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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 32

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JAN. 10, 2018

Confess your own sins!

VATICAN CITY (CNS)-- Fear and the shame of admitting one's own sins leads to pointing fingers and accusing others rather than recognizing one's own faults, Pope Francis said.

"It's difficult to admit being

guilty, but it does so much good to confess with sincerity. But you must confess your own sins," the pope said Jan. 3 at his first general audience of the new year.

"I remember a story an old missionary would tell about

a woman who went to confession and she began by telling her husband's faults, then went on to her mother-in-law's faults and then the sins of her neighbors. At a certain point, the confessor told her, 'But ma'am, tell me,

are you done?' 'No... Yes.' 'Great, you have finished with other people's sins, now start to tell me yours,'" he said.

The pope was continuing his talks on the Mass, reflecting on the penitential rite.

Massena parishes to consolidate

Bishop LaValley has approved consolidating the St. Mary's/St. Joseph's and Church of the Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence parishes under one name - St. Peter's Parish.

St. Peter's is the name of the first Catholic church in the Massena area, dating back to the 1830s.

While the parish name may be changing, the names of the physical church structures will remain, falling under the umbrella of St. Peter's Parish with Father Mark Reilly as pastor.

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New IHC principal

Lynisse Lassiter, a teacher at the school, replaced interim principal

Joseph Orobona on Jan. 2

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

A SURPRISE VISITOR

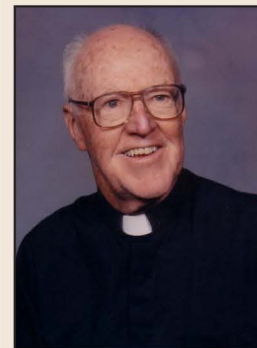


CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO

Pope Francis greets a patient during an unannounced visit Jan. 5 to children at the Palidoro Bambino Gesù Hospital, in Fiumicino, outside Rome.

REST IN PEACE, MONSIGNOR

Funeral for Msgr. McCarthy is Thursday



A Mass of Christian Burial for Msgr. Robert J. McCarthy, 99, will be held Jan. 11 at noon at Holy Family Church in Watertown. Msgr. McCarthy died Jan. 6 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown where he had resided for the past several years. His body will be taken to Holy Family Church Wednesday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. Calling hours will be held from 7 p.m. to 9:30 and on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11:30. Msgr. McCarthy was known around the world as the Carny Priest because of his ministry at carnivals and with migrants. A full obituary and reflection on his life and ministry will be published in the Jan. 17 issue of the NCC.

FULL STORY, NEXT ISSUE

LESSONS OF JJ: Loving example of true 'death with dignity'.... page. 5

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EDITOR'S NOTE

You know it's too cold if...

You know it's too cold at our house if walking the dog requires a double layer of woolly hats.

You know it's too cold in our town if a temperature of plus-10 is cause for celebration.

You know it's too cold everywhere if nobody can talk about anything else!

Yes, it's too darn cold.

But, it is January after all and we hearty North



Mary Lou
Kilian

Country folks are quite adept at adapting to the frigidness of our part of the world.

We keep our gas tanks full and faucets dripping. We're ready to face each day with soup and scarves and snowbrushes.

And, of course, we make our plans for the days when these days are a distant memory. Before you know it,

we'll be thinking about Guggenheim!

We're already starting to hear about what the new year will bring to the church of the North Country.

The youth department has some great events planned for teenagers, even before they head to summer camp.

The offices of family life, vocations and evangelization have been working together to prepare a day which should be of interest to everyone who

cares about marriage. And that's everyone, right?

In the blink of an eye, Bishop LaValley will be leading Holy Week celebrations and then traveling across the diocese for Confirmations.

With these c-o-l-d days behind us we will continue on our Christ-led, Christ-fed, hope-filled path. And we know that we will walking on that path with each other.

That's enough to warm hearts on any January day!

FATHER MUENCH SAYS

A saintly way to start a brand new year

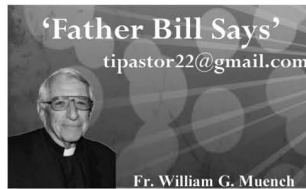
We have begun a New Year and I do wish to each and every one of you a Happy New Year.

Something I noticed as the new year began is that the Church celebrates three of my favorite saints during this first week of January. Two of these saints ministered in the United States and one in Canada.

For us, Catholics, our saints are very important to us. We celebrate their feast days as a way to honor them for their outstanding lives.

Each of the saints canonized by the Church is celebrated with a special feast day each year. Many of these feast days are very familiar to you – like St. Patrick's Day on March 17 and the Feast of St. Francis Assisi Oct. 4. (By the way, as I have mentioned to you before, there are many more saints beyond those who are canonized – outstanding and holy people who have made the Catholic Church better by their lives but are not canonized. This includes many of my favorite saints.)

But, this past week – on Jan. 4 – the Church celebrated the Feast of St. Elizabeth Anne Seton. She was a wife, a mother, a widow and an immigrant to our country. She became a religious sister and



'Father Bill Says'
tipastor22@gmail.com

Fr. William G. Muench

founded a religious order, the Sister of Charity. When I think of St. Elizabeth Seton, I think of Catholic Schools.

She and her Sisters were responsible for founding many Catholic schools, especially for the Catholic immigrants who were important in the formation of our country.

When I think of Catholic Schools, I must mention that Catholic Schools were an important part of my young priesthood. I was asked by Bishop Navagh to teach in a Catholic high school and I found it a most important part of my priesthood. In addition, I served as a pastor in a few parishes where there was a Catholic School. The schools truly added a great deal to the life of the parishes. Even now I meet folks who have graduated from a Catholic School and continue to be grateful for all they experienced through Catholic education.

The next saint – whose feast

day is Jan. 5 – is St. John Neumann, a priest and Bishop. John Neumann immigrated to this country from Bohemia in 1836 and was ordained as a priest. He acted as pastor in western New York State in the village of Williamsville. His parish stretched from Lake Ontario in the Niagara area to Pennsylvania. It was said he traveled on horseback constantly visiting the sick and needy of his parish.

Father Neumann then joined the Redemptorist Fathers serving in many parishes in Maryland. In 1852, he was chosen as the Bishop of Philadelphia.

In those days there were large numbers of Catholics who immigrated from Germany, Ireland and Italy. His diocese was growing rapidly. They say that he began to form new parishes at the rate of one a month. Bishop Neumann is also responsible for organizing a diocesan Catholic School system – reaching out to the many immigrants, helping to make them ready for life in this country.

Bishop Neumann was known for his own personal poverty and simplicity of life. He died at the age of 48, well known for his sanctity.

And also during the first week of January – on Jan. 6 –

the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Brother Andre Bessette. This is a saint most Catholics living in the North Country know a great deal about. Brother Andre lived his religious life in Montreal as a Holy Cross Brother. He lived a very humble, simple, yet prayerful, life as the porter for the Holy Cross Religious House in Montreal. Brother Andre was known for his holiness, his prayerfulness and for his healing ministry. They say that those who came to seek his blessing and were healed by Brother Andre were innumerable.

I remember my own father, who traveled to Montreal on business, telling me about Brother Andre. I have learned also the stories of Brother Andre's visits to our diocese.

Brother Andre died in 1936. Through his persistence and prayers a magnificent shrine and basilica was built in Montreal and dedicated to St. Joseph. I know that many of you have visited St. Joseph's and prayed at the shrine to Brother Andre. I also remember taking groups to visit St. Joseph's and have been privileged to celebrate Mass at the Shrine. And, of course, our parish in Malone has been dedicated to St. Brother Andre.

New principal named for IHC

WATERTOWN - Officials at Immaculate Heart Central School have announced the appointment of Lynise Lassiter as principal of the school effective Jan. 2.

Mrs. Lassiter is replacing Joseph Orobona, who has been interim principal since September.

Mrs. Lassiter earned her Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Religion and Education from Hunter College. She earned her Master's degree in Curriculum, Instruction and Educational Leadership from Oakland University, Michigan.

In addition to classroom instruction at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, as well as a college instructor for over ten years, she has developed and facilitated professional development workshops for school faculties, developed and revised curricula, trained teachers and has participated on school and district-level committees.

She has been a teacher at



Lynise Lassiter

IHC for the past two years.

IHC officials said, "We are confident that our school will continue to provide a quality Catholic education and a place for our faculty and students to grow under Mrs. Lassiter's expertise and enthusiasm."

CELEBRATING JESUS



The students from Seton Academy in Plattsburgh presented a musical Christmas Joy written by Jennifer Campbell. Shown in the picture are Ella Thew as Mary, Connor Armsden as St. Joseph, Isaac Devine as the angel, and Jack Trombley as the star.

Massena parishes to be known as St. Peter's

By Bob Beckstead
Contributing writer

MASSENA — Sometime this year, what had been two separate parishes — Church of the Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence and St. Mary's/St. Joseph's — will take on a new parish name.

**Two separate parishes -
Church of the Sacred
Heart/St. Lawrence and St.
Mary's/St. Joseph's - will
become one, to be
called St. Peter's**

After consultation with the diocesan Council of Priests, Bishop Terry R. LaValley signed a decree in December to formalize the establishment of St. Peter's Parish.

St. Peter's is the name of the first Catholic church in the Massena area, dating back to the 1830s.

The "extinctive union" — when the two parishes will become extinct and consolidate under one new parish — won't happen overnight, according to the Rev. Mark R. Reilly, pastor of the Greater Massena Catholic Community, which encompasses the Massena and Louisville churches. The process includes changing the title on legal documents, establishing a single bank account and consolidating the Pastoral and Finance councils for the two parishes.

Father Reilly said they sought recommendations for a new parish name last summer when they announced that the two parishes would be consolidated. He said one of the requirements when they submitted their request to the bishop was to suggest a name for the new entity.

Ballots were put in church pews and voting also took place through a web form on



PHOTO BY BOB BECKSTEAD

Bishop Terry R. LaValley and Father Mark Reilly, pastor of the Greater Massena Catholic Community, are shown during the final regularly scheduled Mass at St. Joseph's Church in October. Bishop LaValley has approved consolidating the St. Mary's/St. Joseph's and Church of the Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence parishes under one name - St. Peter's Parish.

the parish website.

"We had quite a few responses. We had a lot of good name suggestions," he said.

They also looked at the history of parishes in Massena and came across information about St. Peter's Cemetery on Center Street, near the former Violi's restaurant, as well as what was the nearby St. Peter's Church. St. Peter's pre-dates all of the area's existing churches, Father Reilly said.

When the joint Parish Council met to discuss a new name and went through the list, he said St. Peter's offered some pluses — it was concise, did not favor or exclude any of the existing church names and represented a return to the local church roots.

"It's to the point and there's a history there that neither favors or excludes anybody. That's what we recommended to the bishop," he said.

Now, with the bishop's ap-

proval, Father Reilly said they can move forward with all of the requirements to officially change the parish name.

"In the course of 2018, it will officially become St. Peter's," he said.

But, while the parish name may be changing, the names of the churches themselves will remain, he said.

"The names of the physical church structures don't change," but fall under the umbrella of St. Peter's Parish, Father Reilly said.

(Reprinted with permission from the Daily Courier Observer)



YOUNG FAITH... YOUNG FAITH... YOUNG FAITH

Looking ahead to youth events planned for 2018

By Kelly Donnelly
Diocesan youth ministry director

Greetings from the Youth Ministry Department! As we begin this new year, there are a lot of exciting things happening in the Youth Department. The Youth Department has a Twitter account (follow us @OburgYM), a new logo, and many upcoming events.

The six 10th-12th graders who are members of Diocesan Youth Council are meeting monthly. The 2017-2018 Diocesan Youth Council members are Maria Inserra of Theresa, Nick LaPointe of Watertown, Ciara LeRoy of Malone, Victoria Mallette of Heuvelton, Maureen Pierce of Heuvelton, and Alexandra Pinkerton of Ogdensburg.

During meetings, these exceptional teens come together in prayer, conversation, and planning. Each member has set one or goals to grow in discipleship in his/her parish.

In January, two bus-loads of youth will take a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. Organized by the Respect Life Office, these teens will participate in the national



YOUTH MINISTRY
DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

march, as well as go to the National Basilica and Holocaust Museum. Please keep all the participants in your prayers as they prepare to stand up for life!

Looking ahead to the spring, the DYC members have begun planning the Lenten retreats which will be held on March 10 in Lowville and March 11 in Saranac Lake.

The theme of the retreat is To The Light, and it is open to all students in grades 6-12. The free

retreat day will include prayer (including Mass), workshops, fellowship, and fun. Last year's Lenten Retreats were very successful, and we look forward to having another positive retreat. Registration is available at www.rcdony.org/lentenretreat.

Registration is also open for the 2018 youth rally! The theme of the rally is Remain in Me, and it will be held on April 28 at St. Mary's in Canton. The keynote-speaker will be Bob Perron, whose humor and faith have captivated teens across the nation. The day will include Perron's keynote address, a variety of workshops, high-energy games, as well as Mass celebrated by Bishop LaValley.

The cost is \$25 for those who register by March 15 (includes a t-shirt) and \$30 after March 15 (includes a t-shirt while supplies last). Adult leaders can register their groups at www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally.

As Christmas season comes to a close, there is much beauty and joy throughout the Church and the world. The youth of our diocese continue to show a commitment to living out their faith and spreading Christ's joy with others.

GO GREEN!

Receive the NCC in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world.

E-mail cward@dioogdensburg.org to sign up today.

Meet an extraordinary lay minister

By Karen Donahue
Assistant superintendent of schools

Loretta Lanzione, from St. Mary's parish in Clayton, is well known and loved by

the many people she has touched with her kind and caring ways. Loretta has many gifts she freely shares with others. She is very active in her parish and has given so much over the years to the church.

Through her actions she has shown what it means to "walk as Christ did." She is an active member of the Commissioned Lay Ministers Association, an Associate with of the Sisters of St. Joseph, as well having served in many ministries within her parish community.

She is a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother and wife. She worked for many years with her husband growing their business, Lanz's Cottages, in the Clayton area.

Loretta is the kind of person who is very uplifting to

be around. Her sense of humor and wry wit keep everyone grounded. She has a great capacity for empathy and seems to sense when you need a kind word, a

prayer, a sympathetic shoulder to lean on. I am sure that her family members have come to appreciate her enthusiasm, and joy for life.

If you know Loretta at all, you know she is not a quitter and is vigilant and creative in her approach. She is very perceptive and willingly shares her ideas. Loretta is also a terrific cook. Her door is always open, and her smile radiates joy, regardless of the weather outside.

It has been a tremendous gift to have her serve on the CLM Board and we appreciate her continued interest and volunteerism.

Loretta, we wish you much happiness and good health in the year ahead.

(Reprinted from *Commissioned Lay Ministers Newsletter*)



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Loretta Lanzione, a commissioned lay minister from Clayton, is shown with Bishop LaValley.

RESPECT LIFE

The lessons JJ taught me

By Kathleen M. Gallagher

Director of Pro-Life Activities New York State Catholic Conference

*I've heard it said
That people come into our lives for a reason,
Bringing something we must learn,
And we are led to those who help us most to
grow, if we let them.*

*And we help them in return.
Well I don't know if I believe that's true,
But I know I'm who I am today because I knew
you."*

*From the song "For Good"
from the musical "Wicked"*

He was a part of my life for less than three years. I will never forget JJ Hanson's first phone call. He was direct, telling me he was a New Yorker and a cancer patient, and he wanted to help in the battle against legalizing physician-assisted suicide.

He turned out to be the whole package – young, handsome, articulate, faith-filled, politically astute, Marine Corps veteran, loving husband and father.

And he had been handed a death sentence with the most lethal brain cancer that exists.

But JJ was a fighter, strong and upbeat. I never met anyone so positive in my entire life. "Every day is a gift, and you can't ever let that go," he would often say.

He never said no to any of my requests: speaking at conferences, meeting with lawmakers, doing TV and radio interviews, networking with



JJ Hanson, his wife Kristen, and their first-born son, James.

new groups.

He became the face of hope and alternatives to suicide, both in New York State and across the nation.

He advocated for the terminally ill, for cancer patients, for access to medications, for palliative care and hospice.

And he did it all while undergoing treatments, surgeries, and new therapies. He once called me from Memorial Sloan Kettering while he was undergoing an immunotherapy infusion!

I never heard him complain, or say a bad word about anyone. Lord knows he had difficult times, fighting pain, depression, frustration and unimaginable grief. He relied on God and his family.

His wife Kris was his rock. She finished the sentences he struggled to complete as his cognitive abilities failed. They were more than a team; they were a single unit, bonded by deep love.

JJ outlived his initial four-month prognosis by more than three years. And in that time JJ Hanson inspired and changed countless human lives, mine included.

Yes, ours was a professional relationship, but JJ was also my friend, and in many ways, a mentor.

Here are the lessons he taught me in the brief time I was privileged to know him:

- Life is a gift. Absorb every precious moment of it.
- Cherish your family.
- No matter the misery or the desperation, there is always hope.
- Smile. It's infectious.
- You can't hurt steel.
- Stern as death is love.

JJ Hanson went home to God just a few days shy of the new year. His was a loving example of an authentic "death with dignity." I am blessed to have known him, and because I did, I have been changed, for good.

CHRISTMAS AT SETON ACADEMY




The students in grades 3-5 at Seton Academy in Plattsburgh presented the musical *3 Magi and a Baby* on Dec. 20. Pictured are the 3 magi: Anthony Semeraro, Sierra McLaughlin, and Nate DeBoos. Jackson Dame was St. Joseph, Graziella Turco was Mary, and Max Terry was the Infant Jesus. Lauren Lincourt and Elizabeth Secore were the townspeople.

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

 Find us on Facebook!



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

Funeral held Dec. 29 for Sr. Margaret Ann Ryan, SA

GARRISON, N.Y. – A Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Margaret Ann Ryan, 83, a Franciscan Sister of the Atonement, was held Dec. 29 at Graymoor Sisters Chapel.

She died Dec. 20 at the New York Presbyterian-Hudson Valley Hospital, Cortlandt Manor, NY.

Burial was in the Sisters' Cemetery at Graymoor.

A native of Lyon Mountain, Sister Margaret Ann was born Aug. 21, 1934 to Myra Ida (Brusso) and Henry Ryan.

Entering the community Sept. 8, 1955, Sister Margaret Ann professed her first vows on May 1, 1957 and her final

vows on September 1, 1962.

As an Atonement missionary for 60 years, she ministered in parish, catechetical, and pastoral ministries in New York (Cobleskill, Mechanicville, Graymoor/Motherhouse, Mother Lurana House and the Sisters' Gift Shop).

She served in Canada (Cranbrook, British Columbia, East St. John's, New Brunswick, and Smoky Lake, Alberta).

Then, from 1972 to 1981, Sister Margaret Ann served as the Secretary General of the Congregation, and later, from 1982 to 1987, as secre-

tary at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC before returning to Graymoor in 1991 to continue various congregational ministries.

She is survived by her brother, Francis, and sisters, Bernice Sharkey, Patricia Stotler, Rita Wojewodzic and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her parents and siblings: Robert, Henry and Michael, Bernardette Golovach, Hildred Barton, Eva Bacchini, and Sister Kathleen Ryan, also a Franciscan Sister of the Atonement.

Tribunal Office to present sessions on annulments

The Matrimonial Tribunal of the Diocese of Ogdensburg is sponsoring informational workshops on annulments.

The schedule follows:

- Jan. 29, Emmaus Room, St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh, from 6:30 p.m. to 8
- Feb. 5, Lower Meeting Room, St. James Minor Church, Carthage, from 6:30 p.m. to 8
- March 27, St. Mary's School, Canton, from 7 p.m. to 8:30
- April 9, St. Patrick's Parish Center, Port Henry, from 6:30 p.m. to 8
- April 16, Holy Ghost Parish Center, Tupper Lake, from 6:30 p.m. to 8

The free workshops are designed for people who wish to explore beginning the annulment process.

The topics covered will include marriage/divorce, what is my status as a divorced person in the Church?, do I need an annulment? and the annulment process.

The sessions will be conducted by the staff of the Matrimonial Tribunal: Father Douglas J. Lucia, JCL, judicial vicar; Father Garry B. Giroux, JCL, adjutant judicial vicar; and Elaine Seymour, moderator of the tribunal.

The tribunal staff will have the forms available to begin the process and will be on-hand to answer any individual questions.

Registration or further information is available through the tribunal office at 315-605-1087.

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Bishop's Schedule

Jan. 19 – Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Jan. 22-25 - NYS Bishops' Retreat at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in Palm Beach, FL

Jan. 29 - New York State Catholic Conference Board Meeting in New York City

Rest in Peace

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

Jan. 10 – Rev. Christopher C. Poulin, 1904; Msgr. James O'Driscoll, 1913; Msgr. Frederick P. Diviney, 1961

Jan. 11 – Msgr. John Andrew Cotter, 1964; Msgr. Anthime D. Charbonneau, 1976; Most Rev. Walter P. Kellenberg, 1986

Jan. 12 – Msgr. Francis Joseph Maguire, 1978

Jan. 14 – Rev. John M. Neenan, M.S.C., 1879; Rev. Benedict Scharff, O.F.M.Conv., 1964; Deacon Francis Bradley, 2000

Jan. 15 – Msgr. James Joseph Lacey, 1942

Jan. 16 – Msgr. James Alexander Fix, 1969; Rev. Herbert Skurski, O.F.M.Conv., 1996

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terriane Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 618 Lake Rd, Chateaugay, NY 12920; terrianeyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: Day: 518-651-2267, Night: 518-569-0612; or Fr. Christopher Carara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-393-2920, ext. 1340


PEPSI COLA OGDENSBURG BOTTLERS

Environmental Stewardship

Seeking Connections

On Jan. 1, Pope Francis sent us this message on World Day of Peace: "In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands."

The U.S. Catholic Church invites us to celebrate Migration Week (Jan 8-14). In this same month our Nation observes Human Trafficking Awareness Day (January 11) as well as proclaiming January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

I find myself asking two questions: Is there any connection between the environmental degradation of our common home and the plight of our human family? What can I do to bring healing balms to these painful realities?

When we fail to 'care for our common home,' Pope Francis states in *Laudato Si* (#8), it is a sin. When the basic natural resources needed for survival are destroyed by human's lack of care and protection of God's gift mean to be shared by all, it has devastating consequences for all life on the planet.

This lack of good environmental stewardship is seen as one of the causes of war and the tragic increase of migration today.

Where there is poverty caused by these factors, it provides a fertile ground for human traffickers to lure parents to give up their children in the promise of better life, only to have them sold as slaves to be used in hotels, restaurants, farms, saloons against their will. In places that suffer from the growing effects of climate change in the form of increased hurricanes, typhoons and droughts, children separated from family become easy prey for human traffickers.

As we begin this new year of grace, one way we can place some 'healing balm' upon the hurting world is to change one habit that I know would be helpful, but I just don't do!

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pope to teachers: Help kids live with care for all of creation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A lifestyle that is environmentally ethical cannot be "schizophrenic" -- for example, by showing more care for animals and forests, than for the plight of people, Pope Francis said. A green lifestyle must be consistent and complete, driven by a love for God the creator and all of his creation, the pope said in a speech Jan. 5 to the Italian Association of Catholic Teachers, which held its national congress in Rome in early January. The elementary school teachers must help children from a young age understand and practice an environmentally ethical lifestyle that must not be "schizophrenic," that is, a kind of disconnected concern for, as an example, "taking care of animals in extinction, but ignoring problems facing the elderly. No. Or defending the Amazon rainforest, but neglecting the rights of workers to have a fair wage," he said. This approach demands teaching the importance of personal responsibility, not bombarding the children with slogans or catchy commands that someone else will have to carry out, he said. Teach children to have an enthusiastic appetite for "experiencing an environmental ethics that stem from the choices and behaviors in daily life," he said.

Arctic plunge challenges charitable agencies

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- The brutally cold weather covering the eastern two-thirds of the country at the start of 2018 kept Catholic agencies scurrying to find ways to make sure no one was left without warm shelter and hot meals. From Montana to Florida and Texas to Maine, homeless shelters opened additional hours and home checks were commonplace as gusty winds carried teeth-chattering Arctic air southward. "It literally cuts through you," Michael Acaldo, executive director of the Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, told Catholic News Service Jan. 3. Temperatures plunged into the 20s in southeastern Louisiana, forcing dozens more people to show up at the three emergency shelters the council operates, Acaldo said. During the cold snap, about 120 men, women and children have been at the shelters. A normal night would see 80 people, he said. Down the road in New Orleans, the city's freeze plan allows shelters to expand capacity for several nights until the cold weather subsides. One of those shelters is the Ozanam Inn, a partner of Catholic Charities of New Orleans. Clarence Adams, executive director, said the shelter has welcomed 30 extra people nightly since the New Year in addition to the 96 on a typical night.

Cardinal: Gospel message of hope often taught by the poor

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- In his ministry as archbishop of Manila and in his travels for Caritas Internationalis, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle said he is reminded of the true meaning of hope by people living in situations the world would see as hopeless. "The poor know the frustration of dreaming and working hard with not much result," Cardinal Tagle said. "They are betrayed by persons and institutions. But in their raw poverty, what is left for them is their humanity. They remind all of us that being human is our true and only wealth." While anyone can be tempted to see the fulfillment of hope in accomplishments, improved numbers and bigger bank balances, the poor celebrate the gift of life and praise the giver of life, the cardinal said in a written interview in early January. "This is the secret of their enduring and persistent hope, which those who enjoy comfortable living, yet complain unceasingly, should discover," he said.

National Migration Week

Jan. 7-13 is a week "to honor and learn about the diverse communities of the church, as well as the work that the church undertakes to serve immigrants and refugees"

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In a message prior to National Migration Week Jan. 7-13, the president of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas expressed solidarity with migrants and called on others to stop "blaming migrants and fanning anti-immigrant sentiment that divides our nation."

"We renew our call for an immediate end to the unjust and immoral treatment of migrants and refugees, recognizing that decades of failed U.S. political and economic policies have contributed to the reasons people have fled homelands," said the Jan. 3 statement by Mercy Sister Patricia McDermott from the sisters' headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The statement says the Sisters of Mercy "stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers who are forced by poverty, persecution or violence in their native countries to flee their homes, loved ones and livelihoods, desperately seeking safety and the opportunity to provide for themselves and their families."

The sisters ask for passage of laws to help young adults who came to the United States without documentation, for continuation of a temporary immigration status for migrants from Haiti and Central America, and for an end to expedited deportations, travel bans and long-term detention of immigrants.

"As Pope Francis reminds us: 'How can we not see the face of the Lord in the face of the millions of exiles, refugees and displaced persons who are fleeing in desperation from the horror of war, persecution and dictatorship?'" the statement says.

The Mercy Sisters will kick-off National Migration Week on

<https://www.facebook.com/MercySisters/> and Twitter:<https://twitter.com/sistersofmercy> recalling their religious order's migration journey from Ireland to the United States in the 1800s.

As St. John Paul II reminds us in his encyclical "The Gospel of Life," yes, we are all our brother's and sister's keeper

The next day, they will explore some of the "anti-immigrant sentiment in the 19th century, mirrored so often in the rhetoric of our own times," the statement says.

During subsequent days, they will highlight how their religious community responded to a variety of immigration waves and how U.S. policies abroad drove migration to the U.S., from the 1970s until today.

National Migration Week began under the auspices of the U.S. Catholic bishops as a way "to honor and learn about the diverse communities of the church, as well as the work that the church undertakes to serve immigrants and refugees," said a Jan. 5 press release from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"National Migration Week allows for reflection upon the biblical teaching concerning welcoming the newcomer and allows us to share the journey with our brothers and sisters who have been forced from their homes," said Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration.

A statement about the week by Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S.

Facebook:

Conference of Catholic Bishops, called it a "time of prayer and reflection on our history as a migrant church and nation."

The cardinal urged Catholics to think about the pope's message on World Day of Peace, Jan. 1, when he said that migrants and refugees "bring their courage, skills, energy and aspirations, as well as the treasures of their own cultures; and in this way, they enrich the lives of the nations that receive them."

In a column published in Catholic San Francisco, Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone said, "For almost 50 years now, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is being celebrated Jan. 7-14 this year. This week is an opportunity the church gives us to reflect on the harsh circumstances faced by migrants of all types, such as immigrants, refugees, unaccompanied minors and other children and victims and survivors of human trafficking."

"It is a reminder to all of us of the duty incumbent upon us as Christians to take responsibility for those suffering from our broken immigration system for, as St. John Paul II reminds us in his encyclical "The Gospel of Life," yes, we are all our brother's and sister's keeper."

Many organizations and groups plan to participate in National Migration Week with a focus on Caritas Internationalis' "Share the Journey" Migration Campaign, a two-year effort by the humanitarian organization that urges Catholics to understand and get to know refugees and migrants who have fled poverty, hunger, violence, persecution and the effects of climate change in their homeland.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening'

After a festive season like Christmas (which extends all the way through the Baptism of the Lord), we can easily experience a let-down. After all, the party is over, and we're back to our daily routine.

The readings for this Sunday, however, make it quite clear that Jesus' mission is just beginning, and the Father is sending him disciples.

The first reading prepares us for this with a wonderful story about the call of Samuel who was to become the greatest judge in Israel.

Hannah, his mother, had experienced stinging taunts from her rival to the father's affections, and goes to the temple at Shiloh, angry and

upset.

As she prays in her emotional distress, Eli, the priest, thinks she's drunk, and tries to send her away. Hannah wins him over to her side, and God blesses her with a son.

This Samuel, whom later she dedicates to the service of the temple, is under the care of Eli, when, one night, God calls him from sleep three times. Eli instructs him to answer the next time with the words, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening"

(This is good advice for all who are seeking to know what God wants them to do with their lives).

In the Gospel of John, the call comes to Andrew and

others through the encouragement of John the Baptist, who dramatically points out Jesus to them with the words, "Behold, the Lamb of God".

Andrew seeks out his brother, Simon, and together they seek out Jesus with the words, "Master, where do you live?". Jesus says simply, "Come and see".

For a whole day, they follow Jesus around, listening to him explain his mission. Only then, after some discernment, do they decide to leave their fishing and follow Jesus.

In the synoptic gospels, we are told that the two fisherman sons of Zebedee, James and John, make the same decision.

This Sunday gives us valuable advice about the vocation process. In another passage, Jesus tells his fol-

JAN. 14

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
READINGS

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
John 1:35-42

priesthood and religious life?

Today's second reading provides a reason they might not have thought of as connected with "vocation". St. Paul tells the Corinthians that their bodies are "temples of the Holy Spirit" and should be used to glorify God.

This all fits with another passage which tells us that we are "not our own", but belong to the Lord, body and spirit.

What better way to use our bodies than by offering them totally in the Lord's service?

These are deep thoughts for all of us, particularly young people, to think about on this Sunday which is all about God's call to follow His Son.

The word for the day is, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening!"



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS

Book suggestions for new or lifelong Catholics

By Marika Donders
Diocesan director, New Evangelization

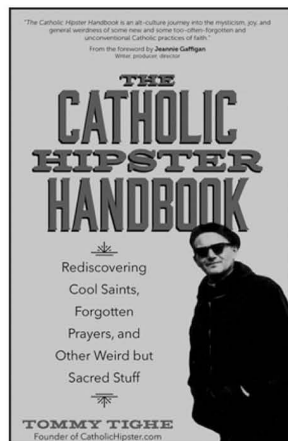
Catholic Hipster Handbook: Rediscovering Cool Saints, Forgotten Prayers and Other Weird but Sacred Stuff

Edited by Tommy Tighe

If you are looking for a fun read that still manages to remind you of what makes being Catholic cool yet countercultural, this is the book for you!

And you do not need to be a hipster to enjoy it.

I found this gem of a book, co-written by about 15 bloggers and authors, to be a wonderful collection of Catholic devotions and practices, with each chapter liberally supported by a classic prayer, a short biography of a saint related to the topic at hand and an ac-



tivity that will help you put your faith in action.

Each section starts with the word "rediscover" ... Rediscover the Attitude, Rediscover the Stuff, Rediscover the Life, and Rediscover the Attraction.

The book reminds us of the who we are in God's

eyes – that we are children of God and that we loved.

It reminds us about the Catholic practices that may have been left by the wayside but are being rediscovered by a new generation: from novenas, to chaplets to relics and brewing beer, growing beards and wearing sandals ... all the while not being afraid of having a good sense of humor and a good dose of laughter with friends.

If you think our faith is boring, or irrelevant or just passé, check out this fun book, and rediscover (or discover for the first time) what continues to draw young people to this beautiful and ancient faith.

The Catholic Hipster Handbook (225 pages) is published by Ave Maria Press and edited by Tommy Tighe.

(www.catholichipster.com)

All In

By Pat Gohn

Are you looking for a gift for those coming into the Church or those who may have been away from the Church. Pat Gohn, a amazing Catechist and Podcaster, has done it again. I have a feeling that I will be buying her latest book in bulk to give away! It is the perfect book to bridge the gap between catechesis and evangelization.

As a Church we are very good at teaching the doctrines and dogmas, but not so much why these things should matter to the Catholic Christian. Pat Gohn, through her amazing personal story-telling, is able to give us some serious adult catechesis, pulling in material from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Fathers of the Church and

some heavy-weight theologians (St. John Paul II, anyone?) without making you feel like you are sitting in a boring classroom lecture.

This is her story introducing us to her friend Jesus and how, in him, everything and everyone is connected: God, Church, Holy Trinity, friends and enemies, theology and personal experience, Saints, sinners, and those who have gone before.

While reading her story, you will be challenged to reflect on your own relationships and faith and what you can do to strengthen and deepen your connection with Jesus and in him, with all the people in your life.

Each chapter ends with prayer, suggestions for prayer, study and engaging the material. The book would be a wonderful book to spark discussion.

AT THE MOVIES

JUMANJI: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

More than a few parents have, no doubt, had occasion to be alarmed at how easily - and how often - kids become absorbed by gadgetry these days.

Perhaps they can take comfort in the fact that such preoccupation is nothing compared to what transpires in "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" (Columbia).

This amusing comic adventure finds a quartet of teens magically transported into an old video game where they inhabit the avatars they chose before the start of play.

Most of the laughs come from the contrast between the characters' real-life personas and the bodies and personalities they take on within their new environment. Thus nervous nerd Spencer (Alex Wolff) becomes muscle-bound he-man archaeologist Dr. Smolder Bravestone (Dwayne Johnson).

Football star "Fridge" (Ser' Darius Blain) dwindles into diminutive zoologist Franklin "Moose" Finbar (Kevin Hart). Self-absorbed



CNS PHOTO/SONY

Karen Gillan and Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart star in a scene from the movie "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle"

cheerleader-type Bethany (Madison Iseman) mutates, to her horror, into dumpy cartographer Professor Sheldon Oberon (Jack Black). And good-hearted but shy Martha (Morgan Turner) blossoms into fierce babe Ruby Roundhouse (Karen Gillan), a specialist in "dance fighting."

As the group faces and overcomes a series of challenges in their quest to win the game - the only means of re-emerging from it - they

learn familiar Hollywood lessons about the value of teamwork and the courage required to pursue cherished dreams.

The various transformations the cast undergoes recall, at times, those of Dorothy's companions along the Yellow Brick Road. At other points, the personal conversions and belated camaraderie experienced by the adolescent denizens of John Hughes' "The Breakfast

Club" seem to be summoned up from way back when (1985, to be precise).

All this might be fine for the initial ensemble's peers in the audience. Especially since, in crafting a film that is more a variant on than a sequel to 1995's "Jumanji" - though it's based, like its predecessor, on Chris Van Allsburg's 1981 children's book - director Jake Kasdan keeps his picture's conflicts almost completely bloodless.

In the end, however, some off-color gags and a considerable amount of vulgarity in the dialogue render this strictly grownup fare. Much is made, for instance, of Bethany's fascination with a certain addition to her inventory of body parts while her flirtatious romance with Alex (Nick Jonas), a longtime captive in the game the newcomers run across, plays on the gay subtext of her male avatar falling for the lad.

Similarly, set-pieces showcasing Ruby's fighting skills, while theoretically empowering, are in reality merely exploitative.

Still, for mature viewers there is fun to be had from this trek through the jungle. But its undergrowth is too thick for the tread of kids.

The film contains gunplay and other combat violence, some of it harsh but with minimal gore, at least one use of profanity, sexual and anatomical humor, as well as a few crude and numerous crass words.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned.



CNS PHOTO/SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Olivier Perrier and Philippe Laudenbach, foreground, Lambert Wilson, Olivier Rabourdin, Jean-Pierre, Jacques Herlin and Jean-Marie Frin star in a scene from the 2011 movie "Of Gods and Men." The seven Trappist monks depicted in the film are among the victims of Algeria's civil war and are expected to officially be recognized as martyrs.

Named as martyrs

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A bishop, seven Trappist monks and 11 other religious men and women killed by extremists in Algeria in the 1990s will soon be recognized as martyrs, the postulator for their causes said.

The decree for their beatification should be published in January, Trappist Father Thomas Georgeon said Jan. 1 in an interview with Mondo e Missione (World and Mission), a monthly magazine and website run by the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions.

A 10-year-long armed conflict between government forces and extremist Islamic rebel groups left tens of thousands of people dead, making the deaths of the 19 religious "a martyrdom in the midst of a sea of violence that devastated Algeria," he said. "To pay homage to these 19 Christian martyrs means also paying homage to the memory of all those who gave their life in Algeria those dark years" as they were killed "for their country and for their faith," the priest said.

ADIRONDACK

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Tupper Lake - Mercy Care for the Adirondacks is has scheduled a Friendship Volunteer Training Program.

Date: Jan. 11 and 18

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Features: Volunteers from Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, and Tupper Lake help elder neighbors

Contact: Program is free of charge, but pre-registration is required. To request registration information, contact Jenn Grisi at Mercy Care, 518-523-5583 or by e-mail at jgrisi@adkmercy.org.

CLINTON

LAKESIDERS FISHERS CLUB

Plattsburgh - The Fishers Club, a discernment program for men (juniors in high school and older) open to the possible vocation to the priesthood, to meet

Dates: Feb. 4 & 18; March 4 & 25; April 8 & 22; May 6.

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's

Features: discussion, evening prayer and dinner.

Contact: Fr. Howard Venette pastor.st.barts@roadrunner.com/315-369-3554

BREAKFAST SET

Mooers Forks - An All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast is set

Date: Jan. 14

Time: 7:30 am - 11:30 pm

Place: St. Ann's Hall, take-outs available

Menu: Pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, home fries, scrambled eggs, fruit, homemade danishes

Cost: \$8 for adults; \$5 for children 6-12; free, children under five

MARCH FOR LIFE

Plattsburgh - Annual Plattsburgh March for life to be held.

Date: Jan. 14

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. John XXIII Newman Center, to St. John the Baptist Church.

Features: Presentation at 1p.m. Reception follows in parish center.

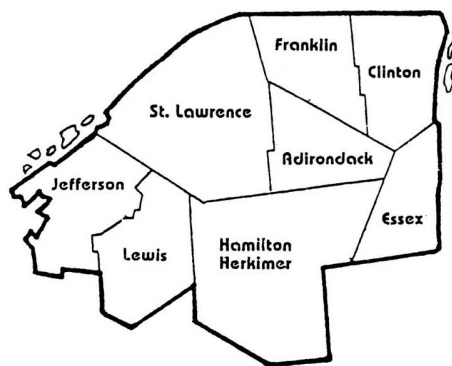
BUS TO MARCH FOR LIFE IN DC

Plattsburgh - A bus will be traveling to Washington, D.C., for the annual national March for Life.

Schedule: Meet at St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh Jan. 18 at 7:15 p.m., Jan. 19, March for Life and Leave Washington at 4:45 p.m.

Cost: \$30

Contact: Deacon Randy Smith at 518-



The North County 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@northcountycatholic.org.

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

566-6229. Please leave a message with your name and phone number

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Treadwell Mills - The Knights of Columbus will hold an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast.

Date: Feb. 4, March 4, April 22

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

Place: St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall
Cost: Adults, \$7; Children 6-12, \$3; under 5, Free

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Plattsburgh - Eucharistic Adoration is held throughout the year every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Place: St. John's "Holy Family" Adoration Chapel, downstairs

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

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

Plattsburgh - The Sacred Heart Fraternity Secular Franciscan Order meets the second Sunday of the each month.

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: St. John's Holy Family Chapel.

FRANKLIN

HEARTS ON FIRE

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

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

Place: Notre Dame Church

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

JEFFERSON

ADDICTION RECOVERY

Watertown - A panel discussion "Pathways to Addiction Recovery and Resources has been planned

Date: Jan. 14

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4

Place: Flower Memorial Library

Speakers: Dr. Charles Moehs; Dr. Ryan Tyler Representative, Credo Community Center; Betsy Rogers, Person in Recovery; Moderator: Anita Seefried-Brown, Alliance for Better Communities

Features: Free and open to the public, refreshments will be served.

Contact: Sr. Bethany at 315-212-6592 or Alliance at 315-788-4660

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Jan. 25

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

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

Features: Take-out available at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers

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.

CURSILLO MEETINGS

Carthage - The Jefferson/Lewis Cursillo holds its monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month.

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Place: Community Room of St. James

Features: For Cursillistas and all those interested in deepening a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Contact: Anne Seegebarth
ams2962@gmail.com, 315-783-4596

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for vocations

Date: Monday-Friday

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

Place: Holy Family Church

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER GROUP

Watertown - Our Mother of the Eucharist Prayer Group to meet the 2nd Thursday of every month.

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall, St. Anthony's

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

WEEKLY ADORATION

Sackets Harbor - St. Andrew's has scheduled exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on every Friday.

Time: 5 p.m. to 6

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville - Lewis Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

Date: Jan. 18

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: one hour of Exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Silent Adoration, and Benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

MIDLANDERS FISHERS CLUB

Canton - Fishers Club, a discernment program for young men (juniors in high school and up) who are open to a possible vocation to the priesthood, will meet

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Time: 9 a.m.

Schedule: Jan. 27, Feb 10 & 24, Mar 10 & 31, April 14 & 28

Features: brunch, discussion, and prayer with Fathers Douglas Lucia and Bryan Stitt.

Contact: Fr. Doug Lucia dlucia@rc-dony.org/315-348-4466

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Massena - Friday Devotions are set featuring Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour for Vocations.

Date: First Friday of every month

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30

Place: St. Mary's Church.

SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

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

Date: Third Thursday of each month

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Rectory

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

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Massena - St. Mary's & St. Joseph's hold Benediction, Adoration on Fridays

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

DIOCESAN EVENTS

SURVIVING DIVORCE

Canton - The Diocesan Family Life Office has announced a new ministry for divorced Catholics

Date: 12 week program begins Thursday, Jan. 25

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30

Place: St. Mary's Church

Cost: \$25, includes program materials "Surviving Divorce Personal Guide"

Contact: Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or go to <http://www.rcdony.org/family-life/surviving-divorcesupport-group.html>.

DOVS MEMBERS SOUGHT

D.O.V.S (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is a group of people who pray for and work to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our diocese is seeking new members. DOVS meets most months, plan events to thank priests and religious and annually take a pilgrimage.

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



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

Looking back at 2017 generosity

Last Summer's Mission Cooperation plan included 15 different mission aid societies from around the world. Mission Aid speakers last summer represented places like India, Djibouti, Nicaragua, and Ecuador. The Coop plan participants visit our diocese during the summer months and enjoy a weekend of hospitality in our beautiful diocese.

Mission societies experience lucrative 2017 co-op season

The Mission Office is pleased to announce that last summer's collections exceeded the two prior summers of 2016 and 2015. The beneficiaries of this generosity are the real-life missionaries who visit here. Their abilities to convey the needs of their people effectively while seeking prayers and sacrifice is always well received by our Diocese and this past summer did not disappoint.

Kind words of gratitude continue to pour in from the different mission aid societies this time of year. The Congregation of the Holy Spirit, USA Province, also known as the Spiritans, reached out to us say "thanks" for their visit to our Diocese. They look upon their visits here as a privilege they say.

The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers write to say thank you and express their appreciation from their overseas components. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur wrote specifically to say that contributions from here will go directly to assist women and children in Nigeria and the Congo. They reflected on how our Diocese is so attentive and hospitable.

The Salesian missions noted that their missionaries are keeping us too in their prayers. They expressed their deep gratitude as did the Foundation for Children in Need out of India where they state that the funds received will assist with medical, educational and social work pursuits.

The Mission Office joins our counterparts overseas and here in the US by acknowledging our gratitude for all the Diocese of Ogdensburg puts forth each year to the people of the Mission Lands. Happy New Year. May it be blessed and safe for everyone.

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

OBITUARIES

Adams – McKena R. LaPlaca, 14; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 2, 2018 at St. Cecilia's Church.

Canton – Carrie J. (Fizette) Garrow, 84; Mass of Christian Burial in the Spring at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Carthage – Leona E. (Gordinier) Pen-nock, 94; Funeral Services Jan. 5, 2018 at Lundy Funeral Home, burial in New St. James Cemetery.

Chazy – Edward R. Dragoon, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 6, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Colton – Lois M. (Dominy) Ensby, 79; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 5, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Crown Point – James L. Webster, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 5, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church.

Fort Covington – Manuela (MacFalan) Soto, 79; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 3, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Keeseville – Helen J. (LaBounty) Blaise, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 4, 2018 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Long Lake – Donna Joan McDonald, 75; Memorial Services Jan. 4, 2018 at St. Henry's Church.

Lowville – Gerald Joseph Boshart Jr., 84; Funeral Services Jan. 3, 2018 at the Iseneker Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Wildwood Cemetery.

Lowville – Louis D. Turck, 77; Funeral Services Dec. 30, 2017 at Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery, New Bremen.

Madrid – Nancy J. (Holmes) Hughes, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 3, 2018 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in Madrid Cemetery.

Malone – Chester D. Buhoff, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 5, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Moors Forks – Richard T. LaValley, 77; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 6, 2018 at St. Ann's Church.

Moors Forks – George H. Sample, 73; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 4, 2018 at St. Ann's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

North Bangor – Rita J. McElwain, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 4, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Fran cemetery.

cis of Assisi Cemetery, Constable.

Norwood – William L. Reed, 74; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 5, 2018 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Hale Cemetery.

Norwood – Robert H. Sassone, 66; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 3, 2018 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Bayside Cemetery, Potsdam.

Olmstedville – Noelle Sullivan Donahue, 88; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 6, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. James Cemetery, North Creek.

Peru – Jeffrey C. Bailey, 51; Funeral Services Jan. 3, 2018 at Hamilton Funeral Home Chapel.

Peru – Henry F. Jarvis, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 6, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Peru – Modesto "Danny" Ramiro Padron, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 6, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church.

Saranac Lake – John G. "Jerry" Shea, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 5, 2018 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Saranac Lake.

Theresa – Arlene M. (Zimmer) Parker, 87; Memorial Services Jan. 4, 2018 at Frederick Bros. Funeral Home; burial in Depauville Cemetery.

For New Year, pope urges help for refugees, respect for life

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis began the New Year praying the world would demonstrate a marked increase in solidarity and welcome for migrants and refugees.

"Let's not extinguish the hope in their hearts; let's not suffocate their hopes for peace," the pope said Jan. 1 before reciting the Angelus with a crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square.

For the New Year's celebration of World Peace Day and the feast of Mary, Mother of God, Pope Francis had chosen to focus on migrants and refugees and their yearning for peace.

"For this peace, which is the right of all, many of them are willing to risk their lives in a journey that, in most cases, is long and dangerous and to face trials and suffering," the pope told an estimated 40,000 people gathered in the square around the Christmas tree and Nativity scene.

Pope Francis said it is important that everyone, in-

cluding individuals, governments, schools, churches and church agencies, make a commitment to "ensuring refugees, migrants -- everyone -- a future of peace



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Life in the Domestic Church

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
 Staff writer

"Our Lady of Indoor Soccer" was not really her name; it was just an honorary title given to the beautiful heirloom statue that once graced our living room. She succumbed one winter afternoon to an impromptu soccer match among our five irrepressibly athletic children. We were less than pleased, but no doubt our Blessed Mother understood that sometimes things just get messy in family life.

They certainly did in ours! But as Catholics, we are blessed to see the bigger picture, connecting faith and family in the domestic church.

That ancient term, revived by Vatican II, affirms the family as the first place where young baptized Christians are formed in their faith. As spouses, we are called to live our love sacramentally, as married disciples; as parents, we are called to share that faith with our children in every circumstance of daily life.

All parents know how children soak up what we say and what we do, and how very well they imitate our example. As parents entrusted by God with fostering faith in our children, we have constant opportunities to do this by living as the domestic church.

That is why that statue was in our living room in the first place, and why every room is blessed by the presence of a crucifix and various images of the saints. Much like family photos, these remind us of our membership in the body of Christ. Such imagery also provides countless teachable moments as we introduce our children to the God who made them, to his Blessed Mother, and to the many saints who were his faithful friends in their time on earth.

While the rest of the congregation may not appreci-



ate a toddler loudly calling attention to Jesus on the cross above the altar, the parents (and the rest of us!) should rejoice that this child is on a first-name basis with the most important Person of all, the One who is Love itself.

Such cross-over from home to Church and back again is exactly how families live their call to be domestic churches: all that we learn and embrace in the larger Church, we bring home to educate and enrich our families.

In addition to teaching our children about God, we seek to connect them with him through prayer. The rhythms of family life abound with opportunities: the Morning Offering, grace before meals, bedtime prayers, Bible readings, the Rosary. And of course, the domestic church participates in the sacramental life of the larger Church through Sunday Mass and regular confession.

Since children learn what they live, it is vital that parents model their own relationship with God and with the Church in these essential ways.

Faith, however, is not confined to certain days of the week. It is a gift and a grace that enlightens and enlivens all that we do, both individually and with our children: the books we read, the songs we sing, the programs we watch, the websites we visit, the company we keep. Each of these avenues offers constant opportunity for learning more about God, about creation, about his love at work in the world now and in times past.

Time itself speaks of

Save the Date

This is the first in a series of reflections on marriage in anticipation of an April 14 Life and Family Conference at Trinity Catholic School in Massena. The Workshop, entitled "Marriage: God Calls, We Respond," has been planned by the diocesan Department of Family Life in conjunction with the Offices of Vocations and Evangelization. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Gregory and Lisa Popcak. The goal of the full-day conference is to raise awareness of the beauty and importance of the vocation of marriage in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and beyond.

God's presence as we actively celebrate the seasons of the Church year in our homes. Marking the days of Advent, by lighting the candles on our own Advent wreath, reminds us that this is much more than a busy shopping season - it is a time of watchful waiting and loving prayer to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. Taking Lent seriously, as a season of prayer and sacrifice, teaches our children the central truth of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ.

Children - fresh, open, eager - often surprise adults with their grasp of these truths.

St. Ignatius Loyola is reputed to have said, "Give me the child until he is seven, and I will give you the man." God has entrusted parents with this mission of leading their children to know and love him, and of helping them grow into faithful members of his Church.

And the whole Church, every one of us, is called to support them in this effort. Let us pray for great graces in all our domestic churches.

And whenever it is needed, let us be generous with encouragement and support in this effort which is so important to the whole Church!