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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 17

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

SEPT 6, 2017

## 'God wants people to dream big'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- God wants people to live with hope and joy - not bitterness - and to dream with him of a better world, Pope Francis said.

"Please, make sure we do not pay attention to disappointed and unhappy people; let us not listen to those who cynically plead not to

cultivate hope in life," he said Aug. 30 during his weekly general audience.

People must ignore those who try to crush enthusiasm and smother "youthful euphoria," he said.

Instead, Christians must cultivate a "healthy utopia" based on what God wants for

the world.

"God wants us to be able to dream like he does and, with him as we journey, to be quite attentive to reality - dreaming of a different world," he said.

Continuing his series of audience talks on Christian hope, the pope reflected on a

reading from the Gospel of St. John (1:35-43), which describes how the first disciples heard of Jesus and wished to follow him. Jesus asked the first two men, "What are you looking for?" because he sensed a healthy restlessness in their young hearts, Pope Francis said.

## Autumn events in the diocese

Bishop LaValley will preside at special diocesan celebrations in the coming weeks:

- The Harvest Mass, for farmers, co-workers and families will be take place Sept. 17 at St. Augustine's in North Bangor.

- The Marriage Jubilee for all married couples is set for Sept. 24 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

- The Blue Mass, during which law enforcement personnel will be recognized will held Oct. 1 at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown.

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## Evans Mills celebration

St. Mary's Parish celebrates its 170th anniversary. Fr. Christopher Looby installed as pastor

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## TI SUPPORT FOR SISTER SUANNE



Father Kevin McEwan, pastor of St. Mary's Church in Ticonderoga, and St. Joseph Sister Sharon Anne Dalton, principal of St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, were part of a contingent which traveled from the Essex County community to Watertown as Sister Suanne Johnson professed her perpetual profession as a Sister of St. Joseph. Bishop Terry R. LaValley presided at the Mass held Aug. 27 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown. See photo on page 3

**BISHOP'S FUND 2017:** Support for work of New Evangelization... p. 6

## WATER'S RISE AND FALL

### Harvey's wrath goes on



(CNS PHOTO/JONATHAN BACHMAN, REUTERS)

A man gestures to a helicopter and rescue personnel while a disabled woman waits to be airlifted Aug. 31 after being rescued from her home flooded by Tropical Storm Harvey in Rose City, Texas. As the waters from Hurricane Harvey rose and fell, prayers uttered in Texas ranged from pleas for protection to asking God for the courage to live with charity and great patience, said Bishop Brendan J. Cahill of Victoria, Texas. The bishop said after residents saw the wreckage caused by the storm, they experienced suffering and deep sadness, but they also got right to work to help each other.

FULL STORY, PAGE 7

NORTH  
COUNTRY  
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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## Our hearts: deep in the heart of Texas

"How can it possibly be September, we've barely had a summer!?"

You've heard this. I've heard this. I've said this.

When we can get through July and August without the least bit of envy about other people's air-conditioned houses, we know we've had a sorry excuse for a summer.

But, of course, our collective whining is quickly put into perspective when we pay attention to what's been happening in Texas.

The images and stories of

the devastation caused by the winds and rains of Hurricane Harvey are just heart-breaking.

Mary Lou  
Kilian

In a couple of weeks the nation's attention will surely be turned elsewhere but Harvey's millions of victims will only be taking the first tentative steps towards recovery.

Many will never go back to the life they knew on August 24.

At times like this, we know that the Catholic Church will be at the forefront in offering comfort and support, in material, emotional and spiritual ways.

Bishop LaValley has joined the other bishops of the United States in urging prayerful and financial support for people in the Gulf Coast.

He has asked parishes of our diocese to take up a special collection, either this past weekend, the weekend of Sept. 23-24 or to make a donation from the parish. All the monies will be sent to our local Catholic Charities office and then on the Catholic Charities USA.

We know that we can count on Catholic Charities to make the best use of our contributions to address both immediate needs and long-term recovery efforts.

We in northern New York may not have had the driest or warmest of summers. We may have been challenged by unusually high water levels of our lake or river but we are safe and dry.

Our homes are intact, our children won't have nightmares of water rising to their beds, we don't need to be afraid of driving down the block.

Our brothers and sisters in the southern part of our country don't have that luxury.

Our generous donations and constant prayer are the least we can do to help them find their way back to normalcy, or at least something like it.

## FATHER MUENCH SAYS..

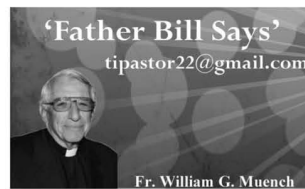
## What does a relationship with Jesus mean?

Thomas Merton wrote this in September, 1967, as part of an Easter homily that he entitled "He is Risen."

"True encounter with Christ liberates something in us, a power we did not know we had, a hope, a capacity for life, a resilience, an ability to bounce back, when we thought we were completely defeated, a capacity to grow and change, a power of creative transformation."

Today, I would like to share with you something that I developed from the Sunday Gospel reading from a few Sundays ago. That was the Gospel in which Jesus was alone with his apostles. Jesus asked them, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" He was talking about himself. The apostles had heard a few things – John the Baptist, Elijah, a prophet. Then Jesus asks them: "Who do you say that I am?" It is Peter who answers – he seems to be inspired to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

On that Sunday, I began my homily by suggesting that each one of us there should give an answer to that question of



Jesus, a help for each of us as we approach the Lord "Who do you say that I am?"

Who is Jesus for you? This is not about memorizing some catechism answer. It is rather about being very personal. And it is important. When we approach Jesus in prayer, we must recognize just who Jesus is for us so we can recognize our personal relationship with the Lord.

It would have been rather interesting if I could have called upon each person for their particular answer. But that would have taken much too long. I decided to share with them my answers. I would give them an idea of what the question should mean – what it means to me. I doubt that my answers would be as great as those of Thomas Merton.

However, let me share my

answers with you.

First off, my relationship with Jesus gives me confidence. With Jesus in my life, I know I can do all that I must and should as a Christian and I can do it with confidence. Jesus gives me support, a support that gives me confidence to live as a Christian, bringing peace and love into my life as Jesus taught me – and do it confidently.

Next my encounter with Jesus brings enthusiasm into my life. With the Lord, I truly find an enthusiasm for the challenge to do the work of the Lord, striving to make my life better and my world a better place.

Each day Jesus brings challenges and opportunities into my life, opportunities to reach out to others with the Lord's peace and love. My call that I accept as a Christian is to lead others to recognize their goodness in the Lord who loves them.

In the Gospels, Jesus makes it clear that he wants to be my friend. I believe that Jesus walks with me as a friend. As a friend to all of us, Jesus became incarnate and lived

among us, he died for us and rose from the dead.

As my friend, Jesus brings new life and spirit to me through Baptism so that I may develop a good life and accept the challenge to make the world a better place. Jesus stays close to us – he is always our friend – bringing his love to all that we do.

For me, my encounter with Jesus means forgiveness. Jesus made it clear in the Gospels that he came for forgiveness. In faith, I know that Jesus forgives me, when I fail, when I sin the Lord brings his forgiveness to my repentance and I find peace in his forgiving love. Jesus does not give up on me.

His forgiveness brings to me a constant challenge. Jesus encourages me to continue to live my Christian life and all that it means.

Finally, Jesus brings calmness and peace into my life. His presence helps me deal with the many upsetting and disturbing things these days. At those times, I turn to the Lord and I find, in prayer, his peace. Jesus brings a needed calmness to me.

## Harvest Mass set for Sept. 17

**NORTH BANGOR** - Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the annual Diocesan Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Augustine's Church Sept. 17 at 2 p.m.

Farmers, their families and co-workers are encouraged to attend.

All who call the North Country home – and visitors – are invited to participate to “thank God for the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands.”

The Harvest Mass of Thanksgiving has been held in the fall in the Diocese of Ogdensburg nearly every year since November 2001; it followed a pastoral priority of Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito.

The location varies year to year so that over the course of time, the Mass can be offered in many different parts of the North Country.

A reception will follow in the parish hall.

## Marriage Jubilee to be held Sept. 24

**OGDENSBURG** – Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the annual Marriage Jubilee Mass Sept. 24 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral

All married couples, their family members and friends are invited to attend.

A reception in Brzana Hall

in the lower cathedral will follow Mass.

Registration should be made through parishes by Sept. 8.

Further information is available from Renee Grizzuto at (315) 393-2920 or rgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

## SEMINARIAN SEND-OFF



Bishop LaValley is pictured with Father Howard Venette and Knights of Columbus from St. Bartholomew's, Old Forge and St. Anthony's, Inlet, as they bid farewell to diocesan seminarian John Ojuok. Ojuok, a native of Kenya, is studying at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora.

## A CELEBRATION OF SISTER SUANNE



SISTER OF ST. JOSEPH PHOTO

St. Joseph Sister Suanne Johnson is flanked by Bishop LaValley and Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph, following the Aug. 27 Mass at the Watertown motherhouse during which Sister Suanne pronounced her perpetual vows. A native of Brasher Falls, Sister Suanne currently serves as a teacher at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga.

## Sacred Heart Foundation to hold 44th annual dinner

**WATERTOWN** - The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Sacred Heart Foundation will continue at the 44th Annual Sacred Heart Foundation dinner to be held Sept. 20 at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Vincent T. Freeh will be the keynote speaker at this year's dinner.

Father Freeh, well-known throughout the Watertown community, has served as pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church and has served on the Board of Directors of the Foundation for two different terms. He has also provided spiritual leadership as a religious superior in several communities in the United States including his current position as superior of the MSC com-

munity in Watertown.

Father Freeh continues to work for the restoration of family as an essential cultural value. Vatican II put marriage and family at the head of the list of urgent needs, calling family “the school of a deeper humanity,” recognizing it as the seedbed of culture. Intact families are the exception, not the rule. “The culture of death,” cited by Pope St. John Paul II, is now compounded by “the death of culture,” mainly due to the breakdown of family.

At the recommendation of the director of a major shrine in France, Father Freeh is preparing to launch a virtual shrine on the internet to generate discussion and dialogue on ways to enrich, strengthen and celebrate family.

In 2017, the Foundation

awarded \$80,000 in scholarships to 85 MSC deacons and seminary students to help further their education. This is the highest annual amount that the Foundation has awarded in scholarships since its founding. The annual dinner is one of the Foundation's biggest fundraisers of the year.

Tickets for this golden anniversary dinner of the Sacred Heart Foundation are now on sale. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Foundation office at 315-782-3344.

Tickets are \$40 per person, and proceeds of the dinner support the Foundation's mission. Dinner choices will include a beef dish, a chicken dish, and a vegetarian option.

Those unable to attend are asked to consider making a donation to Sacred Heart Foundation, 668 Thompson Street, Watertown, N.Y., 13601.



Father Freeh

*Bishop LaValley presides at anniversary Mass, installs new pastor*

# Parish celebrates 170th anniversary

By Kristina Dean  
Staff writer

**EVANS MILLS** -- Describing St. Mary's Catholic Church as a parish having many blessings, Bishop Terry LaValley celebrated the church's 170th anniversary and installed Father Christopher Looby as pastor during Mass Aug. 13.

For generations, baptized Catholics have attending the Evans Mills church and been "raised by word and sacrament by a family of faith," the bishop told parishioners during his homily.

Bishop LaValley referred to the Gospel reading of Matthew 14:22-33, in which Peter walks across the water toward Jesus, begins to sink and cries out to the Lord to save him.

"The ship is a symbol of the church, and we are aboard this ship together with Jesus as our captain, he said.

"People jump off this ship; our world has some stormy times," Bishop LaValley said. "Sometimes we have rough times and we ride the waves of the stormy seas. But we're promised by God if we remain faithful, all will be well.



**Father Christopher J. Looby was installed as pastor of St. Mary's in Evans Mills, with missions in Theresa and Philadelphia, at an Aug. 13 Mass during which the parish celebrated its 170th anniversary. Bishop Terry R. LaValley, shown at right, presided at the special liturgy.**

Jesus Christ is our anchor. We are not on board this ship by ourselves."

"The Evans Mills church is a family of faith that has been a gift to the community for many generations, he said. "It has also inspired its pastors and bishop."

"We need to thank God for one another and our companions on this voyage of

life," he said.

St. Mary's has a reputation as being a very hospitable church, the bishop said, as well as being blessed by the families from Fort Drum, the deacon (Deacon Patrick Don-



**Bishop LaValley stands with altar server Elizabeth Anne Eggleston after the anniversary Mass.**

ahue), music ministers and pastors, including Father Looby and his predecessors.

One former pastor, Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Pierre Aubin (1986-

1998) concelebrated Mass with the bishop and Father Looby.

Deacon Donahue read the Gospel and Prayers of the Faithful while Elizabeth Eggleston served.

The first and second readings were read by Noel Voos. The gifts were presented by Chester and Antoinette Kubis.

After Mass, the congregation was invited to a picnic in the parish center.

Father Looby has served as administrator for the parish with its mission churches in Theresa and Philadelphia since June, 2015. Previously, he served as parochial vicar at St. Peter's in Plattsburgh, Holy Family, Watertown; and St. Peter's, Lowville.

In June, 2009, he was named administrator in Brushton and North Bangor and, one year later, pastor of the parishes until his 2015 appointment in Evans Mills.

The Catholic community in Evans Mills was first established as a station of Watertown in 1847; the church was dedicated in 1849.

Through its earliest years, Evans Mills was a mission of Watertown, Cape Vincent, Redwood and Brownville before the first resident pastor of St. Mary's was appointed in 1893.

The parish was incorporated Nov. 17, 1920, with Father Joseph Blais as pastor.

Among the other previous pastors were Fathers Eugene Desnoyers, John Pendergast, Gerald McGrath, John Stasiowski, Terrance Patterson, Andrew Amyot, James Bucaria, Father Aubin, Missionary of the Sacred Heart Father Bernard Jakubco, Fathers Mark Reilly and Thomas Kornmeyer.

In addition to St. Mary's, Father Looby serves as pastor of the mission churches of St. Theresa of Avila in Theresa and St. Joseph's in Philadelphia.



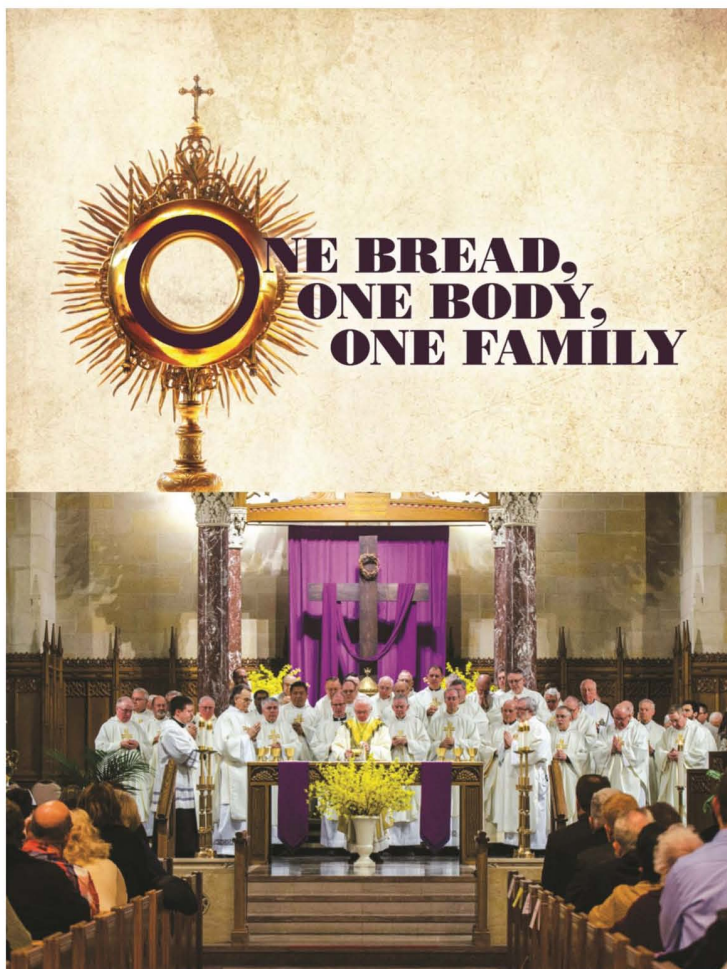
**Father Looby cuts the anniversary cake at the reception held after the Mass. The Catholic community in Evans Mills was first established 170 years ago as a station of Watertown.**

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**ONE BREAD,  
ONE BODY,  
ONE FAMILY**

2017 Christ Mass. Photo by Jesse Savic

## 2017 Bishop's Fund Appeal



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF OGDENSBURG

*For more information  
and to view the 2017 Bishop's Fund video,  
please visit*

[www.rcdony.org/bfvideo](http://www.rcdony.org/bfvideo)

## The Bishop's Fund Appeal

provides financial assistance to the vital ministries of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The following are among the ministries supported:

- Education of Seminarians
- Family Life Office
- Natural Family Planning Office
- Respect Life Ministry
- Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund
- Formation for Ministry Program
- Office of the New Evangelization
- Continuing Education and Formation of Priests
- Priests' Graduate Studies
- Vocation Office
- Permanent Deacons
- Deacon Formation
- Tuition Assistance Program
- Campus Ministry Program
- Matching Gifts to Catholic Schools
- Department of Faith Formation
- Diocesan Center of Youth Ministry
- Young Adult Ministry
- Guggenheim Center
- Department of Worship

### WAYS TO GIVE

#### GIFTS OF CASH:

Checks should be made payable to the "Bishop's Fund Appeal."

**PLEDGE:** A gift to the Bishop's Fund Appeal may be paid in four payments - at the time of the pledge, December, February and April.

**ONLINE GIVING:** The Bishop's Fund Appeal offers the opportunity to make your gift and pledge payments online using a credit card. To donate online, please visit [www.rcdony.org/bishop-s-fund-appeal](http://www.rcdony.org/bishop-s-fund-appeal) and click on Donate Now (found in the tool bar on the left).

#### MATCHING GIFTS:

Many companies endeavor to match the charitable contributions of employees. Please contact your company's Human Resource Department to determine if your company participates in the Matching Gift Program for Catholic Schools.

#### GIFTS OF SECURITIES:

Federal tax laws offer special incentives for gifts of non-cash property especially that which has increased in value since it was acquired. Please contact the Bishop's Fund Office at 315-393-2920 for transfer instructions.

**BEQUESTS:** When considering gifts to a charity in your Will, please remember the Bishop's Fund Appeal. Gifts can be made in the following manner through your Will: Specific dollar amount; a percentage of your estate or a particular asset such as real estate or other valuables.

#### MAILING YOUR GIFT:

Please feel free to mail your donation to:  
The Bishop's Fund Appeal  
PO Box 150  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669



ONE BREAD... ONE BODY... ONE FAMILY

# Bishop's Fund supports New Evangelization office

By **Marika Donders**  
Director, Office for the New Evangelization

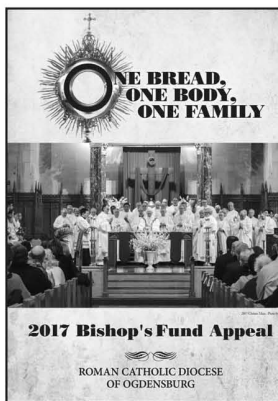
The Office for the New Evangelization exists to support parishes and groups in forming joy-filled intentional missionary disciples of Jesus Christ so that, on fire with the Holy Spirit, they will be witnesses that transform the culture. We do this by offering workshops, coordinating events, and sharing resources to implement the diocesan vision so that all will be Christ fed, Christ Led and Hope Filled.

I have often said that the New Evangelization is all about relationship – relationship with Jesus Christ and sharing his Good News through relationships with everyone else.

Reflecting on this past year, there are so many relationships that cross my mind. The Office of Evangelization works collaboratively with most of the other departments in the Diocese. We have recently completed a large Hospitality Workshop in collaboration with the Formation for Ministry program; we coordinated a delegation of to attend the Convocation of Catholic Leaders which inspired many ideas and plans; we are working together with the Office of Family Life and the Office of Vocations to plan a Life and Family Conference to take place in April of next year.

We work together with a communications team to distribute information through eNotes, Social Media and the Web.

Together with heads of Education, Youth Ministry, Family Life, Vocations and Formation for Ministry we are developing leadership training workshops to help parishes implement the Diocesan priorities and goals that are part of the



Pastoral Vision for the Diocese.

The Office of the New Evangelization also offers to come to parishes or other groups to provide workshops, talks, and trainings tailored to parish needs, whether it is following up on the larger diocesan events like the recent Hospitality conference, to help develop a parish evangelization team, to facilitate projects like the Forming Intentional Disciples workshops or help parishes develop ways of reaching out to inactive Catholics or follow up on their parish census. The Office of the New Evangelization can also recommend resources, books, and out-of-the-box that will help parishes become

## 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

houses of formation of missionary disciples who will be able to reach out beyond their parish doors to reach those who have not heard of Jesus Christ, or those who may have drifted away for whatever reason.

Pope Francis, as well as the recent Convocation of Catholic Leaders, has urged all of us to go to those on the margins, those who are on the peripheries, so that they too may know the love of Christ. The Office of the New Evangelization is here to help you do just that.

For more information of how our office can help and encourage you or your parish to answer Christ's call to go out to all the world and make disciples of all the nations (one person at a time), contact Marika Donders, Director of the Office for the New Evangelization at [mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org).

## Mark Your Calendars

- Sept. 17** - Harvest Mass, St. Augustine's, North Bangor
- Sept. 24** - Marriage Jubilee, St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
- Oct. 1** - Blue Mass, St. Patrick's, Watertown

## Rest in Peace

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

- Sept. 14** - Rev. Russell O'Neil, 1951
- Sept. 15** - Rev. George Lessard, O.M.I., 1978
- Sept. 16** - Rev. Alphonse Nolin, O.M.I., 1936
- Sept. 17** - Rev. William E. Capron, 1949; Msgr. Louis D. Berube, 1999
- Sept. 18** - Rev. Charles E. Campeau, 1952
- Sept. 19** - Rev. Clement J. Dwyer, O.S.A., 1956; Rev. Francis C. McMahon, 1975

## Bishop's Schedule

**Sept. 6** - 9:30 a.m., Diocesan Department and Office Heads Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

**Sept. 7** - 12 p.m., Mass at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh followed by a luncheon with the Bishop's Heritage Circle

**Sept. 8** - 4 p.m., Mass for the Rededication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse

**Sept. 9** - 4 p.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Church in Mooers  
5:30 p.m., Mass at St. Louis of France Church in Sciota

**Sept. 10** - 8 a.m., Mass at St. Ann's Church in Mooers Forks  
10 a.m., Installation Mass for Rev. Scott Seymour as Pastor of St. James Church in Cadyville

**Sept. 11** - 7:15 p.m., Mass and Novena at St. Mary's Cathedral

**Sept. 12** - 10:30 a.m., Investment Advisory Committee Meeting at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

**Sept. 13** - 11 a.m., St. Regis Mission Board of Directors Meeting at Kateri Hall in Hogansburg

## 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](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

- Upcoming sessions:
- Sept. 9** - 10 a.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh
  - Sept. 13** - 6 p.m., Seton Academy, Plattsburgh
  - Sept. 14** - 6:30 p.m., St. Alexander's Church, Morrisonville
  - Sept. 14** - 2:30 p.m., St. Agnes School, Lake Placid
  - Sept. 18** - 6 p.m., St. Bernard's School, Saranac Lake
  - Sept. 20** - 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School Massena
  - Sept. 20** - 6 p.m., St. James, Gouverneur
  - Oct. 2** - 1:30 p.m., Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Watertown

## Environmental Stewardship

### A unique way of celebrating

"There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens."

And now for the second year, Pope Francis urges the Church to join a long-celebrated ecumenical observance of the wonders and the fragility of the garden that God has given us during the Season of Creation.

As noted last week this Season of Celebration extends from Sept. 1 through October 4, the feast of St. Francis.

Last week we were encouraged to pray for and with creation. This week is an appropriate time to consider how we are using the fruits of the earth that God has given to nourish us and to be shared with others.

On a national level September 8-10 is observed as Food Waste Weekend. It brings us some challenging facts about food waste in our nation and extends a call to action' to all of us.

"A 1977 government study estimated that 20% of the food produced for consumption in the U.S. was lost annually.

A study twenty years later put that figure at 27%, while recent estimates are in the 30-40% range.

A recent landmark report estimated that food waste and loss across the globe could be as high as 50% annually.

Such inefficiency is staggering. What business enterprise could survive with that level of waste?

The consequences of food waste are serious – socially, morally, environmentally, and financially.

At the most basic level, by wasting food we miss the opportunity to feed people – our neighbors – and therefore miss the ability to spread goodwill and build community."

\*Article taken from [www.FoodWasteWeekend.org](http://www.FoodWasteWeekend.org) written by Steven Finn, Lauren Goldberg, & Gary Oppenheimer, 7/16

### Action step this week:

\*Check with your food pantry to see if they are registered with Ample-Harvest.org.

\*Decide to buy only what you can use or share, as a way to reduce waste.

*To be continued: "A food waste isn't just a hunger problem, it is an environmental problem, too."*

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Bishops' Labor Day statement scores 'excessive inequality'

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- "Excessive inequality" threatens cooperation among all people in society "and the social pact it supports," said Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, in the U.S. bishops' annual Labor Day statement. In the message, Bishop Dewane cited the words of Pope Francis, who told factory workers in Genoa, Italy, "The entire social pact is built around work. This is the core of the problem. Because when you do not work, or you work badly, you work little or you work too much, it is democracy that enters into crisis, and the entire social pact." Dated Sept. 4, the federal Labor Day holiday, the statement was released Aug. 30. Bishop Dewane, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, pointed to a "twisted understanding of labor and laborers" that fosters deepening inequality. In Genoa, the pope "acknowledges that 'merit' is 'a beautiful word,'" Bishop Dewane said, "but the modern world can often use it 'ideologically,' which makes it 'distorted and perverted' when it is used for 'ethically legitimizing inequality.'"

## Pope: Catholic social teaching can lead to just society

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Catholic politicians should be guided by the church's moral and social teachings when crafting legislation, Pope Francis said. Meeting with participants in the annual meeting of the International Catholic Legislators Network Aug. 27, the pope said that church teaching can contribute to a more humane and just society, but only if the church is allowed a voice in answering "the great questions of society in our time. The laws that you enact and apply ought to build bridges of dialogue between different political perspectives, also when responding to precise aims in order to promote greater care for the defenseless and the marginalized, especially toward the many who are forced to leave their countries, as well as to promote a correct human and natural ecology," the pope said according to Vatican Radio. Founded in 2010 by Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schonborn of Vienna and British parliamentarian Sir David Alton, the Catholic Legislators Network meets annually "to discuss the promotion of Christian principles in the political arena," according to the organization's website. "Every year, the network brings together about 120 people, including top-level politicians from a wide range of countries spanning all continents, to discuss urgent policy issues in different regions of the globe," the website said.

## Vatican confirms pope's visit to Myanmar, Bangladesh

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A day after appealing for an end the violent persecution of the Rohingya people, a Muslim minority in Myanmar, the Vatican announced Pope Francis will visit the country in late November. After the visit Nov. 27-30 to the cities of Yangon and Naypyitaw in Myanmar, the pope will travel on to Dhaka, Bangladesh, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, the Vatican said Aug. 28. After praying the Angelus with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square Aug. 27, Pope Francis said he was saddened by the news "of the persecution of a religious minority, our Rohingya brothers and sisters." News media reported violent clashes Aug. 25-26 after Rohingya fighters attacked 30 police stations. More than 100 people, mostly insurgents, have been reported killed, according to the BBC. Most of the Rohingya population in Myanmar's Rakhine state have been denied citizenship in Myanmar, which is predominantly Buddhist.

# Water's rise and fall: Harvey's wrath still felt across Gulf Coast

By James Ramos  
Catholic News Service

HOUSTON (CNS) - As the waters from Hurricane Harvey rose and fell, prayers uttered in Texas ranged from pleas for protection to asking God for the courage to live with charity and great patience, said Bishop Brendan J. Cahill of Victoria.

The bishop said after residents saw the wreckage caused by the storm, they experienced suffering and deep sadness, but they also got right to work to help each other.

"The resolve to help one block, one parish at a time continues to be strong," he said.

When the storm began, the bishop kept vigil praying to the Blessed Mother with two Marian devotions: Mary, Star of the Sea and Our Lady of Prompt Succor.

"When the eye of the storm comes, all you can do is pray," he said.

Later he said he "surrendered" the future to God and went to bed. The next day, without power, he listened to the radio as Harvey stalled over his 10-county diocese and emerged from his home to find an incredible amount of damage.

In Galveston-Houston where Harvey idled and dumped up to 49 inches of rain, Father J. Phong Nguyen answered a desperate call for help. The parochial vicar at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Houston drove through the rain to a northwest Houston neighborhood flooding to "the tops of the garage."

On a rescue mission, the priest commandeered a boat after finding water too high to drive through and sped

through the neighborhood. After bringing a family to safety with other rescuers, he heard more screams for help as they passed by more homes.

**Prayers uttered in Texas  
ranged from pleas  
for protection to asking  
God for the courage  
to live with charity  
and great patience**

For at least three or four hours - Father Nguyen said he's unsure how long he helped because he made so many trips - the priest helped pull stranded families from their second-floor windows and homes.

The priest said the water was 2 feet when he began, but when he noticed the boat going over unusual bumps, unlike before, he realized that 6 to 7 feet of water rose, hiding once-visible cars and stop signs. He was hitting the tops of cars.

"It was all gone," he said. Despite not knowing how to swim, and being filled with fear, the priest felt called to help and not leave anyone behind.

"Before I started, I prayed to Mary," he said, begging her to be with him. "My heart broke in two. It was too much. The water just kept rising and rising."

Ordained in 2011, the Vietnamese-born priest said he had seen floods before, but had never seen such high water in his life. City officials said at least 70 percent of Harris County was covered in at least 1.5 feet of water.

While bayous and rivers were rising and falling in Victoria and Houston, Harvey's

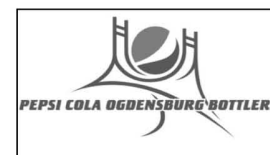
outer bands reached into East Texas, smothering Beaumont and Port Arthur with rain. Shortly offshore and downgraded to a tropical storm, Harvey made a second landfall Aug. 30 with more rain, drenching the already soaked region.

Drainage pumps failed as entire interstates became miles-long extensions of the Gulf of Mexico and the Neches River.

In Beaumont, rising waters cut off the city's water supply. The chancery offices remained closed, Sept. 1 and a nearby hospital evacuated, another on water conservation.

Parishes and schools throughout the Beaumont Diocese saw some damage. At least one parish remained unsafe to visit by the afternoon on Aug. 31. Then, parishes shared plans to host other congregations affected by Harvey. Beaumont Bishop Curtis J. Guillory dispensed Sunday Mass obligations for the Labor Day weekend for those who could not yet travel. "Otherwise, all are welcome," a post on the diocesan Facebook page said.

Across the sodden region, Harvey claimed at least 44 lives, leaving tens of thousands displaced into churches, convention and community centers. Some experts estimate total losses from Hurricane Harvey would reach \$190 billion, equal to Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy's total combined costs.



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# We are, indeed, our brothers' keepers

Am I my brother's keeper?" was the lame excuse Cain gave to God ages ago when asked where his brother Abel was.

At many different times, God tells that we are responsible for each other's well-being. Each person on this earth can have an effect for the good or evil of our society, and He will call us to an accounting at the end of our lives.

In today's first reading, God says to Ezekiel, "You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel".

Then, by order of God,



**Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore**

Ezekiel is to draw a picture for his fellow countrymen showing what a watchman is like and what he is expected to do.

He draws a picture for them of Israel at war. A watchman is chosen to be on the lookout for the enemy forces. When he spots them, he is to sound a trumpet to warn them. If they heed his warning and take shelter,

then they will be saved, but if they ignore the trumpet alert and perish, it will not be held against the watchman. He incurs no guilt, because he has done his duty. He has given them due

warning. Now, it is the duty of each individual citizen to act accordingly; if he fails to do so, he bears the responsibility for whatever harm comes. In an earlier chapter of Ezekiel, we find the same words, but with a shocking twist; God is seen as warning the people that He Himself may come at an unexpected hour to call them to judgment! We are indeed our brother's keeper - we are watchmen for the Lord's coming!

In the Gospel reading from Matthew, we have the same message. Each one of us has a duty to warn our brother and sister of the consequences when they sin.

First, take them aside privately so as not to embar-

## SEPT. 10

### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### READINGS

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

arrass them. If they don't do anything about it, then take one or two witnesses with you when you warn them.

If all else fails, seek the help of the Church (that is, ask the pastor or another priest or deacon).

If the person who has sinned still refuses to change his behavior, then you may leave him to face the consequences of his sin. These are the rules for fraternal correction.

When are we "off the hook" from this procedure?

Spiritual writers say we're excused if we know the person will get extremely angry, or when we're certain that it won't work! Through the whole procedure, we are to treat the other person with kindness.

We should proceed through the various steps with humility, knowing that we too are sinners.

We must seek help through prayer to the Holy Spirit. Love for our neighbor brings with it responsibilities. St. Paul, in the second reading, backs up this teaching when he says, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another, for one who loves another has fulfilled the Law."

## VATICAN LETTER

# Care for creation means caring for the poor

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Catholic social teaching has developed over the past century as new problems - human, social, economic and environmental - come clearer into focus and call out for a faith-based response.

Pope Francis' contribution, with his encyclical, "Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home," is to emphasize just how closely entwined those problems are.

"After Laudato Si', for the Catholic Church, these are connected. You cannot try to tackle poverty without caring for the earth and equally you cannot care for

the earth without caring for the people who live on the earth," said Father Augusto Zampini Davies, an official at the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

One of the biggest challenges of Pope Francis' approach is a spiritual one, the Argentine priest said. It involves conversion.

The poor are impacted most by climate change, yet they have done the least to contribute to it, he said. "We must convert and change our lifestyles and help others cope with the climate change we've caused."

People in wealthy countries may think they are "ecologically friendly" because they recycle and "like trees and gardening," he said, "but the way we produce, trade, consume and waste" is not offset by separating plastic from paper.

In addition, wealthy countries "have the resources to

mitigate the effects of climate change," for example, in building infrastructure to control flooding and providing emergency relief to victims of natural disasters and drought. But in poor countries, thousands of people die in floods and tens of thousands are forced to migrate because of drought and famine.

"If you cannot grow your crops and feed your children, who wouldn't migrate?" he asked.

In richer countries, the conversion Pope Francis is calling for includes learning to face fear with a Gospel-based attitude toward others and toward future generations, the priest said.

The connections between environmental damage, the global economy and migration are clear, he said. And so are the motives underlying reactions like climate-change denial, isolationism and anti-migrant senti-

ments.

"What Pope Francis does is say, 'OK, here are the symptoms, let's find the roots,'" Father Zampini Davies said. "The roots are the same: selfishness or indifference or greed or this mentality of thinking that if I have more I will be more important."

In many ways, he said, fear appears to be spreading among people in the wealthiest nations, and "politicians play on people's fears. If I feel I am not benefiting from the global economy and I live in a democracy, I will vote for someone who says they will get us out of that."

Christians can find in their faith a healthy way to handle their fears, he said, "because we have a different approach to the quality of life, to what it means to have a better life, because our understanding of life is relational and our understanding of redemption and

salvation is that it is for all of creation."

Transforming the former Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace into the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Pope Francis specified that the office is an expression of the church's "concern for issues of justice and peace, including those related to migration, health, charitable works and the care of creation."

In other words, for Pope Francis, all those issues together are key components of "integral human development."

Now it is clear to scientists, economists, development experts and theologians that care for the environment and reducing the factors that contribute to climate change are essential for making development sustainable and truly caring for the poor, Father Zampini Davies said.

## GO GREEN!

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## AT THE MOVIES

## LEAP!

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

Ballet enthusiasts of all ages should jump at the chance to see the charming animated film "Leap!" (Weinstein). Set in 1880s France, and originally entitled "Ballerina," this French-Canadian movie, produced by L'Atelier Animation and directed with brio by Eric Summer and Eric Warin, is a visual wonder.

Streetscapes of Paris are rendered in colorful detail, while precise ballet poses and movements are depicted in a fluid, almost photo-realistic manner. Nor does the inclusion of a couple of mild bathroom jokes seriously detract from a winning tale about friendship, perseverance and helping others in need.

The plot centers on two orphans, Felicie (voice of Elle Fanning) and Victor (voice of Nat Wolff). Inspired by a music box left in her crib by the birth mother she never knew, Felicie longs to be a dancer. Victor, on the other hand, wants to be a famous inventor.

The buddies plan their getaway. "We arrived at the same time and we'll escape at the same time," says Felicie.

Standing in their way are



CNS PHOTO/WEINSTEIN

Animated characters Felicie, voiced by Elle Fanning, and Victor, voiced by Nat Wolff, appear in the movie "Leap!"

the authorities at their (presumably Catholic) orphanage: the predictably stern Mother Superior (voice of Kate McKinnon) and a gruesome caretaker, Monsieur Luteau (voice of Mel Brooks).

But destiny will not be denied and - with Victor masquerading as a nun - the merry duo absconds. They make their way to City of Light where Victor lands a job in the workshop of Gustave Eiffel, who is busy constructing his namesake tower.

Meanwhile, Felicie heads to Paris' famed opera

house and its ballet school. She meets Odette (voice of Carly Rae Jepsen), a cleaning woman with a secret: She was once a prima ballerina until sidelined by injury.

Odette takes pity on the orphan and agrees to train

her so she can impress Merante (voice of Terrence Scammell), the demanding instructor of wannabe ballerinas. To succeed, Felicie must outwit Odette's mean

boss, Regine Le Haut (also voiced by McKinnon), and Regine's bratty daughter, Camille (voice of Maddie Ziegler).

Dozens and dozens of plies and pirouettes later, Felicie faces Camille in the ultimate dance-off for a coveted starring role in "The Nutcracker." Through it all, Felicie is sustained by the voice of her birth mother (McKinnon again) saying in her head: "Don't give up on your dreams. If you never leap you'll never know what it is to fly."

The film contains brief scatological humor and a less than flattering representation of women religious. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II - adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.



## CAR RAFFLE

Our Annual Car Raffle is underway. Tickets will be sold after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. They are also available at the rectory Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. The drawing will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday October 8, 2017 and the winner may choose the car or \$15,000 in cash.

The price for the ticket is \$20 or six (6) tickets for \$100 with all proceeds going to St. Agnes School.

The car this year is a 2017 Subaru Outback fully equipped from Jerry Strack of Central Garage here in Lake Placid.

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the form & enclose your check made out to **St. Agnes Church**

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169 HILLCREST AVE  
LAKE PLACID, NY 12946

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You do not have to be present to win.

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## ADIRONDACK

## FALL RETREAT

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

**Date:** Sept. 15-17

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge,

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

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

## CLINTON

## TENT SALE

**Peru** - St. Vincent's Thrift Store will be holding its annual tent sale of gently used fall/winter clothing and footwear.

**Schedule:** Sept. 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30; Sept. 15 - 17, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Features:** Customers can fill a large bag with merchandise for \$8

## 40th ANNUAL APPLEFEST

**Peru** - St. Augustine's Parish will host the 40th Annual Applefest.

**Date:** Sept. 16 and 17

**Place:** Parish Grounds

**Schedule:** Parade begins at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Peru Elementary and ends at the Parish Grounds. Following there will be live music, craft fair, food, games, rides. SUNY Plattsburgh Gospel Choir will perform on Saturday. The Bootleg Band will play both days. Sunday chicken bbq begins at noon.

## FRANKLIN

## HOLY HARVEST FESTIVAL

**Malone** - St. André Bessette Parish to have its Holy Harvest Festival

**Date:** Sept. 24

**Time:** 12 p.m. to 3

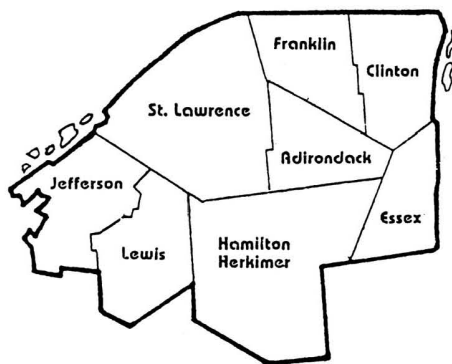
**Place:** Holy Family School

**Features:** A harvest dinner featuring smoked pulled pork, potato salad, coleslaw, corn on the cob, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, rolls and dessert will begin at noon. Cost for the meal: Adults, \$10; Seniors, \$8; Children 6-12, \$6; under 5, Free. Take-outs will be available. Entertainment by the Old Timer's Band. Harvest table filled with goodies, children's games & activities and a raffle with a \$1,000 first prize!

## JEFFERSON

## SPAGHETTI &amp; MEATBALL DINNER

**Evans Mills** - A Spaghetti & Meatball dinner will be held to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.



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:** Sept. 9

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

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

**Cost:** Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

## CIDER DAYS

**Sackets Harbor** - Cider Days to be held at St. Andrew's Church.

**Date:** Sept. 24

**Time:** 12 p.m. to 5

**Features:** games, food, and music.

## LEWIS

## ADORATION

**Lowville** - To Thank God for & To Honor the Most Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to one hour of exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, silent adoration, and benediction.

**Date:** Sept. 21

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

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

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

**Date:** Oct. 1

**Schedule:** At 2:25 p.m. before the monthly devotions, we will view the DVD entitled, "God's Master Plan" from the Series: 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.

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

**Contact:** 315-348-6260

## ST. LAWRENCE

## CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE

**Gouverneur** - St. James School will hold their annual Chicken Bar-B-Que.

**Date:** Sept. 10

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

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

## CABBAGE ROLL SALE

**Norwood** - The Norwood Knights of Columbus 2309 will host the 22nd annual Cabbage Roll Sale.

**Date:** Sept. 16

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** St. Andrew's Church basement

**Contact:** Pre-orders Mark Tebo 315-353-8821, Phil Regan 315-353-9917, John Murray 315-353-2334, Jim Murray 315-261-9975

## CLM ASSOCIATION DINNER

**Norfolk** - Save the date for the Annual CLM (commissioned lay ministers) Association Dinner.

**Date:** Oct. 11

**Place:** Parish of the Visitation

**Features:** For all Commissioned Lay Ministers in St. Lawrence, Franklin and Adirondack Deaneries. The special guest speaker will be Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

**Contact:** Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920 or e-mail jgrizzuto@rcdony.org

## LIFE CHAIN

**Potsdam** - Life Chain to be held.

**Date:** Oct. 1

**Time:** 2 p.m. to 3

**Place:** Market & Main Street

## FATIMA ANNIVERSARY

**Ogdensburg** - The Legion of Mary in Ogdensburg invites everyone to join them in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun.

**Date:** Oct. 13

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

**Features:** pray the Rosary, followed by a presentation of the film "The 13th Day", a dramatic re-telling of the Story of Fatima through the memories of Sr. Lucia. No charge for this event.

## ST. RAPHAEL'S FOOD PANTRY

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

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 11

**Place:** Parish Center

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

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## CARITAS DINNER

**Ogdensburg** - The Annual Catholic Charities Caritas Dinner is set.

**Date:** Oct. 25

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. Cash Bar; followed by dinner at 6

**Place:** Gran View Restaurant

**Features:** 2017 Honorees for the Caritas Award are Msgr. Joseph Aubin and Rev. Patrick Mundy. President's Award (posthumously) Mr. Alex Velto.

**Contact:** 315-393-2255

## HARVEST MASS

**North Bangor** - Bishop Terry LaValley Will preside at the Annual Harvest Mass.

**Date:** Sept. 17

**Time:** 2 p.m.

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

## MARRIAGE JUBILEE MASS

**Ogdensburg** - Bishop Terry LaValley will be celebrating the 2017 Marriage Jubilee Mass.

**Date:** Sept. 24

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

**Features:** This Mass is for all couples celebrating their anniversaries. Family and friends are welcome to attend. A light reception will be held in the Brzana Hall directly after the Mass.

**Contact:** register through your parish by Sept. 8. For questions, please contact Renee Grizzuto at (315) 393-2920 or rgrizzuto@rcdony.org.

## FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

**Saranac Lake** - Two Family Guggenheim sessions remain

**Dates:** 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 "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](http://www.rcdony.org/celebrate) or by calling the Western Regional Faith Formation Office at (315) 782-3620. Registration for the event is required, 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:** St. Marianne Cope's shrine and museum; 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

# Catechetical Sunday, 2017

This year, Catholics in the United States will gather to celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 17, 2017. The theme for 2017 is very close to home for the Mission Office. The theme is "Living as Missionary Disciples." Each year on Catechetical Sunday, Catechists are commissioned into their ministry. Because of the theme this year, Catechetical Sunday will be an opportunity to reflect on the role that each of us plays, by virtue of Baptism, in our faith and spreading the Gospel as Missionaries. Catechetical Sunday is a time for all to renew themselves to our mission whereby virtue of our faith, we are all called upon to be missionaries both here and afar.

The Church places importance on Catechetical Sunday. The significance of teaching in the name of the Church is a position of respect and knowledge. This would be why Catechists are formally commissioned to their duties on Catechetical Sunday each year. It is appropriate to showcase those who are called to this ministry and share their commitment to community with others in the same faith.

The mere definition of a catechist is "one who teaches in the name of the Church" as they bring their teachings to the World. This same idea applies to Missionaries. Through sacraments and prayer, we grow our love for God as Catechists evangelize the mission of the Church.

Let us pray for our Catechists as they start their journey of teaching, sharing, learning and love to so many. Let us pray that they are prepared to go forth as Missionaries and fully comprehend the duties and responsibilities before them. I have found a prayer for Catechists that I would like to share with our Diocese as we look ahead to Catechetical Sunday 2017.

*May God our Father, the Father of Love,  
Fill you with confidence and joy.  
As you proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ  
Through the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

God Bless. Good Luck.

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



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## OBITUARIES

**Burke** – Mary F. (Boileau) Legacy, 90; Funeral Services at Aug. 28, 2017 at St. George's Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Carol F. (LaCount) Duquette, 70; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, West Chazy.

**Colton** – Roger J. Dusharm, 75; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Gouverneur** – Betty J. (Woodard) Shrewsbury, 81; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at the French Funeral Home; burial in Hailesboro Cemetery.

**Louisville** – Pauline E. (Cole) Curran, 82; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2017 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

**Malone** – Patrick S. Murtagh, III, 46; Funeral Services Sept. 9, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**Malone** – Marie E. (Bruso) Southworth, 95; Funeral Services Aug. 31, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery, North Bangor.

**Massena** – Jeannette C. (Morrissette) Greenwood, 78; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – Raymond Kocienski, 93; Funeral Sept. 1, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – June C. (Moses) Merithew,

81; Funeral Aug. 31, 2017 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Norfolk** – Gregory Clary, 51; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2017 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Norfolk** – Dorothy M. (Adams) Mitchell, 90; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

**North Bangor** – Darrel L. LaVoie, 86; Funeral Services Sept. 11, 2017 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Stephen L. Bradley, 57; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2017 at LaRue & Pitcher Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Donald B. Cooke, Sr., 69; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2017 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** – Sally A. (Olin) Hargrave, 83; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

**Ogdensburg** – Beatrice G. (Lashua) LaLonde, 94; Funeral Services Aug. 30, 2017 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Port Henry** – Michael A. Fernandez, 60; Funeral Services Sept. 1, 2017 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Tupper Lake** – Majeed Maroun, 84; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2017 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Waddington** – Paul Mitras, 83; Funeral Services Sept. 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Church.

**Waddington** – Jo Anne Van Patten, 53; Memorial Sept. 2, 2017 at St. Mary's Church; burial Brookside Cemetery.

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to appear in our October 11th issue of the

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MEET OUR SEMINARIANS...MEET OUR SEMINARIANS...

## Lukas Gruber: a musician starts on road to priesthood

By Cathy Russell  
Diocesan vocation coordinator

*Second in a series*

Lukas Gruber will begin his seminary studies this month in pre-theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum.

The son of Markus and Elena Gruber, Lukas and his younger sister were raised on Long Island. He comes from a close knit extended family of German descent.

At an early age, Lukas discovered his love of music, especially the euphonium. This led him to attend college at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam where he received a bachelors' degree in music.

It was during his college years that Lukas became more involved with the Newman Club on campus and more interested in the church. After graduation, Lukas accepted a job working in parish and campus ministry at St. Mary's Church in Potsdam, the parish he now calls home.

It was during his junior year of college that Lukas decided to become a priest. Father Howard Venette was instrumental in guiding and encouraging him. Lukas also joined the discernment group that meets in Potsdam.

"I was invited by a couple

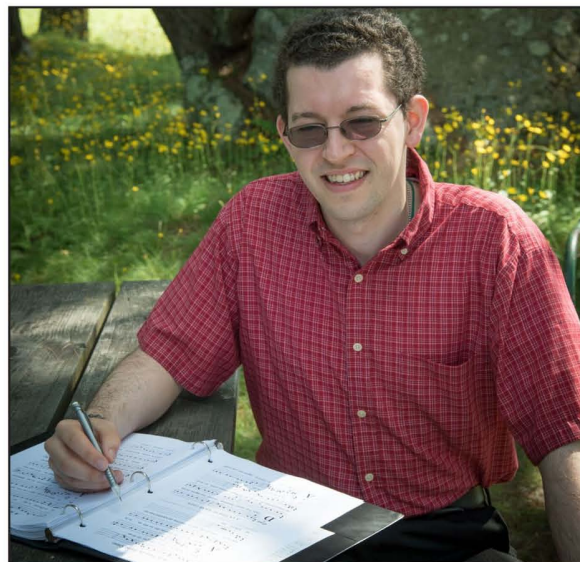


PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

**Long Island native Lukas Gruber now calls Potsdam his home. A graduate of the Crane School of Music, he is beginning pre-theology studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum.**

of priests and even some lay people to consider the priesthood," he said. Most priests report the invitation they received makes a difference in their discernment.

During his childhood, Lukas' family prayed daily, sometimes a rosary and sometimes just an Our Father. "Today my favorite prayers are the Holy Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours," he said. "My favorite saint is St. Pius X."

When asked what advice

he would give to a man considering the priesthood, Lukas responded, "Pray and go to Mass and the sacraments often. Find others who are also discerning and form a group. Talk to a trusted priest or the vocation director."

In addition to his music, Lukas enjoys hiking.

As a priest, Lukas says, "I am most looking forward to being able to say Mass and to bring the sacraments to the people."

## Vocation logo contest set

**WATERTOWN** - The Vocation Committee of St. Anthony's Parish is sponsoring a Vocation Logo Contest open to all parishioners of Jefferson Deanery.

The theme will be John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me."

The submission fee is one Hail Mary for Vocations. Entries will be accepted through Oct. 13

Submissions should be sent with name, phone number, address and parish to [watertownvocations@catholicwatertown.org](mailto:watertownvocations@catholicwatertown.org) or 1613 State St. Watertown, NY 13601.

The new logo will be revealed Nov. 5 to kick-off National Vocation Awareness Week.

The winner's name and logo will be published in the *North Country Catholic*.