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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 15

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUG. 16, 2017

Vacation time... prayer time

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Summertime can and should be a time for extra prayer, a moment of peace that allows Christians to savor the joy of their relationship with Jesus and find new strength to reach out with love to others, Pope Francis said.

Before reciting the Angelus

Aug. 6, the feast of the Transfiguration, Pope Francis talked about the Gospel story of the disciples going up Mount Tabor with Jesus, "detaching themselves from mundane things" and contemplating the transfigured Lord. Today, too, Christ's disciples need to "rediscover the

pacifying and regenerating silence" that comes from prayer and meditating on a Gospel passage.

"When we put ourselves in this situation, with the Bible in hand, in silence, we begin to feel this interior beauty, this joy that the word of God generates in us," Pope Francis said.

cis said.

The pope prayed that Mary would watch over people on vacation, but also that she would care for "those who cannot take a vacation because they are impeded by age, health or work, by economic difficulties or other problems."

It's back-to-school time in the diocese

The ten Catholic elementary and two Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg will open for the new school year on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Information about registering for the schools appears on pages 8-9 of this week's NCC.

The mission of the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Ogdensburg is to "promote and proclaim the Gospel message in the context of the Tradition and official teachings of the Catholic Church."

FULL STORY, PAGE 8-9

NCC summer schedule

The bi-monthly publication of the *North Country Catholic* continues; the next issue of the paper will be dated Aug. 30

SUMMER GATHERING OF SEMINARIANS



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

The seminarians of the Diocese of Ogdensburg held their annual summer gathering in mid-July at the Lodge of the Guggenheim Center in Saranac Lake. They were joined by the staff of the diocesan vocation office. The men are shown above praying the Liturgy of the Hours together. More photos on page 16.

MSGR. HARRY SNOW

Looks back on
37 years in
the tribunal



Msgr. Harry K. Snow retired in June after serving for 37 years in the diocesan Matrimonial Tribunal and Office of Canonical Affairs. The priest held the position of judicial vicar under five bishops. In an interview with the *North Country Catholic*, Msgr. Snow said that he believed that tribunal work is "the most pastoral ministry in the diocese because we are working with people who are hurting, who would like to be engaged fully in the life of the church."

FULL STORY, PAGE 4-6

FATIMA: Aug. 15, 2017, the 100th anniversary of fifth apparition... p. 10

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Challenging Chancery changes

Coffee break time at the Chancery Office is decidedly duller these days now that Msgr. Harry Snow has retired from his position as judicial vicar for the diocese.

Since the 1980's, we could count on Monsignor to keep us laughing – or groaning – with his steady stream of stories and jokes.

And while some of us don't miss his snide comments about women drivers (!), we do miss the pastoral care this gentle, loving priest extended to all of us who worked with him.

He is sorely missed. In this week's paper, we say goodbye to Msgr. Snow in his role as long-time judicial vicar, confident that we will be blessed by his presence as a holy priest for a long time to come!



Mary Lou
Kilian

This NCC farewell is similar to the one printed Aug. 2 as Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue left her position of episcopal delegate for religious and safe environment.

Those of us who work in the diocesan offices know better than anyone about the generosity, tal-

ent, faith and commitment of the priests and religious in our midst.

Our diocese has been richly blessed by the likes of Msgr. Snow and Sister Ellen who offered decades of service.

One notable trait shared by these two is their understanding that success in their ministry is dependent on the support of scores of colleagues and friends.

"The tribunal is not just one person," said Msgr. Snow

"I am standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before," said Sister Ellen.

Msgr. Snow talked about his gratitude for people like Father Ed Wright, Sister Victorine

Brenon and Jerry Erwin.

Sister Ellen cited sisters and clergy and secretaries.

Each name reminded me of how richly blessed we have been for all those saintly people who have served our diocese through the generations.

And, now, we will be standing on all of these shoulders as we build on the foundation of their ministry to ensure that pastoral care for married couples, children and religious men and women moves forward.

Sadly, we can't rely on the tireless work of Msgr. Snow and Sister Ellen.

Thank goodness we can count on their prayers.

FATHER MUENCH SAYS

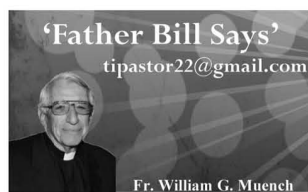
Celebrations mark the past, the future

This past weekend I attended two parties. On Saturday evening, I attended the dinner of the 45th Anniversary celebration of the graduation of the 1972 High School class of Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown. I was teaching at the high school when these folks were in school. It was a terrific, enjoyable evening.

On Sunday evening, I attended my great-niece, Anna's high school graduation party. She and her class graduated from Fayetteville-Manlius High School in June. The party was a great time, a gathering of her classmates as well as her family and many parents at a neat sort of place, a pizza place which includes three volleyball courts.

I enjoyed both evenings. At the 45th celebration, I renewed many friendships from the past. It was an evening filled with stories. There were many experiences to share. I learned of families formed and developed over time – about children and, for many, grandchildren.

In addition, there were all sorts of other stories – stories



'Father Bill Says'

tipastor22@gmail.com

Fr. William G. Muench

of successes and careers.

I must share with you a pleasant surprise that night for me. One fellow – who I did remember – sought me out to thank me for giving him an interest and passion for photography back in high school. I remember that he had joined me in a dark room project back then. It seems that photography continues to be an important part of his life. It truly made my day.

The high school graduation party was obviously a very different time. Anna's party was filled with lots of enthusiasm and energy. There were lots of conversations – some rather noisy, even some shouting. It seemed to me that these youngsters were still celebrating their high school graduation.

They were celebrating this

new phase in their life and their enthusiasm was contagious.

I enjoyed the opportunity to talk with them and their parents. Many parents shared with me their recognition of this new phase for their families and their own selves. They would soon be sending a child into a new adventure; there would soon be a new separation in the family.

I recognized that this would be a time for new decisions by parents as well as for the recent graduates. I was intrigued because I have never experienced such moments in life.

Both evenings gave me a great deal to think about and a time for my own memories. I remember well those early days in my priesthood when I was teaching in high school. They were special days in my life. There were so many good opportunities for interacting with students.

I was, of course, rather young in those days and I know I should be grateful to my students, like those at that anniversary celebration for teaching me a great deal.

They taught me about being a good teacher and also about being a good priest.

Spending an evening with the recent high school graduates also called to mind for me of my own high school years when I was called upon to make my own life decisions. Each time I look back like this I wonder a bit if I would or should have made different decisions.

I often wonder what things would have been life if I did make different decisions. However, I have been blessed.

So, let me close this by reaffirming to you and to myself that I am grateful to the Lord's many gifts to me of a happy life filled with unique opportunities as a priest. I have been blessed with good assignments.

As a pastor, I have been allowed to become a part of many wonderful families. I have had the joy of standing with them in so many times – and also to have the power of the spirit to be with them at the sad times that life brings.

So, as I look back – I celebrate as those at the anniversary dinner and I rejoice with

FACES OF FAITH



The 2017 staff of Camp Guggenheim is shown after the closing liturgy during the fourth week of this year's camp season. Photos and articles about Guggenheim as well as other youth ministry programs in the diocese will be the focus of the next issue of the *NCC*, the annual Young Faith edition.



The Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society (DOVS) recently prepared a luncheon for the seminarians during their annual summer gathering at the Lodge, Camp Guggenheim. All year, the DOVS work and pray for vocations for the diocese. This event affords the opportunity to meet and talk with the seminarians. To support the DOVS' ministry, contact the diocesan Vocations Office, 315-393-2920 or email Cathy Russell at crussell@rcdony.org. Pictured, from left, are Mary Enslow, Connie Randall, Ann Miller, Deacon Tom Proulx and Linda Proulx.

MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL



JUDICIAL VICAR

Reverend Douglas Lucia, JCL

ADJUTANT JUDICIAL VICARS

Rev. Msgr. Harry K. Snow, JCL Rev. Philip T. Allen Rev. Garry B. Giroux, JCL

Father Douglas Lucia, JCL succeeds Reverend Monsignor Harry K. Snow, JCL, who had been the Tribunal's Judicial Vicar since 1988. We wish to thank Msgr. Snow for his excellent service to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and to wish him well in his retirement.

Msgr. Harry K. Snow retires after 37 years of service in the diocesan tribunal

Looking back on a ministry of healing

By Mary Lou Kilian
Editor

OGDENSBURG – Young Harry Snow dreamed of becoming a veterinarian while growing up in a Norfolk farm family. The eldest of three children, he had a great love for animals and raised cattle and draft horses.

But his hopes to spend his life caring for animals took a turn as he listened to the voices of the priests who staffed Norfolk's Church of the Visitation parish.

"Father Francis J. Connors asked me to become an altar server right after I made my first communion," Msgr. Snow said. "Father Denesha, who taught high school religion, and Father George Lemieux also made a big impression on me.

"Father Lemieux was a soft spoken, gentle person who talked about the seminary and encouraged me to apply," he said.

Msgr. Snow also pointed to the influence of his family in the growth of his vocation to the priesthood.

"My mother was very involved in the church and taught religious education for 30 years," he said. "So we knew our catechism."



NCC FILE PHOTO

Msgr. Snow who grew up on a farm in Norfolk has never lost his love for animals. Before making the decision to enter the seminary he had hoped to become a veterinarian.

Ultimately, the high school student decided the seminary rather than veterinary school was the place for him.

I would say it's the most pastoral ministry in the diocese because we are working with people who are hurting, who would like to be engaged fully in the life of the church

He entered Wadhams Hall Seminary College and completed studies for the priesthood at Christ the King Seminary before his ordination April 30, 1977.

As Msgr. Snow celebrates his 40th anniversary as a priest for the Diocese of Ogdensburg, he talked with the *North Country Catholic* about his life of ministry under five bishops – Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana, who ordained him, and Bishops Paul S. Loverde, Gerald M. Barbarito, Robert J. Cunningham and Terry R. LaValley.

In particular, Msgr. Snow reflected on his work in the diocesan Matrimonial Tribunal and Office of Canonical Affairs where he spent 37 of his 40 years of priesthood.

In the tribunal

"I was appointed to the tribunal by Bishop Brzana in the spring transfers in 1980 so it would be 37 years through June 21, 2017, my last official day," he said.

At that time, Father Douglas Lucia succeeded Msgr. Snow as judicial vicar.

In the Catholic Church, each diocese is required to have a tribunal - the court of the church - and required to have a judicial vicar to lead it.

The Code of Canon Law spells out the structure, procedures and jurisdiction. Most of the cases involve requests for marriage annulments.

"The role of tribunal is to be there to protect the rights of individuals, safeguard the teachings of the church, to assure the proper functioning and good order in the diocese," Msgr. Snow said. "A bishop cannot act arbitrarily; he needs to observe the norms of the universal church and the local church."

The early years

Msgr. Snow began his work as secretary to the tribunal, "a technical term under the 1917 code which meant I was the office manager," he said.

The new Code of Canon Law was promulgated in 1983, under Pope John Paul II.

During his early years in the office, with Father Edward Wright as judicial vicar, Msgr. Snow served as secretary of tribunal, defender of the bond and advocate. This means he put together the cases along with whoever submitted it, usually the pastor or parish priest.

"Sometimes I would conduct interviews making sure I had all the documentation," he said. "I would follow the case from the day it was opened straight through to the final resolution."

Msgr. Snow also took time to travel to parishes around the North Country as he was invited to present workshops on annulments, explaining the meaning of an annulment and the process that was observed.

The priest noted that Father Wright "was an exceptional individual to work with. He was a good mentor in canon law for me."

Msgr. Snow gives much of the credit for his appointment in the diocesan tribunal to Father Wright.

"When I was a young priest, Father Wright would call me and say 'Harry, I have people to be interviewed as witnesses in an annulment in the Brasher, North Lawrence region, would you be willing to interview them?' and then



Msgr. Snow distributes communion at his ordination, 40 years ago at St. Mary's Cathedral. Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana ordained him April 30, 1977 and, three years later, assigned the priest to the diocesan tribunal.

he would send the questions, names and addresses," he said. "I started going out and interviewing people.

"Then he asked if I would write up reports for him," Msgr. Snow said. "When I went to Lowville, I continued to do the same and I got so that I enjoyed it."

"I never had the expectation that I would work in any diocesan office, let alone the tribunal," he said. "I just figured I would be a typical parish priest."

Back to school

After three years in the diocesan tribunal, Bishop Brzana sent the young priest to graduate school for studies in canon law.

He spent a semester at Catholic University of America, and then transferred to St. Paul's University in Ottawa.

Msgr. Snow noted that many faculty members at St. Paul's came from Europe to teach for a semester.

"Some were professors from universities in Rome so they had first-hand knowledge on what the new Code

of Canon Law was about," Msgr. Snow said. "Some had actually worked on the revision of the code."

"Father Francis Morrissey, an Oblate priest, long time professor and dean of canon law at St. Paul's, was one of the principal English consultants with the code," he said. "He went all over the world, meeting with bishops' conferences to explain the new code."

Msgr. Snow completed his studies in 1985 and returned to full time ministry as pastor in Morristown along with his work in the tribunal.

In 1988, he succeeded Father Wright as judicial vicar.

From bishop to bishop

The judicial vicar is unique among diocesan officials in that he doesn't lose his position when bishops are replaced.

This is so, said Msgr. Snow "because the work of the tribunal is to assist the diocesan administrator, protecting rights of Christian faithful and to assure the good running and operation of the diocese."

"If a tribunal ceased, rights of people could not be vindicated such as declarations of annulity," he said. "People have a right to have their cases heard."

"In rare cases, judicial vicars have been able to avoid abuse of power by different groups within the diocese," Msgr. Snow said. "When there's a *sede vacante*, (a vacant see or diocese without a bishop) the administrator of the diocese cannot make changes that would impact the role of the successor bishop."

Ministry of healing

Throughout his years in the diocesan tribunal, Msgr. Snow has appreciated that his work is not "paper pushing or I would have been out of it years ago"

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Msgr. Snow

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"I would say it's the most pastoral ministry in the diocese," he said, "because we are working with people who are hurting, who would like to be engaged fully in the life of the church.

"They present their petition to the official church court and ask that it be looked into," he said. "They ask 'is there a possibility of an annulment so that I can have a new marriage in the Catholic church and be able to receive the sacraments?'"

"When you see the healing, the pastoral sensitivity of the tribunal you know it's a ministry of healing," he said, "a service to the well-being of souls.

"I get letters at Christmas time - years after an annulment was granted - saying 'I just want you to know that I'm a proud grandparent and was so pleased that I was able to go to communion when my grandchild made his first communion,'" he said.

The challenges

The most difficult part of his role as judicial vicar, Msgr. Snow said, is telling people that there are no grounds for an annulment.

"Even in some of those cases, I've had people say, 'at

least I've had a chance to have my case formally heard before the church,'" he said.

"Some people would say that 'I didn't think there were grounds but I heard your philosophy when you gave a talk, 'nothing ventured, nothing gained,'" Msgr. Snow said. "And that's what I've always said 'nothing ventured, nothing gained.'"

Another frustration Msgr. Snow experienced through the years has been the need to "correct misinformation that's out there."

"It's difficult to travel to different parts of the diocese and hear from people that 'the priest who was here years ago said an annulment would cost you too much' or 'you were married too long before your divorce so there's no way it would go through,'" he said.

"I've been discouraged by what so many people have lived with because of misinformation given by parish priests or deacons," he said. "Or people hearing from their neighbor 'give up. It's all who you know and, if you're one of the insiders you're going to get it.'"

"Those kinds of things hurt," Msgr. Snow said.

"When Sister Mary Ellen (Brett, former director of evangelization) was running

the Come Home program, she would invite me to give talks on annulments and it was amazing what subjects would come up," he said.

"But it was because of people like Sister Mary Ellen and some of our pastors who invited me to come that I was able to clear up some of these things," he said, "still it was hard to break through.

Over all, though, "there has been much more happiness than frustration," said Msgr. Snow.

A (not-so-typical) parish priest

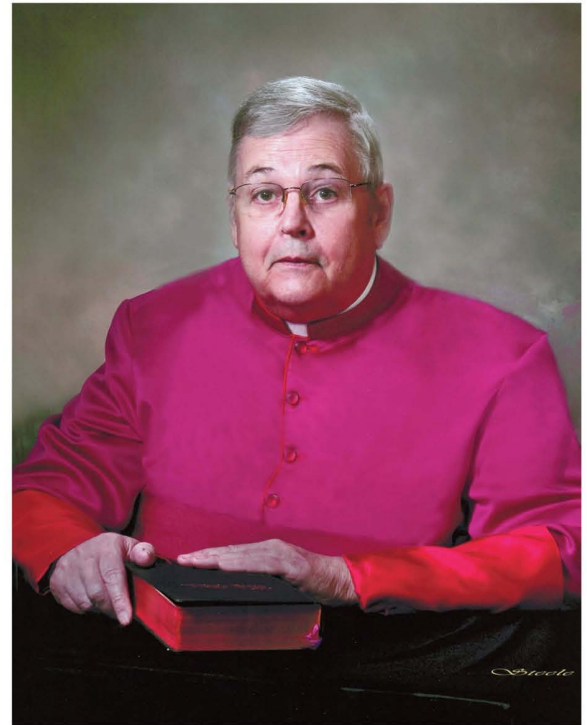
And that happiness extended to his life as the parish priest he had aspired to be.

After his service as pastor in Morristown, he was named rector for St. Mary's Cathedral, administrator in Norwood, and, most recently, pastor in Madrid and Waddington, while continuing his work in the tribunal.

Msgr. Snow knows that his pastoral ministry has been enriched by his experiences as judicial vicar.

"I think I've been more sensitive when somebody talks about troubles in a marriage," he said. "We can't be flippant when somebody is hurting."

"It has also helped me to prepare couples for mar-



Msgr. Harry K. Snow

riage," he said. "I've actually had two couples change their minds when I was able to show evidence of emotional abuse in the relationship.

"If you're going to be a pastor, you'll be with people who face terminal illness or a broken marriage," he said. "You have to be able to put yourself out to serve them."

As he moves into retire-

ment, Msgr. Snow holds on to his love for canon law, finding enjoyment in reading canon law journals.

He cited a particular canon - #1752 - as guidance for his own life as a priest:

"The salvation of souls, which must always be the supreme law of the Church, is to be kept before one's eyes."

Bishop LaValley expresses gratitude

For over thirty years, Monsignor Snow has been the face and heart of the diocesan Matrimonial Tribunal and Office of Canonical Affairs.

He has served five bishops faithfully (and so joyfully!) as the Judicial Vicar. We owe a debt of gratitude to him as he retires from that position.

As a member of the Tribunal Staff, I have enjoyed working with Monsignor since 1990 as he taught me much about the pastoral application of Church law. We've enjoyed many memorable trips to canon law workshops and conventions.

We ask God's continued blessings upon Monsignor as he continues to give joyful witness to the priesthood of God.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley

Tribunal: more than one person'

Msgr. Snow offers personal thanks.... in his own words

As he looks back on nearly four decades of work in the diocesan tribunal office, Msgr. Harry Snow, expressed his thanks to a wide variety of individuals who supported him in his work:

In the words of Msgr. Snow:

- The tribunal is more than one person. Department heads are very important in promoting our work so I have to thank department heads; these include the vicar for religious who goes back to religious com-

munities and says, 'I've conferred with the judicial vicar and these are things we can do.'

- I'd like to thank the staff. It's a team effort from the time a case is submitted to the time of final disposition and there is a myriad of people mixed in. If it wasn't for someone on a parish level being really involved, you might not have a case submitted so I thank the pastors, the deacons, pastoral associates, those who are commissioned lay min-

isters for their work on the grass roots level, getting people interested, submitting cases.

- Once a case is submitted to the tribunal there are many people in the office area including the secretary of the tribunal, now called moderator of the tribunal. St. Joseph Sister Victorine Brenon was the first non-priest as secretary. She was a delight to work with, as was Sister Mary Patrick Murphy who succeeded her because they did a lot of the

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Tribunal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

work between the judicial vicar and the people involved.

- The current moderator, Elaine Seymour, has done a great deal in terms of getting old cases scanned for permanent records and using technology to keep everything current. The moderators are very important because they follow a case from very beginning to conclusion

- Then you have word processing office, in terms of the hours the staff spends transcribing and writing letters

- We have psychologists and social workers who read over all the cases that involve psychological grounds.

The person I remember with great joy is Gerald Erwin, a masters of social work and head of a department at the psych center who used his expertise with the social sciences to discern what was going on in the life of this couple when they married.

Our current assessor is a doctor in psychology who's also head of department at the psych center, Dr. Kurt Halladay, PhD. He is excellent in terms of giving us insights in human dimensions that involve decision mak-

ing processes.

- Each case needs to be referred to defenders of the bond and these are priests who, as well as serving as pastors, take time to read the cases and either argue in defense of the bond of marriage or say there's no bond to defend.

We're lucky, we have a new defender, a lay woman who lives in the Plattsburgh area, Catherine Friederichs. She brings a number of skills because of her work in canon law at St. Pauls' in Ottawa and as member of the tribunal staff in the Archdiocese of Montreal. She also does interviews for me and does it all free of charge.

- Also, we have judges who make final decisions. Under the 1983 code, cases no longer need to be judged by three judges; they can be judged by one. Bishop Loverde was very supportive of that and gave permission for the Ogdensburg tribunal to judge with one judge. Of our judges, the longest serving judge is Father Phillip Allen, who serves as adjutant judicial vicar, vice officialis but he was judicial vicar before Father Ed Wright. Father Allen has been very gracious in serving all these years.

To Report Abuse

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

Bishop's Schedule

Aug. 16 – 12 p.m., Franklin Deanery Priests Listening Session at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Constable

Aug. 17 – 5 p.m., Lewis Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at the St. Peter's Parish Center in Lowville

Aug. 19 – 11 a.m., Mass at Family Guggenheim in Saranac Lake

Aug. 20 – 7:30 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Inlet
9 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Inlet
11 a.m., Mass at St. Bartholomew's Church in Old Forge

Aug. 21 – 5 p.m., Jefferson Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at Sboros Restaurant in Watertown

Aug. 22 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
5 p.m., Adirondack Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at McKenzie's Grille in Saranac Lake

Aug. 23 – 3 p.m., Closing Liturgy for LEAD: A New Model in Parish Leadership at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

5 p.m., St. Lawrence Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Aug. 24 – 9:45 a.m., Episcopal Council Meeting at the Conference Room at the Spratt Building in Ogdensburg

5 p.m., St. Lawrence Deanery Bishop's Fund Reception at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Aug. 26 – 11 a.m., Mass at Family Guggenheim in Saranac Lake

Aug. 27 – 11 a.m., Final Profession of Vows for Sister Suanne Johnson at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

Aug. 30 – 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

Aug. 16 – Rev. Peter Paladini, S.A.C., 1990

Aug. 17 – Rev. Joseph W. Vinet, 1907

Aug. 18 – Rev. Leoneo Proulx, O.M.I., 1979

Aug. 19 – Rev. Richard A. Maher, O.S.A., 1959

Aug. 20 – Rev. J. McCarthy, O.S.A., 1931; Msgr. Griffith J. Billmeyer, 1988

Aug. 21 – Rev. John J. Waters, 1921; Rev. Albert G. Salmon, 1997

Aug. 22 – Rev. James W. M. Rensing, 1936

Aug. 24 – Rev. Louis Lewis, O.M.I., 1938; Msgr. Paul George Brunet, 1991

Aug. 25 – Rev. Damas Guilbault, 1919; Msgr. Hugh P.R. O'Reilly, 1948; Rev. George W. Tobin, 2010

Aug. 27 – Rev. John F. Byrne, 1919; Rev. Ubalde LaRose, 1919; Rev. Edward Henry Bernier, 1962

Aug. 29 – Rev. Leo Desmet, 1926; Rev. Thomas F. Driscoll, 2003; Rev. Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, 2013

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

Upcoming sessions:

Aug. 21 – 5:30 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central School, Watertown

Aug. 31 – 7:30 p.m., SUNY Potsdam

Sept. 9 – 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 13 – 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh

Sept. 20 – 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School Massena

Sept. 20 – 6 p.m., St. James, Gouverneur

Environmental Stewardship

Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream

In the book of Joel, God tells his people: "... I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams." Joel 3:1

God speaks to the people through the prophet Joel of a new day with the outpouring of the Spirit upon the world. Could it be that today's human family is being called to dream new dreams - new dreams for the earth and all life that dwells upon it?

In last week's issue Father John Yonkovic cited Pope John Paul II's words: "How can one prevent disasters that destroy the environment and threaten all forms of life?"

Twenty years later Pope Francis notes the "the exploitation of the planet has already exceeded acceptable limits and we still have not solved the problem of poverty. Never have we so hurt and mistreated our common home as we have in the last 200 years."

Our Catholic social teachings have a great potential to bring their vast traditions to shed light on a troubled human family, to provide motivation, inspiration, and love for life itself and for the earth, our common home.

In response to this challenge that is both ethical and ecological, the Faith and Ecology Groups in our Diocese are offering a workshop that will explore this most critical concern of our times. The program will view the current state of our planet and discover new opportunities to make a real difference in our future.

Guided by insights from Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si*, the program will connect with a powerful global movement to become better stewards of God's precious gift for all.

The event is on Saturday, August 27 at Guggenheim Lodge in Saranac Lake. For more information, see the "Around the Diocese, p. 14

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NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

The next issue of the North Country Catholic will be dated Aug. 30



Shirley Sauter, left, was honored June 11 upon her retirement as director of music of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown. Shown above with her family, Mrs. Sauter has led music in churches in Black River and Watertown since 1969.

Organist retires after decades of service

Shirley Sauter has devoted 48 years of her life to music ministry in Jefferson County churches

WATERTOWN - For 35 years, Shirley Sauter and her husband, Roy, lived in Black River, a small village with four churches; she played and directed choirs for three of them.

It all began in 1969 when a neighbor asked her to play for his wedding in the Catholic Church since they had no regular organist. The next year she played for a friend's wedding in the Methodist Church.

Soon after, the Episcopal priest asked her to play for Sunday services since his organist had moved. Within two months, the Methodist organist also moved away.

Using this situation to benefit both churches, each church arranged their services to allow Shirley to attend Mass at the Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then play for the Episcopal Church at 10 and the Methodist Church at 11:15.

Father William Coffey was assigned to St. Paul's Catholic Church in Black River in 1971 and within a short time appointed Shirley as Choir Director and Organist. About 35 people signed up for choir and first performed on Thanksgiving Day, 1971.

She directed weekly re-

hearsals and led music at Sunday Masses, and for Holy Week, Easter and Christmas Eve Masses.

She continued to play for three churches for three years, a challenging schedule for a mother with four young children.

In 1972 the Diocesan Department of Worship was formed, consisting of a Liturgy Committee, Music Committee, and an Art and Architecture Committee. Father Coffey appointed Shirley to the Music Committee for a three-year term.

Organ and guitar

It was at that time that new music was being introduced into the Catholic churches, especially guitar accompaniment, and nationally known composers and liturgists would instruct those present on the new styles.

Shirley had the pleasure to work with composers, Alexander Peloquin, Dan Schutte of the St. Louis Jesuits, and Marty Haugen. Guitar music was introduced in St. Paul's Catholic Church in Black River in the 70's by two high-school girls who studied guitar and played folk music.

In 1971 Shirley began teaching piano lessons in her home, continuing for several years. Eventually she moved her lessons to the Trillium Music Center in Watertown until retiring in 2014. She still humbly boasts that many of her students have become music teachers themselves!

When available, she continued to substitute at many churches (Chaumont Presbyterian, United Methodist in Brownville, and Emmanuel Congregational Church in Watertown) as well as playing for weddings and funerals in all the Watertown Churches.

Shirley didn't just share her talents with churches. She organized and directed the Black River Fire Department Choir for around ten years. The choir sang for memorial services at Jefferson County Conventions as well as the NYS Convention. From 1972-1983 she furnished the organ accompaniment for the Jefferson County Dairy Princess Banquet.

In August 1991, the village of Black River celebrated its centennial. The clergy and members of the four churches conducted an ecumenical service with the

choral program organized and directed by Shirley.

When Shirley's husband, Roy, retired from New York Casualty Insurance Company in 1992, the couple moved to Pillar Point, but she continued to play at St. Paul's in Black River until May 2000 when she resigned after almost 30 years.

Black River to Watertown

Looking back upon the year 1969 when Shirley began her career by playing for a wedding, it is only fitting that her final years before retiring begin again with playing for a wedding.

It was a wedding at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown in 2000 when Father Andrew Torma, a Missionary of the Sacred Heart, asked her to take the job as Director of Music beginning Sept. 1, 2000.

Throughout the next 17 years, she formed a choir, trained soloists, planned all the music for the Sunday, Holy Days, and special event Masses. She has worked for three pastors: Missionary of the Sacred Heart Fathers Torma, Richard Kennedy, and Jonas Tandayu, as well as several bishops.

The "choir family" of 22 members have served this parish as well for many events for the past 17 years. Some members have been with Shirley for around 40 years starting in the choir at Black River. She sincerely extends her thank you to all for their devotion and commitment. She also states, "the greatest benefit of being at Sacred Heart Church for 17 years is the friendships I have made. I thank you all for your support of this music ministry."

Shirley was honored with a "Goodbye Coffee" after the Masses on June 11 which was attended by many parishioners who wished her well. True to her work ethic, the official retirement day of June 25, 2017 was spent playing for Mass and directing the choir. The day ended at a celebration party with choir members, spouses, friends, and the clergy.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Watertown has been truly enriched by Shirley's ministry and wish her happiness in retirement.

(Submitted by Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown)

BACK TO SCHOOL.... BACK TO SCHOOL... BACK TO SCHOOL



Anneke Rocheleau and Ryleigh Trombly, students at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh, are each the recipient of a \$500 scholarship awarded to students who will be attending Seton Catholic Central School in the coming school year. The scholarship is given by the Catholic Daughters Court Mary Immaculate #479 of Plattsburgh. Pictured are Anneke and Ryleigh receiving their award certificates from court member Kathleen Racette and Vice Regent Dianne Martineau



Children at Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg celebrate Catholic traditions throughout the school year. Above, students at Holy Family School in Malone take part in a May Crowning. Below, St. Joseph Sister Sharon Anne Dalton, receives birthday cards from the third grade class at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga in June. She explains that, in the convent, feast days are celebrated instead of birthdays - hers being feast of St. John the Baptist (after her father's name of John). She took his name when she first became a Sister of St. Joseph; since then it was changed to her given name, as her mother wished.



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Fatima: the 5th apparition

This is the fourth installment of an NCC series, featured from May 2017 to October 2017, to mark the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions. The fourth apparition took place Aug. 13, 1917. Excerpts derived from: 'The True Story of Fatima' by John de Marchi, I.M.C.

Part 4

By now, the whole village knew of, and were coming to the apparitions. The chief magistrate, who had great political power, summoned Lucia and her father with intention to force her to denounce the apparitions but she would not. He ordered the children to appear in court and threatened them. He kidnapped them and brought them to his house to keep them from going to the apparition and to pressure them to reveal the secret that Our Lady told Lucia. On Aug. 13, 1917, the crowd at the Cova was even larger than July. About 11 o'clock, the people prayed and sang religious hymns around the holm oak. The absence of the children made them very restless...right after the thunder came a flash, and immediately, we all noticed a little cloud.

Reported Lucia's sister, Maria dos Antos. "We all noticed a little cloud, very white, beautiful and bright, that came and stayed over

the holm oak. It stayed a few minutes and rose towards the heavens. We saw a strange sight that we would see again. Everyone's faces glowed, rose, red, blue, all the colors of the rainbow. The trees seemed to have no branches or leaves but we're all covered with flowers; every leaf was a flower." When the signs disappeared, the people realized that Our Lady had come, and not finding the children, returned to Heaven. The children were held and interrogated with many emotional abuses including making each believe that the others were killed for not telling the secret. The children said they would rather die and would be happy to be in heaven with Our Lady. They were finally released.

On Aug. 19, after Mass they went to the Cova and said the Rosary. Our Lady appeared. "What do you want of me? Lucia asked. "I want you to continue to come to the Cova da Iria on the thirteenth and to continue to say the Rosary every day." Lucia then told our lady of her anguish and of the many who did not be-

lieve. Our Lady said; "In the last month, in October, I will perform a miracle so that all may believe in My apparitions."



(CNS PHOTO/ED WILKINSON, THE TABLET)
A mural of the apparitions at Fatima with an inset about the "Secrets" of Fatima is seen at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral in Brooklyn.

CORRECTIONS

Corrections from the Aug. 2 issue of the North Country Catholic:

- In the photo of the Catholic Daughters of America who attended the New York State convention in Albany, Court # 479 Plattsburgh and Court # 787 Saranac Lake should have been included in the list of courts representing the Diocese of Ogdensburg
- In the gallery of photos from the Knights of Columbus pilgrimage to Isle la Motte, Vermont, the statement that this year's event was the 24th annual pilgrimage was incorrect. This is the 24th year that Bill Ose organized a busload of pilgrims from the Watertown area but the first annual pilgrimage took place in 1949.

The North Country Catholic apologizes for the errors.

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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Bishop calls for diplomacy to ease U.S.-N. Korea differences

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Diplomacy and political engagement are necessary to resolve the differences between the United States and North Korea and avoid a military conflict, the chairman of a U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops committee said in a letter to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. Writing Aug. 10, Bishop Oscar Cantu of Las Cruces, New Mexico, chairman of the bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, echoed a recent call from the Korean bishops' conference to support talks to secure the peaceful future of the Korean Peninsula. Bishop Cantu acknowledged that the escalating threat of violence from North Korea's leaders cannot be "underestimated or ignored," but that the "high certainty of catastrophic death and destruction from any military action must prompt the United States to work with others in the international community for a diplomatic and political solution based on dialogue." The letter follows days of back-and-forth threats between President Donald Trump and North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un. North Korean officials also said they were reviewing plans to strike U.S. military targets in Guam. The Archdiocese of Agaña, Guam, urged everyone to "remain calm, trust that the security of our island is in good hands" and place "complete trust in our God."

Knights planning to replace traditional uniform

PHOENIX (CNS) -- The Knights of Columbus, long associated with swords, capes and chapeaus, will be going through a significant uniform change. The traditional regalia worn by fourth-degree Knights will be replaced, announced Supreme Knight Carl Anderson Aug. 1 during the international fraternal organization's 135th annual Supreme Convention in St. Louis, which was livestreamed on EWTN. Throughout the years, the regalia of the Knights' fourth degree, known as the patriotic degree, has gone through changes, Anderson said, noting that when this degree was first established, the uniform included white ties, top hats and tails. In place of a tuxedo with a black bow tie, members will be wearing a blue blazer, an official Knights of Columbus tie and a beret, all with the fourth-degree emblem on them, along with a white shirt and dark gray slacks. There was no mention if the swords would remain part of the uniform. "The board of directors has decided that the time is right for a modernization of the fourth-degree uniform," Anderson said. "On a limited basis, assemblies may choose to continue using the traditional cape and chapeau for color corps at public events and honor guards in liturgical processions. However, the preferred dress for the fourth degree, including color corps and honor guards, is the new uniform of jacket and beret."

Speaker sees 'decisive battle' waged against marriage, family

By Christopher M. Riggs
Catholic News Service

WICHITA, KAN. (CNS) -- Scott Hahn told a packed convention hall in Wichita that Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, one of the Fatima visionaries, had once predicted the "decisive battle" between the Lord and Satan would be regarding marriage and family.

And that battle is being fought today, said Hahn, who gave three talks during the Catholic Family Conference Aug. 4-6.

One of the most popular Catholic speakers in the country, Hahn, who is a professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, told of how Italian Cardinal Carlo Caffarra had received the visionary's prediction after writing her asking for prayers.

The battle is not a modern one, Hahn said, adding that the battle was initiated at the dawn of history when Satan tempted Adam and Eve. "We need to recognize the importance of this," he said.

Hahn, whose talks centered on Mary and St. Joseph, said he first heard about Our Lady of Fatima on his fifth wedding anniversary. On the day they were planning a dinner celebration, Hahn said his wife, Kimberly, went into labor and instead of going to a five-star restaurant, they drove to a Grove City, Pennsylvania, hospital.

To pass the time he turned on the television and heard the distinctive voice of Riccardo Montalban narrating a documentary about Our Lady of Fatima. "I was transfixed, but Kimberly was having contractions and said, 'Would you help me and quit watching TV!'"

In the documentary, Montalban talked about the miracles of Fatima and how they were witnessed by thousands, Hahn said. "I had never heard of any of it." It was published in the Lisbon newspaper. "Nobody could deny the miracle of the sun!"

That turn of events led Hahn, a former Presbyterian, and later his wife, to become Catholics.

After he became a Catholic in 1986, which he discusses in his book "Rome Sweet Home," Hahn said he began thinking about ways to build bridges to the church for "our separated brothers and sisters." Mary was one of the challenges.

But, she was the perfect follower of Jesus, Hahn said, she is the perfect model, adding that the faithful should follow Mary as she follows Jesus.

"When we behold the Blessed Virgin, we behold the masterpiece of Jesus," he said. "Jesus is the light of the world, but she is the perfect prism, she is Jesus' most perfect work."

Mary was the last impediment to him becoming Catholic, Hahn said, taking years of study and struggle to overcome. And today the rosary is his favorite prayer. "I studied the Bible but I didn't really know it until I read it through her eyes."

In another presentation, Hahn talked about the Holy Family, how Jesus is common in the earthly trinity with Mary and Joseph, and the eternal Trinity with the Father and the Holy Spirit. "Jesus is the earthly image of God the Father," he said.

"God takes his place in the (earthly) holy family and invites each of us to find our place in it as well," Hahn said.

When Jesus cried out on the cross to his Father, he said, he gave us the spirit of son-ship so that we, too, can cry out 'Abba!', he said.

"Nobody looked in the mirror this morning and said, 'Finally, I'm holy!' he said. 'On earth all of us are saints in the making.'"

In fact, Hahn added, we are on "probation," working to stay in a state of grace and using the sacrament of confession to return us to that state of grace when we sin.

"Heaven is not another denomination," he said. "There aren't two churches. ... The angels and the saints above are united to us."

"This is why we're here, this is the reason we were made. Heaven right now is thriving, it's not some kind of retirement community. They're asking us to look up to them."

The love that our friends and family have in heaven is what God has perfected, he said. "They understand in ways that we can't. They have moved on, moved up, and moved in. Talk about having friends in high places!"

Hahn said we on earth are the "church militant" because we are in a battle. Those in heaven, "you might say, are the high command."

"The church on earth is not a nursery, it's more like a boot camp, like a field hospital," he said. "The saints are simply those who graduated from the school of suffering. Those in hell are those who chose to drop out."

"We are members of one body," Hahn said, "they are members of the same body."

"God loves us more than we can possibly imagine. He's given us families to give us a foretaste of what it will be."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Welcoming 'outsiders' to the 'inside'

One of the coldest words in the English language is "outsider" - someone who is excluded from a community, a family, or a special group.

If you are an "outsider", someone has excluded you and said, in effect, that you don't belong!

That means there are

The Miraculous Prayer

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

those who consider themselves "insiders."

At the time of Jesus, the Jews considered themselves as chosen by God for His special favors. This conviction kept them apart from all other groups.

In today's Gospel, Jesus Himself told the Canaanite woman that she was an outsider, and that He had been sent only to the house of Israel. But, because of her persistence, He gave in and healed her daughter.

We wonder what the Jewish crowd must have

thought!

We wonder if they pondered the words of Isaiah which we hear read to us today as the first reading.

This prophet (called "Third Isaiah") tells them that God no longer wants them to be "insiders."

They had just returned from exile in Babylon, and were probably open to God's decision to allow foreigners also to worship and offer sacrifice on His holy mountain, "for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

In today's second reading from St. Paul to the Romans, we learn that the early Christians had to struggle with this problem also.



Monsignor
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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

Remember, they were once pious Jews as well. How astounded they were at the enthusiasm, the faith, and the holiness of the Gentile converts!

St. Paul explains that both Jew and Gentile had disobeyed God, and both Jew and Gentile had received mercy, and had been offered redemption.

What a challenge to us Catholics today who are sometimes too smug or self-righteous to share our faith with other Christians and those of other religions!

We must learn to open our

hearts to all the "outsiders"—those of no religion, those who have left another religion, those whom we find it difficult to love.

We must not let timidity or pride or even fear to hold us back. To drag our feet is to risk going against Jesus' own prayer before He died on the Cross: "that they all may be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that the world may believe that you sent me" (Jn 18: 21).

Many times, we ask converts what took them so long to decide to become Catholic. Many times I had gotten the reply, "No one ever invited me!"

Wouldn't it be a good thing if once in a while, we could say to a friend or relative, or a neighbor, "Have you ever thought of becoming a Catholic?"

If they show interest, then say to them, "Well, I would like to invite you now. And I'll go with you to a special process that we call the RCIA. Then you must make up your own mind".

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AT THE MOVIES

ANNABELLE: CREATION

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Most of the mayhem wreaked by the figurine-haunting demon at the center of the horror prequel "Annabelle: Creation" (Warner Bros.) is restrained. Yet, as the film progresses, director David F. Sandberg and his collaborators allow their imagery to become briefly but disturbingly graphic.

Accordingly, only those grown moviegoers willing to brave flashes of intense gore should say hello to this particular dolly.

This also is not a good fit for those insistent on strict logic or those who expect the characters on screen to behave rationally.

As for Catholic viewers, they will likely be both annoyed and distracted by the wildly inaccurate, albeit incidental, portrayal of their faith incorporated into the proceedings.

In 1950s California, a group of female orphans shepherded by kindly nun Sister Charlotte (Stephanie Sigman) have somehow - by circumstances not specified in returning screenwriter Gary Dauberman's script - been displaced from their former dwelling. They've been offered refuge, of a sort, at the rambling, spooky home of dollmaker Samuel Mullins (Anthony LaPaglia) and his invalid wife, Esther (Miranda Otto).

The Mullins are still overcome by grief following the death of their young daughter, Bee (Samara Lee), in a tragic car accident a dozen

years before. So their hospitality is extended in an effort to brighten the tone of their funeral household. The outcome, of course, is quite the opposite.

No sooner has polio-afflicted Janice (Talitha Bateman) been warned by her brooding host to steer clear of Bee's perpetually locked bedroom than she somehow finds herself inside that very chamber, mucking about and stirring up trouble.

Discovering a hidden key to the closet in which the toy of the title has until now been confined, Janice unleashes her, much in the manner of Pandora opening her ill-fated box. Cue a reign of terror for nosy Janice, her BFF, Linda (Lulu Wilson), and the rest.

Darwin has clearly had no place in these girls' education. No matter how hair-raising the terrors to which Annabelle and her guiding fiend subject them, they always move toward danger, never away from it.

Even allowing for youthful curiosity, this stubborn refusal to learn from experience becomes a tiresome trait.

Even more taxing, however, is a scene in which Sister Charlotte hears Janice's confession of her disastrous trespass, not in the context of a confidential conversation but in what is clearly meant to be a formal sacramental encounter. Thus Janice kicks things off by requesting, "Bless me, Sister,

for I have sinned," and Sister Charlotte wraps things up by imposing a penance, though no absolution intervenes.

The fact that only bishops and priests can administer the sacrament of reconciliation is hardly a bit of inside-baseball religious arcana. And the mistake is all the more glaring in a movie that clearly wants to position itself, in some vague way at least, as faith-friendly. Equally out of place in that proposed context is the counter-scriptural concept that infernal beings can somehow "steal" human souls.

There are some old-fashioned shivers awaiting the restricted audience for which this follow-up to the 2014 original -- itself a spin-off of "The Conjuring" franchise -- can be labeled appropriate. But lapses in reason, believability and even the most rudimentary knowledge of Catholicism may inspire more frowns than frissons.

The film contains a distorted presentation of Catholic faith practices, mostly stylized but briefly very bloody violence, numerous gruesome images.

The Catholic News Service classification is L -- limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling.

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



CNS PHOTO/WARNER BROS

Stephanie Sigman stars in a scene from the movie "Annabelle: Creation."

The St. Cyril's Choir of Alexandria Bay
proudly presents...

Our 9th Annual Summer Concert for the Community

**Raising A
Joyful Noise!!**

**Singing songs of Faith, Home, and
Family!!**

Sunday August 20th - 4:00 p.m.

St. Cyril's Church, Alex Bay NY - Free Admission

The Choir will be performing a program of religious and patriotic music all revolving around the themes of Faith, Home, & Family.

In this world of ours today, we are excited to present this program of peace and love, and we hope that many people join us for an afternoon of free, inspirational, beautiful music.



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

ADIRONDACK

AWAKENING THE DREAMER

Saranac Lake – A workshop on creating an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just world

Date: Aug. 26

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Guggenheim Lodge

Features: Program will look at what is happening to the earth, consider ways to view it in light of our Catholic social teachings and consider ways to view it from a different perspective in light of our Faith and the efforts of a global movement that can make a real difference. Lunch using local produce will be prepared by Yvona Fast. Sponsored by: Diocesan Faith and Ecology Group. Event is FREE and open to the public. Free will offerings are accepted.

Contact: Register at 315-212-6592 or email, srbrthssj@gmail.com.

FALL RETREAT

Saranac Lake – A fall Retreat: "Praying with the Psalms of Creation" is set

Date: Sept. 15-17

Place: Guggenheim Lodge,

Features: Facilitators are Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, Adult Faith Educator, Paul Hetzler, Horticulture & Natural Resources Educator, with Fr. Paul Kelly as celebrant of Liturgy on Saturday. Suggested Offering: \$145 (includes all meals Friday evening through Sun. afternoon).

Contact: Register at 315-212-6592 or email srbrthssj@gmail.com by Sept. 12.

KICK OFF RETREAT

Saranac Lake – Seton Catholic School in Plattsburgh will be sponsoring a kick off retreat for grades 6-8.

Date: Aug. 30

Time: Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. and will return at 4 p.m.

Place: St. Bernard's

Cost: \$30

Features: Workshops, Worship, kayaking and paddle boarding.

Contact:

Spombrio@thesetonschools.org by Aug. 25.

CLINTON

SPAGHETTI DINNER

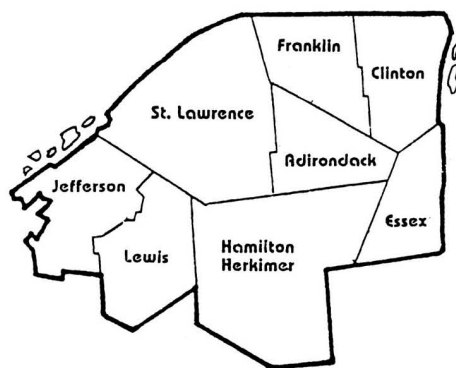
Morrisonville – K of C to sponsor all you can eat spaghetti dinner

Date: Sept. 23

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

Place: St. Alexander's Parish Jubilee Hall; eat in or carry out

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children 5-12, \$5; under 4, Free



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.

REDFORD PICNIC

Redford – The 162 Annual Redford picnic to be held.

Date: Aug. 20

Place: Assumption Parish Center

Schedule: 11:30 a.m. Ham and Roast beef dinners will be served; variety of games for people of all ages, Skillo, Pie Wheel, Fancy Booth and the main attraction, the oldest merry-go-round in North America. A rummage sale will be from noon to 6 p.m. Musical entertainment will be provided from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. with music by Roy Hurd from 2 p.m. to 4. The event will end with the \$5,000 cash raffle winners at 6:15 p.m.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Ellenburg – OLA House of Prayer will hold a two hour period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for vocation to the priesthood and religious life.

Date: Aug. 26

Schedule: Presentation by Father Jack Downs on "Mary, Mother of Jesus – New Insights" at 10 a.m.; Mass with Bishop LaValley at 11 a.m.; Lunch will follow.

Contact: Reservations required please call 518-594-3253

FRANKLIN

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Brushton – St. Mary's Church events committee to have a breakfast buffet.

Date: Aug. 20

Time: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish center

Cost: Adults, \$8; Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$4; under 5, Free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, \$25

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

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

Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass

Place: St. Ann's Church

HEARTS ON FIRE

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

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

Place: Notre Dame Church

JEFFERSON

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

Watertown – The St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will have their monthly meeting.

Date: Aug. 27

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Holy Family Parish

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown – Liferight meets the first Wednesday of the month.

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: 870 Arsenal Street.

Features: pro-life videos, books and educational materials for borrowing.

Contact: Phone 315-788-4359

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown – Holy Hour for vocations

Date: Monday-Friday

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

Place: Holy Family Church

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

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

Time: 3 p.m. to 6

Place: St. Anthony's Church

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: Sept. 3

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Schedule: 2:25 p.m. before the devotions there will be a viewing of the 7th DVD entitled "The Secret of Divine Mercy" 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.

FATHER PASCAL BRUNCH

Lyons Falls – the Knights of Columbus will hold their annual Fr. Pascal Rys, OFM Conv. brunch

Date: Aug. 20

Time: 8 a.m. to noon

Place: St. John's Church Hall

Features: All-you-can-eat pancakes, real maple syrup, sausage, bacon, eggs, fruit cup, muffins, beverages

Price: Adults, \$8; Children ages five-12, \$5; under five, free.

ST. LAWRENCE

RUMMAGE SALE

Canton – A rummage sale is set

Date: Aug. 24-26

Times: 8 a.m. to 5 on Thursday, Friday;

8 a.m. to noon on Saturday

Place: St. Mary's School Gym

SUMMER SOCIAL

Norfolk – Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond will have their 34th Annual Summer Social.

Date: Aug. 20

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children 5-10, \$4; under 5, Free

Features: Food from the American Booth and samplings from Mexican, French, Hungarian, Chinese, Italian, and Irish. Children's Midway, Cake Spin, Games of Chance. Raffle drawing at 2:30 p.m. with 43 chances to win.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake – Two Family Guggenheim sessions remain

Dates: Session 2: August 24 – August 27, Session 3: October 6 – October 8,

Features: weekend in the Adirondacks, family workshops, activities, liturgy special prayer services, outdoor activities

like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking.

Contact: Register online at:

<http://www.rcdony.org/familylife.htm>

DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL

Students in grades 10-12 are invited to apply to Diocesan Youth Council for the '17-'18 academic year! NYC members will grow in spiritual development and leadership to act as leaders in their parishes, as well as by helping to plan and lead some diocesan events.

Contact: Kelly Donnelly at kdonnelly@rcdony.org for more information.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

Saranac Lake – Students in grades 9-12 are invited to register for YOUth Lead, the annual leadership weekend held at Camp Guggenheim.

Date: Sept. 29 – Oct. 1

Cost: \$60

Contact: To register:

<http://rcdony.org/youth/leadership.html>

For more information contact Kelly Donnelly at kdonnelly@rcdony.org.

CELEBRATE CHRIST

Lake Placid – Join Catholics from the diocese at Celebrate Christ 2017.

Date: Oct. 21

Place: Crowne Plaza

Features: Chris Lowney author of five books, including the just-published Everyone Leads: How to Revitalize the Catholic Church is the keynote speaker. Chris has also authored the bestselling Heroic Leadership and Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Leads. Leadership is a vital factor towards the diocesan priority of building parishes with living stones.

Contact: Registration information and a schedule for the day are available at www.rcdony.org/celebrate or by calling the Western Regional Faith Formation Office at (315) 782-3620. Registration for the event is required and must be made by Sept. 29.

DOVS PILGRIMAGE

Syracuse – Join Bishop LaValley and DOVS (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) on the annual pilgrimage to pray for vocations.

Date: Oct. 10

Place: We will visit St. Marianne Cope's shrine and museum and have Mass and holy hour at the newly renovated cathedral in Syracuse.

Contact: To reserve a spot or for more information, call Mary at 315-268-1016 or Connie at 315-265-2762.



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

School days: looking back

As we look forward to school, let's look back on good things....

Part of what we do in the Mission Office is administer the Missionary Childhood Association program, otherwise known as MCA. This program that schools and religious education programs take part in each school year helps to grow understanding of life in the mission lands while teaching them the importance of what prayer and sacrifice here can provide over there.

Each year I look forward to seeing the children in our school and religious education programs when I visit them to talk about the Missions. Last year, the children of St. Agnes in Lake Placid raised almost \$150 for MCA. Their teacher and Mission Moderator, Mrs. Marcia Bugbee, wrote to me and told me of the children's efforts at St. Agnes. She wrote, "we here at St. Agnes just completed our almsgiving for the MCA. The children in our school and in our Christian Formation Program have been bringing awareness of the needs of others in different parts of the world to their family members by talking about how they have been raising money for the Childhood Mission through earning points at school that are turned into coins. Every "Random Acts of Kindness" that teachers have observed through the school days or by doing chores at home and bringing their earnings to religion class.

I am so proud of all of them and am sure that this awareness will be a lifelong less for each and every one of them..."

Pictured below are the students from St. Agnes in Lake Placid in the Spring of 2017 showing off their fundraising skills.



We here in the Mission Office are very proud of them too. Such conviction and commitment in small children is not only heartwarming but exemplifies the Mission Spirit in their hearts instilled in them by virtue of their baptism.

We wish the students, teachers, staff and parents of the Diocese of Ogdensburg much luck as they begin another school year. God Bless.

OBITUARIES

Alexandria Bay — Theresa M. (Bell) Sherbino, 58; Funeral Services Aug. 7, 2017 at St. Cyril's Church.

Brasher Falls — Judy Marie (White) St. Hilaire, 64; Funeral Services Aug. 10, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Canton — Wilbert Edward Lennon, 84; Funeral Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Carthage — Beverly M. (Bush) Ashcraft, 84; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. James Church.

Carthage — Elizabeth (Brady) Barnhart, 90; Funeral Aug. 9, 2017 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Dannemora — Esther M. (King) Donah, 99; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church.

Ellenburg — Loyda (Forytz) Aversa, 83; Funeral Aug. 12, 2017 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Gabriels — Dorothy June (Sargent) Gladd, 97; Funeral Services Aug. 12, 2017 at Church of the Assumption.

Heuvelton — Eva Hibbard, 86; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Hill Crest Cemetery.

Keeseville — Marjorie C. (LaFountain) Nelson, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 11, 2017 at St. John's Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Louisville — Bruce P. Ladison, 60; Funeral Aug. 12, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lowville — Jean M. (Monks) O'Brien, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Malone — John T. Hogan, 79; Funeral Services Aug. 19, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Massena — Frances (Kablick) Balinskas, 95; Funeral Services Aug. 14, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Patricia E. Fee, 91; Funeral Aug. 4, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in North Burk Rural Cemetery.

Massena — Rosalind M. Premo, 93; Fu-

neral Services Aug. 11, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Mary E. Romeo, 97; Funeral Services Aug. 3, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morrisonville — Virginia "Mae" (Turner) Golden, 91; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum, Plattsburgh.

Newcomb — Marie L. Tefoe, 83; Funeral Services July 28, 2017 at St. Therese Church; burial in St. Therese Cemetery.

Norfolk — Elizabeth Ann (Mosher) Kerr, 86; Funeral Services Aug. 3, 2017 at Church of the Visitation; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Colton.

North Lawrence — Anne (Quinell) Dawson, 80; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Brasher Falls.

Ogdensburg — Robert J. Barr, 85; Funeral Services Aug. 8, 2017 at Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg — Tami (Chevrier) Beaulieu, 54; Funeral Services Aug. 9, 2017 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Helen (Lesperance) Callahan, 85; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at Notre Dame Church.

Ogdensburg — William Cota, 86; Funeral Aug. 2, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Pine Hill Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Anne Marie Patterson, 68; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg — Jean (Easter) Pirie; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Plattsburgh — William J. Bingel, 68; Funeral Aug. 12, 2017 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Theresa Carmen (Busuttil) Bolin, 82; Funeral Services July 31, 2017 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Port Henry — Mary L. Scarpace Gilbo, 86; Funeral Aug. 9, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Potsdam — John Murphy, 74; Funeral Services Aug. 10, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Malone.

Potsdam — Robert P. Regan, 80; Funeral Services Aug. 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Redford — Beulah M. (Wood) Venne, 86; Funeral Aug. 5, 2017 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Rosiere — Jeanne Marie Johndrow Reff, 89; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at St. Vincent de Paul's Church; burial in St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery.

Saranac Lake — Louis F. D'Onofrio, 96; Funeral Services Aug. 1, 2017 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Ticonderoga — Mark F. Lawson, 58; Funeral Services Aug. 5, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Waddington — Nellie M. Ryan Dumas Beaulieu, 87; Funeral Services Aug. 11, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

Watertown — Mary E. (Cavallario) Coleman, 93; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Mary R. (LaFave) Bulger, 83; Funeral Services Aug. 9, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — Nelson J. DiGregorio, 93; Funeral Services Aug. 4, 2017 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Pulaski Village Cemetery.

Watertown — Louis E. Martin, 90; Funeral Services Aug. 9, 2017 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown — David Montague, 67; Funeral Services Aug. 11, 2017 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home; burial in Lakeside Cemetery, Sackets Harbor.

Watertown — Olga Marie Taylor Sennett, 91; Funeral Services Aug. 12, 2017 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in North Watertown Cemetery.

West Chazy — Alfred H. Fessette, 91; Funeral Services Aug. 8, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

ANNUAL SUMMER GATHERING OF SEMINARIANS

DAYS IN THE MOUNTAINS

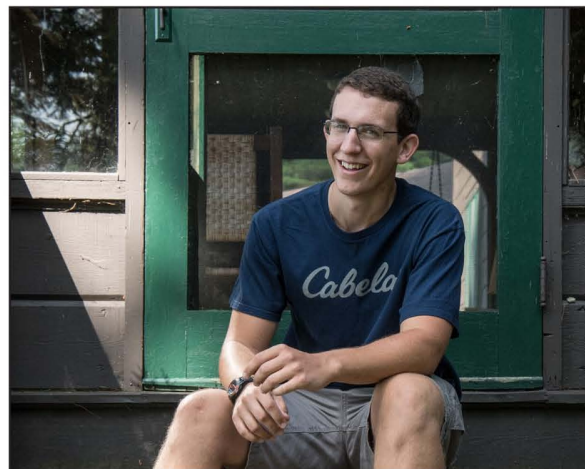
Nine men will be studying for the priesthood
in the Diocese of Ogdensburg this year



PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

Nine seminarians will continue or begin studies for the Diocese of Ogdensburg this month. First row, from left are Lukas Gruber, St. Mary's Potsdam, Pre-theology 1; Kevin McCulloch, Holy Family, Watertown, College 1; Michael Hamilton, RCC St. Alexander, St. Joseph and St. Mary, Morrisonville, College 1; and Carter Pierce, St. Raphael, Heuvelton, College 2; back, Father Thomas Higman, associate vocations director and associate director of seminarians; John Ojuok, St. Monica, Kenya, Theology 1; Leagon Carlin, St. Peter's, Plattsburgh, College 4; Nicholas Olley, St. James, Carthage, College 2; Douglas Schirmer, St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg, College 2; Matthew Conger, Notre Dame, Ogdensburg, Theology 2; and Father Douglas Lucia, diocesan vocation director and director of seminarians.

Michael Hamilton of the Roman Catholic Community of St. Alexander, St. Joseph and St. Mary in Morrisonville, had the opportunity to spend time with other seminarians before beginning his first year of college seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio



Carter Pierce of St. Raphael's in Heuvelton is beginning his second year of college seminary studies this month.



Two Ogdensburg men - Matt Conger of Notre Dame Parish and Doug Schirmer of St. Mary's Cathedral - enjoyed their time at Guggenheim.



The program for the summer gathering was prepared by members of the staff of the diocesan vocation office, Father Thomas Higman, Cathy Russell, diocesan vocation coordinator; and Father Douglas Lucia.