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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 73, Number 25

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 7, 2018

Pope: Life is radiant when it is lived with love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – For every Christian, but especially for those called to ministry, God's gift of life is a call to serve others, Pope Francis said at a memorial Mass for bishops and cardinals who have died in the past year.

"The meaning of life is found in our response to God's offer of love. And that response is made up of true love, self-giving and service," the pope said Nov. 3 during the Mass at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica.

The memorial Mass is an annual fixture on the pope's calendar for November, the month the Catholic Church dedicates particularly to remembering the dead.

"As we pray for the cardinals and bishops who have passed away in this last year," the pope said in his homily, "let us beg the intercession of all those who lived unassuming lives, content to prepare daily to meet the Lord."

The Gospel reading for the Mass was the parable of the 10 brides-

maids and their oil lamps from Matthew 25. Pope Francis said the parable is valid for every Christian, who is called to go out to meet Christ, the bridegroom, and always to be prepared for that meeting.

"For ministers of the Gospel, too," he said, "life is in constant movement, as we go forth from our family home to wherever the church sends us, from one variety of service to another. We are always on the move, until we make

our final journey."

"The encounter with Jesus, the bridegroom who 'loved the church and gave himself up for her,' gives meaning and direction to our lives," Pope Francis said. "That and nothing more."

The parable emphasizes the need to have oil ready, but oil gives light only when it is burned, he noted. "Our lives are like that: they radiate light only if they are consumed, if they spend themselves in service."

Two honored at annual Caritas dinner

Catholic Charities celebrated the spirit of service at its annual Caritas dinner on Oct. 24.

At that event, Bishop Terry R. LaValley presented the Legacy Award to Ciara LeRoy, a youth leader from Malone Catholic parishes, and the Caritas Award to Sister Donna M. Franklin, the agency's former executive director.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Capital Campaign

It's Our Church, It's Our Future campaign reaches all parishes in the diocese

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

SERVICE WITH A SMILE



Student-teacher Emily Mero and Seton Catholic students Alec Hemm, Logan Kline-Frenya, Luke Moore and Seamus Andrew provide gardening assistance at St. Peter's Church during their school's annual Service Day on Friday, Oct. 12. Collectively, Seton's middle and high school students logged more than 500 hours of community service at almost 20 sites, exemplifying the school's mission of encouraging service to others in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

THE CATHOLIC FAMILY



Speaker Susan Brinkmann discusses love within families during the "The Catholic Family: God's Answer for Our Time" event.

FULL STORY, PAGE 7

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Let me tell you a Chuck Kelly story

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Charles W. "Chuck" Kelly.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to find a newspaper person over age 30 in St. Lawrence or northern Franklin counties who doesn't have story to tell about Chuck.

I worked for "the big man," as I referred to him, for nearly seven years. I could tell stories about Chuck all day, but one stands out. It was the time he taught me the most important lesson in my professional ca-

reer. I walked into the newsroom to hear a not entirely unfamiliar sound: Chuck yelling at top volume.

It didn't take long for me to figure out Chuck was yelling at my editor for a mistake in that day's paper – a mistake I made.

I went to my desk, feeling horrible about the mistake and dreading having to answer for it.

After about an hour of yelling, the editor left Chuck's office.

I got up from my desk,

walked into Chuck's office and blurted out in one rapid, unending sentence my explanation for why the mistake was made, what I planned to do to fix it and how I was going to prevent it from happening again. I concluded with a version of, "I'm now prepared for you to yell."

Chuck's response: "I'm not going to yell at you."

I noted that he bellowed at the editor for an hour.

"(Editor) is your supervisor. Your supervisor shares responsibility for your mistakes. (Editor) just kept blaming you and denying any role in it. You walked in,

admitted your mistake and said how you were going to make it right. I can't ask for any more than that. Get back to work."

Chuck taught me to admit my mistakes and try to fix them. It's a lesson that has served me well in many aspects of my life.

He was a mentor and a friend, and he helped launch my career and many others.

Chuck was also a great friend to this newspaper. He provided the NCC with office space, technical assistance and resources for years.

He will be missed.

May God have mercy on his soul.



Darcy L. Fargo

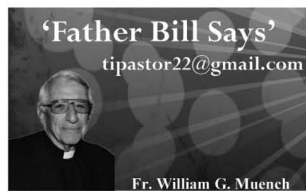
Many gifts, blessings in the priesthood

Today, I would take this opportunity to say "thank you" as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for the priest's appreciation that was expressed in last week's issue of the North Country Catholic. I am certain that I speak for all our priests; each one of us is so grateful to be recognized and appreciated.

I want you to know that this appreciation matters a great deal to us, priests. I was impressed to see the various parish groups that expressed their appreciation for their pastors and the other priests on the parish staff.

At the same time, I want to reaffirm that we, priests, believe in faith that we have heard the call of the Lord to become a priest. Our priesthood is a vocation. We rejoice in God's call to ministry in the church. However, I do reaffirm that the appreciation of a parish and a diocese for our ministry is very special.

Speaking for myself, I would like to declare my own appreciation for the many



priests who have been a part of my life and a real source of support for my ministry. My life has been touched by many priests who have helped me discover who I am and how I should best live out my ministry as a priest.

Over the years, I have personally worked with many priests – terrific and holy priests – and found in this collaboration a real source of happiness. I have truly appreciated each of them.

I have also appreciated the opportunities of being involved with the ministry of our Catholic Church as a priest of this diocese. I have found a close family with the priests of my diocese. They have become my closest friends.

Today, I continue to appreciate the priests who now continue to be part of all that

I do as a priest and my priestly ministry.

Each year, as I approach All Souls Day, I fill out one of those envelopes. I make my list of my deceased loved ones – who will be remembered at the Mass on All Souls Day. As you may suspect, there are many priests on the list – priests now with the Lord. Each year, in making this list, I take the time to remember and to pray. My prayer is a prayer of gratitude that these dedicated priests were part of my life and brothers with me in my ministry. I truly appreciated them all.

As I thank God for my priesthood, I continue to pray that there will be an increase in those who discover their vocation to become a priest.

Oh I have found true happiness in my life as a priest. My priesthood has been blessed with just wonderful assignments. I have found great satisfaction in my ministry as a priest. I have been allowed to become part of many parishes, many com-

munities – families and people striving to make the Church a people united in care for each other, as well as bringing help to those in need. In this way, these parishes were a united family bringing the message of Jesus to this world.

As a priest, I have found my greatest happiness in being able to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, the Mass, bringing the love of the Savior to so many. I continue to find the peace and love of the Lord to lead a congregation in the celebration of the life, death and resurrection of the Lord, Jesus.

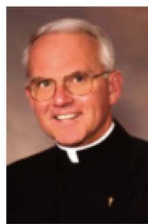
I found joy in bringing the Gospel of Jesus to so many through preaching and teaching. There is a real sense of happiness in bringing the Lord through the church's sacraments to the sick and the dying. There is a powerful sense of satisfaction knowing that, as a priest, the Lord is leading and guiding me that I can continue to bring Christ's love and the power of the Holy Spirit to his people.

FOLLOW ME

Prayer and fasting ahead of bishops' Assembly

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The U.S. bishops are joining together in a commitment of prayer and reparation leading up to the bishops' General Assembly, in Baltimore November 11-15, where we will be making critical decisions in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. With my brother bishops across the nation, I will be dedicating myself to seven days of intensified prayer and fasting, from Monday, November 5,



**Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley**

through Sunday, November 11.

The intentions for this period of prayer and sacrifice are three-fold:

- For the healing and support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse;
- For the conversion and just punishment of perpetrators and concealers of sexual abuse; and
- For the strength of the bishops to be holy shepherds in protecting and leading our faithful from all harm.

You are welcome to join

me in praying for these intentions. I would also be grateful for any prayers for my brother bishops and me during our General Assembly, that we may follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in responding to the tragedy of clergy sexual abuse in the Church.

Please know of my continued prayers for you and your loved ones.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

**Most Reverend
Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg**

WELCOME MESSAGE



Holy Family School students Naomi Leduc and Calleigh Barse greet Bishop Terry R. LaValley, who recently visited the school.

WHAT IS THE NEW FAD FOR 2018 YOU MIGHT ASK..... VOLUNTEERING!!!!

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg hosts 2 Volunteer Programs that may interest you. The Foster Grandparent Program and The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federally funded agency that has built volunteer based programs over 50 years and counting. Two of these programs are right in your backyard.

The Foster Grandparent Program of Northern New York purpose is to provide opportunities for low income persons aged 55 and older, to provide person to person services in health, education, and the welfare of children ages 21 and below. Foster Grandparents are placed in a classroom setting with a child or children who are in need of emotional support, development of basic learning skills, to provide friendship, companionship, encouragement, individual attention, and unhurried help. The Foster Grandparent also receives a small non-taxable stipend bi-weekly that cannot be held against any current benefits you may already have and you also get paid mileage for your travel. You receive paid holidays, vacations, sick and personal leave. The program currently has 40 volunteers and serves more than 100 kids per year. "Sometimes when you get to be my age, you wake up and say what good am I" and along came the Foster Grandparent Program that keeps me going! (Quote from the late Roy Foote age 83). If you think that this is something that you may be interested in please see the contact information at the bottom of the page.

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Franklin and Hamilton Counties purpose is to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for older Americans. RSVP volunteers provide service to those that prove to be in need throughout Franklin and Hamilton Counties. The volunteer hours served will help not only the people served but their families as well. Volunteer hours will encourage healthy living and independence and help to combat loneliness and depression, and give the youth of our community an upper hand in education. This goal will be accomplished by placing volunteers with homebound and hard to reach elders/ and or children by providing friendly visiting, running errands, medical transport, delivering meals, friendship and assisting children with reading and tutoring. We also provide reimbursement for your travel.

SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW

If you think you may be interested in becoming a volunteer please call our office at 518-359-7688.
Vivian Smith-Program Director, Melissa Howard- Volunteer Coordinator

Two honored at Catholic Charities' Caritas Dinner

Catholic Charities celebrated the spirit of charity at its annual Caritas dinner, held at the Granview Restaurant on October 24. The dinner honors individuals and groups who have made contributions to serving individuals and families most affected by poverty throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Those present at this year's dinner, including the corporation board, trustees, funding partners, staff and service recipients, were treated to the sounds of the "Lighthouse Blues Band" before Father Arthur J. LaBaff, Catholic Charities Corporation Board president, introduced Deacon Thomas J. Yousey, who delivered the dinner invocation.

Deacon Patrick Donahue, Catholic Charities' executive director, recognized Melody Ransom of the Malone Catholic Charities Office and Eileen Premo of Seaway Catholic Charities for staff longevity and outstanding service.

Deacon Donahue also addressed those present about the changing face of poverty in the North Country.

Bishop Terry R. LaValley presented awards to two individuals who have made major contributions to the mission of Catholic Charities and the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The Legacy Award was presented to Ciara LeRoy, a youth leader from Malone Catholic parishes, who was described as "emulating the gospel values and a youthful eagerness for discipleship."

Sister Donna M.



Sister Donna M. Franklin, former executive director of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, was the recipient of the Caritas Award for her 20 years of service. Ciara LeRoy, a youth leader from Malone, received the Legacy Award. Both were honored at Catholic Charities' annual Caritas Dinner.

Franklin, the agency's former executive director, was the recipient of the Caritas Award for her 20 years of commitment and dedication to serving the poor throughout the diocese.

Bishop LaValley commended all those present for their continued efforts to effectively and compassionately address the needs of the underserved and the marginal-

ized throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Provide moral, verbal support to priests

To the editor,

Recent allegations have surfaced regarding Catholic clergy and their conduct involving the sexual abuse of children. Many of these allegations are decades old and basically, he said/she said allegations with no corroboration. Lately these allegations have increased, causing many to wonder if all priests are child sexual abusers. While there is no question that some of these allegations are factual and some have been covered up by the church hierarchy, these should be thoroughly investigated and where warranted, aggressively prosecuted. That being said, it makes one wonder if some of these allegations are from the "me too folks," jumping on the band wagon, knowing the catholic church has deep pockets.

I have been a practicing Catholic my whole life and as an altar boy and the product of a Catholic school education, I had many interactions with numerous priests. I never had a bad experience or felt uncomfortable in the company of priests. During my professional career of 45 years in the criminal justice system within the Diocese of Ogdensburg as a police officer and judge, I have never received a complaint or even heard a rumor of child sexual abuse by a priest.

By and large our priests are well educated, sincere, devoted men of faith. They minister to thousands of people with little financial compensation or recognition. These dedicated men are going through very difficult times due to a few bad apples in their ranks. It's time we provide our moral and verbal support to these good men.

John H. Lawliss
Peru, NY



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FATHER TIMOTHY CANAAN AS OUR SHEPHERD

FATHER BILL EDWARDS AS OUR PAROCHIAL VICAR

AND

FATHER NORMAN COTE IN RESIDENCE

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO
FOR OUR FAMILY OF FAITH!

Capital Campaign has reached all parishes

The It's Our Church, It's Our Future Diocesan-wide Capital Campaign has now reached all parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The consulting firm Guidance in Giving Inc. is conducting the capital campaign and working closely with the Diocese of Ogdensburg Development Office to hit the campaign's \$16.3 million goal. Included in the \$16.3 million is \$1.3 million for the 2018 Bishop's Fund Appeal.

To date, including a parish that conducted its own campaign prior to the diocesan campaign and one future parish projection, all the parishes in the Diocese of Ogdensburg have received nearly \$11 million in gifts and

pledges.

"The generosity of the people of the North Country supporting the church is absolutely tremendous," said diocesan Executive Director of Development Scott Lalone. "And it's not only full-time residents. Seasonal parishioners see the needs in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and are making gifts as well."

Back in April, 19 parishes in Block One began collecting gifts. Those parishes have been wrapping up the final stages of their active phase with bulletin and pulpit announcements. To date, they have raised \$2.9 million in gifts and pledges.

Another 40 parishes from Block Two partici-

pated in the summer months. They are also following up with parishioners who are still prayerfully considering a gift with pastor follow-up letters. At this point, Block Two parishes have generated over \$4.6 million in gifts and pledges.

This past Sunday, another 35 parishes in Block Three completed commitment weekend following their recent campaign receptions, bulletin announcements, a video showing, pulpit announcements and having received a letter from Bishop LaValley regarding the capital campaign and its efforts to meet the needs of the church.

"It is a very Parish friendly capital campaign," said Lalone.

"Parishioners and pastors are seeing and appreciating that and have supported this as a team effort to build our Catholic Community for the future."

Of the funds raised once the parish meets its Bishops Fund Appeal, 75 percent of funds raised will remain at the parish for their direct needs, such as parish programs, ministries and capital improvements.

Each parish has developed its own case statement outlining how funds raised will address their specific parish needs.

The remaining 25 percent of the funds raised supports the parishes' indirect needs such as re-

tired priests, seminarians, Camp Guggenheim and St. Mary's Cathedral.

If you are prayerfully considering your gift to the Capital Campaign, please remember that the Bishop's Fund Appeal will return in September 2019, and your continued support to your parish offertory and other special collections remain vital to your parish.

Gifts have come in a variety of ways, such as cash one-time gifts, pledges, gifts of securities and IRA contributions.

If you need any help setting up your gift or have any questions on methods of giving, contact the Development Office at 315-393-2920.

CELEBRATING SAINTS



The Junior High students of St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga had their annual "Name That Saint" program for All Saints Day. Each student researched a saint, wrote a paper about them, and "became" the saint for a school assembly. The students gave several clues and important facts about the saint they represented, and the younger children guessed their saint.

God has done
great things
for us!

*As recipients of God's bountiful
gifts, we are called to:*

Receive

those gifts gratefully,

Cultivate

those gifts responsibly,

Share

those gifts in justice and love,

*And return them with increase
to the Lord*

*Stewardship Weekend
November 10 & 11*

**Please contact your local parish
to learn how you can share your
gifts of Time, Talent & Treasure.**

Documentary highlights hidden abortion risks

WATERTOWN – “HUSH,” an award-winning documentary on risks associated with abortion and the need for informed consent will be shown on Thursday, November 15 at 6 p.m. at Flower Memorial Library’s Community Room.

The showing is sponsored by Liferight of Watertown.

According to the filmmakers, “HUSH” is a documentary that uncovers an array of important women’s health informa-

tion that has been either hidden by fears of political correctness, or completely covered up by political agenda.

“HUSH” looks at the connections between abortion and an increased risk of breast cancer, an increased risk of future premature birth, and psychological problems for some groups of women.

The film was created by Director Punam Kumar Gill, who identifies as pro-choice, Executive Director Drew Martin, who identifies as pro-life, and Producer Jose Martin, who claims to be “neutral” on the topic.

There is no charge to at-

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Father Bryan Stitt

We thank you for the many hours of prayer and sacrifice you give so freely to teach, console, council, administer the sacraments and maintain our beautiful church.

- The Parishioners of St. Mary’s Church, Canton



FATHER ALLEN

God bless you for all you do!!!

You personify an athletic holiness to us both!!



Deacon Jim and Christine Chaufy

Rest in Peace

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

Nov. 7 – Rev. Dennis Nolan, 1911; Rev. William Ouellette, O.M.I., 1936;

Msgr. William, H. Brennan, 1986

Nov. 8 – Rev. Patrick McGilligan, 1828

Nov. 10 – Msgr. Francis M. Kenny, 1954; Msgr. Raphael A. Hoffman, 1968

Nov. 11 – Rev. Victor VandenHende, 1939; Rev. Edward O. Hervieux, 1947; Msgr. Bernard E. Christman, 2012

Nov. 13 – Rev. S. Alphonse Vollmer, 1931; Rev. Victor Van den Hende, 1939; Most Rev. Francis J. Monaghan, 1942

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:

Nov. 8 – 1 p.m., Kateri Hall, Akwesasne

Nov. 14 – 4:30 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central, Watertown



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

Bishop’s Public Schedule

Nov. 7 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral

1 p.m. – Catholic Charities Annual Meeting at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg

Nov. 8 – 9:30 a.m. – Mass followed by school visit at Augustinian Academy in Carthage

Nov. 9 – 9 a.m. – School visit at St. Agnes School in Lake Placid

Nov. 10-14 – Fall Meeting of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, Baltimore, Maryland

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

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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Environmental Stewardship

Rising Sea Levels: What is it all about? Part 2

Scientists who study climate and weather have also noted that as the oceans warm, they are better able to fuel more intense coastal storms, which bring tidal surges during nor’easters, hurricanes, and “super storms” that can further exacerbate the problem of shoreline flooding.

The Holy Father has urged Catholics to adopt a more simple life style. While this has many spiritual benefits, it can also reduce an individual’s carbon footprint. As we know, your carbon footprint is a measure of the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere by your activities over a particular period. We all need to look for ways to reduce our carbon footprint. Living more simply can help limit the many problems of climate change, including the rising level of the seas.

Here are a few suggestions for lowering your carbon footprint:

- Driving smaller, more fuel-efficient cars limits our consumption of oil and the pollution that these vehicles emit to the atmosphere.

- Turning down the thermostat in winter, especially at night, and during the day if no one is at home, and insuring that your home is as well insulated as it can be also reduces carbon emissions.

- Even your selection of food can have an impact on your carbon footprint. Purchasing local products from the store saves on transportation and the pollution associated with it.

- Reducing the role of meat in your diet, which requires far more energy to raise compared to vegetables, can help limit the amount of carbon that agriculture places in the atmosphere.

Also, pray that our leaders recognize this problem and strive to develop global solutions.

The value of prayer in addressing a problem is often underrated by most individuals.

However, as Catholics, we must remember that God does listen when we petition Him and there is no issue that is too large or complex for Him to solve.

By Tom Kalinowski, author/ former biology teacher/ member of Faith and Ecology Group

Family event focused on Christian love

By Suzanne Pietropaoli
Staff Writer

OGDENSBURG – A day-long event devoted to “The Catholic Family: God’s Answer for Our Time” drew people from around the diocese to St. Mary’s Cathedral on October 13.

There, Women of Grace founder Johnette Bencovic Williams, and associates Susan Brinkmann and Thomas Sullivan, offered factual, faithful, and hope-filled reflections on bringing the light of faith to family life and the issues that affect it.

“We live in a very confused time,” Williams acknowledged in the opening presentation. “But God has entrusted us with the beautiful divine duty of proclaiming his truth.”

Little wonder that people are perplexed: “We are caught up in a primordial battle between good and evil, fighting principalities that sow confusion,” she said.

Williams recounted the darkness that followed her own loss of faith in college, when she briefly lived the lies of the sexual revolution.

But God drew her back to himself and gifted her with Ephesians 1:3-4: “Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has bestowed on us in Christ every spiritual blessing in the heavens... God chose us in him before the world began, to be holy and blameless in his sight, to be full of love.”

This, Williams explained, is who God created each one of us to be: specially chosen by him to share his life and love – a sharing that rests on our cooperation with God’s plan for the human



Women of Grace founder Johnette Bencovic Williams addresses participants at “The Catholic Family: God’s Answer for Our Time” event held in October.

family.

This is what Adam and Eve rejected in the garden, where they chose the empty promises of the devil over the perfect love of God. This disobedience disrupted their relationship with God, with one another, and with the created world. These original disruptions remain in a world where unbelief is increasingly widespread, where marriage has been redefined, and where gender identity issues separate us from our own biology.

“When we seek solutions outside of God to deal with our problems, we actually make them worse,” Williams said. “In heaven there are saints who struggled with same-sex attraction, but God used this to make them great saints. Becoming a saint is all about love – not feelings, not eros, which focuses on one’s own pleasure. The love that makes us saints is, as St. John Paul II wrote, ‘an act of total self-donation,’ the kind of love that was poured out for us in Christ on the cross, the

love that is oriented toward the flourishing of the beloved. So, marriage is not 50-50, but a total gift of one spouse to the other. God created us male and female, orienting our bodies so we could participate in bringing to life new human persons made in his image. Any deliberately sterile relationship is not a marriage.”

As Susan Brinkmann explained in her presentation, many of these ideas have been tried before.

“Since Marxism sought to destroy the nuclear family, Russia early promoted divorce, abortion, ‘free love,’ and single parenting, with disastrous results,” she said. “Economic activity decreased drastically in a short period and the government moved quickly to change policies and save their country. To all Russia’s errors, we have now added easy contraception, pornography and gender confusion.

“But this can change: these ‘loves’ do not satisfy the longing of the human heart to give and

to receive agape love. No one does love like Jesus Christ! Agape is at the heart of every Catholic teaching, including those on hot-button issues: self-sacrificing love that looks to the good of the other for all eternity. This definition of love excludes all expressions of sex outside of marriage. But agape love is not easy or politically correct; it will cost you.”

“Yet if eros is best,” Brinkmann asks, “why do we have a culture of divorce, suicide, substance abuse, porn, skyrocketing rates of STDs, sexual violence? These are not the fruits of love, but of out-of-control eros. Marriage is the bedrock of all societies; for that we need self-giving love—not merely the ‘love’ that makes me feel good, as in cohabitation. Neither church nor state created marriage. It grows out of how God created us as man and woman. If lived in agape love, open to life, marriage creates stable families and stable societies.”

To understand and live God’s plan is impossible without grace, which comes through the sacraments and prayer.

Presenter Thomas Sullivan used a military metaphor to explain: “In Baptism we are enlisted in the army of God; in Confirmation, we are equipped for battle. St. Paul reminds us that ‘our battle is against the principalities and rulers of this world.’ Spiritual warfare is an ongoing battle in every life. To win the victory, we must be sober and alert, and put on the armor of God – through prayer, penance, and the sacraments, especially Eucharist and Reconcilia-

tion. The Rosary is a very powerful weapon against the enemy that wants to destroy us.”

“God asks us to be the light that shines in darkness,” Williams said in her final talk. “This information is very countercultural and very challenging. Contraception is used in Catholic families, but God wants more from us. He doesn’t want any territory of our hearts to be hidden from him. The love of husband and wife is a sign that points to a higher reality. Don’t frustrate this beautiful divine mystery. Use Natural Family Planning to learn how our bodies work; NFP is good science! Remember that the secret to happy married life is contained in Ephesians 5, where God challenges us to love our spouses according to the Divine plan. Men, be willing to die to self for your families. Bring your children to Mass and confession; lead the rosary. Cherish your wives! Ladies, act in such a way that your man would walk through the Sahara Desert for you: respect him! Don’t mother or smother him.”

“Remember that marriage is your vocation, the way you are sanctified and purified. This involves the cross! It is also the way to heaven. Every marriage has a two-fold mission. The interior mission is purification and sanctification in us and in the family God gives us. The external mission is for the benefit of the world at large. When others can look at our families and say, ‘See these Christians, how they love one another,’ we become a beacon of hope in an age of confusion.”

Professor discusses 'Science Behind Laudato Si'

Patricia Fanning

Member of Faith and Ecology

WATERTOWN – The Faith & Ecology Group of Watertown sponsored Dr. Aileen O'Donoghue, professor of Physics and Astronomy at St. Lawrence University, on Sunday, Sept. 30 for a presentation on "The Science Behind Laudato Si – Care of our Common Home," an encyclical authored by Pope Francis in 2015.

Dr. O'Donoghue began by saying that climate change is both a moral and religious imperative. She presented scientific facts on pollution and climate change, water shortages, loss of biodiversity, decline in quality of life and social breakdown, global inequality, weak responses, and alternatives.

She explained how glacial activity that took place on earth changed the surface of the planet. The flood described in the Bible involving Noah could have been the result of glaciers melting.

Analyses of pollen in sediments taken through core samples have revealed a tremendous amount of information about the conditions on earth millions of years ago. Other sources of



Dr. Aileen O'Donoghue, professor of Physics and Astronomy at St. Lawrence University, presents 'The Science Behind Laudato Si' at an event sponsored by the Faith & Ecology Group of Watertown.

such information include petrified forests, tree rings, ice cores from glaciers, sediment from the sea floor, and deserts.

For example, did you know that the Sahara Desert was once a grassland, and the entire earth was a jungle at one point and covered with glaciers hundreds of thousands of years later.

There is concern that the current carbon dioxide content of 406.99ppm may be one step to poisoning the

earth. Can humans change the carbon dioxide?

The goal is not to save the planet but to save the people – will it allow the inhabitants to survive? In "Deep Future: The Next 100,000 Years of Life on Earth," Curt Stager asks the question: "What is the climate going to be like 100 thousand years from now? Is heating the planet as such putting off the next glacial age?"

Scientists have discovered that the artic is

warming faster than the rest of the planet and the permafrost is melting. Its biological material is rotting and producing methane gas.

Global weather is becoming more extreme; witness the excessive floods and deep droughts.

Examples of the loss of biodiversity: Entire villages have moved because of high water. Animals are disappearing because they are unable to tolerate the increased

heat of the climate.

Dr. O'Donoghue cautioned to be wary of organizations that seed enough doubt to deny scientific facts. They just deny without providing countering the scientific evidence.

While there could be a few winners, if global warming from fossil fuel (namely, coal and oil) continues, most will be losers, especially the poorest of the poor. They are the ones who have limited financial or technical means to adapt to the changes in temperature and rainfall. They will suffer the most from famines, floods, wildfires, and increased storms, yet they contribute the least to the warming of the planet.

The conclusions arrived at in Laudato Si are supported by scientific facts. Humanity should not be swayed from these facts by business interests and consumerism.

Dr. O'Donoghue concluded by posing two questions: How are we going to change our lifestyle to protect Earth and its creatures including ourselves? How do we change our way of living to eliminate necessary waste and preserve natural resources?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vote for candidates who protect life

To the editor,

With the events that surrounded the recent appointment of a pro-life judge to our nation's Supreme Court, the need to vote for "Life" is obviously more important than ever. Far too many "good" Catholics vote first for their party affiliation,

rather than their religious beliefs.

We all know that being pro-life involves more than just being anti-abortion. However, like building a multi-story structure, being truly pro-life starts with saving the pre-born. It is the foundation upon which all other pro-life issues are sup-

ported. You don't build a home by starting on the second floor, you start with a solid foundation; and supporting pro abortion (or as they try to justify it "pro-choice") candidates can never be justified. If you can't find a pro-life candidate that you can support, then write one in on your bal-

lot.

George Pataki was a governor that did a lot for our state, but I never voted for him. He was pro-choice, so I simply wrote in the name of a pro-life candidate.

We should make ourselves familiar with how each candidate feels about the no-holds-barred "Re-

productive Health Act," which will wipe out and preclude any restriction on abortion, including ones valid now, and vote accordingly. Pro-lifers must vote pro-life because lives literally depend on it!

Calvin Castine
Champlain, NY

CATHOLIC EDUCATORS GATHER SUPERINTENDENT'S CONFERENCE DAY

Education professionals gather at Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid on Oct. 19



WWW.SEMERAROPHOTOGRAPHY.COM
Representatives of Catholic schools around the diocese present photographs of their students during Mass at the Superintendent's Conference Day.



WWW.SEMERAROPHOTOGRAPHY.COM
Altar servers lead the procession into Mass at the Superintendent's Conference Day on Oct. 19.



WWW.SEMERAROPHOTOGRAPHY.COM
Bishop Terry R. LaValley presents service awards to educators as part of the Superintendent's Conference Day. Educators from Catholic schools around the diocese gathered for the event.



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Superintendent of Schools Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, a Sister of St. Joseph, addresses the crowd at the annual Superintendent's Day Conference.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Bishop removed from ministry pending review of abuse claim

WASHINGTON (CNS) – A New York auxiliary bishop has been removed from public ministry pending a Vatican review of a decades-old accusation of sexual abuse against him, a claim he denies, the Archdiocese of New York said in a letter released Oct. 31. The letter dated Oct. 29 is said to have been sent to parishioners of Our Lady of Refuge in the Bronx, where Auxiliary Bishop John J. Jenik was the pastor until late October. In a video made public via Twitter on Oct. 31, New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said he had met with parishioners the day before to inform them of the developments, which included Bishop Jenik stepping away from public ministry. "This is sad for all of us, this is sad for the victim," Cardinal Dolan said in the video. Its accompanying tweet references "an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor." The archdiocese also provided Catholic News Service an undated letter written by Bishop Jenik to his parish in which he denies the accusation. "I will ask the Vatican, which has ultimate jurisdiction over such cases, to review the matter, with the hope of ultimately proving my innocence," the bishop writes in the letter.

Caravans continue forming, despite uncertain welcome

MATIAS ROMERO, MEXICO (CNS) – Honduran migrants Karla Santos and her husband, Brian Maldonado, grew tired of paying extortion to gangs and not being able to make ends meet amid rising prices and stagnant salaries. Santos, 33, was looking for an out, when she saw a post on Facebook and heard a news story about a caravan forming in early October. She figured it was her chance to head north. "That's where the dream began," she said while trying to find transport for her family in the city of Matias Romero, some 425 southeast of Mexico City on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. With the caravan, she figured, "It would be easier than going it alone," though it has not been easy. Her son, like many children, was suffering from a cough, and Santos' feet hurt – chewed up by the flip-flops she was wearing as the family walked and took rides, averaging 40 miles per day. For the better part of a decade, migrant advocacy organizations have convened caravans, which crossed Mexico to the U.S. border. The annual "Stations of the Cross Caravan" convened during Easter week captured the attention of U.S. President Donald Trump, who tweeted his disapproval as it progressed through southern Mexico. Trump has promised that the caravans winding their way north this fall will not enter the United States.

New coordinating body for charismatic activities announced

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The two international bodies that had been supporting and coordinating the international activities of charismatic Catholics will become one new organization. "Charis" will take over the roles previously played by the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service and the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships, the Vatican announced Oct. 31. The Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, which certifies international Catholic lay organizations, said Charis will begin operating Dec. 8. The two previous organizations will cease to exist June 9, Pentecost Sunday. "As a body in the service of all the realities of Catholic charismatic renewal," the Vatican said, "Charis will not exercise any authority over these realities. Each single charismatic reality will remain as it is, fully respected in its own identity and under the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical authority upon which it currently depends."

Anti-Semitism of past generations flared anew in Pittsburgh shooting

WASHINGTON (CNS) – In some quarters, people thought anti-Semitism had been swept under the rug. But hiding it didn't mean getting rid of it, as was painfully evident in the murder of 11 congregants at a Pittsburgh synagogue Oct. 27.

"There have always been people who are prejudiced anti-Semites, racists, but what we're seeing is that these people have easy access to do a lot of damage and that's a very scary combination," said Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld of Congregation Ohev Sholom in Washington in an Oct. 30 telephone interview with Catholic News Service.

Rabbi Herzfeld had chartered a bus for members of his synagogue to go to Pittsburgh and mourn at funerals for some of those killed.

He estimated the bus was about a half-hour from Pittsburgh when CNS contacted him. The bus, he noted, was filled.

"We are seeing extremist behavior, extremist language, dangerous language that are targeting different people that are not represented by the majority. We are seeing people who are 'different,' being targeted. We're seeing African-Americans targeted, we're seeing gay people, we're seeing Latino communities being targeted, immigrants," Rabbi Herzfeld said. "We're seeing a lot of attacks on elements in our society which are not quote-unquote majority. When we see those attacks, Jews fit into it."

"We address it by doubling down on acts of love to replace hate."

- Rabbi Shmuel Herzfeld

"This is of a different order," said Eugene Fisher, a professor of Catholic-Jewish studies at St. Leo University in Florida. "There's a difference between painting a swastika on a synagogue and going in with a gun."

Fisher, formerly associate director for ecumenical and interreligious affairs at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted how the roots of anti-Semitism had its start in overwhelmingly Christian Europe.

"There was the historical Christian teaching of contempt of Jews – they did terrible things and poisoned wells, and Jews were expelled from virtually every country in Western Europe ... except for Italy where they were protected due to the papacy," he said.

While Jews were confined to ghettos in Italy, Fisher said, popes took to heart what St. Augustine had written, that "you can't read the New Testament intelligently without the Hebrew Scriptures. Whenever Jesus said something, he was referring something in his Bible, the Hebrew Scriptures," more commonly known to Christians as the Old Testament.

Religious animus turned into racial hatred with, ironically, the onset of the Enlightenment, when Jews were viewed not as a members of a religion but

as members of a race.

This, Fisher said, was done to "codify hatred of the Jews."

"According to modern racial anti-Semitism, which the Nazis picked up on and used to justify the Holocaust, you couldn't convert (to Christianity). You were racially inferior and racially like vermin. ... You had to be exterminated like you had to exterminate cockroaches," Fisher said.

Even in the New World, Jews could not escape the hatred that existed in Europe. But they were not the only group to suffer.

"Catholics did, too," Fisher told CNS. "Catholics were seen as a threat to the WASPs – the white Anglo-Saxon Protestants – and were a lower religious and ethnic category. Jews and Catholics were kind of classified together." Jews and Catholics, he added, "were people with a bad religion, and people you wanted to keep out of your neighborhoods."

Rabbi Herzfeld has a three-pronged solution to counter modern anti-Semitism.

"We address it by our security," he said. "Number two, we address it by coming together with acts of unity and community and building allies across religions, across communities with community partners, we address it by doubling down on acts of love to replace hate."



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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

God is generous to those who give in sacrifice

Our readings this week are most appropriate, since they highlight God's generosity to those who give to God "until it hurts!" God, in turn, is even more generous than they are.

Take the poor widow, for instance, in the first reading from the first Book of Kings. Elijah, who is on the run from the wicked King Ahab, finds her out picking up sticks so she can make a fire. Elijah is hungry and



**Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore**

asks the woman to please make him a little cake. He soon finds out that the woman has nothing in the house except a small bit of flour and oil. It's going to be the last meal for herself and her son before they die! Nevertheless, out of this little bit, she feeds Elijah first.

He tells her that, as a reward, her oil and flour will last until the rains come again (which turns out to be a whole year!). God will not be outdone in gen-

November 11

**Thirty-second Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

READINGS

1 Kings 17:10-16

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

erosity!

Mark's Gospel narrates a really moving story about Jesus in the Temple, observing those who are putting in collection money. He's really impressed with a poor widow who puts in two copper coins, all she has to live on.

In her humility, she probably hoped no one would see this, since there were many rich people around her putting in large sums. Far be it from Jesus to discourage the wealthy from making big donations! He's merely pointing out how sacrificial giving is more admirable than just giving from what one has left over!

Jesus had a soft spot in his heart for widows. They were the most vulnerable people in the society of his time, for there was no "social security" of any kind, and no husband

to protect and provide for them. He has just finished a scorching condemnation of the religious authorities for their insensitivity to the plight of these widows. Instead of helping them, they were taking away what little they had through unbearable temple taxes.

The demands made on our "time, talent, and treasure" are often unreasonable. We need to bring those requests to earnest prayer. Then discuss them with family and pastor.

God will be so pleased at your choices.

Sexual orientation: Hope for restoration, healing

Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE) rely on professional therapy and counseling, often in a religious context, to assist those struggling with unwanted homosexual inclinations who would like to diminish their same-sex attractions and grow in their ability to abstain from same-sex behaviors. Many proponents of same-sex lifestyles argue that Sexual Orientation Change Efforts are not only not effective, but also are harmful and unscientific, going so far as to advocate for legislation that would restrict a practitioner's ability to offer SOCE. A sweeping bill recently tabled in California, for example, would have labeled any sexual orientation therapies offered for a fee as "consumer fraud." Are such laws sensible or reprehensible? What do scientific studies indicate about attempts to change sexual orientation?

Peter Sprigg, Senior Fellow for Policy Studies at the Family Research

Council in Washington, D.C., has provided a very helpful analysis of six studies published between 2000 and 2018 in a recent review article entitled, "Are Sexual Orientation Change Efforts (SOCE) Effective? Are They Harmful? What the Evidence Shows." He concludes that SOCE "can be effective for some clients in bringing about significant change in some components of sexual orientation," and that "few harms were reported." Older reports from the literature, including 600 studies and five meta-analyses, support the same conclusions.

One of the six SOCE studies reviewed by Sprigg, "A Longitudinal Study of Attempted Religiously Mediated Sexual Orientation Change," was published in the *Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy* in 2011. In this study, researchers Stanton Jones and Mark Yarhouse evaluated 61 men and women who opted to pursue religiously-mediated change

efforts. At the end of the study, after tracking them through therapy for six years, they found that 53 percent of them self-categorized as some version of success, either as "Success: Conversion" (23 percent) or "Success: Chastity" (30 percent). That was more than twice the number (25 percent) who described the outcome as "Failure: Confused," or "Failure: Gay Identity."

Interestingly, the observed success rates in the study trended higher as the study continued. Between the third and sixth year, for example, the "Success: Conversion" results improved from 15 percent to 23 percent of the participants, while the "Success: Chastity" portion improved from 23 percent to 30 percent. In commenting on this phenomenon, Sprigg notes that "rather than relapsing into homosexuality after initial suc-

cess in overcoming it, as SOCE critics claim, clients are more likely to achieve success the longer they persevere in the process."

When participants reported "Success: Conversion" as an outcome, this did not indicate that all same-sex attraction went away, but that "a reduction in homosexual attraction and an increase in heterosexual attraction" had occurred. Similarly, "Success: Chastity" was defined as "stable behavioral chastity and a reduction in homosexual attraction," which, in the words of the report, can "also be regarded as a successful outcome" by "conventionally religious persons." As with most studies of this type, most participants reported some significant, but not complete, change.

This same research study by Jones and Yarhouse also assessed any reported "harms"

from SOCE during the change efforts. They evaluated psychological distress among the participants using a standardized checklist of symptoms, but the only statistically significant trends indicated "improving psychological symptoms" rather than harms to SOCE clients.

In his review of the literature, Sprigg examines the issue of SOCE "harms" from another angle as well, evaluating the methods and claims of a very influential paper by Ariel Shidlo and Michael Schroeder, two self-identified gay researchers whose work was sponsored by the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (the latter being a political activist group).

Their paper, published in 2002, is one of the more widely-cited works asserting that clients who undergo SOCE may experience significant damage.



**Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk
Ph.D.**

AT THE MOVIES

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

NEW YORK (CNS) – Rami Malek gives himself completely to the role of Freddie Mercury in "Bohemian Rhapsody" (Fox), director Bryan Singer's biopic of the lead singer of the rock group Queen, with impressive artistic results.

The moral status of Singer's film, as scripted by Anthony McCarten, however, is another matter.

Mercury's career, which took him from unloading bags at London's Heathrow Airport to worldwide stardom, is portrayed congenially enough. He forms a deep friendship with the other members of Queen – guitarist Brian May (Gwilym Lee), drummer Roger Taylor (Ben Hardy) and bassist John Deacon (Joe Mazzello) – and together they resist narrow categorization and take such creative risks as releasing the lengthy pop aria of the title as a single.

But the vocalist's per-



CNS PHOTO/FOX
Gwilym Lee and Rami Malek star in a scene from the movie "Bohemian Rhapsody."

sonal life was tangled.

Reluctantly recognizing that his engagement to his live-in girlfriend, Mary Austin (Lucy Boynton), is doomed – she nevertheless remains his lifelong muse – Mercury descends into a decadent lifestyle of homosexual promiscuity. Later, though, he forms an exclusive bond with Jim Hutton (Aaron McCusker), here portrayed as a waiter, which lasts through the

years leading up to his 1991 death from AIDS-related pneumonia.

McCarten and Singer treat this aspect of their story with restraint and some complexity. There's a tragic tone to Mercury's breakup with Austin, and viewers are left with the distinct, if not inescapable, impression that Mercury's life would have been much happier had the duo remained

more than merely friends.

The sordid encounters in which he subsequently engaged are only hinted at through a montage of the leather-clad denizens of gay bars. The fact that Paul Prenter (Allen Leech), Mercury's personal manager and very much the villain of the piece, enables not only the star's substance abuse but his sexual profligacy also suggests that the filmmakers take a dim view of such behavior.

Along the same lines, Mercury's undivided devotion to Hutton is presented as one element in his eventual redemption.

Moviegoers of faith can join in the narrative's approval of the hard-won acceptance Mercury, born Farrokh Bulsara, eventually gains from his Parsi father, Bomi (Ace Bhatti). But the predictable underlying message, that at least committed gay rela-

tionships pass ethical muster, obviously clashes with both Scripture and tradition.

The film contains a benign view of homosexual acts, cohabitation, a couple of same-sex kisses, a few uses of profanity, at least one rough and numerous crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is O – morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 – parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



Sexual orientation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Sprigg observes that the authors make no pretense of "being unbiased, nor of recruiting a representative sample of SOCE consumers." Despite a scholarly veneer, their report offers almost entirely anecdotal reports of harm. It fails to offer compiled data, statistical evidence or data analysis and relies on a narrative approach and dubious claims regarding various harms and negative outcomes from SOCE.

The more robust and rigorous research studies reviewed by Sprigg, meanwhile, do not find notable

harms to clients from SOCE, but, on the contrary, find very notable improvements both in the ability to resist homosexual behaviors and in their sense of sexual re-orientation.

Set within a broader religious and human framework, these statistically significant findings about SOCE from the field of psychotherapy help push back against the dogmatism of same-sex advocates and even of some professional medical societies. Such dogmatism ignores the best interests of clients by seeking to restrict the availability of

important and potentially helpful therapies when everyone should instead be supporting access to ministries of healing and change for those desiring to restore psychological and spiritual wholeness in their lives.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org

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ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid – Christmas Bazaar to be held.

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Agnes School

Features: Trees, wreaths, crafts, toys, baked goods and donuts, gifts, raffles and auctions. A great way to kick off the holiday season. Lunch will be served and Santa will be visiting. Vendor space is available.

Contact: For more information call 518-523-3771 or info@stagneslp.org

CLINTON

TURKEY RAFFLE

Mooers – Mooers Knights of Columbus Council #6136 to have a Turkey Raffle.

Date: Nov. 10

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Mooers Fire Station

Features: Cash Prizes, Baskets, Hams, Turkeys, Lottery Board and much more.

FALL CRAFT FESTIVAL

Chazy – Fabulous Fall Festival to be held.

Date: Nov 10

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

Place: Sacred Heart Parish Center

Features: Great craft festival with over 25 craft vendors from New York, Vermont. Hot lunches, baked goods, silent auction, in addition to hundreds of handcrafted items. Get a head start on your Christmas shopping.

Contact: For more info, contact Noreen Barcomb at sacredheart@west-elcom.com or 518-846-7650.

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.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Plattsburgh – Confirmation Retreat to be held.

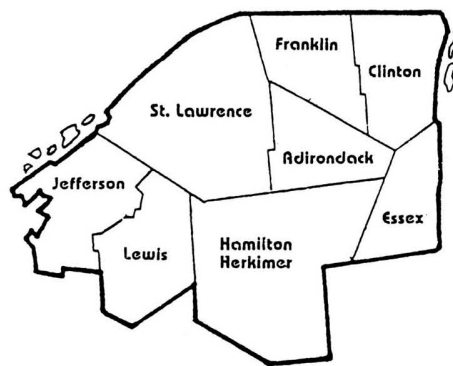
Date: Nov. 17

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

Place: Seton Catholic School

Cost: \$25

Features: Presented through NET Ministries.



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.

ESSEX

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Olmstedville – Advent Bible Study to be held on Bible Basics.

Date: Starts Nov. 7th for 6 weeks.

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph's Parish House

Features: Topics will include where and how it came about, how it developed, how to get the most out of it, and how to interpret it in the light of the church's teachings. A meal of soup and bread will be served.

JEFFERSON

ROAST PORK DINNER

Evans Mills – St. Mary's to have a Roast Pork Dinner.

Date: Nov. 17

Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$20; Seniors and children under 12, \$8; under 5, Free

Features: Raffle tickets for a Thanksgiving Lottery, wine basket and Christmas basket will be drawn.

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

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Nov. 29

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

MINI RETREAT

Watertown – St. Anthony's Church will be sponsoring a Women of Grace Mini Retreat.

Date: Dec. 1

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

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

Features: Learn more about Our Blessed Mother from Fr. Ted Crosby. This free mini-retreat includes the rosary, a "Fr. Ted Talk," adoration, lunch, and social time. Women ages 15 and up are welcome to attend.

Contact: Please RSVP by calling Scarlett at 859-583-0564.

OPERATION MIRIAM LUNCH

Watertown – Operation Miriam Lunch to be held for all women and middle school age and up.

Date: Dec. 9

Time: 11 a.m.

Place: SSJ Motherhouse

Contact: Shayne e-mail: slippincott@rcdony.org or call 315-782-3620

LEWIS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville – Lewis Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

Date: Nov. 15

Time: 4 p.m. to 5

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: To Thank God for & To Honor the Most Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to one hour of exposition, the Divine Mercy Chaplet for All Souls, silent adoration, and benediction.

ST. LAWRENCE

MEN SHARPEN MEN

Ogdensburg – Gathering to be held for men.

Date: Starting Saturday Nov. 3

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place: Bishop Brzana Hall of St.

Mary's Cathedral

Features: God has a lot to say about the role and responsibilities of men. Let us gather together so that we can make a difference in the lives of one another, for scripture says, "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." (Pro 27:17). All men are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Contact: www.ogdensburgcatholics.org/men

BAZAAR

Massena – St. Peter's Parish to have a Bazaar.

Date: Nov. 10

Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Social Hall

Features: Take-out Cabbage Roll sale from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Turkey Dinner after the 4 p.m. Mass. Poker, Skilo(Bingo), Pull tabs, 50-50, quilt raffle, Ticket Central, turkey raffles, religious items, kids' games, Country Store and Fancy Goods booths, Cake Walk wheel game. Concession stand all day! Big Ticket Drawing at 6 p.m. First prize \$2500 and three \$100 winners drawn. Tickets are now on sale at Masses, both Stewart's stores and Mountain Mart

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. Please call Val Cline at 315-389-4182 for a registration packet. Tables are rented for \$18 each.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Norfolk – Confirmation Retreat with NET Ministries to be held.

Date: Nov. 18

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

Place: Fr. Amyot Center

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

DIOCESAN EVENTS

YOU MUST BECOME FIRE

There will be Evenings of Prayer and Reflection throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg in celebration of National Vocation Awareness Week: Nov. 4-10, 2018.

Date: Nov. 13 - St. Mary's Church, Ticonderoga; 5 p.m. Discernment Holy Hour; 6 p.m. Pizza & Wings; 6:30 p.m. Panel Discussion; 7:15 p.m. Video - "Is God Calling You?"; 7:30 p.m. Closing Prayer & Sending Forth

Contact: Anyone interested in knowing more about Church Vocations or how they can help to promote Vocations are invited to these evenings. Please RSVP by emailing: dlucia@rcdony.org or crussell@rcdony.org or phone: 315-393-2920 to indicate which evening/site you will be attending.

SSJ LAY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The Sister of St. Joseph invite you to a meeting to learn more about their Lay Associate Program.

Schedule: Nov. 17 at St. John in the Wilderness in Lake Clear from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Nov. 18 at St. John XXIII Newman Center in Plattsburgh from 1 p.m. to 4

Features: The Associates meet once a month to learn about the spirituality and history of the Sisters of St. Joseph, pray together, and discuss ways to deepen one's spiritual life. This group is open to men and women.

Contact: If you are interested in learning about the Associates, please call: Sr. Carol Kraeger (518-891-2286) OR Sr. Helen Herman (518-561-8252) OR Sr. Bethany Fitzgerald (315-212-6592)

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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

Mission Sunday lifts the world

Many thanks to you, our generous donors in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, for the World Mission Sunday offerings. You are supporting and blessing among the more than 1,100 mission dioceses in need around the world, allowing the life-giving presence of the church in the missions.

Through your help, healthcare is provided for needy newborns and mothers by the church in the Americas, and you are a mission on this earth. Catholic orphanages and nursing homes in European countries where persecution remains are funded, and you are a mission on this earth. There are over 35,000 major and minor seminarians in Africa receiving support for their vocations, training in the Gospel to bring hope to the vulnerable in their native countries, and you are a mission on this earth. Now a church in Oceania has funds to complete reconstruction and serve the faithful, as you are a mission on this earth. Religious sisters can educate street children and youth from impoverished tribal areas through 16,000 primary schools in Asia, and you become a mission on this earth.

The parishioners of our diocese are indeed a mission on this earth year after year with help channeled through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. There is sincere gratitude for generosity and prayerful support!

Though our annual celebration is in October, World Mission Sunday looks to encourage a missionary spirit all year long. Your help, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is "building our Church" in the missions year after year. Please know the Mission Office is most grateful for your generosity and prayerful support.

While World Mission Sunday is celebrated only once a year, it is the Mission Office's hope that in the months ahead, you will continue to remember the missionary work of the church, especially in your prayers. There is also hope that there will be continued efforts to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, or at least give it consideration.

Thanking you again for your enthusiasm and generous participation in this year's celebration of World Mission Sunday.

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

OBITUARIES

Adams — Guillermo Vicente Lassally, 74; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 30, 2018 at St. Cecilia's Church.

Alexandria Bay — Joseph F. Cullen, Sr., 77; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 30, 2018 at St. Cyril's Church.

Alexandria Bay — Helen Mastrocola Sweet, 89; Funeral Services Oct. 29, 2018 at Costello Funeral Home.

Au Sable Forks — Michael A. LaFountain, 75; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at Holy Name Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

Au Sable Forks — Carol A. Sharland, 82; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 2, 2018 at Holy Name Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Carthage — Michael Thomas Ashcroft, 73; Mass of Christian Burial at St. James Church.

Champlain — Lee F. Dupee, 60; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 29, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Coopersville.

Chateaugay — Joanne Douglas, 83; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2018 at Chateaugay Funeral Home; burial in Eastside Cemetery.

Chateaugay — Alan E. LeClair, 70; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 29, 2018

at St. Patrick's Church.

Chazy — Ruth Peryer, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 7, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church

Constable — Andrew Joseph Allen, 73; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Croghan — Gertrude L. (Martin) Dicob, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 30, 2018 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Croghan — Regina M. (Campany) Ostrowski, 85; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Keeseville — Charlotte Annie Anocowle, 65; Funeral Services Nov. 3, 2018 at the Hamilton Funeral Home.

Hogansburg — Christie Grace (Herne) Thompson, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 2, 2018 at St. Regis Church; burial in Kateri Cemetery.

Massena — Michael J. Grant, 75; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Massena — Catherine (Doud) O'Brien, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church;

burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery, Louisville.

Massena — Mary H. (Mae) Vice, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 31, 2018 at Phillips Memorial Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morrisonville — Geraldine (Dickens) Hicks, 98; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 3, 2018 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Dan-nemora.

Morrisonville — Mary V. (Sorrell) Raposa, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 29, 2018 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Elsie E. (Monrief) Poore, 88; Funeral Services Oct. 31, 2018 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Hill Crest Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Beverly (Latour) Charland, 77; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 29, 2018 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Louis de France Cemetery, Sciota.

Plattsburgh — Elaine Catherine (Durnin) Osher, 100; Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 29, 2018 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery, Lyon Mountain.

Around the diocese

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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.

DOVS MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN
D.O.V.S (Diocese of Ogdensburg Voca-

tion Society) as a group, are dedicated to promoting and fostering vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our diocese. The annual campaign provides a major source of revenue for our organization and its success is vital to our Diocese. Funds that we raise through our membership campaign helps us to raise awareness for vocations in our Diocese.

Cost: Annual dues are \$50 per year or \$75 per married couple.

Contact: Any questions please call Connie Randall at 315-265-2762 or Anne Miller at 315-353-2950 or email Connie at connierandall47@yahoo.com

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

is on
FACEBOOK

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- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

FACES OF FAITH



Bishop Terry R. LaValley led a pilgrimage with the Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society to sites in the Buffalo area, including Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, NY.

Virtus facilitator training planned

OGDENSBURG— Patti Neal from VIRTUS will conduct facilitator training Dec. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Brzana Conference room on the campus of the diocesan offices.

VIRTUS is a program created by the National Catholic Risk Retention Group in the United States with a "Protecting God's Children" component that combats sexual abuse of children in the Church.

The program focuses on educating teachers, parents, and other adults who interact with children about sexual abuse and providing them with information to help prevent abuse.

Facilitators conduct VIRTUS awareness training sessions consisting of videos, worksheets and discussions throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg when needed.

The videos incorporate interviews with both victims and convicted perpetrators.

All clergy, religious, lay employees and volunteers of parishes, diocesan offices and schools are required to complete to complete the VIRTUS sessions under the guidance of trained facilitators.

Information about participating in this training is available from John Morrison, Safe Environment coordinator of the diocese at jmorrison@rcdony.org.



The Port Henry Knights of Columbus Council 384 recently sponsored a Turkey Dinner in support of High Peaks Hospice. Pictured presenting a check for \$800 are, from left, Grand Knight William Callahan, High Peaks Hospice Fund Raising Coordinator Marisa Multari and Past Grand Knight Napoleon Marcotte.



Youth from grades kindergarten to grade 10 at the Roman Catholic Community of St. Alexander's, St. Joseph's, and St. James (Morrisonville, West Plattsburgh and Cadyville) collected items to donate to Hurricane Michael survivors.