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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 73, Number 21

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

OCT. 3, 2018

Gospel gives strength in trying times, Pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – During times of freedom or persecution, the Gospel is needed to bring meaning, fullness and hope to life, Pope Francis said.

Speaking about his visit to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, the pope said he visited these Baltic nations as they celebrated the 100th anniversary of their decla-

rations of independence.

During his visit, the pope visited a former Soviet KGB headquarters that is now a museum dedicated to victims of genocide, foreign occupations and political resistance.

"I stopped in prayer in the rooms where opponents of the regime were detained, tortured

and killed. They killed 40 people, more or less, a night," he said, noting how upsetting it was to see how cruel humans could be. "Let us think about that."

During difficult, trying times, he said, the Gospel "gives strength and enlivens the struggle for freedom."

During times of freedom, he

added, the Gospel "is the light" showing the way for people's daily journey.

A sign of the Gospel being alive is seeing works of charity, he said.

Even where secularization has hit hardest, the pope said, "God speaks with the language of love, of care, of selfless service."

Ursulines leave historic Quebec monastery

Daylight illuminates the monastery's long corridors, seeping through the old windows dotting its thick walls. The floor responds to the slightest step with an enveloping rustle, as today's Ursulines follow the footsteps of their predecessors. But this uninterrupted cycle that dates back to 17th-century New France is coming to an end.

In October, the majority of the 50 sisters who live in the monastery founded by St. Mary of the Incarnation will head to the Quebec borough of Beauport, where a new home for the elderly awaits them. For the first time in their lives, they will live with laypeople and members of another community, the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary.

FULL STORY, PAGE 11

CELEBRATING JUBILEES



JESSE SOVIE/THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Religious and married couples from around the Diocese of Ogdensburg gathered Sept. 23 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg to celebrating Jubilees. A full story is on Page 3. Biographies of the Jubilarians are on pages 4-7.

BACK IN ACTION: Supreme Court resumes session amidst drama... Page 10

FAMILY CONNECTIONS



Johnnette Benkovic Williams is the keynote speaker to "The Catholic Family: God's Answer for Our Time," an event planned for Oct. 13. Family Life Director Stephen Tartaglia says the event is an opportunity for families to develop connections and grow in faith.

FULL STORY, PAGE 8

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EDITOR'S NOTE

My vocation and 'St. Adam of Moira'

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. – Proverbs 3:3

As I reflect on the religious sisters and couples celebrating jubilees, I've been thinking about my own vocation – my marriage.

I've written about my son several times, but I've written about my husband much less.

My family calls him "St. Adam of Moira." While I'd like to say it's because he's a holy and saintly person, it's really

Darcy L.
Fargo

more of a comment on how trying it can be to live with me. My family is convinced Adam is the most patient man on the planet.

While I think my family slightly exaggerates the more challenging parts of my personality, I also agree that I married an amazing man. He works hard to provide for our family. He keeps our home running.

He's a loving and caring father. He's a talented artist. He loves God and loves his fam-

ily. On top of all that, he's possibly one of the funniest and most intelligent people I know.

Over the past month, as I dealt with ongoing health issues, Adam had a lot added to his demands. All the household tasks – cooking, cleaning, running errands – fell on him. On top of that, he had to help me with even the most basic life tasks – dressing, bathing and using the bathroom. And he dealt with oh so much crying. He did it all with grace, kindness and compassion.

Like any vocation, marriage isn't always easy. There

are occasionally times when, despite our love for one another, we don't particularly like each other. But we'll celebrate our 14th anniversary next week, and I can't imagine going through life with anyone else. I firmly believe God made us to be together, and we make each other better, holier people.

I won the husband lottery.

May God grace us all with the ability to know our vocations and to live them out according to His will.

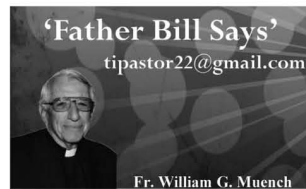
Congratulations to the sisters and married couples celebrating years of dedication to their vocations.

Celebrating, sharing in the resurrection

As Christians, we believe that Jesus' crucifixion led to resurrection. Jesus died on the cross. Three days later, he rose from the dead to new life. In faith, we believe that Good Friday leads to Easter. Our liturgical year climaxes during Holy Week each year, as we celebrate the very heart of our Catholic faith – Good Friday and Easter, the death and resurrection of our Savior.

Today, let us remember together all that the resurrection means. Usually, we concentrate on Easter during the spring time. However, I know this would be a good time for us to talk about death and resurrection. The Gospels tell us that after his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his apostles often.

Jesus used this opportunity to challenge his apostles to bring his message and his story to the world. He called upon them to change the world in his name. He told them to prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit – the Spirit would change them and lead them. Jesus chose to



Fr. William G. Muench

leave them and all of us as he ascended to Heaven.

Jesus continues to send the Holy Spirit to each one of us. Through this Holy Spirit, he gives us the life, the love and enthusiasm to live well and to demonstrate to others God's great love for us all. The Spirit teaches us the very heart of our spirituality as Catholics – death to resurrection through and with Jesus.

Each of us have our crosses, our sufferings and our failing and our sins – these are all our deaths. With Jesus, we can change and be converted so that we can pass through death and come alive in resurrection.

We need Jesus. Jesus has taught us the love and forgiveness of our God. Jesus demonstrated God's great love by the way he lived among us, by his crucifixion, and by his resurrection.

Jesus knows how we need resurrection and new life. Through that new life, Jesus leads us to conversion, so we must open ourselves to the Lord to lead us through our deaths to our resurrection.

I believe this is all about our Catholic sacraments. Each Sunday, we, Catholics, gather with our parish for Mass to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. We gather as a family. The Holy Eucharist is our celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

As we celebrate this Eucharist, we unite ourselves with Our Lord. Through Jesus we find new life as we receive Holy Communion, uniting us in a special way with the Lord's resurrection. Jesus shows us the way to our resurrection and makes us aware of who we are and all that we can accomplish.

There is also the miraculous sacrament of Penance. There is something of a miracle every time we celebrate Penance. God forgives our sins.

Can you imagine how profound this is! Our sins are

forgiven. God forgives us. God forgives us because God loves us. Jesus demonstrated God's great love for us by coming down to teach us, to die for us and to rise to new life. Jesus taught us how forgiving God is. Our sins are truly deaths. Because of our sins our life is dead. God's forgiveness brings us new life. This is truly a resurrection moment – a source of new life.

One more thing: I believe our Catholic Church has been going through a death experience in our days. With the Lord's help and wise decisions that must be made, our Church will recover, and we will find a resurrection. I have total faith in God that good things will come. We are the Church – each one of us is Church – as our Church finds new life, each one of us are challenged to bring that new life into all that we are and all we do.

So, let us pray: Lord, help us to live the new life of Easter, now, so that all people may know through us the power of your love. Lord Jesus, we want to be your brothers and sisters.

Sisters, married couples celebrate Jubilees

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 Jubilees were:

- Sister Cindy Sullivan, Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 40 years
- Sister Elizabeth Washburn, Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood - 40 years
- Sister Jennifer Votraw, Sisters of St. Joseph - 50 years
- Sister Mary Louise Fiedler, Sisters of St. Joseph - 60 years
- Sister Marilyn McGillan, Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood - 60 years
- Sister Mary Patrick Murphy, Sisters of St. Joseph - 60 years
- Sister Elizabeth Menard, Dominican Sisters of Hope - 60 years
- Sister Claire Michel Fortier, Sisters of Charity of St. Louis - 60 years
- Sister Mary Teresa Magdalen Nicholas, Sisters of St. Joseph - 70 years
- Sister Mary Monica Flaherty, Sisters of St. Joseph - 70 years

Celebrating their vocation to marriage were:

- **Brasher Falls - St. Patrick's**
- Stanley and Carol Crump - 50 years
- Hector and Joanne Foisy - 60 years
- **Heuvelton - St. Raphael's**
- Rick and Shelly Reed - 40 years
- Larry and Theresa Crowe - 42 years
- **Madrid - St. John the Baptist**
- Thomas and Barbara Sherry - 45 years



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Bob and Betty Woods of St. Alphonsus & Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Tupper Lake are celebrating 60 years of marriage this year. The couple attended the annual Jubilee Mass for Married Couples and Consecrated Religious on Sept. 23.



JESSE SOVIE/THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley celebrated the Jubilee Mass for Married Couples and Consecrated Religious along with priests and deacons from around the diocese on Sept. 23.

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**
- Chris and Renee Griz-

zuto - 16 years

- Deacon James and Rita Crowley - 27 years
- Robert and Amy Schirmer - 30 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
- **Saranac Lake - St. Bernard's**
- Steve and Cherie Racette - 31 years
- **Tupper Lake - St. Alphonsus & Holy Name of Jesus**
- Bob and Betty Woods -

60 years

At a Mass celebrated by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, the jubilarians gathered to celebrate 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."

Then, separately, the religious celebrating jubilees renewed their commitment to their vows.

"In a spirit of gratitude, for the glory of God, and in the name of the Trinity, I renew today my vows of poverty, chastity and obedience according to the rules and Constitutions of my Community," the sisters said. "In renewing my vowed life in Community, I wish to realize more profoundly my Baptismal commitment to live according to the Gospel and to follow Christ generously. I desire to continue to live a life of prayer and service to God and to the Church, by the grace of the Holy Spirit and the prayer of Mary, Mother of God."

Those celebrating their vocations to marriage 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."

Sisters celebrate 40, 50, 60 & 70 year jubilees

Sister Theresa celebrates 70



NCC FILE PHOTO

Sisters of St. Joseph Sister Monica Flaherty and Sister Teresa Magdalen Nichols celebrate 70-years of consecrated life this year.

Seventy years for Sister Monica

Sister Monica Flaherty, A Sister of St. Joseph, is celebrating 70 years of religious life. A native of Ogdensburg, she is the daughter of the late Augustine and Mary Lawrence Flaherty.

Sister presently resides at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Watertown. She is a graduate of St. Mary's Academy, Ogdensburg and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph, Watertown on September 8, 1947. Sister received the habit on April 11, 1948, and made her final vows on August 27, 1953, with Msgr. Robert Farmer officiating.

Sister Monica received her bachelor's degree in education from Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania and her master's degree in education with certification, from the State University of New York at Potsdam. Sister has done graduate study at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, as

well as at Fordham University, in Bronx, New York.

Sister Monica has taught in the following schools: Holy Family and Sacred Heart in Watertown, Holy Name School in AuSable Forks, St. Patrick's in Port Henry, St. Mary's in Ticonderoga, St. James in Gouverneur, St. Joseph's in Massena, and St. Mary's in Fort Covington, where she was both principal and superior.

Sister was an instructor and tutor in the Learning Skills Center, and counselor in the Higher Education Opportunity Program at Mater Dei College in Ogdensburg.

In addition, Sister Monica taught at Ogdensburg Riverview Correctional Facility.

Sister Monice has worked in pastoral ministry at St. Cecilia's in Adams, St. Martin's in Port Leyden, St. John's in Lyon's Falls, St. Mary's in Constable, and at St. Patrick's Children's Home in Watertown.

Sister Theresa Magdalen Nichols, a Sister of St. Joseph, is celebrating her 70th Jubilee this year.

The former Margaret Nichols, she is the daughter of the late Homer and Mary Nichols. She was born in Newton Falls and raised in Harrisville. She graduated from Harrisville High School and Watertown School of Commerce.

Delores, Margaret Nichols' sister, worked with Sister Mechtilde Nittinger, a Sister of St. Joseph, in St. Patrick's Social Center, Watertown. Margaret was visiting Delores and met Sister

Mechtilde, who invited her to visit the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

Margaret entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in November 1947. She was received into the novitiate in May 1948 and became known as Sister Theresa Magdalen. She professed her Final Vows in August 1953.

Sister Theresa Magdalen worked with Sister Mechtilde at St. Patrick's Social Center. She taught primary grades in Watertown and Massena, and was a group mother at St. Patrick's Children's Home, Watertown.

Sister was a volunteer in

the Green Thumb Program in the Malone Adult Center. She helped to prepare food for the meals-on-wheels program.

She also helped to serve meals at the center. Sister Theresa Magdalen enjoyed visiting and playing cards.

On June 23, 1993 the Franklin County Association of Senior Citizens named Sister Theresa Magdalen the Senior Citizen of the Year. Governor Mario Cuomo awarded the Certificate of Merit.

Sister Theresa Magdalen now resides at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown.

Sister Jennifer hits 50 years

Sister Jennifer Votraw, a Sister of St. Joseph, was born in Au Sable Forks, to Albert and Edna Betters Votraw.

She has two brothers, Jonathan and Julian. Her parents are now deceased, and her brother Jon lives in Plattsburgh, while her brother Julian lives in 29 Palms, California.

She attended Holy Name Grade School and later graduated from Au Sable Forks High School. She received a bachelor's degree from SUNY Plattsburgh, and a master's in English at SUNY Potsdam, with a certification in Administration and Supervision and a master's in Counseling and Human Relations from Villanova University in Pennsylvania.

After graduating from Villanova, she became engaged, and taught for a year in Hudson, New York.

After lots of prayer and direction, she ended her engagement and applied to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph in Watertown.

"While the journey to becoming a Sister of St. Joseph was not exactly a 'routine' one, I haven't regretted my decision, nor my living as a sister in this community," Sister Jennifer said. "They have been exciting and wonderful years!"

Sister Jennifer said she has enjoyed her educational training and has equally enjoyed her various ministries as teacher, administrator, an administrative experience in the Albany diocese, as well as in community and diocesan administration.

san administration.

"Currently, I am ministering to the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, and enjoying the challenges and rewards of working with our sisters," she said. "I am so grateful to God and my family for my vocation, and my religious family for their steady, loving support throughout the years. It has been a blessed, joy-filled and exciting 50 years!"



WANTED ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

The Roman Catholic Community of Brownville & Dexter and St. Andrew's Church, Sacket's Harbor is looking for an Organist/Choir Director. For more information, please call Fr. Mike Gaffney at 315-782-1143



JESSE SOVIE/THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Sister Mary Louise Fiedler and Sister Jennifer Votraw, both Sisters of St. Joseph, and Sister Cindy Sullivan, of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated Jubilee years at a Mass held Sept. 23.

Sister Mary Louise Fielder celebrates 60th Jubilee

Sister Mary Louise Fiedler, a Sister of St. Joseph, was originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her parents, Edna and Donald Fiedler were solid role models for her by their strong faith, Christian values, and their example of generosity, kindness, consideration for others and hospitality.

She was encouraged by them, as well as by others, to explore religious life. For a period of time following graduation from high school, Sister was employed at the telephone company in Philadelphia.

Sister entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in Watertown in 1957 and received the habit in June of 1958. Since then, Sister Mary Louise has earned a

bachelor's degree from SUNY Potsdam, and participated in summer workshops at St. Lawrence University.

Sister taught throughout the diocese for several years before being assigned to Mater Dei College, in Ogdensburg. While there, Sister functioned in various capacities, such as student services, including that of registrar for 20 years. Sister was instrumental in helping to initiate the extension program for Mater Dei at the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation around 1972.

Later, it became necessary for her to care for her parents, who were then living in Wisconsin. Upon her return to Watertown, Sister Mary Louise was a volunteer clerical aid for

the Jefferson County Office for the Aging.

She remained there for 10 years. While there, Sister received an award for "Senior of the Year" in 2007. Sister Mary Louise now serves on the agency's advisory board.

Currently, Sister resides at the Motherhouse in Watertown, where she continues to serve the "dear neighbor" (a term used by Father Pierre Medaille, the Congregation's founder) in many ways.

As Sister looks back over the past sixty years, she continues to give thanks for all that God has given her and looks forward with a spirit of hope and openness to a future within the Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Sister Cindy hits 40 year Jubilee

Sister Cindy Sullivan, of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was born in Massena.

She attended Sacred Heart School through eighth grade and Massena Central School for high school.

Sister graduated from Onondaga Community College in dental hygiene. After graduation in 1973, Sister Cindy moved to California to follow her dream of becoming a professional golfer.

While there, she decided she didn't want the amount of work required to become a professional.

In 1974, she joined the Peace Corps. She requested to go to Africa, but was sent to Ecuador, where she lived in an intentional community with a sister of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Jesuit

priest, married people, and single men and women, young and old.

After serving for four and a half years, as a Peace Corps volunteer, Cindy accepted that God was calling her to religious life, as a Sister of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

She came back to the United States, to Dubuque, Iowa for her novitiate, as well as to finish her degree in biology.

After first vows, Sister returned to Ecuador, where she served for 40 years.

Sister Cindy is presently living in Massena at Sacred Heart Convent with Sister Doris Durant, and is working as the Director of Meals on Wheels, as well as raising money for a new venture in Ecuador.



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Congratulations to our Jubilarians

50 Years

Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ

60 Years

Sister Mary Louise Fiedler, SSJ
Sister Mary Patrick Murphy, SSJ

70 Years

Sister Mary Teresa Magdalen Nichols, SSJ
Sister Mary Monica Flaherty, SSJ



Sister Elizabeth Washburn celebrates 40 years

Sister Elizabeth Washburn, of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, as raised by her mother, who was an Irish Catholic, raised in a catholic orphanage. Her father was Baptist.

Her early schooling began in a Catholic school, but by the time she finished first grade, her mother removed her, as well as her sisters and brothers from the school because of a dispute with the pastor.

Her Godmother lived across the street from the church, and she would stop to visit her.

Sister Elizabeth learned from her Godmother about her catholic heritage.

Since her mother wouldn't let her and her siblings go to Mass, her father took

the children to the Baptist Church, so that they would have some Christian teaching.

After high school, she decided to join the Navy Nurse Corps, and was stationed overseas. During this time, Sister Elizabeth doubted that God existed. However, as Sister Elizabeth made visits to the Blessed Sacrament, which she had done, during her childhood, Sister Elizabeth began to believe in God's existence.

It was at this time in her life, that several other things occurred, which greatly impacted her life. The first occurred when Sister Elizabeth was invited to attend a wedding rehearsal for a Catholic friend.

As she sat in the back of the chapel, Sister Eliza-

beth heard very distinctly a voice which said, "You will go tomorrow and ask to take Catholic instructions."

The very next day, she went to the Catholic Chaplain, and asked to receive instructions to return to the Church. On Easter Sunday, Sister Elizabeth received her First Holy Communion at the base chapel. Later, she made her Confirmation in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Sometime later in the year, one of the students in her squadron stopped her.

"I hardly knew her, but she gave me a Miraculous Medal and told me that I should always have it with me," Sister Elizabeth said. "To this day, I don't know her name, and I never saw her again."

Not long after that, Sister Elizabeth had a very "real" dream, in which she was wandering around in the darkness, frightened and looking for a way out. She found a hill, which she struggled to climb.

"I looked up, and saw Our Lady standing on a grassy plateau," she said. "As I approached her, I fell to my knees, crying at her feet. Mary put her hand on my head, and in a gentle voice, told me that everything would be all right."

Ever since that dream, Sister Elizabeth has called her Mother Mary, and look upon her as her mother.

While she was living on the West Coast, she first met the Sisters of the Precious Blood. Her friend, Carol, wanted to visit them, at their Vancouver monastery.

While there, for the first time, she felt called to religious life, though feeling very unworthy. The time came, when the Navy was going to transfer her to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

"Should I instead go to Manchester," she asked herself.

Sister Elizabeth went to deliver a letter from Carol to Sister St. Francis, at the monastery, and Sister St. Francis asked her if she thought that she had a vocation. She went back to visit, and the rest is history!

"Today, I view my religious vocation as a privileged gift from God, and I am grateful beyond words," she said. "Not only that, my mother, brother and sister returned to the church!"

Sister Mary McGillan reaches 60-year milestone

Sister Mary McGillan, of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood, got her first introduction to school, along with her first introduction to the Sisters of Mercy. They intrigued me! I recall thinking that they didn't have much fun, teaching all day, and praying all night, so I assumed.

I remember my ninth birthday gift of a ruby rosary. I took the rosary to Holy Hour with me. By eighth grade, I had begun to attend daily Mass.

High school was full of excitement. I met new friends, basketball and football games, boys, proms, important sounding organizations like "The Bio-Chemistry Club" and "Quill and Scroll." I wanted those four years to last forever.

During my junior year, I attended a class retreat. It was at that retreat that I



Sister Mary McGillan

talked with the priest-director. I told him that I thought that I might be called to religious life, but that I didn't want to think about it "right now." Father told me to spend some quiet time talking it over with God. I did, and very gradually I began to take a more serious interest in what I would do after graduation.

One day at the library, I came across Thomas Mer-

ton's book, *Seeds of Contemplation*. Although most of it was far too deep for me, something about the word "contemplation" fascinated me, and I wanted to learn more about it. My Latin teacher pointed me in the direction of the monastery across the street from our high school and suggested I stop by to speak with some of the Sisters of the Precious Blood.

Sister began sending me on errands to the monastery. It was all very mysterious. When sister would open the grate at the front door, to speak to me, I tried my best to see beyond into the dark background. Intriguing though it was, the fun of dances and dates made it difficult to think of leaving "the world" forever. There was still a mighty strong "pull" in the opposite direction.

During hours of adoration at our parish church, I had discovered a relationship with someone very real. Prayer was no longer "saying prayers," but had become a conversation with Jesus.

My parents gave me two choices. I could continue my education or work for at least a year. If I still wanted to enter the monastery after a year, I would have their blessing.

My Dad and I often took walks together. More than once, I heard him quote, "All things are passing, Marilyn, and we along with them." Those words began to take on a special meaning for me. The presence of God had become real. Prayer could take me all over the world to do God's work.

I went to work for the telephone company and enjoyed an enriching year of new relationships. True

to their promise, my parents agreed that I could enter the monastery at the end of that year.

The day that I left the company, the chief engineer presented me with a parting gift and said: "We couldn't lose you to a better fellow."

Only God's grace could have carried me through to that memorable day when the enclosure door closed quietly behind me. God called me to the most rewarding life that I could ever have imagined.



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

Sister Elizabeth Menard celebrates 60th Jubilee

"As I take some time to reflect on my life, I am especially grateful for my parents, Bernard and Adele Menard of Mooers, NY," said Sister Elizabeth Menard, a Dominican Sister of Hope. "Not only did they give me life, but they gifted me with a large family of brothers and sisters that I have grown to appreciate more and more through the years."

Because her parents were faith-filled people, Church was often the center of the family members' lives.

"I am sure that their desire for each one of us was that we would be happy," she said. "Because of that, I followed three brothers who became priests."

Sister Elizabeth left home to discern her vocation as she was becoming a junior in high school. She attended Dominican Academy in Fall River, Massachusetts, an all girls' high school.

The Dominican Sisters had been in Mooers Forks and taught her and her siblings religion each week at the public school.

"I was asked several times if I had thought of being a sister," she said. "At first, I answered no, but when I realized sisters could also be full time teachers in school, I became interested. However, I did not know if God was calling me."

As a junior, she would go to the chapel in evening. It was there she experienced God's call.

"I knew I would enter right after high school, even though I did not know if I would stay," she said. "I just knew I had to give it a good try."

Very soon, Sister Elizabeth's formation years were complete, and she was teaching at Dominican Academy and then in New Haven, Connecticut and in Plattsburgh.

"I taught from grade one to grade eight and absolutely loved teaching," she said. "Each year brought new learnings, new challenges and success. I would have loved to teach for the rest of my life!"

After 14 years of teaching, Sister Elizabeth was asked to become the vocation and formation director for her congregation.

This new position required her to focus far more in spirituality, theology, scripture and prayer than education.

"This new challenge became one of my greatest sources of growth," she said. "It also offered many new opportunities for me to travel, attend conferences and take further studies."

After eight years in formation, she accepted a position as a co-director of a Christian Life Center in Salem, New Hampshire.

There, she taught adult courses in spirituality, theology, scripture and prayer; prepared couples for marriage; and worked with catechists and catechetical leaders.

"Four years later, my Congregation called me back to Fall River to become their leader," she said. "For the next six years, I would prepare us all for a major change in our lives, joining two other Dominican congregations to form a new religious congregation, the Dominican Sisters of Hope."

The community officially became the Dominican Sisters of Hope on July 22, 1995.

"By then, I was already back in the North Country as DRE for the two parishes in Tupper Lake and later the Regional Director for Christian Formation in Plattsburgh for the Diocese of Ogdensburg," she said. "Both were ministries that I

loved, primarily because I was working with such great people."

She retired as Regional Director in 2011 and has volunteered in many ways, including being on the committee that prepared for the "Inspire: Called to Love" event in Lake Placid.

"I remain committed to my congregation," she said. "As I celebrate 60 years since I first entered the Dominican Sisters of Fall River, I am always grateful for the gift my congregation has been to me and for the sisters who continue to walk with me on this journey of life. I am also grateful for so many wonderful people who have graced my life in schools, parishes and in the communities in which I have lived."

"Most of all, I am grateful to God for God's faithfulness and love, and I pray that I may continue to love and serve God for as long as possible."

Sixtieth Jubilee for Sister Mary Patrick Murphy

Sister Mary Patrick Murphy, a Sister of St. Joseph, was born in Potsdam, the daughter of Paul and Mildred Murphy. She has two brothers, Francis and Robert.

She first felt God's call to religious life when she received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's Church in Potsdam. She was prepared for First Communion and Confirmation by the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, who were in Potsdam then.

Her family moved to Canton when she was a freshman in high school. There, she met the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, who administered St. Mary's School in Canton. Since the school went only to the eighth grade, she was not

able to attend.

"However, I did come to know the Sisters very well," she said. "I even visited their Motherhouse and Novitiate in Halifax, Nova Scotia!"

From Confirmation to high school graduation, she felt God might be calling her to religious life.

"But I would not believe it and would try to put it out of my mind," she said. "He couldn't possibly be calling me!"

After graduation, she attended St. Lawrence University for a year and then worked in the county offices for a time.

The call pursued her. She finally realized she would not have peace until she tried religious life.

"Although I became very

close to the Sisters of Charity and loved them dearly, I never really felt called to their community," Sister Mary Patrick said. "At the request of my parish priest, from whom I was receiving spiritual direction, I contacted the Sisters of St. Joseph in Watertown. I am so grateful to Mother Immaculata, major superior at that time, who invited me to visit the Motherhouse in Watertown. Upon spending an afternoon there, I knew that was where I belonged."

She entered the Novitiate in September 1957 and made perpetual vows on August 28, 1963.

She attended SUNY Potsdam, where she received a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree

in secondary education with a concentration in French. She also did graduate work in Educational Administration and Supervision at St. Lawrence University and at Plattsburgh State, earning New York State certification as a school administrator in September 1975.

"My 20-year teachings career began at Holy Name School in AuSable Forks and continued at Augustinian Academy in Carthage and at Immaculate Heart Central High School in Watertown," Sister Mary Patrick said. "I served as principal of Augustinian Academy High School and as vice-principal at Immaculate Heart Central until I was appointed vice-president of Mater Dei College

in 1980. In September 1990, I became secretary to the diocesan Marriage Tribunal, a position I held until my retirement in 2010."

The past 60 years have not been all work, Sister noted.

"I love to read, to listen to music, to travel, and spend time with friends," she said. "Sixty years have passed quickly and have been filled with challenges and accomplishments for which I thank God. I rejoice, celebrate and give thanks to God for this jubilee Year! I pray that more young women will answer God's call to enter religious life. It is a life of love, joy, and peace which the world cannot give."

Event to help foster connections for families

By Kristina Dean
Staff Writer

OGDENSBURG – Calling “The Catholic Family: God’s Answer for Our Time,” a great opportunity for families to

strengthen daily practices and to connect with other faithful families, Diocesan Family Life Director Stephen Tartaglia encouraged men, women and teens to attend the Oct. 13

event.

Held at St. Mary’s Cathedral, the 12-hour event includes guest speakers, Mass with Bishop Terry R. LaValley, specially created “break-out” sessions for

teens, a healing Rosary, morning prayer, and a box lunch.

All families face tough times, Tartaglia said. These include paying bills, educating children, marital challenges, illness and employment struggles. What is distinctive about Catholic families is that they strive to cope with problems while keeping Christ at the center of the family. The long-term challenge in keeping Christ at the center is the isolation and backlash they experience, he said.

“They are swimming against the tide,” Tartaglia said. “As our culture and the institutions of our society slip further into godlessness, faithful Catholics find themselves more and more at odds with those around them. As Catholic teaching and practices are ridiculed and called antiquated, over the long haul, Catholic families can grow weary of ‘fighting the good fight’ and there can be a temptation to gradually move Christ out of the center.”

Besides developing practices like daily prayer, spending time together, attending Mass, and partaking in the sacraments, families also need to develop support systems, Tartaglia said.

“This means reaching out to other faithful Catholic families and spending time with them. Connecting with other like-minded people reduces the sense of anxiety, loneliness and isolation, and builds networks of people who help each other,” he said.

The day’s keynote speaker is Johnnette Benkovic Williams, founder and president of the Women of Grace (WOG) ministry as well as television host of EWTN’s WOG television and radio pro-

gram. Benkovic Williams will speak on how the Catholic family is a beacon of hope in an age of confusion.

“I’m thrilled to be invited to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the beautiful St. Mary’s Cathedral for the upcoming conference on the Catholic family,” she said. “St. John Paul II stated that the future of humanity passes by way of the family. During this time of challenge, I truly believe that families transformed by the truths of the faith and the grace of the sacraments can do much to bring healing to our world and to the Church.”

Speaker Susan Brinkmann, author, journalist and director of communications and New Age Research at WOG will center on how Catholics can understand where the attacks on the family are coming from and how the Catholic faith can empower them. She will also address teen girls who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Her presentation, “Unleashing the Genius Within You,” will introduce girls to St. John Paul II’s concept of the feminine genius.

Author Thomas K. Sullivan will speak about “The Rosary: Your Weapon for Spiritual Warfare.” The military veteran will explain how to protect our families and arm ourselves and our children on the battlefield of life by relying on the Rosary. His presentation to teen boys is entitled, “Knights by Christ: Ignited by the Holy Spirit” where he will discuss being a knight in the Kingdom of God.

The event is co-sponsored by the diocese and Women of Grace. For more information about lodging and to register, go to rcdony.org/familyevent

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



sponsored by
the Diocese of Ogdensburg
and Women of Grace



Environmental Stewardship

We are all connected

As we approach the feast of our great ecologist, St. Francis of Assisi, I have been pondering and trying to understand what that connectedness means.

A few years ago, many of us signed a "St. Francis Pledge." This called us to pray; to learn all we could about the causes of climate change; to understand how each of us contributes to that change; to find ways to change our behavior and our ways of acting; and to be active in our communities to encourage change.

St. Francis saw God's creative hand in all of creation, from the smallest creature to humans, made in God's image. Because of this, he leads us to grow in love and respect for all life.

So what does this mean in my life?

I know God made us in His own image and that, according to Genesis 2:15, we are called to cultivate and care for all the rest of what was created. It was for our use but also for our care... a pretty tall order and a privileged task!

As long as we kept use and care in balance, using only what was needed to feed, clothe and house us, and used our growing knowledge to take care of and nourish the plants, animals and resources, so that those lives were also enriched, all went well.

Then "original sin" popped up, and we began to see that enough was not enough and found many ways to live richer lives.

Let the Prayer of St. Francis be our prayer this week.

"Make me an instrument of your peace, where there is hatred let me bring your love."

Let us ask God to help us be attuned to "cries of the earth and of the poor" and to find one way to bring His loving care to alleviate their pain.

(To be continued next week)

Submitted by Anne Thomas, Sackets Harbor, Member of Faith and Ecology Group

Bishop's Public Schedule

October 3 – 10:30 a.m. – Conference Call with the College of Consultants and the Diocesan Finance Council at the Chancery

6:30 p.m. – It's Our Church, It's Our Future reception at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh

October 4 – 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – Council of Priests Meeting at The Catholic Community of St. Augustine in North Bangor

5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. – Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Ministers Mass and Evening of Reflection at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh

October 5 – 8:50 a.m. – Prayer Service and school visit at Immaculate Heart Central School Primary in Watertown

11 a.m. – Lunch and visit at Immaculate Heart Central School Intermediate in Watertown

October 6 – 10:30 a.m. – Catholic Daughters of America Past Regents Memorial Mass at St. Mary's Church in Champlain

October 7 – 11:30 a.m. – Mass of the Feast of the Holy Rosary followed by the "Living Rosary" at The Roman Catholic Community of Keeseville

October 9 – 10:50 a.m. – Mass at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Ogdensburg

6:30 p.m. – It's Our Church, It's Our Future reception at St. John the Baptist Church in Plattsburgh

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

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!

Rest in Peace

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

October 4 – Rev. George Drummond, 1839; Rev. Daniel F. O'Reilly, 1946; Rev. Thomas P. Fogarty, O.S.A., 1950

October 5 – Rev. Victor Balcerak, O.F.M. Conv., 1960; Rev. Eugene Beaucage, O.M.I., 1984

October 7 – Rev. Jean N. Laverloch, O.M.I., 1884

October 8 – Rev. Edward Le-tourneau, 1898

October 9 – Rev. William Joseph Normandeau, 1892; Rev. Francis Xavier Chagnon, 1911; Most Rev. Leo R. Smith, 1963

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 9 – 1 p.m., St. Patrick's Church, Colton
October 11 – 6 p.m., St. Alexander's Church, Morrisonville
October 12 – 9:30 a.m., Augustinian Academy, Carthage

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terrianne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 618 Lake Rd, Chateaugay, NY 12920; terrianneyanulavich@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



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CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Former Cardinal McCarrick living in rural Kansas friary

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The Archdiocese of Washington announced Sept. 28 that former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, who was removed from ministry earlier this year after abuse allegations came to light, is now living in Kansas in a friary for Capuchin Franciscan friars. Archbishop McCarrick resides at St. Fidelis Friary in the city of Victoria, the archdiocese said in a statement, adding that "respect for the privacy of this arrangement is requested" out of consideration for the peace of the community of the friars who live there. Victoria is in a rural area of Kansas and has a population of about 1,200. The website for the friary, which is in the Diocese of Salina, lists its residents as five priests and one religious brother. Salina Bishop Gerald L. Vincke issued a statement Sept. 28 saying Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl called him on Sept. 13 to ask for his permission to allow Archbishop McCarrick to live there after the provincial, or superior, of the Capuchin religious community in Denver consented to the arrangement. "Please know that I agreed to this arrangement with the understanding that Archbishop McCarrick is excluded from any public appearances and ministry," Bishop Vincke said in the statement.

Chinese Catholics outside mainland divided over agreement

HONG KONG (CNS) – Catholics in Macau, Taiwan and Hong Kong are divided over the provisional agreement between China and the Vatican on the appointment of bishops. Some believe it will lead to better diplomatic relations, but others question how Beijing's clampdown on religious freedom is compatible with a fruitful relationship with the Catholic Church, reported *ucanews.com*. Bishop Stephen Lee Bun-sang of Macau said the agreement signed Sept. 22 offers Catholics in mainland China the chance to be in communion with the universal church. He said the agreement was achieved through sustained study and dialogue, and he encouraged Catholics in Macau to continue their prayers for the progress of China-Vatican relations. He said he hoped "the provisional agreement could truly be implemented," contributing to Chinese society, and that the charity, pastoral work, social services and education provided by the church would help the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Father Otfried Chen, secretary-general of the Taiwan bishops' conference, told Radio Veritas the agreement "is purely pastoral and is about the appointment of bishops, and is, therefore, a very internal matter of the church but of a provisional nature."

U.S. urged to end funding of research using tissue from aborted babies

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities praised a decision by the U.S. secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to end a Food and Drug Administration contract with a company "whose business is to procure aborted baby parts for research." After this important "first step," it "remains incumbent" on the Trump administration "to act quickly to cease all funding for research involving body parts from aborted babies," New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said in a Sept. 27 statement. The cardinal was referring to the Sept. 24 announcement by HHS Secretary Alex Azar that his agency was terminating an FDA contract with Advanced Bioscience Resources in California to provide human fetal tissue to develop testing protocols. HHS also said it will do an audit of "all acquisitions involving human fetal tissue" and "all research involving fetal tissue" to make sure the statutes and regulations governing such research are being followed. Such oversight, it said, also is necessary "in light of the serious regulatory, moral and ethical considerations involved."

Amid drama, Supreme Court gears up for session

WASHINGTON (CNS) – After the weeks of intense drama focused on Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh, the nation's highest court was ready to get back to business, full bench or not.

The expression "the show must go on" certainly applies because the Supreme Court always starts on the first Monday in October, which this year is Oct. 1.

Over the summer and into September no one was talking about the court's upcoming cases. Instead, all attention has been on who would fill the seat of Justice Anthony Kennedy, who announced his retirement at the end of June and officially retired July 31.

When President Donald Trump announced July 9 that Kavanaugh, a federal judge, was his nominee, the divided nation responded accordingly. Many praised the judge's qualifications and were pleased the president had fulfilled his promise to nominate a pro-life judge to the Supreme Court, but the choice angered many Americans displeased with Kavanaugh's vote could reverse the court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

Crowds on both sides assembled on the steps of the Supreme Court the night Kavanaugh's nomination was announced and they continued to protest during Senate confirmation hearings and the most recent Sept. 27 hearing concerning Christine Blasey Ford's allegation of sexual assault against him for an incident she said occurred when she was 15 and he was 17.

After that daylong hearing, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 11-10 Sept. 28 to advance Kavanaugh's nomination to the Senate floor. Republicans then approved a proposal by Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Arizona, that the FBI be given one week to investigate Ford's allegation, which the Republicans agreed to do.

But with or without closure on Kavanaugh, the court is set to resume what it does: listening to oral arguments and making decisions.

As the court gets back into action, it will not be facing the drama of high-profile cases on hot button issues. Instead, it will have more basic cases: critical habitats under the Endangered Species Act, if states are bound by the Eighth Amendment's ban on excessive fines and how property owners can challenge government land acquisitions.

The court usually hears about 70 cases of the nearly 7,000 that petition for review each year. To date, it has agreed to hear 38 cases. More will be announced in coming weeks.

So far, there is not much on the docket where Catholic leaders are likely to weigh in, but there are a few cases the court might take up that would be of interest.

One case of interest that the court has not decided yet if it will take involves a 40-foot-tall cross memorializing soldiers who died in World War I that sits at a busy intersection in Bladensburg, Maryland.

Last year, the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals based in Richmond, Virginia, ruled 2-1 that the

93-year-old monument is unconstitutional and must be removed or destroyed. "(It) has the primary effect of endorsing religion and excessively entangles the government in religion."

Known as the Bladensburg Cross or the Peace Cross, the memorial was erected by the Snyder-Farmer Post of the American Legion of Hyattsville, Maryland, to recall the 49 men of Prince George's County who died in World War I.

The American Humanist Association, a Washington-based group that represents atheists and others, filed suit against the memorial because it is in the shape of a cross. It argued that having a religious symbol on government property violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

Another case the court could take up that will be of interest involves two state petitions from Louisiana and Kansas asking the court to uphold the termination of Planned Parenthood's participation in the state Medicaid program.

During an American Bar Association preview of the court's upcoming term Sept. 25 at American University, the panelists acknowledged that one big slice of the picture, the new justice, was still unclear.

Beth Brinkmann, an attorney and partner at Covington & Burling, who has argued 24 cases before the court, said: "It's probably good they don't have a lot of blockbusters and I think they would prefer it that way to get back to a natural state of affairs."

Quebec Ursulines leave historic monastery

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) – Daylight illuminates the monastery's long corridors, seeping through the old windows dotting its thick walls. The floor responds to the slightest step with an enveloping rustle, as today's Ursulines follow the footsteps of their predecessors. But this uninterrupted cycle that dates back to 17th-century New France is coming to an end.

In October, the majority of the 50 sisters who live in the monastery founded by St. Mary of the Incarnation will head to the Quebec borough of Beauport, where a new home for the elderly awaits them. For the first time in their lives, they will live with laypeople and members of another community, the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary.

"If we want health care until the end, if we want to

be safe, if we want to be freed from administration and management, it was necessary to think about leaving the house," said Sister Cecile Dionne, superior general of the Ursulines of the Canadian Union.

For many Ursulines, it is an opportunity to make an introspective journey on their lives as nuns, on the gift of their lives to God. Contemplating the vast chapel of the monastery, Sister Dionne and two sisters recall the joy they felt during religious celebrations and the beauty of the songs they sang together. Their lives have been marked by Ursulines since their youth.

Sister Pauline Duchesne, chair of the board, became a boarder at the Ursulines when she was a teenager.

"It was like a new birth. This is the first time I say it like that, but it's really

what I live. These sisters gave me love, confidence in me, made me see that I had abilities," she said, adding that she was fascinated by the joy that emanated from the sisters.

Sister Celine Bergeron, superior of a local community inside the monastery, said the Ursulines have always formed a big family, an experience they worked to perpetuate through the centuries.

The high ceilings of the chapel give way to a more intimate space, site of the tomb of St. Mary of the Incarnation, who established the Ursulines in Quebec nearly four centuries ago.

The three sisters say they thought a lot about her and prayed to the saint who left everything in France, including a son, to go on a mission in the New World.

"We're leaving to go die

elsewhere: We go to meet a new way of living our mission, which has always been to be with people," said Sister Dionne. "Maybe today, we are called to join our brothers and sisters who, like us, are facing the challenges of old age.

Sister Bergeron stressed that leaving their monastery is "a new crossing in our Ursuline life."

"We do it together. We will lean on each other. We do not know the mission that lies ahead," she said. "We will have to discover that it will be our new community life in a new world."

Many maxims painted on wooden panels adorn the walls of the monastery. The three nuns, who have been walking these places for decades, know them by heart. Here and there, some older sisters walk slowly and greet each

other with a broad smile. The place has no luxury, yet it has always been full of life.

Sister Dionne thought their monastery would be the last of the few Ursuline houses in the province that they would leave. It's rather the first.

This departure is the consequence of a lack of religious vocations. The oldest of the Ursulines in the monastery is 102 years old. Their average age is 88.

The three sisters, however, believe that their values will be carried on.

The monastery will be used as a museum, cultural center, the Marie-de-l'Incarnation Center – all places and initiatives that will keep alive this memory, this ideal.

But it is difficult to predict how their presence will be felt in a generation or two.

Pope: Pray to protect the church from the devil

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Signaling his belief that the Catholic Church is facing a serious crisis, Pope Francis asked every Catholic in the world to pray for the protection of the church from attacks by the devil, but also that the church would be more aware of its sins and stronger in its efforts to combat abuse.

Pope Francis asked Catholics to pray the rosary each day in October, seeking Mary's intercession in protecting the church, and "at the same time making her (the church) more aware of her sins, errors and the abuses committed in the present and the past, and committed to fighting without hesitation so that evil would not prevail," the Vatican said in a state-

ment released Sept. 29, the feast of the Archangels.

United "in communion and penitence as the people of God," the statement said, Catholics should plead for protection against "the devil, who always seeks to divide us from God and from one another."

Pope Francis met earlier in September with Jesuit Father Federic Fornos, international director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, formerly known as the Apostleship of Prayer, to ask that the recitation of the rosary in October conclude with "the ancient invocation 'Sub Tuum Praesidium' ('Under your protection') and with the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel,

who protects us in the battle against evil."

The first prayer, to Mary, has a variety of translations.

One reads: "We turn to you for protection, Holy Mother of God. Listen to our prayers and help us in our needs. Save us from every danger, glorious and blessed Virgin."

The prayer to St. Michael reads: "St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls."

The Vatican, announcing Pope Francis' prayer request, cited his homily Sept. 11 at morning Mass where he spoke about the devil as the "Great Accuser" who "roams the world looking how to blame" and spread scandal.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, former nuncio of the United States, has called on Pope Francis to resign, claiming the pope knew about and ignored the sexual misconduct of former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick. He issued another statement Sept. 27 accusing the pope of "subtle slander" with that homily.

As of Sept. 30, neither Pope Francis nor the Vatican had responded to Archbishop Vigano's orig-

inal allegations.

In addition to the case of Archbishop McCarrick, the Catholic Church in the United States is still coming to grips with the mid-August release of the Pennsylvania grand jury report covering decades of alleged abuse by more than 300 priests; the report identified more than 1,000 victims.

A widespread abuse scandal and broad police investigation is ongoing in Chile; Cardinal George Pell, Vatican secretary for the economy, is on trial for abuse in Australia; and the bishops of Germany in late September released a report on thousands of cases of abuse in their country, some going back to 1946, but some as recent as 2000.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Respect Life Sunday readings focus on marriage

On this Respect Life Sunday, the readings are so appropriate, since they show us the reason why God made marriage, the source of new life.

In the Book of Genesis, we find that, after creating this beautiful world and allowing Adam to name all the creatures, God decided that it was not good for a man to be alone. He needed a helpmate that would be his equal, so God created woman. Far from being an afterthought, woman became the crown jewel



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

of all creation. God established marriage as a union of a man and woman in one flesh, to love and support each other as equals in fidelity and faith. New life that comes from such a union can flourish in every way. It can be protected and cherished, educated through the example of loving

parents, and formed in the knowledge and love of its Creator.

In the second reading from the Book of Hebrews, the Christian nature of marriage is spelled out. We find that,

October 7

Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Genesis 2:18-24

Hebres 2:9-11

Mark 10:2-18

after God made a suitable partner for the man, the two of them are meant to mirror in their lives the teaching of Jesus through mutual and sacrificing love.

In the Gospel, Jesus is under attack from the Pharisees who try to trap Him by asking if it were licit for a man to divorce his wife.

When the religious

leaders quote Moses as allowing divorce, Jesus tells them God allowed it then "because of the hardness of your hearts." He insists that it was not so from the beginning, and quotes what we have just read in the first reading, "...what God has joined together, no human being must separate."

Why then, we must ask, has the Catholic Church always allowed annulments from certain unions? Always true to the teaching of Scripture and of their founder, Jesus Christ, the Church examines whether God intended this union or not. Was each a suitable

partner to the other, capable and willing to live the marriage in sacrificing love, building a true community of life?

Pope Francis has recently simplified the annulment process without in any way weakening the teaching of the Church on the nature of marriage.

October is also the Month of the Most Holy Rosary. Pray it daily that Mary will strengthen respect of all life, especially for the elderly, the handicapped, and those precious persons not yet unborn.

We all have the rights and dignity of being children of God.

Church is path to salvation, even in trying times

Dear Editor:

There are no words adequate to convey the feelings of millions of Catholics in response to recent revelations regarding the crimes committed against God's people by Catholic clergy.

We pray that those who are proven guilty will be tried to the full extent of the law.

Bishop Robert Barron of California has addressed this tragedy several times to encourage people to keep the right perspective. He said he can fully understand how one might cut and run in such situations but he urges us not to do so.

Citing another incidence in history of man's inhumanity to man he addressed the horror of slavery which President Lincoln dealt with in his time. He did not run but

fought the good fight and ultimately wrote the Gettysburg Address proclaiming that all men are created equal.

He urges us to fight until our church is restored to its innate beauty.

Personally, I have been a Catholic since my Baptism some 85 years ago. It is the essence of my existence.

The Catholic faith is a beautiful sacramental faith and part of its' beauty is that you can go anywhere in the world and feel at home.

The Mass, which I am able to attend every day of the week, the privilege to receive Christ in the Eucharist daily, the sacraments instituted by Christ to give grace, honoring God's Mother Mary as the one who perfectly fulfilled His Will, these are what give meaning to my life.

The Catholic Church

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

has built schools and hospitals the world over to render care to God's people regardless of their faith or lack thereof.

I have met so many wonderful priests over the years who now come to mind - those who taught me ethics as it relates to health care when I studied nursing. The priest who visited my

home and blessed my husband just before his death.

More recently, I received a call from a distressed friend saying her husband was critically ill. I immediately called her Pastor and had to leave a message. By the time I reached the hospital, he was there comforting her.

Leave the Catholic

Church! I personally feel that would dishonor all the wonderful and dedicated clergy who have been a part of my spiritual journey.

Why would I ever give anyone that power over my relationship with my Saviour?

Bette Hartzell
Watertown



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AT THE MOVIES

SMALLFOOT

NEW YORK (CNS) – Turning the legend of Bigfoot on its head with plenty of laughs along the way comes the animated musical comedy "Smallfoot" (Warner Bros.).

While definitely entertaining on the surface, the film – co-written by Karey Kirkpatrick and Clare Sera, and directed by Kirkpatrick ("Over the Hedge") – involves underlying themes that Catholic parents will want to address with their kids.

The movie opens in a village high in the mountains where yetis live. They're a happy community, satisfied with the simple tasks of their day-to-day lives.

Led by Stonekeeper (voice of Common), they have a strict code of conduct: They must live according to the stones, which have come via inspiration to generations of Stonekeepers' predecessors. As far as the yetis are concerned, the stones are the truth and questioning them is not allowed.

Migo (voice of Channing Tatum) dreams of succeeding his father, Dorgle (voice of Danny DeVito), as the village's gong-

ringer, a very important post since the daily sounding of the gong serves as a communal reveille.

Frustrated that his training isn't going as well as he'd hoped, Migo takes a walk on the mountain to ease his disappointment. While there, he witnesses a plane crash and beholds something he didn't believe existed: a smallfoot, that is, a human.

Rushing back to the village, Migo tells his story but when the yetis investigate, the plane and survivor are gone. Migo's revelation has everyone worried because the stones tell them there is no such thing as a smallfoot. But Migo knows what he saw and for his insistence that the stones are wrong, Stonekeeper banishes him from the village.

Wandering the mountain, he comes upon Meechee (voice of Zendaya), Stonekeeper's daughter, who secretly heads a group of village oddballs calling themselves the SES, for Smallfoot Evidentiary Society. Meechee believes with all her heart that humans exist, and has been col-

lecting evidence.

Migo decides to risk it all and go below the clouds to look for proof.

In the human world below, Percy (voice of James Corden) has been struggling to make the nature-themed television show he hosts a success. The ratings have dropped recently and his producer, Brenda (voice of Yara Shahidi), is ready to call it quits.

Percy is willing to do whatever it takes to make his program a hit, even if that means getting someone to dress up in a yeti costume so he can capture the resulting "discovery" on film.

When Migo wanders into the town, Percy thinks it's Brenda in disguise. Realizing his mistake, terrified Percy passes out, enabling Migo to wrap him in a sleeping bag and carry him back up the mountain.

When Migo presents Percy to the village, their whole way of thinking is thrown into doubt. If a smallfoot does exist, does that mean the stones could be wrong? As Migo and Percy become friends, Percy's presence among

the yetis brings to light some dark truths as they begin to ask questions for the first time.

Youngsters are not equipped to navigate the subtleties at work here. But teens will be able to enter into a discussion in which the importance of asking questions as an essential part of learning – very much celebrated in "Smallfoot" – is balanced by an understanding of revelation as the basis for our experience of faith.

Why, for example, do we put our trust in what God has revealed? Is there an inevitable conflict between science and religion – or can these two channels of truth coexist in harmony?



Considered strictly from an aesthetic point of view, there's much in the picture to appreciate. The actors, for instance, all inhabit their characters with great aplomb. Tatum brings a boyish quality to Migo's wondering, and Zendaya gives Meechee the right balance of gentleness and excitement.

The film contains a misguided portrayal of religion and some rude humor. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II – adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG – parental guidance suggested.

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and PRAYERS

HAPPY 60th ANNIVERSARY

Sisters of Charity of Saint Louis

Sister Louella Pelletier
Sister Bernadette Ducharme

ADIRONDACK

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

Saranac Lake – A Catholic Men's Group meets on the first Saturdays of the month for a time of fellowship, prayer, and discussion.

Time: 8 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Bernard's Chapel

Features: Mass followed by coffee and refreshment, some discussion and prayer.

Contact: Fr. Mark Reilly (518-891-4616)

CLINTON

CONCERT

Altona – Fall Concert to be held.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: Holy Angels Church

Cost: \$15 Donation

Features: St. Ann's and Holy Angels Community Choir, Holy Angels Folk Choir, Mitch Willette and Flannigans Shenanigans.

HARVEST DINNER

West Chazy – St. Joseph's Church to have their 45th Annual Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 7

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

Place: St. Joseph's Parish Center

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

Features: Turkey Dinner, Country Store and much more. Take-outs available

Contact: St. Joseph's Parish Office at 518-493-4521

FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Keeseville – Immaculate Conception Church to honor our Queen of the Rosary.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Features: Bishop LaValley will celebrate Mass and the Most Holy Rosary with blessing of candles during Mass. Immediately following Mass, we will pray the living Rosary. After the Rosary, everyone is invited to join us for a free luncheon at the Elk's Club.

ROSARY RALLY

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

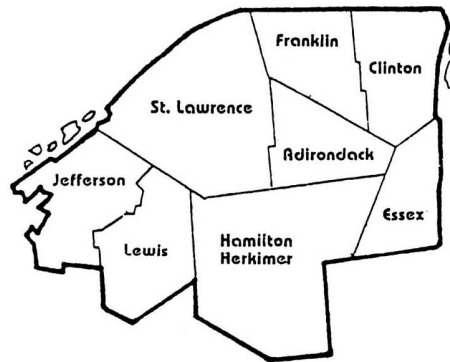
Date: Oct. 13

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.

Place: Church of the Assumption

TURKEY DINNER

Dannemora – St. Joseph's to have their



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@northcountycatholic.org.

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

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.

FISHERS CLUB

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

Dates: Oct. 7 & 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)

WELCOME TO THE FEAST

Plattsburgh – Six week Continuing Formation event to be held for All Commissioned Lay Ministers.

Date: Oct. 4 - Nov. 15

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Cost: Dinner only, \$10; Scripture only, \$17; Both Dinner event and Scripture Study, \$27

Features: This is opportunity to deepen our understanding and learn how to lead a scripture study. Bishop LaValley will be the guest speaker.

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.

FRANKLIN

HARVEST DINNER

St. Regis Falls – St. Ann's Society will be holding a Harvest Dinner with turkey and all the trimmings.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 12 p.m. to 3

Place: St. Ann's Parish Hall

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

Features: Take-outs will be available by calling 518-522-4633. There will be a 50/50 raffle.

TURKEY DINNER

North Bangor – St. Mary's in Brushton to have its Turkey Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: Noon to 4 p.m.

Place: North Bangor Fire Hall

Cost: Adults, \$10; Seniors, \$9, Children 6-12, \$6; under 5, Free

Contact: Take-outs available by calling 518-483-2780 starting at 11 a.m.

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 & Fellowship

Place: Notre Dame Church

DEVOTION AND HOLY HOUR

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

Date: First Saturday of each month.

Time: immediately following the 4:30 anticipated Mass.

Place: St. Ann's Church

Features: Prayer after Mass, Night Prayer, Prayer for All Souls and the Holy Souls, Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Reparation Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, private mediation on the 15 Mysteries of the Rosary, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the Tabernacle, prayers for the Holy Father and his intentions, and refreshments are provided in the Church Hall.

Contact: 518-856-9656

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

JEFFERSON

Evans Mills – The Indian River Knights of Columbus to have a Spaghetti and meatball dinner.

Date: Oct. 6

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6;

Children under 12, \$5; under 5, Free;

Sauce, \$5 per Quart

Contact: 315-629-4678 for more information

CRAFT FAIR

Carthage – Augustinian Academy to have a Craft Fair.

Date: Oct. 6

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

Place: School Gym

Features: Handmade Crafts, gifts, themed basket raffle, food and bake sale.

Contact: For vendor applications contact the school at 315-493-1301

BLOOD DRIVE

Watertown – St. Anthony's and St. Patrick's Parish Nurse Ministry to have a blood drive.

Date: Oct. 8

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 6:30

Place: St. Anthony's Old School Gym

Contact: 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) Visit redcrossblood.org or download the Blood Donor App to schedule your appointment.

ROSARY CRUSADE

Watertown – Annual Citywide Family Rosary Crusade to be held.

Date: Oct. 9

Time: 5:15 p.m.

Place: St. Patrick's Church

Features: The Crusade will begin

with celebrating a Mass followed by all Four Mysteries of the Rosary. The theme is "Mary's Immaculate Heart Will Conquer." Sponsored by the Watertown Curia Legion of Mary.

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

LEWIS

HARVEST DINNER

Constableville – The Altar & Rosary Society of St. Mary's Church is holding their annual Harvest Turkey Dinner.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 8 and under, \$4

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Recitation of the Rosary, Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine mercy Chaplet and Benediction. All are welcome.

Contact: 315-348-6260.

POLISH FESTIVAL

Houseville – St. Hedwig's to have its 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 Sundae \$1, Theme Basket Raffles

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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
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Sister Mary Monica Flaherty, SSJ

Thank you for your faithful
support and God Bless!

From the Pontifical Mission Societies of
the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Sister Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ
and Molly M. Ryan

Former diocesan educator, Sister Rhea Bean, dies at 79

HARTSDALE – A Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Rhea Bean, a Sister of Mercy, was held Monday, October 1, 2018 at Marian Woods Chapel in Hartsdale, New York.

Sister Rhea, 79, died at Calvary Hospital, Bronx, on Wednesday, September 26, 2018.

Born in Enosburg Falls, VT to the late Donald and Vivian Bean.

She is survived by her four brothers Daniel, David, Larry and Philip and their families.

A Sister of Mercy for 61 years, Sister Rhea was gifted, talented, joyful, and prayerful. Sister Rhea

was an educator, a teacher of grades 1 and 3, 7-12 and a Religious Education Coordinator.

She taught in Plattsburgh, Saranac Lake, Rouses Point, as well as New York City and the Bronx.

From 1978-1984, Rhea was a member of the Religious Education staff of the diocese of Ogdensburg, located in Plattsburgh.

Her ministry experiences were many and varied. She was a member of the New York Mercy Leadership Team for six years and served as Provincial Administrator for eight

years.

She was Vocation Coordinator for Albany, Dallas, and New York from 1992-96 and on the New Membership Team for Brooklyn, New York, and New Jersey 1996-1998.

Sister Rhea also served as Acting Principal of St. Catherine Academy in 1999 and was its first President in 2000.

In recent years she resided at Marian Woods, and shared her gift of music by forming a bell choir and was also Leader of Song for a time.

Burial will take place at St. Alphonsus Cemetery in Tupper Lake.

OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Thomas Bombard, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 27, 2018 at Holy Name Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Carthage – Joseph Henry Brady, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 26, 2018 at St. James Church; burial in Hillside Cemetery, West Carthage.

Dannemora – Howard J. Drollette Sr., 79; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 6, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church' burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Henderson – Ric Leonard, 74; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 27, 2018 at Queen of Heaven Church.

Lake Placid – Carol Ann (Sorensen) Perkins, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 28, 2018 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Long Lake – Janice Elizabeth (Peck) Hunt, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 29, 2018 at St. Henry's Church.

Massena – Loretta Pelifian, 88; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 24, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Barbara (LeBeau) White, 83; Funeral Services Oct. 20, 2018 at the Donaldson Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – Henry E. Morley, Sr., 83; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 28, 2018 at Notre Dame Church.

Peru – Florence E. (Howard) Phillips, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 28, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in God's Acre Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Beatrice Mary (Badger)

Brushnefski, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 28, 2018 at St. John's Church; burial in Chazy Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – John L. Coupal Sr., 85; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 25, 2018 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – John Petro, 91; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 28, 2018 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

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The *NCC* will be honoring our priests in the Oct. 31 issue of the paper.

We invite you to send a message to your pastor, spiritual advisor or priestly friend.

\$20 - a 1 column X 2 inch ad with a short message (e.g., Father Smith, we appreciate your service, from the Jones Family)

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Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14
and a 50/50 Raffle. Take outs are available. Proceeds to benefit church programs, repairs and restoration.
Contact: 315-348-6260.

ST. LAWRENCE

GUN AND KNIFE SHOW

Brasher – A Gun and Knife Show to be held.

Date: Oct. 6, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Oct. 7, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall
Cost: \$3; under 12 free

Features: Many dealers will be present with all kinds sporting items. Concession stand open all day. All guns must be checked in at door.

Contact: Phil Davis at 315-389-4627 or Mike Hoag at 315-389-4318

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.

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 discuss how Confirmation is not a graduation. It's a new beginning.

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

CRAFT/ARTISAN SHOW

Brasher Falls – The Altar Rosary Society of St. Patrick's will host an Annual Craft/Artisan Show.

Schedule: Nov. 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

and Nov. 11, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall

Features: We are looking for vendors to display their work. If you wish to do this or know someone that does; please call Val Cline at 315-389-4182 for a registration packet. Tables are rented for \$18 each

DIOCESAN EVENTS

HARVEST YOUTH RALLY

Carthage – Youth Rally to be held.

Date: Oct. 6

Time: 3 p.m. to 6

Place: Augustinian Academy

Features: Youth of the Diocese are encouraged to invite a friend for an evening of faith, friends, food and fun. Mass will be held at St. James Church at 5 p.m. Dinner will be provided by the Ava Marie Circle and Catholic apparel will be available for purchase.

Contact: Please RSVP by September 30 by calling the St. James Rectory at 315-493-3224.

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake – It's time to register for Family Guggenheim.

Date: Session 3, Oct. 5 – 7

Features: Bring your family to the most meaningful weekend of the year! Hike, swim, pray, play...be.

Contact: Visit

<https://www.rcdony.org/familylife/family-guggenheim.html> to register. Deacon Henry and Dayna Leader for information at 315-323-0827 or dleader@rcdony.org

LIFECCHAIN

Stand up for life at this year's LIFECCHAIN, offered in five different locations across the diocese.

Date: Oct. 7

Schedule: Massena - Main Street at Route 37, 3 p.m. to 4 - Charles Shearer 315-769-0898; Plattsburgh - Smithfield Blvd at Route 3, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 - Jack Lukasiewicz 518-562-1175; Potsdam - Market Street at Main Street, 2 p.m. to 3 - Tylor Starkey 315-265-9680; Saranac Lake - Bandshell Park at River St., 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 - The Miners 518-524-0774; Schroon Lake - Route 9 and Main at Fairfield Ave., 2 p.m. to 3 - Dorothy Bean 518-834-7958

Features: A peaceful, prayerful, public, pro-life presence. Signs are provided. Rain or shine. Bring a friend!

For more info: www.lifechain.net

JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

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: 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.

DOVS PILGRIMAGE

Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocation Society is sponsoring a vocation pilgrimage to Western New York with Bishop LaValley.

Date: Oct. 16-18

Cost: \$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.

YOUTH BUSES FOR LIFE

High school pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Date: Jan. 17-19, 2019

Cost: \$150 (includes transportation, hotel, meals and shirt).

Features: Pick up locations across the diocese.

Contact: Registrations open Oct. 1 at rcdony.org/prolife. For more info please contact the Respect Life Office 518-524-0774.