Agreement, signed in 2016 by 194 countries to lower carbon emissions; contact your state and national legislators about your concerns as a 'steward,' and ask them to support policies that will guarantee a healthier quality of air for our children's children.

for  
everything  
that counts®



800.NBT.BANK nbtbank.com

Member FDIC



# Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg Report of Special Funds

## A Letter From The Diocesan Fiscal Officer

### A Message from Bishop Terry LaValley

Dear Friends in Christ:

I am pleased to provide this introduction to the attached *Report of Special Funds* for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016. As this report is presented to you, we complete our accounting of all the funds entrusted to the Diocese of Ogdensburg for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year. The monies highlighted in this report are those set aside for special purposes and investments.

Your personal sacrifice and generous support provides the needed resources for the Diocese of Ogdensburg to proclaim the Good News and minister faithfully to our sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the North Country.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Michael J. Tooley, our Diocesan Fiscal Officer, and his excellent staff for the competent manner in which they safeguard all the financial resources that have been entrusted to our Diocese, ensuring that they are used for the purposes intended. I am also thankful to the members of the Diocesan Finance Council and Investment Advisory Committee who meet regularly and offer their expert counsel and prudential judgment in service to this local Church.

All the members of our faith family are to be congratulated. The Diocese of Ogdensburg is blessed with so many faith-filled persons whose generous hearts make ours a vibrant Church. I ask the Blessed Mother to bring your cares and that of your loved ones to the bosom of her Son, Jesus. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers, I am

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg



The Diocesan Fiscal Office is pleased to present in the *North Country Catholic* the Report of Special Funds for the year ended June 30, 2016, along with comparisons to prior years. Special Funds are funds that the diocese holds for special purposes, such as Disability Insurance, Property and Liability Insurance, Missionary Projects, Priests Retirement, Lay Employees Retirement and Unemployment Insurance. Also, included in Special Funds are funds that belong to diocesan institutions which have been forwarded to the diocese for investment, such as the Diocesan Trust Fund and the Deposit & Loan Fund. All Special Funds statements for 2015-16 presented herein have been extracted from the audited financial report that was published in the November 30, 2016 issue of the *North Country Catholic*. The Report of Special Funds is presented here to provide the reader with the status of each of the special funds as of June 30, 2016, compared to other recent years.

#### DIOCESAN TRUST FUND

As of June 30, 2016, the Diocesan Trust Fund had principal assets with a cost of \$26,905,815 and a market value of \$27,440,514. The investment's portfolio had a rate of return of -2.6% in 2015-16. In the first six months of the 2016-17 fiscal year the Diocesan Trust Fund had a rate of return of .5%, and its market value is \$27,571,239 as of December 31, 2016. The diocese paid dividend distributions from the Fund in the amount of \$750,000 during the fiscal year, a rate of return of 2.73% on investments in the Fund.

#### DEPOSIT & LOAN FUND

The Deposit & Loan Fund had a decrease of \$887,857 in its net assets in 2015-16, to \$4,548,429. The interest rate to depositors is 3%, and the interest rate on loans is 4%. In the first six months of 2016-17 the Deposit & Loan Fund net assets decreased by \$201,729. As of June 30, 2016, total deposits in the Fund, including diocesan central office monies, totaled \$29,881,282, and the balance of loan principal due the Fund amounted to \$3,208,305.

#### PROTECTED SELF-INSURANCE PROGRAM

Expenses exceeded revenue in the Protected Self Insurance Program by \$112,954 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The program remains financially sound, as it has reserves for claims in the amount of \$2,526,143, and net assets of \$980,749 as of June 30, 2016. The Note Receivable of \$2,640,689 is monies forwarded to the program by excess insurance carriers to cover claims submitted by St. Mary's Church in Champlain for their fire loss last year. Claims Payable of \$2,564,152 is related to this loss.

#### LAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT FUND

The Lay Employees' Retirement Fund had a decrease in net assets of \$2,323,681 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, bringing its total net assets to \$25,081,575. The investment's portfolio had a rate of return of -2.7% in 2015-16. During the first six months of fiscal year 2016-17 fund investments saw a rate of return of .5%, bringing its market value to \$25,860,889. The Fund's July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation determined the Fund remains underfunded, seeing a decline from 85% to 77% in its funded status. The Plan is well funded as it relates to

covering obligations to current retirees (128% funded). The committee that administers this Plan has asked the Plan actuary for additional information to evaluate the ability of the Plan to remain viable over the long-term.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND

The Unemployment Insurance Fund had an increase in net assets of \$80,565 for the year ended June 30, 2016, with the increase driven by a decrease in claims paid (\$19,203 less in 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15). The financial health of the program will result in reduction in premium for participants in 2017-18.

#### MISSIONARY PROJECTS FUND

The Missionary Projects Fund had an increase in net assets in the amount of \$6,183 for the year ended June 30, 2016, bringing its net assets as of that date to \$125,449. The Diocese of Ogdensburg continues to provide monthly financial support to its former mission in Mollendo, Peru, as well as other missions in the world as deemed appropriate by Bishop LaValley. Moneys are given to support the U.S. Bishops' annual appeal for Latin America. Additionally, with Bishop LaValley's approval, financial support is given from the Fund to urgent need collections taken at times of global emergency/crisis.

#### DISABILITY INSURANCE FUND

The Disability Insurance Fund had a loss for the year ended June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$36,389. Claims paid in 2015-16 were \$11,292 lower than in 2014-15. \$100,000 was transferred from this Fund's net assets to help fund a diocesan grant to St. Mary's Cathedral. The fund balance of this fund as of June 30, 2016, is \$168,836.

#### PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND

The net assets of the Priests Retirement Fund decreased by \$1,078,531 in the year ended June 30, 2016. The Fund had losses on investments in the amount of \$391,181 in the fiscal year, a gain of \$545,500 was budgeted. Support from Christmas collections was \$281,879, as compared to \$275,896 the prior year, as the diocese maintained a contribution of 75% of parish Christmas collections to support the Fund. Modest ad hoc pension increases were approved for retired priests in 2015-16, and again in 2016-17.

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is available to answer any questions that may arise following review of the Report of Special Funds. Please feel free to call the Diocesan Fiscal Office at (315) 393-2920, ext. 1210, email at mtooley@rcdony.org or visit the Fiscal Office at 604 Washington Street in Ogdensburg during normal office hours.



Michael J. Tooley  
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

***Diocesan Trust Fund Principal***  
**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG**  
**January 1, 1977 - June 30, 2016**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PRINCIPAL**

	January 1, 1977 - June 30, 2014	July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016	January 1, 1977 - June 30, 2016
<b>Opening Balance</b>	\$0.00	\$26,600,564.31	\$27,427,007.76	\$0.00
Net Deposits	15,156,024.73	(98,143.06)	(337,604.69)	14,720,276.98
Net Realized Gain on Sales	17,814,985.18	2,232,765.75	372,977.40	20,420,728.33
Fees [Custody/Management]	(1,787,243.99)	(100,110.96)	(100,020.25)	(1,987,375.20)
Transfers to Pay Dividends	(9,258,573.31)	(751,243.27)	(751,251.31)	(10,761,067.89)
Net Adjustments*	<u>4,675,371.70</u>	<u>(456,825.01)</u>	<u>294,705.85</u>	<u>4,513,252.54</u>
<b>Closing Balance [Book]</b>	<u>\$26,600,564.31</u>	<u>\$27,427,007.76</u>	<u>\$26,905,814.76</u>	<u>\$26,905,814.76</u>
<b>Market Value</b>	<u>\$30,985,638.56</u>	<u>\$29,292,158.91</u>	<u>\$27,440,514.06</u>	<u>\$27,440,514.06</u>

\* includes income reinvested for fund, funds in transit, etc.

\*\* Assets June 30, 2015 at NBT Bank, Dimensional Fund Advisors & The Investment Fund for Foundations.

	<u>Book Value</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	<u>% Yield (Book)</u>	<u>% Yield (Market)</u>
<b>NBT BANK INVESTMENTS</b>				
Bonds & U.S. Government Agencies & Bond Funds	\$8,504,610.56	\$8,534,250.37	2.43%	255.00%
Equities & Equity Funds	13,945,278.51	14,379,536.99	1.22%	1.17%
Money Market	<u>272,147.69</u>	<u>272,147.69</u>	<u>0.27%</u>	<u>0.30%</u>
<b>TOTAL NBT BANK INVESTMENTS</b>	<u>\$22,722,036.76</u>	<u>\$23,185,935.05</u>	<u>1.50%</u>	<u>1.70%</u>
<b>DIMENSIONAL FUND ADVISORS</b>	<u>\$626,000.00</u>	<u>\$441,183.17</u>		
<b>THE INVESTMENT FUND FOR FOUNDATIONS</b>	<u>\$3,557,778.00</u>	<u>\$3,813,395.84</u>		
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<u>\$26,905,814.76</u>	<u>\$27,440,514.06</u>		

***Deposit & Loan Fund***  
**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG**  
**July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2016**

**BALANCE SHEET**

	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,646,925.04	\$2,112,911.67
Interest Receivable	108,034.96	132,557.88
Notes Receivable - Borrowers	3,208,305.39	2,457,884.24
Reserve	(707,386.00)	(414,091.00)
Investments	29,312,183.55	26,186,128.43
Investment - Diocesan Trust Fund	620,735.65	629,438.00
Due From Retirement Plan for Priests	600,000.00	600,000.00
Due From Operating Fund	(264,021.49)	38,163.29
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$34,524,777.10</u>	<u>\$31,742,992.51</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
Notes Payable - Depositors	\$29,881,281.77	\$26,306,706.43
Accrued Interest Payable	95,066.63	0.00
Fund Balance	<u>4,548,428.70</u>	<u>5,436,286.08</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<u>\$34,524,777.10</u>	<u>\$31,742,992.51</u>

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE**

	July 1, 2015 June 30, 2016	July 1, 2014 June 30, 2015
<b>INCOME</b>		
Interest on Notes Receivable	\$63,230.54	\$84,470.25
Investment Income	758,289.38	846,835.66
Unrealized Gain (Loss) On Investments	14,957.09	(1,286,921.78)
Realized Gain (Loss) On Investments	<u>(104,487.72)</u>	<u>644,399.12</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>\$731,989.29</u>	<u>\$288,783.25</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Interest on Notes Payable	\$838,831.11	\$735,731.81
Investment Management Fees	138,491.43	132,661.76
Fiscal Office Administration	148,978.00	130,860.00
Office Supplies	251.13	6,912.97
Office Equipment	0.00	0.00
Increase in Reserves	293,295.00	(52,847.00)
Loans Forgiven	0.00	0.00
Contributions	<u>200,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$1,619,846.67</u>	<u>\$953,319.54</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) - INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>(\$887,857.38)</u>	<u>(\$664,536.29)</u>



***Diocesan Protected Self-Insurance Program***  
**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG**  
**July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2016**

**BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS	June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	INCOME	July 1, 2012	July 1, 2013	July 1, 2014	July 1, 2015
	June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016		June 30, 2013	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016
Investments	\$836,563.82	\$960,173.53	\$915,535.13	\$902,877.32	Earned Premiums	\$1,607,191.88	\$1,680,823.46	\$1,703,064.51	\$1,781,428.48
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,735.28	4,742.56	5,000.00	5,000.00	Contributions	17,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Notes Receivable	800,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,640,689.35	Gain (Loss) On Investments (Net)	88,915.42	159,473.71	(8,668.40)	(10,421.81)
Accounts Receivable	150,105.69	132,476.18	(60,447.62)	101,719.56	Investment Income	39,626.46	30,823.92	23,725.88	24,506.59
Prepaid Insurance	0.00	0.00	11,986.00	11,986.00	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,752,733.76</b>	<b>\$1,871,121.09</b>	<b>\$1,718,121.99</b>	<b>\$1,795,513.26</b>
Due From Operating Fund	1,794,757.02	2,692,989.03	2,396,289.44	2,031,153.83	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
BPIC Member Share	171,300.00	207,164.00	243,134.00	245,370.00	Reinsurance Premiums and Bonds	\$818,064.57	\$877,727.44	\$914,661.89	\$929,238.40
Stock in NCRRG	132,247.84	132,247.84	132,247.84	132,247.84	Professional Services	52,227.12	10,297.70	6,565.52	7,815.02
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,889,709.65</b>	<b>\$4,129,793.14</b>	<b>\$3,643,744.79</b>	<b>\$6,071,043.90</b>	Gallagher Bassett Service Fee	22,876.00	23,475.00	24,622.00	24,333.00
					Adjustment in Reserves	869,260.86	555,331.36	400,320.18	(23,898.62)
					Self Insured Claims	189,468.03	424,351.81	722,221.82	702,438.79
					NYS Compensation Board Assessments	61,588.29	22,574.86	52,135.34	36,567.80
					Department Grants	49,108.52	92,824.86	44,215.81	48,254.13
					Grants	0.00	0.00	250,000.00	634.00
					Diocesan Administration	182,119.64	180,685.93	188,847.96	183,085.15
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>					<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$2,244,713.03</b>	<b>\$2,187,268.96</b>	<b>\$2,603,590.52</b>	<b>\$1,908,467.67</b>
Claims Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,564,152.14	<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) - INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>(\$491,979.27)</b>	<b>(\$316,147.87)</b>	<b>(\$885,468.53)</b>	<b>(\$112,954.41)</b>
Unearned Insurance Premium	\$0.00	\$900.00	0.00	0.00					
Reserves For Claims	1,594,389.94	2,149,721.30	2,550,041.48	2,526,142.86					
Fund Balance	2,295,319.71	1,979,171.84	1,093,703.31	980,748.90					
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$3,889,709.65</b>	<b>\$4,129,793.14</b>	<b>\$3,643,744.79</b>	<b>\$6,071,043.90</b>					

***Diocesan Protected Self-Insurance Program - Claim Payment and Reserve Experience***  
**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG**  
**As of June 30, 2016**

YEAR	CLAIMS	RESERVES	TOTAL	Losses In Excess of Specific Retention	Losses In Excess of Aggregate Retention	Net Claims	Maximum Amount Single Claim	Maximum Amount Aggregate Claims
XLI - 2015-16	\$139,878.88	\$92,329.18	\$232,208.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	232,208.06	\$250,000.00	\$0.00
XL - 2014-15	4,935,265.24	4,424,586.82	9,359,852.06	8,610,000.00	0.00	749,852.06	250,000.00	0.00
XXXIX - 2013-14	488,597.75	83,869.29	572,467.04	0.00	0.00	572,467.04	250,000.00	0.00
XXXVIII - 2012-13	325,799.87	62,311.26	388,111.13	0.00	0.00	388,111.13	250,000.00	0.00
XXXVII - 2011-12	369,558.89	21,845.46	391,404.35	0.00	0.00	391,404.35	250,000.00	0.00
XXXVI - 2010-11	340,679.36	263,148.45	603,827.81	60,000.00	0.00	543,827.81	250,000.00	0.00
XXXV - 2009-10	152,437.37	12,450.68	164,888.05	0.00	0.00	164,888.05	250,000.00	0.00
XXXIV - 2008-09	605,382.74	0.00	605,382.74	0.00	0.00	605,382.74	250,000.00	850,000.00
XXXIII - 2007-08	319,889.19	9,627.13	329,516.32	0.00	0.00	329,516.32	250,000.00	850,000.00
XXXII - 2006-07	192,232.42	0.00	192,232.42	0.00	0.00	192,232.42	250,000.00	815,000.00
XXXI - 2005-2006	525,723.09	76,611.76	602,334.85	140,000.00	0.00	462,334.85	250,000.00	815,000.00
XXX - 2004-2005	726,960.73	0.00	726,960.73	92,089.73	0.00	634,871.00	250,000.00	815,000.00
XXIX - 2003-2004	690,310.04	162,290.48	852,600.52	276,847.00	0.00	575,753.52	250,000.00	780,000.00
XXVIII - 2002-2003	738,025.08	205,863.87	943,888.95	449,295.37	0.00	494,593.58	250,000.00	750,000.00
XXVII - 2001-2002	275,460.43	0.00	275,460.43	22,192.92	0.00	253,267.51	125,000.00	525,000.00
XXVI - 2000-2001	299,143.47	0.00	299,143.47	0.00	0.00	299,143.47	125,000.00	500,000.00
XXV - 1999-2000	302,681.02	0.00	302,681.02	0.00	0.00	302,681.02	125,000.00	500,000.00
XXIV - 1998-1999	329,653.96	0.00	329,653.96	0.00	0.00	329,653.96	125,000.00	500,000.00
XXIII - 1997-1998	551,727.55	0.00	551,727.55	105,084.53	0.00	446,643.02	125,000.00	500,500.00
XXII - 1996-1997	478,202.02	0.00	478,202.02	98,570.05	0.00	379,631.97	125,000.00	583,500.00
XXI - 1995-1996	301,341.20	0.00	301,341.20	0.00	0.00	301,341.20	125,000.00	550,000.00
XX - 1994-1995	754,551.64	38,317.91	792,869.55	293,901.70	0.00	498,967.85	125,000.00	475,000.00
XIX - 1993-1994	1,012,518.76	264,552.14	1,277,070.90	676,697.89	135,333.91	465,039.10	125,000.00	450,000.00
XVIII - 1992-1993	326,552.77	0.00	326,552.77	0.00	0.00	326,552.77	75,000.00	355,000.00
XVII - 1991-1992	233,464.19	0.00	233,464.19	0.00	0.00	233,464.19	75,000.00	355,000.00
XVI - 1990-1991	92,322.17	0.00	92,322.17	0.00	0.00	92,322.17	75,000.00	355,000.00
XV - 1989-1990	190,455.56	0.00	190,455.56	0.00	0.00	190,455.56	75,000.00	330,000.00
XIV - 1988-1989	175,616.44	0.00	175,616.44	0.00	0.00	175,616.44	75,000.00	330,000.00
XIII - 1987-1988	217,603.90	0.00	217,603.90	38,761.50	0.00	178,842.40	75,000.00	300,000.00
XII - 1986-1987	189,446.09	0.00	189,446.09	0.00	0.00	189,446.09	75,000.00	300,000.00
XI - 1985-1986	56,964.54	0.00	56,964.54	0.00	0.00	56,964.54	75,000.00	260,000.00
X - 1984-1985	160,033.76	0.00	160,033.76	0.00	0.00	160,033.76	75,000.00	260,000.00
IX - 1983-1984	109,583.65	0.00	109,583.65	0.00	0.00	109,583.65	75,000.00	260,000.00
VIII - 1982-1983	184,851.55	0.00	184,851.55	18,990.00	0.00	165,861.55	75,000.00	260,000.00
VII - 1981-1982	103,135.97	0.00	103,135.97	0.00	0.00	103,135.97	75,000.00	260,000.00
VI - 1980-1981	323,071.44	0.00	323,071.44	112,199.00	0.00	210,872.44	75,000.00	225,000.00
V - 1979-1980	1,030,633.39	434,194.22	1,464,827.61	1,110,967.94	141,859.67	212,000.00	75,000.00	212,000.00
IV - 1978-1979	40,498.05	0.00	40,498.05	0.00	0.00	40,498.05	75,000.00	150,000.00
III - 1977-1978	153,929.85	0.00	153,929.85	36,878.52	0.00	117,051.33	50,000.00	150,000.00
II - 1976-1977	61,216.79	0.00	61,216.79	0.00	0.00	61,216.79	50,000.00	150,000.00
I - 1975-1976	63,402.99	0.00	63,402.99	0.00	0.00	63,402.99	50,000.00	150,000.00
	<b>\$18,428,924.92</b>	<b>\$6,059,669.47</b>	<b>\$24,488,594.39</b>	<b>\$12,142,476.15</b>	<b>\$277,193.58</b>	<b>\$12,068,924.66</b>		

**Diocesan Lay Employees' Retirement Fund**  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG  
July 1, 2012-June 30, 2016

**BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014	June 30, 2013
Accrued Income	\$15,079.98	\$14,734.62	\$9,063.36	\$41,501.48
Accounts Receivable	16,848.28	36,274.78	17,765.98	27,721.89
Cash & Investments	<u>26,053,449.19</u>	<u>28,222,276.89</u>	<u>29,928,554.01</u>	<u>28,396,266.72</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$26,085,377.45</b>	<b>\$28,273,286.29</b>	<b>\$29,955,383.35</b>	<b>\$26,465,490.09</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>				
Due for Office Expense	\$422,756.86	\$400,506.20	\$418,149.30	\$364,646.26
Deferred Revenue	581,046.00	467,525.00	316,222.00	413,372.76
Fund Balance	<u>25,081,574.59</u>	<u>27,405,255.09</u>	<u>29,221,012.05</u>	<u>25,687,471.05</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$26,085,377.45</b>	<b>\$28,273,286.29</b>	<b>\$29,955,383.35</b>	<b>\$26,465,490.09</b>

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**

	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016	July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015	Sept. 1, 1967 - June 30, 2015	Sept. 1, 1967 - June 30, 2016
<b>ADDITIONS</b>				
Employer Contributions	\$1,008,153.56	\$965,921.96	\$22,114,050.28	\$23,122,203.84
Gain (Loss) on Investments (net)	(966,693.35)	(764,347.87)	18,883,616.50	17,916,923.11
Investment Income	<u>450,336.36</u>	<u>628,186.42</u>	<u>17,522,533.94</u>	<u>17,972,870.30</u>
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>\$491,796.53</b>	<b>\$829,760.51</b>	<b>\$58,520,200.72</b>	<b>\$59,011,997.25</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>				
Benefit Payments	\$2,534,946.00	\$2,387,068.83	\$26,120,408.52	\$28,655,354.52
Administration Expense	280,531.03	258,448.64	4,994,126.49	5,274,657.52
Loss on Security Deposit	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>410.62</u>	<u>410.62</u>
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>\$2,815,477.03</b>	<b>\$2,645,517.47</b>	<b>\$31,114,945.63</b>	<b>\$33,930,422.66</b>
<b>NET (ADDITIONS MINUS DEDUCTIONS)</b>	<b>\$(2,323,680.50)</b>	<b>\$(1,815,756.96)</b>	<b>\$27,405,255.09</b>	<b>\$25,081,574.59</b>
<b>CASH &amp; INVESTMENTS</b>				
	<u>Book Value</u>	<u>Market Value</u>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$355,000.81	\$355,000.81		
U.S. Government & Agency Obligations	\$2,552,211.42	\$2,626,492.85		
Corporate Obligations	291,841.90	291,460.00		
Equities	10,530,298.45	10,959,573.27		
Manning & Napier Advisors Investment Funds	6,783,487.08	6,512,955.51		
Dimensional Fund Advisors - Emerging Markets	1,034,250.00	750,648.45		
The Investment Fund for Foundations - Multi-Asset Fund	3,795,925.00	4,055,268.30		
The Investment Fund for Foundations - Real Opportunities Fund	<u>377,908.00</u>	<u>502,050.00</u>		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$25,720,922.66</b>	<b>\$26,053,449.19</b>		

**Diocesan Lay Employees' Retirement Fund**  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG  
Annual Amounts (Book and Market Value) of Investments

	Book Value	Market Value
August 31, 1968	\$32,855.00	\$33,344.00
August 31, 1969	\$105,040.00	\$97,828.00
August 31, 1970	\$167,236.00	\$144,704.00
August 31, 1971	\$244,322.00	\$248,784.00
August 31, 1972	\$328,375.00	\$341,430.00
August 31, 1973	\$397,979.00	\$357,121.00
August 31, 1974	\$442,091.00	\$374,519.00
August 31, 1975	\$485,652.00	\$502,393.00
August 31, 1976	\$651,402.00	\$661,536.00
August 31, 1977	\$746,759.00	\$758,276.00
June 30, 1978	\$907,676.00	\$873,290.00
June 30, 1979	\$1,091,077.00	\$1,066,747.00
June 30, 1980	\$1,333,304.00	\$1,240,533.00
June 30, 1981	\$1,637,330.00	\$1,468,851.00
June 30, 1982	\$1,966,375.00	\$1,685,948.00
June 30, 1983	\$2,332,800.00	\$2,766,951.00
June 30, 1984	\$2,866,861.00	\$2,832,430.00
June 30, 1985	\$3,314,597.00	\$3,748,256.00
June 30, 1986	\$4,200,610.00	\$5,189,275.00
June 30, 1987	\$5,686,447.00	\$6,363,937.00
June 30, 1988	\$6,280,104.00	\$6,713,049.00
June 30, 1989	\$6,849,652.00	\$7,569,606.00
June 30, 1990	\$7,716,476.00	\$8,434,613.00
June 30, 1991	\$8,285,622.00	\$8,951,313.00
June 30, 1992	\$9,025,501.00	\$10,401,337.00
June 30, 1993	\$11,107,406.00	\$11,674,275.00
June 30, 1994	\$11,653,168.00	\$12,127,575.00
June 30, 1995	\$12,338,738.00	\$13,734,082.00
June 30, 1996	\$13,031,227.00	\$15,645,877.00
June 30, 1997	\$14,013,278.75	\$18,380,013.00
June 30, 1998	\$15,646,840.00	\$21,676,585.00
June 30, 1999	\$16,243,414.85	\$24,534,082.00
June 30, 2000	\$18,392,037.89	\$27,831,968.70
June 30, 2001	\$21,013,619.31	\$23,928,040.75
June 30, 2002	\$21,362,600.49	\$20,539,548.82
June 30, 2003	\$19,524,487.79	\$20,622,312.68
June 30, 2004	\$22,017,665.13	\$22,691,213.55
June 30, 2005	\$22,914,541.47	\$24,896,701.34
June 30, 2006	\$24,356,734.29	\$27,020,394.56
June 30, 2007	\$25,561,684.80	\$30,676,999.67
June 30, 2008	\$27,564,499.16	\$28,332,067.06
June 30, 2009	\$23,030,415.60	\$20,674,813.27
June 30, 2010	\$21,625,470.32	\$21,322,358.36
June 30, 2011	\$22,640,200.15	\$25,259,932.71
June 30, 2012	\$23,074,757.16	\$24,490,220.68
June 30, 2013	\$23,845,778.35	\$26,396,266.72
June 30, 2014	\$25,462,693.87	\$29,928,554.01
June 30, 2015	\$26,826,021.72	\$28,222,276.89
June 30, 2016	\$25,720,922.66	\$26,053,449.19

**Diocesan Unemployment Insurance Fund**  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG  
July 1, 2014 -June 30, 2016

**BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
Money Market	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investments (DTF)	408,993.98	414,727.84
Due From Operating Fund	(43,387.17)	(129,686.39)
Prepaid Expenses	3,135.00	3,135.00
Accrued Interest Receivable	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$368,741.81</b>	<b>\$288,176.45</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
Claims Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reserve For Claims*	0.00	0.00
Fund Balance	<u>368,741.81</u>	<u>288,176.45</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$368,741.81</b>	<b>\$288,176.45</b>

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE**

	July 1, 2015 June 30, 2016	July 1, 2014 June 30, 2015
<b>INCOME</b>		
Unemployment Premiums	\$111,797.59	\$123,110.60
Gain (Loss) on Investments (Net)	(5,733.86)	(20,220.72)
Investment Income	11,101.22	10,549.78
Transfer from Other Funds	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$117,164.95</b>	<b>\$113,439.66</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Claims Paid	\$14,403.83	\$33,607.23
Consultant	6,270.00	6,270.00
Diocesan Administration	15,925.76	14,565.23
Transfer to Other Funds	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$36,599.59</b>	<b>\$54,442.46</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) - INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$80,565.36</b>	<b>\$58,997.20</b>

*Missionary Projects/Ogdensburg Peruvian Apostolate*

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2016

<u>FUND BALANCE - JULY 1</u>	<u>July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016</u>	<u>July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015</u>
	\$119,265.72	\$114,202.46
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Diocesan OPA Collection	\$43,801.24	\$35,236.39
Missionary Coop Collection	11,327.40	0.00
Parish OPA Donations	0.00	0.00
Interest	3,857.31	3,738.28
Special Gifts	0.00	0.00
General Donations	0.00	76.75
Bequests	6,018.43	0.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>65,004.38</u>	<u>39,051.42</u>
<b>TOTAL JULY 1 FUND BALANCE AND RECEIPTS</b>	\$184,270.10	\$153,253.88
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Office Supplies	\$486.32	\$356.84
Advertising	976.75	0.00
Budget Grants and Donations	57,357.84	33,631.32
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>58,820.91</u>	<u>33,988.16</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30-</b>	<u>\$125,449.19</u>	<u>\$119,265.72</u>

*Diocesan Health\*/Disability Benefits Program*

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2016

<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>			<u>STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES</u>			
	<u>June 30, 2016</u>	<u>June 30, 2015</u>		<u>July 1, 2015 June 30, 2016</u>	<u>July 1, 2014 June 30, 2015</u>	
<b>ASSETS</b>			<b>INCOME</b>			
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$48.00	Premiums	\$124,380.00	\$94,800.00	
Cash & Money Market Funds	5,915.26	6,055.05	Retiree Drug Subsidy	0.00	0.00	
Investment in Deposit & Loan Fund	0.00	0.00	Gain (Loss) on Investments (Net)	0.00	0.00	
Due From Operating Funds	157,920.39	194,121.22	Investment Income	0.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$163,835.65</u>	<u>\$200,224.27</u>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>\$124,380.00</u>	<u>\$94,800.00</u>	
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Reserve for Claims**	\$0.00	\$0.00	Claims Paid	\$30,126.94	\$41,419.19	
Deferred Revenue	0.00	0.00	Administrative Fees	0.00	0.00	
Due To Operating Funds	0.00	0.00	Health Insurance - Retired Priests	4,861.32	14,910.56	
Fund Balance	163,835.65	200,224.27	Fiscal Office Administration	25,780.36	27,620.29	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>	<u>\$163,835.65</u>	<u>\$200,224.27</u>	Transfers to Other Programs	100,000.00	0.00	
			<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>\$160,768.62</u>	<u>\$83,950.04</u>	
			<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) - INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>(\$36,388.62)</u>	<u>\$10,849.96</u>	

\*Self insured health insurance program was terminated August 31, 1997

*Priests' Retirement Fund*

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

July 1, 2014-June 30, 2016

<u>FUND BALANCE - JULY 1</u>	<u>July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016</u>	<u>July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015</u>
	\$10,668,340.50	\$11,069,001.97
<b>ADDITIONS</b>		
Share of Christmas Collection	\$281,878.71	\$275,895.79
Diocesan Assessment	74,278.00	77,325.00
Donations in Lieu of Christmas Collection	10,583.68	10,721.36
Bequests and Donations	200.04	393,051.90
Investment Income	184,507.76	278,902.91
Gain (Loss) on Investments (Net)	<u>(391,181.13)</u>	<u>(315,695.52)</u>
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>160,267.06</b>	<b>720,201.44</b>
<b>TOTAL JULY 1 FUND BALANCE AND ADDITIONS</b>	<b>\$10,828,607.56</b>	<b>\$11,789,203.41</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>		
Payments to Retired Priests	\$678,910.16	\$793,533.58
Retired Priests' Health Insurance	233,847.99	202,137.08
Diocesan Administration	<u>126,040.02</u>	<u>125,192.25</u>
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>1,238,798.17</b>	<b>1,120,862.91</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30</b>	<b><u>\$9,589,809.39</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,668,340.50</u></b>

<b>ADDITIONS</b>	<b>1968-2016</b>
Share of Christmas Collection	\$7,832,025.34
Assessment Per Priest	1,487,279.70
Diocesan Assessment	379,833.44
Donations in Lieu of Christmas Collection	394,307.41
Bequests and Donations	2,798,865.36
Investment Income	6,725,860.03
Net Realized & Unrealized Gains on Investments	10,111,331.87
Self-Insurance Fund Grant	90,000.00
Loan Account Interest	119,838.70
Loan Account Grant	<u>30,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>\$29,969,341.85</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>	
Payments to Retired Priests	\$16,136,259.16
Retired Priests Health Insurance	2,542,843.36
Diocesan Administration	<u>1,700,429.94</u>
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b><u>20,379,532.46</u></b>
<b>FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2016</b>	<b><u>\$9,589,809.39</u></b>

**PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND ASSETS**

	<u>Book Value</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - NBT Bank	\$423,619.35	\$423,619.35
Accounts Receivable	\$5,446.26	\$5,446.26
Due to Operating Fund	(1,813,741.14)	(1,813,741.14)
Interest Receivable	5,646.30	5,646.30
Stocks	4,287,391.25	4,415,821.21
Bonds and U.S. Government Obligations	1,484,311.73	1,520,866.63
Manning & Napier Funds	3,123,062.33	3,097,091.54
The Investment Fund for Foundations: Multi-Asset Fund	1,417,875.00	1,479,444.37
The Investment Fund for Foundations: Real Opportunities Fund	147,449.00	195,887.00
Dimensional Fund Advisors - Emerging Markets Social Core Equities	<u>364,750.00</u>	<u>259,727.87</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS - JUNE 30, 2016</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,445,810.08</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,589,809.39</u></b>

*Priests' Retirement Fund*

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

The Fund Balance has Accumulated as Follows:

1968	\$17,500.80
1969	10,330.23
1970	20,579.08
1971	19,265.60
1972	27,914.97
1972-1973	5,070.97
1973-1974	18,329.14
1974-1975	55,740.80
1975-1976	44,465.90
1976-1977	36,976.48
1977-1978	54,045.99
1978-1979	66,581.55
1979-1980	133,679.84
1980-1981	113,242.58
1981-1982	22,235.30
1982-1983	99,793.90
1983-1984	173,959.28
1984-1985	30,889.45
1985-1986	153,452.78
1986-1987	111,359.14
1987-1988	204,214.85
1988-1989	188,566.80
1989-1990	226,548.99
1990-1991	143,441.06
1991-1992	445,497.41
1992-1993	272,881.17
1993-1994	463,490.02
1994-1995	491,107.10
1995-1996	960,060.25
1996-1997	1,021,061.17
1997-1998	408,417.16
1998-1999	829,004.36
1999-2000	719,110.30
2000-2001	660,809.56
2001-2002	(1,184,839.10)
2002-2003	330,280.74
2003-2004	1,009,257.04
2004-2005	693,492.98
2005-2006	722,134.05
2006-2007	1,178,509.12
2007-2008	(1,037,244.76)
2008-2009	(1,814,310.57)
2009-2010	92,956.71
2010-2011	1,351,134.50
2011-2012	(403,955.22)
2012-2013	632,958.28
2013-2014	1,249,004.22
2014-2015	(400,661.47)
2015-2016	<u>(1,078,531.11)</u>

**FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2016****\$9,589,809.39**

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

**Bishops; U.S. must address needs of immigrants, show compassion**  
WASHINGTON (CNS) -- While one Catholic archbishop was urging a fix to the country's immigration laws before a Catholic crowd, another was pleading with the government not to separate mothers from their children while in immigration detention, and yet another, a cardinal, was accompanying a grandfather to an appointment that could have resulted in his deportation. Catholic Church leaders in the U.S. spent the week of March 6-10 trying to allay fears, urging compassion, not just from the government from those who are not seeing "God's creation" when they malign unauthorized immigrants. "In the church, we say, 'Somos familia!' Immigrants are our family. We say, 'En las buenas y en las malas.' In the good times and in the bad. We always stay together," said Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, in a March 8 address to those who attended the Napa Institute's Washington conference. "That is why the church has always been at the center of our debates about immigration. And we always will be. We cannot leave our family alone, without a voice." Archbishop Gomez, vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said immigration is the "human rights test of our time" and said that having a policy that solely focuses on deportations without addressing reform of the immigration system risks causing "a human rights nightmare."

**Cardinal Dolan op-ed urges passage of nationwide school choice bill**  
NEW YORK (CNS) -- Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York urged President Donald Trump to follow through on a recent call for legislation that funds school choice for disadvantaged youth nationwide. Writing in a column for The Wall Street Journal March 9, Cardinal Dolan said he hoped that the president would "push Congress to make scholarship tax credits available to working-class families." The cardinal called for rapid action in Congress so that families can benefit as soon as possible from having a choice on where to send their children to school. Seventeen states already have scholarship tax credit programs and Cardinal Dolan said children in the remaining states "deserve the same opportunities." Under a nationwide tax credit program parents can opt to send their children to private schools, the cardinal wrote, noting that 97 percent of Catholic high school students in the Archdiocese of New York graduate in four years and 95 percent attend college. The column cited the benefits of one such program, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship program, for 300 students who attend St. Andrew Catholic School in Orlando, Florida, which Trump visited March 3 to announce his support for school choice. Statewide, nearly 98,000 children from low-income families attend parochial or private schools under the program.

## Bishop Moynihan dies; called 'true shepherd,' example of 'discipleship'

By Katherine Long  
Catholic News Service

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (CNS) -- Retired Bishop James M. Moynihan, who served as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse from 1995 to 2009, died March 6. He was 84.

### Funeral held Friday for Bishop Cunningham's predecessor in Syracuse

New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan presided at the funeral Mass March 10 at Immaculate Conception Church with Bishop Robert J. Cunningham, Syracuse's tenth bishop, and Bishop Terry R. LaValley among the concelebrants. Burial followed in the cathedral crypt.

"We thank him for a lifetime of service to the church and in a very special way for his service to the Diocese of Syracuse," said Bishop Cunningham in announcing the death of Bishop Moynihan. "We pray now that the evening has come, the fever of his life is over, his work is done and that God will give him a safe lodging, holy rest and peace forever."

A native of Rochester, Bishop Moynihan was ordained and installed as the bishop of Syracuse May 29, 1995. He retired April 21, 2009.

Bishop Moynihan's 14 years as Syracuse's bishop included shining moments and dark days, from spearheading some of the most successful fundraising campaigns in the diocese's history and supporting the sainthood cause of a local Franciscan sister to implementing parish reconfigurations and addressing the clergy sexual abuse crisis.

A staunch supporter of life at every stage, Bishop Moynihan spoke out often against

abortion. Nearly seven months after his installation, he led a prayerful procession of more than 300 people to Planned Parenthood in Syracuse; he was the first Syracuse bishop to lead such a procession, according to a diocesan release.

In 1999, he participated with nearly 30 others in a silent vigil on the steps of the Onondaga County Courthouse to protest the possible use of the death penalty in the sentencing of James "Jeff" Cahill.

Bishop Moynihan oversaw the most successful fundraising campaign in the diocese's history, raising more than \$42 million through the Heritage Campaign.

More than \$52 million was generated over the 14 annual HOPE Appeals during his tenure. The Bishop's Education Fund accrued \$1.2 million by his retirement.

His 2001 pastoral letter, "Equipping the Saints for the Work of Ministry," outlined the "institutional and structural challenges" facing the diocese, including the shrinking number of priests and religious and the aging and declining local population, as well as responses to those challenges, including creation of pastoral care areas, parish mergers and closures, and increased lay responsibility.

In 2007, Bishop Moynihan announced parish reconfiguration plans for the diocese that will ultimately lead to the closure of some 40 churches and the merging of others in the years to follow.

This pastoral planning continues in the Diocese of Syracuse today.

Bishop Moynihan led the local church as the national clergy sexual abuse crisis shook the faithful and hit

home. The diocese implemented the standards of the U.S. Conference of Catholic



Bishop  
Moynihan

Bishops' "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" and put in place a child and youth protection policy; mandatory abuse prevention training and background checks for all clergy, religious, employees, and volunteers who work directly with chil-

dren; a victim assistance coordinator; a safe environment officer and committee; and a diocesan review board tasked with determining the credibility of allegations of abuse.

In 2003, Bishop Moynihan held a healing service at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Oswego, the first of several such services.

In 2004, he issued a report on abuse by clergy in the diocese stating, among other statistics, that 16 diocesan priests had been permanently removed from ministry.

Bishop Moynihan was a champion for St. Marianne Cope's cause for sainthood. The Franciscan nun lived in and ministered throughout central New York before moving to Hawaii in 1883 to care for patients with Hansen's disease, also known as leprosy. She died in 1918. Her remains were moved to Syracuse in 2005 as her cause for canonization unfolded. She was canonized in 2012.

"Bishop Moynihan's support to Mother Marianne's cause is integral to her being [elevated] to the status of Blessed Marianne today," the late Franciscan Sister Mary Laurence Hanley, advocate for the cause, told The Catholic Sun, Syracuse diocesan newspaper, in 2009."

# Bishop react to bill to replace health care law

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Calling health care "a vital concern for nearly every person in the country," the U.S. Catholic bishops said March 8 they will be reviewing closely a measure introduced in the House March 6 to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

"Discussions on health care reform have reached a level of intensity which is making open and fruitful dialogue difficult, even while most people recognize that improvements to the health care system are needed to ensure a life-giving and sustainable model for both the present and future," said a letter to House members signed by the chairmen of four U.S. bishops' committees.

"Given the magnitude and importance of the task before us, we call for a new spirit of cooperation for the sake of the common good," they wrote.

The letter was signed by

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman, Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty; Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman, Committee on Migration.

Main provisions of the new House bill include: eliminating the mandate that most individuals have health insurance and putting in its place a new system of tax credits; expanding Health Savings Accounts; repealing Medicaid expansion and transitioning to a "per capita allotment"; and prohibiting health insurers from denying coverage to patients based on pre-existing conditions.

It also eliminates any government subsidies, such as tax credits, for health plans

that cover abortion (except in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother); and blocking about \$500 million in federal funding for Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest single abortion provider.

In their letter, the Catholic bishops called on lawmakers to consider moral criteria as they debate the measure, including: respect for life and dignity; honoring conscience rights; access for all; a plan that is "truly affordable ... comprehensive and high quality."

The U.S. bishops "continue to reject the inclusion of abortion as part of a national health care benefit," they said. "No health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion."

Hyde Amendment protections, they said, "must extend to any relevant health

care plan in order to prevent federal funding of abortion, and federal resources -- including tax credits -- must not be used to assist consumers in the purchase of health care plans that cover abortion." Such protections should not be "a temporary fix or future promise," they said.

The 41-year-old Hyde Amendment, which has to be approved each year as part of the budget for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, prohibits tax dollars from paying for abortion except in cases of rape, incest or threat to the woman's life.

Regarding conscience rights, the committee chairmen said, "Congress should expressly provide conscience protections as part of any health care plan for those who participate in the delivery or coverage of health care services."

They also said that "any modification of the Medicaid

system as part of health care reform should prioritize improvement and access to quality care over cost savings."

The U.S. Catholic Church, the bishops said, "remains committed to the ideals of universal and affordable health care, and to the pursuit of those ideals in a manner that honors" the moral criteria they outlined.

Health care is not just another issue, but a "fundamental issue of human life and dignity" and "a critical component of the Catholic Church's ministry," they added.

The U.S. bishops have advocated for universal and affordable health care for decades and they supported the general goal of the Affordable Care Act, which was passed in 2010, but the bishops ultimately opposed the law because it expanded the federal role in abortion and failed to expand health care protections to immigrants.



## McKinnon Benefits Group

A POINT GUARD ADVISORS COMPANY

A premier agency proudly serving the needs of the Diocese since 1997.

Offering a wealth of services including :

- Employee Benefits
- Wealth Management
- Actuary Services
- Tax Preparation
- Business Valuation
- Human Resource Services
- Medicare Consulting:
  - Part C - Advantage Plans
  - Part D - Prescription Plans
  - Medigap - Supplemental Plans

Plan. Innovate. Execute.



R.K. McKinnon & Associates, Inc., dba McKinnon Benefits Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Point Guard Advisors.  
www.PointGuardAdvisors.com

110 Buchmans Close Circle, Fayetteville, NY 13066  
P: 315-425-7111 • F: 315-479-9774

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC



Sharing the Good News of the Diocese of Ogdensburg since 1946



Subscribe to the *North Country Catholic* today online at our website: [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)

Call our office at 315-608-7556



*Serving the insurance needs  
of the  
Diocese of Ogdensburg*

## ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Allowing Jesus to quench our thirst

"I thirst" was the anguished cry of Jesus on the Cross. As he died for love of all humankind, so His pain was then and still is intense from the rejection of his love.

In every room of the many convents of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, the words "I thirst" are written on one wall.

Their ministry is based on that truth.

In today's Gospel, "I thirst" is the theme. Jesus breaks the law to speak to a Samaritan woman who had come to Jacob's well to draw water. She was a passionate woman who had tried every kind of pleasure, but none had satisfied.

What a surprise, when Jesus', tired, hungry, and

thirsty, asks her for a drink of water.

As He talks, He ignores her hostility, aware that, in this unexpected encounter, the Father has provided him with an opportunity for piercing the heart of this sinful woman with His love.

Jesus suggests that he can give her living water that is far superior to anything she had ever

tasted.

Certainly her five husbands (plus her newest lover) haven't brought her what she is really looking for. We know that she had tried cheap love, and we presume she was no stranger to intoxication, power, and money!

This isn't a gentle lady

who comes to draw water from the well, but a toughened cynic. No wonder she is rude to this travel-dusty Jew, whom she is sure will avoid her with downcast eyes. Jews despised Samaritans who worshipped God on the wrong mountain. But Jesus doesn't follow the accepted prejudice!

Jesus forgets his own needs, and offers this woman living water, spiritual grace. Incredible!

Finding her heart curious and open to this miraculous water, he proceeds to raise her vision. He asks her to go back and bring her husband to the well with her.

Of course, this is the turning point of the story. When he confronts her with the truth, she could have flounced off in righteous indignation and denial - but she doesn't. In humility, she accepts the reality of her

MARCH 19

Third Sunday of Lent

READINGS

Exodus 17:3-7

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42

sordid life. Because of her humility, Jesus floods her soul with grace. Dropping her bucket, she runs back to spread the good news. "I've found the Messiah". And she had!

Lent is a time for us to let Jesus satisfy our thirst. Like that woman, we too have tried the wrong kinds of water to quench our thirst for happiness, satisfaction, and peace of mind without really finding it.

Now is the time for us to find real joy and satisfaction in letting the Lord fill

us with the grace of the season.

Like her, we will find that our joy is greatest when we share that gift with others—joining in a study or prayer group, visiting a nursing home, being patient with our family members, and really listening to them, praying from the heart in a quiet place, reflecting on the Word privately or at daily Mass, and letting the Eucharist change us into the Body of Christ.

The Samaritan woman never did give Jesus a drink of water as he had requested. Do we stop to realize that Jesus' thirst for our love is even greater than our thirst for His love? Is it only saints who understand that.

May that truth help us as well to pour ourselves out in loving praise and service up to our last breath!

## Investing in Our Community

At Manning & Napier, we care about investing for the future. For nearly 50 years we've been investing for our clients to help them meet their long-term goals and provide true solutions in today's world. We're committed to serving our community and are proud to help organizations create meaningful change.

It is our great honor to support The Diocese of Ogdensburg.

MANNING & NAPIER  
Foundation

www.manning-napier.com



## AT THE MOVIES



CNS PHOTO/LIONSGATE

Octavia Spencer and Sam Worthington star in a scene from the movie "The Shack."

# THE SHACK

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

"The Shack" (Summit), director Stuart Hazeldine's screen version of William Paul Young's best-selling novel, represents a serious effort to tackle the problem of evil from a Christian perspective. As such, it will be welcomed by believers.

While objectionable elements are virtually absent from the film, however, patches of dialogue discounting the value of religion - here implicitly set in opposition to faith broadly speaking - and hinting that God is indifferent to how we worship him mean that impressionable viewers should keep their distance. So, too, does the morally problematic treatment of a dark and long-kept secret.

After his young daughter, Missy (Amelie Eve), is abducted and murdered, previously devout churchgoer Mackenzie "Mack" Phillips (Sam Worthington) has a crisis of faith. But a note from "Papa," his wife, Nan's (Radha Mitchell), nickname for God, leads to an en-

counter with the Trinity near the titular hideout where evidence of Missy's death was uncovered that alters his perspective.

Octavia Spencer plays an unflappable, warmhearted God the Father, Avraham Aviv Alush a fun-loving Jesus and Sumire a serene Holy Spirit.

As Spencer bakes, Sumire gardens and Alush tinkers in his carpentry shed, Worthington learns to see his own tragedy as a spiritual death that offers the prospect of resurrection.

While some may be uncomfortable with the fact that both the Father and the Holy Spirit manifest themselves to the protagonist as women, given that they would be free to do so in whatever guise they chose, this is no real objection -- all the more so since Spencer eventually morphs, when it seems advisable, into a paternal Graham Greene.

The narrative's brief descent from nondenominationalism into outright indifferentism and its suggestion that religion is "too much work" are more substantial defects.

While Mack has much to forgive, moreover, he has a shocking crime in his own background that the movie seems to excuse too easily.

Beautiful settings and a sense of humor help to keep the overlong proceedings from bogging down in sentimentality. But the script, penned by John Fusco, Andrew Lanham and Destin Cretton, takes on too many weighty subjects - from the suffering of innocents to the need for forgiveness - to treat any one of them in a fully satisfying way.

Still, on the whole, this is an intriguing endeavor to accomplish the same goal British poet John Milton set himself in writing his masterpiece, "Paradise Lost," namely, "to justify the ways of God to men."

The film contains scenes of domestic violence and mature themes requiring careful discernment.

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



### The Miraculous Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favors. This time I ask you this very special one. Take it Dear Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in our merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen KM

The Diocese of Ogdensburg  
**NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC**  
is on  
**FACEBOOK**

- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

Like



Fr. Chris Looby of  
St. Mary's Church in  
Evans Mills *presents...*

Greece: In the Footsteps  
of Paul the Apostle

April 11 - 21, 2018



**You're Invited!**

Special Travel Presentation

Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

St. Mary's Church  
8408 S. Main St.  
Evans Mills, NY 13637



To **RSVP** or for  
more information,  
call **315.558.6372**

## ADIRONDACK

## RUMMAGE SALE

**Lake Placid** – Rummage Sale to be held to benefit St. Agnes School.

**Date:** March 25

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Place:** St. Agnes School

**Features:** Donations may be dropped off during school hours.

**Contact:** Kathleen Murphy, 523-3771.

## CLINTON

## FISH FRY DINNER

**AuSable Forks** – Knights of Columbus Council #2301 of Au Sable Forks will hold a fish-fry dinner.

**Date:** March 31

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

**Place:** Holy Name Parish Center Gym

**Cost:** \$10 per person; under 12, \$6

**Contact:** Jack Dirolf, (518) 578-0360.

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Plattsburgh** – Spaghetti dinner is set

**Date:** March 18

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

**Place:** Seton Academy

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; children under 12, \$5

**Features:** All profits go to Seton Catholic's "40 Days of Hope" project.

## FISH FRY

**Chazy** – Sacred Heart Parish to have their annual Fish Fry.

**Date:** March 24

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7:30

**Place:** Sacred Heart Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; All

Take-outs, \$10

## 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 spchurch-denise@primelink1.net or 563-1692.

## CATHOLICISM-PIVOTAL PLAYERS

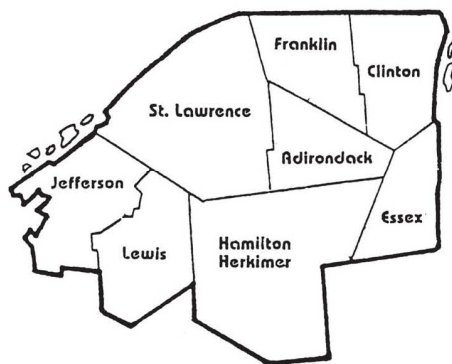
**Rouses Point** – Fr. Stitt will be hosting a video series on Sundays of Lent.

**Date:** March 5 to April 9

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Place:** Champlain Catholic Men's Club

**Features:** The videos are from Bishop Robert Barron's new program, CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players, a multi-part



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.

film series that illumines a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization.

## PARISH FISH FRY

**Chazy** – Sacred Heart will have its Annual Fish Fry.

**Date:** March 24

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7:30

**Place:** Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; All

take-outs, \$10

## BREAKFAST SET

**Lyon Mountain** – St. Bernard's–St. Edmund's Parishes to have a Buffet Style breakfast.

**Date:** March 19

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

**Place:** Lyon Mountain American Legion

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children 6-12, \$5; 5 and

under, Free

**Features:** Proceeds to benefit both parishes. 50/50 tickets will be available.

**Contact:** For more information please call 593-2052 or 594-3907

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Treadwell Mills** – St. Alexander and St. Joseph to hold pancake breakfasts.

**Dates:** April 2 and 23

**Time:** 8 a.m. to Noon

**Place:** St. Joseph's Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; children, \$3; under 5,

Free

## LENTEN ADORATION

**Plattsburgh** – St. Peter's Church will offer Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament dur

ing 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.

## EUCHARISTIC 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

## HAMILTON-HERKIMER

## DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

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

**Dates:** March 26; April 9 and 23;

**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;

## 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

**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

## JEFFERSON

## WATER, NUTRITION, HEALTH

**Watertown** – Special presentation to be held that will focus on water as a key nutrient for human health, an essential for all life, and the challenges in maintaining this resource

**Date:** March 26

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. to 3:30

**Place:** Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Hearthside Center

**Features:** Panel ists: Cathy Moore MS, RD Agriculture and Fort Drum Program Leader for Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County, Vicky Murphy, City of Watertown, Water Plant Supervisor, and Jay Matteson, Jefferson County Agricultural Consultant. The Event, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph Social Justice Committee.

**Contact:** Space is limited; to reserve a place call 315-782-3460.

## WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT :

**Brownville** – Immaculate Conception is holding a Lenten retreat for all women.

**Date:** March 25

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

**Features:** Video presentations "Loved as I am" by Sister Miriam Heidland and "The Special Call and Gift of Women" by Joannette Benkovik

**Cost:** \$10 includes a Lenten Luncheon.

**Contact:** preregister by March 18 by calling Linda Pierson 315-639-3701 or Marlene Johnson 315-639-3269

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**Watertown** – St. Anthony's Altar Rosary Society to have a spaghetti dinner.

**Date:** March 30

**Time:** 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., bring containers

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; Children, \$4; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Watertown** – Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church will hold a Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration.

**Schedule:** Beginning Good Friday April 14 at 3 p.m. the Divine Mercy novena will begin by praying in the Chaplet in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.; Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated April 23 at 3 p.m., there will be Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament, Singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, confession & a procession. You may bring your own Divine Mercy picture to be specially blessed.

**Contact:** call Judy at 315-783-7349 or visit www.thedivinemercy.org

## LEWIS

## K OF C BRUNCH

**Lyons Falls** – Brunch to be held by the Fr. Pascal Rys OFM Conv. Council #7794.

**Date:** March 19

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

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

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

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Port Leyden** – Spaghetti dinner to be held for St. Martin's and St. John's Altar and Rosary Societies.

**Date:** March 28

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

**Place:** Port Leyden Fire Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8; kids, \$4; under 5, Free

**Contact:** For deliveries, 315-348-8945

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

**Houseville** – Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of April to be held.

**Date:** April 2

**Time:** 2:25 p.m. before the monthly devotions we will view Episode 2, Behind this Heart, from the DVD series The Second Greatest Story Ever Told by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC.

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

**Features:** Vespers, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

## LENTEN THURSDAYS

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

**Date:** March 16, 23, 30

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

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

## ST. LAWRENCE

## K OF C GUN AND KNIFE SHOW

**Brasher Falls** – The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Gun and Knife Show.

**Date:** March 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** Shamrock Club

**Cost:** \$3; under 12 free

**Features:** Many dealers will be present with all kinds sporting items. Concession stand open all day, breakfast served until 11 a.m. Come buy, trade or sell all guns must be checked in at door. Plenty of parking.

**Contact:** Phil Davis at 315-389-4627.



## 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

# National Prayer and Penny Week

This year, the Missionary Childhood Association celebrates National Prayer and Penny Week from March 19-24. This prayer movement serves as MCA's Lenten prayer and sacrificial program for Grades K-8. National Prayer and Penny Week Program honors the legacy of Venerable Pauline Jaricot who encouraged prayers and help for the Missions of her day. In the 19th century as founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, this young French laywoman encouraged prayers and financial help for the Missions. She called for daily sacrifice of a sou, an equivalent to a penny. This program's name symbolically honors its origin and not the current financial need.

### Day 1 : Share the purpose

Begin the week by sharing the purpose of the Pontifical Mission Societies including the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) and National Prayer and Penny Week. The Pontifical Mission Societies provide help to churches in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands and remote areas of Latin America. Here, many of the poorest of the poor learn the Good News of God's great love for all people. Missionaries are called by God to go and proclaim the Good News. They are called to care for those who suffer from hunger, poverty, homelessness and natural disaster. Missionaries offer God's love to the poor in word and service. As Catholics, we are called to be missionaries. We may not be able to travel to mission lands, but we can still bring the love of God to others. We offer our prayers and resources to support missionaries and priests, and religious in their service. Prayer is the most important part of being a missionary.

### Day 2: Pray the Prayer and Penny Week Prayer

God, our Father, Help us to be your witnesses and disciples and share the Good News of the Gospel with our lives. Jesus, our Lord, You teach us that all life is sacred. Strengthen us to witness every day to Your love with our words, actions and sacrifices. Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, as missionary disciples you invite us to share the Good News, cooperating with you and one another to walk with our brothers and sisters who live in poverty, loneliness, and despair. In a special way we ask You to bless all the missionaries sharing Your love. We send this prayer across the world in Jesus' name. AMEN.

### Day 3: Pray the Prayer and Penny Week Prayer

God, our Father, Help us to be your witnesses and disciples and share the Good News of the Gospel with our lives. Jesus, our Lord, You teach us that all life is sacred. Strengthen us to witness every day to Your love with our words, actions and sacrifices. Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, as missionary disciples you invite us to share the Good News, cooperating with you and one another to walk with our brothers and sisters who live in poverty, loneliness, and despair. In a special way we ask You to bless all the missionaries sharing Your love. We send this prayer across the world in Jesus' name. AMEN.

## OBITUARIES

**Au Sable Forks** – Margaret (Lincoln) Nolan, 90; Funeral Services March 11, 2017 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

**Bombay** – Ruth E. (Yaddow) LaBar, 98; Funeral March 9, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Cadyville** – Veronica M. (Lancto) Plummer, 85; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum, Plattsburgh.

**Chaumont** – Madeline Hayes Judkins, 95; Funeral Services March 13, 2017 at All Saints Church; burial in Resurrection Memorial Cemetery, Oklahoma City, OK

**Chazy** – Wyman H. Peral, 74; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Fort Covington** – Donald R. Dustin, 81; Funeral Services March 13, 2017 at the Capiello-McKenzie and Cosgrove Funeral Home; burial in Coal Hill Cemetery, Westville.

**Harrisville** – Neil E. Hooley, 79; Funeral Services March 10, 2017 at Scanlon Funeral Home; burial in St. Francis Solanus Cemetery.

**Heuvelton** – Harold G. Chambers, 87; Funeral Services March 8, 2017 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Keeseville** – Anne F. Handly, 89; Funeral Services March 11, 2017 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. Joseph's Church, Malone.

**Keeseville** – Walter F. Mitchell, 93; Funeral Services March 6, 2017 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Louisville** – Howard "Howie" C. Smith, 81; Funeral Services March 10, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

For a New or Used Car

**Mort  
Backus &  
Sons**

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.  
**315-393-5899**



**Malone** – Kieth Smith, 80; Funeral Services March 7, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Massena** – Robert B. Fetterly, 86; Funeral March 7, 2017 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – Theresa M. (Oakes) McDougall, 76; Funeral Services March 6, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Moers Forks** – Jason Scott Guay, 42; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at St. Ann's Church

**North Bangor** – Francis M. Forkey, 92; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery

**North Lawrence** – Philip C. Foley, 87; Funeral Services March 11, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church.

**Norwood** – Robert John Regan, 84; Funeral Services March 13, 2017 at St. Andrews Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Potsdam.

**Ogdensburg** – Alfred "Moe" LaJoy, 67; Funeral Services March 8, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** – Joseph R. Rose, 87; Funeral March 6, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Peru** – John B. "Jack" LaFave, Sr., 75; Funeral Services March 10, 2017 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Barbara Ann (Moore) Hennebury, 71; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at the Brown Funeral Home.

**Potsdam** – Lloyd L. LaValley, 86; Funeral

Services March 9, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

**Redford** – Frederick W. Lamora, 95; Funeral March 8, 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

**Redford** – Jean I. (Fournier) Miner, 83; Funeral Services March 15 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in Church of the Assumption Cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – R. Patrick Howard, 78; Funeral Services March 6, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church.

**Saranac Lake** – Mary E. (Pratt) Kinville, 96; Funeral Services March 7, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – Hawley R. Snyder, 82; Funeral Services March 8, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Schroon Lake** – Ralph E. Dudley, 53; Funeral Services March 11, 2017 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

**Theresa** – Patricia Eileen O'Driscoll, 62; Funeral Services March 8, 2017 at St. Theresa of Avila Church; burial in Oakwood Cemetery.

**Ticonderoga** – Mary Y. Michalak (Johnson) Laundree, 89; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Valley View Cemetery.

**Waddington** – Lyman John Raleigh Sr., 76; Funeral Services March 7, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Watertown** – Lillian Dawley, 92; Funeral Services March 9, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

### Prayer to Blessed Virgin

Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful wine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the sea, help me and show me, herein you are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this prayer in your hands(3X).

KM

## GO GREEN!

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

**BARSTOW**  
AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION GMC SUBARU  
For More Information, Visit Our Web Page at [www.barstowmotors.com](http://www.barstowmotors.com)  
MARKET ST., POTSDAM, NY ☎ (315) 265-8800  
Your NNY Regional GM & Subaru SuperCenter

## 2017 Collection for the Works of the Holy Father



*Be a Witness of*  
**Charity**

SUPPORT THE WORKS OF  
THE HOLY FATHER THROUGH THE  
**Peter's Pence Collection**



Copyright © 2016, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Photo: © CNS/Paul Haring.



Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters. The purpose of the Peter's Pence Collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease.

**Collection Weekend: March 25 & 26**

# Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

## ST. LAWRENCE

### ACIES CEREMONY

**Ogdensburg** – Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony to be held.

**Date:** March 19

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Place:** Deacon Winter Chapel

**Features:** Exposition and Benediction as well as an Individual and Collective Consecration to Mary. Refreshments will be served in the Brzana Hall following.

### DOVS PRESENTATION

**Norfolk** – The D.O.V.S (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is sponsoring a special Presentation.

**Date:** April 19

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** Fr. Amyot Parish Center

**Speaker:** Sr. Patty Urbinelli, SSJ, will present "My Journey Toward Final Vows – On Becoming a Sister of St. Joseph".

**Features:** The program is free and open to anyone interested. Lunch provided.

**Contact:** RSVP to Connie at 315-265-2762 or the Vocations Office at 315-393-2920 by April 17th

### FISH AND SHRIMP FRY

**Gouverneur** – Fish and shrimp Fry to be held.

**Date:** April 14

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

**Place:** St. James School

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

**Contact:** Take-outs available, phone ahead for fast service and deliveries at 315-287-0130

### 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

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

### OPERATION ANDREW

The Vocations Office announces spring Operation Andrew dinner schedule. The dinners are a great way to learn about the priesthood, chat with the Bishop and have a great meal. Any middle school aged man and above is invited to attend. Parents are welcome as well.

**Schedule:** March 27, St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh; March 30, St. Patrick's

Church, Watertown; April 3, St. Mary's Church, Massena

**Time:** Vespers at 5 p.m. then dinner

**Contact:** Cathy Russell, Vocation Coordinator, crussell@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920

### 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](http://www.rcdony.org/lentenretreat).

### CAMP GUGGENHEIM REGISTRATION

Registration for 2017 season for Camp Guggenheim is now open through [www.rcdony.org/camp](http://www.rcdony.org/camp).

**Features:** Weeks one through five are 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](mailto:vlalonde@rcdony.org) or visit camp website: [rcdony.org/camp/guggy](http://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](http://www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally).

**Contact:** Kelly at [kdonnelly@rcdony.org](mailto: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 315-265-2762 or Cathy at the diocesan Vocations Office at 315-393-2920