

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Tax policy fights eating away at church exemption | PAGE 10

NY bill would help parents who face miscarriages | PAGE 11

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 73, Number 6

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 9, 2018

## Pope: Faith says 'no' to Satan

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - Baptism requires rejecting Satan and professing one's full faith in God, Pope Francis said.

Only by being able to say "no" to the devil, his works and empty promises "am I able to say 'yes' to God, who calls me to conform myself

to him in thoughts and deeds," he said. "It is not possible to follow Christ (while) imposing preconditions," he said May 2 during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square.

Continuing his series of talks on the sacrament of

baptism, the pope looked at the importance of the heart being ready to receive the gift of new life from God through the baptismal water and the Holy Spirit. When a child is presented for baptism, its parents and godparents renew the vows of their

own baptism in rejecting sin and professing faith in Jesus. "Either you are with God or with the devil," the pope said, which is why the renunciation of sin and the profession of faith are "two acts tightly connected to each other."

## Catholic Charities appeal

The annual Catholic Charities Mothers Day Appeal will take place in all parishes of the diocese May 12-13.

Spearheading this year's appeal is Deacon Patrick J. Donahue who succeeded Daughter of Charity Sister Donna Franklin as diocesan Catholic Charities director.

"Now celebrating over a century of service reminds us that the church's response to the poor and needy is ongoing," Deacon Donahue said. "Catholic Charities continues to help the most vulnerable and marginal of our North Country communities."

FULL STORY, PAGES 8-9

## Abortion and Divine Mercy

A message for all women especially those who have had an abortion

FULL STORY, PAGE 12

## AT THE YOUTH RALLY



PHOTO BY TOM SEMERARO

Kelly Donnelly, diocesan director of youth ministry; and Father Bryan D. Stitt, pastor of St. Mary's in Canton, joined young people from across the North Country for the annual Youth Rally held April 28 in Canton. Full coverage of the day is on pages 4 and 5.

FATHER MUENCH: Moving prayerfully through the Easter Season... p. 2

## DEACON CONVOCATION

May 2-3 in Lake Placid



Deacon David D. Demers and Father Christopher C. Carrara are vested for the closing Mass at the 2018 Deacon Convocation which brought deacons and their wives to Lake Placid May 2 and 3. Deacon Demers is deacon assistant at St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame in Ogdensburg. Father Carrara, pastor of the Catholic Community of Morristown, Hammond and Rossie, works with the deacons in his position of episcopal vicar for pastoral personnel. The keynote speaker at the convocation was Bishop Christopher Coyne of Burlington. Bishop LaValley was present throughout the convocation, held meeting with the deacons and wives and presided at the closing Mass.

FULL STORY, PAGES 3 & 7

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

## Where charity and love prevail

I see it as a happy coincidence that the *NCC* coverage of the annual deacon convocation usually comes during the same week as our promotion of the Catholic Charities Mothers' Day Appeal.

Ideally, a deacon is known for a life of charity, working to extend the loving hand of God to all those in need.

The Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education has called this work "the ministry most char-

acteristic of the deacon."



Mary Lou  
Kilian

Through the years, I've had the privilege of interviewing many deacons in our midst who have devoted their lives to service.

Whether through St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic Charities, charitable parish ministries or other endeavors, they have taken Jesus words "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do for me," straight to their hearts.

Today we are blessed to have one of our deacons in charge of the diocesan Catholic Charities office. Deacon Patrick J. Donahue will lead us through the first years of the second century of Catholic Charities, ready to address the needs of people in the 21st century.

The centerfold spread of this week's *North Country Catholic* highlights all the critical work of the agency. On these pages Bishop LaValley and Deacon Donahue make the case for great generosity in next week-end's collection far better than I could.

Donations to Catholic Charities will help victims of flooding, our harsh winter, illness, poverty and addiction.

As Bishop LaValley reminds us, "these people are not strangers but in so many cases are your neighbors, friends, co-workers and even family members who have knocked on Catholic Charities door and asked for help."

For more than 100 years, Catholic Charities has been a legacy of hope for the North Country church. Our generosity will help the hope live on for another 100.... at least.

## FATHER MUENCH SAYS

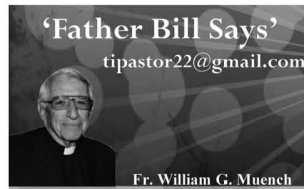
## A prayerful walk through the Easter Season

I would like to begin today by recognizing the many accomplishments, the great accomplishments of our diocesan Office of Catholic Charities.

Ever since I became a parish priest in this diocese, I have known of the importance of Catholic Charities in the ministry of all of our parishes in bringing help - financial and in many other ways - to those in need. So, today, I want to take this opportunity to offer my gratitude and my congratulations to the many priests, Sisters, lay men and women, who have staffed our Catholic Charities Offices so successfully.

Our Diocese can be very proud and fortunate in having the presence of Catholic Charities in offering help to each parish in the Diocese in giving help to the needy.

We are still celebrating liturgically the Easter Season. The Easter Season, these weeks between Easter Season and the Pentecost is our time through the Scriptures at Mass to remember and restudy the experiences of the early days in the formation of our Church.



'Father Bill Says'

tipastor22@gmail.com

Fr. William G. Muench

We read a great deal from the Acts of the Apostles at Mass. The Acts is St. Luke's description of the days and years after Jesus' crucifixion as the message of Jesus was spread throughout the world.

For me, it is interesting to hear of the various challenges and the difficulties and the controversies among the leaders of the Church during those times. There are some parts of the story that make me wonder a bit how our Church ever made it. I often mention that I consider the biggest Christian miracle is that our Catholic Church still exists today, that we followers of Jesus are still united and continue to worship regularly as a community, as a parish.

The Gospels that we read during this Easter season show us the important messages of

Jesus that were used to teach the people throughout the years, messages that continue to show us how to be Church. On one of the Sundays we read the Good Shepherd Gospel. Jesus promises to be like a good Shepherd toward us his sheep, his followers, his disciples, always ready to protect us and watch over us and direct us. He will not desert us like the hired man in the parable.

On another Sunday, the Gospel tells us of Jesus' great love for us. He loves us so intensely that he wants to be like a friend to us. Jesus, the Son of God, became one of us, lived among us, died for us, rose from the dead and wanted to become a loving part of our lives.

There is also the Gospel image given us in the parable of the vine and the branches. Again, Jesus wants us to realize the importance of our relationship and connection with him. As the image of the vine and the branches indicates - just as a branch finds its life only when connected with the vine, we Christians find our life by our union with Jesus.

When we allow Jesus to be part of our lives, we will find life, the life of Our Savior, the life that brings peace and love into our lives, the peace and love of Jesus.

The image of the vine and the branches further reminds us that the Lord wants to unite us as a community, a community of prayer and action as we bring the Lord into our lives to make our world a better place.

So, each Sunday as Mass we join together as a community, as a family to worship the Lord. Each Sunday we should recognize our worshipping congregation, as our community, as our family for that day. As a family, we should be praying with and for each other; no one is a stranger, we are all family.

Pope Francis writes this in his recent Apostolic Exhortation: A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father's plan.

## FOLLOW ME

# Ministry beyond the comfort zone

Bishop LaValley's homily  
for 2018 Deacon  
Convocation May 3

Perhaps you've heard it before. The story is told of a great French circus performer by the name of Blondin who, in the winter of 1858, stretched a long steel cable across Niagara Falls.

During high winds and without a safety net, he walked, ran, and even danced across a tightrope to the amazement and delight of the people who watched.

He even took a wheelbarrow full of bricks and pushed it effortlessly across the cable, from one side of the Falls to the other.

Blondin then turned to the crowd and asked, "Now, how many of you believe that I could push a person across the wire in this wheelbarrow?"

The vote was unanimous. Everyone cheered and held their hands high. They all believed he could do it!

"Then," asked Blondin, "would one of you please volunteer to be that person?" As quickly as the hands went up, they went back down. Not a single person would volunteer to ride in the wheelbarrow and to trust his life to Blondin.

All of us here today believe in and trust Jesus Christ. "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do..." We hear His teaching, preach the Good News and feel the comfort of Jesus' presence. We try to trust.

But, boy, when the Lord asks something of us and to trust Him, when He pushes us out of our comfort zone and invites us to get into the wheelbarrow, sometimes, we, at least I, resist. A

nd, you know, that's why we can get stuck in our



PHOTO BY MARY LOU KILIAN

**Bishop Terry R. LaValley and Deacons Neil J. Fuller of Clayton, David D. Demers of Ogdensburg and Ronny J. Gingerich of Lowville are ready for the closing Mass of the 2018 Deacon Convocation, held May 2-3 in Lake Placid. The bishop's homily is printed here; more photos of the convocation are on page 7.**

Christian lives; stuck on this side of holiness, stuck with a mediocre faith to whom others show little interest. You and I must believe that we need God for absolutely everything! Then, act on the radical trust that such belief engenders.

When I first moved off the Navy base when I was stationed down in Pensacola, I remember going to a nearby Christian Book Store. I was looking for a nice religious picture to put up on my bare walls in my apartment.

I came upon a picture of Jesus with a sailor at the helm of a boat. It was entitled "Jesus as my Co-pilot." It wasn't until years later that it hit me: I might think that I am, but in reality, I am piloting, even co-piloting nothing. God has the wheel.

When I think that God needs my help to pilot the ship, to run my little world, I encounter problems. I need to jump into the wheelbarrow and trust God and let God be God.

What I am able to accomplish in my ministry is all, all done through the grace

of God. The same goes for deacons, for deacon wives, indeed for all Christians.

When we stretch ourselves right out of our comfort zones, the Lord is always there to catch us, to encourage us through the risks, the sweat and the tears. Remember that old tune: *He's got the whole world in His hands!*

You might say, now bishop, ever since you've been our shepherd, you've herded us into wheelbarrows and we've had to perform numerous high-wire acts in our local parishes.

Maybe your ministry stretches you to such an extent that the idea of a comfort zone is a fantasy, given your hard work in our *Living Stones* Pastoral Planning efforts. Fair enough. Know of my sincere gratitude.

But we must never tire of looking for opportunities for simple acts of service and mercy—the heart of the ministry of a deacon.

Deacons will lead the charge in the Church in going out to those who know not Christ and His

awfully lonely being the only one in the wheelbarrow, but what a witness to Christ!

Obviously, this takes great energy and trust. But that's why the witness of the giants of our faith, apostles like Philip and James, gives you and me hope and encouragement to sometimes jump into the wheelbarrow.

We have Someone a whole lot more trustworthy than a Blondin upon whom to rely. Blondin is no Jesus!

The Apostles are sent to bring the Good News. St. Paul reminds us in today's Second Reading: "I handed on to you," he writes to the Corinthians, "what I also received." Our commission is the same.

Holy Spirit of God, we ask you to help us hand on what we have received. We know that we have received much. Help us to feel not afraid to jump into the wheelbarrow at times because we know you are always there to hold us and embrace our efforts in Your Name.

And through it all—May God be praised...forever may God be praised!

## JOB OPENING

### **Director of Safe Environment and Charter Compliance Coordinator**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking a full-time **Director of Safe Environment Office and Charter Compliance Coordinator**. The position oversees and monitors implementation of the USCCB's *Charter for the Protection of Children & Young People* and diocesan safe environment policies by Diocesan parishes, schools, offices and entities. On-site visits to parishes and schools throughout the diocese is required. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree with a minimum of 2-4 years experience in business or teaching, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Candidates must have excellent communication skills, good decision-making skills and proficiency with PC software.

Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to: Human Resources Office, Diocese of Ogdensburg, P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or e-mail [ksnover@rcdony.org](mailto:ksnover@rcdony.org).  
Deadline for application is **May 22, 2018**.

*Diocesan teens gather in Canton to reflect on the theme 'Remain in Me'*

# Youth Rally 2018

By Tom Semeraro  
Contributing Writer

**CANTON** - It was a typical overcast spring morning April 28 but, the damp chill of the outdoors was easily replaced by the warmth inside St. Mary's School as young people from across the diocese gathered for the annual Youth Rally.

The rally brought North Country teenagers together for a day filled with games, faith-building activities, speakers and prayer.

In one game, the participants were grouped into teams creating mad lib lyrics set to Journey's "Don't Stop Believing." Then they engaged in a fast and furious game of super "Rock, Paper, Scissors" with one winner in the end.

Following a bit of Biblical trivia, the young people settled themselves for morning prayer led by fellow students. After the prayer service, the group of youth, chaperones, and clergy made their way into St. Mary's Church to hear key note speaker, Bob Perron.

Perron, a renowned speaker, youth minister, director of education, and Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, opened his talk with a unique game of "Simon Says." After many laughs, he shared a few humorous, personal stories.

Perron then introduced the audience to a game he called "The Curly Shuffle" based on one of The Three Stooges comedy routine from many years ago.

The participants were asked to change seats and sit next to somebody different, and they had 10 seconds to do so. Once they repositioned themselves, Perron asked them to share a story



PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

**Bob Perron, director of youth and young adult ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, West Virginia, was the keynote speaker for the annual diocesan Youth Rally held April 28 at St. Mary's in Canton. He is shown above with Aiden O'Neill of St. Mary's, in Massena during a special game of "Simon Says." Below, Dayna Leader of Gouverneur, diocesan family life associate for marriage enrichment with her husband Deacon Henry Leader, leads the workshop entitled "Chastity 101."**



with each other, offering the attendees the opportunity to get to know each other.

Perron dove into his presentation with humor, warmth, insightful words and spirituality.

Intertwining his personal experiences with God and Catholic belief, he masterfully displayed the truth in the passage "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing". John 15:5.

Perron shared numerous examples of how people fall short, even fall away and die spiritually without complete dependence on God, just as a broken branch does when it is separated from the vine that gives it life.

He left the young people with a positive message to "always stay connected" to the vine that is Jesus Christ. "For when you do, God will work in your lives, in God's amazing way," he said.

After the keynote presentation, everyone broke for lunch and free time.

During the break, the youth had an opportunity to receive the sacrament of penance, retreat into quiet adoration of the Eucharist, engage in fun activities and visit information booths covering ministry, right to life, caring for the planet, vocations and more.

The participants then had the opportunity to participate in two separate afternoon workshop sessions.

The workshops were full of information ranging from, caring for the planet to the miracle of the Eucharist.

Immediately following the workshops, home baked snacks were offered, followed by a Q&A session with Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

The bishop presided at the Mass at the conclusion of the day.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN GATHERING COMBINES FAITH AND FUN

# AT THE YOUTH RALLY



PHOTOS BY TOM SEMERARO

Anthony Samperi of St. Bernard's Parish in Saranac Lake; Hunter Acostamadiedo, St. John's, Plattsburgh; Ian Montandon, St. Patrick's, Watertown; and Nolan Boyea, Catholic Community of Burke & Chateaugay, are shown participating in "Electronic Zombie Tag" during the 2018 diocesan Youth Rally held April 28 at St. Mary's in Canton.



The program offered the young people an opportunity for silent prayer as well as Mass with Bishop LaValley.



Michael Pierce of St. Raphael's Parish in Heuvelton kept the beat with a basketball during the game "Mad Lib Karaoke."



Bishop LaValley made a new friend during the day, bravely holding a snake provided by Mary Benvenuto of Reptiles Forever. The snake was a centerpiece of a workshop "God's Creation," was organized through the diocesan Faith & Ecology committee.



Mariah Manning and Ava Bartholomew of St. James Parish, Gouverneur; and Ava Day of St. Agnes, Lake Placid enjoyed the chance to spend time together before morning prayer.



Karen Bujold of St. Alphonsus Parish in Tupper Lake talked with another Youth Rally participant during "Curly Shuffle," part of the keynote address presented by Bob Perron.



Visit our website  
[www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)

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


 Find us on Facebook!

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC HAS GONE GREEN

 Here is what one subscriber has to say: 

"What a pleasure to be able to read the North Country Catholic online. I am pleased that it has been offered in this manner - as sometimes I don't have time to sit and read a paper - but when I can't sleep at night - I log onto the computer. Very nice gesture - thanks"

To sign up to receive the *NCC* in your e-mail you can call our office at 315-608-7556

**Peaceful Dove Books & Gifts** 

164 Boynton Ave. Sq., Ste 304, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901

**NEW** Bibles, Crosses, Missals, Rosaries, Medals, Cards  
**NEW** Baptism Apparel and Accessories, Statues, Candles  
**NEW** Wedding, Sacramental Gifts, Music, DVDs, Recovery  
**NEW** Willow Tree Products, Seasonal & More!  
*Gifts of the Spirit! Shipping Available!*

Hours: M-F 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 (518) 561-5083 [www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com](http://www.peacefuldovebooksandgifts.com)  
 Mrs. Linda Bracy and Ms. Mary Beth Bracy

**MONASTERY CARD SHOP**

**Cards for All Occasions**

*Mass Enrollments for your living & deceased loved ones.*

**Precious Blood Monastery**

OPEN: 9 AM - 5 PM  
 SATURDAY 9 AM - 12 PM  
 400 PRATT ST., WATERTOWN  
 315-788-1669  
[www.sisterspreciousblood.org](http://www.sisterspreciousblood.org)

**BARSTOW**

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION  **BUICK**  **PONTIAC**  **GMC** WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE  **SUBARU**

*"Family owned dealership serving the North Country for over 56 years!"*

For more information, visit our Website at: [www.barstowmotors.com](http://www.barstowmotors.com)

**MARKET ST., POTSDAM, NY • (315) 265-8800**

### Bishop's Schedule

**May 9** - 4 p.m., Vigil for Ascension of the Lord at St. Mary's Cathedral

**May 10** - 7 p.m., Confirmation at Holy Family Church in Watertown

**May 11** - 5 p.m., Solemn Vespers followed by Commencement Ceremonies at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, NY

**May 12** - 10:30 a.m., Confirmation at St. Bartholomew's Church in Old Forge  
 4 p.m., Confirmation at St. Mary's Church in Clayton

**May 13** - 10 a.m., Confirmation at Church of the Holy Angels in Altona

**May 14** - 7 p.m., Confirmation at St. Mary's Church in Massena

**May 15** - 7 p.m., Confirmation at St. James Church in Carthage

**May 16** - 12 p.m., Farewell luncheon for Mary Lou Kilian at Gran View Restaurant in Ogdensburg  
 7 p.m., Leadership Gift Reception at Church of the Holy Angels in Altona



Follow Pope Francis on Twitter!  
[www.twitter.com/Pontifex](http://www.twitter.com/Pontifex)



### Rest in Peace

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

**May 9** - Rev. William J. McCormick, O.S.A., 1935; Msgr. Clarence M. Devan, 2001

**May 11** - Deacon Richard D. Hart, 2007

**May 13** - Rev. Ladislaus J. Stasz, 1971; Rev. Edward E. Papp, 2016

**May 14** - Deacon Vincent E. Irvin, 2003

**May 15** - Rev. William Rossiter, 1908; Msgr. James R. McClure, 1960; Deacon William G. Schmidt, 2016

### To Report Abuse

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

### 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](http://www.virtus.org) by selecting the registration button and following the directions. Further information is available from Jill Lawrence, 315-393-2920, ext 1440

Upcoming sessions:  
**May 8** - 3 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central High School, Watertown

### Environmental Stewardship

#### Planting Seeds of Hope

*He prayeth best, who loveth best  
 All things both great and small;  
 For the dear God who loveth us,  
 He made and loveth all*  
 Samuel Taylor Coleridge,  
 The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Yes, Mr. Coleridge, even reptiles and amphibians!  
 Saturday, April 28, was the date of the Diocesan Youth Rally and the halls of St. Mary's Elementary School in Canton were filled with the voices and laughter of more than 100 young people learning about all aspects of their faith.

As part of this day, The Faith and Ecology Groups who meet in Lake Clear and Watertown participated in the rally. These groups, whose mission is rooted in the social teachings of the Catholic Church, are committed to modeling environmental responsibility and educating and sharing what they have learned on caring for God's Creation. Educating young people about caring for all creation is an important aspect of their mission.

To further this goal, the Faith and Ecology Groups sponsor a workshop and educational display tables at the annual youth rally.

This year, the focus was on some of God's less than warm and fuzzy creatures-reptiles and amphibians, including a seventy-five pound boa constrictor.


Mary Benvenuto, presenter of Reptiles Forever, and her assistants shared much information about the many snakes, turtles, and lizards that they brought.

Several of these the young people were allowed to hold, upon which they discovered that snakes are not slimy at all. One young person, entering the room said, "I am terrified of snakes and I would never want to touch one."

A short while later, however, with a big smile on her face, she was holding a boa constrictor.

(to be continued next week)  
 Suggestion for this week, as we observe the miracles of springtime unfolding before our very eyes: Pay attention. Be amazed. Share it with someone. (Mary Oliver)

**Submitted by a Member of the Faith and Ecology Group**



**Adult Children of Alcoholics**  
 Weekly meeting - Wednesdays at 7:30 PM  
 St. Peter's Church, Plattsburgh  
 Upstairs Room

Adult Children of Alcoholics is a recovery program for adults whose lives were affected as a result of being raised in an alcoholic or other dysfunctional family. It is based on the success of Alcoholics Anonymous and employs its version of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.

For more information on ACA, go to [www.adultchildren.org](http://www.adultchildren.org)

DEACONS AND THEIR WIVES GATHER IN LAKE PLACID

# DEACON CONVOCATION

At fifth annual gathering, deacons hear about the importance of creating disciples in their parishes



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Deacon Tyrone A. Rabideau, a Mooers Forks native who now lives in Plattsburgh; and Deacon Randal J. Smith of St. Peter's in Plattsburgh represent the decades of diaconal ministry in the diocese. Deacon Rabideau was ordained in 1981 and Deacon Smith in 1917



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Karen Donahue of Chaumont, wife of Deacon Patrick J. Donahue, is the new director of the wife's program for the deacon formation program.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE CHAUFY

Deacons James W. Chaufy of Port Leyden and Kevin T. Mastellon of Watertown were part of the convocation planning committee.



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Two deacons who serve in Lewis County parishes were able to spend time together. At left is Deacon Michael J. Allan, deacon assistant at St. Stephen's in Croghan as well as at Holy Family in Watertown; and, at left, newly ordained Deacon Thomas J. Yousef of St. Peter's in Lowville.



PHOTO BY PAT HENDRICK

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, bishop of Burlington, Vermont, and chairman of the Committee on Communication of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, was the keynote speaker for the convocation. He shared ten points on how to create successful parishes, centering on forming disciples. The afternoon session focused on the digital culture. He reminded the assembly that digital media is neither good nor evil but rather "a vehicle to be used to evangelize and an object of evangelization to transform it into more holy ground."



PHOTO BY GAYLE FRANK

A special session for the deacons wives featured a presentation on "True Radiance" by Lisa Mladinich of Long Island. She is shown, at right, with Kathleen Mastellon, wife's representative on the diocesan Deacon Council.



## Catholic Charities

# Mother's Day Appeal - May 13, 2018



Dear Friends in Christ:

Pope Francis' behavior exemplifies faith in action. His declaration of the Year of Families calls on each one of us to live the gospel with a special emphasis and recognition on the family, the Domestic Church. Mercy, Compassion, and the values that we so often associate with being both inclusive and community-minded begin in our families. Catholic Charities, as an agency reflects these gospel values and strives each day to address the many needs of the poor and marginalized of our North Country.



As a community of believers, we can all participate in Christ's mission of love and hope; charity is an essential component of this mission and you can help through providing a generous gift. Your donation can make a vital difference in the lives of individuals and families who struggle with unintended economic hardship. Catholic Charities also help those with emotional issues and provides counseling to families that want to more effectively communicate with one another. These people are not strangers but in so many cases are your neighbors, friends, co-workers and even family members who have knocked on Catholic Charities and asked for help.

Catholic Charities depends on your financial support to continue reaching out to those who need us. Our programs and services express our Christian and Catholic priorities. As your Bishop and chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Catholic Charities, I am graciously asking you to consider making a generous gift to this wonderful organization.

The *Mother's Day Annual Appeal* for Catholic Charities will take place in all our parishes on the weekend of May 13, 2018. Thank you for generosity and your support

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg

## Catholic Charities

### *Legacy of Hope*



### *Diocese of Ogdensburg*

## Annual Appeal

## May 13, 2018



***Celebrating over 100 years of  
Service 1917 - 2018***



*Celebrating over 100 Years of Service 1917-2018*

*Help us reach our goal: \$165,000*

For more information: Call (315) 393-2255 or  
visit our website: [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org)





## Catholic Charities

# Mother's Day Appeal - May 13, 2018



Dear Friend of Catholic Charities,  
Now celebrating over a century of service reminds all of us of the Church's response to the poor and the needy is ongoing; Catholic Charities continues to serve the most vulnerable and marginal of our north country communities through developing programs and services that significantly address the variety of unmet needs faced by our brothers and sisters.

Catholic Charities cannot do this alone. We need our benefactors to be partners in the mission of charity and justice. Your financial gift to Catholic Charities provides the resources for Catholic Charities to effectively respond to the numerous requests for assistance

- Helping the victims of flooding relocate to new homes and better lives.
- Helping financially struggling families keep their homes heated or keep the electric turned on during times of economic hardship and cold winters.
- Providing counseling to parents and teens or struggling couples to more effectively communicate with one another.
- Helping a senior citizen with a co-pay for an essential medication.

These are only a small sample of the hundreds of requests for assistance from individuals and families who come to Catholic Charities... the working family, the veteran, the retiree and others who need assistance today.

We thank you for your past support to our Annual Appeal and will be grateful for your support in the future. We hope that you will be able to help out again this year. Remember, all of our benefactors are remembered in a Mass celebrated each month.

In gratitude and with prayers,

Dcn Patrick J. Donahue LMSW, D. Min  
Diocesan Director

In 2017, Catholic Charities served over 19,000 people across the North Country. Many of the services and programs continue to be offered because you cared enough to provide financial support through your Mother's Day Appeal gift. For just pennies a day, your gift will make a difference in the lives of your neighbors. For the cost of one soda, a cup of coffee, or snack foods each week for one year, you can provide the following:

\$ 40.00	will provide a food voucher for a family
\$ 55.00	will provide gas money for a parent to travel to Syracuse or Burlington to be with their sick child
\$ 150.00	will provide two counseling sessions for a teen in crisis
\$ 200.00	will provide a safe new crib for an infant
\$ 250.00	will provide home heating fuel for an elderly couple
\$ 350.00	will prevent homelessness through rent/mortgage assistance
\$ 500.00	will subsidize the cost of counseling sessions for parents experiencing a crisis pregnancy
\$1,000.00	or more will support the Core services of Catholic Charities: counseling, maternity, advocacy, parish and community outreach

For more information about Catholic Charities and programs in your area visit our website: [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org) or call (315) 393-2255

***"How marvelous it would be if, at the end of each day, each of us could say: today I have performed an act of charity towards others"***  
- Pope Francis

***Catholic Charities needs your help to continue the Legacy of Hope that began 100 years ago in New York State. This year's Annual Appeal will support Catholic Charities core services: counseling, financial assistance for critical needs, maternity services, parish and community outreach, advocacy and networking. Your gift provides the resources for this Legacy of Hope to continue.***

***Be a part of the Legacy of Hope***

### Your gift makes a difference

Catholic Charities will be there for your family member, neighbor and community when they need support in times of emotional, financial crisis.

⇒ You can make your donation online at [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org).

For privacy protection, Catholic Charities is accepting credit card donations online only.

Our online donor program is a secure site.

**Or detach below and return with your donation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

Street /P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Donation** (check enclosed payable to Catholic Charities) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can donate online: [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org)  
All donations to Catholic Charities are tax deductible.

**Mail to:**  
Catholic Charities Appeal 2018  
6866 State Highway 37  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

## WASHINGTON LETTER

# Through nibbles or bites

By Mark Pattison  
Catholic News Service

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** - For generations, religious denominations in the United States have been largely exempt from paying taxes. However, some cracks are beginning to show in that armor.

Principal among them is a suit awaiting a hearing by the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Gaylor v. Mnuchin, in which the Freedom From Religion Foundation is challenging the constitutionality of a 1954 law that permitted housing allowances given by denominations to clergy to be exempt from taxation.

The suit had a false start, according to Luke Goodrich, vice president and senior counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty and its lead attorney on the case. When the Freedom From Religion Foundation first sued, the case was thrown out because it lacked standing. The foundation later gave a housing allowance to its directors - money taxed by the IRS - and was rebuffed when it asked for its tax money back.

"In general, people don't sue the IRS to raise taxes on

other people," Goodrich told Catholic News Service May 2.

## Tax policy fights eating away at church exemptions

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops joined an amicus brief in the case filed April 26 by the Church Alliance, which describes itself as "a coalition of the chief executive officers of nearly 40 denominational benefit programs," although the USCCB was not listed among those in the brief.

"When Congress chooses not to impose a burden on religious organizations - whether by means of tax exemption or regulatory exception - it honors, rather than transgresses, this nation's long tradition of separation between church and state," the brief said. "Leaving religion alone does not establish it."

The brief quoted from a 1954 Senate report prior to passage of the housing allowance: "Under present law, the rental value of a home furnished a minister of the gospel" -- although the benefit extends to non-Christian clergy -- "as a part of his

salary is not included in his gross income. This is unfair to those ministers who are not furnished a parsonage, but who receive larger salaries - which are taxable - to compensate them for expenses they incur in supplying their own home," it said.

What about clergy-less churches? "Almost every conceivable arrangement would create at least some inequities," the brief said. "Congress was entitled to cure the most salient of these."

"This is a long-standing tax provision that treats the ministers the same as hundreds of thousands of other workers," Goodrich said. "The atheists have sued only to take it away from ministers. So if they win, it would (result in) discrimination against ministers."

Goodrich said the circuit court's ruling is key, because if the ministers win, it is highly unlikely the Supreme Court would consider an appeal on a matter of settled law.

But if the Freedom From Religion Foundation wins, he added, "in one fell swoop, that's drastically rewriting the tax code and adding close to \$1 billion in taxes every year. I would say the

Supreme Court would be taking that up."

## The state of New York was able to claim a hefty chunk of the proceeds from the sale of a Catholic health care provider

The Church Alliance brief also pointed to a 1970 Supreme Court case, *Walz v. Tax Commission of the City of New York*. In the case, the justices held that grants of tax exemptions to religious organizations do not violate the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

"The grant of a tax exemption is not sponsorship since the government does not transfer part of its revenue to churches but simply abstains from demanding that the church support the state," the high court said. "There is no genuine nexus between tax exemption and establishment of religion."

A similar amicus brief was filed by the Alliance Defending Freedom. But the 224-page brief is long because it contained the names of 9,000 or so churches and pastors; Catholic churches or priests, if there are any, are few and very far between on the list.

The state of New York, though, was able to claim a hefty chunk of the proceeds from the sale of a Catholic health care provider to a secular counterpart.

When Fidelis Care was sold to Centene Corp. last September, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo "asserted the right" to the sale proceeds, said Bill Hammond, director of health policy at the Empire Center for Public Policy, a think tank based in Albany, New York, the state capital.

Cuomo's argument was "Fidelis Care was a participant in the state Medicaid pro-

gram and other state-funded programs; almost all of its revenue came from the state. It was a contractor, it was being paid for a service. He said it explicitly, I believe, in his budget address. He considered it to be among the state's resources," Hammond told CNS.

"Fidelis and Centene knew this was a possibility," he added. "They didn't say so publicly, but in their agreement in fall of 2017, they had a clause apparently that said that if the state tries to take more than 10 percent of the proceeds, they had the right to walk away from that agreement."

The state takeaway was far more than 10 percent. Of the \$3.75 billion sale price, New York will get \$2 billion over the next four years, \$1.35 billion of it this year. This is down from the \$3 billion Cuomo had initially demanded.

"Although they had the right to walk away, they didn't," Hammond said. "In fact, Centene is contributing some of the \$2 billion. \$1.5 (billion) comes from Fidelis and \$500 million comes from Centene."

Fidelis had been New York's largest purveyor of state-sponsored health services for the poor. It had intended on using the sale proceeds for a foundation to support health care for the needy. Even after the state's bite, it still has \$3.2 billion in cash and other assets to use for the foundation if it chooses.

Hammond warned this sets a precedent. "Any large nonprofit clearly in the health field, that contemplates conversion or sale, will clearly expect a phone call from the governor's office," he said. "And New York does have a pretty substantial nonprofit health insurance sector. It's probably close to half of all people."



Enjoy the renewal of spring with a subscription to the *North Country Catholic*, the newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

## Welcome Spring!

Visit our website at [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://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 Subscription  Renewal  Please send my subscription to my e-mail address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Trump signs order to give faith groups stronger voice

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In front of a small crowd of cabinet members and religious leaders at the White House Rose Garden May 3, President Donald Trump announced, and then signed, an executive order giving faith-based groups a stronger voice in the federal government. "It's a great day," he said after signing the order and passing out pens to religious leaders who surrounded him outside on the spring morning for the National Day of Prayer event. No details about the order were given at the ceremony, but religious leaders were reminded of the work they do in caring for those in need and were assured by the president that their religious freedom would continue to be protected by the federal government. A White House document posted online after the order was signed said its purpose was to ensure that faith-based and community organizations "have strong advocates" in the White House and the federal government. It said the "White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative" would provide recommendations on programs and policies where faith-based and community organizations could partner with the government to "deliver more effective solutions to poverty."

## Pope asks Catholics to pray the rosary for peace in May

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis prayed that the hopes for peace strengthened by the meeting of the leaders of North and South Korea will not be dashed, and he urged Catholics during the month of May to pray the rosary for peace. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in made a "courageous commitment" April 27 to ongoing dialogue to achieve "a Korean peninsula free of nuclear weapons," Pope Francis said April 29 after leading some 30,000 people in praying the "Regina Coeli. I pray to the Lord that the hopes for a future of peace and more brotherly friendship will not be disappointed and that the collaboration may continue bringing good fruits to the beloved Korean people and the whole world," the pope said. Noting that May is a month the Catholic Church dedicates to Mary in a special way, Pope Francis told the crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square that he would begin the month with a visit to Rome's Shrine of Divine Love and lead a recitation of the rosary there.

## Speaker Paul Ryan gives House chaplain his job back

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Jesuit Father Patrick Conroy, chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives who said he had been forced to resign, was reinstated to his post by House Speaker Paul Ryan May 3. The priest was reinstated after a letter he wrote to Ryan, R-Wisconsin, became public. In the letter, Father Conroy said he wished to retract his resignation letter and continue working during this Congress "and beyond. I have never been disciplined, nor reprimanded, nor have I ever heard a complaint about my ministry during my time as House Chaplain," his letter said. He also mentioned displeasure that Ryan hadn't spoken to him directly but had his chief of staff ask for his resignation. In a statement, Ryan said his original decision was made with what he thought was in the best interest of the House, but he now decided that "a protracted fight over such an important post" would not be good for the body and so he accepted the priest's letter and decided he could remain in his position. Ryan, who is Catholic, is expected to meet with Father Conroy May 8 when the House is back in session.

# New York bill would help parents who experience an early miscarriage

By Kate Blain  
Catholic News Service

ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) - When parents lose a child to miscarriage, "you can never take away their pain," said labor and delivery nurse Sharon Hoffman. She said it brings back some level of control though when they can at least bury their child.

Currently, in the state of New York, a child miscarried before 20 weeks' gestation is often considered simply "products of conception," disposed of by the hospital without notifying the parents that they can access hospital records and obtain their child's remains to bury, cremate or otherwise respectfully dispose.

In contrast, Hoffman described her experience with parents who suffer a miscarriage after 20 weeks: They're allowed to see and, if they wish, to hold, wash and dress their lost child; to have photos taken; and to have the child's remains released to a funeral home for burial or cremation. Some families choose to have a funeral service, as well.

The New York State Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state's bishops, is trying to help families who have had early miscarriages to grieve and heal. A proposed law drafted by the conference would make it mandatory, when a miscarriage occurs before 20 weeks, for hospitals to let parents know they can get a fetal death report, enabling them to then get a burial permit and obtain their child's remains.

Many New York Catholic hospitals have a policy to do so already. St. Peter's Hospital in Albany, for example, has a communal plot where

the remains of miscarried infants can be buried.

But, for infants miscarried before 20 weeks, "the law is silent," said Kathleen Gallagher, director of pro-life activities at the conference. Hospitals can make their own policies, and parents often do not know their rights. One bereavement coordinator told Gallagher it was "horrifying that I can't tell families that they can bury their child."

Hoffman, who attends Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Delanson, New York, told The Evangelist, newspaper of the Diocese of Albany, that she has heard hospital officials compare the remains of a child miscarried before 20 weeks to an appendix that's been removed or a leg that has been amputated.

"It's not like your leg," she said emotionally. "It's your future. It's a part of you."

Not all parents want to see a child miscarried that early, she added, "but that doesn't mean they don't have the right to bury it" if they choose.

The bill that would change New York law on this issue is gaining support in the State Legislature, with at least three senators and at least five Assembly members backing it.

The legislation is sitting in each chamber's health committee.

Advocates are clear in telling legislators that the bill has nothing to do with elective abortions. It is specifically about spontaneous abortions, commonly called miscarriages. In addition, it does not put any financial responsibility on the state; parents who wished to bury their miscarried child would bear the cost.

Ironically, Gallagher noted, the issue has been discussed

among pro-life advocates for years, but because New York tends to be "so hostile to pro-life priorities," lobbyists like her are forced to spend most of their time "fighting the bad stuff," such as a proposal to legalize assisted suicide.

Being contacted by two nurses last year who serve families dealing with early miscarriages galvanized the pro-life community to push for a new law. Having drafted the bill, the Catholic conference has since been collecting testimonials from families who have experienced such a loss and sharing those thoughts with state lawmakers.

One of the testimonials came from Jacob and Katherine Vander Veen of Altamont, New York. They lost their son, Isaac, at 21 weeks' gestation.

"Even though we didn't know him long, we knew him intimately," they wrote. "We heard his heartbeat, felt his movements in the womb, talked to him and cherished him daily. ... He was a real person in every sense."

Katherine Vander Veen recalled the day she miscarried. It happened at home, so the couple had to bring Isaac's remains with them to the hospital.

"I remember my husband and I wondering, 'What on earth are we going to do if we can't bury him?' I've known other people who have miscarried and you never hear what they did," she said. "Granted, the baby was very small, but you could see he was fully formed."

The Vander Veens were relieved to learn that they could claim Isaac's remains for burial. But it disturbed them to hear that, if the miscarriage had occurred earlier, they likely would not have had that comfort.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

# Reflecting on the amazing new life in the Spirit

For over a month, the Apostles have been in shock. Just when they were getting used to their amazing glimpses of the Risen Christ, appearing here and there so dramatically. He suddenly ascends into the air before their eyes, and is lost to sight in the clouds.

They must have thought in dismay, "He's left us again!" They withdraw from the public eye to reflect and pray. How much they must have invoked the intercession of Mary in the nine days of mourning, just as the apostles did in the upper room

during those 10 days between the Ascension and Pentecost.



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

In their fear for themselves, we wonder if they remembered what Jesus had said to them: "If you really love me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father".

In other words, I have a better way to remain with you. I will live in you and in the Church through my Spirit and in my Vicar.

And did they remember that wonderful farewell address in that same upper room just a few weeks before at that strange, sacred

meal the night before He died.

Did they now understand the reason for his institution of the Eucharist, that He might remain with them always?

On this Seventh Sunday, the Apostles reflect, and we reflect with them on this new amazing life in the Spirit that will all become a reality on Pentecost.

When we think ourselves alone and abandoned, when the contrary spirit of the world depresses us, He is there!

When we are tempted to give up, to feel far from God, He is there!

But for us to grasp His abiding presence, we must pray daily, and not just in

May 15

Seventh Sunday of Easter

READINGS

Acts 1: 15-17, 20a 20c-26

1 John 4:11-16

John 17:11b-19

prepared words. We must go simply and deliberately into our soul, into the core of our being daily, and there listen to Him in silence. Then, strengthened by His grace, we can confidently go about our Mission.

We need that grace more than ever in the post-world of Pope Francis., for the Church is built on Christ, and all the Popes from St. Peter to the present Pontiff.

How fitting it is for Mother's Day to fall on this Sunday in which we recall the Apostles in prayer, clustered around Mary, the Mother of the Church, who in strong silence presides over this first Conclave.

How fitting it is that, as they invoked her help then, the Church today invokes Mary, first among Mothers, to protect and care for all our mothers, living and deceased, and pray to her Son to bless them for their sacrifices in bearing and nurturing countless sons and daughters, and always loving them as only mothers can. We salute Mary today, and all mothers. We honor them for their many, many sacrifices.

## A VOICE OF FAITH

# Abortion and Divine Mercy

By Father John Catoir  
Contributing Writer

In this column I want to reach out to all women, especially those who have had an abortion. Without diminishing the seriousness of the sin, I want to tell them about the Good News of the Gospel.

I'll begin with this universal truth: "Never put a limit on God's mercy." You've heard it said that God is love. Well it's true. God's love is infinite, uncondi-

tional, and unchanging. Do not live in some dark corner apart from His loving kindness.

There are no unforgivable sins. The only sin called unforgivable in the Gospels is the sin of refusing God's forgiveness. A person who refuses to accept God's forgiveness cannot receive it. The main point however, is that God wipes away all the sins of everyone who repents and asks Him for forgiveness. As far as worrying about the baby's well-being, you must leave it up to God to shower him or her with love.

When I hear confessions, I conclude with these words, "You've made a good confession; now put your mind at ease and try as best you can to trust God's love completely. For now, renew your good intentions and Go in peace."

At a recent White House Press Corps dinner their entertainer made jokes about yanking her baby out of her

womb. She even used the word "baby". Watching an audience laughing at this kind of humor was horrifying. Mother Theresa and millions of saints in heaven, must have been outraged. So were millions of Americans of all faiths. There is nothing funny about abortion.

It's difficult to write about Divine Mercy on this topic. It seems like you're downplaying the magnitude of the evil. I tried it once many years ago, and to my utter shock the article was used in abortion clinics to encourage women to proceed with their abortion. That's like trying to get absolution before you kill someone.

I've been wary ever since. Even so, I've risked it again today because I fully realize that many women were almost paralyzed with fear when they aborted their child; a deed they detested in their heart of hearts. They did not give full consent of their will.

Permit me to conclude with a mini-lesson in moral culpability. Men who force women into having an abortion are guilty of murder. In such circumstances the women are often more sinned against than anything else. A mortal sin requires serious matter, sufficient reflection, and full consent of the will.

The murder of a human being is a serious matter. But many women are pressured into it without sufficient reflection and full consent of the will. Some cowardly man or family member pushed them into it, and without the necessary support system they succumbed to misery.

Permit me to conclude, I think that's why Pope Francis tempered the zeal of those who make abortion the central issue of Christian revelation. Their condemnations are too sweeping.

Brava to those heroic women who found the

## Rachel's Vineyard

The Diocese of Ogdensburg offers support for people suffering after an abortion through regular Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreats. The next retreat is set for June 1-3 at the Guggenheim Lodge in Saranac Lake. Father Mark Reilly will serve as the retreat chaplain. Confidential registration forms are available on the Respect Life webpage [www.rcdon.org/pro-life](http://www.rcdon.org/pro-life).

moral strength to save their baby in such extreme circumstances. To all men and women, I send the assurance of Divine Love.

"May the passion and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the merits of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, and whatsoever good you do, or suffering you endure, may it lead to the remission of your sins, the increase of grace, and the gift of everlasting life with God in heaven."

For a New or Used Car

**Mort  
Backus &  
Sons**

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.  
**315-393-5899**

CHEVROLET

## AT THE MOVIES

## I FEEL PRETTY

By Kurt Jensen  
Catholic News Service

Whacks to the noggin make such convenient plot devices.

In "I Feel Pretty" (STX), the latest Amy Schumer comedy, a tumble during a Soul Cycle workout gives her out-of-shape character the reverse of body dysmorphic disorder. Thus she sees herself as slim, beautiful and perfect - and this supercharges her self-esteem, transforming her romantic life and her career.

Logical flaws in this aside, parables about self-confidence can be useful to all. While some may see the movie's theme as veering in the direction of fat-shaming, moreover, Schumer is more deeply engrossed in performing physical comedy routines.

"I Feel Pretty" also represents a considerable departure from the raunchiness on which Schumer - who plays Renee, a lovelorn on-

line customer-service representative at Lily LeClaire, a big cosmetics firm - has built her brand. Even so, a sequence in which Renee's sudden boldness is shown to extend to sexual matters may have the parents of teen girls, who are this film's target audience, hesitating to give them the green light.

Pathos is not the aim here. Instead co-writers and directors Abby Kohn and Marc Silverstein have packaged an unbendingly cheerful girl-power fable.

Renee, with low self-esteem and a healthy appetite for carbohydrates, considers herself stuck permanently in a lost corner of life. Somewhat desperately, she and girlfriends Vivian (Aidy Bryant) and Jane (Busy Philipps) attempt to fire up their love lives with online dating -- with predictably little success.

All it takes is that exercise accident, though, and Renee has the moxie to seek a new job as a receptionist at Lily

LeClaire. Having gained the post, her aptitude for identifying the shopping habits of the average gal at the makeup counter impresses the namesake founder (Lauren Hutton) and her daughter, Avery (Michelle Williams).

Renee's newfound self-assurance alienates her from her pals for a time, but also lands her a sensitive new boyfriend, Ethan (Rory Scovel). He, like everyone else, sees past the illusion, but admires her for going with it.

That second thump to the head will eventually arrive, though, raising the question of whether Renee can succeed without the ongoing fantasy that animated her.

Despite its trite plot, "I Feel Pretty" conveys sound messages and showcases some good moral choices. It also reinforces an insight as old as the Book of Proverbs: Namely, that "charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting" -- and that real worth, accordingly, is to be sought



CNS PHOTO/STXFILMS

Amy Schumer stars in a scene from the movie "I Feel Pretty."

within.

The film contains an implied nonmarital sexual encounter, obscured rear nudity and a single instance each of scatological and anatomical humor.

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

material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



## ALSO PLAYING... A QUIET PLACE



CNS PHOTO/PARAMOUNT

Emily Blunt and Millicent Simmonds star in a scene from the movie "A Quiet Place." This compact, stylish horror film might be a parable about resisting tyranny. Taken strictly on its surface, it's a story about how strong, trusting family ties can overcome any obstacle, especially if the members of the clan in question (led by John Krasinski, who also directed and co-wrote the screenplay) are as technically adept as TV's MacGyver. Krasinski's character, his wife (Emily Blunt) and two surviving children (Millicent Simmonds and Noah Jupe) initially evade and eventually battle the invading aliens, armed with incredibly acute hearing, who killed his youngest. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. (CNS)

The Diocese of Ogdensburg  
**NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC**  
is on  
**FACEBOOK**

- Find Us
- Like Us
- Follow Us



## CLINTON

**HEALING MASS**

**Morrisonville** – St. Alexander's Parish will have a Healing Mass.

**Date:** June 7

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Features:** Also included will be Anointing of the Sacrament of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confession and the opportunity to receive individual prayer with members of Living Waters Healing Ministry.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Peru** - The 32nd Annual Knights of Columbus Council 7273 Bill McBride Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament will be held.

**Date:** June 15

**Time:** 10 a.m. Shotgun start

**Place:** Adirondack Golf and Country Club

**Features:** The 4 person scramble is dedicated to its former chairman, the late Bill McBride Jr.

**Contact:** Obtain entry forms and information from Greg Lombard at 518-643-5444 or email gnetlombard@charter.net.

**MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**

**Lyon Mountain** – Knights of Columbus Council #7215 to have a Mission of Hope Mother's Day Brunch.

**Date:** May 13

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

**Place:** Lyon Mountain American Legion  
**Cost:** Adults, \$10, All Mothers, \$5; Children 6-12, \$5; under 5, Free

**Features:** 50/50 raffle; Proceeds to Benefit North Country's Mission of Hope & Knights Council #7215.

**Contact:** Takes outs are available 518-735-4372; For more information please call (518) 578-2638

**ALUMNI REUNION**

**Plattsburgh** – The Seton Catholic, MAI & SJA Alumni Reunion is set

**Date:** May 25 – 27

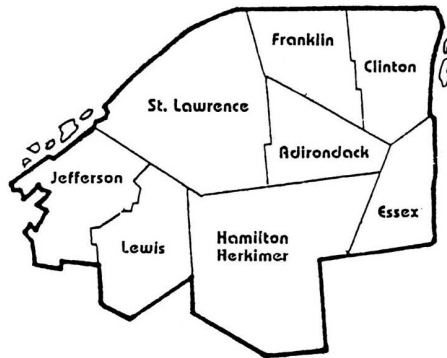
**Schedule:** May 25, Golf at Harmony Golf Course at 11 a.m.; Welcome Back reception at Valcour Brewing Company at 6 p.m.; May 26, School tours from Noon to 2 p.m., Alumni Banquet at the Westside Ballroom at 6 p.m.; May 27, Mass at St. John's Church at 9:30 a.m.

**Contact:** Susan Pellerin at 518-561-4031 option7 to register

**GARAGE SALE**

**Plattsburgh** – Donations are being accepted now for the Seton Garage Sale.

**Date:** Donations accepted now, Garage sale to be held June 2 and 3  
**Features:** Items needed: Furniture,



The North County Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese." Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:  
**North County 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.

Books, DVDs, Clothing & Shoes, Home Décor, Kitchen Supplies, Holiday Decorations, Electronics (no TVs or printers), Jewelry, Small Appliances, Athletic Items, Toys/Games, Bikes, Accessories, Etc. Drop off locations at Seton Academy and Seton Catholic.

**Contact:** If you need assistance with your donation, we will pick it up for you. Call or text Hank at 660-626-7442

**FOR LAY MINISTERS**

**Au Sable Forks** – All Commissioned Lay Ministers are invited to an event.

**Date:** May 12

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** Holy Name Church and School

**Cost:** \$10

**Speaker:** Fr. Paul Kelly

**Topic:** The Holy Spirit Empowers Us!

**Contact:** Online pre-registration is encouraged. [www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-layministers/clm-event-registration.html](http://www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-layministers/clm-event-registration.html)

**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.

## FRANKLIN

**ROSARY RALLY**

**Chateaugay** – A Rosary Rally will be held to pray for peace in the World

**Date:** May 12

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Place:** St. Patrick's Church

**Contact:** Elaine McGivney at 518-529-6133 or Joan Johnston at 518-497-0707. or by mail to: PO Box 106 Canajoharie, NY 13317

**MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST**

**Brushton** – St. Mary's Annual Mother's Day Breakfast to be held.

**Date:** May 13

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

**Place:** St. Mary's Parish Center

**Cost:** Adults, \$8, Seniors, \$7; Children 6-12, \$4; under 5, Free; Immediate Family of 5 or more, \$25 (Mother, Father and school age children)

**Contact:** Take-outs available by calling 518-529-6580

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

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

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

**Place:** St. Ann's Church

## JEFFERSON

**ROSARY CRUSADE**

**Carthage** – The 16th Annual Family Rosary Crusade to be held.

**Date:** May 18

**Place:** St. James Minor Church

**Schedule:** begins with Mass at 5:15 p.m. followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. At 6 p.m. and at the top of the next seven hours, three complete Rosaries will be prayed in honor of Our Ladies Seven Sorrows. Each hour also has specific intentions.

**Features:** Artist and event coordinator,

Bob Renaud, also paints a painting each year to set a theme. For those attending St. James for at least three hours (in honor of Our Lord's passion and suffering), a print of the painting will be distributed. This year's painting is entitled; 'With the Queen of Hearts, There's Hope'.

**Contact:** For more information check St. James parish website: [catholicsof-carthagecopenhagen.org](http://catholicsof-carthagecopenhagen.org) Or the artist's personal website: [bobrenaudart.com](http://bobrenaudart.com)

**IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL**

**Watertown** – Commissioned Lay Ministry (CLM) Association of Jefferson and Lewis Deaneries is holding a dinner.

**Date:** May 9

**Time:** Mass at 5:15 p.m. followed by dinner and speaker

**Place:** SSJ Motherhouse

**Cost:** \$10

**Features:** Fr. Chris Looby will share his experiences and insights about his recent travels to Greece. Open to Commissioned Lay Ministers and their spouses, local Clergy, and Religious

**Contact:** Register by May 4 by contacting Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920, ext. 1413 or [jgrizzuto@rcdony.org](mailto:jgrizzuto@rcdony.org)

**LIFERIGHT MOVIE**

**Watertown** – Life right will host a viewing of the film "The ABC Link" (Abortion Breast Cancer Link).

**Date:** May 22

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** Reading room of the Flower Memorial Library

**Features:** Dr. Angela Lanfranchi, a breast cancer surgeon who is head of the Breast Cancer Prevention Institute and Dr. Joel Brind, biologist and endocrinologist. The film explains why the incidence of breast cancer has risen from one in twelve women to one in eight women. Refreshments will be served

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

**Adams** – The St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity of the 3rd Order of Secular Franciscans will gather to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**Date:** May 26

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Place:** St. Cecilia's Parish

**CUPERTINO MEETING**

**Watertown** – The St. Joseph of Cupertino Fraternity of the 3rd Order of Secular Franciscans will meet.

**Date:** May 27

**Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Place:** McCarthy Hall at Holy Family Church.

**OPERATION MIRIAM LUNCH**

**Watertown** – Women of middle school age and up invited to learn about what the consecrated life all about.

**Date:** June 17

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Place:** SSJ Motherhouse

**Features:** Prayer to know one's vocations lunch, sharing of vocation stories and information about consecrated life.

**Contact:** Shayne Lippincott at [slippincott@rcdony.org](mailto:slippincott@rcdony.org) or call 315-782-3620 by June 11.

**TO SHRINES IN MONTREAL**

**Clayton** – Parishioners from the parishes of St. Mary's, and St. John's, LaFargeville are sponsoring a day trip to Montreal to visit St. Joseph's Oratory and Notre Dame Basilica.

**Date:** May 15

**Cost:** \$125 covers coach transportation from St. Mary's, admission and tour costs, lunch, and dinner in Old Montreal.

**Schedule:** Bus leaves at 7a.m. from St. Mary's. Trip includes a guided tour at each church, visiting the Oratory's museum and gift shops at both locations. Fr. Art LaBaff will say Mass for the group in the crypt church at St. Joseph's. Arrival back at St. Mary's is expected to be between 9.30 and 10 p.m.

**Contact:** St. Mary's Church at 315-686-3398.

**SPAGHETTI SUPPER**

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

**Date:** May 31

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

**Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

**Cost:** Adults, \$8, Children, \$4; Children under 3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs, \$7.5

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

**LIFERIGHT MEETING**

**Watertown** – Liferight meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Place:** 870 Arsenal Street.

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

## LEWIS

**ST. PETER'S MAY FESTIVAL**

**Lowville** – St. Peter's May Festival to be held.

**Schedule:** May 18, 5p.m. to 10; May 19, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; May 20, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Features:** Food, Fun, Games for all.

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

# In honor of mothers

Mothers watch over, nourish, and protect. Mothers give life. The role of a mother can often be thankless or it can be the defining moment in a woman's life. Mothers are responsible for holding it all together. They can be taken for granted. Mothers are loved. Mothers are love. For this Mom, it has been my greatest joy, challenge, accomplishment and at times heartbreak. I am blessed to still have my mom and my mother in law. I respect the job of being a mom so much more now that I am the mother of two teenagers. Often difficult but always loving.

Motherhood is often seen through the eyes of unconditional love. Probably no other Bible verse can sum this up better: "Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not envy. It does not boast. It is not proud. It is not rude. It is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered. It keeps no record of wrong doing. It does not delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth. It always protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres." (Corinthians 13)

As our world evolves, maybe the importance on being a mother is diminished. Not so in the eyes of God. There is no greater calling. There is a strategic role between God and a mother. No one can influence the life of a child more than a mother. As we look in admiration at the relationship between Jesus and His Blessed Mother, Mary, we take note of the love and devotion Christ had for His Mother. Jesus recognized the sacrifice that Mary made for him. She knew Jesus better than anyone. She grieved more than anyone when He died for us on the cross. She shaped the relationships he would have with women, the respect he would have for them and the kindness he would show as we read in the Bible. Mary the Mother of Jesus is a role model for all mothers, past and present, in the world we live in. She embodies all the love, kindness and protective qualities women need to remember when they become a Mom.

The work of the missions is a lot like motherhood. It can be unexpected. It can bring joy and pain. It requires strength, patience. It requires action. It is not proud. It is not self-seeking. As Jesus looked to His Mother Mary for guidance and love, so goes the life of those on Mission. They know the love of God and that He is there for them. They learn they have a greater purpose or a calling. Just as there is no greater calling than that of the role of the mother.

This Mother's Day, take the opportunity to remember those in the Missions who continue to be nourished and loved through our prayers and sacrifice at home. Many children in the Missions are orphans and the only "mother" they know are the missionaries who care for them and minister to their spiritual needs. As the definition of mothering states "to nourish and protect", may we continue to support the Missions through prayer and sacrifice. I wish all Mothers a Happy Mother's Day. God Bless!

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" when writing or changing your Will. [www.rcdony.org](http://www.rcdony.org)

## OBITUARIES

### Robert G. Decker, 95

**HAMMOND** – A Mass of Christian Burial for Robert G. Decker, 95, father of Father Robert L. Decker of Black River and Father Douglas A. Decker of Tupper Lake, was held May 2 at St. Peter's Church with his two sons officiating.

Mr. Decker died May April 28 at the Samaritan Keep Home in Watertown. Burial was in Fineview Cemetery.

He was born March 14, 1923 in Hammond, son of Loren R. and Ellen Chase Decker. He was educated in Hammond Schools and married Mary Aline Constance Amyot, on May 16, 1945 at St. Patrick's Church, in Rossie.

Mr. Decker owned and operated his own farm on County Route 1, until 1970 and also worked as a bus driver for Hammond Central School. He then served as highway superintendent for the town of Hammond for 20 years, retiring in 1992.

He was a member of the K of C, and played in the band "Blue Notes" for many years.

Besides his wife Aline, and his two priest sons, he is survived by three other sons, George (Susan), West Gardner, Maine; Lyndon (Judy), Tully, NY, and Steven (Angela), Adams; a daughter,

Sally and her husband Frederick Paddock, Hammond; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by two sisters, Lorene Hall and Margaret Shannon.

Memorial donations may be the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the American Diabetes Association or St. Peter's Church.

**Brushton** – Jason E. Deon, 41; Mass of Christian Burial May 5, 2018 at St. Mary's Church.

**Burke** – Jeanne (Chauvin) Lanctot, 92; Mass of Christian Burial April 28, 2018 at St. George's Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, Malone.

**Constable** – Harold "Pal" Lamondie, 79; Mass of Christian Burial May 7, 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

**Dannemora** – Tonya L. (Manion) Couture, 49; Mass of Christian Burial April 30, 2018 at S. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Glenfield** – Denise J. (LaPorte) Dufault, 91; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial Martinsburg Cemetery.

**Louisville** – James H. Martin, 88; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2018 at St. Lawrence Church; burial in Connecticut.

**Malone** – Gerald R. Benoit, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 8, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Malone** – Carole Ann Wilcox Yando, 83; Mass of Christian Burial May 1, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Massena** – Glenn A. Peets, 87; Mass of Christian Burial May 1, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Moors Forks** – Della M. (Kirouac) Bertrand, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2018 at St. Ann's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**North Bangor** – Walter Woods, Jr., 88; Mass of Christian Burial April 30, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Faye A. (Brouillette) Fraser, 81; Funeral Services May 4, 2018 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Fidelia (Hanmer) Lessor, 102; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2018 at St. John's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Peter L. Esposito, 85; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

## Order your 2018 Diocesan Directory!



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

Order online at [www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org) for faster delivery or fill out the form below.

Make checks payable to:

North Country Catholic

PO Box 106

Canajoharie, NY 13317

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

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ directories

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**\$15.00  
each**

## FLOATING ROSARY



To conclude the year of religious education at Sacred Heart Church in Chazy, students in grades one through 10 worked together to construct a Floating Rosary. This environmentally friendly rosary was put together with helium balloons. The students, teachers, walkers, and families



were invited to Sunday Mass April 29 at 8 a.m. and, after Mass, everyone processed across the street to a field where a decade of the Rosary was recited as the Floating Rosary was released. Above, left, Celine Juneau and Catherine Langlois fill a balloon.

## Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

ST. LAWRENCE

### CORPUS CHRISTI

**Norwood** – A Celebration of Corpus Christi to be held.

**Date:** June 3

**Time:** 2 p.m.

**Place:** St. Andrew's Church

**Features:** Mass followed by a procession with the Holy Sacrament around the block and back into the church where benediction will conclude the service. Bishop Terry LaValley, will be the principle celebrant. Priests, deacons, sisters, Knights of Columbus councils, all women and men societies, and youth groups are welcome. A reception will follow in the Meditation Garden

### TRIP TO YANKEE GAME

**Canton** - The Canton Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Yankee Baseball Trip to New York City.

**Date:** Aug. 10

**Cost:** \$230 per/person double occupancy. The price includes luxury coach transportation, ticket to the ballgame, one night's hotel stay at Meadowlands River Inn and breakfast on Saturday.

**Contact:** cantonkofc@gmail.com or call 315-714-2016.

### ITALIAN FEST

**Gouverneur** – Italian Fest to be held.

**Date:** May 11

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

**Place:** St. James School

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

**Features:** Take-outs available. Chefs: Joe & Carolyn Pistolesi. Raffles, games & face painting. Fried Dough. Italian Dessert Sale. Public Open House to check out St. James School.

### CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Canton** - The Canton-Potsdam K of C Assembly 707 is hosting a Charity Golf Tournament With proceeds to benefit local Special Olympics

**Date:** June 16

**Place:** Partridge Run Golf Course

**Features:** captain and crew format with prizes for the top three finishers in the following divisions: Men's, Women's and Mixed. There will also be contests for longest drive, closest to the pin, and putting. The cost is \$50 per person which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart and lunch at the turn.

**Contact:** To register a team, email: cantonkofc@gmail.com or leave a message at 315-714-2016.

### DIOCESAN EVENTS

#### MEN'S RETREAT

**Saranac Lake** – A diocesan men's retreat to be held.

**Date:** June 8-10

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge

**Cost:** \$100, includes meals and lodging

**Theme:** Into the Deep – Finding Peace

Through Peter

**Contact:** John Miner, 518-354-0727 or

jdminer@roadrunner.com

#### DOVS PILGRIMAGE

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

**Date:** Oct. 16-18

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

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

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

### CATHOLIC BOY AND GIRL SCOUTS

Catholic Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in the diocese are encouraged to Work on a religious emblem. There are a variety of emblems for Scouts of all types and ages (Daisy, Brownie, Cub, Girl, Boy, Venture, and Explorer).

**Contact:** www.rcdony.org/scouting or contact Scott Quinell at 315-212-0137 or bsaquinell@gmail.com. The emblems are awarded at the annual Bishop's Scout Mass in October.

### CAMP GUGGENHEIM

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

**Contact:** www.rcdony.org/camp.

### YOUTH MINISTER CERTIFICATION

Register to spend a morning completing two courses in the Youth Minister Certification Program and sharing ideas with fellow youth ministers.

**Schedule:** May 12 in Watertown and May 19 in Plattsburgh

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

**Features:** Course 5 (The Youth Minister as Model of Mission & Apologetics) and Course 6 (The Youth Minister as Model of Prayer and Worship)

**Contact:** Register by emailing vde-mers@rcdony.org

### RACHEL'S VINEYARD

**Saranac Lake** - A Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreat is set

**Date:** June 1-3

**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge

**Features:** Father Mark Reilly will serve as the retreat chaplain. Confidential registration forms at the Respect Life webpage: www.rcdony.org/prolife.

### CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

**Plattsburgh** - Catholic Heart Workcamp is returning to Plattsburgh

**Date:** June 24 to 29

**Place:** Seton Catholic Central

**Schedule:** Daily Mass, Penance and prayer, work in the community.

**Cost:** \$375 which includes meals, lodging, transportation to the work sites, t-shirts and snacks.

**Features:** Open to high school (entering 9th grade in Fall 2018) and college students. Campers will volunteer at various sites in the area during the day and participate in fun, faith-building programs in the evening.

**Contact:** Jocelyn Kelly and Samantha Poulin at chwc.ogdensburg@gmail.com or call Jocelyn at 518-651-0786.