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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 73, Number 22

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

OCT. 10, 2018

Celebrating 'Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent'

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Each year the U.S. Catholic Church observes October as Respect Life Month, which calls Catholics "to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between," said the chairman of the bishops' pro-life committee.

For this year's pro-life observance "we become even more aware of the need for messengers of God's love and instruments of his healing" due to the

clergy sex abuse crisis and other assaults on human dignity, New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said.

As the church remembers Respect Life Sunday, "our hearts are heavy with revelations of how those who should be most trustworthy have not only failed in this regard but have inflicted immense evil," he said.

The theme for this year's Respect Life Month is "Every Life: Cherished, Chosen, Sent," which highlights "our call to build a cul-

ture of life as missionary disciples, the cardinal said.

This year's theme draws on the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego. Mary appeared to him as a pregnant indigenous woman. She "sent him with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care."

"By embracing the mission entrusted to him, St. Juan Diego helped bring Christ's transform-

ing love to cultures gripped by oppression and death," says the reflection. "Like St. Juan Diego, let us embrace our daily mission to help others encounter God's transforming, life-giving love."

Cardinal Dolan said: "We are called and sent to be messengers of God's love, treating one another as cherished and chosen by him. In doing so, we help build a culture that respects all human life. The body of Christ needs you. The world needs you."

Diocese releases IRCP report

In March, the Diocese of Ogdensburg launched the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP), part of an on-going effort to express contrition to those who suffered sexual abuse by diocesan clergy and to help them find a sense of healing. Bishop LaValley instituted this IRCP, motivated in part by the successful IRCP programs undertaken by other dioceses. Victims who participated in those programs expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be heard.

This report outlines the IRCP's progress and reviews the lessons we learned in the process.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

THE FURRY FAITHFUL



Alyza Symonds, Yana Kucipak, Samuel Scout Ellis, Heidi Ellis and French Bulldog, Arthur Ellis, attentively listen to Mass at St. Alphonsus Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Tupper Lake. Father Douglas A. Decker invited parishioners to bring their pets for a blessing to mark the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

BLUE MASS



The Blue Mass, held Sept. 30 in Plattsburgh, included participation from local, state and federal law enforcement and corrections staff, and representatives from Canadian agencies.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Respecting life in all its stages

As a relatively young, relatively healthy woman, I can't say that I spent much time reflecting on the impact of prolonged illness or aging.

Then I got hurt.

As part of my ongoing recovery, there was about a 20-day period in which I was largely confined to my couch. I could walk only with assistance. I couldn't drive.

Though I was in a significant amount of pain, it struck me that the physical pain was not the hardest part of the experience. The pain and isolation combined to wreak havoc with my emotional and spiritual wellbeing. That's been the hard part.

That experience caused me to reflect on those in our

midst who are homebound or dealing with prolonged illnesses. While these people obviously retain the dignity afforded to them as humans made in the image and likeness of a loving God, I know I don't do enough to show them that they are also valued and loved.

I hope to do better in the future.

Life is beautiful and valuable in all its stages – from conception until natural death.

As Catholics, it's important that we show love and respect to life and those who live it.

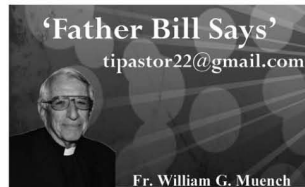
May we all remember those who need us to fight on their behalf and those who need our kindness.

Synod to focus on youth, young adults

This month, the General Synod of the Bishops of the Catholic Church is meeting. Since the Second Vatican Council, this General Synod of Bishops has been an important part of the Catholic Church. This year's Synod will be the fifteenth meeting of the General Synod. Hundreds of Bishops from around the world will be meeting with Pope Francis at the Vatican.

I hope that you remember the last two sessions of the Synod. Both focused on the family. Both these meetings were titled, "The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World." Pope Francis summarized the discussions of these sessions. He publicized this in a book entitled, "Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family." I found this to be a very powerful message for our church. This book renewed the teaching of Jesus as to the family and the challenges of being a Christian family in the Catholic Church.

This year, the 15th General Synod will be concerned with young people – the church's relationship with teen agers and young adults. This meeting is called, "Young People, Faith and Vocation Discernment." This is truly a major concern for our Catholic Church in our time. My hope is that the



Bishops in Synod will make strong statements and recommendations as advisors to Pope Francis. May this Synod produce real challenges for us all, the church throughout the world. I believe this is an important Synod.

A great deal is being written these days concerning the Synod. Today, I would like to review with you some ideals that I picked up from an article written by Father Thomas Reese, S.J. He wrote of his hopes for the Synod. The Bishops will be coming from all over the world. Yet, their concerns are very similar.

Many young people are leaving our Catholic Church, some even in their teens. They are finding the Catholic Church irrelevant to their lives, even rather boring.

All Bishops must recognize that they can learn so much from the young themselves. For that matter, all clergy needs to listen to young people, if they will ever make sense to the young people. This includes all young people, not just

those who attend church. This is an evangelizing challenge. In recent times, the church has developed what we call a new evangelization. Pope Francis speaks of this new evangelization with his stress on God's love, mercy and compassion, and our need to respond to that love by loving our brothers and sisters. This must be part of our message to young people.

Many young people have turned to evangelical churches. They have developed the joy of reading and studying the Bible. Our church needs to learn to make the Bible come alive for young people. The Second Vatican Council encouraged the church to be more scripturally based. Personally, I am saddened when I think of this.

Why have we failed to lead ordinary Catholics more into the Bible. Why can't we get young people to love the Bible?

Young people have demonstrated a strong desire for community. Religion is about spirituality and community. Too many young people do not find community in their parishes. Our challenge as a church is to make our parishes more welcoming to young people. Many find their parishes rather unwelcoming.

The Catholic Church must become relevant to the needs of young people. I have found that many young people are sensitive to injustice and inequality. There are many places in the world where young people are poor, exploited and live in area of conflict. There are several other concerns that capture their attention. A good example would be the environment.

One thing Father Reese and others have mentioned for the Synod's attention is the clerical sex abuse crisis in our church. This sex abuse crisis has become a worldwide concern, for young people also. This, of course, deserves the attention of the entire church. The Synod needs to support the programs that are being developed to solve this crisis – demands like zero tolerance. The Synod must call upon the Bishops to deal well with these concerns in their own dioceses.

Finally, I want to make it clear that I believe that our Catholic Church has a meaningful and powerful message, a message that we must get out to our young people. So, I pray for the Bishops of this Synod. May they produce challenges for our Church and for its future. I pray also for all the Bishops of the Catholic Church.

Report on the Diocese of Ogdensburg Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program

Introduction

In March 2018, the Diocese of Ogdensburg launched the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program ("IRCP"), part of an on-going effort to express contrition to those who suffered sexual abuse by diocesan clergy and to help them find a sense of healing. Bishop LaValley instituted this IRCP, motivated in part by the successful IRCP programs undertaken by other dioceses in New York State. Victims who participated in those programs expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be heard.

At the time that the IRCP was under consideration, we did not anticipate the crisis the Church now faces due to the scandal involving former Cardinal McCarrick and the release of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report. Additionally, the former Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Vigano, released a letter in which he suggests that Pope Francis and other members of the hierarchy protected abusers. These events raise questions about the integrity and transparency of the Church. While the sin and crime of sexual abuse of minors is found in every segment of society, it is especially horrific when these acts are committed by those who represent Christ and His Church. We, as a Church and as a diocese, have worked hard to eliminate this evil and to protect our children and young people. It is an effort that demands our constant attention and total commitment. Prevention of abuse, education and training of those who work with minors, and reconciliation with those who have been hurt remain an on-going priority.

As the People of God, we undertook the IRCP because it was the right thing to do. There are wounded voices that need to be heard. There are broken hearts that need tending. Concrete actions of repentance and words of apology are so necessary.

Our desire in this program was to help victims heal. This report

outlines the IRCP's progress and reviews the lessons we learned in the process. Over a period of many years now, the Diocese of Ogdensburg has made significant strides forward in dealing with the sexual abuse of minors by clergy, and in preventing acts of abuse through our safe environment programs.

The IRCP

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has consistently reached out to victims of sexual abuse and offered them assistance and support. Through the years, the Diocese has offered counseling and other types of support and assistance to victims who have come forward. With the IRCP, the Diocese has offered financial compensation in response to what these victims, who as minors or vulnerable adults, had been victimized by Church leaders.

In introducing the IRCP, Bishop LaValley stated, "This is an opportunity for victims to find healing. We cannot give back what they have lost. Victims have told me that they want a tangible sign of the Church's desire for healing and reconciliation." The IRCP addresses the request for a tangible sign of our desire for healing and reconciliation.

The IRCP was administered by Mr. Kenneth Feinberg, a respected and trusted mediator. Mr. Feinberg and his colleague, Ms. Camille Biros, exercised complete autonomy in assessing claims and awarding compensation to victims, and the diocese abided by their decisions.

In the IRCP, as of October 4, 2018 approximately thirty-seven victims have resolved their claims and have received \$5,495,000 in compensation. Two other claimants are still considering whether to accept the compensation offered by the independent administrator. Throughout the process, claimants made clear they were

not interested in money alone but, were grateful that the Church reached out to them, listened to them, and expressed sorrow and understanding.

We pray this program brings some measure of peace and consolation to the victims. We are happy that many have indicated that their healing has been aided by our outreach to them in the IRCP.

The diocese is financing the IRCP through a line of credit and long-term loan. The diocese will not and has not used money donated to parishes, schools, charitable organizations, It's our Church, It's our Future Capital Campaign, or donations to any specific programs or ministries to fund the IRCP or compensate claimants. Funds to repay the loans for the claims of the IRCP will come from accumulated net investment returns in the Diocese Loan Account and net accumulations due to good claims performance in the diocesan self-insurance program.

Lessons Learned

When the IRCP was undertaken, we did not fully grasp the extent of the abuse that occurred over the last seventy years. As of this writing, our diocese over the last 70 years has received approximately 72 credible claims of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of our clergy which involved twenty-seven priests, including the claims handled by the IRCP. Ten of these claims were resolved outside of the IRCP process for an aggregate amount of approximately \$750,000.00. In eleven cases not submitted to the IRCP, the claimants had died or were unable to be found.

Thirty-eight credible claims were submitted to the independent administrator at the start of the IRCP. During the course of the IRCP, eleven additional credible claims were brought forward in the program. Of these forty-nine credible claims, thirty-nine participated in the IRCP. Six of the claimants could not be located, two declined to submit a claim,

and two had died.

There were twenty-six priests who had credible allegations brought against them in relation to the claims in the IRCP, including eleven repeat offenders. The incidents of abuse occurred over a period of seventy-five years, with some claims dating to the 1940s.

The fact that no incidents of abuse were reported to have occurred in the last twenty years gives us hope that the safe environment efforts we have undertaken are effective. Despite the justifiable anger aimed at the Church at the present time, it's important to acknowledge that we have made much progress in providing a safe environment for our children and vulnerable adults.

We are saddened that there were repeat offenders. Our files reveal that the protocols in place for dealing with abuse in the past were not effective and are not acceptable today.

Our records show a common protocol that was followed with tragic effects. The abuser would be arrested or the matter would be reported to a diocesan official. To avoid scandal and spare the victims from giving grueling testimony, where police agencies were involved plea deals were reached with the approval of law enforcement agencies, judges or district attorneys. When no law enforcement agency was involved, the matter was handled quietly by the diocese and parents or guardians of the victim to avoid putting the victim through the legal process. The accused was sent for counseling, and upon receiving a recommendation from mental health professionals that there was no danger to others, the bishop would reassign the offender to another assignment.

Although this protocol was done in good faith and with good intentions, these tragic decisions allowed the

Report on IRCP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

abuse of other victims in many cases.

The protocols for handling abuse cases in past decades, not only for the Catholic Church but for other public and private employees, emphasized secrecy to protect victims and avoid scandal and embarrassment. It was believed that the stigma of being a victim of sexual abuse was a harsh one for the victims to bear. Testifying in court about sexual abuse was thought to be a hard burden for victims and the general practice seems to have been to avoid such burden at all costs. This past protocol assumed that the abuser could be rehabilitated and returned to gainful employment. Advances in the areas of psychiatry and counseling have taught us that those assumptions are not valid. Such procedures for handling sex abuse cases were terribly wrong based on what we know today. The majority of the individuals involved in making those decisions under that old protocol are deceased.

Safe Environment Program

Over the last two

decades, our diocese and the Catholic Church throughout the United States has made documented progress in dealing with this crime of sexual abuse of minors, especially since the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People ("Charter") in 2002. The Charter calls for zero tolerance for guilty clergy with removal from ministry, full cooperation with law enforcement, comprehensive child safety education, safe environment training and background checks for all who work with children and youth in the Church, and on-going audits to assure compliance with our diocesan safe environment policies.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has implemented comprehensive policies and programs for child protection and safety in all of our parishes, schools and programs. Each year, we are audited by an independent auditing firm to make sure we are in compliance with the Charter. We have been found to be consistently compliant with the Charter in each audit. Our Di-

rector of Safe Environment conducts periodic inspections of our parishes and schools to make certain they know and are adhering to our safe environment policies. The Director of Safe Environment assures that all clergy, seminarians, employees and required volunteers receive safe environment training and undergo a background check.

Handling of Allegations of Misconduct Today

The diocese has a comprehensive Child & Youth Protection Policy that addresses how allegations of misconduct are handled. All allegations of sexual abuse are handled according to the diocesan policy and all applicable provisions of New York State law and Church law.

The diocese reports all allegations of sexual abuse of minors to the local law enforcement authorities and cooperates in any of their investigations. Our Victims' Assistance Coordinator offers to meet with the victim to offer support and assistance. Every complaint received by the diocese is investigated, including meetings with the accuser

and accused. The victim is invited to meet personally with the bishop. The person making the allegation is advised of his or her right to have an attorney present to assist him or her, and to submit a complaint to the district attorney having local jurisdiction. In addition, the diocese will report the complaint to the appropriate district attorney, even if the statute of limitations has expired.

After the preliminary investigation of the matter, the matter is submitted to the diocesan Review Board which assesses the credibility of the complaint and advises the bishop regarding further actions to be taken. If the Review Board finds the allegation credible, the bishop removes the cleric from ministry. Since its establishment, the Bishop of Ogdensburg has acted upon all recommendations made by the Board. The Victims' Assistance Coordinator will offer immediate pastoral care of persons who bring a claim of clergy sexual abuse of a minor. Our Victims' Assistance Coordinator is Terrianne Yanulavich, Ph.D., M.A., M.H.T.

The diocesan Review Board is made up of lay persons possessing the integrity, life experience and good judgment that will enable them to assess claims of clergy sexual abuse. They review diocesan

policies and practices and make recommendations to the bishop on areas of safe environment and the handling of accusations. The current members of the Review Board include: Mr. Mark House, MA, Chairperson, Judge (ret.) Patrick McGill, Timothy Farrell, DNP, Kurt Halliday, Ph.D., Mrs. Sheila Peo, Judge (ret.) Barbara Potter, Mr. Mark & Dr. Kelly Scott, Ms. Kathleen Wears, Rev. Douglas Comstock, pastor, Rev. Msgr. John Murphy, Promoter of Justice, Rev. Christopher Carrara, Vicar for Pastoral Personnel, and Msgr. Harry Snow. As you see, the Board includes counselors with expertise in child sex abuse cases, retired judges and law enforcement officers, teachers, medical professionals, psychologists, parents, and a pastor.

As this IRCP program comes to a close and upon further reflection on lessons learned from its implementation, particularly in light of the recent revelations and accusations in the Church, Bishop LaValley has consulted further with the Diocesan Review Board and has determined that the longstanding decisions by the bishops of the Diocese of Ogdensburg not to reveal the names of clerics who have been accused of sexual misconduct must be reconsidered.



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PAT HENDRICK/THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley greets members of the Color Guard after the Blue Mass on Sept. 30 in Plattsburgh. The Blue Mass honors and includes law enforcement and correctional personnel.

FOLLOW ME

God accomplishes His good through our varied talents

The following is Bishop Terry R. LaValley's homily for the Blue Mass, held Sept. 30 in Plattsburgh to honor law enforcement and corrections personnel.

One fall, when the earth was very young, a group of trees in the forest had a quarrel about which of them was the most beautiful tree that God had made and which of them gave God the most glory. A proud oak with orange leaves spoke up and said, "You should be orange like me! Orange is the color of so many delicious fruits and vegetables: carrots, squash, pumpkins. God has done the best work in me!"

A beautiful red maple then spoke up and said, "Oh no, you trees should be red like me! I'm the color of juicy red apples, strawberries and cherry

Kool-Aid and oh...that sap for maple syrup! That's why I give God the most glory."

Then a golden elm said, "Uh uh! You should give glory to God by being like me. I'm a bright yellow. When people see me, they think of the sun, full of light and warmth. What could be better than that? Besides, I'm the color of scrambled eggs. God has done the best work in me."

Finally, God, who had made all three trees, spoke up, "Can't I work my wonders through all of you trees as I choose? If I had worked the same way in all of you, none of you would be as beautiful as you are. Your real beauty lies in being different from each other. Who are you, Mr. Oak, to tell Mr. Maple that he can't give glory to me as a maple? And who are you,

Mr. Maple to tell Mr. Elm that he can't give glory to me as an elm? The cold north winds here in the North Country will soon be here to teach you all a lesson. They will teach you to be humble by snatching away your brightly colored leaves."

Sometimes we think and act like those imaginary trees in the early days of creation. Sometimes we are quite unafraid to declare that our neighbors and fellow-parishioners are not really giving glory to God because they are not acting as WE think they should.

Joshua thought like that in the first reading. He didn't want to believe that God could work through Eldad and Medad, those two Israelites who were left behind in the camp, but not left out when it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Respect Life Month

October 2018

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- ◆ Norman & Kathleen Bechard
- ◆ Ken & Sue Bellor
- ◆ CC of Holy Name & St. Matthews, AuSable Forks
- ◆ CC of Morristown, Hammond & Rossie
- ◆ CC of St. Philip of Jesus and St. Joseph, Willsboro/Essex
- ◆ Champlain Valley Right to Life, Inc.
- ◆ Rev. Martin Cline & Parishioners of St. Cecilia's & Queen of Heaven
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**We invite you to visit the
RESPECT LIFE OFFICE website at:
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More information can be found at www.usccb.org/respectlife

Nothing can diminish
the priceless worth of
any human life.

Every person is
cherished.

usccb.org/respectlife

God creates every
person for eternal
union with Himself.

Every person is
chosen.

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We are called
to be messengers
of God's love.

Every person is
sent.

usccb.org/respectlife

Blue Mass: God accomplishes His Good

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

came to glorifying God. The disciples of Jesus thought like that. They didn't want to believe that God could work through someone who hadn't received their own seal of approval, and so they made quite a fuss about that stranger who was casting out spirits in the powerful name of Jesus.

Both Joshua and the disciples of Jesus were guilty of throwing roadblocks in the path of God as God made the divine glory known among His people. We are guilty of doing the same when we insist that God can act only in ways that we think God should, when we think that we have an exclusive recipe for how people should be. Certainly, neither Joshua nor Jesus' disciples received praise for such a mindset.

You see, the way that God chooses to work in me may be very different from the way that God works in you, and that's ok, because we think, speak, act and pray differently. God made us to be different, but still accomplishing His good purposes in all of us. And that means that each of us gives glory to God as God works in us.

The beautifully colored oak, maple and elm trees are all part of God's wonderful, masterful plan for creation. We must help one another be tolerant and accepting of each other. That doesn't mean that we compromise our values or the truth of our faith. But, we are each vitally important and beautifully different threads in the tapestry of life. After all, each of us is built in the image and likeness of our God. We shouldn't try building others into our



PAT HENDRICK/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

New York State Police Captain Brent Davison and his wife, Nikki present the offertory gifts during the Blue Mass held Sept. 30 in Plattsburgh.

image.

We honor today you, women and men whose vocation in life is to help ensure that the common good is served in the midst of the world of differences in which we live. Trouble always, always surfaces when we trumpet our differences and demand that others march to our tune and see things our way, all the while jeopardizing the common good.

This Blue Mass offers us the opportunity to thank you, who with your family sacrifice much for the safety and well being of us all. May we never take you for granted. Every day you place yourself in harm's way so that ours might truly be the land of the free. But, because the world we live in finds evil lurking in too many places; because sometimes we find it easier to demand things be my way, no matter the fallout; because, too often, we just



Plattsburgh City Police Department officers pose with Bishop Terry R. LaValley after the Blue Mass.

plain can't seem to get along, we place you, the women and men in blue, in stress-filled, often dangerous situations. In our fractured society, in many ways, we expect you to keep us from falling apart. Too many times, we need you to protect us from ourselves.

We need you because too many people are overtaken by evil and we are

scared and fearful for ourselves and for our loved ones. We need you, too, because things happen: hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires and we are not self-sufficient.

As you place yourself, time and again, in harm's way, you place the interests of others over your own. Unless one were to walk in your shoes, we can't pretend to know the

great stress you must endure. On behalf of the Church of Ogdensburg, extending from Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Jefferson to here in Clinton County, I want to thank you for accepting the awesome responsibility of providing protection and safety for all who call our North Country, 'home.' It is with much personal sacrifice, as well as that of your loved ones, that you accept this charge. Please know of our ongoing strong support for you as we implore God to keep you safe from harm as you enforce laws that keep us all safe. You have our trust and respect.

I also want to ask a special blessing upon your families today, because it's your spouses, children, and parents who daily pray for your safety while you are at work, and who love and support you at the end of the day when your duty is done.

Finally let us remember all those who have fallen in the line of duty, who never failed in their generous service, even when it meant the giving of their very lives. Let us give thanks to God for the witness they left us, a witness of sacrifice, and a witness to the dignity and honor of their vocation of service. God bless you and your families for your selfless service. God's creation of the human person is a many-splendored gift.

May each of us learn not just to tolerate but to cherish the divine gift of every human life, particularly those who are different from us. Through it all, may God be praised... forever may God be praised.

Catholic Charities to host Caritas Dinner

OGDENSBURG – Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg will hold its annual Caritas Dinner on Oct. 24 at the Gran View Restaurant in Ogdensburg.

Each year, Bishop Terry R. LaValley and the Board of Trustees presents awards to individuals, groups and families who have made a significant contribution to the mission of the agency in serving the poor and underprivileged in the diocese.

This year, two individuals have been selected.

Receiving the Caritas Award will be Sister Donna Franklin, the former director of Catholic Charities, an agency she headed for over 20 years. She retired last December.

Receiving the Legacy Award, a special distinction reserved for youth and young adults, will be Ciara LeRoy of Malone.

According to Deacon Patrick J. Donahue the current Executive Director of Catholic Charities: "These are two very deserving recipients and their tireless and devoted work in their communities have inspired so many others to join in and to do the same."

The awards are given to those who demonstrate a clear understanding of charity and social justice issues and who have a passion for addressing their resolution.

Sister Donna, who now resides in Albany, faithfully served as executive director of Catholic Charities in the diocese since 1995 before retiring last year.

Sister Donna has been exemplary in her past service to Catholic Charities and the mission to serve the poor, marginal-

ized and under privileged in the North Country.

She has left a legacy that has inspired all those who follow and continue the important works of charity in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Donahue said that Sister Donna personifies the Caritas Award that was established by the Board of Trustees of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg in 1979.

The award acknowledges individuals and organizations in the North Country who promote the mission of Catholic Charities and social justice ministry of the Catholic Church.

The individual or group should exemplify the gospel mandates of charity and justice.

Ciara LeRoy, who is a parishioner of St André Bessette Parish, resides with her family in Malone.

She is a graduate of Holy Family School and a fourth year altar server for the Malone Catholic parishes.

She is an active high school athlete whose involvement in sports include cross country and track and field.

Donahue said that with all of her involvement, "Ciara still finds time to emulate the Gospel values as an active member of St André youth group through community service projects that include visiting the homebound and raising funds for the Advent Wreath project. Ciara is also the youth representative on St André's pastoral council."

The event begins with a cash bar at 5 p.m., entertainment 5:30 and dinner at 6 p.m.

The cost is \$45 per person.

Reservations, which are required, may be made by calling Catholic Charities (315) 393-2255 by Oct 17th.

All funds raised through the Caritas dinner are used to provide counseling and financial assistance to individuals and

families who have critical needs.

No administrative funds are paid for with funds raised through the dinner.

EVERY LIFE
cherished • chosen • sent

*"You who are my messenger,
in you I place my absolute trust."*

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

RESPECT LIFE
WWW.USCCB.ORG/RESPECTLIFE

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THE RESPECT LIFE OFFICE
DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG
www.rcdony.org/pro-life

Married couples celebrate their vocation

Editor's note: In last week's edition, a number of married couples were inadvertently missing from the list of couples who celebrated their married years at the Jubilee Mass. We regret this error. The following includes omitted names of celebrating couples.

OGDENSBURG – On Sunday, Sept. 23, religious and married couples from around the diocese gathered at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg for the annual Jubilee Mass for Married Couples and Consecrated Religious.

Celebrating their vocation to marriage were:

Brasher Falls - St. Patrick's

• Stanley and Carol Crump - 50 years

• Hector and Joanne Foisy - 60 years

Carthage - St. James

• Kevin and Kathy Homan - 41 years

• Donald and Barbara Kohler - 41 years

Champlain - St. Mary's

• John and Janice Dawson - 50 years

Clayton - St. Mary's

• John and Candie Pecor - 35 years

Heuvelton - St. Raphael's

• Rick and Shelly Reed - 40 years

• Larry and Theresa Crowe - 42 years

Hogansburg - St. Regis Mission

• Robert and Lisa Roundpoint - 17 years

• Matthew and Sandra Rourke - 19 years

• Jerry and Connie Thompson - 41 years

• Joseph and Esther Jock - 42 years

• Robert and Julia Cook - 42 years

• Wayne and Deborah Thomas - 49 years

• Donald and Sharon Thompson - 50 years

• Richard and Vicky Phillips - 51 years

• Irving and Rebecca Papineau - 52 years

• Norman and Elizabeth Tarbell - 55 years

• Thomas and Antonia Herne - 57 years

• James and Beatrice Bero - 58 years

• Richard and Marita

Francis - 62 years

• Leonard and Isabel Garrow - 64 years

• Hubert and Felicia Jock - 69 years

Lowville - St. Peter's

• Robert and Melissa Utendorfsky - 29 years

• Donald and Linda Pugh - 50 years

Madrid - St. John the Baptist

• Thomas and Barbara Sherry - 45 years

Mooers - St. Joseph's

• Gary and Connie Menard - 37 years

Mooers Forks - St. Ann's

• Jeff and Joanne Menard

Morrisonville - the RCC of St. Alexander & St. Joseph

• Thomas and Michelle Hamilton - 30 years

• Gary and Sandra Brown - 50 years

Norwood - St. Andrew's

• Deacon Philip and Linda Regan - 50 years

Ogdensburg - St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame

• Chris and Renee Grizuto - 16 years

• Michael and Karen De-noncourt - 21 years

• Deacon James and Rita

Crowley - 27 years

• Deacon Mark and Vicky Lalonde - 30 years

• Robert and Amy Schirmer - 30 years

• Kurt and Barbara Gould - 35 years

• David and Bonnie Franz - 45 years

Plattsburgh - The RCC of St. John the Baptist

• Chuck and Peggy McDonald Sholette - 50 years

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's

• William and Carol Holzer - 30 years

Potsdam - The RCC of St. Mary

• Stephen and Christina Tartaglia - 16 years

Rouses Point - St. Patrick's

• Donald and Barbara LaBombard - 54 years

Saranac Lake - St. Bernard's

• Steve and Cherie Racette - 31 years

Tipper Lake - St. Alphonsus & Holy Name of Jesus

• Bob and Betty Woods - 60 years

Watertown - St. Anthony's Church

• Randy and Pat Belina (40 years)

Watertown - St. Patrick's

• Deacon Kevin and

Kathy Mastellon - 48 years

At a Mass celebrated by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, the jubilarians renewed their commitment to the vocations to which God called them.

"We desire to give public witness of our gratitude to God, to our families, our parishes and our communities," they said, as a group. "We wish to reaffirm our desire to follow Christ in our chosen vocation, begun at Baptism. We hope through His grace to come to a never-ending Jubilee in the kingdom of God."

Those celebrating marriages also renewed their vows.

"Blessed are you, Lord, for in the good and bad times of our life you have stood lovingly by our side," they said. "Help us, we pray, to remain faithful in our love for one another, so that we may be true witnesses to the covenant you have made with humankind."

Diocese cooperating with state investigation

The Diocese of Ogdensburg and the seven other Roman Catholic dioceses in New York State have been subpoenaed by the State Attorney General Barbara Underwood's office as part of a civil investigation into the handling of sexual abuse allegations.

On September 6, 2018, the Diocese of Ogdensburg Communications Director, Darcy Fargo, confirmed that the Diocese of Ogdensburg will cooperate in this investigation.

The statement released

by the Diocese said, "We received a subpoena, and we look forward to cooperating with the Attorney General's office. In 2002 the Diocese of Ogdensburg met with the District Attorneys in the eight counties within our borders and agreed to inform them of all allegations of sexual abuse and to provide any information requested by them. Since that time, we have notified those District Attorneys of all abuse claims and have provided those District Attorneys information as requested re-

lated to any sexual abuse allegations. It has consistently been our policy to cooperate with law enforcement, and we will continue that policy. As a diocese, we remain focused on the safety of our youth and working with victims toward healing and reconciliation."

A September 6th press release from Attorney General's Office stated that the "Charities Bureau has launched a civil investigation into how the diocese and other church entities ... reviewed and potentially covered up al-

legations of extensive sexual abuse of minors." The press release also indicated that the Attorney General's Criminal Division is seeking to partner with District Attorneys to investigate and, if warranted, prosecute any individuals who have committed criminal offenses that fall within applicable statutes of limitations.

The Attorney General's release referenced Pennsylvania's investigations into six dioceses in that state. The August 14th report of the Pennsylvania

Attorney General detailed claims of sexual abuse of minors by clergy over a period of 70 years.

Over the last two decades, our diocese and the Catholic Church throughout the United States has made documented progress in dealing with the crime of sexual abuse of minors, especially since the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in 2002. The Charter calls for zero tolerance for clergy credibly accused of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

ON RETREAT



Seton Catholic sixth and seventh graders recently attended the Vocations Retreat held at Guggenheim.

Investigation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

abuse with removal from ministry, full cooperation with law enforcement, comprehensive child safety education, safe environmental training and background checks for all who work with children and youth in the Church, and on-going audits to assure compliance with the Charter and our diocesan safe environment policies.

The diocese also has a comprehensive Child & Youth Protection Policy that, among other things, addresses how allegations of misconduct are handled. All allegations of sexual abuse are handled according to the diocesan policy and New York State Law and Church Law. The diocese reports all allegations of sexual abuse to the local law enforcement authorities and cooperates in any of their investigations. Our Victims' Assistance Coordinator offers to meet with any victim to offer support and assistance. Every complaint reviewed by the diocese is investi-

gated. The victim is invited to meet with the bishop. The person making the allegation is advised of his or her right to have an attorney present to assist him or her, and to submit a complaint to the district attorney having jurisdiction. In addition, the diocese reports the complaint to the appropriate district attorney, even if the statute of limitations has expired.

After the preliminary investigation of the matter, the matter is presented to the diocesan Review Board, which includes counselors with expertise in sexual abuse cases, retired judges, law enforcement officers, teachers, medical professionals, psychologists and parents. The Review Board assesses the credibility of the allegation and advises the bishop regarding further actions to be taken. If the Review Board finds the allegation credible, the bishop removes the cleric from ministry. Since the establishment of the Review Board, the Bishop of

Ogdensburg has acted upon all the recommendations made by the Board.

"It is part of our practice and policy to cooperate with civil authorities in their investigation of sexual abuse allegations", said Bishop LaValley. "We are ready and willing to work with the attorney general on this investigation because there are lessons to be learned that will benefit our society, help victims find healing, and make children safer ... and that is our ultimate goal."

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 Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Personnel at 315-393-2920

Bishop's Public Schedule

Oct. 10 – 11 a.m. – Meeting of The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York, Inc. at Bishop's Residence

6:30 p.m. – It's Our Church, It's Our Future reception at St. Andre Bessette Roman Catholic Parish in Malone

Oct. 11 – 10 a.m. – Mass and a school visit at Holy Family School in Malone

Oct. 12 – 10 a.m. – Mass and a school visit at St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga

Oct. 13 – 4 p.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg

Oct. 14 – 9:30 a.m. – Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg

Oct. 15-16 – Pontifical College Josephinum Board of Trustees Meeting in Columbus, Ohio

Oct. 17-18 – Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society Pilgrimage to Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, NY

Rest in Peace

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

Oct. 10 – Rev. Robert Duford, 1949; Rev. J. A. Sirois, O.M.I., 1950

Oct. 11 – Rev. William Burns, 1837

Oct. 12 – Rev. Francis Xavier Pelletier, 1881; Rev. P. Joseph Mullins, O.S.A., 1960

Oct. 13 – Rev. Francis X. Campbell, O.S.A., 1984

Oct. 14 – Rev. James Alexander Harty, 1903

Oct. 15 – Rev. James Haffey, 1918; Rev. Mark Collins Liebler, 1975; Rev. Robert Fleig, S.J., 1986; Most Rev. Thomas Andrew Donnellan, 1987

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Upcoming sessions: **October 12** – 9:30 a.m., Augustinian Academy, Carthage

Environmental Stewardship

What does 'respect for life' demand of us

In the book of Genesis (2:15), God tells us to treat the earth as if your life depends upon it. As human beings we are part of the earth.

Our bodies are made from the elements of the earth, the water, the soil, the air and sustained by them at this very moment.

So care for our planet truly is crucial to caring for ourselves and our neighbor as well as the other creatures who share this precious dwelling with us.

As we continue to celebrate "respect life" month, it is time to look beneath the surface of the many life issues that confront us today; i.e. protection of the unborn, welfare of children, the sick and elderly, and victims of war and violence, to name but a few. The root that connects all of these issues is poverty.

One of the major causes of poverty is the devastation of the natural world around us without which there will be no healthy life for any of us.

What does respect for life in ALL its forms demand of us? In Evangelii Gaudium Pope Francis states, "Almost without being aware of it, we end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor, weeping for other people's pain, and feeling a need to help them, as though all this were someone else's responsibility and not our own. The culture of prosperity deadens us; we are thrilled if the market offers us something new to purchase; and in the meantime all those lives stunted for lack of opportunity seem a mere spectacle; they fail to move us."

This grace of compassion moves us beyond our well-defined walls that prevent us from responding to the cries of the poor and the earth..

May the Prayer of St. Francis move our hearts to action: "Make me an instrument of your peace."

World Mission

Sunday

*Pray and give
generously
October 21, 2018*



The Society for THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

...a Pontifical Mission Society

Dear Director: I'd like to share my blessings with the poor for the sake of the Gospel, so I'm enclosing a sacrifice for the missions. Please pray for my intentions:

Enclosed is my sacrifice in the amount of \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith • Diocese of Ogdensburg

622 Washington St • PO Box 369 • Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Tel: (315)-393-2920 • Fax 1-866-314-7296

website: www.rcdony.org/mission-office

Email: mryan@rcdony.org

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

Molly M. Ryan, Secretary, Bookkeeper

Please remember The Society for the Propagation of the Faith when writing or changing your will.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Seeking true fulfillment means seeking God

Searching for wisdom and fulfillment in life is something like our first reading. It's to be found in the least likely places! Many young people think they'll find happiness in a job or career that makes "big bucks" – only to end up on opioids or alcohol. Or, we read about some really wealthy multi-millionaire who, in despair of finding happiness, ends up attempting suicide.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

Far happier are the parents who, trusting Providence, raise children in an atmosphere of love and sacrifice. Their carpets may be thread-bare, but not their hearts. Rather than riches, they have real joy in helping others. They have found wisdom (first reading), and so have entered into "the Lord's rest" (second reading).

One of the characters in the Gospels with whom

October 14

Twenty-eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Wisdom 7:7-11

Hebrews 4:12-13

Mark 10:17-30

we can easily identify is the "rich young man" who goes away sad. Jesus made him an amazing offer – eternal life – and he turned it down! Why? Because he just couldn't give up his fancy sports car and his bulging bank account in exchange for a

less comfortable life of discipleship. Like so many young and not-so-young people in our society, he couldn't make a commitment to spiritual wealth – God's wisdom. It would involve living for others, serving people without power or status. Because he couldn't make the leap of faith, he chose to remain bound to a life of anxious seeking for what he could see and feel. If we had to give up something we cherish in order to grow closer to Christ, would we be strong enough to let go?

Next Sunday is Mission Sunday. Thousands of missionaries all over the world have found wisdom in serving God's needy ones here and in foreign lands. They have courageously given what they have to the poor to make them rich in faith at the risk of imprisonment or death for themselves.

By giving generously, to the Missions, we are continuing the work of spreading the Gospel to all the world.

And don't forget to add your daily rosary to your gift!

Understanding trauma and helping the victims

I recently attended some training on "trauma-informed care." It was quite eye-opening.

Traumatic experiences in childhood are more common than we'd like to believe. Research indicates that more than 60% of adults experienced some form of trauma in their childhood, events such as the divorce of their parents, ongoing drug use in their home, physical violence, or sexual abuse. I learned that one out of four girls and one out of six boys experience some form of sexual abuse before the age of 18.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and oth-

ers have been studying these "adverse childhood experiences" for many years, consistently finding correlations between these experiences and negative health and social consequences throughout the lifespan. People who experience trauma in childhood have higher rates of depression, anxiety, drug addiction/alcoholism, suicide, violence, criminality, even health problems like obesity, bronchitis and heart disease. For certain, trauma is the root of many problems.

Here's why: trauma actually rewires the brain. Traumatic events create measurable physiological changes in the brain. For children, this neurological damage interferes with the natural process of maturation, triggering the "flight or fight" reaction. Their brains are revamped to expect danger. They can't simply "get over it"

or "move on."

When the train goes off the tracks early in life, it is most difficult to get it back on track. As adults, these people often have safety and trust issues, they can't manage their feelings or form positive relationships, they have trouble coping and problem-solving, and they can live in a near-constant state of discomfort and helplessness.

Moreover, hurt people do hurt people: it is estimated that 1/3 of abused and neglected children victimize their own children.

Given the scourge of child sexual abuse revealed in our own Church, is there anything we can do to break the cycle, lessen the damage, and help these children of God to recover?

Yes there is. The human brain has an amazing quality of plasticity; it has the ability to be refurbished and renewed.



Kathleen
Gallagher

We must swathe the victims of child sexual abuse in a blanket of trauma-informed care, acknowledging their pain and listening to them for as long as they need to talk. We need to help them work through their trauma, and understand the root and function of their negative behaviors. We have to avoid labeling them, blaming them, judging them.

Instead, we need to help them rebuild their internal strength, resilience, and coping mechanisms. We need to show them how to engage in healthy social activities and safe relationships. We need to support them with compassion and sensitivity, and fill their lives with hope. We must help them to recognize their innate dignity, and show them how they can once again "be not afraid."

Our Church, and all Church leaders, must become models of trustworthiness, and the sooner the better.

United in Baptism, we

are one body in Christ Jesus. Right now, the body is weak and wounded, but we have the ability to aid in its healing and recovery.

No, we are not therapists, so we can't provide trauma-informed psychoanalysis or therapy. But we are caregivers, or at least we're supposed to be.

The Catholic Church must become a leader in trauma-informed care for those who have been abused.

Letters to the Editor

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

- Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300.
- We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org
- Join the conversation!

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CHEVROLET

Vatican conducting review of McCarrick case

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Promising a thorough review of how the Vatican handled allegations of sexual misconduct by former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, the Vatican acknowledged that what happened may fall short of the procedures that are in place today.

"The Holy See is conscious that, from the examination of the facts and of the circumstances, it may emerge that choices were taken that would not be consonant with a contemporary approach to such issues. However, as Pope Francis has said: 'We will follow the path of truth wherever it may lead,'" the Vatican said in statement released Oct. 6.

The Executive Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops had said in August that they would seek such an investigation, and leaders of the bishops' conference met with Pope Francis Sept. 13 to tell him how the church in the United States has been "lacerated by the evil of sexual abuse."

After the meeting with the pope, neither the bishops nor the Vatican mentioned an investigation. However, the president and vice president of the conference -- Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles -- are at the Vatican for the Synod of Bishops and are likely to meet the pope again Oct. 8.

Renewing its commitment to uncovering the truth, the Vatican also said that information gathered from its investigation as well as "a further thorough study" of its archives regarding the former cardinal will be released "in due course."

"Both abuse and its cover-up can no longer be tolerated and a different treatment for bishops who have committed or covered up abuse, in fact represents a form of clericalism that is no longer acceptable," the Vatican said.

According to the statement, the pope ordered a preliminary investigation by the Archdiocese of New York after an allegation that Archbishop McCarrick abused a teenager 47 years ago; the allegation subsequently was found to be credible.

Pope Francis, the Vatican said, accepted Archbishop McCarrick's resignation from the College of Cardinals after "grave indications emerged during the course of the investigation."

In the weeks after the allegations were made public, another man came forward claiming he was abused as a child by Archbishop McCarrick and several former seminarians have spoken out about being sexually harassed by the cardinal at a beach house he had.

The Vatican statement comes more than a month after Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, former nuncio to the United States, released an 11-page "testimony" claiming that church officials, including Pope Francis, failed to act on the accusations of abuse by Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick.

In his statement Aug. 25, Archbishop Vigano said the Vatican was informed as early as 2000 -- when he was an official at the Secretariat of State -- of allegations that Archbishop McCarrick "shared his bed with seminarians." Archbishop Vigano said the Vatican heard the allegations from the U.S. nun-

cios at the time: Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, who served from 1998 to 2005, and Archbishop Pietro Sambini, who served from 2005 to 2011.

A 2006 letter obtained by Catholic News Service Sept. 7 suggested that then-Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, the former Vatican substitute for general affairs, acknowledged allegations made in 2000 by Father Boniface Ramsey, pastor of St. Joseph's Church Yorkville in New York City, concerning Archbishop McCarrick.

Archbishop Vigano had claimed that Pope Benedict XVI later "imposed on Cardinal McCarrick sanctions similar to those now imposed on him by Pope Francis."

"I do not know when Pope Benedict took these measures against McCarrick, whether in 2009 or 2010, because in the meantime I had been transferred to the Governorate of Vatican City State, just as I do not know who was responsible for this incredible delay," he said.

Then-Cardinal McCarrick, he claimed, "was to leave the seminary where he was living" which, at the time, was the Redemptoris Mater Seminary in Hyattsville, Maryland, and was also "forbidden to celebrate Mass in public, to participate in public meetings, to give lectures, to travel, with the obligation of dedicating himself to a life of prayer and penance."

However, photos and videos during the time of the alleged sanctions gave evidence that Archbishop McCarrick appeared in public with Archbishop Vigano and continued to concelebrate at large public Masses and visit the Vatican and Pope Benedict

himself.

Almost a week after issuing his original accusations, Archbishop Vigano modified his claim and said Pope Benedict made the sanctions private, perhaps "due to the fact that he (Archbishop McCarrick) was already retired, maybe due to the fact that he (Pope Benedict) was thinking he was ready to obey."





The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
is on
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 Like

Congratulations

Deacon Lawrence Ambeau

On celebrating 5 years as a Deacon.

Thank you from Queen of Heaven, Henderson and St. Cecilia's, Adams for your guidance, encouragement and your continued example of faith and family to our parishes.

CLINTON

ROSARY RALLY

Redford – In honor of the 101 Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima a Rosary Rally to be held.

Date: Oct. 13

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.

Place: Church of the Assumption

TURKEY DINNER

Dannemora – St. Joseph's to have their Annual Roast Turkey Dinner.

Date: Oct. 14

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children, \$7; under 5, Free

Features: Dinner, Music, Chinese Auction and Country Store.

WALK OF FAITH AND BBQ

Peru – Walk of Faith to be held.

Date: Oct. 14

Schedule: 11:45 a.m. Meet at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine; 12:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony; 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Dinner

Features: Walk is free and will happen rain or shine. Donations will be accepted for "The North Country Mission of Hope" and "The Jamaica Project & Red Bird Mission." There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Pulled Pork Dinner will be held starting at 2 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$10, Adults; Children under 10 are free.

CRAFT SHOW

Moers – Ladies of St. Ann's to have a craft show.

Date: Oct. 20

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

Place: Moers Fire Station

Features: Craft and non-craft vendors, hot lunches, baked goods, and raffle prizes. Proceeds support the Moers Food Pantry. Donations for the food pantry accepted.

Contact: (518) 236-6016

HARVEST DINNER

Chazy – Sacred Heart to have a Turkey Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 21

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

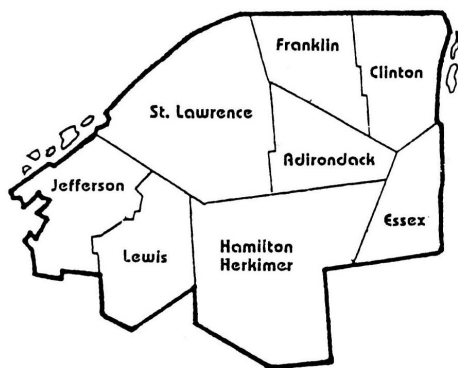
Place: Sacred Heart Parish

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Take-outs, \$10

Features: Shop for treats and take a chance on our raffle.

FISHERS CLUB

Plattsburgh – The Lakesiders Fishers Club to have their fall discernment meeting.



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: Oct. 21; Nov. 4 & 18; Dec. 2

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Upper Room

Features: Discernment, Evening Prayer and Dinner for high school juniors and older.

Contact: Father Venette (hvenette@gmail.com) or Father Lucia (dlucia@rcdony.org)

HARVEST DINNER

Altona – Holy Angels to have Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 28

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Church Hall

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$6; under 5, Free

HARVEST DINNER

Morrisonville – St. Alexander's Church to have a Turkey Harvest Dinner.

Date: Nov. 11

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: There will be a Harvest Dinner raffle, country store and silent auction.

FRANKLIN

HARVEST DINNER

North Bangor – St. Augustine's Parish will be hosting a Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 28

Time: Noon to 4 p.m.

Place: St. Augustine's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$10; Seniors, \$9; Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Take-outs

available

JEFFERSON

PEACEFUL PRAYER

Watertown - Pro-life representatives of Watertown's four Catholic parishes will be praying in front of Planned Parenthood on Stone Street every day, including weekends, during the month of October.

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.

Features: Join us in this peaceful, prayerful witness to the sanctity of all human life.

STOP BULLYING

Clayton – Facts, effects and prevention of bullying presentation to be held.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Feature: All (families & individuals) are invited to attend this free presentation. Come and be informed about this growing epidemic in our communities.

Contact: For more information, contact St. Mary's parish office at 315-686-3398 or reception@stmarysclayton.org

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Watertown – Adult Faith Formation about the Eucharist to be held.

Date: Oct. 22 & 29; Nov. 5, 12 & 19

Time: After Noon Mass

Place: St. Patrick's Chapel

Cost: \$10 for Workbooks

Features: The Eucharist, Discovering the Mass in the Bible with Dr. Brant Pitre.

Contact: Pre-registration required.

Registration form available at www.catholicwatertown.org. Please register by Oct. 19 to Deacon Kevin kmastellon@spwatn.org.

HARVEST HAM DINNER

Black River – Harvest Ham Dinner to be held.

Date: Oct. 25

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Paul's Church

Cost: Adults, \$9; Seniors 65+, \$8;

Youths 5-12, \$4; Immediate Families, \$25

Contact: Call Rectory at 315-773-5672 for more information.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Oct. 25

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

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.50; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$.75 each

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

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

Evans Mills – Spaghetti and Meatball dinner to be held by Indian River Council 7471 Knights of Columbus.

Date: Nov. 3

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

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

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Adams – Confirmation Retreat with NET Ministries to be held.

Date: Nov. 20

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Place: St. Cecilia's Church

Cost: \$25 (Meal will be included)

Features: NET Ministries challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church. These are a first come, first served basis registration.

Contact: Pre-Registration is required. Register by Nov. 9 by emailing slippincott@rcdony.org or call the Regional Office at 315-782-3620

LEWIS

POLISH FESTIVAL

Houseville – St. Hedwig's to have their Polish Festival.

Date: Oct. 14

Time: Noon, following the 11 a.m. Mass

Features: The festivities include: The Serving of a Tasty Polish Platter \$10, Bake Sale Items, Polish hot Dogs \$1, Ice Cream Sundaes \$1, Theme Basket Raffles and a 50/50 Raffle. Take outs are available. Proceeds to benefit church programs, repairs and restoration.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

ADORATION

Lowville – Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 4 to 5 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: to one hour of exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, silent adoration, and benediction.

HEALING MASS

Lowville – Mass for healing to be held.

Date: Oct. 27

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: Praise, Worship and healing prayers for the body and soul. Music by Jacki Archer and the St. Peter's Choir.

ST. LAWRENCE

ROSARY RALLY

Potsdam – Public Square Rosary Rally to be held.

Date: Oct. 13

Time: Noon

Place: Park at the corner of Route 11 and Maple St. (Across from Kinney's).

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Canton – Pancake breakfast to be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Date: Oct. 14

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's School

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children 4-10, \$5; under 3, Free; Families, \$30

CLMA DINNER

Norfolk – The Annual Dinner hosted by the Commissioned Lay Minister Association to be held.

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 5:15 p.m.

Place: Church of the Visitation

Cost: \$12 per person

Features: Spouses welcome. Mass, dinner and guest speaker Fr. Bryan Stitt will be speaking on Understanding Peoples' Temperaments as a Catholic in the 21st Century.

Contact: For more information or to register call Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920, Ext. 1413 or email jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.



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

Respecting every life

This October, the Catholic Church throughout the United States will observe Respect Life Month. This annual tradition has been observed for over 45 years.

The 2018 theme for this month's observation of Respect Life is "Every Life: Cherished, chosen, sent."

Imagine how different your life would be if you had never been introduced to God and to your Catholic faith?

Imagine how much more difficult your life might be without feeling God's hand on your shoulder, helping you through.

God's gift of life requires that every person, in whatever stage of life be afforded dignity, respect, and protection.

During October, pray for victims of domestic violence, child sexual abuse, human trafficking or abuse of any kind to another individual.

The family is the first place where children learn to honor life.

If Jesus came as a homeless person, or as a child from extreme poverty, a terminally ill person needing extensive care, or even an unborn child, how would we treat Him?

We are all made to the image and likeness of God and therefore if we have met any of the people mentioned above we have met Jesus.

Together, may we grow in love and respect for all and be more aware of how we honor life this month and every month to come.

May we build a culture of life by embracing our mission as messengers of God's love.

By our words and actions, we pray that every human life is cherished and chosen and that Catholics can continue to understand, value and become engaged with building a culture that cherishes every human life.

May Catholics everywhere become shepherds of strength while protecting and leading their sheep.

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

OBITUARIES

Ausable Forks – Harry Patrick, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 1, 2018 at Holy Name Church.

Brasher Falls – Janet Esther (Cum-mings) Russell, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 1, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Clayton – Mary (Hall) Bastian, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 3, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Dannemora – Genevieve "Jenny" M. (Drollette) Dumas, 70; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 29, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Fort Covington – Shirley A. LaFontain, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 10, 2018 at St. Mary's Church.

Louisville – Jane Francis "O'Brien" Smith, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 12, 2018 at St. Lawrence Church.

Louisville – Paul J. Tyo, 88; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 8, 2018 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Barbara A. (Corron) Pageau, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 9, 2018 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Massena – Joyce M. Dumas-Perry; Memorial Mass Oct. 13, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church.

Massena – Ross J. Kenney, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 4, 2018 at St. Mary's Church.

Massena – Robert E. Larche, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 3, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Richard Lee Loffler, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 5, 2018 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Massena Center Cemetery.

Morrisonville – Rosemarie Jones, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 2, 2018 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Norwood – Alice A. Allen, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 5, 2018 at St. An-

drew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery, Norwood.

Ogdensburg – William J. LeBeau, 92; Funeral Services Oct. 4, 2018 at Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – Vaughn J. Montroy, 70; Funeral Services Oct. 27, 2018 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Hill Cemetery, Parishville.

Plattsburgh – Karen Ann Curtin, 62; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 5, 2018 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Concetta (Marinaccio) Dubuque, 98; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 6, 2018 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Potsdam – Howard E. Kelley, 87; Funeral Services Oct. 2, 2018 at the Garner Funeral Service; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Potsdam – William Peter Whalen, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 6, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Redford – Margaret S. (Perry) Hurd, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 5, 2018 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Sackets Harbor – Maria L. (Frechette) West, 56; Mass of Christian burial Oct. 20, 2018 at St. Andrews Church.

Saranac Lake – Cris Zervas, 77; Funeral Services Oct. 3, 2018 at the Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake – Walter M. Zurawski, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 8, 2018 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown – Patsy L. Chimento, 93; Funeral Services Oct. 4, 2018 at the D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Martin – Richard Walter Martin Jr., 69; Funeral Services Oct. 5, 2018 at the D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Charles P. Dullea; Memorial Services May 2019 at St. Patrick's Church.

Watertown – Lucile B. (Donohue) Nadeln, 92; Mass of Christian burial Oct. 3, 2018 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

West Chazy – Mildred E. (Coryea) Renadette, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 4, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery

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Around the diocese

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DESTINATION CONFIRMATION

Norfolk – Destination Confirmation to be held with Bishop LaValley.

Date: Oct. 21

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Parish of the Visitation

Features: After Mass, Bishop LaValley will talk about the role of parents as the first teachers of faith for their children and how they can assist in the preparation for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop will also share with the students how Confirmation is

not a graduation. It's a new beginning and a call to continue even more passionately their journey of faith.

Contact: slippincott@rcdony.org or call the Regional Office at 315-782-3620 by Oct. 12

DIOCESAN EVENTS

JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Faith Formation Dept. to have leadership program.

Schedule: Eastern Region, Oct. 13 at St. Alexander's Church, Morrisonville

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost: \$18

Theme: Heart of Leadership and Tools that help you lead

Features: All ministries are welcome to attend.

Contact: Western Region: contact Shayne by Sept. 21 — phone: 315-782-3620 or slippincott@rcdony.org; Eastern Region: contact Andi by Oct. 5 — phone 518-310-3669 or apage@rcdony.org

SCOUT MASS

Canton – Annual Scout Award Mass to be held.

Date: Oct. 13

Time: 5 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: Mass and dinner to be held. Any and all scouts who have earned a Catholic Religious Emblem are encouraged to attend to receive their awards.

Contact: Scott Quinell at 315-212-0137 or bsaquinell@gmail.com.

THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

Ogdensburg – Enjoy a one day family event for men, women & teens.

Date: Oct. 13

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: Our keynote speaker will be Johnnette Benkovic Williams, who, together with Thomas Sullivan and Sue Brinkman will present us with strategies for living our faith out loud so that we may be beacons of hope in a noisy and confused world.

The day will include Morning Prayer, presentations, Mass with Bishop LaValley, special evening presentations for teens, and will conclude with a Healing Rosary service.

Contact: For more information: see www.rcdony.org/familyevent

DOVS PILGRIMAGE

D.O.V.S. (Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society) is sponsoring a vocation pilgrimage to Western New York with Bishop LaValley.

Date: Oct. 16-18

Cost: \$350 if registered by Aug. 31; \$399 after Aug. 31

Features: Departing from various site in diocese. Price includes bus to all destinations; two nights stay at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, NY; two breakfasts; one lunch; two dinners. The pilgrimage Will feature tour of Christ the King Seminary, Mass at the seminary, tour of Our Lady of Victory Basilica, Buffalo; Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations at the Basilica; free time at Niagara Falls.

Contact: Connie Randall at 315-265-2762 or Mary Enslow at 315-268-1016.

CARITAS DINNER

Ogdensburg – The Annual Catholic Charities Caritas Dinner to be held.

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 5 p.m. cash bar, 5:30 p.m. Entertainment, 6 p.m. Dinner

Place: GranView Restaurant

Cost: \$45

Features: 2018 Caritas Award Recipient is Sr. Donna M. Franklin and 2018 Legacy Award Recipient is Ms. Ciara LeRoy, Malone. All proceeds from the CARITAS Dinner will be used to provide financial assistance and counseling to individuals and families in need.

Contact: 315-393-2255 by Oct. 16 to make reservations.

YOUTH MINISTRY CERTIFICATION

Youth Lay Ministers and Catechists, take advantage of this great opportunity to receive your Youth Ministry Certification from the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Schedule: Nov. 3, at St. James Minor Community Room in Carthage; Nov. 10 at St. Agnes Elementary School in Lake Placid

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Features: This is a free training session.

Contact: To register and/or learn more about the course offerings, please contact: Tom Semeraro, Director of Youth Ministry tsemeraro@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 ext. 1415

The Catholic Family: God's Answer for Our Time

Join us for this one-day family event
for men, women & teens
at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg
Saturday, October 13, 2018

for details and registration:

www.rcdony.org/familyevent



Keynote Speaker:
Johnnette Benkovic Williams
Founder of Women of Grace

MORNING:

It All Started in the Garden With A Man and a Woman - But It's All About Eve

AFTERNOON:

The Catholic Family:
Beacon Of Hope In An Age Of Confusion

Presenter:
Thomas K. Sullivan



AFTERNOON:

The Rosary: Your Weapon for Spiritual Warfare

DISCUSSION WITH TEENAGE BOYS:
Knights by Christ: Ignited by the Holy Spirit

Presenter:
Sue Brinkman



MORNING:

A Catholic Family Survival Guide

DISCUSSION WITH TEENAGE GIRLS:
Unleashing the Genius Within You

includes:

- Morning Prayer • 4 presentations for adults/families • Box Lunch
- Mass with Bishop LaValley
- 2 evening presentations for teens (one for boys, one for girls)
- Healing Rosary Service

For more information contact: Mary Dillenback mdillenback@womenofgrace.com or 315-771-1377

