

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

'This Lent, don't give up on your marriage' | PAGE 7

Bishops call for end of 'madness' after gun violence | PAGE 11

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 72, Number 38

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEB. 21, 2018

'Receive God's mercy in Lent'

ROME (CNS) - Lent is a time for Christians to get their hearts in sync with the heart of Jesus, Pope Francis said.

"Let the Lord heal the wounds of sin and fulfill the prophecy made to our fathers: 'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will

put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh,'" the pope said Feb. 14, celebrating Mass and distributing ashes at the beginning of Lent.

After a brief prayer at the Benedictine's Monastery of

St. Anselm, Pope Francis made the traditional Ash Wednesday procession to the Dominican-run Basilica of Santa Sabina on Rome's Aventine Hill for the Mass.

He received ashes on his head from 93-year-old Cardinal Jozef Tomko, titular car-

dinal of the basilica, and he distributed ashes to the cardinals present, three Benedictines, three Dominicans, an Italian couple and members of the Pontifical Academy for Martyrs, which promotes the traditional Lenten "station church."

FROM ASHES TO EASTER

The journey through Lent



PHOTO BY JESSE SOVIE

Bishop Terry R. LaValley places ashes on the forehead of Deacon James D. Crowley at the Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral. The *North Country Catholic* continues its Lenten series "Lord, Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace," with a column on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person by Father Douglas Lucia, judicial vicar, vocation director and pastor in Waddington. Each of seven themes of Catholic social teaching will be explored in upcoming issues of the paper.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

It's time to renew your subscription

The annual *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign begins in parishes of the diocese this weekend.

In his letter encouraging every Catholic to subscribe to the paper, Bishop LaValley said, "Connecting Catholics from Port Henry to Port Leyden, from Lake Champlain to Lake Pleasant to Lake Ontario and all points in between, every week, the *NCC* has offered information and inspiration with timely and relevant articles on prayer, scripture, Church and religious news.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

Rite of Election

Bishop LaValley to preside at ceremony Feb. 25 at St. Mary's Cathedral
FULL STORY, PAGE 3

LITTLE FLOWERS.... LOTS OF FUN



Talitha Workman of St. James Parish in Carthage is one of the leaders of the Little Flowers Club, a group for Catholic girls in grades kindergarten through eight. Mrs. Workman said the club offers an "opportunity for the girls of our parish to learn about our church's faith and traditions, develop strong virtues, and learn about female saints, all while building self-esteem, gaining friendships, and having fun." She is pictured with her daughter Adeline during the club's end of the year Mother/Daughter Tea Party.

THANKS TO OUR PATRONS: Subscribers give extra support to the *NCC*... p.8-9

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400

BISHOP TERRY

R. LAVALLEY

President

REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN

Vice President

JAMES D. CROWLEY

Secretary-Treasurer

MARY LOU KILIAN

Editor/

General Manager



Publish 45 issues per year: Weekly except skipping every other week beginning July through Aug. and skipping one week in Dec. by the Diocese of Ogdensburg, 622 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Editorial Office:

622 Washington Street,
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669.

Telephone:

(315) 608-7556

E-mail:

news@northcountry
catholic.org

Entered at the

Post Office:

Ogdensburg, NY

13669 and

additional mailing offices as
Periodical Postage.

Subscription:

For one year:

In-Diocese Rate: \$27

Outside of Diocese Rate: \$30

Matters for publication
should be

addressed to

PO Box 326

Ogdensburg, NY 13669
and should be received by

Thursday prior to

publication.

Paper is printed each

Monday;

deadline is Wednesday.

Member, Catholic Press
Association.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to

North Country Catholic,

PO Box 326

Ogdensburg, NY

13669-0326

EDITOR'S NOTE

A new day coming for the *NCC*

Year after year, as the *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign approaches, I try to come up with creative and compelling words to convince our readers to stay in the *NCC* family.

This year, I have a brand new pitch! You ALL need to renew/subscribe to the diocesan newspaper in 2018 because it will be a year of exciting changes.

In a couple months, for the first time since 1984, a new name will appear

on our masthead under the title "editor."

Mary Lou
Kilian

Nearly 40 years after knocking on Father Bernie Christman's door, looking for a job, any job, I will be joining the ranks of the retired ones, ready for some new adventures in my life.

And this will open the door for a new face at the *NCC*, someone who will certainly bring fresh ideas and boundless energy to the position.

Personally, I can't wait to see

how it all works out.

While I appreciate that it will be challenging - even heart-breaking - to let go, I know it's time to give someone else the awesome opportunity of shepherding the *North Country Catholic* into the future.

I think it's good timing on my part since the past year has been a good one for our paper. It was a great joy and honor to receive significant awards from the Catholic Press Association. And, it's been an even greater joy to know that Bishop LaValley has decided he wants the *NCC* to continue as a weekly paper since "The *North Coun-*

try Catholic has been the most efficient and effective way for me to communicate with Catholics throughout our expansive diocese."

And communication will be the goal of the next editor of the *NCC* as it has been for all of us since Bishop Bryan McEntegart founded the paper in 1946. Through newsprint, digital media, social media and whatever new-fangled media comes next, the *North Country Catholic* will be there spreading the good news of the Catholic Church in northern New York.

Hope you're all there with us!

FATHER MUENCH SAYS

Living an Olympian-style faith

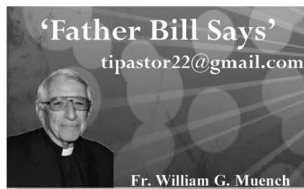
I love the Olympics!

Four years ago, during the last winter Olympics in Sochi, I was living in Saranac Lake. At that time, I had the opportunity to meet several Olympic athletes from the Adirondacks who were competing that year. That was rather special; I certainly felt more interested in the events that year knowing some Olympians.

During the past week, I have enjoyed this year's Olympic events, watching as many as I could.

There is a certain fascination in the Olympics. I remember the 1980 Olympics, held in Lake Placid. In those days, being much younger, I enjoyed skiing. I thought it was rather neat that I was able to ski on those Olympic slopes at Whiteface. Now I admit, I skied them very, very much slower than those Olympians.

I think the television coverage this year has been good and I have been most interested in hearing the background information and the bios of the athletes from all the different countries. It is fascinating to learn how these men and women started on the road



to becoming an Olympian. I enjoy knowing what gave them the dedication and determination to put in all the hard work and training to make the team.

I also wonder about the many athletes who worked hard and trained but did not make the Olympic team. They also had determination and dedication - but only a precious few athletes finally make the team. I know that these were rather sensational people and very talented athletes who came so close to making the Olympics. I am certain that this adventure and journey did make them even better individuals though they fell short of their goal. I know that their lives were filled with many successes because they made those efforts to become an Olympian.

Now I mention all of this be-

cause I am certain these Olympic athletes seem to me to be wonderful examples of the dedication a Catholic should have in living out their faith. I would like to believe that our Catholic Church could be known as a people with the kind of dedication to live well and make the world a better place - with the kind of determination as an Olympian. The only difference would be that all will be gold medalists. Maybe that would be a good definition of a saint.

Each Catholic has a story. What gets us, Catholics, started on our journey to a faith filled life? The Olympian was started by enthusiastic parents, certainly by a perceptive coach and many, often small, things that happened along the way - and probably a few surprises.

I like to think, we, Catholics, have had many wonderful people who said the right things to us, who guided us and showed us the way. And I am certain it was also so many small things that keep our faith alive - little things that God placed into our lives. And, yes, many surprises.

I remember this story well. This gentleman stopped to see me at the rectory one Saturday morning. He began by telling me he wanted to become a Catholic. So, we sat down to talk about it. I asked how he ever got the idea of becoming a Catholic. His first answer was to tell me about a fellow he worked near at the plant. This fellow was a Catholic. My visitor went on to describe how impressed he was by him and was also impressed by the way he lived his Catholic faith and how much it meant to him.

I knew this fellow he was talking about. I am certain that if I had gone over and visited him and tell him how he had led someone to become a Catholic he would be very surprised and humbled. I would describe him as a very good, but ordinary Catholic. You never know what an impression you make on others by living your Catholic life as well as you can, by trying to say the right things, by doing things well especially those little things that are such a part of our life. And - yes - the surprises - we could often become a surprise of the Lord.

FOLLOW ME

It's time to renew

For more than seventy years, bishops of the Diocese of Ogdensburg have found the *North Country Catholic* to be a trusted partner in spreading the Good News of our Church.

Connecting Catholics from Port Henry to Port Leyden, from Lake Champlain to Lake Pleasant to Lake Ontario and all points in between, every week, the *NCC* has offered information and inspiration with timely and relevant articles on prayer, scripture, Church and religious news.

The *North Country Catholic* has been the most efficient and effective way for me to communicate with Catholics throughout our expansive diocese. During these challenging times, it is more important than ever that families welcome a Catholic perspective on the news of the day into their homes.

As part of our efforts in the New Evangelization, we must deepen our own rela-



Bishop LaValley, publisher of the *North Country Catholic*, urges every Catholic to welcome the diocesan newspaper into their homes. The 2018 subscription campaign begins this weekend.

tionship with Christ and reach out to Catholics who are not fully active in our faith, who we don't see in church nor do they partici-

pate in parish life on a regular basis. *The North Country Catholic* delivered into homes helps us strengthen our faith and enables our parish families to stay connected and support one another.

This weekend, the annual *North Country Catholic* subscription campaign begins in all of our parishes. I ask that every Catholic family subscribe to our paper. If you are a current subscriber, please renew your subscription in this week's campaign. Why not consider obtaining a subscription as a gift for a family member?

I invite those who don't currently subscribe to consider how important it is today to be an informed Catholic Christian and allow our diocesan newspaper to be a vehicle to help you and your families grow in faith.

I hope that you accept my invitation to welcome the award-winning *North Country Catholic* into your home.

Rite of Election set for Feb. 25

OGDENSBURG—Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates Feb. 25 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral.

This is one of the final steps for catechumens who are preparing to enter the Catholic Church at Easter and candidates (those who are already baptized) who seek full communion with the church.

The catechumens will receive all three of the Easter sacraments – baptism, the Eucharist and confirmation – in their parishes during the Easter Vigil.

At the Rite of Election, upon the testimony of sponsors and catechists and the catechumens' affirmation of their intention to join the Church, the Church makes its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

In the presence of the bishop, they inscribe their names in the Book of the Elect at the cathedral as a pledge of fidelity to the Catholic Church.

Chrism Mass

OGDENSBURG—All the faithful of the Diocese of Ogdensburg are invited to join Bishop Terry R. LaValley for the annual Chrism Mass to be held March 22 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral.

The liturgy will feature the annual Renewal of Priestly Commitment, the Blessing of the Holy Oils, and the consecration of the Sacred Chrism for use in all the churches of the diocese.

A SEAT OF HONOR FOR SISTER CHRISTINE



Matt and Sandy Rourke recently presented St. Joseph Sister Christine Taylor with a bench to be permanently placed in St. Regis Mission Church in Hogansburg honoring her for decades of service to the community. Chad Green of Donaldson Funeral Home designed, ordered and delivered



the bench. The inscription on the bench reads "In honor of Sister Christine Taylor SSJ for her dedicated compassion and care to Akwesasne. All for the Honor and Glory of God." At right, Sister Christine sits on her bench with Father Jerome Pastores, pastor of St. Regis.

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE

Life and dignity of the human person

By Father Douglas Lucia
Judicial Vicar, pastor in Waddington

Second in a series

"When we speak of mankind, we must never forget the various attacks on the sacredness of human life. The plague of abortion is an attack on life. Allowing our brothers and sisters to die on boats in the Strait of Sicily is an attack on life. Dying on the job because the minimum safety standards are not respected is an attack on life. Death from malnutrition is an attack on life. Terrorism, war, violence; so is euthanasia. Loving life means always taking care of the other, wanting the best for him, cultivating and respecting her transcendent dignity." —

Pope Francis, Address to Meeting of the Science and Life Association

These words of Pope Francis points to the foundational principle of Catholic Social Teaching: the dignity and sacredness of all human life. It is this belief that provides the foundation of a moral vision for human society; rooted in Sacred Scripture which proclaims that "God created man and woman in His image, in the divine image He created them" (see *Genesis 1:26-31*).

This fundamental value underpins all the other themes found in Catholic teaching concerning the human family.

It is also an invitation for you and me to become more conscious of our very dignity and giftedness as a child of God. Such recognition challenges oneself to be the best one can be and not cop out with the excuse, "I am only human!"

This phrase is an actual attestation of who we really are and challenges the human person to live as one created in the image and likeness of God and not settle for less!

Furthermore, it provides us with the litmus

Lord,
make me an instrument
of your peace;
where there is hatred,
let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness,
joy.
- St. Francis of Assisi

test of how we are to treat one another. If we truly recognize the worth of human life, how does it change how we treat "one's neighbor" in our daily encounters and interactions? What does it say to our interactions at home, in the workplace, at school, in the parish or even in traffic?

As Church, we believe that the measure of any institution or society is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person. Inherent in this principle is the call for human society and its governments to protect the right to life of all human persons from con-

ception to natural death.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops state that: "In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means."

The breadth of this statement helps one to see the how this basic principle intersects with the various aspects of the human person as a social being: solidarity, dignity of work, family, rights and responsibilities, etc. What you and I stand for and do or don't do in life has an impact.

To pray: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace..." and to recognize the inherent dignity and co-responsibility behind these words is what we are being asked to consider this Lent as a Diocesan Church family.

Lent is a time of self-examination in preparation for our renewal of the baptismal covenant at Easter where we celebrate our giftedness in the Risen Lord.

This week let us take time to contemplate that giftedness by reflecting on the following questions:

- Do I respect the life and dignity of every human person from conception through natural death and everything in between?
- Do I recognize the face of Christ reflected in all others around me whatever their race, class, age, or abilities?
- Do I work to protect the dignity of others when it is being threatened?
- Am I committed to both protecting human life and to ensuring that every human being is able to live in dignity?



Warm up with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic* and find out what is happening with the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Warm up with Good News!

Visit our website at www.northcountrycatholic.org to pay by Credit Card for immediate delivery.

OR Send this coupon with payment to:
North Country Catholic
PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery when mailing in your renewal

Inside Diocese \$27 Outside Diocese \$30
I want to be a Patron: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250
 New Subscrip- tion Renew- Please send my
Name _____ subscription to my
Address _____ e-mail address:
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Parish _____

Plattsburgh

Wholesale Homes

Building the North Country
for over 45 Years!



Smart. Stylish. Functional.
Everything you want in your New Era modular home.

We process all VA loans

New or Used Manufactured and Modular Homes

Located on 7109 State Route 9

Exit 39 of the Northway, across from the city beach of Plattsburgh

518-563-1100 • www.pwmh.com

CATHOLIC KIDS GATHER FOR PRAYER, FUN, LEARNING

FACES OF FAITH



Teachers and students at St. Bernard's School In Saranac Lake took part in the Saranac Lake Winter Carnival Parade. They created a Hot Air Balloon festival to follow the theme "Adirondack Festival. Fourth grade teachers Carol Schmidt and Andrea Kilbourne-Hill lead the way.



The Bell Choir of Seton Academy in Plattsburgh played while ashes were being distributed on Ash Wednesday.

Sister Jaquiline Sellappan, a Sister of the Cross of Chavanod, was one of the presenters at a Vocations/ Career Day Fair held at Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh Jan. 30. The presenters came from all walks of life and were encouraged to share their faith with the students. Shown with Sister Jackie are Carson Coleman, Avery Turner, Journie Odell, and Lea DeJordy.



The Catholic Community of Burke & Chateaugay Youth Group hosted their annual Pancake Fat Tuesday Party, and this year combined it with Valentines Day. The kids enjoyed pancakes with a buffet of toppings and made Valentines and cards for their family, friends and community leaders to give out on Wednesday. Pictured are Alison DuMont, Luke Dalton, and Cameron DuMont, making cards and decorating cup cakes for their Valentines.

Events for youth are set

Diocesan Youth Rally

CANTON – The annual diocesan Youth Rally, for young people in grades 6-12, will be held April 28 at St. Mary's Church and School.

Bob Perron, the director of the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, will serve as keynote speaker for the day. His blend of humor and education have made him a highly sought-after speaker.

Perron has recently been the MC at the National Mass and Rally for Life in Washington, DC, and was a keynote presenter at NCYC 2014 in Indianapolis.

The youth rally will also feature an interactive park, prayer, workshops, and a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop LaValley.

The cost is \$25 (Includes lunch and a guaranteed t-shirt) for those registered by March 15 and \$30 (Includes lunch, T-shirt while supplies last) for those registered after March 15.

Youth leaders can register their groups at www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally

Middle School Vocation Retreat

WATERTOWN – A Vocations Retreat for all students in grades five through 8 from throughout the diocese will be held April 7 from 9 a.m. to 11. The program will be held at Msgr. Sechi Hall of St. Anthony's Church.

A vocations related activity and a panel discussion with a single person, married couple, sister, and a priest will be featured.

The retreat is free and all participants will leave with a goody bag.

Registration should be made with Kathi at water-townvocations@catholicwatertown.org or 315-783-2230 by March 23.

Camp Guggenheim

SARANAC LAKE - Registration for Camp Guggenheim is open.

Each weeklong session provides campers with a mix of faith, fun, and adventure.

Weeks one through five are open to 12-15 year-olds, and the sixth week is open to ages 16-18. Week one begins July 1; week six begins Aug. 5

Faith formation and growth is at the heart of the Guggenheim experience and is an important part of every day. Campers actively participate in Mass, reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and prayer throughout the day. Camp activities include swimming, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, rappelling, arts & crafts, campfires, dances and more

Registration may be made at www.rcdony.org/camp

Rest in Peace

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

Feb. 21 – Rev. Charles A. Paquette O.M.I., 1925; Rev. John J. Kelly, 1944

Feb. 22 – Rev. Edward Tortel, O.M.I., 1901; Rev. Peter H. J. Ryan, 1930

Feb. 23 – Rev. Leo Heinrichs, O.F.M., 1908; Rev. Edward Blanchard, 1922; Rev. André Payette, O.M.I., 1976

Feb. 24 – Rev. George Belanger, 1932; Rev. William J. Murphy, C.S.C.O., 1959

Feb. 25 – Rev. William Howard, 1888; Rev. P.J. O'Connell, O.S.A., 1895; Rev. James J. Duffy, 1912; Msgr. L. Kevin Connors, 1971

Feb. 26 – Rev. Francis X. LaChance, 1916; Rev. John F. Wiley, 1984

Feb. 27 – Rev. Ferdinand Grenier, O.M.I., 1872

Bishop's Schedule

Feb. 21 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 24 – 4 p.m., Installation Mass for Rev. James Seymour as Pastor of St. Peter's, Lowville, St. Mary's, Glenfield & St. Hedwig's, Houseville at St. Peter's Church

Feb. 25 – 8 a.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
2:30 p.m., Rite of Election at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 26 – 7:15 p.m., Novena & Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 27 – 12 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral
2 p.m., Guidance in Giving Meeting at the Bishop Brzana Building in Ogdensburg

Feb. 28 – 10:50 a.m., Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may pre-register at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions.

Upcoming sessions:

March 3 – 10 a.m., St. Joseph's Church, West Chazy

March 6 – 6 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, North Bangor

March 10 – 10 a.m., St. Mary's Church, Evans Mills

March 14 – 6 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

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

Environmental Stewardship

An Inside Job

"Change begins in small ways, and the contributions the Catholic Church can make when it comes to saving the planet start when the laity asks itself simple questions about behavior and how it affects the environment," said a social justice minister from Colombia addressing a gathering of social ministry leaders in Washington.

"The church, as the people of God, needs to look inside and ask: what are we doing for our common home?" said Dallana Contreras, who participates in peace strategies for Caritas Colombia where she has worked for five years. She took part in a Feb. 4 panel addressing "Solidarity in Our Common Home."

Contreras, along with other social justice ministers from around the United States and the world, discussed various issues concerning the environment during the 2018 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering Feb. 3-6 in Washington.

It's important to do a quick survey, she said, and ask: "Are we damaging nature because of what we eat? Are we wasting water? Do I waste energy for hours?" Answering those questions can lead Catholics toward coherence between faith and testimony, she said. "It's important to look at the big corporations that cause disasters and deforestation, but I think the ultimate challenge is the one that exists inside ourselves," she said. (Catholic News Services)

The church needs to emphasize the consequences of actions that negatively affect other populations which church members may not necessarily come into contact with, said Mary Louise Worthy, chief of the Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation of South Carolina. Next week we will meet some our sisters and brothers who suffer the consequences of our choices.

This week's reflective challenge invites us to go 'inside' and identify at least one way in which we give testimony to our faith by the way we reverence and care for our common home and those who share it.

Diocesan Directory



The Official 2018 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

Online at www.northcountrycatholic.org for faster delivery or fill out form below



Make checks payable to
North Country Catholic
PO Box 106
Canajoharie, NY 13317

\$15.00 each

(Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery when mailing in form)

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ directories

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Resurrecting your marriage

'This Lent, don't give up on your marriage'

By Dr. Greg Popcak

Director, CatholicCounselors.com

The correspondence of Ash Wednesday and St. Valentine's Day almost writes its own joke. Sadly, for some couples, getting ashes for Valentine's Day is not only no laughing matter, it even seems like an all-too-appropriate sign of the state of their marriage.

It's no coincidence that March is one of the two most popular months for divorce filings. (The other is August.) Struggling couples pray for the strength to make it through the holidays, and then, start meeting with attorneys through January and February. By the time they get their affairs in order, March is upon them and they are ready to file.

If you find yourself facing this possibility, I have a not-so-simple request that I would like you to take to prayer. Namely, this Lent, don't give up on your marriage.

Pain and Grace

The truth is, marriage can be incredibly, terribly hard sometimes. We are all broken, sinful people. Sometimes the person we sin against the worst is our spouse. We fail to love each other as we deserve to be loved. We take each other for granted. We betray each other's trust. We hurt each other in ways that only two people who know each other terrifically well can, deeply and personally. Sometimes marriage can

seem like a real cross. But that insight can also be a source of real wisdom for how to move forward. The Douay-Rheims Bible's translation of Jesus' last words are, "It is consummated" (Jn 19:30). The marriage of heaven and earth, the sacrificial outpouring of love that saved humankind for all time takes place in that moment where, in spite of all the pain we have inflicted on him, Jesus make a total self-gift. The bridegroom gives himself to his unworthy bride freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully. Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen once shocked people by pointing at the cross and saying, "Do you know what is going on there? Nuptials! I tell you, nuptials!"

But lest we get too focused on Christ's seemingly depressing, final moment, it's critical to remember that by responding to the agonizing pain and rejection he felt on the cross with a miraculous outpouring of love, Jesus made the Resurrection — and our salvation — possible. Without Christ's willingness to embrace the cross, there could be no honeymoon for the bridegroom and his bride.

So what? Jesus was God. We're not. What difference does any of this make to a married couple suffering in 2018?

Well, that's up to you. I'm not asking you to deny the real pain you are in. I'm not asking you to pretend that somehow your spouse deserves the heroic effort it would take to work out your issues. In fact, I'm sure they don't. I'm pretty confident that your marriage is every bit the disaster you think it is. What I am suggesting is that Jesus gave us a model for how to deal with this. He showed us what God can do when, despite all the very good reasons there are to

the contrary, we embrace our cross all the way through. He showed us that when we unite the pain to his grace, a resurrection follows.

Toward Resurrection

The science of marriage therapy has advanced tremendously in the last 20 years. If you work with a trained, marriage-friendly therapist (instead of an therapist who "does marriage therapy"), research shows that you have more than a 95 percent chance of working through your issues. It won't be easy, but as one of those marriage-friendly therapists, I can tell you that not only is it possible, but that every single one of those couples who lets me walk with them from their cross to their resurrection would tell you that it was worth it. Staying with it, embracing the cross and doing the work that their transformation required ultimately

led to a marriage that was more satisfying, supportive and grace-filled than they imagined was possible.

Getting the right kind of help makes all the difference. If you have talked to your friends, or read some books, or met with your pastor a couple times, or gone on a retreat, or even done "some counseling" but have not worked with a trained marriage-friendly therapist who has supervised experience in doing marital therapy properly, you have not gotten the right kind of help. There is still reason to hope. A lot of it.

Of course, if you are being physically abused, you have an obligation to see your and your children's safety. If that requires a divorce, then the Church certainly supports you (see Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2383). But almost anything short of that can be overcome with proper assistance. You can learn more

about marriage-friendly help from sites like The National Registry of Marriage-Friendly Therapists (MarriageFriendlyTherapists.com) or The Pastoral Solutions Institute's Catholic tele-counseling practice (CatholicCounselors.com).

No one gets married to get divorced. I know you didn't. And there are professionals who can help you through the long Lent you have been living and give you the skills you need to experience a resurrection of love, passion and joy in your relationship once again. Please, let them help you.

There are many things you could give up this Lent. But I ask you, respectfully, for the sake of the promises you made at the altar, your children's well-being and your own hopes and dreams, don't let your marriage be one of them.

(This article was reprinted with permission from *Our Sunday Visitor Newsweekly*.)

Editor's note

Dr. Popcak and his wife, Lisa, will be the keynote speakers at "Marriage: God Calls, We Respond" to be held April 14 at Trinity Catholic School in Massena

SAVE THE DATE: April 14, 2018



The Department of Family Life in conjunction with the Offices of Vocations and Evangelization, will present an all-day Life and Family Conference and workshop entitled *Marriage: God Calls, We Respond*. Our keynote speakers will be Dr. Gregory and Lisa Popcak. Please mark your calendars now and save the date:

Saturday, April 14, 2018

at Trinity Catholic School in Massena

More details soon at www.rcdony.org/marriage.

Please pray for the team as we coordinate the details of the conference, that the conference will be fruitful in raising the awareness of the beauty and importance of the vocation of marriage in our Diocese and beyond.

The North Country Catholic is grateful for the financial support it receives from its extraordinary patrons, sustaining patrons, special patrons and patrons. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge those people who supported the mission of the Catholic Press in 2017 with a gift of \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$35. Thank you for the continued generosity.

Extraordinary Patrons \$250

Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Glenn R. Burdo, West Chazy
Dr. and Mrs. Harold Chaskey, Plattsburgh
Rev. Douglas Comstock, Alex Bay
Mr. and Mrs. John L. DuPré, Nashua, NH
Tom and Connie DuPré, Alexander, VA
Deacon Tom and Mary Lou Kilian, Ogdensburg
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen LaFave, Rouses Point
Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Ogdensburg
Rev. Clyde Lewis Jr., Rouses Point
Rev. John Looby, Chateaugay
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McGrath, Brewerton
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Miner, Redford
Rev. William Muench, Sackets Harbor
Msgr. Paul E. Whitmore,

St. James Church, Gouverneur
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Monroe
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Paige
David Parent

St. Raphael's, Heuvelton
Rev. Kevin O'Brien

St. André Bessette Parish, Malone

Ms. Donna Hanus
Mr. Robert Main, Jr.
Sacred Heart, Massena
Connie Coto
Chad and Cathy Green
John Kozsan

St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena
Mr. and Mrs. John LaMay
Miss Dorothy Tyo

The RCC of Morrisstown, Hammond and Rosse
James Fournier
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Lyons
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Moore

St. Therese, Newcomb
Mr. and Mrs. John Sullivan

Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville
Deacon & Mrs. Lawrence Connelly
Msgr. John R. Murphy

The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor
Ms. Yolande Chenaillé

St. Andrew's, Norwood
James Murray

Notre Dame, Ogdensburg
Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Roca
Rev. F. James Shurtleff
Rev. Richard Sturtz

St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
Mrs. Margaret Babcock
Ms. Carmen Feliciano
Rev. Joseph Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. John Pinkerton

St. Bartholomew's, Old Forge
Mark Techmanksi

St. Augustine's, Peru
Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan

Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh
Shirley Otten

St. John's Church, Plattsburgh
William and Barbara Murray
Terrence and Michele Branon

St. Peter's, Plattsburgh
Msgr. Dennis Duprey
Mary Anne Bukolt Ryder

St. Mary's, Potsdam
Mr. and Mrs. William Manning
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Revetta

St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake
Rev. Patrick A. Ratigan

Our Lady of Lourdes, Schroon Lake
Mr. Joseph A. Provoncha

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mrs. Virginia LaPointe
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Leerkes Jr.

The CC of Constable, Westville, & Trout River, Constable
John Fleury

St. Stephen's, Croghan
Rev. Donald Manfred
William E. Monnat

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake
Pat & Darlene Donnelly
Paul A. Maroun
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mozdzier
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Walsh

Church of the Holy Family, Watertown
Mr. and Mrs. William Morgan
Rev. Steven M. Murray

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Watertown
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Johnson

St. Anthony's, Watertown
Michael Coniglio
Mrs. Helen Guardino-Trimmi

St. Patrick's, Watertown
Deacon and Mrs. Kevin Mastello
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy O'Brien
Mr. and Mrs. David O'Neil
Mr. Ronald Monnat

St. Philip's, Willsboro
Stanley Flora

Others
Rev. Daniel Chapin, Bolivia
Mary Jank, Watertown
George and Sheila Lindsey, Binghamton
George and Theresa Miller, N. Fort Myers, FL
Deacon Fred Oberst, Denver, CO
Msgr. Leeward Poissant, Plattsburgh
J. Rusin, Watertown
Molly Shepard, Pittsford
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Slesman, Albany, NY

St. Edmund's, Ellenburg
Deryl and Christine Gregory

St. Mary's, Evans Mills
Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Black
Mr. and Mrs. Noel Voos

St. Mary's of the Fort, Ft. Covington
William Boyle
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henault

St. James, Gouverneur
Mr. Dale Bush
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Desormeaux
Bonnie Hays
Deacon and Mrs. Henry Leader

St. Raphael's, Heuvelton
Margaret Chambers
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Smithers

St. Hedwig's, Houseville
Mary Ann Lepkowski

The CC of Keesville
Mrs. Irene Haines
Mrs. Peter Lacy
Judith McCusker

St. John's, LaFargeville
Mr. and Mrs. David Robinson

St. Agnes, Lake Placid
Miss Anne Moorehead
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reiss
Rev. John Yonkovic

Ss. Philip and James, Lisbon
Michael and Linda Backus
Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Puleo

St. Henry's, Long Lake
Mrs. Julia Helms
Mrs. Lorrie Hosley
Mr. Jerry Nenninger

St. James, Cadyville
Msgr. Lawrence Deno
Mr. and Mrs. John Miner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robare

St. Mary's, Canton
Mr. Lawrence Casey
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Howard
Brian Kurish
Mr. and Mrs. William O'Horo
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sweeney
Mr. and Mrs. Anias Thornton

The CC of Cape Vincent, Rosiere & Chaumont
Ms. Verna Docteur

St. James, Carthage
Mrs. Jane Reape
Rev. Donald Robinson

St. Catherine's, Champlain
Catherine Gooley

CC of Burke and Chateaugay
Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Connor

St. Mary's, Clayton
Deacon and Mrs. Bruce Daughtery
Paul & Magda Heckman
Mr. and Mrs. Robert King
Darrell & Diana Orvis
Dr. and Mrs. John Slattery

St. Patrick's, Colton
Frank and Beverly Kearing
Ester McKnight

St. Mary's, Constableville
Mrs. Steve Wilton

St. Mary's, Copenhagen
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Green

St. Stephen's, Croghan
Robert Buholtz
Donald Proulx
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Proulx

Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Crown Point
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kiely

St. Joseph's, Dannemora
Ms. Anne E. Clancy
Mrs. Eleanor Mayette
Mrs. Bertha Pombrio

St. Edmund's, Ellenburg
Deryl and Christine Gregory

St. Anne's, Mooers Forks
Roland Menard
Deacon and Mrs. Dennis Monty

St. Alexander's, Morrisonville
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Campbell
Rev. William Gordon
David and Jill Marcoux
Rev. Gilbert Menard
Mr. and Mrs. David Seymour

The RCC of Morrisstown, Hammond and Rossie
Judith Green
Rev. Jay Seymour
Chester and Mary Truskowski
Mrs. Jeanne A. Wright

St. Therese, Newcomb
Rev. Peter Berg
Mr. Michael Gooden

Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville
Ron LaRue
Mr. and Mrs. Clark LaShomb
Francis Sharlow

The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor
Mrs. Sally White

St. Lawrence, North Lawrence
Stan and Carol Crump
Mr. and Mrs. James Dawson

St. Andrew's, Norwood
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence LaPointe Jr.

Notre Dame, Ogdensburg
Joan T. McDonald
Mrs. Clifford Montroy
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sebastian

St. Peter's, Lowell
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goss
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hanno
Mary Lou Peters
Gene and Pat Pomerville
Kenneth & Joanne Seymour
Thomas Yousey

St. Bernard's Church, Lyon Mountain
Deacon and Mrs. Francis Siskavich

St. John's, Lyons Falls
Mr. and Mrs. Theresa Cataldo

St. John the Baptist, Madrid
Mr. and Mrs. John Newtown

St. André Bessette Parish, Malone
Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Bruce
Mary Ellen Maguire
Douglas Robert
Andrea Savage
Viola Travers

St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena
Laura Barry
Ken and Sue Bellor
Mr. and Mrs. Darin Chartrand
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Dixon
Elmer Rakoc
Ada Stoiber
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Wilson

Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence, Massena
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beaudet
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Broderick
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Debien, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Furnace
Vince McCarthy
Shirley Negus
Charles Storrin

St. Anne's, Mooers Forks
Roland Menard
Deacon and Mrs. Dennis Monty

St. Alexander's, Morrisonville
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Campbell
Rev. William Gordon
David and Jill Marcoux
Rev. Gilbert Menard
Mr. and Mrs. David Seymour

The RCC of Morrisstown, Hammond and Rossie
Judith Green
Rev. Jay Seymour
Chester and Mary Truskowski
Mrs. Jeanne A. Wright

St. Therese, Newcomb
Rev. Peter Berg
Mr. Michael Gooden

Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville
Ron LaRue
Mr. and Mrs. Clark LaShomb
Francis Sharlow

The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor
Mrs. Sally White

St. Lawrence, North Lawrence
Stan and Carol Crump
Mr. and Mrs. James Dawson

St. Andrew's, Norwood
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence LaPointe Jr.

Notre Dame, Ogdensburg
Joan T. McDonald
Mrs. Clifford Montroy
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sebastian

St. Peter's, Lowell
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goss
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hanno
Mary Lou Peters
Gene and Pat Pomerville
Kenneth & Joanne Seymour
Thomas Yousey

St. Bernard's Church, Lyon Mountain
Deacon and Mrs. Francis Siskavich

St. John's, Lyons Falls
Mr. and Mrs. Theresa Cataldo

St. John the Baptist, Madrid
Mr. and Mrs. John Newtown

St. André Bessette Parish, Malone
Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Bruce
Mary Ellen Maguire
Douglas Robert
Andrea Savage
Viola Travers

St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena
Laura Barry
Ken and Sue Bellor
Mr. and Mrs. Darin Chartrand
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Dixon
Elmer Rakoc
Ada Stoiber
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Wilson

Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence, Massena
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Beaudet
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Broderick
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Debien, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Furnace
Vince McCarthy
Shirley Negus
Charles Storrin

St. Anne's, Mooers Forks
Roland Menard
Deacon and Mrs. Dennis Monty

St. Alexander's, Morrisonville
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Campbell
Rev. William Gordon
David and Jill Marcoux
Rev. Gilbert Menard
Mr. and Mrs. David Seymour

The RCC of Morrisstown, Hammond and Rossie
Judith Green
Rev. Jay Seymour
Chester and Mary Truskowski
Mrs. Jeanne A. Wright

St. Therese, Newcomb
Rev. Peter Berg
Mr. Michael Gooden

Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville
Ron LaRue
Mr. and Mrs. Clark LaShomb
Francis Sharlow

The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor
Mrs. Sally White

St. Lawrence, North Lawrence
Stan and Carol Crump
Mr. and Mrs. James Dawson

St. Andrew's, Norwood
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence LaPointe Jr.

Notre Dame, Ogdensburg
Joan T. McDonald
Mrs. Clifford Montroy
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sebastian

St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
Deacon & Mrs. Frank Bateman
Steven and Kathy Bateman
Carmen Feliciano
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hackett
Mrs. Kenneth Lawless
Marie Morley
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Romano
Mrs. Barbara Ruggeri
Sally Rusaw
Mr. and Mrs. William Seymour, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Sovie
Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor

St. Augustine's, Peru
Mr. Peter Keenan
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kelley
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Knight

St. Joseph's, Philadelphia
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Olsfski

Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh
Michele Carpentier
Albert Faiella

St. John's, Plattsburgh
Paul and Christine Boyea
Mrs. Dorothy Carr
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Garran
Leslie Marvel
Dawn McDonagh
Mr. and Mrs. George Miller
Joyce Trudeau-Conners

St. Peter's, Plattsburgh
Msgr. Joseph Aubin
Jay Fennell
Mr. and Mrs. John Fredette
Theresa Giroux
Ceil Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. James Keable
Mrs. Eleanor Tart

The CC of Mohiah
Mr. Michael P. Allen
Rev. Albert Hauser
Mrs. Bernice Mayer

St. Mary's, Potsdam
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bouvier
Mr. and Mrs. John Castle
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Healey
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mucenski

Church of the Assumption, Redford
Cathie Chauvin
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Collins
Hubert Wood

St. Patrick's, Rouses Point
Mr. and Mrs. Donald LaBombard

St. Ann's, St. Regis Falls
Carl M. Martin

St. Andrew's, Sackets Harbor
Mr. Mark Phillips

St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Capone
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Darrah
Mr. and Mrs. Anton Kreuzer
Mr. and Mrs. William McIntyre
Mr. and Mrs. James Murnane
Ms. Margaret Ratigan
Mrs. Elaine Sater
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Szwed

St. Theresa of Avila's, Theresa
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowak

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Reale Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Valenti
Dominick Viscardi

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Reale Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Valenti
Dominick Viscardi

St. Theresa of Avila's, Theresa
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowak

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Reale Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Valenti
Dominick Viscardi

St. Theresa of Avila's, Theresa
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowak

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Reale Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Valenti
Dominick Viscardi

St. Theresa of Avila's, Theresa
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nowak

St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake
Ms. Theresa Joseph
Camil Maroun Jr.
Ms. Annette Stanley

St. Mary's, Waddington
Mrs. Joan Anders
Mr. and Mrs. William P. Tiernan

Church of the Holy Family, Watertown
Patrick Bates
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Caughlin
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Charlebois
Mrs. Ambrose Gaffney
Michael and Judy Geng
Mrs. Thomas Goodwin
Mr. and Mrs. Gary McCulloch
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Reese
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ruggiero, Jr.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Watertown
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Doell
Mr. and Mrs. William Hermann
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Thompson

St. Anthony's, Watertown
Rev. Robert Aucoin
Mr. David Buskey
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Marra
Mr. and Mrs. Cataldo Morgia

St. Patrick's, Watertown
Rev. Joseph Capone
Mr. Clayton Jank
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Michaelson
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Pearson Sr.
Michael Powers
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Trimmer

St. Joseph's, West Chazy
Rev. J. Roger McGuinness

St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baumann

Others
Mayfred Balaban, Fairport
William & Linda Boyle, Stratford,
Syracuse, NY
Diantha Lavoie, Dagsboro, DE
Edward DuPré, Babylon
Darcy Fargo, Moria
Bruce Favreau, South Burlington,
VT
James Gillen, Jonesboro, ME
Mr. and Mrs. David Hagan,
Huntersville, NC
Rev. Thomas Higman
Rev. Donald H. Karlen, Remsen
Mr. and Mrs. Robert King,
Rockingham, VA
Jeanne McGuire-Conlon, Slippery
Rock, PA
Janice Morse, Peru
Vic and Donna Pisani, Schenectady
Robert S. Wetmore, Sciota
Carolyn Malaney

Special Patrons \$50

St. Cecilia's, Adams
Mr. and Mrs. William Ose
Bradley and Nancy Smith

St. Cyril's, Alex Bay
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Grausgruber
Peter and Mary Palamar
Deacon and Mrs. Joel Walentuk

Church of the Holy Angels
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Byoga

St. Patrick's, Brasher Falls
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Demo
Mr. and Mrs. Hector Foisy
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lane
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Sienkiewicz
The CC of Brownville & Dexter
Mrs. Nancy Horeth
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Queal
Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Snyder

St. Mary's, Brushton
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Curran
Rev. Raymond Moreau
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Trudeau
Joan Whipple

St. James, Cadyville
Msgr. Lawrence Deno
Mr. and Mrs. John Miner
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robare

St. Mary's, Canton
Mr. Lawrence Casey
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Howard
Brian Kurish
Mr. and Mrs. William O'Horo
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sweeney
Mr. and Mrs. Anias Thornton

St. Joseph's, Gouverneur
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Monroe
Mr. & Mrs. Bud Paige
David Parent

St. Raphael's, Heuvelton
Rev. Kevin O'Brien

St. André Bessette Parish, Malone
Ms. Donna Hanus
Mr. Robert Main, Jr.
Sacred Heart, Massena
Connie Coto
Chad and Cathy Green
John Kozsan

St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena
Mr. and Mrs. John LaMay
Miss Dorothy Tyo

The RCC of Morrisstown, Hammond and Rosse
James Fournier
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Lyons
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Moore

St. Therese, Newcomb
Mr. and Mrs. John Sullivan

Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville
Deacon & Mrs. Lawrence Connelly
Msgr. John R. Murphy

The CC of St. Augustine, North Bangor
Ms. Yolande Chenaillé

St. Andrew's, Norwood
James Murray

Notre Dame, Ogdensburg
Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Roca
Rev. F. James Shurtleff
Rev. Richard Sturtz

St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
Mrs. Margaret Babcock
Ms. Carmen Feliciano
Rev. Joseph Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. John Pinkerton

St. Bartholomew's, Old Forge
Mark Techmanksi

St. Augustine's, Peru
Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan

Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh
Shirley Otten

St. John's Church, Plattsburgh
William and Barbara Murray
Terrence and Michele Branon

St. Peter's, Plattsburgh
Msgr. Dennis Duprey
Mary Anne Bukolt Ryder

St. Mary's, Potsdam
Mr. and Mrs. William Manning
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Revetta

St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake
Rev. Patrick A. Ratigan

Our Lady of Lourdes, Schroon Lake
Mr. Joseph A. Provoncha

St. Mary's, Ticonderoga
Mrs. Virginia LaPointe
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Leerkes Jr.

Sustaining Patrons \$100

Watertown
St. Cecilia's, Adams
Deacon and Mrs. Larry Ambeau
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin O'Rourke

St. Cyril's, Alex Bay
Deacon Bernard Slate
Mrs. C. Richard Snow

St. Paul's Church, Black River
Mr. and Mrs. William Flynn, III

St. Patrick's, Brasher Falls
James E. Crump

St. Paul's Oratory, Bloomingdale
Joseph Fisher

The CC of Brownville & Dexter
Anne Valentine

The CC of Burke & Chateaugay
Mr. Kenneth O'Neill

St. Mary's, Canton
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Jones
Rev. Doug Lucia
Rev.

The North Country Catholic is grateful for the financial support it receives from its extraordinary patrons, sustaining patrons, special patrons and patrons.

We would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge those people who supported the mission of the Catholic Press in 2017 with a gift of \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$35. Thank you for the continued generosity.

Patrons \$35

<p>St. Cecilia's, Adams Rev. Martin Cline</p> <p>St. Cyril's, Alex Bay Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bradley Mr. and Mrs. Jack Giordano Roderick and Lisa Tidd</p> <p>Holy Angels, Altona Mr. and Mrs. Leward Lucia Ellen Montgomery Mrs. Diana Shaw</p> <p>Holy Name, Au Sable Forks Ann Cordick Mrs. Theresa Devlin Rev. Kris Lauzon Deacon John J. Ryan</p> <p>St. Paul's, Black River Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Blankenbush John and Mary Kiechle Mr. and Mrs. Geno Martini</p> <p>St. Patrick's, Brasher Falls Judy Austin Mr. and Mrs. Mark Berninghausen Mr. and Mrs. Francis Fisher Rev. Gary Giroux Sally LaVare Maurice and Linda Lemieux</p> <p>The CC of Brownville & Dexter Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Ryan</p> <p>St. Mary's, Brushton June Curran Norman and Linda Dibble Keith O'Connor</p> <p>The CC of Burke and Chateaugay Linda A. Ryan</p> <p>St. James, Cadyville Mr. Lyman Defayette Mr. and Mrs. David Learned Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rasco</p> <p>St. Mary's, Canton Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Firman Mr. David Geleta Mrs. Shelia Harrington Mrs. Edwin Krenceski Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence</p> <p>The CC of Cape Vincent, Rosiere and Chaumont Jack Knapp Art & Carolyn Montondo Jim and Tammy Sharlow</p> <p>St. James', Carthage Joseph Brosk Mrs. Joanne Raycraft</p> <p>St. Mary's, Champlain Mr. Hector Bedard Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bedard Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cooke Gloria Tetreaut</p>	<p>Sacred Heart, Chazy Mr. and Mrs. William Tisdale Mr. and Mrs. Richard West</p> <p>St. Mary's, Clayton Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kehoe Timothy Orvis Mr. and Mrs. John Stopper</p> <p>St. Patrick's, Colton Mr. Frank Kearing Mr. and Mrs. Edward Long Mr. and Mrs. Brian MacDougall Rev. Stephen Rocker Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sharp</p> <p>St. Francis of Assisi, Constable Deacon Garry & Arletha Burnell Mr. and Mrs. James Lester Jr. Mrs. Pat Matthews</p> <p>St. Joseph's, Coopersville Mrs. Eleanor Reynolds</p> <p>St. Stephen's, Croghan Bruce and Doris Boliver Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Chartrand Brad and Susan Gydesen Brian and Debbie Hoppel Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Monnat Elizabeth Peters</p> <p>Sacred Heart of Jesus, Crown Point Mrs. Carol Stanley</p> <p>St. Joseph's, Dannemora Mary Brassard Mrs. Nancy Clancy Mrs. Rita Larche Dcn. & Mrs. Edward Mazuchowski</p> <p>St. Edmund's, Ellenburg Susan Devlin-Varin Sylvester LaClair Yvonne Taylor</p> <p>St. Mary's, Evans Mills Mr. and Mrs. John Delles</p> <p>St. Mary's of the Fort, Fort Covington Mr. and Mrs. Donald Chapman Mrs. Jean Davis</p> <p>St. James', Gouverneur Mr. David Bradford Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wahl</p> <p>St. Francis Solanus, Harrisville Daniel Knack</p> <p>Queen of Heaven, Henderson Ms. Edna Verrilli</p> <p>St. Raphael's, Heuvelton John Herron Rosanna Osgood Dr. Carolyn Pierce Rick and Shelly Reed</p> <p>St. Anthony of Padua, Inlet and Raquette Lake Mrs. Sharon Daviau</p> <p>St. Brendan's, Keene Mr. John Fehlner</p>	<p>The CC of Keeseville Mary Bailey Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brelia Richard Boulrice Mr. and Mrs. Servando Canas Ms. Margaret Karkoski Mr. and Mrs. James King Patricia LaBounty</p> <p>St. John's Lafargeville Mr. and Mrs. Fred LaClair Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lawrence Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walldroff Mary Walldroff</p> <p>St. Agnes, Lake Placid Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Beneshan Mr. Edward Finnerty Mr. Franklin Rivers</p> <p>SS. Philip and James, Lisbon Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Bisnett Paul Dalton Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hollis Mr. and Mrs. Neil LaBrake</p> <p>St. Henry's, Long Lake Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kentile Mr. and Mrs. Lew Plumley John and Joyce Rayome</p> <p>St. Peter's, Lowville William Tuttle</p> <p>St. Bernard's, Lyon Mountain William and Robin Chase Joan Fetzko James and Linda Kowalowski Brenda Owen</p> <p>St. André Bessette Parish, Malone Mr. Daniel Andrews Mr. and Mrs. Joel Avery Mrs. Phyllis Barber Mr. Carl Bashaw Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Benware Mr. and Mrs. James Coughlin Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dufort Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hart Cheryl Learned Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Nichols Mr. and Mrs. Alan Poupore</p> <p>St. Mary's and St. Joseph's, Massena Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Love Mr. Andrew Szarka</p> <p>Sacred Heart and St. Lawrence, Massena Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Beaudoin Mrs. Joyce Coto Mr. and Mrs. Leo Dishaw Mr. Donald Douglas Mr. and Mrs. Duane Hazelton Doreen E. Johnson Mr. and Mrs. Alex Kozsan Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manning Mrs. Floence McLean Deacon and Mrs. Thomas Proulx Rev. Mark Reilly Mr. and Mrs. Philip St. Amand</p>	<p>Mr. and Mrs. James Samuel Mrs. Carl Scruggs, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Trippany Mr. and Mrs. John Whalen Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Zappia</p> <p>St. Ann's, Mooers Forks Joyce Roberts</p> <p>St. Alexander's and St. Joseph's, Morrisonville Barbara Monto Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Defayette Nancy Frenyea Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Hubbard Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Krupka Ed Martin Mr. and Mrs. Patrick McGill Christina Packwood Rev. Scott Seymour</p> <p>The RCC of Morristown, Hammond and Rossie Mr. and Mrs. Fred Barse Donna Burns Mrs. Melanie Kring Marjorie McCullauch Ann Norman Mary C. Spilman</p> <p>St. Therese, Newcomb Bob and Marilyn Lilly</p> <p>Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond, Norfolk and Raymondville Rev. Andrew Amyot Nancy Demy Rev. Jack Downs Leanne Green Gil and Carol Gonthier Stephen Karlberg Molly Pressey</p> <p>St. Lawrence, North Lawrence Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Hamill</p> <p>St. Andrew's, Norwood Mr. and Mrs. James Besaw Philip and Linda Regan</p> <p>Notre Dame, Ogdensburg John Allard Tim and Shannon Baker Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Basta Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bouchard Catherine Denny Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Dupree Cherie Edwards M. June Farrell Deacon and Mrs. Mark LaLonde Robert Layng Miss Lee Mashaw John Reed David and Tami Richer Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sovie Stephen Sovie Mrs. William Tupper</p>	<p>St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg Doreen Adams Mrs. Louisa Calcatera Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Denoncourt Cassie A. Donnelly Mr. and Mrs. David Franz Rita Lewis Jack and Betty Mellon Michael and Angela Morley Mrs. John Moulton Deacon and Mrs. John White</p> <p>St. Bartholomew's, Old Forge Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Foley Lynne D. McCormick Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trimbach Rev. Howard Venette St. Bartholomew's Church</p> <p>St. Joseph's, Olmstedville Barbara Reep</p> <p>St. Augustine's, Peru Joan Forrence Mrs. Mary Hensel Mrs. Sally Kokes Gary and Julie Liberty Mr. and Mrs. Robert Manchester Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Remillard</p> <p>St. Joseph's, Philadelphia Mr. John McKinley</p> <p>Our Lady of Victory, Plattsburgh Ms. Aline Cote Dr. and Mrs. John Middleton Mr. and Mrs. Charles Polhemus</p> <p>St. John's, Plattsburgh Loretta and Andy Capiello David and Mary Clark Mr. Samuel Kleinman Mrs. David Lanigan John and Vicki Masella Mr. and Mrs. Greg Sherman Mr. Herling Sorrell Mr. and Mrs. Norman Votraw Michael and Elaine Williford</p> <p>St. Peter's, Plattsburgh Alton Barcomb Mark Bennett Debra Biasini Carolyn Burakowski Arlen Favero Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hay Mr. and Mrs. Roger Lacroix John Lawrence & Katherine Chauvin Mr. and Mrs. Gary Nephew Kristine Portal Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rasco Mr. and Mrs. Donald Recore Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Rheome Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whalen</p> <p>The CC of Moriah Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Lemza Alton Supernault</p>	<p>St. Martin's, Port Leyden Larry Beltowski Mrs. JoAnne Doney Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Mangan Andrea McCall Eva Sessions</p> <p>St. Mary's, Potsdam Alan Cunningham Margaret M. Curtin Michael Lahendro Mr. and Mrs. William Simmons</p> <p>Church of the Assumption, Redford Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wood</p> <p>St. Patrick's, Rouses Point Mr. and Mrs. William Ancil Mr. Albert Gokey Mr. and Mrs. Arsene Letourneau Mary Racicot</p> <p>St. Ann's, St. Regis Falls Mrs. Cheryl A. Crinklaw</p> <p>St. Andrew's, Sackets Harbor Mr. Grover Brenon Maureen Gorman Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hunneyman Mrs. Charles McWilliams Joan Townsend Mrs. Anne Thomas</p> <p>St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Keough Mrs. Rebecca Leahy Rev. C. John McAvoy Mr. and Mrs. Barrett Quinn Mr. and Mrs. Robert White Mr. Kenneth Wiley</p> <p>Our Lady of Lourdes, Schroon Lake Mr. and Mrs. Michael Colleary Michel Michelsen Lee Mr. and Mrs. Real St. Cyr</p> <p>St. Theresa's, Theresa Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Eggleston</p> <p>St. Mary's, Ticonderoga Mr. and Mrs. Richard Liddell Carolyn Malaney</p> <p>St. Alphonsus-Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake Mr. and Mrs. Ken Brunette Eileen Carrow Theresa Lamare Mrs. Jeannette Keniston Mr. Ben Peets Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Robillard Gerald Savage</p> <p>St. Mary's, Waddington Fred Jahne</p> <p>Church of the Holy Family, Watertown Mr. and Mrs. Richard Amo Edmund F. Becker Mr. and Mrs. David Brancheau Ms. Joan Carlo Mrs. Harold Chisholm</p>	<p>Ms. Patricia Fanning Mrs. Ambrose J. Gaffney Mr. and Mrs. William Heldt Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kiernan Mr. and Mrs. James Lafferty Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lewis Edward Miller John Powers Beverly Shepard Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Surace</p> <p>Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Watertown Jeanette Franks Mary Henry Deacon & Mrs. John J. Trombly Ms. Suzanne Williams</p> <p>St. Anthony's, Watertown Mr. and Mrs. William Boulio Mrs. Sally Grzesiak Mr. and Mrs. James Hart Mrs. Cecile Hosmer Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mandeville Mrs. Joseph Palumbo Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Percaccante Mr. and Mrs. John Peters Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Spano</p> <p>St. Patrick's, Watertown Mr. and Mrs. William Bamann Mr. and Mrs. James Fitzpatrick Mr. and Mrs. Rick Gefell Miss Sandra Haight Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Izzo</p> <p>St. Ann's, Wells Vincent Abbott-Forgione</p> <p>St. Joseph's, West Chazy Mr. and Mrs. John Lee Breat Mr. Howard Chauvin Mr. and Mrs. David Lucia Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sanders</p> <p>St. Philip of Jesus, Willsboro Joseph Barnaby Jr. Mrs. Rita Devan Susan Fahey</p> <p>St. Margaret's, Wilmington Yvonne Farmer</p> <p>Other Pauline Belliveau, Dexter, NY Robert Brennan, Queensbury, NY Timothy Castilleja, Watertown, NY Doug Croley, Massena, NY Julie DuFlo, Cape Vincent, NY Wanda Kavanaugh, Clayton, NY Ms. Carol D. Kovach, Gilbert, AZ Kathleen Lauzon, Ft. Covington Joanne Reymore, Pottstown</p>
--	---	---	---	---	--	--

This listing reflects extraordinary, sustaining, special and patrons from January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017. Although every effort has been made to include the names of every patron, some mistakes are inevitable. If, however, an omission or error has occurred, we do apologize. Please notify us at 315-608-7556 so that we may correct our records.



Refreshment for the mind, body and soul

I ask every Catholic family to subscribe to the *North Country Catholic*, our wonderful, award-winning diocesan newspaper. Those who read the *NCC* enjoy timely and relevant articles on prayer, scripture, Church and religious news. Please consider how important it is today to be an informed Catholic Christian and allow our diocesan newspaper to be a vehicle to help you and your families grow in faith.

—Bishop Terry R. LaValley



The Diocese of Ogdensburg

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC



Subscribe or renew to the *North Country Catholic* today

- Place your envelope in your parish collection
- Online at our website: www.northcountrycatholic.org
- Call our office at 315-608-7556

Pope told Jesuits he regularly meets abuse survivors

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Pope Francis told a group of Jesuits in Peru that he often meets on Fridays with survivors of sex abuse.

The meetings, which he said do not always become public knowledge, make it clear that the survivors' process of recovery "is very hard. They remain annihilated. Annihilated," the pope had told the Jesuits Jan. 19 in Lima.

The scandal of clerical sexual abuse shows not only the "fragility" of the Catholic Church, he said, "but also - let us speak clearly - our level of hypocrisy."

The director of the Vatican press office Feb. 15 confirmed that the pope's meetings with abuse survivors is regular and ongoing.

"I can confirm that several times a month, the Holy Father meets victims of sexual abuse both individually and in groups," said Greg Burke, the director. "Pope Francis listens to the victims and tries to help them heal the serious wounds caused by the abuse they've suffered. The meetings take place with maximum reserve out of respect for the victims and their suffering."

On his trips abroad, Pope Francis usually spends time with local Jesuit communities and holds a question-and-answer session with them. Weeks later, a transcript of the exchange is published by *Civiltà Cattolica*, a Jesuit journal in Rome.

The Jesuits in Chile had not asked the pope about the abuse scandal, even though the scandal was in the news, particularly because of ongoing controversy over the pope's appointment in 2015 of Bishop Juan Barros of Os-

orno, who had been accused of covering up the abuse committed by his mentor, Father Fernando Karadima.

Pope Francis met with the Jesuits in Santiago at the end of his first full day in Chile. Earlier that day he had met with "a small group" of people who had been abused by Chilean priests, according to the Vatican press office.

The meeting with the survivors and with the Chilean Jesuits took place days before Chilean reporters asked Pope Francis about the accusations against Bishop Barros and he replied, "The day they bring me proof against Bishop Barros, I will speak. There is not one piece of evidence against him. It is calumny. Is that clear?"

The pope later apologized for the remark and, soon after returning to Rome, sent Archbishop Charles Scicluna of Malta, an experienced investigator, to Chile to conduct interviews.

After the pope left Chile and flew on to Peru, the topic of abuse was even more pressing. In the context of a discussion about spiritual "consolation" and "desolation," one Jesuit told the pope, "I would like you to say something about a theme that leads to a lot of desolation in the church, and particularly among religious men and women and the clergy: the theme of sexual abuse. We are very disturbed by these scandals."

Abuse, Pope Francis replied, "is the greatest desolation that the church is suffering. It brings shame, but we need to remember that shame is also a very Ignatian grace." In his *Spiritual Exercises*, St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, encouraged people to contemplate Jesus' goodness and their own wickedness, asking for the grace to be ashamed.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Case on transfer of prelate's body returns to N.Y. court

NEW YORK (CNS) -- The case involving the transfer of the remains of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen from New York to Peoria, Illinois, has been sent back to the original court by the New York Supreme Court's appellate division for an evidentiary hearing. Archbishop Sheen, a Peoria diocesan priest, gained fame in the 1950s with a prime-time television series called "Life Is Worth Living." He died in New York Dec. 9, 1979. The transfer of the archbishop's remains is seen as a key factor in the continuing progress of his sainthood cause, officially opened in 2002 by the Diocese of Peoria. The causes was suspended by the diocese in September 2014. "We are confident that the new hearing and ruling will be completed in short time," Msgr. James E. Kruse, vicar general of the Diocese of Peoria, said in statement. He predicted the court will rule in favor of Joan Sheen Cunningham, Archbishop Sheen's niece and closest surviving relative. Cunningham is seeking to have the prelate's remains removed from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and transferred to St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria, where a crypt is being prepared for his re-interment.

'People have right to receive God's word, so preach it well'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Everyone who goes to Mass has the right to hear the word of God in all its fullness, which means it must be read well and explained well with "fervor," Pope Francis said. People have the right to hear God's word in a way that "knocks at the heart and changes hearts," he said at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square Feb. 14. The pope continued his series of audience talks on the Mass, underlining the importance of receiving "abundantly from the treasury of God's word" present in the Mass readings and the homily. "Each one of us, when we go to Mass, we have the right to receive abundantly God's word, read well, well-spoken and then explained well in the homily," he said. "It is a right."

Five years a pope: Francis' focus has been on outreach

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio was elected pope just a few days after telling the College of Cardinals that the Catholic Church faced a clear choice between being a church that "goes out" or a church focused on its internal affairs. After the cardinal from Buenos Aires, Argentina, was elected March 13, 2013, and chose the name Francis, he made "go out," "periphery" and "throwaway culture" standard phrases in the papal vocabulary. Catholics have a wide variety of opinions about how Pope Francis is exercising the papal ministry, and many of his comments - both in informal news conferences and in formal documents - have stirred controversy. But, as he wrote in "Evangelii Gaudium," the apostolic exhortation laying out the vision for his pontificate: "I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security." But there are two areas of internal church affairs that he recognized needed immediate attention: the reform of the Roman Curia and the full protection of children and vulnerable adults from clerical sexual abuse. The organizational reform of the Curia has been taking place in stages, but Pope Francis has insisted that the real reform is a matter of changing hearts and embracing service.

U.S. bishops who've seen gun violence up close call for end to 'madness'

By Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput knows all too well the pain left behind after incidents like the 2018 Valentine's Day shooting that has so far taken 17 lives at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland.

As archbishop in Denver, he took part in the funerals of Catholic high school students killed by fellow classmates at Columbine High School almost two decades ago. The Feb. 14 Florida killings, which authorities suspect were perpetrated by Nikolas Cruz, a former classmate of many of the dead, seemed to bring back the pain of April 20, 1999.

"I sat with the parents of children murdered in the Columbine High School massacre, and buried some of their dead," Archbishop Chaput said in statement released a day after the Florida high school shootings. "Nothing seems to change, no matter how brutal the cost. Terrible things happen; pious statements are released and the nation goes back to its self-absorbed distractions."

The Washington Post reported Feb. 15 that an analysis of online archives, state and federal enrollment figures, and news stories revealed that "more than 150,000 students attending at least 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a shooting on campus"

since the massacre perpetrated by senior high school students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold at Columbine.

Having seen what a community goes through after such large-scale killings, the archbishop said two things are needed.

"We need to pray for the victims and their families because - as I witnessed firsthand at Columbine - their suffering is intense and long lasting," he said. "And we need to be angry: angry at our lawmakers for doing so little to prevent these catastrophes."

He also unleashed criticism at "media" who are "feeding off these tragedies and fueling them with a steady stream of sensationalism and moral incoherence," but also at the general public "for perversely tolerating these things, and then forgetting them until the next round of violence."

Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, whose city often tops or is at the top of lists of U.S. cities with a high incidence of homicides, also weighed in after the Florida killings, noting in a Feb. 15 statement that it marks "the 18th time in this short new year" that the nation has seen a school shooting, and called on others to "join in prayer and sorrow at an act of madness carried out in what should be a safe haven,

an American school."

"These victims have been robbed of their futures, but so have their parents, classmates and our nation," said Cardinal Cupich. "Yes, we ask God's blessing on the families of the victims, their classmates, teachers and community. We owe them that as we help them carry the burden of their suffering.

"But, when it is so clear that direct action can be taken to prevent another day like this one, we cannot stand by and shrug our shoulders. Let us extend a hand to those suffering alienation and illness and help them find understanding, treatment and peace."


Cardinal Cupich placed responsibility on lawmakers to make a change.

"Let us make it clear to our elected officials that the weapons and ammunition that facilitate this carnage have no place in our culture. We owe it to our children to protect the cherished freedoms so many have fought and died for: to worship, learn and work in safety," he said.

"That is true patriotism. Leaders in our country, who are in a position to make meaningful changes, need to hear the cries of the wounded and bereaved and open their hearts to the possibility of peace," he added. "Let us work and pray to that end."

For a New or Used Car
**Mort
Backus &
Sons**
On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
315-393-5899

CHEVROLET



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

Follow Pope Francis on
Twitter!
www.twitter.com/Pontifex
 **#Pontifex**

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

A time to become 'channels of God's grace'

Many times in our lives, we have felt that God must be testing us - testing our love for Him, or our loyalty to Him. He may inflict what we judge to be senseless suffering and pain.

In today's first reading, God tells Abraham to take his son, Isaac, the "child of promise," and to travel to the land of Moriah, up a mountain there, where he is offered Isaac in sacrifice! This request must have devastated Abraham in heart and mind. He must have felt that God had tricked him years ago when



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

He promised himself and Sarah that their descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Nevertheless, he obeys God to the point of raising his knife to kill his son. An angel stops his arm, and God, now satisfied, renews the covenant He had made.

And Abraham is really convinced that, if he is to please God, he must offer him absolutely everything of himself, of his dearest possessions, and his every hope of future joy.

After this experience,

Abraham and Isaac were certainly changed. And God knew that He could trust them to do anything He asked.

God wants to change each one of us this Lent. He wants to remove all those flaws and sins which keep us from total obedience to what God might ask of us.

Lent is that time of year when we can become better channels for God's grace. Why? He wants to use us to combat the evil that is spoiling so much of His plan for us and our world.

Another great encounter with God is offered us in this Sunday's Gospel. It was offered first to Peter, James, and John on a mountain, Mt.

FEB. 25

Second Sunday in Lent

READINGS

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Romans 8:31b-34

Mark 9:2-10

Tabor, which rises almost two thousand feet about the level land of Lower Galilee.

Tired from the climb, the three disciples wake from a snooze, only to find Jesus who has been praying, suddenly radiant before them, talking with two men.

They recognize these strangers as Moses and Elijah, Moses represents the Law, and Elijah represents

the prophets.

As Jesus is talking with them, He is radiant with glory. He is glowing even more with the Father's love as the thunderous words sound out, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!"

It was only later, after the Resurrection of Jesus, that these apostles really understood the meaning of this event.

May we be on the alert during this Lent for the inspirations that Jesus may give to those of us who really listen for Him in prayer and reflection. Our attitudes and actions toward the people and situations in which we live could be so fruitful and blessed!

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

Sorting through 'solutions' to HIV/AIDS pandemic

Each year human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infects about 50,000 people in the United States, and more than two million worldwide. Reducing the number of infections with this virus, which causes AIDS, is a high priority for public health officials.

Some strategies to reach this goal, however, raise significant moral concerns.

These concerns arise when experts seek to reduce infection rates by assuming that men and women lack the freedom to change their sexual behaviors or exercise self control, when they fail to acknowledge that self-restraint is possible and morally required, especially in the face of life-threatening disease.

One strategy for trying to control the pandemic includes "pre-exposure prophylaxis," or PrEP, which involves an uninfected person taking a daily dose of the drug Truvada, an anti-retroviral medication.

When someone takes the

Truvada pill each day, and is later exposed to HIV through sex or injectable drug use, it can reduce the likelihood that the virus will establish a permanent infection by more than 92 percent. While the drug can have side effects, it is generally well-tolerated.

Many activists in the gay movement have argued that PrEP should be widely available and promoted, though other activists strongly disagree.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) founder Michael Weinstein has stressed, for example, that there are likely to be compliance issues. When someone is required to take a regimen of drugs every day in order to be protected, he argues, it is reasonable to expect that some will fail to do so. A 2014 article in *The Advocate*, a gay news outlet, notes that,

"When asked why so few people have started PrEP, experts give plenty of reasons — cost, worries about long-

term effects, and lack of awareness about the regimen itself among both doctors and patients are chief among them. But one top reason is the stigma of using PrEP.

Weinstein's name and the name of his organization, AHF, have become synonymous with the stigma surrounding PrEP use. In an April Associated Press article, Weinstein declared that PrEP is 'a party drug,' giving license to gay and bisexual men to have casual, anonymous sex.

He's called it a 'public health disaster in the making,' as his oft-repeated argument is that the most at-risk people will not adhere to taking a pill each day."

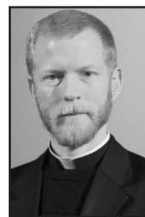
These compliance concerns have led some researchers and clinicians to look into the possibility of one-time "disco dosing,"

where an individual would take the medication, in a high dose, prior to each anticipated "risky weekend."

There are other problems with PrEP as well. Some researchers have noted that once people start on the drug, their risk compensation changes, meaning they engage in more sex with "non-primary partners."

Even if PrEP reduces rates of HIV infection, as studies have suggested, the incidence of other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) may rise due to risk-compensation behaviors. PrEP can provide a false sense of security and encourage the lowering of inhibitions.

These kinds of approaches directed towards certain "at-risk populations" clearly raise concerns about sanctioning or supporting immoral behaviors.



Father Tadeusz
Pacholczyk
Ph.D.

Medical professionals have raised objections of conscience when it comes to prescribing PrEP to HIV-negative men who indicate they are, or will be, sexually active with other men.

They may raise similar objections to providing prescriptions for "disco dosing." Writing such prescriptions means cooperating in, or facilitating, the evil actions of others.

Is pre-exposure prophylaxis always illicit? Not necessarily.

For example, if a medical professional were to prescribe Truvada to the wife of a man who was infected through pre- or extramarital sexual activity, it would be for the purposes of protecting the wife from infection during marital relations, and would not involve the problem of promoting or facilitating unethical sexual behaviors.

STDs constitute a serious danger in an age where sexual behaviors are becoming

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AT THE MOVIES

BLACK PANTHER

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

Step aside, Huey Newton, there's a new "Black Panther" (Disney) in town.

Director and co-writer Ryan Coogler's adaptation of a series of Marvel Comics - Stan Lee and Jack Kirby first launched the character of the title in 1966 - is sprawling, energetic, lightened by some clever humor but, ultimately, overlong.

Though the mayhem on screen, which ranges from hand-to-hand combat to a high-flying, high-tech dog-fight, is treated with restraint, touches of vulgarity may give some parents of older teens pause. Weighing on the other side of the scale, however, is the racial empowerment that drives the narrative and the significant themes the film tackles in a thoughtful way.

The primary setting of "Black Panther" is the imaginary - and secret - African kingdom of Wakanda. As straightforward exposition at the start of the movie explains, Wakanda's inhabitants have, over the centuries, made use of a super-powerful mineral, vibranium, to achieve both prosperity and a range of

technological wonders unknown to the outside world.

When Wakanda's young prince, T'Challa (Chadwick Boseman) assumes the throne, and thereby becomes the Black Panther, he intends to continue the policy of his late father, King T'Chaka (John Kani), by keeping Wakanda concealed from foreigners. But he faces two principal challenges.

One involves South African arms dealer Ulysses Klaue (Andy Serkis). Klaue has managed to infiltrate Wakanda and steal a stock of vibranium, which he aims to sell to the highest bidder.

The other concerns the ongoing consequences of a long-ago family conflict (involving Michael B. Jordan) that has the potential to dethrone T'Challa and destabilize Wakanda.

In tackling these problems, T'Challa is aided by his tech-savvy sister, Shuri (Letitia Wright). Nakia (Lupita Nyong'o), the woman he would like to make his queen, Okoye (Danai Gurira), the leader of his army's band of fierce female warriors, and, eventually, by Everett K. Ross (Martin Freeman), a CIA agent out to foil Klaue.

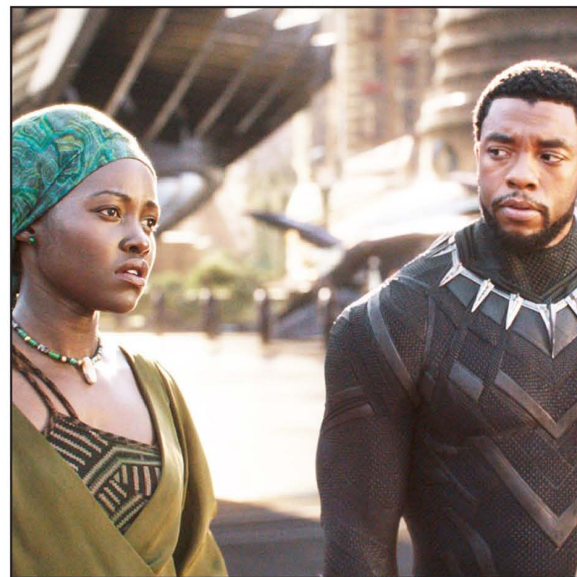
Real-world preoccupa-

tions are incorporated into this sci-fi-tinged action adventure. The Wakandans, for instance, debate whether they should put their own security at risk in order to assist downtrodden people of color in other nations.

Plot developments also present characters with moral choices. Faced with the kind of evil embodied by Klaue - an unreconstructed apartheid-era Afrikaans of the nastiest stripe - should one pursue vengeance or accept justice? The divergent paths of violent revolution and peaceful reform are also contrasted.

Ceremonies and customs drawn, however indirectly, from indigenous African religions are showcased. But they are contained within the picture's framework of fantasy, and will probably not cause mature adolescents any spiritual confusion.

The film contains non-scriptural religious ideas and practices, much stylized violence with minimal gore, several crude terms and an obscene gesture. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned.



CNS PHOTO/WALT DISNEY PICTURES

Lupita Nyong'o and Chadwick Boseman star in a scene from the movie "Black Panther."



GO GREEN!

Receive the NCC in your e-mail every Monday where ever you are in the world.
E-mail cward@diogoddenburg.org to sign up today.



also reckless and clearly contributory to the spread of STDs.

Father Pacholczyk 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.nbc-center.org

Sorting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

ever more indiscriminate. STD outbreaks and pandemics often have their origins in unchaste behaviors and morally disordered forms of sexuality. The Centers for Disease Control notes that "men who have sex with men (MSM) remain the group most heavily affected by HIV in the United States. CDC estimates that MSM represent approximately 4 percent of the

male population in the United States but male-to-male sex accounted for more than three-fourths (78 percent) of new HIV infections among men and nearly two-thirds (63 percent) of all new infections in 2010." We should not be supporting or facilitating behaviors involving multiple sexual partners. These sexual practices, in the final analysis, are not only immoral in themselves, but

The Diocese of Ogdensburg
NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC
is on
FACEBOOK

- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us

Like

Visit our website
www.northcountrycatholic.org

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

Find us on Facebook!

ADIRONDACK

RUMMAGE SALE

Lake Placid - St. Agnes School is holding its annual Rummage Sale

Date: March 10

Time: 9 a.m. to 2

Place: St. Agnes School

Features: Donations accepted. They may be dropped off at school.

Contact: call 518-523-3771

CLINTON

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Peru - Lenten Day of Recollection to be held with Bishop LaValley.

Date: March 3

Time: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Place: St. Augustine's Church

Cost: A donation of \$10/person is suggested to help defray expenses.

Features: Bishop Terry LaValley, Fathers Alan Shnob, Timothy Canaan, Albert Hauser and Jack Downs and Deacon David Clark present talks, prayer, personal witness and opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lunch will be provided. Bishop LaValley to celebrate Mass at 4:30 p.m.

Contact: Pre-registration is requested by Feb. 26. Mail: Ken and Kathy Racette, 679 Cumberland Head Rd, Plattsburgh, NY 12901; E-mail: racette@gmail.com, kracette1a@gmail.com; or phone: 518-314-1505 518-578-3056

ALBUMS NEEDED

Plattsburgh - Seton school is in need of 33 record albums from the 1970's for use as decorations for the Saturday Night Fever Gala, April 14th.

Contact: Susan Pellerin at spellerin@thesetonschools.org.

LAKESIDERS FISHERS CLUB

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

Dates: Mar. 4 & 25; Apr. 8 & 22; May 6.

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's

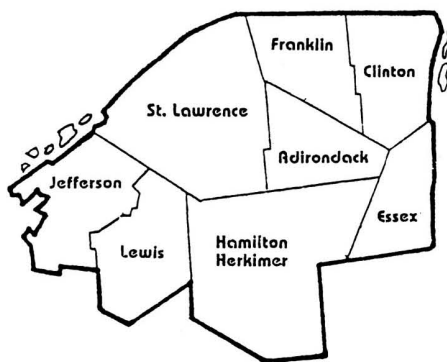
Features: discussion, evening prayer and dinner.

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

LENTEN RETREAT

Plattsburgh - The Faith Communities of Our Lady of Victory, St. John's and St. Peter's will be having a Lenten Retreat.

Schedule: March 4th at Our Lady of Victory; March 5th at St. John's Church; March 6th at St. Peter's Church.



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.

Time: 7 p.m.

Speaker: Sheri Wohlfert, author of *Intentional Disciples* will be the retreat director. She is an acclaimed speaker, author and educator

Features: Sheri offers a simple, practical and humorous journey designed to help us grow stronger in relationship with God and one another.

Contact: If you have any questions, please call: OLV at 518-531-1842, St. John's Church at 518-563-0730 or St. Peter's Church at 518-563-1692.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Treadwell Mills - The K of C will hold an all you can eat Pancake Breakfast.

Date: March 4, April 22

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

Place: St. Joseph's Church Parish Hall

Cost: Adults, \$7; Children 6-12, \$3; under 5, Free

LENTEN ADORATION

Plattsburgh - St. Peter's Church will offer Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament during Lent on Monday's and Tuesday's.

Time: 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: Chapel of St. Andre Bessette.

Features: Ends with Benediction at 7 p.m. on Tuesday of Holy Week.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

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

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

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

Time: 2 p.m.

Place: St. John's Holy Family Chapel.

FRANKLIN

HEARTS ON FIRE

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

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

Place: Notre Dame Church

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

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

Time: after 4:30 p.m. anticipated Mass

Place: St. Ann's Church

HAMILTON-HERKIMER

CARING FOR CREATION

Old Forge - A program "Caring for Creation" by Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSSJ to be held.

Date: March 5

Schedule: 5:15 p.m. Mass, Potluck Supper and 6:30 p.m. presentation.

Place: St. Bartholomew's Church

JEFFERSON

CUPERTINO FRATERNITY

Watertown - The St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will meet.

Date: Feb. 24

Time:

Place: Holy Family Church

Features: to pray for vocations

MINISTRY SHOWCASE

Watertown - A program on parish ministry options is set

Date: Feb. 27

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

Place: St. Joseph's Motherhouse

Cost: \$1 per person

Features: People currently ministering in young adult, hospitality, and evangelization ministries to speak. Evening starts with a reflection on the call to minister by Father Steve Murray, followed by small group discussions. Each group will participate in three discussion sessions of about 20 minutes each.

Contact: Register by Feb. 20 at www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-lay-ministers/clm-event-registration.html or call Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920

ADDICTION RECOVERY

Watertown - The SSJ Social Justice Committee, the Faith Community Nurses, and Jefferson County Alliance for Better Communities is hosting a panel discussion on addiction and recovery.

Date: March 4

Time: 2 p.m. to 4

Place: First Presbyterian Church

Features: Panelists Dr. Charles Moehs, Rev. Toby Schilling, Rev. Jeffrey E. Smith, and Genie Weaver will offer sources of courage and strength leading to a successful recovery from addiction. Free. Open to public. Refreshments

Contact: Sisters of St. Joseph, 315-782-3460; Alliance, 315-788-4660

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Watertown - A gathering for those who have lost a loved one is set

Date: Feb. 26

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: SSSJ Motherhouse

WISDOM COURSE

Evans Mills - St. Mary's Parish will be presenting Jeff Cabin's latest DVD Bible Course, Wisdom.

Date: beginning March 7, four sessions

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: Workbook is \$20

Features: Covers Proverbs, Wisdom, Ecclesiastes, and Sirach. Each 90-minute session will include Cavins' 25-minute presentation plus discussion of the week's homework. Students will explore historical and theological dimensions of the topic through readings in the Old and New Testaments and the catechism. The final four sessions will be presented in the fall. The course is sponsored by

Knights of Columbus Council 7471.

Contact: Registration is requested (315-629-4678) by March 1.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Evans Mills - Spaghetti and meatball dinner to be held to benefit the Indian River Knights of Columbus.

Date: March 3

Time: 4 p.m. to 7:30

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

Watertown - The St. Joseph Cupertino fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will have their monthly meeting.

Date: last Sunday of the month

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: Holy Family Parish

WEEKLY ADORATION

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

Time: 5 p.m. to 6

CURSILLO MEETINGS

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

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Place: Community Room of St. James

Features: For Cursillistas and all seeking personal relationship with Jesus

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

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for Vocations to be held every Tuesday.

Time: 3 p.m. to 6

Place: St. Anthony's Church

LIFERIGHT MEETING

Watertown - Liferight meets the first Wednesday of the month.

Time: 1 p.m.

Place: 870 Arsenal Street.

Features: pro-life videos, books and educational materials for borrowing

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Watertown - Holy Hour for vocations

Date: Monday-Friday

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

Place: Holy Family Church

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER GROUP

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

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8

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

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



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

Credit where it's deserved: God bless the NCC

Without a doubt, if you want or need to be an informed Catholic, the *North Country Catholic* is the best thing you can read to be just that. Our 12,000 square mile Diocese is well served by this wonderful publication each week.

**Thanks to the generosity of NCC, the
Mission Office always has a place to foster a
missionary spirit and inform readers of the life and
needs of the Church in the missions.**

The Mission Office, consisting of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, St. Peter the Apostle, the Missionary Childhood Association and the Missionary Projects of the Diocese are featured weekly in a column written by the Mission Office. The NCC arrives in homes and online in Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Adirondack, Hamilton/Herkimer, Lewis, Essex, Clinton and Franklin Deaneries.

Through our column in the NCC, stories unfold about life in the mission countries. Thanks to the generosity of NCC, the Mission Office always has a place to foster a missionary spirit and inform readers of the life and needs of the Church in the missions. The Mission Office is grateful for the opportunities to seek prayers, financial support and to raise awareness of evangelizing programs in mission dioceses.

Most importantly, the NCC is always there as a conduit to say thank you to our readers, donors and supporters for their many contributions. Throughout the year, the NCC will feature current happenings in our Diocese and in the Mission Office's on-going appeals. It is a medium of delivery to inform where donations go to make a difference.

On occasion we share individual Mission experiences. We always encourage those who have been on Mission to forward their words to us to be showcased in the North Country Catholic. It is the best way to share the human side of the Mission thus, fulfilling our call to be missionaries by virtue of baptism.

The Mission office is blessed to contribute to the North Country Catholic. The amazing staff of Editor, Mary Lou Kilian and Christine Ward work tirelessly to keep us informed and help us do our jobs better and easier.

God Bless the North Country Catholic, Mary Lou and Christine for spreading our good deeds and kind words.

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

OBITUARIES

Adams – Jill (Schnauble) Ose, 72; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 19, 2018 at St. Cecilia's Church.

Bloomington – Peter Cassavaugh, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 13, 2018 at St. Paul's Church; burial in St. Paul's Cemetery.

Cadyville – Helena Shirley O'Connell, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 15, 2018 at St. James Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Cape Vincent – Ronald S. Favret, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 16 at St. Vincent de Paul Church; burial in Cape Vincent.

Colton – Joseph L. Charette, 91; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 13, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Evans Mills – Charlotte (Staie) Hall, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 15, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Madrid – John C. Molnar, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 14, 2018 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Waddington.

Massena – Patricia J. (Sequin) Catanzarite, 92; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 17, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church.

Massena – Mary Iva (White) Manning, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 16, 2018 at the Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Hogsansburg.

Massena – Anthony "Tony" J. O'Green IV, 60; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 15, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church.

Massena – Ronald E. Riley, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 13, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Pine Grove Cemetery.

Morrisonville – Gloria M. (LaFountain) Supernaw, 82; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 16, 2018 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Mausoleum.

Ogdensburg – Jeffrey P. Adams, 46; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 14, 2018 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Peru – June F. (Jarvis) Blaine, 82; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 10, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Saranac Lake – James Vincent Hart Jr., 92; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 12, 2018 at St. Bernard's Church; burial St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Martha Jean (Block) Martin, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 16, 2018 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery, Lake Clear.

Watertown – Elizabeth M. "Bessie" (Zelevovich) DeLosh, 94; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 16, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Jean (O'Reilly) Howell, 93; Mass of Christian Burial March 10, 2018 at Holy Family Church.

Report: NGOs follow policy barring aid use for abortion

WASHINGTON (CNS)—A Trump administration report on its reinstatement of the "Mexico City Policy" shows that nongovernmental organizations "are willing and able to comply with this policy," said the U.S. bishops' pro-life committee chairman.

"That compliance does not appear to undermine delivery of appropriate health services," said Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York in a Feb. 8 statement.

The cardinal, who is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, made the comments in reaction to the administration's release of a six-month report on implementation of the policy, now called Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance.

The policy ensures that U.S. foreign aid does not subsidize foreign nongovern-

mental organizations that perform or promote abortion on demand.

In a Jan. 23, 2017, executive memorandum - issued three days after his inauguration - President Donald Trump, reinstated and expanded the policy, which his predecessor, President Barack Obama, rescinded Jan. 23, 2009, three days after his inauguration for his first term.

In May 2017, the U.S. State Department put the reinstated policy into effect. Trump's memorandum directed the U.S. secretary of state "to implement a plan to extend the Mexico City Policy to "global health assistance furnished by all departments or agencies."

"Global health assistance" includes funding for international health programs, such as those for HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health,

malaria, global health security, and family planning and reproductive health.

Cardinal Dolan said the Trump administration has restored "our foreign assistance to its rightful goals of promoting health and human rights.

"Abortion undermines basic human rights, certainly for the child, and it also can wound the mother emotionally and physically," he continued.

"U.S. tax dollars have no business going to organizations that are unwilling to pursue health outcomes for every person and instead insist on promoting and imposing their abortion ideology on women and children," Cardinal Dolan said.

He said the six-month report "provides early evidence" that 729 out of 733 NGOs are complying with the policy.

Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY

Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of March will be held

Date: March 4

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Features: Vespers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction.

Contact: Call 315-348-6260

LENTE ADORATION

Lowville - A First Friday Lenten Eucharistic Adoration is set

Date: March 2

Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:30

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: morning prayer, Mass, and Eucharistic Adoration

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lowville - St. Peter's is sponsoring Lenten gatherings of prayer

Dates: Thursdays, Feb. 22, March 15

and 22

Time: 4 p.m. to 5.

Place: St. Peter's Church

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

ST. LAWRENCE

MIDLANDERS FISHERS CLUB

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

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Time: 9 a.m.

Schedule: Feb 24, Mar 10 & 31, April 14 and April 28

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

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

FISH AND SHRIMP FRY

Gouverneur - Fish & Shrimp Fry to be held every Friday during Lent.

Date: Feb. 16 to March 30

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:15

Place: St. James School

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 12 and

under, \$5; under 5 Free

Contact: Take-outs available, call for faster service, deliveries 315-287-0130.

CLM LENTE PRAYER

Ogdensburg - Lenten Afternoon of Prayer and Reflection sponsored by the SLFA CLM Association for commissioned lay ministers in St. Lawrence, Franklin and Adirondack deaneries is set

Date: Feb. 24

Time: 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 followed by 4 p.m. Anticipated Mass.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral Brzana Hall

Features: Deacon William O'Brien will address the theme: Behold Thy Mother. A snack will be included. There is no charge for this event.

Contact: Register with Jeannie Grizzuto at jgrizzuto@rcdony.org or calling 315-393-2920, Ext. 1413.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

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

Date: First Friday of every month

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

Place: St. Mary's Church.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 10

Place: St. Mary's Family Room

ST. RAPHAEL'S FOOD PANTRY

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

Time: 9 a.m. to 11

Place: Parish Center

DIOCESAN EVENTS

ANNULMENT WORKSHOPS

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

Schedule:

• March 27, St. Mary's School, Canton, from 7 p.m. to 8:30

• April 9, St. Patrick's Parish Center, Port

CAREER DAY



Seton Catholic Central in Plattsburgh held a Vocations/Career Day Fair Jan. 30. The presenters came from all walks of life and were encouraged to share their faith with the students. Above, Mary Skillan is shown at her display on campus ministry.

Henry, from 6:30 p.m. to 8

• April 16, Holy Ghost Parish Center, Tupper Lake, from 6:30 p.m. to 8

Features: The free workshops are designed for people who wish to explore beginning the annulment process. The tribunal staff will have the forms available to begin the process and will be on-hand to answer any individual questions. Light refreshments provided.

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

YOUTH LENTE RETREAT

A Lenten retreat in two sites has been planned for grades 6-12.

Schedule: March 10 in Lowville from 10:30 a.m. to 5 or March 11 in Saranac Lake from 9:30 a.m. to 4

Features: Free. Pre-registration and a bagged lunch are required. The day will include fellowship, prayer, workshops,

Contact: Register at www.rcdony.org/lentenretreat.

CAMP GUGGENHEIM

Registration for Camp Guggenheim is open. Weeks 1-5 are open to ages 12-15, and Week 6 is open to 16-18 year-olds.

Contact: Register at www.rcdony.org/camp

YOUTH RALLY

Canton - The annual diocesan Youth Rally to be held for young people in grades 6-12.

Date: April 28

Place: St. Mary's

Cost: \$25 (Includes lunch and a guaranteed t-shirt) for those registered by March 15. \$30 (Includes lunch. T-shirt while supplies last) for those registered after March 15.

Features: The day will include keynote speaker Bob Perron, interactive park, prayer, workshops, and a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop LaValley.

Contact: Youth leaders can register their groups at www.rcdony.org/youthrally/rally

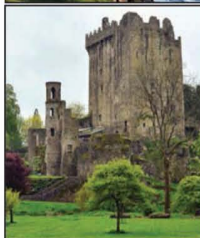
The Best of Ireland & Northern Ireland

11 Days, November 1-11, 2018

Visiting - Belfast • Derry • Knock • Galway
Connemara • Killarney • Ring of Kerry
Blarney • Dublin

Hosted by Fr. Andrew Amyot

\$2899 per person from Montreal
(Air/land tour price is only \$2399
plus \$500 government taxes/airline surcharges)



Contact : Fr. Andrew Amyot (315) 384-2064
fraamyot2@twcny.rr.com

