

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Diocese offers Charitable Gift Annuities | PAGE 7

Pursuing Justice: fighting late-term abortion | PAGE 12

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 71, Number 45

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MARCH 29, 2017

Bringing God's hope, consolation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Christian hope is built on patiently enduring everything life brings and knowing how to see God's presence and love everywhere, Pope Francis said. God "never tires of loving us" as he "takes care of us, dressing our wounds with the caress of his goodness and his

mercy, meaning, he consoles us and he never tires of consoling us," the pope said during his general audience in St. Peter's Square March 22.

The pope also invited all Catholics to "rediscover the sacrament of reconciliation" during the Lenten season by taking part in the "24 Hours

for the Lord" initiative, being held in many dioceses and parishes worldwide.

The pope asked people to make time for confession to "experience the joyful encounter with the mercy of the father," who welcomes and forgives everyone.

During his main audience

talk, the pope continued a series of reflections on how the Apostle Paul describes the nature of Christian hope.

In the apostle's Letter to the Romans Pope Francis said that it is "by endurance and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope."

Bishop writes on 'love for the stranger'

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has written a letter on the Catholic response to immigration and refugees in the North Country

"As a Church, we must support the stranger who lives among us - immigrants and refugees - who are our brothers and sisters," he said.

He notes that under Department of Homeland Security directives, "our parishes are 'sensitive locations,' which means that persons seeking services from or participating in activities at our parishes may do so without fear or hesitation."

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Prayers are answered

Mission of Hope finds

permanent warehouse facility;

more funds are needed

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

LUNCH WITH THE 'LADIES'



PHOTO BY RYAN GRANT

Helen Amo and Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Vincent Freeh were among the guests at the monthly senior luncheon sponsored by the Ladies of Our Lady of Sacred Heart Parish, March 16 in Dostie Hall. The Ladies, described as the "heart and soul of the parish" also offer bereavement meals, give support for the special religious education and clean the church among other activities designed to promote a sense of community and support in the parish. More photos, page 5.

WHY CATHOLIC: Group faith sharing still going strong in Henderson... p. 10

DAY OF CURSILLO

Urging prayer study, action



Father John L. Downs, a retired priest residing in Raymondville, was one of the featured speakers at a Day of Recollection sponsored by the North Country Cursillo, March 4 at the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk. Father Downs offered a spiritual talk on "study," noting that God reveals himself through creation, scripture and the teachings of the church and should be studied through these means. Bishop Terry R. LaValley was the main speaker for the day during which the participants were encouraged to grow in piety, study and apostolic action.

FULL STORY, PAGES 8-9

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;

deadline is Wednesday.

Member, Catholic Press

Association.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to

North Country Catholic,

PO Box 326

Ogdensburg, NY

13669-0326

EDITOR'S NOTE

Three cheers for our diocese!

Every winning team deserves a cheerleader and I've always been happy to take on that role for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Certainly, there are plenty of challenges facing the church of the North Country but there are so many more reasons for pride.

You can't read the pages of this week's paper without seeing it: we are part of a great organization.

Over the past couple of years, we've heard a lot about the importance of "creating a culture of vocations" in our diocese.

This is, of course, the priority of priorities of our diocesan pastoral vision.

In the opening paragraph of the *We Are Called* document

(which outlines the "creating a culture of vocations" plan), we are reminded that vocations aren't limited to priests, deacons and religious.

Mary Lou
Kilian

"It is our hope that the plan will foster and nurture an appreciation of each person's call to holiness. By our Baptism each of us became a child of God and was given the gift of faith and a "vocation", a calling from God, unique to every one, to follow Him in a special way. Every moment,

every event, every person in our lives can offer us encouragement to respond to this call. To know what is the plan created just for us, we have to listen and obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit"

(*We Are Called*)

This means that all of the organizations featured in this week's paper – Cursillo, Why Catholic, Ladies of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Mission of Hope – play a huge role in creating holy people in our midst, helping them each to live out the vocation to which they are called.

And we know that these stories are just a tiny sample of all the goodness in our parishes.

I promise you that every single parish in the Diocese of Ogdensburg has groups, events and extraordinary people about which we can cheer!

Of course, the holiness within our church grows when we reach beyond the comfort of our parishes and familiar groups to make a difference in the lives of people we don't know.

Once again, Bishop LaValley reminds us of our Gospel responsibility to support the strangers who live among us, immigrants and refugees who are indeed our brothers and sisters.

We are also blessed with the wise and compassionate leadership of the entire body of bishops of New York State. With guidance from our state Catholic Conference we can learn to make our voices heard on critical issues in the most effective way possible.

For better or worse, we never outlive our need to grow in our vocations. And we do that by praying and giving and learning every day.

Thank God – three big cheers – that we have so many wonderful groups in our midst with so many faith-filled companions for our journey.

FATHER MUENCH SAYS...

An interesting cast of Gospel characters

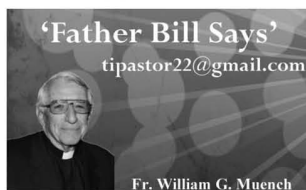
During these last few weeks of Lent, we have rather long Gospel readings. These readings present us a deeper look into Jesus' effort to reach and help people.

We also meet again some very interesting people. There is the Samaritan Woman at the well, the man born blind and Lazarus who is raised from the death. These readings are all from St. John's Gospel.

Then on Palm Sunday, we read the story of the Passion and Death of Jesus. All four evangelists have written a detailed description of the Passion of Christ.

The Samaritan Woman goes through a complete transition of life because of her experience of meeting Jesus. Beforehand she knows nothing of Jesus; she is certainly shocked that he starts talking to her, even asks her for a drink of water.

Somehow Jesus knows something of her life. She is touched and transformed by



Jesus – by his very presence – by the way, he respects her.

She becomes his missionary and leads many from her village to him and get to know him.

What has happened to her? She loves the presence of Jesus and wants Jesus to be part of her life. Jesus wants to be part of our lives and often, these meetings are complete surprises.

The Lord needs us to know ourselves better and guides us to bring the Lord's presence to others.

Then the man born blind – we never do learn his name. He is also someone who knows nothing of Jesus yet, Jesus changes his life. Jesus heals

his blindness then he leads him to understand the importance of God's love for him.

The man goes through much hardship as he remains faithful to what happened. The leaders don't want to give any recognition of Jesus so they contend that he was blind because he sinned or his parents sinned.

The story reminds us of how often we have been blind – spiritually blind – not recognizing God's love for us, not recognizing Jesus' presence in our life, not seeing those who need us almost every day. Jesus urges us to come to him to find healing for our own blindness.

Then there is Lazarus. Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, are friends of Jesus. It is so great to remember that Jesus had friends, close friends. Jesus wants to be our close friend.

Jesus comes to be with Martha and Mary at the challenging time of Lazarus' death. Can you imagine Lazarus about to be called back from the

dead? Spiritually, Jesus often calls us back from a death – a loss of faith, a death of spirit. In those times, the only solution for us is to turn to Jesus. Jesus brings Lazarus back to life in a demonstration of God's powerful love for him.

In his conversation with Martha, Jesus speaks of his own resurrection and also our resurrection to new life. Our resurrection begins even now, even now we can and must find new life in the Lord. So, in prayer, we should often turn to the Lord to help us discover the great gift of life – the gift of eternal life.

Finally, on Palm Sunday, we will read the Passion and Death of Jesus. This is extensive – it was the most important part of the Good News, of the Gospel. The message of the early apostles always begins with the sufferings and death of Jesus.

Many people are part of the Passion of Jesus.

Let us talk about them next week.

FOLLOW ME

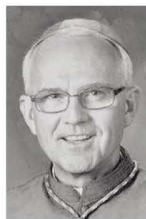
Showing love to the stranger

Our Church has a rich tradition of welcoming the stranger, aiding the afflicted and supporting the immigrant. This tradition is rooted in the biblical vision of love of strangers.

Leviticus 19:33-34 sums it up with eloquence: *"You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently from that natives born among you: have the same love for him as for yourself for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt."*

Jesus reiterates the love that we are to have for the stranger and tells us that it is a criterion by which we will be judged (Matthew 25:35). St. Paul reminds us that we are one in Christ (Galatians 3:28) and that we all share the dignity of the children of God.

Our nation is presently engaged in a debate on immigration policy that is causing deep divisions among our people and is causing anxiety among the aliens who reside with us. Balancing the right of all people to migrate to sustain one's life and family with the rights of nations to regulate their borders and to set immigration policy is not easy. A fair resolution will only come through the application of justice and mercy.



Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley

Recognizing that participants on both sides of this national debate are acting for the common good and are motivated by justice and compassion, we must respectfully speak up for the rights of the immigrants and those on the margins.

Unfortunately, we do not live in an ideal world. Poverty, war and misery cause many to resettle in another country. While people have the right to move, no country is obliged to receive so many immigrants that its security, societal or economic well-being is put at risk.

Undocumented immigrants pose a special concern for us as Church and as a nation. Some regard undocumented immigrants as a threat to our security. As a church, we know that the rights and dignity of every person are not conditioned on a legal status. We are to love and to serve all people.

So what are we to do here in the North Country?

I propose three ways that we can responsibly participate in the current debate on immigration and offer support to our brothers and sisters who are in need.

First, we must fight for a comprehensive reform of our immigration policy.

Second, we have to sup-

port all refugees and immigrants and look after their needs. Lastly, we have to seek ways to heal our divisions and foster a constructive dialogue to resolve issues and calm fears.

The American bishops are involved in discussions with the government officials about immigration reform and about the just treatment of refugees and immigrants. We can all support these discussions by writing to our elected officials encouraging them to work toward a solution to these complicated issues. Comprehensive immigration reform is the best solution to many of the challenges that immigrants and refugees are currently facing.

As a Church, we must support the stranger who lives among us, i.e. immigrants and refugees who are our brothers and sisters. We may be approached by parishioners and others who are troubled or fearful as a result of the changing immigration policies and orders. We can offer support, spiritual guidance and compassion to those who come to us. Under Department of

Homeland Security directives, while not places of sanctuary, our parishes are "sensitive locations", which means that persons seeking services from or participating in activities at our parishes may do so without fear or hesitation.

We need to make it clear that the Catholic Church will support all who come to us, regardless of their immigration status. Our communities should welcome all who seek spiritual comfort in our parishes. We should extend to all whatever assistance is possible.

We can offer meaningful help to those who approach us by providing assistance, support and guidance, while we work for immigration reform. Taking care of human needs is possible for us. We can educate our people in the plight of immigrants and refugees and ask them to support our brothers and sisters in need.

I have encouraged our priests to work with parishioners to find ways to make known the plight of undocumented persons in our area, and to devise ways that our diocese or parish commu-

Contact Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is available to assist all of the parishes if you are in contact with an individual or family who is undocumented or have immigrant status. The issues involved in helping these individuals or families can be complex. Our goal is to provide practical assistance and a consistent pastoral response.

Contact the Diocesan office of Catholic Charities at: (315) 393-2255 or email Catholic Charities at: ccdi-rect@wadham.edu.

Catholic Charities is ready to help.

nity can assist undocumented persons.

Remembering the needs of immigrants and refugees in our general intercessions and prayers is a sign of support. Offering knowledgeable speakers on the legal options of refugees and undocumented persons can give valuable guidance and information to our brothers and sisters in need. I invite our priests and parishioners to work together to find ways to extend a helping hand to the aliens living among us.

More information

For more information and parish resources on the Catholic response to immigration and refugees, visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website. There you will find the *Justice for Immigrants Campaign*

The page features: current information, updates on policies and an electronic postcard campaign. With just a few clicks of the mouse you can send a message to your legislators urging comprehensive immigration reform.

Visit www.usccb.org/about/migration-policy/justice-for-immigrants.cfm or simply Google: USCCB Justice for Immigrants and click on that link.

Chrism Mass 2017

Christ-led, Christ-fed, Hope-filled



All the Faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are cordially invited to join

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg

for the annual Renewal of Priestly Commitment, the Blessing of the Holy Oils and the consecration of the Sacred Chrism for use in all the churches of the Diocese symbolizing that we are one family in Christ on

Thursday, April 6th at 11:00 a.m.
at St. Mary's Cathedral
in Ogdensburg, New York.

Mission of Hope finds permanent warehouse facility

Hope-filled prayers answered

By Shan Moore
Staff writer

PERU - Prayers have been answered once again for the needs of North Country Mission of Hope (MOH), this time for a permanent warehouse facility.

With just 11 days until the March 20 deadline for the organization to empty the present location in Schuyler Falls, MOH Board President Sally Kokes signed a co-sharing agreement with Ed Garrow & Sons that allows immediate occupancy at the former Knights of Columbus building on Route 22 in Peru.

The deal includes purchase of the 5,500-square-foot building and 8 acres of land for \$140,000, with the closing expected by June 1.

That is, said MOH Executive Director Sister Debbie Blow, if the project is given a required variance demo the Town of Peru Zoning Board.

So the prayers continue, said the Dominican Sister of Hope, that the variance is quickly granted and that mission supporters step up to help pay for the new MOH-town, which is the name that has been given to all six previous locations.

Consistent face

This time is different, however, as this facility will be owned by the mission.

In the past, temporary space was donated for its use

HOW TO HELP

To make donations toward the purchase of the new MOH-town and facility improvements, send a check, with "Building" on the memo line to: North Country Mission of Hope, P.O. Box 2522, Plattsburgh NY 12901.

For more information, reach Sister Debbie Blow at 518-570-2052.

To inquire about the building lot that's for sale on Jabez Allen Road in Peru, call 335-8346



PHOTO BY GABRIEL DICKENS

North Country Mission of Hope is preparing to purchase the former Knights of Columbus Building on Route 22 in Peru for use as a warehouse facility.

- six locations in all over 19 years.

"We relied solely on the generosity of the owner," MOH past president and longtime volunteer James Carlin said, "which was terrific."

But now, he said, "we have the opportunity to provide a consistent face for the mission in Clinton County.

It was time to put down roots, the Board of Directors decided as the search was launched for a suitable site.

Landfill otherwise

Does the mission really need a warehouse?

Sister Debbie gives a resounding "yes!" to that.

Over almost two decades, the group that works to give a sustainable hand up to the poor of Nicaragua has sent more than 36 40-foot shipping containers to that country.

The most recent one, Sister Debbie said, held medical supplies and medicines valued at \$98,866 for three poor hospitals and four clinics.

That figure didn't include the medical equipment,

school and building supplies and other items it carried, she said.

"Frankly," she added, "the bulk of what we ship would end up in landfills otherwise," since most of it is considered outdated in the United States.

To the top

It was stressful, to say the least, as MOH leaders searched for a viable warehouse site, and after a few weeks into that process, hope started to wane that a permanent facility would be found in time.

The word went out for a temporary location as a backup plan.

But mission supporters prayed hard, longtime volunteer Sister Stephanie Frenette among them.

Her plea was directed to all the MOH volunteers who have died.

They, she thought, would know exactly how to state the case to the Lord.

"Sister Stephanie went right to the top," Mrs. Kokes said.

Just recently, Sister Debbie

heard from a 90-year-old woman who told her she had been praying every day since January that MOH would find a new home.

And just before Sister Debbie and a group of 37 volunteers left for the February mission, the Peru K of C hall turned up.

Negotiation were begun, but it still remained up in the air, Sister Debbie said.

Then, in Nicaragua, amid the blistering heat, the non-stop meetings, the emotional turmoil that accompanies the witnessing of devastating poverty, she said, the lyrics of a Celtic Woman song came to mind.

"There can be miracles when you believe,

"Though hope is frail it's hard to kill ..."

Sister Debbie held on to that, shared it with the mission team, and when the time came to spread the news of the new MOHtown, the nun sent its message far and wide through email.

"We are half way to an incredible Mission of Hope miracle," she wrote. "We need your help to bring (it) to fulfillment."

MOH doesn't have money to throw around; it needs donations to pay for the new warehouse and the improvements it requires.

Should the closing come before the coffers fill with funds earmarked for MOHtown, the group will borrow from an estate account, but with the full intention of returning those funds.

Overhead door

The most pressing need is an overhead door and cement slab to give access to load tractor-trailers.

A large gym will provide warehouse space, but other renovations will be required to prepare offices, and eventually a loading dock.

The call for donations got immediate response, with a gift of about \$20,000, and another supporter has promised 100 percent from the sale of a 1.4-acre building lot on Jabez Allen Road in Peru.

Generous price

And it isn't only money that can help achieve the MOH miracle, Sister Debbie noted.

Henry Leader of Gouverneur donated legal services, for example.

"There are many ways people can help us," she said.

In fact, property owners Ed Garrow and his brother Larry gave MOH a boost up, setting a "fair and generous price" for the property; contractors have told Sister Debbie they couldn't even raise the shell of a new building for \$140,000.

"There are challenges ahead of us," Mrs. Kokes said, "(but) it feels so good that we're going to have a place to stay."

And she knows why that came about.

"So many people have been praying about it for so long, it had to happen," she said with certainty.

"It's so heartwarming — people have been so concerned that we have a home."

LADIES OF OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH IN WATERTOWN

A SPIRIT OF SERVICE

Offer senior luncheons, bereavement meals, support for special religious education, clean the church.... and more!



PHOTOS BY RYAN GRANT

The Ladies of the Sacred Heart served their most recent monthly luncheon for seniors in the Watertown area March 16. Pictured, from left, are Elaine Grant, Sylvia Buduson, Mary Henry, St. Joseph Sister Mary Louise Fiedler, Kathy Vincent, Julie Gould, Judy Mills, Mary Dermody, Mary Gosier and Rosie Gaffney. Tanya Manns, parish coordinator of OLSH said, "These ladies are truly the heart and soul of our parish. There is not a week that goes by that the group is not planning an event such as a senior luncheon, family game night, coffee and donuts or assisting a family with refreshments after a loved one has past away."



Elaine Grant and Sister Mary Louise enjoy their meal after the guests are served. New members of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart are welcome; the group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at Dostie Hall, adjacent to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church.

These Ladies are everywhere in our parish even when it is not for a scheduled event. You can always find them helping out behind the scenes in ways that have a big impact. They say 'food is our thing'

Tanya Manns, parish coordinator of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown



At the conclusion of the March luncheon Mary Henry announced that the next luncheon would feature a prize for the best Easter hat. She was also thanked everyone for attending and donating canned goods to the Urban Mission, a local food pantry.



Mary Dermody, Elaine Grant, Rosie Gaffney, Sylvia Buduson and Mary Gosier, appropriately dressed for the day before St. Patrick's Day, serve the meal. All seniors are welcome to the luncheon held the third Thursday of the month and are encouraged to reserve a seat by calling 315-782-1478.

Mass of Healing to be held on Divine Mercy Sunday

OGDENSBURG - Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at a special Mass of Healing for those hurt by the Catholic Church in any way April 23 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral.

"This celebration on Divine Mercy Sunday is a fitting means of acknowledging the pain caused by some pastoral leaders or workers in the Church and to apologize for the conduct that caused such grief," Bishop LaValley said.

"This crisis has impacted all of us in the church, and we need to ask God's help for continued healing," he said.

"The entire diocesan family, clergy, religious, and laity, is invited to participate in this Eucharistic celebration to continue to ask God's help for healing and reconciliation," he said.

"The sex abuse scandal leaves many still suffering and looking for closure," the bishop said. "Many victims are in pain and looking for more compassion from the church."

"To those people, I am reaching out," he said. "I invite them to come forward and to allow us the opportunity to help them heal."

OUR READERS WRITE

'Thank you for marriage issue'

Regarding the issue on marriage. I found it very encouraging on many levels. After reading the stories of the various couples on pages 5-7, I was especially taken with the statement made by Dan and Patricia Tower. Their marriage had many sufferings and trials

but God honored their love and commitment.

Here is what was said: "When society tells you to give up on your marriage vocation, remember: you have a spouse to laugh with, trust, lean on and confide in. But don't expect them to be perfect and fill every desire of your heart - that place is reserved for the Lord!"

To this I say, "AMEN!" and Thank you Lord for the gift of this statement. I just hugged my spouse and praised God for having him in my life.

I will be married 52 years this year and looking back, I see God with us throughout those years. As anyone can tell you, through the years you go through mountain top experiences and valley experiences. None are easy but you get through it and are stronger for it. There are times when you need someone to encourage you and put

things in perspective. That is what Dan and Patricia Tower did for us.

I was so taken with the simplicity and love of her statement, that I will be sharing it with my two bible study groups. I just want to thank you for this issue. I hope that others will read it and look at their spouse through new eyes and thank God for bringing him/her into their life. God bless you.

LEE AND BESSIE FLANDERS
HAMMOND

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440.

Upcoming sessions:
April 1 - 9:30 a.m., Immaculate Heart Central High, Watertown
April 4 - 5 p.m., St. Agnes School, Lake Placid
April 23 - 5:30 p.m., St. Anthony's, Inlet

Environmental Stewardship

Catholic Climate Ambassador coming to Plattsburgh

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

The Climate Ambassador's hour-long regional presentation will focus on:

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

The regional presentation is sponsored by the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the St. Peter's Church Environmental Stewardship Ministry.

The Catholic Climate Covenant is an outgrowth of the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, which was established in year 2006 by the collective efforts of a dozen national Catholic organizations, such as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, plus the National Religious Partnership for the Environment.

Ambassador Dr. Gacioch is an experienced speaker and has extensive background on the moral implications of climate change consistent with Catholic teachings outlined by Pope Francis *Laudato Si*.

There is no admission fee for presentation, although individuals interested in attending are encouraged to telephone the St. Peter's at 518-563-1692 to reserve a seat.

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: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-483-3261; or Father James Seymour, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340

Bishop's Schedule

March 30 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg
5 p.m., Operation Andrew Dinner at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown

March 31 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
7 p.m., Canon Law Class at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

April 1 - 4 p.m., 75th Anniversary Mass of St. Dismas Church at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Danemora

April 2 - 8 a.m., Mass at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh
11 a.m., Mass at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh
1 p.m., Presentation on Environmental Stewardship at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh

April 3 - 5 p.m., Operation Andrew Dinner at St. Mary's Church in Massena

April 3 - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

April 5 - 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

Rest in Peace

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

March 29 - Rev. Joseph Taney, 1880; Rev. J. Aime Troie, 1955; Rev. Ross A. Garnsey, 1986; Rev. Euclid Marier, 2003

March 31 - Rev. Louis Lopic, 1873; Rev. Gabriel Volkert, 1873; Rev. Henri Langlais, O.M.I., 1980

April 1 - Rev. James H. Roche, 1927; Msgr. Herbert J. Hannan, 2002

April 2 - Pope John Paul II, 2005
April 3 - Msgr. Philius Garand, 1942
April 4 - Rev. Ronald Brabant, 1963; Rev. Francis J. Beyette, 1984

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
is on
FACEBOOK



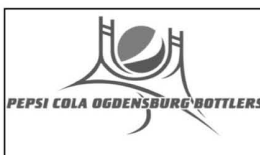
- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

Like



Subscribe to the North Country Catholic today!

Subscribe online at www.northcountrycatholic.org or call our office at 315-608-7556 to subscribe today! Options to receive the NCC in your mailbox or in your e-mail.



Diocese offers opportunity to establish Charitable Gift Annuities

Making a difference in the life of the Church

By Scott Lalone
Diocesan Development Director

Want to make a difference in your parish, Catholic school, Catholic Charities, in the education of seminarians and pastors, priests' retirement and pastors, priests' Nursing Home, the diocese or any of the other beneficiary choices listed in the advertisement on this page?

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a perfect way to support something close to your heart while offering you a fixed income for life and at the same time provide additional financial incentives.

A Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) is a legal arrangement in which you irrevocably transfer cash or securities to our segregated Gift Annuity Fund in exchange for our promise to pay you a fixed amount each year for the rest of your life (see diagram in

advertisement.)

The amount you receive is determined by the amount of your gift and your age, at your nearest birthday, at the time of your gift. The older you are when you make the gift, the higher the rate of return (see rates in advertisement).

Once your Annuity is established, your income remains fixed. It is not affected by adverse economic conditions.

You will also receive an immediate income tax deduction which may be taken on your income tax return the same year of your gift or in the following five years. A portion of your payments are tax-free. If you are transferring stock, you may also receive a capital gains tax savings.

There are also 2-Life Annuities available as the income will last until both donors

listed in the agreement die. If you would like to receive a proposal on a Charitable

Gift Annuity or have any questions, please contact Scott Lalone, Executive Direc-

tor of Development, Diocese of Ogdensburg at 315-393-2920 or slalone@rcdony.org.

Charitable Gift Annuity

Single Life Gift Annuity Rates

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
60	4.4%	76	6.0%
61	4.4%	77	6.2%
62	4.5%	78	6.4%
63	4.5%	79	6.6%
64	4.6%	80	6.8%
65	4.7%	81	7.0%
66	4.8%	82	7.2%
67	4.8%	83	7.4%
68	4.9%	84	7.6%
69	5.0%	85	7.8%
70	5.1%	86	8.0%
71	5.3%	87	8.2%
72	5.4%	88	8.4%
73	5.5%	89	8.7%
74	5.7%	90 & Over	9.0%
75	5.8%		

Rates effective January 1, 2012

Beneficiaries Can Include:

- The Diocese of Ogdensburg
- The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
- Your Parish or Catholic School
- The Education of Priests & Seminarians
- The Priests Retirement Fund
- The Priests Disability Fund
- The Bishop's Fund
- Any Ministry or Program of the Diocese
- Catholic Charities
- Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg
- St. Joseph's Nursing Home
- Any Diocesan institution of your choice

Contact:
Scott M. Lalone
Executive Director of Development
PO Box 369
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
315-393-2920 • slalone@rcdony.org

THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

PRAYER SUGGESTION

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name a priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life.

Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of our priests, pray and intercede for (...)

April
The Holy Eucharist

(With ecclesiastical approval)

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY
APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For more copies write to: Diocese of Ogdensburg PO Box 369 Ogdensburg, NY 13669						BISHOP TERRY R. L'AVALLEY
2. REV. STEVEN M. MURRAY	3. REV. CHARLES MUSULA	4. REV. KEVIN J. O'BRIEN	5. REV. PATRICK J. O'REILLY	6. REV. JEROME PASTORES	7. REV. FERRENCE R. PATTERSON	8. OUR PASTOR
9. REV. EDUARDO C. PESIGAN III	10. MSGR. LEEWARD J. POISSANT	11. REV. SONY G. PULICKAL V.F.	12. REV. PATRICK A. RATIGAN	13. REV. WILLIAM G. REAMER	14. REV. MARK R. REILLY	15. POPE FRANCIS
16. BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS	17. MSGR. PETER R. RIANI	18. REV. DONALD A. ROBINSON	19. REV. STEPHEN ROCKER	20. REV. PUSHPADASON SANTHANTHONN	21. REV. MIKOLAJ L. SCIBIOR	22. RETIRED PRIESTS
23. REV. JOSEPH N. SEXTO	24. REV. JAMES W. SEYMOUR	25. REV. SCOTT R. SEYMOUR	26. REV. ALAN D. SHNOB	27. REV. F. JAMES SHURTLEFF	28. MSGR. HARRY K. SNOW	29. DECEASED PRIESTS

For more information visit us online at: www.mprpapistolate.com
A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated.
The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society

Cursillo

Day of Recollection encourages prayer, study, apostolic action

By Darcy Fargo
Contributing writer

NORFOLK- “Thermometers passively reflect what’s around them; thermostats actively affect what’s around them,” Bishop Terry LaValley told the crowd gathered for North Country Cursillo’s Day of Recollection held at Our Lady of Visitation Church, March 4.

“If our hearts are truly mission-oriented as Catholic Christians, if they are filled with knowledge of God and with His grace and mercy, then we will be like thermostats, making a real difference in the environment in which we live, whether at home, in the workplace or in community,” the bishop said.

Bishop LaValley, as well as a handful of lay and ordained speakers, encouraged the crowd of 75 from around the diocese to grow in piety, study and apostolic action.

The bishop urged attendees to be like the Samaritan woman from John’s Gospel, who opened her heart to Jesus and then proclaimed her experience of Him to others.

“You and I are called to do no less,” he said. “First, we must do all we can every day to be aware of the fact that Jesus desires to encounter us like He did the woman. We must tend to that personal relationship, which is precisely what you are doing



Bishop Terry LaValley mingles with the crowd in Norfolk during registration for the March 4 Day of Recollection sponsored by North Country Cursillo.

here today. We must live and share the truth of Jesus to a world that sometimes doesn’t seem particularly interested or even hostile to it.”

Three sessions

The day was divided into three sections, each comprised of a witness talk and a spiritual talk.

Sessions concluded with Adoration and Reconciliation, with five priests – including Bishop LaValley – offering participants the opportunity to confess their sins and receive God’s mercy.

In the first session, Father Albert Hauser, pastor of the Catholic Community of Moriah, gave the witness talk, recounting his Cursillo, at-

tended in the Fall of 2016, referring to it as an opportunity to renew his experience of the love of God.

Father Timothy Canaan, pastor of St. John the Baptist Church and Blessed John XXIII Newman Center in Plattsburgh, gave the first spiritual talk, encouraging attendees to cultivate relationships with the Lord through private fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

The second session featured a witness talk by Kathy Racette, a member of St. John’s Parish in Plattsburgh who spoke on commitment – her mother’s commitment to Catholic education for her and her siblings, her and her husband’s commitment to each other and homeschooling their children, the commitment of a beloved priest, who helped their homeschooling community grow in faith, the commitment of the priests at St. John’s in fostering faith and community, and her commitment to grow in love of God through prayer, and participation in Cursillo, faith sharing groups and service.

“Cursillo, over the past

three years, has helped me to take risks and come out of my comfort zone,” she said, and has helped me to remember that Christ is the center of my life.”

“Small group sharing with ladies from my parish has helped me to think about my relationship with God and others,” Mrs. Racette said, “and share God’s love with them and learn what God is doing in their lives.”

On ‘study’

Father Jack Downs, a retired diocesan priest who made his Cursillo in 1967, then gave a spiritual talk on “Study.”

“Luke’s Gospel tells us of the presentation in the temple and how Christ grew in age, wisdom and grace before God and men,” Father Downs said. “We also grow in age, and we should grow in wisdom and grace.”

Father Downs said God reveals himself through creation, scripture, the teachings of the Church and Catholic social teachings, and should be studied through those means.

“If we soak a stone and a

sponge in water, both will get wet,” he said. “While the stone will get wet on the outside, the sponge gets soaked on the inside, as well.

“The same happens to us when we study,” Father Downs said. “Study will not only soak us externally, but internally, as well. Like sponges, we are able to pour out the waters of our Catholic faith to soak all those surrounding us with the living waters of Jesus Christ.”

Brent Davison, a Cursillo leader from St. Peter’s Church in Plattsburgh, gave the final witness talk. He recounted how he experienced God at his Cursillo, which he attended following a conversion experience.

Davison said his conversion and Cursillo inspired him to action for the Lord.

“He asks us to live as a witness to Him and His gospel,” Davison said. “He has asked us to serve Him actively. Do you think the evil one is being passive? No, he is attacking our church, our families, and our souls actively and aggressively. Jesus wants us to stand up and be active for him. Be a disciple!”

The event concluded with Bishop LaValley celebrating Mass at St. Andrew’s Church, Norwood, with Msgr. John Murphy and Father Andrew Amyot concelebrating. The Fourth Degree K of C provided an Honor Guard.

Get involved

Email ogdensburgcursillo@gmail.com to learn more about participating in a Cursillo weekend. You can also learn more at faith sharing meetings, known as Ultreyas, held monthly in Plattsburgh, Brasher Falls and Carthage. All are welcome. Email the address above for dates and times or watch the “Around the Diocese” section of this newspaper.

What is Cursillo

Cursillo is an apostolate whose purpose is to bring people closer to Jesus through friendship and the practices of prayer, study and apostolic action (good works and evangelization).

Cursillo is a Spanish word which literally means “short course.” A Cursillo weekend is a three-day short course in Christianity. Participants hear talks given by priests, deacons and lay persons, and may participate in discussion in small groups. The Eucharist is celebrated daily, and there is time for personal prayer and reflection, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and fellowship.

The weekend reviews the basics of Catholic faith with an emphasis on how you may live it more effectively in your own life.

Evangelization director reflects on lesson from Cursillo Day of Recollection:

Join a group, or START ONE!

By Marika Donders

Diocesan director of New Evangelization

At the beginning of Lent, I attended a day of reflection offered by the North Country Cursillo movement. The day was a wonderful collection of talks, personal reflections a quiet prayer time on the topics of piety, study, and apostolic action.

There was one line that stuck with me and that I have reflected on upon my return home.

Father Jack Downs spoke on the topic of study, giving us many resources for personal study of creation, scripture, Church doctrine, and Catholic social teaching.

After each of these topics he punctuated the topic with the phrase join a group at your parish or start one.

Have you ever said to yourself, I wish my parish offered more adult faith formation opportunities, prayer group opportunities, or outreach opportunities?

I remember that at a parish where I used to help out with RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), I often heard other parishioners say to me "I wish there was an RCIA for those of us who are already Catholic. Have you ever considered the possibility that if such a group does not exist in your parish, you could start one?"

You might say to yourself, I can't start a study group. I don't know enough. I couldn't possibly start a group. But that is the wonderful thing about our faith. We really learn and grow our faith by sharing our faith.

One Professor once told me, if you really want to learn something, try teaching it to someone else.

The content is actually the easy part or forming a study or prayer group. There are many resources available either in book or video format. The harder part maybe to find two or three or more folks to join you, but that is all it takes. Jesus told us:

Where two or three are gathered, there I am in the midst of them.

Some Ideas: prayer

An easy way to start a prayer group is to get together with friends to pray rosary and share your prayer intentions.

Another way would be to pray the scriptures of the upcoming Sunday. There are many resources, including "Word Among Us" or even just the missalette in the pews of your parish.

Read the readings and, over a coffee with some

friends, share how the scriptures speak to you.

Study

Get a group together to read the U.S. Catechism for Adults. It is a relatively easy read. Every chapter starts with the story of a saint; the chapter then explains one topic, and concludes with a summary, a set of discussion questions, a meditation and a prayer.

You could do a chapter a week or a chapter a month or whatever fits your schedule. Just think, even if you only did a chapter a month, in three years (there are 36 chapters), you would have learned the basics of 2000 years of Catholic doctrine and probably made some lifelong friends in the process. How cool is that!

If reading isn't your thing, there are many study programs available on DVD. Check out your parish, or see what is available from your regional faith forma-

tion office.

Perhaps your parish subscribes to the Formed program which offers a wide variety of videos for streaming.

One suggestion would be programs such as Symbolon or any of the Word on Fire video series. These videos come with workbooks and discussion questions and are a wonderful way to learn more, discuss and deepen your faith

Apostolic Action

Is there a need in your parish or community that isn't being met? Does the need seem too big for you to be able to do anything about it? Perhaps if there was a small group of parishioners working together it might not seem so daunting.

For example: Are there any people who always come to Mass alone? Perhaps they would like to get together for coffee. Maybe

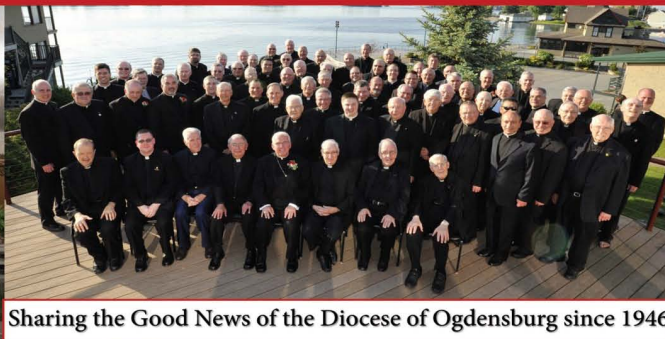
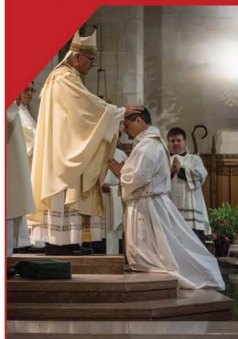
you could get a group together and invite that person to breakfast at the local diner.

Or perhaps there is a homebound person who might like a visit. Perhaps you can knit or crochet. Are there people who would benefit from a hat or a scarf or a lap blanket? Or perhaps there may be people in your parish who would simply like to learn how to knit or crochet and talk about faith with a group of friends while creating something.

Look around and pray about it. And then talk to your pastor. Your project doesn't have to be anything big. Join a group or start one and see what God can do if we offered him a little of our time and talent.

If you would like to learn more contact Marika Donders in the Office for the New Evangelization at mdonders@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 ext 1380

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC



Sharing the Good News of the Diocese of Ogdensburg since 1946



Follow Pope Francis on
Twitter!
www.twitter.com/Pontifex

 #Pontifex



Subscribe to the *North Country Catholic* today online at our website: www.northcountrycatholic.org

Call our office at 315-608-7556



Still going strong at Queen of Heaven Church in Henderson

Why Catholic Ladies

HENDERSON - Ten years ago, they began as part of the diocesan-wide *Why Catholic* program.

Essentially, they were strangers assigned by time slot through the local parish. They did not belong to the same parish or civic organizations. They knew each other by name across the church aisles.

What drew them together was a deep desire to strengthen their faith and to learn more about it.

Now after more than a decade together, the *Why Catholic Ladies* of Queen of Heaven Church, a little group of six, has more than doubled in size and has become an important prayer team within Queen of Heaven.

The Ladies begin with celebration of morning Mass at church and then convene at the home of their facilitator.

"What keeps the group together is confidentiality," said Elaine J. Scott, facilitator for the Ladies. "Confidentiality and respect for each member was stressed in the introduction to *Why Catholic*. This is a critical factor.

"The ages run from early 40s to 90s," she said. "Each member comes from a different faith walk and set of life experiences. These differences and variety add to the study and discussion of our shared faith. From time to time, there have been disagreements of opinion and these circumstances must be resolved with steadfast love and fairness.

"There is a lot of humor that erupts in our sessions," Ms. Scott said. "That has been a bonus because some of the study material can be so weighty and serious.



The *Why Catholic Ladies* of Queen of Heaven Church, Henderson, are pictured, first row from left, Adeline Scott, Edna Verrilli, Mary Ellen Shevalier, Sue Van Benschoten and Lorraine Doyle, second, Elaine Scott, Nina Hershey, Janina Osgood, Father Martin Cline, pastor; Carrie Kenney and Judy Jacobs. Missing from the photo: Sandy Babcock, Barbara Boyle, Joan Fulton, Chrissy Moreton and Ella Shultz.

"What surprised me the most was that the Ladies became a prayer team practically from the beginning," she said. "No matter where we were in the study book, if a member needed prayer, we would stop and join hands and pray for that intercession

and then continue with the lesson.

"And this need for prayer developed into 'prayer huddles' before or after Mass at church," she said. "Each member of the Ladies is involved in important work whether it be in their own family, or the parish or the community. Therefore, the need for prayer is constant and strong.

This need for prayer has now outgrown the group and taken root in the parish church. During the past year, members would see a need to pray for a member of the congregation. They would offer a private prayer huddle and then find themselves surrounded by a large contingent of the congregation wishing to take part in the intercession.

"We have seen miracles in our parish due to this alignment of prayer and faith," Ms. Scott said. "All in all I am so glad the diocese began the *Why Catholic* program. It has been a life changing experience for us at Queen of Heaven."

The group began with the four year *Why Catholic* program which met for six weeks each Lent and Advent.

When the diocesan program concluded, the Ladies continued with the Renew programs for Cycle A, B, and C for Lent and Advent. Then they picked up the *Prayer with Mary*, and then the *Longing for the Holy* based on books by Oblate Father Ronald Rolheisers. That study was so enthusiastically received that the Ladies voted to do it again after a break and then picked up the next Rolheiser offering of *Living in the Sacred*.

Order your 2017 Diocesan Directory!



The Official 2017 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

Order online at www.northcountrycatholic.org for faster delivery or fill out the form below.

Make checks payable to:
North Country Catholic
PO Box 106
Canajoharie, NY 13317

(Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery when mailing in)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ directories

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**\$15.00
each**

For a New or Used Car

**Mort
Backus &
Sons**

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
315-393-5899



CHEVROLET



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

North Country Catholic has gone



Green



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

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

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope recognizes miracle attributed to Fatima visionaries

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has approved the recognition of a miracle attributed to the intercession of two of the shepherd children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917, thus paving the way for their canonization. Pope Francis signed the decree for the causes of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto during a meeting March 23 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, the Vatican said. The recognition of the miracle makes it likely that the canonization ceremony for the two children will be scheduled soon. The cardinals and bishops who are members of the congregation must vote to recommend their canonization and then the pope would convene the cardinals resident in Rome for a consistory to approve the sainthood. Many people are hoping Pope Francis will preside over the canonization ceremony during his visit to Fatima May 12-13. The pilgrimage will mark the 100th anniversary of the Marian apparitions, which began May 13, 1917, when 9-year-old Francisco and 7-year-old Jacinta, along with their cousin Lucia dos Santos, reported seeing the Virgin Mary. The apparitions continued once a month until Oct. 13, 1917, and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

U.S. Catholics asked 'to accompany' migrants seeking better life

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The U.S. bishops in a pastoral reflection released March 22 called all Catholics to do what each of them can "to accompany migrants and refugees who seek a better life in the United States." Titled "Living as a People of God in Unsettled Times," the reflection was issued "in solidarity with those who have been forced to flee their homes due to violence, conflict or fear in their native lands," said a news release from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. "To live as a people of God is to live in the hope of the Resurrection," said the reflection. The 37-member committee acts on behalf of the nation's bishops between their spring and fall general meetings. "To live in Christ is to draw upon the limitless love of Jesus to fortify us against the temptation of fear," it continued. "Pray that our engagement in the debate over immigration and refugee issues may bring peace and comfort to those most affected by current and proposed national policy changes."

Don't treat confessional like a dry cleaners, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The confessional is a place where one can go to humbly seek forgiveness; it is not a dry cleaners where one goes to remove the occasional stain, Pope Francis said. While forgiveness is "God's great work of mercy," Christians can take for granted the power of the sacrament of reconciliation and confess while being "unable to be ashamed" of their sins, the pope said March 21 in his homily during morning Mass at Domus Sanctae Marthae. "You did not go there ashamed of what you did. You saw some stains on your conscience and you were mistaken because you believed the confessional was a dry cleaners to remove stains," he said. Reflecting on the day's first reading from the prophet Daniel in which the people of Israel humbly beg God to pardon their sins, the pope said shame was "the first step" in seeking forgiveness. However, he noted, the Gospel reading from St. Matthew recounts Jesus' parable of the ungrateful servant who, although forgiven of a debt, refused to show the same mercy to another

VATICAN LETTER

Making the way for the Gospel

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- As the Vatican Secretariat for Communication works to unify Vatican media efforts, a key pastoral concern is to keep open all the channels that allow Pope Francis to speak to the world.

"With a pope who is so naturally communicative, if we don't put obstacles in his way, we already are doing our job," said Natasa Govekar, director of the secretariat's theological-pastoral department.

While every large organization and government has a communications apparatus, the Vatican may be unique in having a department like Govekar's. Her office focuses on the theological and pastoral implications of communications in general, as well as in the faith content of what the Vatican communicates.

The number of page views, clicks, followers and "likes" on Vatican websites and social media accounts is, of course, tracked by the Secretariat for Communication, but those statistics are not the key factor in determining success, she said. The secretariat fulfills its mission when the Gospel message shines through the social media posts, photographs, videos and news stories.

"The church has never had a problem with its content; the challenge is how to communicate the content in the best way for it to be heard and welcomed," Govekar said. For the Vatican, "the art of communicating today lies precisely in rediscovering the essence of who we are and what we have to communicate to the world and, then, how to do it. Creativity is always part of the



CNS/PAUL HARING

Natasa Govekar, director of the theological-pastoral department of the Vatican's Secretariat for Communication, in her office at the Vatican March 21. Govekar said church communications involves creativity. "You can never just cut and paste from the past and, even less, from the world.

process. You can never just cut and paste from the past and, even less, from the world."

The statistics from the main Vatican accounts -- including the more than 33 million followers on the @Pontifex Twitter accounts and about 3.7 million followers on the "Franciscus" Instagram account -- are the object of pastoral attention, she said. "It tells us if there is someone out there listening or reading. It would be wrong if we didn't ask ourselves why so few people read a certain article or were interested in a particular subject."

Govekar's thesis for her doctorate in missiology at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University looked at "The Transmission of Faith through Images," so it is no surprise that she has a particular interest in the pope's Instagram account, which celebrated its first anniversary March 19.

She monitors the account, which regularly garners more than 100,000 likes a

day and consistently prompts 800-1,000 comments. She collects the comments and prayers from the account to share with Pope Francis.

The most common comment is simply, "Amen," she said. "But sometimes there are comments that are very profound and requests for prayers that are very moving; people turn to the pope even though they write, 'I know that you won't read this post, but I still feel the need to ask you ...' Clearly, many have an illness. But many also say something like, 'I have done so many bad things in my life that I know I am not worthy to pray, so I beg you to pray for me.'"

"People turn to the pope in a personal way and find in him a reference point and a welcome even though they have never met him," she said.

Her thesis on transmitting the faith through images is confirmed regularly by people's reactions to Pope Francis.

"Pope Francis -- and this is confirmed from the feedback I read, and not just in the comments on social media, but from speaking to people, who say, 'I don't go to church, but I love this pope' -- is able to reach people, even those far from the church, because he is simply transparent," Govekar said.

"It seems his heart is readable on his face. The whole world is able to see his spiritual life from his expression. Every little thing -- his gestures, his smile -- speaks," she said. "For me, this is a great lesson on where we should focus our work: on the heart of Christian spirituality and the spiritual lives of Christians so that it is revealed in everything we do."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Great symbols as we move to the end of Lent

We're getting closer to the end of our Lenten Journey, and there is much for us left to do in strengthening the weak spots in our spiritual armour.

What great symbols we've had to attract our imaginations and challenge our minds – water instead of dryness on the Third Sunday, light in place of darkness on the Fourth Sunday, and now life coming forth from the tomb of Lazarus on the Fifth Sunday.

It's such a startling story—Jesus arrives in Bethany only to find that his dear friend Lazarus has died.

Martha has broken the news, "Lord, if you been here, my brother would never have died!"

Is she reproaching Jesus, or merely expressing her faith in Him?

And what does he do? He sheds tears, his heart torn with sorrow.

How grateful we are for this glimpse of the tender heart of God! Then Jesus tells them to roll the stone back. They try to stop him, warning him of the stench. But Jesus persists. And the Spirit of God enters into body of Lazarus, and he

comes out alive. When the Spirit enters, death departs, for death cannot prevail over Life.

The people are astounded. No one has ever come back from the dead before. He must be the promised Messiah. et, in a few short days, how skillfully the propaga-

tors of deceit will convince the people that it must have all been in their imaginations! And, through innuendo and suggestion, the crowd will prepare themselves to betray Goodness, and demand an end to innocence, and a cross on which to hang the Compassionate One.

As we go forward on our journey to Calvary, may we not fear the power of evil that so clearly fuels the plotting of the Pharisees That power was conquered once and for all We need fear only our own weakness and vulnerability to falsehood and betrayal.

While the action of this divine drama builds to a seemingly final catastrophe, the end is not the end. The epilogue plays out on a bright Sunday morning, and a whole new drama begins. We are the characters of

APRIL 2

Fifth Sunday of Lent

READINGS

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

this second and final drama—sharing in the role of the Hero-God whose victory is shared with millions upon millions, suffering a million crucifixions on a million crosses, right to the present moment.

How amazing and loving and compassionate is our God in the person of Jesus!

He wept over Lazarus, wept over Jerusalem, weeps over those killed through terrorism and war, through famine and disease, through murders and rapes – weeps when we fail to forgive one

another.

As a great and holy woman, Caryll Houselander once said in her book, *The Reed of God*, "To the degree of the truth of our understanding of God, our own minds grow broader and deeper and warmer - our hearts grow wiser and kinder, we become more aware of the wonder of life - our senses become more sensitive - our capacity for giving and receiving greater; our minds more radiant with a burning light, and the light is the light of Christ"

This is the truth that will set us free; this is the power that will transform our lives. Let us pursue it ever more ardently all the days that remain in our lives.

To know God is to be on the road to salvation.

To be ignorant is to be lost in a deep darkness.

PURSUING JUSTICE

Standing in opposition to... late term abortion

This is the first in a series of articles on issues of Catholic social teaching as explained by the New York State Catholic Conference.

The conference was founded to translate Catholic teachings into action in the public policy arena. These teachings, which are centered on the innate dignity of every human person made in the image and likeness of God, form the basis of the Conference's legislative agenda.

This week's issue is opposition to late term abortion.

Background

New York State legalized abortion three years before *Roe v Wade*. New York law permits abortion through the 24th week of pregnancy, but is outlawed after that unless the life of the mother is threatened by the pregnancy.

Abortion rights advocates want to loosen this restriction to allow abortion for any reason after the 24th week of pregnancy, particularly because they fear federal action that will undo *Roe vs. Wade*, making the

New York law fully enforceable. Abortion activists support legislation they call the "Reproductive Health Act" (S.2796) which would expand abortion in the third trimester of pregnancy, allow non-physicians to perform the procedure, and remove safeguards against unwanted abortions.

Governor Andrew Cuomo supports amending the state constitution to include the right to abortion, which would elevate abortion to a fundamental right.

Messages

- It will be fatal to more infants. Opening up third trimester abortions in New York will encourage more late-term abortionists to come into our state, and increase the number of third-trimester abortions. Even without this change, the State Health Department records 2,106 abortions at

20+ weeks of pregnancy (2014 data).

- It will not protect women. Abortion is an unnatural act that can harm women, both physically and psychologically.

There is good reason that New York's current law limits abortion practitioners to licensed physicians; non-doctors have less training and less experience.

Empowering non-physicians to perform abortion surgery, including late-term abortion surgery, increases the danger of abortion to women.

- It removes criminality for unwanted abortion. By removing abortion from the Penal Law, these proposals remove accountability for those who would harm unborn children outside the context of abortion.

The crime of "abortion act" is the only place in New York law that allows for

Make Your Voice Heard

Visit nyscatholic.org
Sign up for Catholic Action Network

criminal charges for violent attacks against pregnant women that harm or kill their unborn children.

- Making abortion a fundamental right means the government would have the task of ensuring that there is no "discrimination" against the right being exercised.

This means that doctors could be compelled to perform abortions or risk losing their license to practice. Hospitals and medical facilities, even religious ones, could be forced to allow abortions on site or risk fines, penalties, loss of funding/operating certificates or other punishment.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

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



Find us on Facebook!

AT THE MOVIES

LIFE

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Director Daniel Espinosa and screenwriters Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick adopt a serious tone in the ensemble sci-fi thriller "Life" (Columbia).

Together with deft performances and some creative camera work, this unusually thoughtful mood serves to offset the familiarity of the film's humans-versus-predator premise.

Characters are too busy battling for their lives to engage in much romance -- chaste or otherwise. But the bloody details of their conflict with the rampaging alien at the heart of the action are suitable neither for kids nor for the squeamish among their elders.

Said E.T. arrives on an un-

manned capsule carrying samples back from Mars that the multiethnic crew of an international space station has been tasked with retrieving.

Besides the vessel's commander, cosmonaut Ekaterina Golovkina (Olga Dihovichnaya), the team includes world-weary physician Dr. David Jordan (Jake Gyllenhaal); rules-driven disease prevention expert Miranda North (Rebecca Ferguson); freewheeling mission specialist Rory Adams (Ryan Reynolds); homesick flight engineer Sho Murakami (Hiroyuki Sanada); and paraplegic British scientist Hugh Derry (Ariyon Bakare).

Faced with the tricky task of stopping the cargo ship before it speeds past them, the astronauts are delighted

when they succeed. They're even happier once Derry's research reveals that they're in possession of the first living organism ever encountered beyond Earth.

Unfortunately for them, however, the initially tiny creature they've taken on board turns out to have not only an incredibly rapid growth rate but a murderously aggressive approach to interacting with humans. It's also devilishly brilliant and resourceful.

Loss of life is treated with an unusual degree of sober reflection in the suspenseful clash of wits and survival skills that follows.

This is in obvious and welcome contrast to the innumerable Hollywood movies in which the bodies of anonymous, mown-down extras seem to pile up like



CNS PHOTO/COLUMBIA

Ryan Reynolds and Jake Gyllenhaal star in a scene from the movie "Life"

so many chords of wood.

Yet, while largely free of callousness in its portrayal of fatal violence, "Life" is so bleak and, at times, darkly ironic, that it can feel nihilistic. Thus, in whole passages of the dialogue discussing bereavement, there's not a glimmer or hint of faith in an afterlife. As a result, moviegoers may feel as confined in the script's secular, despairing

outlook as the trapped space travelers do within their invaded craft.

The film contains some gory deaths and gruesome images, well as numerous rough and crude terms.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Franciscans opt for 'hip-hop' on new website

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) -- The head of the Franciscans hopes the order's new website will have a certain "hip-hop" style -- being very modern or "hip" and inspiring people to move, act or "hop."

Franciscan Father Michael Perry, minister general of the order, said the March launch of the revamped website - www.ofm.org - is just phase one of a comprehensive project that will include opportunities for the public to interact with the friars and for the friars to reflect formally on how, when and why they communicate.

The Franciscans decided their website needed a radical redesign because "we discovered we were communicating only to ourselves and not to the world," Father Perry told Catholic News Service.

"Reading the signs of the

times" means not simply acknowledging a problem, but doing something about it, he said. So the friars engaged Longbeard Creative, a Canada-based digital design company, to help them move the website into the modern age and respond to the Franciscans' obligation to share the Gospel.

"We see this as a continuity with what St. Francis and the early brothers did," he said. "Whenever they came across a need, when they saw a boundary, they decided they had to cross it, they had to respond," otherwise they would be "limiting the possibility of God's grace in their lives and the offer of God's love for the world."

A sleek, mobile-friendly website is not out of place for a group of mendicant friars. St. Francis and his brothers always looked for "new tools to communicate a message in a new way," the minister general said. "He wasn't simply repackaging old ma-

terial, he was picking up things as he went along" and sharing the Gospel in ways the people he met would understand.

"I think he felt also that he needed to learn new things," which is what the friars need to do as well. "We need to ask ourselves: 'What is it that the world is telling us? What is this new technology offering

us? What prospects and challenges does it bring? Is it really offering humanity a greater step toward a deeper experience of itself as human? Is it bringing people together, is it crossing divides, or is it creating new spaces where people feel even more isolated?"

As time goes on, Father Perry said, the Franciscans

will expand the website in response to users' needs and interests, but also in the areas the friars believe they have something particular to offer to the world.

Obviously, that will include "environmental ethics" and offering small "formation packages" on safeguarding creation, spirituality and prayer, he said,



Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Welcome Spring!

Visit our website at www.northcountrycatholic.org to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.

OR Send this coupon with payment to:
North Country Catholic

PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal

Inside Diocese \$27 Outside Diocese \$30
I want to be a Patron: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250
 New Subscription Renewal

Please send my subscription to my e-mail address:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parish _____

CLINTON

FRANCISCAN MYSTERY PLAYERS

West Chazy – Franciscan Mystery Players to present "The Way of the Cross."

Date: April 1

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph's Church

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Lyon Mountain – All you can eat breakfast to be held on Palm Sunday.

Date: April 9

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

Place: American Fire Station

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

under 5, Free

Features: 50/50 tickets on sale. Take-out will be available.

GOOD FRIDAY PRO-LIFE PRAYER

Plattsburgh – Good Friday Prayer service to be held.

Date: April 14

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: In front of Planned Parenthood

Features: All are welcome to join in peaceful prayer for the sanctity of life.

PAINT AND SIP

Chazy – Paint and sip party to be sponsored by Sacred Heart Church.

Date: April 5

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center

Cost: \$30 payable at the door includes all instruction and supplies, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

ERCLMA RETREAT AND WORKSHOP

Plattsburgh – The Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Ministers' Association (ERCLMA) is sponsoring a Spring Retreat/Workshop.

Date: April 29

Schedule: begins 9:30 a.m. Keynote Address by Cathy Russell, followed by a light lunch. Break-out Sessions, Eucharistic Adoration and Sacramental Reconciliation and 4 p.m. Mass at St. Peter's.

Cost: \$10

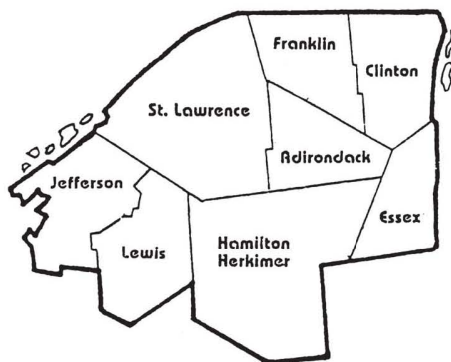
Contact: Register on-line at RCDONY.org. To locate the registration page, go to "Offices", then "Formation for Ministry". On the lower left part of the page is registration link for the Spring Event. For More information, contact Starr Burke at sburke7035@gmail.com.

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



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.

Place: Holy Name Parish Center Gym
Cost: \$10 per person; under 12, \$6

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.

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; kids, \$3; under 5, Free

LENTEN ADORATION

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

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

Features: Concludes April 11 with Benediction at 7 p.m.

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

HOLY WEEK, EASTER

Wells – Church services for Holy Week and Easter have been announced

April 2: Easter Penance Services at 2 p.m., St. James Major, Lake Pleasant

Holy Thursday, April 13, 7 p.m., St. James Major Church, Lake Pleasant; Mass of the Lord's Supper with feet washing and ½ hour Adoration

Good Friday, April 14, 3 p.m., St. Ann's, Wells; The Passion Narration, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil, April 15, 8 p.m., St. Ann's Church, Wells. Vigil Mass with Blessing of New Fire, Easter Candle, Holy Water and Renewal of Baptismal Promises.

Easter Sunday, April 16, 8 a.m., St. James' Major Church, Lake Pleasant.

VIRTUS TRAINING

Inlet - The Diocese of Ogdensburg requires and offers safe-environment training for all employees and volunteers in our parishes and institutions. A session has been scheduled

Date: April 23

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: St. Anthony's

Features: Stephen Tartaglia, Family Life Director, and a certified instructor will lead the program

Contact: Those planning to attend should contact Fr. Venette at 315 369 3554 or stbarts@roadrunner.com.

FRANKLIN

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Malone - On Palm Sunday, Saint André Bessette Parish will present "The Seven Last Words of Christ."

Date: April 9

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church

Features: Scripture readings from the passion of our Lord are illuminated by

meditations from the writings of the Saints and contemporary spiritual writers. A choral reflection and hymn follow each meditation. Begin your Holy Week this year by attending this special presentation. This event is free, all invited.

Contact: Inquiries can be made at the parish office at (518) 483-1300.

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

JEFFERSON

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

SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER

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

Date: April 8

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

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

FRANCISCAN MYSTERY PLAY

Clayton – Franciscan Mystery players to present "The Way of the Cross."

Date: April 14

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: A dramatic multi-media presentation of the Passion and Death of the Lord, through the use of special lighting, inspirational music, drama, and soul searching meditations, Then in a very unique way, it becomes a prayerful vehicle for the Lord's spirit to forgive, heal, and renew. Free to attend, although donations will be accepted to support the Mystery Players ministry.

Contact: 315-686-3398 for more information

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Houseville – The Feast of the Divine Mercy will be celebrated.

Date: April 23

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Schedule: Reconciliation will be available between 2 p.m. to 3 upstairs. Downstairs the DVD, "The Face of Mercy" will also be shown between 2 p.m. and 3. At 3 p.m. the Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration Program will be held.

Features: The Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image and Holy Cards and Pictures, the Presentation of Petitions, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Homily and Benediction. Father Thomas J. Ward of Christ Our Hope Parishes- St. Joseph's in Boonville; St. Patrick's in Forestport, and Our Lady of the Snows in Otter Lake will be the Guest Celebrant. A cover dish reception will follow in the church hall.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

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, Behold 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 30

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

ST. LAWRENCE

DOVS PRESENTATION

Norfolk - The D.O.V.S (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is sponsoring a special vocation 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 by April 17 to Connie at 315-265-2762 or the Vocations Office at 315-393-2920

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

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

A Maryknoll welcome to Fr. Dan Chapin

The following article is adapted with permission from a piece originally authored by Michael Snyder, MM and originally appeared in *Maryknoll Magazine's* December 2016 issue. Father Snyder is the vocation director for the *Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers*.

Father Dan Chapin, a diocesan priest from Ogdensburg, NY has been accepted to serve with Maryknoll for five years in our Priests/Brothers Associates Program.

He is no stranger to the Missions.

Ordained in 1972, Father Dan faithfully served the Diocese of Ogdensburg in several capacities over his career years including 10 years of service in Mollendo, Peru where this diocese had staffed a parish for 40 years.

During his years overseas, Father Chapin met many Maryknoll Society members serving in Latin America.

In addition to parish assignments, most recently as pastor in Croghan, Father Chapin has served as chaplain in correctional facilities, hospitals, and to Spanish-speaking migrant communities. He has also served as director of several diocesan commissions.

He returns to the missions for the next five years as a Maryknoll priest associate.

Father Chapin identifies with Maryknoll's co-founder

Father Thomas F. Price who later in life was in the first group of Maryknoll Missioners sent to China and called it a "second spring".

During his retirement Father Chapin has chosen to spend five years with the Maryknoll Missionaries who reach out to those in the world who are most in need.

"As I celebrated my 70th birthday marking 44 years as a priest, 10 of them in Peru, this is how I view my approaching work as a missionary once again in Latin America: it is

for me a "second spring", says Father Chapin.

Motivated by their faith Jesus Christ, Maryknollers go to aid and live alongside the poor and marginalized around the world as a demonstration of God's unconditional love and mercy for all people.

In concert with their overseas mission work, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers serve to be living signs of God's LOVE and compassion here in the U.S.

They build bridges of solidarity while actively forming and animating local communities of 'missionary disciples' who answer their personal call of witnessing God's love to others.

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



Father
Chapin

OBITUARIES

Adams — Edwin J. Smith, 79; Funeral Services April 1, 2017 at Pidcock Funeral Home.

Brasher Falls — Jennifer L. (Russell) Burns, 61; Funeral Services March 20, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

Brasher Falls — James F. Lantry, 71; Funeral Services March 27, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Canton — Michael "Moose" Levato, 59; Funeral Services March 23, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

Carthage — Thomas J. Ablan, Sr., 78; Funeral March 21, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Dannemora — Richard F. Noel Jr., 81; Funeral Services March 23, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Dannemora — Antoine "Junior" Barber, 73; Funeral Services May 12, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Dannemora — George F. Parrotte, 87; Funeral Services March 21, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Ellenburg — Floyd N. Demarais Sr., 79; Funeral Services March 21, 2017 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Gouverneur — Mercuria Mary (Scrufari) Centofani, 78; Funeral Services March 24, 2017 at St. James Church.

Gouverneur — James J. Cseledy, 80; Funeral Services March 21, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in New St. James Cemetery.

Harrisville — Kathleen E. (Prittie) Baker, 89; Funeral Services March 23, 2017 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in St. Fran-

cis Solanus Cemetery.

Lake Placid — Thomas A. Angulot, 65; Funeral March 25, 2017 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Lake Placid — Donald John Malone, 91; Funeral Services May 27, 2017 at St. Agnes Church; burial in Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale.

Lowville — Clinton L. Edick Jr., 78; Funeral Services March 20, 2017 at the Sundquist Funeral home; burial in Martinsburg Cemetery.

Lowville — Lowell V. Hoffman, 85; Funeral March 25, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Malone — Evelina Dumas, 99; Funeral Services March 24, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Malone — Beverly J. (Marlow) Pelliccione, 82; Funeral Services March 23, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery, Constable.

Malone — Alice C. (Dupuis) (Gervais) Valant, 81; Funeral Services March 22, 2018 at St. John Bosco Church; burial in St. John Bosco Cemetery.

Massena — Nancy (Agen) Richards, 69; Funeral Services March 23, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church.

Massena — Vincenza (Spaccavento) Rufa, 87; Funeral Services March 24, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Norwood — Blanche (Martin) Palmer, 89;

Funeral Services March 24, 2017 at St. Andrews Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Georgiana "Ann" Gladys Gidney, 77; Funeral Services March 20, 2017 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Evangeline J. (Boyer) Lawson, 101; Funeral Services March 22, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — James M. Lewis, 77; Funeral Services March 25, 2017 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg — Brian J. Wade, 80; Funeral Services March 24, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Suzanne (DeFayette) Carey, 63; Funeral Services March 25, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Port Henry — Peter G. McKown, 65; Funeral Services March 20, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

Raymondville — Ann T. (Davey) McGee, 77; Funeral in Spring at St. Raymond's Church; burial in visitation cemetery.

Watertown — Carol A. (Millard) Cozzi, 82; Funeral Services March 22, 2017 at Cummings Funeral Home; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Robert J. Dyer Jr., 89; Funeral Services at a later date at Holy Family Church.

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.

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

Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

ST. LAWRENCE

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

ST. RAPHAEL'S FOOD PANTRY

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 11

Place: Parish Center

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

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

Dates: April 2 and 23, May 5

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Features: Reflection and vespers. No

reservation necessary. Open to men who are Juniors in high school and older.

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

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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

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



St. Ann's Church in Wells celebrated a Youth Mass earlier this month offering children an opportunity to participate in the liturgy. At left is Ruby Sue Welch, newest altar server of the parish. Father Sony "tested" her by seeing if she could lift the heavy Lectionary over her head, which she did with ease. Ruby was trained by sixth grader and seasoned altar server Logan Allen. At right, fourth grader Bridget Allen lectors for the first time with a little assistance in reaching the microphone.



for each eight students. Youth leaders can register themselves and youth at www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally.

Contact: Kelly at kdonnelly@rcdony.org

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE

Father Chris Looby, pastor of St. Mary's in Evans Mills, will lead a pilgrimage to Greece following in the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle. The trip Features a 3-night Greek Islands & Turkey cruise. Highlights include Athens, Taverna Dinner Show, 3-Night Cruise, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Kavala, Philippi,

Meteora, Delphi, Corinth, Acropolis.

Cost: Prices begin at \$4149 for an inside double and \$4299 for outside double.

Features: An information meeting will be held March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Mary's Parish Center in Evans Mills.

Contact: Fr. Chris at (315)629-4425 or Mary McIntosh at Watertown AAA at (315)558-6372.

CAMP GUGGENHEIM REGISTRATION

Registration for 2017 season for Camp Guggenheim is now open through 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 or visit camp website: rcdony.org/camp/guggy

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

RACHEL VINEYARD RETREATS

Saranac Lake – Two Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreats will be offered in the diocese in 2017.

Dates: The spring retreat will be June 16-18. The fall retreat will be Sept. 1-3.

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: Fr. Thomas Higman will serve as the chaplain for the spring retreat.

Contact: For more information and a confidential registration form visit www.rcdony.org/prolife. Dates and locations of retreats outside the diocese are available at www.rachelsvineyard.org.



The middle school students of St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga will present a Living Stations of the Cross April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Above is a scene from last year's production.

IMMACULATE HEART CENTRAL SCHOOL MYSTERY PLAYERS

LENT 2017: "Jesus Turners Falls Again"

Date	Place		Time
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