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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 10

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JUNE 14, 2017

God's fatherly love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The mystery of God's relationship with humankind is revolutionary in that Christians can look to him without fear as children to a loving father, Pope Francis said.

In teaching the Lord's

prayer, Jesus invites all Christians "to have the courage of calling God with the name 'father,'" the pope said June 7 at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

"This is the great revolu-

tion that Christianity in-

grains into the religious psychology of man," he said. "The mystery of God who always fascinates us and makes us feel small but no longer frightens us, he doesn't crush us, he doesn't dis-

stress us," Pope Francis told the crowd.

In his talk, the pope reflected on the theme of God's fatherhood as a source of hope for Christians as conveyed in the prayer of the "Our Father."

FATHER JABLONSKI

Bishop ordains new priest



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

Bishop Terry R. LaValley prepares to give Father Michael J. Jablonski a fraternal hug at the conclusion of the ordination rite during the May 27 ordination Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral. Bishop LaValley's homily for the liturgy is printed on page 3 of this week's North Country Catholic; more photos and a story are printed on page 8. Father Jablonski will begin pastoral service for the diocese June 21 as parochial vicar in Massena for Sacred Heart, St. Mary's, St. Joseph's and St. Lawrence parishes.

FULL STORY, PAGES 3 & 8

Capital campaign to begin

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced his decision to move forward with a capital campaign to be conducted in all parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The campaign is expected to generate up to \$15 million over the next four years.

Bishop LaValley's decision is in response to a feasibility study recommendation that the diocese undertake the campaign, with 75% of the total funds being directed to the needs of local parishes and 25% being directed to diocesan needs

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

Changes in assignments

Bishop announces changes in the diocesan tribunal, worship office and family life office

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

LAY MINISTERS ON RETREAT



Candidates who have completed the Formation for Ministry program in anticipation of the June 25 commissioning service at St. Mary's Cathedral are shown while on retreat at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg in May. Preparations are underway for the next two-year Formation for Ministry program, featuring classes in Lake Placid, Carthage and Canton. Deacon Patrick Donahue, program coordinator for Formation for Ministry, will be leading information sessions in those three communities this month. See page 6 for the details.

FATIMA: Rosary Crusade in Carthage held on 100th anniversary... p.7

NORTH
COUNTRY
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Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400**BISHOP TERRY
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Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except skipping every other week beginning June 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 andadditional 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 byThursday 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

A June full of joys

After two exciting weekends on the road – at a family wedding and a college reunion – it's good to settle back into my own personal "ordinary time."

Sharing stories with people from my past always makes me appreciate all the gifts of my "present."

There aren't many who can brag about a long loving marriage, accomplished kids, perfect grandchildren AND a very satisfying job.

I am blessed indeed.

And, traveling to different parts of the country certainly makes me appreciate how blessed we all are to live where we live.

Mary Lou
Kilian

Yes, the rainy spring brought challenges but the sun is shining today. The St. Lawrence River is high, but as beautiful as ever.

I know that mountains, lakes, rivers and sunshine are bringing joy to every corner of our diocese this month.

This is also a good time of year to take stock of all the extraordinary people of

our diocese.

The merry months of May and June bring special celebrations as we salute graduates, jubilarians, lay ministers and, this year, a brand new priest.

In a couple of weeks, the gates of Guggenheim will open to welcome hundreds of young people for weeks of faith-building fun.

Parish picnics, fairs and festivals are all on the calendar.

Let the merriment begin!

And, for me, seeing the faces on the front page of today's paper – the lay ministers ready for their commissioning – is just about the greatest cause for gratitude in our North

Country Church.

The generosity of these Catholics who traveled to classes every week for two years and gave up their Saturdays for workshops and retreats would be beyond comprehension for the average American.

But some of these remarkable people are my friends and their faith, hope and love doesn't surprise me one bit.

I can't wait to celebrate with them on June 25 when Bishop LaValley brings them into the every growing family of commissioned lay ministers.

We are *all* truly blessed indeed!

FATHER MUENCH SAYS

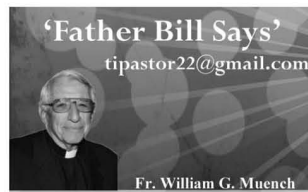
Witnessing the Holy Spirit in our lives

Today, I would like to spend some time with you considering the Holy Spirit as the Holy Spirit has profoundly influenced my life. We have just celebrated the Pentecost and also recently had Confirmation here in the parish.

The Holy Spirit entered my life in Baptism and Confirmation. I am certain the Holy Spirit reached out to me leading me to my vocation, to study to become a priest.

My long adventure of study and preparation for the priesthood through the year of seminary study were never easy. The Holy Spirit brought into my life wonderful priests and professors – inspiring directors – and great classmates and friends to stand with me. This was the kind of support that made a great deal of difference in my life.

The Holy Spirit brought God's grace and love alive in my life as a support for my decision to accept ordination as a priest. This was a decision to be ready to accept ministry as a priest for the Diocese of Ogdensburg. I know only too well how I have relied on the power of the Holy Spirit over the



years of my priesthood. Also, I know well the good things I have been able to accomplish through the constant power of the Holy Spirit.

Every time I join with you and the people of my parish to celebrate Mass the Holy Spirit fills us all with peace, love and challenges us as we join in prayer. We are challenged by the Spirit to be transformed in God's love, to take that love to those who need us.

I must add one thing here. I continue to be so saddened that too many who are participating at Mass do not realize or recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit with them.

Further, I am saddened that too many no longer join us at Mass anymore, no longer opening themselves to the power of the Holy Spirit.

I know no answers for this situation. I do know from own

experience how much I have found support and guidance from the Holy Spirit. How I wish that all will discover and experience the Holy Spirit.

Here, I would like to share with you something that St. Augustine wrote in describing a Christian. He said that a Christian is not someone who lives a life of following rules and regulations; rather a Christian is someone who lives by the constant promptings and directives of the Spirit of God who is within, around and upon us.

Personally, I know that there have been innumerable times I have experienced the Holy Spirit supporting and helping me. The Spirit has never failed me. Let me tell you, I know only too well that I never take any credit for something I do – a writing or a talk. I know only too well that the Holy Spirit has been there for me. I am eternally grateful to God's love as expressed for me through the power of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit continues to help me to do what I must, to help others in need, to lead me to say the right thing.

Today, I am anxious to con-

vince you and all others that you all continue to experience the power of the Holy Spirit as an everyday part of your life. I believe it is all about being honest and humble so that you realize how much you need God, so that you realize how much you need the Holy Spirit to guide you to make the right decisions. Turn often to the guidance and leading love of the Holy Spirit.

One more thing in this regard: when Jesus came to the apostles after his Resurrection, he said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I send you." Then Jesus calls down the Holy Spirit upon them, "Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

The Holy Spirit enters my life and yours as God's forgiveness. We are a blessed people. Our God loves us so much that Jesus came among us and died for us to demonstrate God's love and forgiveness. We are a forgiven people God never gives up on us.

This is the involvement of the Holy Spirit in our lives every minute.

FOLLOW ME

Extraordinary adventure of love

Homily for Father Michael Jablonski's ordination to the priesthood May 27

"Simon, Son of John, do you love me? Feed my sheep." Love of our Lord precedes any fruitful service in His name. This is the lesson which Jesus teaches in our familiar Gospel story from St. John. Here the Resurrected Christ reinstates Peter to the apostolic office from which he had fallen. Jesus addresses him as Simon, reminding him of the critical moments when Christ had first given him a new name and a new authority and had warned Peter of his impending fall. The Lord asked for a love of devotion, and all He got was a love of emotion. But even that Jesus does not reject. It is not enough, Jesus says, but it is enough to start.

The very life of the priest is, or should be, a hymn of God's love. Even if your vocal chords don't provide you with perfect pitch, your priestly life is to be a song of praise to God in the midst of the cacophony of this world's noise

Your priestly vocation, Deacon Mike, is a love story. After hearing Fr. Lucia's attestation on behalf of the People of God and in light of my own personal observation, I know you love Jesus and His holy people. Right now, though, Jesus might be saying "It's not enough" (It never is, considering our sinfulness!), but it is enough for you to start to share that love as an ordained priest of God. God's love story must be told. And the very life of the priest is, or should be, a hymn of God's love. Even if your vocal chords don't provide you with perfect pitch, your priestly life is to be a song of praise to God in the midst of the cacophony of this world's noise. Deacon Mike, make your priestly life a song of praise to God. Let those whom you meet and serve join in the refrain of your priestly song of praise to God.

When love goes out of our heart, we begin to hate the things we are obliged to do, or at least we cover up our deep feeling of indifference with the metallic ring of formalism or the harshness of rigidity. We become mere functionaries, doing what priests are expected to do, and our folks, God's fragile, yet holy people, suffer through such superficiality. Our people know when their priests are not in love with God. Our homilies become scoldings, dissertations or entertainment time. The doorbell becomes an interruption to my leisure, to my time. We greet the visitor with a sigh. Our non-verbal communication screams: "unwanted, unwelcome intruder!" Our parishioners are not disturbers; they are our heart, our body, our blood. They call us "Father." That must mean something. To minister at the altar of love with an unloving heart; to belong to a vocation of self-sacrificing love while seeking



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

Father Michael J. Jablonski and Bishop Terry R. LaValley are shown in front of St. Mary's Cathedral at the conclusion of Father Jablonski's ordination to the priesthood May 27.

our own comfort is to offer hollow, scandalous words from the pulpit and in the public square. You see, love begins when duty finishes. It is a giving of a shirt after the coat is taken. It is walking the extra mile, blisters and all. Ask your parents. They can tell you the meaning of love and the sacrifice it entails and the joy it brings.

It is by contemplating the face of Christ in prayer that a priest can acquire the generosity to give himself, body and soul to his priestly ministry, as Christ lived and died. Deacon Mike, you are about to enter a presbyterate, a fraternity of priests whose lives have been spent walking the extra mile. The joy these men exude in their priesthood reflects a love story whose pages continue to be turned with such pastoral zeal and loving faithfulness. For that, this bishop and the Church of Ogdensburg are so very grateful!

It is through the power of prayer that a priest's ministry is truly a labor of love. Jesus' self-giving love is meant to become yours and mine. Pray well so as to speak about God better, for I can find words about God only after having encountered Him and established personal ties with Him. In the priesthood, prayer is always the first thing. Without the vitality of prayer, the priest's motor idles and, therefore, the parish's, as well.

As I've stated on other occasions, when it comes to our faith, ordained or lay, we cannot be idling, in a holding pattern or running in place. The faith life of those entrusted to your care must continually be fed and nurtured by your personal encounter with Jesus, your love story with the Divine. Because, Deacon Mike, as a

priest, you are not your own. You are a link in a chain that extends from the Cross to eternity. Do not be a lone ranger priest. Ordination to the priesthood does not bring with it a license for private practice, but a bridge, with a mission to communion. Ordination sanctifies you for this role. The Eucharist will help transform your innermost being.

Ordination story and photos: page 8

Christ-led, Christ-fed, and Hope-filled, your priestly ministry will not be without its challenges and personal sacrifice in this time and place. But, we will never be more overwhelmed than the apostles were! What matters is the quality of your heart, the strength of your faith and the substance of your interior life. All make way for God's grace. Priests lacking in zeal in their ministry are tired in mind and spirit before they are tired in body. Eucharistic devotion and strong faith can only return to the faithful if priests are filled with zeal and love for the Christ who lies hidden in the sacrament. The Eucharist transforms us down to the inmost depths of our being. Jesus' self-giving love is to become mine. As one author noted, the priest who has not kept near the fires of the tabernacle can strike no sparks from the pulpit.

In collaboration with our consecrated Religious, deacons, and pastoral staff, let the holiness of your life build up the house which is God's Church. To build the Church, we must labor, we must suffer. There is no pastoral success without sharing in Christ's suffering. Your own embracing of the Cross gives needful witness to our sisters and brothers who have grown up in an anesthetized culture that seeks to avoid suffering at all costs.

Of course, the life of a priest is inconceivable without a filial bond with Mary. May Our Lady of Fatima support you in your fidelity to her Son.

I extend my deep gratitude to your family, Deacon Mike, particularly your mother and father, all your loved ones who are rightly very proud individuals this day. Rachel and Joseph, your own faith, love and guidance have brought us to this day. Thank you for your son. We are grateful, also, to all those who have been important facilitators of Deacon Mike's intellectual, human and spiritual formation. We extend words of appreciation to the faculty, staff and community of the Pontifical College Josephinum where Deacon Mike has called home these last six years. We, particularly welcome Fathers Louis Iasiello and Michael Kelly who have trekked to the North Country and are present with us this day representing the Seminary community.

And now, my brother, Michael, please rise to declare publicly your desire to become a priest and to serve the Church of God in our Diocese of Ogdensburg. Let your extraordinary adventure of priestly love begin!

Bishop announces changes in assignments

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced pastoral changes, effective, June 21.

- Msgr. Harry K. Snow, due to health concerns, will be retiring as judicial vicar and as pastor of St. Mary's Church in Waddington and St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid. He will reside at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Ogdensburg.

- Father Douglas J. Lucia, pastor of St. Mary's Church in Canton, adjutant judicial vicar of the Tribunal, diocesan director of the Department of Worship, vice-chancellor, episcopal vicar for worship and family life, and director of seminarians, has been appointed judicial vicar and pastor of St. Mary's Church in Waddington and St. John the Baptist Church in Madrid. He will continue as director of vocations and seminarians.

- Father Bryan D. Stitt, parochial vicar of St. Patrick's Church in Rouses Point and

St. Mary's Church in Champlain, has been appointed pastor of St. Mary's Church in Canton and director of the Office of Worship.

- Mr. James D. Crowley, chancellor of the Diocese and director of the Office of Public Information and Office of Cemeteries, has been appointed also as executive director of family life. Mr. Stephen Tartaglia remains director of the Family Life Office.

Profiles of the new pastors follows. (An interview with Msgr. Snow will be featured in an upcoming issue of the NCC.)

Father Lucia

Father Lucia was born March 17, 1963, in Plattsburgh and grew up in Altona. He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary College and Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, NY, before his ordination May 20, 1989, by Bishop

Stanislaus J. Brzana.

In his first assignment, Father Lucia served as parochial vicar at St. Patrick's in Watertown. In 1990, he left the diocese for two years to serve in the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall. He returned to become parochial vicar at St. John's in Plattsburgh and then parochial vicar at St. Mary's Cathedral.

From 1997 to 1999, Father Lucia was assigned to study canon law in Rome. During the summer of 1998 he served as a parochial vicar at Holy Family in Watertown and worked part time for the diocesan tribunal office.

Upon the completion of his studies, Father Lucia was named adjutant judicial vicar and vice chancellor. He also served as administrator at St. Raphael's in Heuvelton and as a part-time chaplain at the Gouverneur Correctional Facility.

In 2000 he was named bishop's secretary and in 2003 was named diocesan director of vocations.

From September 2003 to March 2004, Father Lucia served as administrator of St. Mary's in Canton. In September, 2004, Bishop Robert Cunningham appointed him as chancellor and episcopal vicar for diocesan services. In 2005 he was given additional responsibilities as diocesan director of seminarians.

In June, 2006, Father Lucia was appointed pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church, Morristown and St. Peter's Church in Hammond with its mission of St. Patrick's



Fr. Lucia



Fr. Stitt

Church in Rossie. He was also appointed diocesan director of the Worship Office.

Father Lucia returned to Canton in 2008 as pastor. In 2010, Bishop LaValley appointed him as episcopal vicar for worship and family life.

In September, 2016, he was given added responsibilities as diocesan director of vocations and seminarians.

Father Stitt

Father Stitt, new pastor in Canton and director of the Office of Worship, served in the diocesan vocation office for many years of his priesthood.

In 2007, he was named associate vocation director and, in 2010, vocation director, a position he held until September, 2016. At that time, he was named parochial vicar for Champlain and Rouses Point.

Father Stitt, a native of

Crown Point, was born Aug. 12, 1977. He studied for the priesthood at Wadhams Hall Seminary College and the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

He was ordained July 19, 2003 at St. Mary's Cathedral by Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito and then returned to Rome to complete a licentiate in spiritual theology degree.

Through the years, Father Stitt has served as parochial vicar in Ticonderoga and Saranac Lake and at St. Peter's in Plattsburgh.

He has also been assigned as special parochial vicar at St. Mary's Cathedral, administrator of St. Patrick's Church in Colton with its missions of St. Paul's, South Colton and St. Michael's, Parishville.

Previously, he was administrator in Clayton and LaFargeville from May 2009.

Prior to that assignment, Father Stitt served as bishop's secretary from 2007 as well as associate vocation director for the diocese and part-time parochial vicar at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg until 2010 when he became full-time vocation director.

Between, 2010 and 2015, the priest provided temporary pastoral service as administrator at St. Joseph's/St. Mary's in Massena and for Fort Covington and Bangor along with his work in the vocation office.

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After completion of a feasibility study, diocese to launch effort to raise \$15 million

Diocese, parishes prepare for capital campaign

By James D. Crowley
Chancellor

OGDENSBURG - Bishop Terry R. LaValley, after consultation, has made the decision to move forward with a capital campaign to be conducted in all parishes of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The campaign is expected to generate up to \$15 million over the next four years.

Bishop LaValley's decision is in response to a feasibility study recommendation that the diocese undertake the campaign, with 75% of the total funds being directed to the needs of local parishes and 25% being directed to diocesan needs.

Feasibility study

In December 2016, the diocese retained Guidance In Giving, to undertake a feasibility study to determine the level of support and financial potential for a major fundraising campaign.

Guidance In Giving, Inc. is a national Catholic organization serving as stewardship, development and campaign counsel to dioceses, parishes and Catholic schools. The firm has extensive experience in conducting capital campaigns and implementing stewardship in Catholic dioceses, parishes and schools throughout the United States.

"Looking at some sort of financial campaign seemed like a natural follow-up to our Living Stones Planning Process," said Bishop LaValley. "Our plans for making our parishes vibrant led to the question of how we would get the resources to support that vitality.

"Our plans show the need for more personnel, more training, stronger programs and materials for various programs," he said, "and all of these things take resources on the parish level."

The feasibility study measured the level of interest and

financial potential for the campaign. It also tested model campaign case statements and determined the impact of the Living Stones process on a potential capital campaign.

Representatives from Guidance In Giving conducted personal interviews with all pastors and a representative number of retired priests.

Additionally, 50 lay people were interviewed to give their feedback to the questions posed in the feasibility study.

A direct mail questionnaire was sent to 5000 Catholic households throughout the diocese to obtain their input. Included in the mailing was a letter from Bishop LaValley, a survey form and a return envelope. Nineteen percent of the surveys were completed and returned, providing valuable information about the feasibility of a capital campaign. The feedback was very positive in favor of a capital campaign.

"We're very happy with the consulting process used by Guidance In Giving," said Scott Lalone, Director of Development for the Diocese. "Generally, a ten percent response to a survey is considered to be a good response. We had nearly double that number, which is outstanding. That response and the face to face interviews give us a solid basis upon which decisions can be made."

Consultations.

The decision to conduct a feasibility study follows consultations with the Diocesan Finance Council, Investment Advisory Committee, the Priests' Council, Diocesan Pastoral Council and the Episcopal Council. All of

these bodies recommended that the diocese consider a capital campaign.

"To be successful we had to have the support and dedication of a wide base," said Bishop LaValley. "I wanted input from all our consultative boards before we made any decision on this campaign. The support of our consultative bodies and the responses to the feasibility study told us that we had overwhelming support from our pastors and our faithful."

Support from pastors

"It is a perfect time for a capital campaign," said Father Joseph Morgan, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral and pastor of Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg. "The planning process made it clear that we need additional personnel, training for our laity, and more materials to maintain the vibrancy of our parishes in the future.

"The question turned to 'How are we going to pay for these things?'" Father Morgan said. "Our planning was leading us to some sort of financial campaign, so this diocesan-wide campaign is a true gift."

Msgr Dennis Duprey, pastor of St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh, said, "This campaign can be very helpful to accomplish our diocesan goals and priorities. Vibrant parishes, which are hotbeds for vocations, catechesis and the building up of the family need additional resources as we each move ahead with our plans.

"We know that our needs are varied and extensive, but

understand that what together we do now in a diocesan campaign will only strengthen our parishes," Msgr. Duprey said. "When the need is clear, our people will embrace God's work as reflected in the ministries of the Church".

Next steps

Bishop LaValley has decided to retain Guidance In Giving to provide professional counsel in conducting this capital campaign.

"I was pleased with the professionalism of Guidance In Giving in the conduct of the feasibility study. They were thorough, competent and user-friendly," said Bishop LaValley.

The diocese recently entered into a contract with Guidance In Giving, and the groundwork for the campaign will begin soon.

Steve Babcock, Executive Vice-President of Guidance In Giving, Inc. recommends that the diocese begin working on campaign case statements, establishing a Clergy Advisory Committee, a special gifts committee, and work on campaign themes and strategies in order to prepare for the actual campaign in each parish.

Since 75% percent of the funds contributed to this campaign will remain in the parishes, Guidance In Giving personnel will meet with each pastor to help him to form a leadership team, develop case statements pointing out the parish needs and the proposed use of the funds, and prepare campaign materials.

It is anticipated that the

campaign in the parishes will begin in Spring 2018. The parish portion of the campaign will be conducted in three blocks, at times to be determined. It is anticipated that redemption of pledges to the campaign will be conducted over a maximum of four years.

Bishop 'delighted' with support

"I am delighted that we have the support of our priests and faithful as we undertake this important campaign," said Bishop LaValley. "We embarked on a bold undertaking in 2014 by setting Diocesan Goals and Priorities. Every parish is working to establish a culture of vocations, promoting religious vocations and the vocation of marriage to build up our families. Our parishes are seeking to make catechesis more available, not only to our young people, but also to our adults. Training and enabling our laity to undertake their proper role in the parishes is also a priority in all our parishes, so that our priests and deacons can focus on the work that is properly theirs.

"This campaign will give us the resources we need to do the things that we set out to accomplish through the Envisioning Leadership Process," Bishop LaValley said. "These goals and priorities came from the grass root level, and it is gratifying to see the wide-spread support for a campaign to raise the resources necessary to accomplish them."



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CHEVROLET

Formation for Ministry information nights set

Deacon Patrick Donahue announced that three information nights have been scheduled for the next cycle of the Formation for Ministry program that begins in September.

The title of the presentation by Deacon Donahue is "Co-workers in the Vineyard: Lay Ministry Today" and will be offered at the sites selected for the next program cycle: Canton (St Mary's) on June 20, Lake Placid (St Agnes) on June 27 and in

Carthage (St James) on June 29.

The information nights are offered to help prospective candidates for lay ministry learn more about the Formation for Ministry program and have an opportunity to ask questions about the requirements of the program.

Deacon Donahue will talk about each of the sites and introduce recently commissioned lay ministers who will briefly share their experiences in the Formation for

Ministry program and subsequent parish ministry.

Applications for the new cycle of the FFM program are due July 25 with classes beginning at all three sites during the week of Sept 9.

To RSVP for the meeting or to receive more information about the Formation for Ministry program, contact Deacon Donahue at pdonahue@rcdony.org or Jeannie Grizzuto, Formation secretary, jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

Immaculate Heart Central sees structural changes

WATERTOWN - Beginning on July 1 Immaculate Heart Central School will operate with several structural changes.

In 2004, the four parish schools of Watertown and Immaculate Heart Central High School were joined together under one Education Council, similar to a public school Board of Education, but with limited jurisdiction.

In 2016, in order to empha-

size the unity of the system from pre-k to 12, the Education Council voted to change the official name of the system from Immaculate Heart Central Schools to Immaculate Heart Central School.

In recent times, the organization provided for a principal for the elementary school with offices at the primary building (grades pre-k to 3) on Winthrop Street, a vice-principal at the intermediate school (grades 4-6) on South Massey Street, and a vice principal and principal at the high school (grades 7-12).

In addition, there is a finance officer and a director of advancement. The two principals, the finance officer and the director of advancement have been equally responsible to the Education Council. However, there has not been one person in charge of and responsible for the total day to day operation of the school.

Beginning on July 1, there will be one school principal

for grades pre-k to 12 located at the high school.

The school principal, in addition to being head of school, will serve as the principal for grades 7 to 12. Each of the elementary buildings will have a vice principal, each of whom will be responsible for the day to day operation of the school, including, but not limited to, the academic program, student activities, and communication with parents.

These two vice principals, the fiscal officer, the director of advancement, and the high school vice principal will report to the school principal. The Education Council will be charged with hiring the school principal who, in turn, will hire all other personnel as needed.

The Education Council will begin a comprehensive search to fill the position of school principal. In the meantime, Joseph Orobona will serve as interim school principal beginning July 1.

Bishop's Schedule

June 11-16 - United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Spring Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana

June 17 - 1 p.m., Graduation Ceremonies for Seton Catholic Central at SUNY Plattsburgh's Hawkins Hall in Plattsburgh

June 18 - 10 a.m., Mass at St. Cyril's Church in Alexandria Bay celebrating Rev. Douglas Comstock's 50th Anniversary of the Priesthood
3 p.m., Mass for the 60th Anniversary of Queen of Heaven Church in Henderson

June 19 - 7:15 p.m., Novena & Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

June 20 - 10:30 a.m., Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

June 21 - 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

- June 14** - Rev. Hermisdas Mayer, 1927; Rev. Arthur Desrosiers, 1963; Msgr. Walter T. Cleary, 1968
- June 15** - Rev. Francis Cornish, 1960
- June 16** - Rev. James L. Meehan, 2004; Deacon John Dwyer, 2007
- June 17** - Rev. Thomas J. Thotumkal, 1992
- June 19** - Rev. Gerard Chouinard, O.M.I., 1955; Deacon David F. Moltz, 2011
- June 20** - Rev. James O'Hara, 1949

To Report Abuse

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

Environmental Stewardship

Sowing Seeds of Hope and Healing (Part 1)

As the farmers and gardeners plant their seeds to provide us with essential foods to sustain our bodies, Pope Francis plants seeds of hope and healing for our world in his first encyclical, entitled *Laudato Si: Care for our Common Home* released two years ago this month.

In this encyclical he recognizes that care for the poor and most vulnerable in our midst are not separate from but are intricately connected with our care for the earth from which we came and are sustained daily.

He sees the need for all people on the planet to join together to protect and care for it as a moral responsibility.

For one young mother this encyclical has had a powerful impact, since the birth of her first child coincided with its release.

She writes "My little son is going to grow up in this world and suddenly the topic of care of our earth seemed exponentially more important... The encyclical ended up being a real gift to me. It has become my guiding star, especially about certain ideas I want my son to learn about his place in the world."

Here are some points from the Encyclical that really stood out for this mom:

The natural world will show you the face of God. "We often think of God as existing beyond the world, when in fact, He is to be found there in the heart of the world... we shouldn't forget that nature is still sacred, because, as Pope Francis writes 'The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely.'

Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face.' (233) Jesus knew that nature is often the way in which God reveals profound mysteries about himself to us.

When this mom's sees a beautiful sunset, she wants him to recognize the beauty of the Creator.

What do you want the children in your life to learn about God through the beauties that surround you this week?

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15th Annual Rosary Crusade

Scores gathered at St. James in Carthage, hundreds more joined in prayer from afar

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

CARTHAGE-- Including prayer warriors in attendance and those who prayed the Rosary in spirit, organizer Robert Renaud estimates hundreds and possibly thousands joined in prayer for the 15th Annual Rosary Crusade Friday at St. James Minor Church.

The event coincided with the 100th anniversary of the Blessed Mother's appearance to three children in Fatima, where she encouraged praying the Rosary for peace.

According to Mr. Renaud, approximately 100 attended Mass at 5:15, with between 30 and 50 praying every hour until 1 a.m.

The seven-hour event is based on the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Mother. Each hour has specific prayer intentions and includes three complete Rosaries, or 15 decades. Every hour, three different families or groups lead the Rosary.

Prayer intentions are for all life, families and the sacrament of marriage, innocence and all children and grandchildren, the Holy Church, vocations and all priests and those consecrated to religious life, the Holy Father's intentions, soldiers, world peace and all sinners and poor souls in Purgatory. The last hour is dedicated to prayers of thanksgiving.

At 7 p.m., Mr. Renaud noted it was May 13 in Fatima, so six of the seven hours of prayer coincided with pilgrims praying across the world for the 100th anniversary.

"You could literally feel the (Holy) Spirit that night," Mr. Renaud said.

The St. James Crusade spans the globe. New groups and individuals recruited by Mr. Renaud this year include the offices of St. Luke Productions and Family Theater Productions, Catholic author and speaker Scott Hahn, speaker and spiritual



Robert Renaud, organizer of the annual Rosary Crusade, is shown with the painting he created for the 2017 event titled "Our Lady of the Rosary." Each year he gives a print of his original artwork to each person who spends at least three hours in prayer at the crusade.

warfare expert Father Chad Ripperger, and Father Donald Calloway of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception.

Other groups included laity and religious communities from New Zealand, Korea and Australia, London and the Philippines.

Mr. Renaud said social media such as Facebook

and Instagram "played a huge part in spreading the word."

"Social media is positive in this way, although there is so much evil with both of these and social communication in general. I'm just glad there are some positives and these venues have certainly helped to spread the word," Mr. Renaud said.

Through the night many groups led the Rosary, including families in the local parish and St. Mary's in Copenhagen, local chapters of Women of Grace, Ave Maria Circle and the Knights of Columbus.

Other groups include a Legion of Mary from Watertown, an Altar and Rosary group from Lowville, and members of St. Stephen's parish in Croghan and St. Anthony's Church in Watertown.

Every year, Mr. Renaud, a celebrated Catholic artist and art teacher, creates and paints an original painting for the Crusade. A print of this year's artwork titled, "Our Lady of the Rosary," is given to each person who stays at least three hours in honor of Jesus' three-hour crucifixion on the cross. Mr. Renaud said 40 people signed up to stay.

The painting depicts two images of the Blessed Mother and her son, one in Jesus' infancy, and the other as she holds Him crucified.

According to Mr. Renaud, all the mysteries of the Rosary are represented in the painting. The Joyful and Sorrowful are depicted in the scenes, while the Luminous through the Monstrance containing the sacrament, while the Glorious is shown through the crown of the Trinity.

The night began with a Mass celebrated by St. James Pastor Father Donald Robinson, whom Mr. Renaud thanked for his support of the event and his love for the Blessed Mother.

Mr. Renaud lives in West Carthage with his wife, Mary Beth. He sells many of his works and prints out of his studio, located next to his house. More information can be obtained by going to the parish's website at catholicsofcarthagecopenhagen.org

Fatima: anniversary of the second apparition

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions.

This is the second of a series featured from May 2017 to October 2017 in the North Country Catholic to honor the Blessed Mother's monthly appearances to three children in Fatima, Portugal. The first installment was printed in the May 10 issue

Part 2

The second apparition of

Our Lady of Fatima; June 13, 1917.

"By now word had spread among the village of the three children seeing an apparition of Our Lady. Ridicule began not only by neighbors, but also among their own family members who did not believe them.

About fourteen of Lucia's friends joined her as well as a few neighbor women.

It was near noon on the thirteenth of June and they all said the Rosary and then

the litany." Lucia stopped them and stood up; "Jacinta, Jacinta, here comes our Lady. I just saw the flash."

They all ran to the holm oak and knelt among the brush.

Lucia was looking up as if in prayer. She could hear Our Lady speak to her but the others heard "like a gentle humming of a bee."

"Lucia in later years tells us what Our Lady told her; "I want you to come here on the thirteenth next month.

Say the Rosary inserting between the mysteries the following: "O my Jesus forgive us our sins and save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need."

More conversation about heaven ensued with Our Lady telling Lucia that Jacinta and Francisco would be in heaven soon but that "Jesus wants to use you to make Me known and loved. He wants to establish the Devotion to my Immaculate

Heart in the world. I promise salvation to those who embrace it and their souls will be led by God as flowers placed by myself to adorn His throne."

When Lucia feared being alone our Lady said. "I will never leave you, My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."

(*excerpts derived from: The True Story of Fatima by John de Marchi, I.M.C.)



PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

All the priests who concelebrated at the ordination - including Father John M. Demo of Dannemora - laid hands on the head of the new priest as part of the ordination rite.



Father Jablonski was vested by Father Gregory Weider of the Diocese of Albany with assistance from Father Thomas J. Higman of Ellenburg and Father Scott A. Belina of Malone.

Father Michael J. Jablonski is ordained

By Kristina Dean
Staff writer

OGDENSBURG -- Calling a priest's life a love story, Bishop Terry R. LaValley welcomed Father Michael J.

Jablonski to the priesthood in front of a crowd of several hundred at St. Mary's Cathedral May 27.

In his homily, the bishop emphasized the importance for a love of God in a priest's life and that his life must be

a song of praise to God in the midst of the discord in the world.

"This love begins where duty ends," the bishop said, adding that priests must be willing to give their shirt when their coat is taken.

"You, Michael Jablonski, are about to enter a fraternity of priests whose lives have been spent walking that extra mile," he said to the candidate.

Bishop LaValley told him that he must nurture his parish with his love story, using prayer to sustain him and said he would be a link in a chain that extends from the cross to eternity.

The bishop thanked the candidate's family for their son, and acknowledged the family and friends, some of whom traveled from Las Vegas. He joked with the congregation that "the odds for today are very good."

Prior to the homily, Father Douglas Lucia, diocesan director of vocations and seminarians, presented the

candidate to Bishop LaValley, stating there were no doubts regarding his readiness for ordination.

Immediately after the homily, the future priest vowed to the bishop to carry out the office of a priest under the direction of the bishop. As the congregation stood, the candidate prostrated himself before the altar, and the Litany of the Saints was sung.

Afterward, the bishop laid his hands on Father Jablonski's head and conferred the office of a priest upon him through the prayer of ordination.

Father Jablonski was vested in his stole and chasuble by Father Gregory Weider of the Diocese of Albany. Each concelebrating priest laid their hands on the new priest's head and prayed for him.

After the Bishop gave Father Jablonski the fraternal kiss welcoming him into the ministry, the newly ordained priest gave his first blessing

to his parents. He also spent time after Mass giving his first priestly blessings to a long line of people waiting.

During Mass, Corey Haynes of St. Regis Falls and Jamie Burns, Canton, proclaimed the scriptures. The Gospel was read by Deacon Michael J. Allan. Gift bearers were Joseph Jablonski and Stephen Jablonski, Jr.

In 2016, Father Jablonski was ordained to the diaconate at St. John's Church in Plattsburgh. He has served as a deacon at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Columbus, Ohio, from August, 2016 to April of this year.

His first assignment as a priest will be as parochial vicar of the Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence and to St. Mary's and St. Joseph's in Massena, effective June 21.

Father Jablonski is originally from Montgomery County, where he was raised on a dairy farm by his parents, Joseph and Rachel Jablonski.



Father Jablonski is flanked by his parents, Rachel and Joseph Jablonski of St. Johnsville, N.Y., after the ordination.



PARISH PHOTOS

Fr. Philip Allen, pastor in Indian Lake, Olmstedville and Blue Mountain Lake, celebrated Mass at St. Mary's Oratory in Irishtown as part of the local Catholic community's Memorial Day celebration. Fr. Allen is shown, at left, during the consecration. Also pictured is John Sleckman at the church's antique pump organ, and Kathy Halloran who proclaimed the first reading.

Patriotic parish celebration

IRISHTOWN - Father Philip Allen celebrated Mass at St. Mary's Oratory in the Irishtown section of the Town of Minerva for the local Catholic community's annual Memorial Day Service May 29.

St. Mary's was built in 1848 to accommodate the ever growing population of predominantly Irish immigrants drawn to the area for jobs in mining, tanning, lumbering and farming.

For the Mass, Kathy Halloran proclaimed the first reading, Clifford Coyle served as alter server and Diane McNally served as Eucharistic minister.

The collection was taken up by David McNally and Robert Savarie volunteered

his hat to carry the collection to the altar.

The choir, made up of Judy Jennings, Mike and Rita Leddick, Betty LeMay, David McNally, Geri Plumley, and John Sleckman, sang "Sing to the Mountains," during the opening, "Let Us Break Bread Together," during the offertory and "Let There Be Peace on Earth," and "How Great Thou Art" during communion.

Following communion, Mike Leddick led the congregation in the traditional singing of "Oh Sacrament Most Holy." The recessional song was "America."

In addition to being a part of the choir, John Sleckman accompanied the choir on guitar and on the churches

antique pump organ. Following the singing of the recessional, John played Danny Boy on the pump organ.

Following the conclusion of the Mass, Father Allen blessed the graves outside where refreshments were prepared and served by Betty LeMay, Diane McNally, and Judy Jennings.

Mike McSweeney assisted in the setting up and breaking down of the refreshment stand and canopy.

Organizers noted that "a little rain didn't dampen the enthusiasm, fellowship, and faith of the 43 people gathered at St. Mary's for this very special annual Memorial Day service."

Sr. Gregory named IHC director of advancement

WATERTOWN - St. Joseph Sister Mary Gregory Munger has been appointed director of advancement at Immaculate Heart Central School, replacing Robert Piddock, effective July 1.

Sister Mary Gregory is an alumna of Immaculate Heart Academy and a former teacher at Immaculate Heart Central High School.

She earned a bachelor's degree in science from SUNY Potsdam, a master's degree in music education and liturgy from Catholic University of America and a master's degree in education, administration/supervision from Boston College.

Sister Mary Gregory has taught in Catholic schools at the elementary, junior and senior high school levels.

She was an adjunct professor at SUNY Potsdam in the school of education and taught evening courses at

Boston College. She has served as principal of Catholic schools in the diocese of Ogdensburg and Syracuse.

Commenting on her appointment Sister Mary Gregory noted that she has spent most of her life in Catholic schools either as a student, teacher or administrator.

"The mission and tradition of Immaculate Heart Central School are particularly important to me having graduated from IHA and taught at IHC, she said. "I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to promote IHC's mission throughout the Watertown area and to maintain and cultivate relationships with our alumni."

(A story on upcoming structural changes at Immaculate Heart Central School is printed on page 6 of this Week's NCC.)

Immaculate Heart Central School Watertown, New York

Is seeking applicants for the position of
HEAD OF SCHOOL

with the title School Principal for grades Pre-K to 12

Applicants should:

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

Applicants should send a cover letter expressing their suitability for the position, resume, salary requirements, transcripts and two letters of recommendation attesting to the candidate's proven administrative ability and one letter of recommendation attesting to the person's adherence to the Catholic Church, no later than August 1, 2017.

The school website is <http://ihcschool.org>

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ,
Superintendent of Schools
100 Elizabeth Street
PO Box 369
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Piemakers send kids to camp

MALONE - The Rosary Society of St. Andre's Bessette parish held a fundraiser for teenagers who want to attend Camp Guggenheim this summer.

Pie tins were passed out to volunteer parishioners who like to bake.

They were returned the

next weekend on May 6-7, after all Masses.

Sale of the pies brought in almost \$1,400 even though there weren't enough pies for everyone.

The teen applicants had to write a 300-word essay stating why they wanted to attend Camp Guggenheim this

summer and what they expected to gain from this experience.

Their parents/guardians were asked to send a note along as to why they would like to see their teen go to camp and the parish priests were invited to judge the essays.

WASHINGTON LETTER

The fight for religious freedom

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- It has been nearly 20 years since the International Religious Freedom Act became law. Organizers of a forum at Georgetown University thought it a good time to see how the religious freedom landscape worldwide has changed since 1998.

Passed by overwhelming majorities in both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Bill Clinton that year, the U.S. law created a multifaceted system for promoting religious freedom as part of U.S. foreign policy, monitoring religious persecution in foreign countries and advocating on behalf of individuals persecuted in other countries for their religion.

At the forum, while the view wasn't always encouraging, speakers professed hope for the future -- along with a side dish of skepticism.

Andrew Bennett said those concerned about the issue should ask whether they ought to be similarly concerned about protecting religious beliefs of someone in another country as they are about fighting political discrimination against individuals overseas. He had been the first ambassador for religious freedom within Canada's foreign ministry, from 2013 to 2016 -- until the Cabinet position created by the Conservative Party was abolished by the Liberal Party government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"We in Canada are increasingly vague as to what those answers should be," said Bennett, now a research fellow at the Religious Freedom Research Project of Georgetown's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs, which sponsored the forum.

Canada's founding story,



CNS PHOTO/DAVE HRBACEK, THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

People display signs showing their support for religious freedom during a 2012 rally in downtown Minneapolis. It has been 20 years since the International Religious Freedom Act was passed by Congress and became law.

he noted, is quite different from that of the United States, whose first refugees were those who fled England because of religious persecution, Bennett said at the forum, "Best Practices in International Religious Freedom Policy."

Bennett cited "ignorance of religious faith and tradition" for liberal Western democracies being diplomatically tone-deaf on the matter. A "narrowing of our understanding of human rights" that may leave religious freedom out of the picture can result, he said. "We should not be equating freedom of expression with freedom of religion," Bennett added.

Kristina Arriaga de Bucholz, a Cuban-American who is a member of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom -- created as a result of the 1998 law -- said her experience working in the Reagan era State Department led her to believe that "giving a religious freedom speech was a career-killer -- and still is."

Religious freedom does not always get the high pri-

ority it deserves, according to Arriaga.

In other cases, countries enforce restrictions based on religion. In Saudi Arabia, she said, "women cannot get surgery unless they have permission from a (male) guardian," which Arriaga held as an interpretation of religious codes in the predominantly Muslim nation. Americans looking to make trade deals in that country, she added, may look askance at its "open for business" sign because of these and similar religion-based restrictions.

Tom Farr, director of the Religious Freedom Research Project and forum moderator, noted that nations that give greater religious freedom to its people are both more stable and more attractive trading partners.

Arriaga outlined several suggestions for improving U.S. analysis of religious freedom issues in other nations.

One was to develop an "international balancing test" for the issues involve to avoid the dangers of missteps on religious freedom, calling for more comprehen-

sive education for diplomats and others receiving foreign postings.

"We should be working with all the (United Nations') special rapporteurs who work in the area" to get them attuned to religious freedom issues, Arriaga said. The United Nations' own religious freedom specialist has no staff save for a part-time secretary, she added; the State Department, by comparison, now has about 50 people on staff working on religious freedom issues.

"We should all be principled" in international dealings, Arriaga said, such as taking Iran to task for its treatment of Baha'is living there despite the lifting of U.N. sanctions against Iran in 2015. And "raise religious freedom to the seventh floor always," where the secretary of state's office is in the State Department building in Washington, she added.

Rabbi David Saperstein, now a senior fellow at the Religious Freedom Research Project after his term ended earlier this year as U.S. ambassador at large for reli-

gious freedom -- another outgrowth of the 1998 law -- said he had then-Secretary of State John Kerry's ear on religious freedom issues during his tenure.

He said one reason he accepted the appointment was because he was promised "structural access" to Kerry, adding Kerry would get back to him within 30 minutes on notes he had written.

Kerry set up the office on global religious freedom and that it had worked well. But "it's not enough to talk theoretically about the role of religious freedom in statecraft," Rabbi Saperstein said. "These issues really had to be woven in at the macro level."

No replacement for Rabbi Saperstein has been nominated yet, but rumors were circulating aloud during the forum, and Arriaga even gave the initials of who she believed would be President Donald Trump's nominee.

Rabbi Saperstein cautioned that diplomats have to avoid being seen as "Western imperialists" by extremists in any one country by the mere giving of assent to an event or initiative in that country that promises to expand religious freedom within that country which would win approval by its moderates. Even so, he said, "I was encouraged by how many people wanted our support, our stamp of approval."

He added, "There are times when the tools that we have really make a difference," referring to sanctions or the threat to apply them. "I don't think we use the tools nearly as well as we can."

"We feel that the problem is too large and it's impossible to do well. That's not true," Arriaga said. "It is our right to live according to our deeply held convictions. It's our duty to defend those to others."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Annual audit of church abuse allegations shows work still needed

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The 14th annual report on diocesan compliance with the U.S. Catholic Church's "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" shows that church leaders have taken steps to help many find healing as victims of clergy sexual abuse, but there is still work to be done. Introductory remarks in the 2017 report urge church leaders not to assume that "sexual abuse of minors by the clergy is a thing of the past and a distant memory. Any allegation involving a current minor should remind the bishops that they must rededicate themselves each day to maintaining a level of vigilance," wrote Francesco Cesareo, chairman of the National Review Board, which oversees the audits. The newly released report -- based on audits conducted between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016 -- shows that 1,232 survivors of child sexual abuse by clergy came forward with 1,318 clerical abuse allegations in 132 Catholic dioceses and eparchies. The allegations represent reports of abuse that occurred from the 1940s to the present. The report also shows an increase of 730 allegations from the previous year's report and stresses that a most of the increase in allegations this year comes from the six dioceses in Minnesota, because the state in 2013 opened its civil statute of limitations for such claims until May 2016, giving victims over age 24 a three-year window to sue for past abuse.

Defending sacredness of life offers service to everyone, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Upholding the sacredness of human life becomes concrete when generations work together to serve everyone: the poor, disabled, orphans, migrants, the unborn and the elderly, Pope Francis said. Such work is demanding and complicated, but "only by strengthening your association and inviting other families to join with you, will the task become less arduous, since union makes for strength," he told members of the Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe June 1. The group was holding a meeting in Rome to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The various crises facing Europe -- in demographics, immigration, employment, education -- "might find positive outcomes precisely in the culture of encounter, if different social, economic and political actors were to join in shaping policies supportive of families," he said. Pope Francis encouraged the Catholic family groups to stimulate constructive dialogue with these various leaders "without hiding" their Catholic identity.

Netflix series on teen's suicide raises concerns of parents, counselors

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) -- The popular Netflix show "13 Reasons Why," which portrays a fictional teen's suicide and the aftermath, has sparked the curiosity of young people and the concern of parents and school counselors in the Diocese of Nashville and around the country. Counselors from Catholic Charities of Tennessee hosted a panel discussion to help guide teachers and parents in talking to teens about the show, which includes graphic depictions of rape and suicide. Even though suicide is the third leading cause of death in the United States for young people ages 15-24, it remains a somewhat taboo topic, which is one allure of the show, according to counselors. Catholic Charities counselor Amy Sturm, who is based at Immaculate Conception Church in Clarksville, encouraged parents to make time to watch the show with their children and help walk them through the issues they encounter while viewing it. "A great time to connect with your teen is to watch it with them," she said during the recent panel discussion at St. Edward School in Nashville. Then "open the door and listen" in a nonjudgmental way while they share their reactions, she advised.

Bishops: Senate health care bill must respect life, be 'truly affordable'

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Members of the U.S. Senate "have a grave obligation" to make sure their health care reform bill respects life, provides access to adequate health care "for all" and is "truly affordable," the chairmen of four U.S. bishops' committees said in a letter to senators released June 2.

As the Senate takes up health care reform, it "must act decisively to remove the harmful proposals from the House bill that will affect low-income people -- including immigrants -- as well as add vital conscience protections, or begin reform efforts anew," the chairmen said, reiterating key moral principles they urged be in the U.S. House bill to replace the Affordable Care Act.

By a four-vote margin May 4, the House passed the American Health Care Act to replace the Obama administration's health care law.

Senate Republicans have been urged to pass health care legislation before the congressional recess at the end of July.

After House passage of its measure, the U.S. bishops "noted the positive aspects" of the bill, including "critical life protections" for the unborn, the letter said, but the measure "contains many serious flaws" the Senate must act to change, it added.

The letter, dated June 1, was signed by New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities; Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty; Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice Chairman and Human

Development; and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the Committee on Migration.

"Most troubling are unacceptable changes to Medicaid that reports indicate will leave millions of additional people uninsured in the years ahead," the bishops' letter said.

"The Catholic Church remains committed to ensuring the fundamental right to medical care, a right which is in keeping with the God-given dignity of every person, and the corresponding obligation as a country to provide for this right," it continued.

"Health care debates must not be reduced to only those elements which appear most politically expedient; those without a strong voice in the process must not bear the brunt of attempts to cut costs."

The letter said the U.S. bishops "stand ready to work with Congress" to address problems with the current health care law "in ways that protect the most vulnerable among us."

It also stressed that health care is "much more than mere insurance" and should provide incentives for preventative care, early intervention and even encourage people to enter medical professions which foster relationships between doctors and patients.

The bishops' letter to the Senate reiterated many of the points raised in a March 8 letter to House members that said any repeal of the previous health care legislation shouldn't move forward without a replacement plan. They also urged that such a plan should show respect for life, offer access for all, be truly affordable and offer

comprehensive and high quality coverage.

"No health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion," the bishops wrote, adding that long-standing Hyde Amendment protections must be included in any health care plan and that federal resources should not be used to "assist consumers in the purchase of health care plans that cover abortion."

The bishops said that if the Senate uses the American Health Care Act as its starting point, they should "retain the positive elements of the bill and remedy its grave deficiencies."

The bishops suggested the new plan keep protections for the unborn; ensure affordable and adequate coverage for all stages of life; and increase the level of tax assistance, especially for low-income and older people, in the measure's tax credit proposal.

They also said a new plan should oppose significant penalties, which the poor cannot afford, for gaps in coverage and add conscience protections.

The letter urged senators to recognize their "grave obligation" to come up with a fair health care plan. It included a quote from Pope Francis about health care saying: "When a sick person is not placed at the center and considered in their dignity, attitudes arise which can even lead to profiteering on other people's misfortunes. The growing health poverty among the poorest segments of the population is due precisely to the difficulty of access to care."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Celebrating the Feast of Corpus Christi

During Jesus' time on earth, the doctrine of the real presence of the Body and Blood of the Lord shocked his followers more than any other truth.

Many people turned away from what seemed like cannibalism to them.

The Old Testament forbade the eating or drinking of human flesh or blood.

It was only when the grace of the Holy Spirit penetrated their hearts and minds at Pentecost did they fully understand what a divine gift He had given them.

The Catholic Church has defended this doctrine ever since.

In the first reading for this

great feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, Moses reminds the people in the desert to "remember that God the Father, from the first moments of Creation, had always taken care to feed the people he created."

They failed to appreciate the delicious fruit in the Garden of Eden, so they lost it! But later he gave them that mysterious "manna" in the desert.

Jesus used this story when he revealed to them a much better food than manna. "After all", he told them, "your fathers ate manna in the desert, and they're all dead!"

They still didn't believe Him, so they turned away...

all except Peter and the apostles!

How lucky for the Church and for us that they stayed! Even though the Last Supper would still be shrouded in mystery, they now knew what His Body and Blood would taste like as food.

Full understanding and acceptance came only with Pentecost.

In the second reading, St. Paul insists we are all one body when we celebrate the Eucharist - French or Latino, American or African or Chinese - we are all one body or rejoicing, for loving, and for giving away.

I think the biggest questions this week for us, besides firmly believing in the Real Presence, is the question of how much of the Eucharist do we share with our brothers and sisters.

In the passage from John's

JUNE 18

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ

READINGS

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

John 6:51-58

Gospel today, we find the most difficult teaching of Jesus about the Eucharist, one that was difficult for his listeners then, and still is for many Christians. "I am the living bread..." Jesus told them. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in them."

Pope Benedict XVI has commented on this passage. He says, "Without the God-with-us, the God who is close, how can we stand up

to the pilgrimage through life, either on our own or as a society and the family of peoples? The Eucharist is the Sacrament of the God who does not leave us alone on the journey with the strength God gives us through Jesus Christ..."

After Jesus enters us so intimately, we must listen to his inspirations, then "go" and "give."

We give when we discipline ourselves to answer the pastor's call for help in a parish activity, or when we are patient with our children (even if we have to force a smile and a kind word of correction), or we decide to make time each day for deep prayer with the Lord.

What a tremendous gift God has given us - His very self. He should be our joy, our courage, and our life!

OUR READERS WRITE

Forced HPV vaccinations

Health care is of concern to many of us. Unfortunately, there are some who take advantage of that concern and use our lawmakers to force procedures on us or our children that we would be able to refuse otherwise.

Once again, I am talking about vaccines - the only medical procedure forced upon us and our children by law. In the current New York State Legislative Session there are a number of proposed bills regarding vaccine exemptions and shaming those who use them, eliminating religious exemptions, tracking and reporting of adult vaccines, and more vaccine mandates.

I am particularly writing to inform you of A.2469 that provides treatment for sexually transmitted diseases to minors without a parents' or guardians' consent (HPV/Hep b). This is connected to A.933 which mandates the HPV (Human Papilloma virus vaccine) for boys and girls as young as 9 yrs. Old.

As I understand it, the need for A.2469 is because the Health Commissioner has already given permission for young people to get the vaccine without the need for parental consent and this is probably utilized more in school health clinics. However, this bill, if it becomes law, gives the power legally to the Health Commissioner, nurses, doctors, and pharmacists and will take away parental rights and responsibility for our children. This is an infringement on family and its authority! S.132 mandates the HPV vaccine and adds it to the schedule for children.

Sadly, lawmakers are still pushing the HPV vaccine 10 years after its deadly side effects were exposed! WHY is this vaccine being forced on our children even though it has been shown to cause paralysis, convulsions, blindness and death?!

The simple reasons are for more government control of our health and for the millions of dollars involved. Millions of taxpayer dollars are given by the Federal government to State and local health agencies to boost the number of young people getting the vaccine and, ironically, about \$6 million of taxpayer monies have been given to HPV victims! But, it is the drug companies that make the millions and billions of dollars for the vaccine and it becomes their profits. They do not have to worry about financial liability.

I beg parents, grandparents, and even college and high school-girls and boys to take an interest in this issue and contact your State Senators and Assembly members to vote against these bills. The Legislative Session is getting near its end for this year so please call your lawmakers as soon as possible this week.

I also urge Catholic leaders to take a

good look at vaccination, if for no other reason, than the aspect of religious liberty and its need to be protected, whether forced contraception or forced vaccination.

BONNIE P. FRANZ
OGDENSBURG

Pro-life decisions

In response to article of May 24, 2017. Search for common ground will be key to the Popes meeting with the President. President Trump nominated a Constitutional Pro-Life Conservative to the Supreme Court. He also instituted the Mexico City policy, (No tax funds for overseas abortions),

These two alone especially Supreme Court Neil Gorsuch will help the Pro-Life movement for years to come.

President Trump is also attempting to defund Planned Parenthood, this is something many Catholic politicians are fighting.

JOAN BOULIO
DEXTER

Thanks for jubilant salute

It was great to read in the May 31 issue of NCC about the 40th Anniversary

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the *North Country Catholic*.

•Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300.

•We cannot accept letters which support ideas contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

•Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org

of Fathers Al Fish, Harry Snow and John Yonkovic, all of whom I attend Wadhams Hall Seminary with.

And, the 50th for Fr. Comstock, whom I worked with during my 10 year term as a Trustee of Wadhams Hall.

What a nice tribute you gave them. And, what joy for me to see how they have touched so many lives in their selfless great work as Priests. Proud to know them.

JIM DONOVAN, CLASS OF 1972 WHSC
LAKE MONROE, FL



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore



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AT THE MOVIES

WONDER WOMAN

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Close to eight decades ago, William Moulton Marston created Wonder Woman. In the years since, the character has, of course, become a staple for DC Comics.

She has also had a successful and varied career in other media, including a late 1970s live-action television series.

Now, embodied by Israeli-born actress Gal Gadot, who also played her in 2016's "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," the familiar superhero holds the spotlight in the enjoyable adventure "Wonder Woman" (Warner Bros.).

Director Patty Jenkins keeps the mayhem through which Gadot passes mostly free of gore. And the dialogue in Allan Heinberg's script is unspotted by vulgarity. Yet tinges of sexuality make the film safest for adults, though some parents may deem it acceptable for older teens.

Opening scenes take us to Wonder Woman's native environment, the picturesque, Aegean-style island of Themyscira. Populated entirely by Amazons, Themyscira is isolated from the rest of the world by an invisible, protective but not impassable shield thoughtfully provided by Zeus.

After chronicling some of Wonder Woman's childhood (during which she's played by Lilly Aspell and known as Princess Diana), including her military training under the isle's chief warrior, Antiope (Robin Wright), the screenplay introduces an outsider in the person of Capt. Steve Trevor (Chris Pine).

An American who's spying for the British during World War I (an event of which the Amazons know nothing), dashing Steve drops from

the sky when the German aircraft he purloined in an emergency is shot down. Diana takes his startling arrival as a signal that her race is being called to restore peace to humanity.

Since her mother, Queen Hippolyta (Connie Nielsen), the ruler of Themyscira, disagrees, Diana undertakes the mission on her own. Guided by Steve, and with the support of Sir Patrick (David Thewlis), a high-ranking government official in London, Diana uses her battlefield skills to take on real-life German commander Gen. Ludendorff (Danny Huston) and Dr. Maru (Elena Anaya), the fictional, sinister scientist who runs Ludendorff's chemical weapons program.

Steve recruits three additional allies for Diana from among his old pals. This gallant but shady trio is made up of Moroccan veteran Sameer (Said Taghmaoui), Scottish sniper Charlie (Ewen Bremner) and a Native American black-market trader known only as The Chief (Eugene Brave Rock).

The movie's fundamental values are sound, if not always clearly expressed. Wonder Woman chooses to see the underlying goodness in human nature that the slaughter of the trenches masks.

And she consistently strives for concord, though she shortsightedly imagines that this can be achieved by killing the last surviving Olympian, Ares, the god of war.

Believing that Ares has incarnated himself in Ludendorff, Diana is convinced that assassinating him will end the current conflict and prevent any future ones. This sets her at odds with both Steve and Sir Patrick since they believe an armistice is imminent, and fear that the prospect of peace would be ruined by

Ludendorff's death. Despite the tension, however, everyone on Diana's side seems to be striving to do good.

On a more personal level, Steve and Diana -- who have, of course, come to be more than mere comrades to each other -- are discreetly portrayed as spending a night together, though the camera cuts away shortly after Steve locks the bedroom door behind them.

It was probably inevitable that "Wonder Woman" would play on the humorous potential of the fact that its heroine has never set eyes a man before, though a subtler approach could certainly have been adopted in doing so. Along the same lines, the situation described above is followed up by some comically awkward wordplay that would not be appropriate for kids.

Together with the pagan details incorporated into the movie's milieu and backstory, these incidents suggest a cautious attitude on Mom and Dad's part.

The film contains frequent stylized violence with minimal blood, nonscriptural religious ideas, implied premarital sexual activity, a scene of immodest behavior, some sexual humor, at least one mild oath and a single crass term.

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



CNS/WARNER BROS. PHOTO

Gal Gadot stars in a scene from the movie "Wonder Woman."

43rd Annual

ST. JAMES

FAIR

State Street • Carthage

June 22nd, 23rd, & 24th

Thursday and Friday 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday 12:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Games of Chance

*Black Jack *Big Six Wheel *Pull Tabs

RAFFLE - Prizes: 2 First - \$500 * Sellers of 1st Prizes: \$50 each * 10 Second Prizes - \$100 each
\$1 per Ticket • 6 for \$5 • 12 for \$10 • 18 for \$15
\$\$\$ Drawing Saturday June 24th \$\$\$

Entertainment:

Reptiles Forever, Westy's Birds of Prey,
DJ and More!

Ontario Amusement Rides



Saturday - Wristband Day ~ 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

FOOD

Italian ~ Lebanese ~ American ~ Polish

•Beer & Wine Tent •Ice Cream •Clams •Salt Potatoes •Fried Bread Dough
Special Priced Meals for Children Saturday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.



ADIRONDACK

SUMMER RETREAT

Saranac Lake - Summer Retreat for Adults "Praying with the Psalms of Creation."

Date: Aug. 11-13

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: Facilitators are Paul Gibaldi, Adirondack Guide and photographer & Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ. Father Paul Kelly will celebrate Mass on Saturday evening.

Contact: srbethssj@gmail.com or 315-212-6592.

STORE CLOSING

Lake Placid - St. Agnes Gift and Book Store is closing.

Features: 50% off everything! Father John Yonkovic, pastor, said, "Internet shopping may be the main culprit, but sadly after many years of service to our community the store in the basement of our church will be closing. The Catholic Daughters have served us well."

CLINTON

HEALING MASS

Dannemora - A Healing Mass to be held.

Date: June 13

Time: Reconciliation begins at 5 p.m., Holy Sacrifice Mass begins at 6 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph's Church

Features: Anointing of the Sick at the Mass. Private prayer offered for those who would like to remain after the Mass. All are welcome.

IGNATIUS PRAYER

Ellenburg Center - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer will host 2 workshops on Ignatius Prayer.

Date: June 17

Time: 11 a.m.

Features: First workshop on Meditation followed by lunch and then the second workshop will be on Contemplation.

Contact: Reservations necessary. Please call 518-594-3253

HEALING MISSION

West Chazy - A Healing Mission is set

Date: June 19, 20 and 21

Time: 7 p.m. each evening.

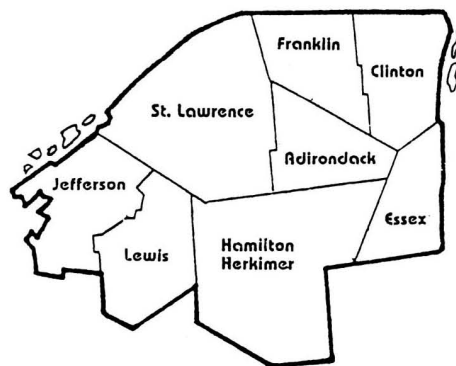
Place: St. Joseph's Church

Speaker: Paul Rymniak

Features: The Sacrament of Confession will be available during the Mission.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Peru - St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 7273 Bill McBride Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament is set



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.

Date: June 16

Place: Adirondack Country Club.

Features: The tournament is dedicated to its former chairman, Bill McBride Jr., who died Feb. 28. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. Obtain entry forms and information from Greg Lombard at 593-2652 or email gnetlombard@charter.net

HAMILTON/HERKIMER

GARAGE SALE

Wells - St. Ann's to have a garage sale.

Date: July 14 and 15

Features: Collecting items for garage sale. All proceeds to help people in the community- especially disadvantaged children, as well as buying candles for the Altar, Votives and Vigil Light, and various projects throughout the year. A new shed at the back of the church is ready to receive donations of gently used items, i.e. linens, blankets, sports items, appliances that work, kitchenware, etc. (no clothes though).

Contact: Should you need a pick up call Ronni at 924-7661 or Pam at 924-2041.

PARISH PICNIC

Speculator - St. James' and St. Ann's Sixth Annual Parish Picnic will be held.

Date: July 23

Time: 2 p.m. to 5

Place: Speculator pavilion

Features: Coordinators of this years picnic are Linda Slack, Cathy Rogers and Deborah Walters. Sign up early

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Lake Pleasant - St. Ann's and St. James'

will be holding their 6th Annual "Summer Heat" Golf Tournament.

Date: July 29

Time: 8 a.m. Shotgun start

Place: Lake Pleasant Golf Course

Cost: Foursome/Scramble. \$65 per person includes cart

Features: Breakfast and Lunch. Snacks and Drinks all day. Prizes: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place team. "Closest to the pin," "Hole in One," "Closest to the Line," "Longest Drive," "Fewest Putts," 50/50 Raffle. Reserve your spot for a team of 4 or we'll team you up. Be a Tournament Sponsor: \$225./\$350. 2/4 Complimentary tournament fees, One Tee box sign with your company name, Recognition in tournament brochures, and at the event. Hole Sponsor: \$50.00- One Tee Box sign, Recognition in tournament brochures and at the event. Monetary Donations are also gratefully accepted. Checks can be written to St. Ann's or St. James' Church, P.O. Box 214, Speculator, NY 12164, as well as Donations of Food, Prizes and Raffle Items.

Contact: Call Roger - 518 548-3625 Or e mail: rsnyder304@hotmail.com

ADORATION AT ST. ANN'S

Wells - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to be held first Thursday of the month.

Date: July 6

Time: 8:30 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Ann's

ADORATION AT ST. JAMES

Lake Pleasant - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to be held first Friday

of the month.

Date: July 7

Time: 8:30 a.m. Mass

Place: St. James Major

JEFFERSON

MOUNT CARMEL FEAST

Watertown - St. Anthony's Church will celebrate its 101st Annual Mt. Carmel Feast in honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Date: June 23, 24 & 25

Schedule: On the grounds traditional Italian foods will be served. Ontario Rides and \$1700 cash raffle after the fireworks. Bingo Friday at 7 p.m. Entertainment each night. Fri: Lis Scrivani-Tidd and Sons 4:30 p.m. to 6:30, The "Infamous" Les Gates 6:30 p.m. to 9:30; Sat: Chuck Ruggiero 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Fed & the Ed's 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Sun. La Banda Rossa 6:30 p.m. to 9:30. Unlimited rides for \$13 Sunday 1 p.m. to 4. Religious Procession Sunday at 5 p.m.

followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Giant fireworks Sunday night at 9:30 p.m. Grounds open at 5:30 p.m. Fri and 1 p.m. Sat. and Sun. All days' end at 10 p.m.

Contact: St. Anthony's parish office at 315-782-1190

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

Watertown - Ecumenical Bereavement Meeting to be held.

Date: June 26

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Hearthside Hospitality Center

Speaker: Kathy Strader, Director of Drunken Driver Awareness

Topic: "Facing the Reality of Grief"

APPRECIATION DINNER

Watertown - The Watertown Knights of Columbus, Council No. 259, Watertown, announced that it is co-sponsoring with the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Bishop Conroy General Assembly, No. 699 a Testimonial and Appreciation Dinner for long time serving and local well known Knight, Sam Tufo.

Date: July 8

Time: 5 p.m.

Place: Savory Downtown Restaurant

Cost: \$25, includes tax, tip and gift.

Contact: Tickets are available from any of the four Catholic parish offices or by contacting Mike Deline at 315-788-4791, John Morgia at 315-777-7917 or Jim Fraser at 315-782-4064.

INTERESTED IN LEADING RCIA?

Clayton - Pam Ballentine will present a program on RCIA.

Date: June 20

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Features: Training for new and seasoned RCIA catechists, helpful to parishes forming RCIA teams, and a discussion of adult catechesis in general. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome. There is no charge

Contact: For more information contact St. Mary's Office at 315-686-3398

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: June 22

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

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

LEWIS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville - Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

Date: June 15

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: one hour of worship in Exposition, Silent Adoration, The Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: July 2

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Schedule: 2:25 p.m. before devotions there will be a viewing of "Proclaim This Message" from the series entitled: Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC. At 3 p.m. the program includes Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

Massena - The Massena Catholic Community Book Club meets once a month

Date: Third Thursday of each month

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Rectory

Features: Copies of book are often available on Kindle through our parish's Formed.org subscription

Contact: www.massencatholics.com or smarion@massencatholics.com

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

Congratulations, Father Jablonski

The Pontifical Mission Societies in the Diocese of Ogdensburg wishes to bestow God's blessings and our heart-felt congratulations to our newly ordained, Father Michael Jablonski.

On your ordination to the priesthood

The Mission office is incredibly proud of him for fulfilling his call to become a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. We are looking forward to watching Father Michael take on the challenges that are ahead of him with grace and knowledge. It is always inspiring to see an ordination and feel the commitment one makes with the Lord. As a community, we are to come together now and support Father Michael through both prayers and encouragement as he furthers his journey of life with Jesus and His people.

Deacon Jablonski was ordained a Priest on Saturday, May 27th at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg by Bishop Terry R. LaValley. What a wonderful way to share a holiday weekend, filled with joy and hope for Vocations in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. My thoughts and prayers are with Fr. Jablonski, his family, friends and fellow seminarians as they experience these joyous days.

Through the sacrament of ordination, Fr. Michael will draw strength from the Holy Spirit. He, too, will draw strength from the prayers of all of us in the diocese and beyond who are grateful for his response to priesthood. May Fr. Michael also be a "missionary" who will promote prayers and sacrifices for the people in developing countries. We wish him and his family all the best from the Mission Office.

"Embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, Especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important..."
Pope Francis

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



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

Father Michael Jablonski offers his first blessing to Bishop LaValley at the conclusion of the ordination Mass May 27 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

OBITUARIES

Adams – William D. LaComb, Sr., 80; Funeral June 7, 2017 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Altona – Joan E. (Jarvis) Lucia, 40; Funeral Services June 1, 2017 at Holy Angels Church.

Burke – Donna M. Bushey, 57; Funeral Services June 2, 2017 at St. George's Church; burial in North Burke Cemetery.

Canton – William F. Beauvais, 82; Funeral June 5, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Chasm Falls – Leon H. Wemette; Funeral Services June 2, 2017 at St. Helen's Church; burial in St. Helen's Cemetery.

Clayton – Bruce Thomas Hicks Knill, 84; Funeral June 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Croghan – Shirley A. (Haggerty) Briot, 70; Memorial Services May 27, 2017 at Scanlon Funeral Home; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Ellenburg – Leon E. Carter Sr., 81; Funeral Services June 1, 2017 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Lake Placid – Erik J. Lamb, 29; Funeral 5 June 5, 2017 at St. Agnes Church.

Lake Placid – Kevin Michael O'Reilly, 55; Funeral May 31, 2017 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Louisville – Virginia Bennett Warnock, 96; Funeral Services June 3, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Lowville – Gretchen L. Percoski Larson, 43; Funeral Services June 1, 2017 at Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Massena – Peter Francis Callahan, 61; Funeral Services June 1, 2017 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in St. George's Cemetery, Burke.

Massena – James J. Keese, 90; Funeral Services June 6, 2017 at Phillips Memorial Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Brushton.

Massena – Phoebe Catanzarite Treers, 92; Funeral June 3, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Norwood – Gordon E. McDonald, 85; Funeral Services May 31, 2017 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Geraldine H. "Gerry" (O'Marah) Amo, 95; Funeral Services June 1, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Patrick E. Denoncourt, 50; Funeral Services June 5, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Mary "Joan" (Sharland) Seguin, 91; Funeral Services June 7, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Sally E. (Livingston) Smith, 78; Funeral Services June 9, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Ogdensburg Cemetery.

burgh Cemetery.
Plattsburgh – Virginia (Manory) McBride, 85; Funeral Services June 10, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Riverside Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – William J. McBride, 87; Funeral June 10, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Riverside Cemetery.

Potsdam – Michael Wayne Jenks, 68; Funeral Services June 3, 2017 at the Donaldson-Seymour Funeral Home.

Redford – Dorothy "Dot" Bruce Miner, 90; Funeral June 10, 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Shirley (Desmarais) Dukett, 86; Funeral Services June 12, 2017 at St. Alphonsus Church.

Watertown – Joseph G. Firlik III, 78; Funeral May 31, 2017 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Sanford Corners Cemetery.

Watertown – Veronica (Tufo) Amelio LaFontaine, 87; Funeral June 1, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.



D.L. CALARCO Funeral Home, Inc.

135 Keyes Avenue
Watertown • 782-4910

Service Available



Adult Children of Alcoholics

Weekly meeting - Wednesdays at 7:30 PM
St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh
Upstairs Room

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

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

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

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

#Pontifex

FACES OF FAITH



The Altar and Rosary Society of Holy Family Church in Watertown has presented Loretta Esposito a "Lifetime honorary Presidency award for her many years of service at Holy Family Church, Watertown." From left are Terry Fallon, secretary of the Altar and Rosary Society, Florence Heldt, president; Father Steven M. Murray, pastor; Loretta Esposito, vice-president; and Joyce Surace, treasurer.



An Amazing Find! Talon Blasdell, a kindergartener at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, found this stone at his grandmother's house on Easter Sunday. The cross is clearly seen in the markings on the stone.



Maurice Cotter, a resident of St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg, celebrated his 90th birthday on May 26 with Father Jim Shurtleff, shown above, and other friends. Maurice is the last surviving of his immediate family. He was predeceased by his parents, Edward and Margaret Cotter of Canton, and his three older brothers, all of whom were priests in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Father Lawrence Cotter died in 2016, Father Robert Cotter died in 2015 and Father Charles Cotter died in 2001. The three served as priests for a total of 183 years: Father Lawrence for 64 yrs, Father Robert for 68 years and Father Charles for 51 years.

Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

DIOCESAN EVENTS

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 and Father Mark Riley in the fall.

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.

LATIN MISSA CANTATA

Ogdensburg - Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preach at a Sung Mass, commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the *Motu Proprio Summorum Pontificum*

Date: July 7

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: *Motu Proprio Summorum Pontificum* is an Apostolic Letter of Pope Benedict XVI in which he expanded the circumstances in which priests of the Latin Church may celebrate the Tridentine Mass. Music for the liturgy will be directed by Lukas Gruber, current Director of Music at St. Mary's, Potsdam, accompanied by Marie-Claire d'Arcy, Director of Music and Organist at St. Andre Bessette Parish, Malone. A picnic on the cathedral lawn will follow

CAMP GUGGENHEIM REGISTRATION

Saranac Lake - Registration for 2017 season for diocesan summer program, Camp Guggenheim is open

Dates: First of six weeks is July 1-7

Cost: \$300

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

Contact: diocesan Office of Youth Ministry at 315-393-2920 or valonde@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.

Contact: Call Connie at 315-265-2762 or Cathy at the diocesan Vocations Office at 315-393-2920

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake - Family Guggenheim registration is now open. Two weekends will be held in late summer and a third in the fall.

Dates: Session 1: August 17 - August 20, Session 2: August 24 - August 27,

Session 3: October 6 - October 8,

Features: families of all dimensions invited to enjoy a weekend in the Adirondacks, fun family workshops and activities, liturgy and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking.

Contact: Register online at: <http://www.rcdony.org/familylife.htm>

K of C PILGRIMAGE

Isle la Motte, Vt. - The Knights of Columbus from the Diocese of Ogdensburg will hold their 24th annual bus trip to St. Anne's Shrine.

Date: July 22 and 23

Cost: \$150 person includes the bus, all meals and the overnight lodging in the new cabins at the Shrine.

Features: The trip will depart from IHC Intermediate (St. Pat's) at 9 a.m. and will return around Sunday at 9 p.m. Pick up points will be along the way. Mass will be celebrated on Sun at 12:15 p.m. with Bishop Terry LaValley.

Contact: William Ose of Adams at 315-232-4433 for info and to register.



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