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COUNT

Pope: God is revealed through authentic faith

VATICAN CITY (CNS) - The power of charist, as well as "the sublime God's name is manifested in the lives of people who live their faith in an authentic way, while it is taken in vain by those who live in hypocrisy, Pope Francis said.

By adhering to the commandment to not take the name of the Lord in vain, Christians can show the beauty of baptism and the Euunion there is between our body and the body of Christ; he in us and us in him," the pope said Aug. 22 during his weekly general audi-

"If there were more Christians who would take upon themselves the name of God without falsehood, practicing the first request of the Our Father – 'hallowed be thy name' - the proclamation of the church would be heard more and become more credible." he

Continuing his series of talks on the Ten Commandments, the pope turned to the Second Commandment, which he said is correctly interpreted as "an invitation to not offend the name of God and use it inappropriately."

Recalling its Hebrew and Greek translations, Pope Francis said the Second Commandment means not taking upon one's self the name of God "in a way that is devoid of and content" shrouded hypocrisy, formalities and lies.

Parochial vicars trade assignments

Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced that effective Sept. 26, Father Michael J. Jablonski will become parochial vicar at St. André Bessette Parish in Malone, and Father Scott A. Belina will become parochial vicar at St. Peter's Parish in Massena.

Father Belina was ordained in May of 2013, and Father Jablonski, the diocese's newest priest, was ordained in May of 2017

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Faith & Families

Pope addresses World Meeting

of Families **FULL STORY, PAGE 10**

SERVING THE SERVERS



DARCY FARGO/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley points out paintings of previous diocesan bishops in the formal sitting room at the bishop's residence. The tour was part of the diocesan altar server picnic and Mass, held Aug. 17. For the full story, see page 7.

FOLLOW ME Scandal hurt the **Body of Christ**



Bishop Terry R. LaValley issues a pastoral letter responding to the recent revelations of abuse within the church.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

BACK TO SCHOOL: Catholic schools ready for new year... Page 4

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

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REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN Vice President JAMES D. CROWLEY Secretary-Treasurer DARCY L. FARGO Editor &

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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 Rox 326 Ogdensburg, NY 13669 and should be received by Thursday prior to publication. Paper is printed each Monday: dateline is Wednesday. Member, Catholic Press Association.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326 Oadensburg, NY 13669-0326

EDITOR'S NOTE

What's a little flapping between friends?

Iron is sharpened by iron; tioned, my son, Jacob, is on one person sharpens an- the autism spectrum. Many other. - Proverbs 27:17

He trudged down the stairs and into the dining room, still rubbing the sleep from his eyes.

"Mom, I was just thinking, and I want to be an altar server."

Those were the first Darcy L. words out of my son's mouth that morning in the latter half of 2016. "We'll see, buddy," I re-

sponded. Why the non-committal re-

sponse? As I've previously men-

Fargo

individuals on the spectrum exhibit self-stimulatory behavior, or "stimming" repetitive actions such as rocking, spinning or hopping. Jake stims. His stims flapping his hands and a skip step and/or hopping movement.

I wasn't sure if our parish would readily accept occasional flapping

and hopping in the sanctuary. I knew it could be a distraction. I knew there could be potential mistakes related

The next Sunday, I approached our pastor, Father Raymond J. Moreau, to inquire on Jake's behalf.

Not only did Father Ray excitedly agree to allow Jake to serve, he celebrated Jake's willingness and desire to do so. He welcomed Jake's serv-

Jake (like any new altar server in our parish) received a round of applause after serving his first Mass. He's been serving since.

There is sometimes stimming in the sanctuary. No one seems to care about that. In fact, over the last two years, our little parish, St.

demonstrated immense love for Jake and for our family.

That love and sense of community help fuel Jake's desire to serve the Lord.

I recently had the opportunity to attend the diocesan altar servers Mass and picnic, both as a mom and reporter. I spoke to servers from around the diocese. These are young people who are excited to serve the Lord and their parishes.

May we all be the types of communities and people who encourage continued love of the Lord and love of service, both in our youth and in each other.

Jesus wants to satisfy our spiritual hunger

Today, I would like to continue considering John 6 with you. As you remember, the Gospel readings for each Sunday during August this vear have been from that chapter. John 6. For that reason, our attention at Mass during these weeks has been on our sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

In John 6, Jesus speaks of himself as the bread of life the bread that comes down to us from heaven. We recognize this as our sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. This sacrament is important and very foundational to our Catholic spirituality. Each time, we join for prayer on Sunday, we "do Eucharist" – we pray the Mass.

You and I began learning about the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist as children at first Communion classes. Yet, even after all these years, there continues to be something new to learn about our sacraments, about the Holy Eucharist and about the Mass.

This year, as I read and studied John 6 again, I became even more impressed with how much Jesus wants



to be part of our lives. I recognized how fervently Jesus wants to be present to each of us. That's why Jesus instituted this powerful sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. The image is that Jesus wants to be a part of our lives, just as each of us needs food to satisfy our hunger. Food is a necessity for us. Food keeps us alive and active. Jesus wants to be the food for our spiritual life.

Personally, I must admit that I have never been physically hungry. I have not had that experience. However, I do know only too well that I have experienced hunger spiritually. I have recognized a need for something to nourish and strengthen my spiritual life – to give me a new and strong spirit to live well.

Jesus makes it very clear in the Gospels that he wants to be the one who can solve that need. Jesus wants to come to that each time I go to the to transform and strengthen my confidence. Jesus can give me the readiness to meet the challenges of each day, so that I will live well as a disciple.

I am certain each day is filled with many opportunities and challenges to transform this world, to make it a better place. The power to accomplish this comes from the Lord, who wants to be "bread for new life." I know that I need this life of the Lord, this power of Jesus. I know that this power comes through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. I believe firmly that every one of us becomes a new and more alive person each time we find Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. I believe that every person leaves Mass a new and more alive Christian, a far different person than the one who entered the church.

It is all about our faith - our faith in Christ's presence in the Holy Eucharist. Our faith in Christ's readiness to become part of our lives and all that we do. I proclaim often my faith in my ordination as a priest. I have complete faith altar for Mass and say the words and prayers of the Lord that Jesus is truly present in that place with that congregation. I believe that each time I administer Holy Communion at Mass, the Lord is present to each person, present to bring new life and new confidence to each person. I am also certain that each time I bring Holy Communion to a home bound or dying person that Jesus becomes present and alive in their lives bringing help and confidence to them in this difficult time in their lives.

Holy Communion is a time for our act of faith. Each of us, as we approach Holy Communion, must make an act of faith in the words of Jesus: "This is my Body... This is my Blood." Our faith gives us a new strength of confidence in the presence of Jesus in our lives.

So. Iesus comes to us as our food. Through the Eucharist, a spiritual bond is forged between us and Jesus. The sacrament of the Holy Eucharist enables us to grow in intimacy and friendship with the Lord.

FOLLOW ME

Scandal has hurt the Body of Christ

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The Body of Christ is hurting so terribly. I can't begin to imagine the lifelong pain endured by the victims and the families of those who have been sexually abused by the clergy. Just when I thought (and prayed) that new revelations of such crimes were history, news broke of the credible allegation of sexual misconduct against a Cardinal of the Church, Theodore Mc-Carrick and the Grand Jury report from Pennsylvania was released.

Revelations about the past egregious behavior of some clergy (priests and bishops) in our Church have caused us all such great personal shame and profound sorrow for their victims. I struggle with much anger. When a cleric abuses, it is not just sexual abuse, as sickening as that is, it's also spiritual abuse, an individual is robbed of his or her faith and of sacred trust in the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church. The whole Body is wounded grievously by each of these betrayals.

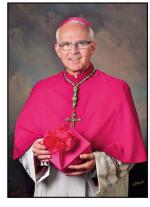
The continuing revelations of the fracturing of this sacred trust is paralyzing the mission of the Church. The hurt inflicted upon us in our experience of the Church can shipwreck our Christian faith. Like the corrosive nature of rust on iron, such scandal can eat away at our faith. Yet, the very fact that the Church in its current state, with her human imperfections, is a cause of dismay to some: that we are angry, disgusted, or shameful are all palpable signs that we care, that the reality of

the Church matters to us, that it matters right down to our very core.

Recently, as I was reflecting on the current crisis in the Church and wallowing in in a moment of self-pity, I remembered a Christmas card I received years ago that caught my attention. There were neat personal notes on the card written to me by the children of this family. The parents then wrote about my priestly ministry, particularly about the consecration at Mass. Their teenage son told them that he really felt the bread and wine changing into the Body and Blood of Christ when I voiced the Eucharistic Prayer. That snapped me out of my pity party and reminded me what the priesthood is all about.

I'm proud to be a Roman Catholic priest. I feel humbled and so very privileged to be a priest. There's nothing in this world that I would rather be. The anointed hands of a priest are the hands that consecrate the Eucharist, the hands that absolve sin, the hands that comfort the ill and the dying, the hands that baptize and bless. If a person can feel safe and welcomed any place in this world, it ought to be in the Church under the care of her priest.

The protection of our children is paramount. Our vigilance in providing safe environments for all who come to us has not waned. The members of our diocesan lay review board have been invaluable in their frank and very insightful counsel as we continue to address this horror in our diocese. The faithful have



Bishop Terry R. LaValley

a right to be assured that the Church has an effective zero tolerance policy that deals promptly with allegations of sexual abuse of minors by the clergy —priest and bishop. I will soon share with you a summary of our experience in reaching out to victims through our Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program as this particular program nears its completion here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg in mid-September.

Since the scandal surfaced several years ago, I have been so affirmed by the ongoing support and trust of faith-filled parishioners. The priests have a right to receive from their bishop encouragement and support when the behavior of some causes such distress and shame for the hard working and faithful priest. Thank you for your ongoing prayers for your priests who give God's holy people a shepherd's love and care. The faithful have a right to receive an apology from the



Church when sacred trust has been betrayed and that the Church is doing all within its power to prevent that from ever occurring again.

We pray for those who have suffered such heinous sinfulness by clergy as we seek forgiveness for the failure of Church leadership to address this tragedy effectively. Yes, we care and we ache for a Church that today more often puts on display its sinners rather than its saints.

What can we do? In his letter of August 20, the Holy Father asks us to consider doing prayer and penance. He wrote: "I invite the entire holy faithful People of God to a penitential exercise of prayer and fasting... today we are challenged as the People of God to take on the pain of our brothers and sisters wounded in their flesh and in their spirit."

With this in mind, I am asking all our pastors to designate in their

parishes a day of Prayer and Penance in September for the victims of clerical abuse. This could be an occasion for parishioners to come together for a special Mass for healing (Eucharistic Prayer IV for Various Needs is appropriate) or a Holy Hour in reparation for the sins committed against the innocent.

I invite you to join me in penance and prayer for the renewal of holiness among us. Know that this local Church continues to work hard to be rid of the scourge of clergy sex abuse and be an instrument of reconciliation and peace. God's grace will provide. That's our hope. That's our belief! God's grace will provide.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Bishop Faballey

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley Bishop of Ogdensburg

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Or visit the Diocese of Ogdensburg Department of Education website at www.rcdony.org/catholicschools

New beginning for students, Catholic schools

Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, SSJ Superintendent of Schools

Where has the summer gone? It does not seem possible that schools will open in less than two weeks! Yes, "Tempus fugit" – Time flies! Although summer does not officially end until September 23, for students returning to schools in our area, it unofficially ends with the beginning of the school year that is just around the corner.

New beginnings are important. Often they are accompanied by renewed enthusiasm, refreshed dreams and the promise of new possibilities. I must confess, however, that my memories of a new school year also included concerns about who my teachers would be and if I would be in the same classes as my friends!

As I write this article, I am anticipating a meeting with some of our teachers. They are a special group of teachers who are beginning their first year in the classroom or, if not their first year teaching, their first year working in a Catholic school. The New Teacher Orientation will include the unique character of a Catholic school.

What is the purpose of a Catholic school? "Exploring purpose is the fast track to understanding anything. What is purpose? It's the reason for which something exists. The mission of a Catholic school is to form disciples – to teach students to know Jesus, love Jesus, follow Jesus, and serve

Jesus by making him known to the rest of the world" (Teach, Lead, Serve: The Ministry of Teaching, Matthew Kelly). Our Catholic schools

offer quality academic programs, but quality academic programs are available in public schools as well. Our schools' programs address the whole person, but more and more public schools are addressing components of the whole person, the most notable addition being their acknowledged commitment to character education and ethical behavior. Our Catholic schools are often close knit "communities" where a safe, secure and orderly environment support student learning. Many public school districts where our schools are located are relatively small and offer the same benefits. Thus, the question becomes what is distinctive about a Catholic school. What does the Catholic school offer that is unique and proper to its mission that cannot be found in a public school?

The answer to that question resides in a "who" rather than a "what." The most important aspect of a Catholic school is its foundation in Christ. Our schools are primarily places where students meet Christ. "... Every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth" (Benedict XVI, Address to U.S. Catholic Educators, 2008). From Christ flows the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Father Belina, Father Jablonski trade parishes

OGDENSBURG - Bishop Terry R. LaValley has announced that effective Sept. 26, Father Michael J. Jablonski will become parochial vicar at St. André Bessette Parish in Malone, and Father Scott A. Belina will become parochial vicar at St. Peter's Parish in Massena.

Father Belina was ordained May 25, 2013 and served as parochial vicar of St. Mary's Cathedral with additional duties at the Chancery Office until the summer of 2015, when became



Father Scott A. Belina

parochial vicar at St. late Heart Central in Wa-André Bessette Parish in Malone.

A graduate of Immacu-



Father Michael J. Jablonski

tertown, Father Belina graduated from Clarkson University in Potsdam biomolecular science before he began studying for the priesthood at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Penn., where he earned a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in theology.

Father Jablonski is currently serving in his first assignment since his May 2017 ordination at St. Peter's Parish in Massena.

A native of St. Johnsville in Montgomery County, Father Jablonski graduated from high school in 1999 from Oppenheim-

with a bachelor's degree in Ephrataha Central School and earned an associate's degree in social sciences from Herkimer County Community College, a bachelor's degree in history from Utica College of Syracuse University and a master's degree in education from the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio before beginning studies for the priesthood.

> He attended seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he received a Master of Divinity degree.

Schools

unique marks of a Catholic school, namely a supernatural vision of life, an awareness of the dignity of the human person, the personal witness of teachers and administrators, the experience of a faith community and a curriculum that integrates the worldview Catholic throughout the academic program and the culture of the school.

The history of Catholic education in America is a story of generosity and sacrifice. So many people have given generously and sacrificed so much to make the reality Catholic schools a reality. This generosity and sacrifice continue in our time through devoted pastors and parishioners who support our schools, parents who assume the responsibility of tuition as opposed to a tuition-free education in the public system and our dedicated administrators and teachers whose commitment is accompanied by a personal financial sacrifice.

Our Catholic schools are integral to the mission of

the Church to form disciples who proclaim the Good News. Their effectiveness in this mission relargely on teachers, administrators and staff who serve in our schools. "Conduct is always much more important than speech; this fact becomes especially important in the formation of students. The more completely an educator can give concrete witness to the model of the ideal person that is being presented to the students, the more this ideal will be lived and imitated. For it will then be seen as some-

thing reasonable and worthy of being lived, something concrete realizable" (Lay Catholics in Schools: Witness to the Faith, Sacred Congregation of Catholic Education.)

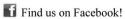
I am most appreciative to the teachers, administrators and staff who support our schools not only by their professional competence but especially by their personal witness to the Gospel. May God bless their efforts during the new school year.

The ideas and values we want our young people to experience in our schools are not abstractions. They are found in a person, Jesus Christ. A new school year is greeted with renewed enthusiasm, refreshed dreams promises of new possibilities because Christ graces

us with new life and hope. Enthusiasm abounds because hope abounds when Christ is in our midst.

Visit our website www.northcountrycatholic.org

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







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Rest in Peace

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

Aug. 29 — Rev. Leo Desmet, 1926; Rev. Thomas F. Driscoll, 2003; Rev. Msgr. Robert L. Lawler, 2013

Aug. 30 — Rev. Bartholomew McLaughlin, 1914

Aug. 31 — Rev. James J. Sherry, 1890; Rev. Albert R. Plante, 2000

Sept. 1 – Rev. Michael Guth, 1864; Rev. John B. Martin, O.S.A., 1955

Sept. 2 – Rev. Timothy J. Mahoney, 1938; Msgr. Claudius Sechi, 1966; Rev. Thomas G. Votraw, 2007; Rev. Floyd J. Bleaux, 2009

Sept. 3 — Rev. David W. Driscoll, 0.S.A., 1963; Rev. John S. Branche, 2003

Sept. 4 – Rev. Walter J. Charbonneau, 1982; Msgr. Robert H. Giroux, 2000; Rev. Patrick Mundy, 2017

Protecting God's Children

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

Upcoming sessions:

Aug. 29 - 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central, Watertown

Aug. 30 - 7:30 p.m., Wakefield Recital Hall/SUNY Potsdam

Sept. 8 - 10 a.m., Seton Catholic, Plattsburgh

Sept. 18 - 3 p.m., St. Agnes School, Lake Placid

Sept. 18 - 4 p.m., Immaculate Heart Central High School, Watertown **Sept. 25** - 5:30 p.m., St. James

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Bishop's Public Schedule

Aug. 30 — Noon — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Aug. 31 – 10:50 a.m. – Mass at St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Ogdensburg

Noon — Diocesan Staff picnic at Bishop's Residence Sept. 2 — 9:30 a.m. — 100th Anniversary Mass at The Catholic Community of Holy Name and St. Mathew in Au Sable Forks Sept. 3 — 10 a.m. — Parade and Fes-

tivities in Au Sable Forks **Sept. 4** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's

Cathedral

Sept. 5 – 9:30 a.m. – Diocesan Department Head Meeting at Wadhams Hall

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

Letters to the Editor

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

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

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



Environmental Stewardship

Celebrating animals

This week you are invited to celebrate all God's creations, especially the animals, both wild and domestic. In His infinite wisdom, God placed countless types of creatures on the Earth to share their presence with us. While the Bible tells us in Genesis that humans are to have dominion over all creatures, it must be emphasized that the term "dominion" means "to have a wise and benevolent authority over another."

Pope Francis tells us:"If we approach nature and the environment without ... awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously."

Let us continue to thank God for the bounty of wildlife He placed on Earth, and for the variety of pets available to us, as it is through caring for these creatures that we can often find peace in our souls, and get closer to our Lord. Let us pray in celebration of all animals:

"God Our Heavenly Father, You created the world to serve humanity's needs and to lead them to You. By our own fault we have lost the beautiful relationship which we once had with all Your creation. Help us to see that by restoring our relationship with You we will also restore it with all Your creation. Give us the grace to see all animals as gifts from You and to treat them with respect for they are Your creation. We pray for all animals who are suffering as a result of our neglect. May the order You originally established be once again restored to the whole world through the intercession of the Glorious Virgin Mary, the prayers of St. Francis and the merits of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ Who lives and reigns with You now and forever. Amen." (Catholic.org website)

Submitted by Tom Kalinowski, Member of the Faith and Ecology Group, Lake Clear

Funeral services held for Sister Mary Stephen Durant

A mass of Christian Burial for Sister Mary Stephen Durant, O.S.M., was celebrated at our Lady of Sorrows Convent in Omaha, Nebraska Friday August 17, 2018.

Sister died on August 12, 2018. She was preceded in death by her parents Ernest and Elizabeth Durant, Brothers Bernard, Ralph, James, Harold, Howard, Lloyd, Donald, Hubert, Edward, and Sisters Marion Durant, Irene Sanborn, Odena Flynn, Margaret Steen, and Mary Durant.

Survived by Sister June and Clark LaShomb, sister in-law Jean Durant, many nieces and nephews.

Sister entered the convent on August 23, 1946 and took her final vows on August 15, 1953.

Sister taught in East St. Louis, IL, Anthon, IA, Detroit, MI, Omaha, NE, Fairview Heights, IL, and also served as principal.

In 1981 Sister came back to Massena, NY. While in Massena, Sister worked as Religious Education Director for Sacred Heart

> subscription to my e-mail address:



Sister Mary Durant, OSM

School, as well as Religious Educator and Pastoral Ministry in Louisville, Waddington, Raymondville, and Massena. She worked with Hospice, volunteered with grief ministry and RCIA as well as Visiting Shut-ins, helping at Trinity School and serving as a literary Volunteer.

She was a great fan of the New York Yankees.

Sister would have celebrated her 70th Jubilee on October 6, 2018.

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Altar servers gather for diocesan picnic

Darcy Fargo Editor

OGDENSBURG - The more than 100 altar servers who gathered for the diocesan Altar Server Mass and Picnic didn't let a few clouds and raindrops bother them.

The event, held August 17, included a tour of St. Mary's Cathedral, presentations by Sister M. Gregory Munger, a Sister of St. Joseph, and Carter Pierce, seminarian for the diocese, Mass celebrated by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, a picnic and a tour of the Bishop's residence.

Sponsored by the diocesan Vocations Office, the event focused on being open to God's calling.

Sister Gregory Munger told the assembled servers and their families that "we are all called to holiness."

"Although we're sinners, it is possible to be holy because of God's grace," she said, encouraging those gathered to "be rooted in the example and teachings of Jesus Christ."

Pierce noted "holiness is not lifeless or boring."

"Holiness is enjoying life and being full of life," he said. "It's taking the talents God has given you and using them to do good and glorify God.'

In his homily at the Mass, Bishop LaValley also reminded the altar servers and their families that God has a plan for them.

"Remember what God told Jeremiah in the first reading: 'Have no fear because I am with you... Before you were born, I knew you," Bishop LaValley said. "You see, Jesus has a plan that will make you so happy and make so many other people happy. And what did Jesus tell Simon Peter in our Gospel: 'Do not be afraid."

A handful of the assembled servers had the op-

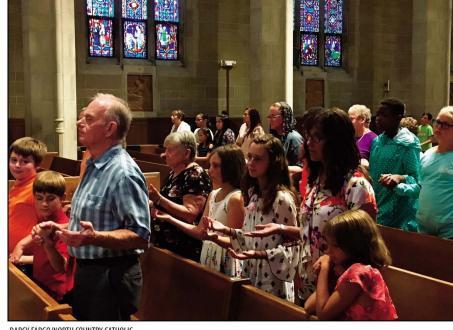
portunity to serve the Mass. All had an opportunity to join in a picnic, moved to the Knights of Columbus due to rain, and a tour of the Bishop's residence.

"It was nice meeting the Bishop, and it was nice seeing other servers," said Scott, 14, Carthage. "I enjoy being a server. I like helping our priest, and it helps me be close to God."

"I decided to come because I thought maybe I'd get to meet the bishop and talk to him, and I thought it would be cool to see other servers," added Ryken Pominville, 12, of Croghan. "I've been serving for a bout a year. It's nice to be part of God's family and help God.'

"Being an altar server makes Mass more interesting; I get to participate more," said Jacob Fargo, 11, of Moira. "I wanted to help the church and help Father Ray, our priest.'

Fargo said his favorite part of the picnic was "ex-



DARCY FARGO/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Altar servers from around the diocese gathered for Mass, a picnic, presentations and tours of Bishop Terry R. LaValley's residence. The event included more than 100 young altar servers.

ploring the Bishop's house.

Bishop LaValley led the tours, which concluded the picnic event.

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16 nedict 1 Pope ieritus	REV. ALAN D. SHNOB	REV. F. JAMES SHURTLEFF	MSGR. HARRY K.	REV. BRYAN D. STITT	REV. RICHARD S. STURTZ	SEMINARIAN OF THE DIOCESE
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Charles Emery Wilson, Jr. was baptised, first Communion and confirmation on Aug. 9 at All Saints Church in Chaumont. His mother is Darcie Plantz and the sponsors were Marie and Wayne Farmer. Father Pierre Aubin is the pastor.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley recently greeted Father M. Ignatius, superior general of the Heralds of the Good News, as he made his canonical visits with members of the community serving in the United States. Pictured are, from left, Father Tojo Chacko, parochial vicar in St. Peter's parishes in Massena, Father M. Ignatius, superior general of Heralds of Good News, Bishop LaValley and Father Justin Thomas, parochial vicar in St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame parishes.

Sisters of St. Joseph's Associates add members

On Sunday, August 12, the Sisters of St. Joseph Associates from the Watertown and Plattsburgh, Adirondack Mountains and Lakes Region celebrated the commissioning of Amelia Amoriell, Potsdam, **Tammie** Eggleston, Therese, Anne Miller, Norwood, Carrol Tufo, Watertown candidates to become members as Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The Sisters of St. Joseph Associates renewed their commitment to continue to serve the "dear neighbor."

Father Leo Wiley was the celebrant at the 11 a.m. Mass, and dinner followed in the Hearthside.







(Top left) Carrol Tufo, Tammie Eggleston, Anne Miller and Molly Amoriell are the new commissioned members if the Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph. (Bottom left) The Waterton Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph. (Above) Members of the Plattsburgh, Adirondack and Lakes Region Associates of the Sisters of St. Joseph recently gathered to celebrate the commissioning of new members.

New evangelization and Ignatian spirituality

Deanna Hagan

For the North Country Catholic

Pope Francis, in his recent ecumenical pilgrimage to Geneva on June 21, 2018 to speak with the World Council of Churches, reminded us of the Ignatian component his papacy is bringing to the New Evangelization inspired by Vati-

Ignatius of Loyola, often remembered as the soldier wounded at the Battle of Pamplona in 1521 and founder of the Society of Jesus, is sometimes forgotten for the more mystical component he brought to the Society, i.e. the Spiritual Exercises. The world of Ignatius in the early sixteenth century was in many ways like our world today searching for meaning lost in wars and senseless violence. Upon recovering from his wounds, Ignatius realized he must first conquer his love of self. He surrendered his sword to Our Lady of Montserrat.

In the quiet of Manresa, nearby the Virgin's sanctuary, he imposed severe penances upon himself and

recorded all his consolations and desolations in a notebook, the beginnings of the Spiritual Exercises.

Inspired by the Divine Majesty, St. Ignatius shared the Exercises with some noble ladies and others who became his benefactors. Later as he pursued his studies at the Universities of Alcala. Salamanca and Paris, Ignatius drew a small group of theology students around him, the first Companions, who became Friends in the Lord. They wished to live a life of poverty and chastity like Christ and win souls for the glory of God.

All of them experienced the power of the Exercises in offering oneself to Jesus. The first priest among them, the Savoyard Peter Faber (Pierre Favre), discerned from the Exercises, that God wanted him to become a priest. In 1534, the seven Companions made the Vows of Montmartre in the peaceful Chapel St. Denis in Paris. Pierre, the only priest among them, celebrated Mass and received their vows of poverty and chastity and a pledge to go to Jerusalem.

Upon his election to the could all agree on some papacy, Pope Francis brought with him his years of formation as a Jesuit and the memory of these early years of the Society. In December 2013, the newly elected pope canonized Peter Faber and declared him to be one of his important role models. It is interesting that Pope Francis chose Geneva as the place to make his ecumenical pilgrimage for Pierre Favre was born in the Diocese of Geneva in a humble farmhouse in the French Alps.

Describing the pilgrimage as an "encounter", the Holy Father met with people of various Christian denominations. He listened respectfully to each one and encouraged them with his motto for the event which was "Walking, praying and working together."

These words reflect the thinking of St. Pierre Favre when he was working in this part of Europe with those who had been influenced by Lutheran and Calvinist ideas. Favre realized that it was better to befriend the reformers rather than argue about doctrine. In this way they

points and discuss possible reforms together. He gave the Spiritual Exercises to many, including laity and clergy.

One of his most notable converts through the Spiritual Exercises was Peter Canisius, also a Jesuit. These two Iesuits worked with the Carthusian Monks of Cologne, many of whom received the Exercises, to keep Cologne Catholic. Other cities, without Jesuits, became centers for the Protestant reformers.

Today many Christian Communities, Catholic as well as Protestant, use the Spiritual Exercises to discern the will of Jesus in their lives. Through the Exercises, they perceive many good works they can do for others as a group through a quiet prayerful encounter with the Lord. Pope Francis often proclaims the power of each baptized person to bring "The Joy of the Gospels" to others.

After returning from a pilgrimage to France praying at Jesuit sites, I received the Exercises under the spiritual direction of Don Ward, a Jesuit, our pilgrimage leader. A small group of pilgrims met for 30 days weekly. We used a text written by Jesuit Father Dominic Totaro, "My Just One Shall Live by Faith."

When the Jesuits served the parish I then attended, St. Therese in Mooresville. NC, many of us made the Exercises of 30 days using this text. During Advent and Christmas, more people made five-day retreats, which were based on the Spiritual Exercises. The experience enlivened our faith and motivated us to do good works for the poor and vulnerable.

St. Ignatius (July 31) and St. Pierre Favre (August 2) share feast days very close together. Ignatius often told the Companions, that Pierre was the best one among them to give the Exercises. During these feasts it is timely to recall the hidden work of the Exercises and the words of Favre from The Memorial #151. his spiritual diary. "I felt...a deep desire to pray...for Christians, Jews, Turks, pagans, heretics...I had in mind all the miseries of

Catholics see larger role for laity in abuse response

WASHINGTON (CNS) – An independent lay-run board that would hold bishops accountable for their actions, a national day for Mass or prayers of reparation, and encouragement to parishioners to become more involved in their diocese are among steps suggested by prominent lay Catholics to right the U.S. church as it deals with a new clergy sexual abuse scandal.

Those contacted Catholic News Service said it was time for laypeople to boost their profile within the church and help begin to dismantle long-standing clericalism that has sought to preserve the reputation of offending clergy at the expense of the safety of children.

"Their credibility is gone and the trust of the faithful is gone," Francesco Cesareo, chairman of the National Review Board, said of the U.S. bishops as they worked to develop steps to promote greater accountability on abuse.

The National Review Board, established by the bishops in 2002, oversees compliance by dioceses with the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People." It has no oversight of bishops.

The bishops have to put their trust in lay leadership and allow that lay leadership to develop processes and oversight when these kinds of allegations occur, particularly holding bishops accountable," Cesareo said.

In a presentation at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' spring general assembly in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Cesareo cautioned the prelates against complacency in meeting the charter's requirements. He said auditors preparing the 2016-2017 annual report on the charter's implementation nationwide discovered signs of complacency in some dioceses.

"I've been addressing the body of bishops four, five times. I've driven the point that they can't be complacent, and here we are again with another crisis," Cesareo said.

"We went through the crisis in 2002 and had good policies and procedures in place, and allegations and current abuse have gone down." he said. "But when we see the bishops don't get it, that there's still the notion of self-preservation at the expense of the victim ... it just begs for lay leadership to come forward and to address this and help lead to healing.

"I really think that it's a cultural change that has to take place. We can have all the committees, all the structures and all the policies, but there has got to be a cultural shift in the mindset of the bishops that they too are accountable, that they cannot be held to a different standard," continued Cesareo, president of Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Pope acknowledges 'repugnant crimes' of abuse

DUBLIN (CNS) – Acknowledging the failures "of bishops, religious superiors, priests and others" in the Catholic Church to protect children from the "repugnant crimes" physical and sexual abuse, Pope Francis began his two-day visit to Ireland.

Meeting with civil, cultural and religious leaders in Dublin Castle Aug. 25, the pope said he knew that the horrendous history of abuse and its cover-up in Ireland "has rightly given rise to outrage and remains a source of pain and shame for the Catholic community.

"I myself share those sentiments," the pope

Departing from his prepared text, Pope Francis said his letter to the people of God Aug. 20 included "commitment, a greater commitment to from the church whatever the cost."

With the welcoming ceremony held at the presidential residence rather than the airport, the mood as the pope descended the steps from his plane was subdued. Few people were on the road from the airport into the city. Close to Dublin Castle a group of teenagers held welcome signs, including one that said, "We love the pope. He gives us hope."

Before heading to the castle, Pope Francis stopped at "Aras an Uachtarain," the Irish president's residence, where planted a tree, just as St. John Paul II had done in 1979. The late pope's oak is now a mature, shadeproviding tree. The Vatican press office said the pope and Michael D. Higgins spent severity and cruelty, in

eliminating this scourge 15 minutes speaking privately.

Welcoming Pope Francis to Dublin Castle, Leo Varadkar, the 39-year-old prime minister Taoiseach, acknowledged how much the Catholic Church had done over the centuries for the people of Ireland.

But he also spoke plainly of the way both the church and the Irish state failed its people, especially the most vulnerable.

The failures of both church and state and wider society created a bitter and broken heritage for so many, leaving a legacy of pain and suffering," Varadkar said. "It is a history of sorrow and shame."

"In place of Christian charity, forgiveness and compassion, far too often President there was judgment, particular toward women and children and those on the margins," he said, citing the Magdalene launwhere women dries, considered promiscuous were forced to work, illegal adoptions arranged for children of unwed mothers without their consent and the sexual abuse of children by clergy.

"Wounds are still open and there is much to be done to bring about justice and truth and healing for victims and survivors,' he said, before asking the pope to "use your office and influence to ensure this is done here in Ireland and across the world.

The "heart-breaking stories from Pennsylvania of brutal crimes" against children detailed in the grand jury report in mid-August and the cover-up the report described "is a story all too tragically familiar here in Ireland," the prime minister said.

"There can only be zero tolerance for those who abuse innocent children or who facilitate that abuse," he said. "We must now ensure that from words flow actions. Above all, Holy Father, I ask to you to listen to the victims.'

Pope Francis, speaking after the prime minister, acknowledged how thousands were mistreated by priests and religious. "It is my hope that the gravity of the abuse scandals, which have cast light on the failings of many, will serve to emphasize the importance of the protection of minors and vulnerable adults on the part of society as a whole.'

The main purpose of the pope's trip Aug. 25-26 was to join celebrations of the Vatican-sponsored World Meeting of Families.

Faith strengthens marriage, makes love grow

DUBLIN (CNS) - God wants every person to love and be loved, creating a family or community where love is nurtured and shared with all who are poor, lonely or in need, Pope Francis said.

En route to joining thousands of people at the World Meeting of Families, Vatican-sponsored event being hosted in Dublin, the pope met Aug. 25 with more than 350 recently married or soon-tobe married couples in the city's St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral.

Before listening to what a couple married 50 years had to say to the younger spouses, Pope Francis went to a side chapel where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved and where a special candle burns. Known as the "candle of innocence," it is a memorial to the victims of abuse at the hands of church personnel.

Brief, but significant events came immediately before and after the pope's meeting with the young couples. First, he stopped outside the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes to venerate relics associated with Matt Talbot, a candidate for sainthood who found in faith the strength to overcome alcoholism. And after the meeting, he went to a day center for the homeless run by Capuchin friars.

Looking at all the young couples in the pro-cathedral. Pope Francis told them he found it hard to believe how people say that young people don't want to get married anymore. "To marry and share your life is a beautiful thing," he said, thanking them for their witness.

He also had some kind words for the babies whose cries rang out occasionally during the meeting. "It's beautiful to hear that music, the babies crying," he said. "It's the most beautiful music and the best preaching because it is a cry of hope."

"Love is God's dream for us and for the whole human family," the pope told the couples. "Please, never forget this! God has a dream for us, and he asks us to make it our own."

Many people today wonder if there is anything that can last forever, the pope said, but "marriage is unique.'

"It is about a love that gives rise to new life," he said. "It involves mutual responsibility for the transmission of God's gift of life, and it provides a stable environment in which that new life can grow and flourish."

The sacrament of marriage, he said, adds to that relationship a share "in the mystery of God's eternal love. When a Christian man and a woman enter into the bond of marriage, the Lord's grace enables them freely to promise one another an exclusive and enduring love. Their union thus becomes a sacramental sign of the new and eternal covenant between the Lord and his bride, the church."

If a couple is not committed to making their love grow, it won't last, he said in one of many departures from his prepared text. "That 'for life' is a commitment to make love grow, because real love is not temporary. That is enthusiasm or, I don't know, enchantment, but love love is forever.'

When couples have children, the pope said, they are responsible for educating them in the faith and in love, a task that is accomplished most of all through example: praying together, going to Mass and helping the poor. But also being affectionate with one another.

"The virtues and truths the Lord teaches us are not necessarily popular in today's world, which has little use for the weak, the vulnerable and all those it deems 'unproductive,'" he told the couples. "The world tells us to be strong and independent, with little care for those who are alone or sad, rejected or sick, not yet born or dying.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

As survivors find voice, church leaders wrestle with how to address issue

PITTSBURGH (CNS) — Pennsylvania survivors of clergy sex abuse spent the week after the release of the grand jury report finding their voice as bishops and priests in the state wrestled with how to address the growing scandal. Several of the survivors traveled around the state to speak publicly about their victimization at the hands of predator priests, many of whom said their "coming out" is liberating them from decades of shame. Ed Rodgers of Bradford said he found the courage to re-emerge more than 20 years after he accused a priest of molesting him as a youth. Though Rodgers, now 45, said he was publicly shamed by the Diocese of Erie, lay Catholics in his hometown and the state legal system in the late 1990s, he said a recent scathing grand jury report inspired him to break his silence. A Pennsylvania grand jury report released Aug. 14 detailed more than 1,000 claims of sex abuse in six dioceses in the state going back 70 years and identified 301 priests and church workers who may have committed the crimes.

Update: Group says structural changes in church needed to address abuse

WASHINGTON (CNS) - Catholic theologians, educators, parishioners and lay leaders across the United States expressed their disgust with the abuse scandal in the church, saying the details in a Pennsylvania grand jury's report "evince a horror beyond expression." "The report summarizes the situation thus: 'Priests were raping little boys and girls, and the men of God who were responsible for them not only did nothing; they hid it all. For decades," the group said in an Aug. 15 statement posted on the blog Daily Theology. As of early Aug. 23, it had been signed by more than 4,400 people. "We are brought to our knees in revulsion and shame by the abominations that these priests committed against innocent children," said the statement in response to the grand jury report released a daily earlier. The report is based on a months-long investigation of abuse claims over a 70-year span in the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Erie, Greensburg, Harrisburg, Scranton and Allentown. Many of the claims go back decades. The signers called on all of the U.S. Catholic bishops "to prayerfully and genuinely consider submitting to Pope Francis their collective resignation as a public act of repentance and lamentation before God and God's people."

Irish bishops combat drug addiction through parish life

DUBLIN (CNS) — Parish life, peer education and public-private partnerships are needed to combat addiction, said Darren Butler, national coordinator of the Irish Bishops' Drugs Initiative during an Aug. 22 presentation at the World Meeting of Families 2018 in Dublin. More than 140 people listened Aug. 22 as Butler described the multifaceted pastoral response developed by the initiative, established in 1997 to address the issue of substance abuse in Irish society. Since then, the initiative has worked with numerous local and national agencies to provide resources for recovery. Parish and diocesan structures are key to the initiative's mission, said Butler, as they enable his team "to reach areas many other programs miss." Since young people are vulnerable to drug and alcohol experimentation when transitioning to secondary school, the initiative invites students preparing for confirmation to pledge themselves to a healthy lifestyle. As part of their "confirmation commitment," they attend a ceremony at which their sponsors promise to serve as positive role models.

From sot to saint: Matt Talbot gives hope for recovery from addiction

DUBLIN (CNS) -- A 19th-century Irish laborer and saint-in-the-making could be a new role model for those seeking freedom from addiction, according to a growing apostolate led by a Dublin priest.

At an Aug. 23 presentation during the World Meeting of Families, Father Brian Lawless described how Venerable Matt Talbot, once a hard-drinking warehouse hand, was transformed into a sober "urban mystic" through his Catholic faith.

More than 60 attendees listened as Father Lawless surveyed Talbot's life as an obscure and impoverished worker in Dublin's slums, which ranked among the worst in Europe at the time.

Talbot's visibility grew Aug. 25 when Pope Francis made a special point of stopping at Our Lady of Lourdes Church to pray before some relics of Talbot.

Born in 1856, Talbot was the second-eldest of 10 children who survived out of 12. Largely uneducated, he began working at age 12 for a company that bottled Guinness beer. Talbot took to sampling the product, a common practice among the other child laborers. By age 16, he also started drinking whiskey, and he spent the next 12 years as an alcoholic.

"Every penny that he earned was used to buy alcohol," said Father Lawless.

At age 28, Talbot had "a conversion experience," something shared by many in addiction recovery who "come to a realization that something has



CNS PHOTO/CLODAGH KILCOYNE, REUTERS

A statue of Matt Talbot is seen in Dublin Aug. 24. Talbot, a 19th-century Irish laborer and saint-in-the-making, could be a new role model for those seeking freedom from addiction.

to change," Father Lawless said.

For Talbot, the breaking point came after a week of unemployment left him penniless and unable to buy a drink. Realizing that "his future looked as bleak as his past," said Father Lawless, Talbot decided to "take the pledge" and commit to a three-month period of abstinence, a common practice encouraged by temperance movements of the day.

Yet Talbot quickly realized that sobriety was not a matter of having an iron will. Suffering from alcohol withdrawal a few days after abstaining, he went into a church and acknowledged in prayer that only God's grace could sustain him.

"He emptied himself," said Father Lawless, adding that addiction is an effort to fill "a hole in the soul" that can only be completed by God.

Talbot embraced the Catholic faith in which he had been raised, attending daily Mass and eventually finding a spiritual director.

Barely literate, he learned to read and write so that he could explore the Scriptures, the lives of the saints and spiritual writings.

Having been introduced to Irish monasticism, Talbot adopted an austere lifestyle, remaining single while caring for his elderly mother and supporting numerous charities with any funds left over from his meager income. He spent hours in prayer and reflection, often seemingly in ecstasy.

Having read the works of St. Louis de Montfort, Talbot developed an intense devotion to Mary, even wearing chains around his wrist, hand and right knee.

In his talk, Father Lawless clarified that the fetters were not "a sign of penance, but of Talbot's consecration to Our Lady," and were in keeping with St. Louis' recommendation to wear "little chains" as a sign of surrender to Mary.

Actual chains worn by Talbot, along with several relics, were displayed at an exhibit.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Don't just listen to scripture, instead live it

This weekend, we're faced with the sobering thought that the days of summer are drawing to a close. Even as we head for our Labor Day cookout at the lake or river, our minds are on the challenges of Tuesday and the beginning of the fall programs.

Our Mass readings will be quite helpful.

The Epistle of James tells us that we must be doers of the Word, and not hearers only. It's not enough just to listen to the scriptures, we must also live them. Show me your works, James says,



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

and I'll show you the truth of my faith

that motivates my works. It is a living faith that saves us. Then, Jesus in the Gospel very emphatically states that we must love the Word if we are to live it effectively. Deeds without love behind them result in mere legal obser-

vance. The Book of Deuteronomy contains the "Shema," the two great commandments of the Law, love of God and love of neighbor. Jesus was upset with the religious leaders who added many legalisms that em-

September 2

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8 James 17-18, 21b-22, 27 Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15k 21-23

phasized the letter, rather than the spirit of the law. And when the Pharisees accused his disciples of omitting the legal washing of hands before eating, Jesus points out that real filth comes, not from the outside, but from the inside of a person.

This weekend, we also honor the dignity of work and of workers. It's a good time for us to reflect on the obligations of both

employers and employees.

As a worker, do I focus on doing the best job I can, and am I doing it because I care about the quality of the results? Do I treat my fellow workers and my employers with respect? Even if the person I'm working with is irritating? They still have the dignity of being a child of God. If I am an employer, do I provide adequate health care for my employees, and do I provide time off for Sunday worship and adequate family time? It was a great Pope, Leo XIII, who wrote an encyclical Rerum Novarum (On the Dignity of Labor) in 1891, shortly before Labor Day

was made a national holiday.

The Church has always promoted the dignity of every working person. Our Catholic Church has always taught the doctrine of the living wage – in other words, every person has a right to earn enough money to feed and clothe and shelter his family, and that governments have an obligation to legislate to that effect.

And pray earnestly for the Bishops and other high officials of the church that they will employ a new transparency in dealing with sexual misconduct at every level of church ministry. On judgment day, Christ will judge all of us.

A look at the revised death penalty teaching

By Father Stephen Rocker Contributing writer

Pope Francis has recently revised Church teaching on the death penalty. The next edition of The Catechism of the Catholic Church will state: "The death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person." Since this teaching is new, it is worthwhile to understand the reasoning for why the church now prohibits capital punishment and in what way it is new.

To look at the issue purely without any external or practical considerations let us first suppose that the death penalty is a deterrent to crime. There is no evidence to show it deters crime. In our country, for example, states with the death penalty have higher murder rates than those that do not (though the threat of exe-

cution does seem to induce those facing justice to be more cooperative). For our purposes, though, let us suppose it is effective as a deterrent.

Secondly, let us also suppose that the death penalty is always administered fairly. In this country, since 1973, 151 people have been released from death rows because of DNA evidence or changes in witness testimony. One credible estimate is that at least 4 percent of convictions assigning the death sentence are in error. Let us suppose that figure is 0 percent.

Lastly, let us also suppose criminal convictions are handed down fairly, without regard to the wealth or race of the defendant. With these assumptions in place let us look at the matter itself.

What is striking in the newest teaching on capital punishment is that it is "an attack on... the dignity of the person." That statement is striking because human dignity requires that wrongdoers be punished, otherwise wrong would be done without penalty. People must be accountable for their chosen actions, and the more serious the wrong, the heavier must be the penalty. Justice demands punishment.

Further, we recognize that punishment comes from higher authority. Equals cannot punish one another. A parent may punish a child; a teacher, a student; a judge, a wrongdoer. If somebody steals from me, in justice I can demand what was taken be restored, but I cannot additionally punish the thief by assigning a fine, a weekend in jail or hours of community service. As an equal, I have no authority over the person. (As an aside, if there is no God, ultimately there is no basis for this understanding of punishment). Also, it is important to note that some people deserve to die, so that the state would be acting justly on the basis of higher authority in taking the criminal's life, and for that reason the Church had considered the practice of the death penalty legitimate. What has changed is a refinement in our moral thinking and a development of our humanity. Capital punishment is a qualitatively different punishment because it snuffs out a human being, and for that reason we can say it attacks the dignity of a person. And because we can achieve the important goals of justice and accountability by other means, we should not practice the death penalty.

It may help clarify the matter by taking a couple examples from recent history. In 1972 Charles Manson and four of his followers were sentenced to death for the murders they had committed. Later that year, the California Supreme Court abolished the death penalty in the state. Some of the five have died in prison, and at least one of the women has deeply changed since 1972, and parole boards have recommended her release.

Here is the question: are we worse off as a people because these five were not executed? Also, some of these followers of Manson might not have come to a change of heart if they had been put to death in 1972.

Another example is Saddam Hussein. He committed innumerable brutalities over decades. After he was overthrown, he was tried and hanged. Some international observers thought the trial

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

AT THE MOVIES

CRAZY RICH ASIANS

NEW YORK (CNS) – The award for the most accurate film title of the year goes to "Crazy Rich Asians" (Warner Bros), a romantic comedy about, well, members of a certain ethnic group who are insanely wealthy.

They are also, at times, out of their minds.

Unfortunately, what should be a zany romp based on the popular novel by Kevin Kwan is a surprisingly pedestrian affair, directed by Jon M. Chu ("Now You See Me 2"). Instead of a compelling story with well-developed

characters, the film is a dreary Cinderella retread, enlivened only by its good-looking cast, exotic locales and an eye-popping smorgasbord of uber-expensive stuff.

Cinderella in this instance is a go-getter named Rachel (Constance Wu), an economics professor in New York City. Her longtime boyfriend, Nick (Henry Golding), is an all-around regular guy (or so he seems).

Nick's best friend is getting married in Singapore, and Nick suggests to Rachel that they attend and take the opportunity to also meet Nick's family.

Unbeknown to Rachel, Nick is planning to pop the question. She's also unaware that he's the scion of one of the wealthiest families and a much-sought-after bachelor.

"You really should have told me you're like the Prince William of Asia," Rachel says.

"That's ridiculous," Nick replies. "I'm much more of a Harry."

Once in Singapore, Rachel finds herself the target of scores of jealous ladies, not to mention Nick's disapproving mother, Eleanor (Michelle Yeoh).

As matriarch, Eleanor is a bastion of tradition and a passionate defender of her extended family. Intriguingly, she is first shown reading from the Bible, leading her Methodist Christian friends in a study group. "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth," she says, quoting Colossians 3:2.

Clearly, Eleanor does not practice what she preaches, and is deter-

mined to prevent her beloved son from marrying for love – and so far beneath his station.

"Crazy Rich Asians" follows a predictable path towards a schmaltzy conclusion worthy of a Disney princess.

The film contains an implied pre-marital relationship, some sexual humor, mature themes, and a handful of profane and crude oaths.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-III – adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

Death penalty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12 was not done entirely fairly. Also, Saddam Hussein was Sunni Muslim, and his regime favored the Sunni minority in Iraq. When he was overthrown, the Shiite majority gained favorable status. The crime for which he received the death sentence was for atrocities he committed against a Shiite group. The upshot was some in the Sunni minority made Saddam a sort of Sunni martyr and his execution deepened the divide in Iraqi society which fed into the civil war. So here is the question: are we better off because Saddam Hussein was executed? If he had not been put to death, he could have been fairly and publicly tried for the brutalities he committed on different religious and ethnic groups in Iraq. My point is that justice is not better served by executing those guilty of the most serious crimes.

In recognizing that the

death penalty violates human dignity, we must also say that for the most part, the death penalty was objectively wrong in the past, though not recognized as such. There were "frontier" situations where the lack of a sufficiently civilized order would have required putting criminals to death, since it is more important to have justice with the death penalty than to have impunity. However, even in the ancient civilizations, the death penalty need not, and should not, have been practiced in many instances. In the past, the human dignity of the most serious offenders was overshadowed by the demand for justice. It is our greater appreciation of the dignity of every human being as human that we put aside forever that punishment which extinguishes a human life. In other words, the death penalty was always a violation of human dignity, but people were not

able to recognize it as such. Even in recent history, if the purposes of justice can be served without executing perpetrators of genocide in Rwanda (where capital punishment has been abolished), then we have to say that the Nazi war criminals hanged in Nuremberg should not have been put to death.

Since we recognize that capital punishment is an attack on the dignity of the person, we should ask what is the same and different with capital punishment on the one hand, and such acts as abortion or targeting civilians in war on the other. Though all are wrong as attacks on human dignity, abortion and the targeting of civilians are wrong acts in themselves, whereas capital punishment as punishment is good but wrong as extinguishing a person's life. Also, an individual is not killing the condemned, but the state is doing so on God's authority, since all punishment requires a higher authority, ultimately grounded in God's authority. If justice cannot be achieved without executing the wrongdoer, then the demand of justice requires the wrongdoer by God's authority be executed.

With this latest revision of Church teaching there is no change in the nature of retributive justice, rather it is a development in how to practice justice more humanely. It is a growth in our humanity to say "we are not going to take the life of the worst criminals as a matter of their humanity and of ours."





ADIRONDACK

FALL RETREAT

Saranac Lake — Come away and rest awhile with the Lord amid the beauties of Fall in the Adirondack Mountains.

Date: Sept. 14-16 **Place:** Guggenheim Lodge **Cost:** \$145, Tenting or Commuter Option, \$75

Theme: Living the 'Bookend Beatitudes': an invitation to discover ways to put the First and Eighth Beatitude into practice through prayer, sharing and other spiritual practices.

Features: Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ, Faith Formation Educator, Paul Hetzler, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Horticulture and Natural Resource Educator and Fr. Paul Kelly will celebrant for Mass on Saturday after-

Contact: To register, call: 315-212-6592 or email: srbethssj@gmail.com

CLINTON

LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

AuSable Forks — Holy Name Church to have their annual Labor Day celebration.

Date: Sept. 3

Schedule: Parade begins at 10 a.m. followed by games of skill, games of chance, BINGO, pull tabs, food & drinks, music, fun and games for all ages including, bounce house, dunking tank, and ending with our \$3,000 big raffle. Admission is free. Famous Sid Ward cutting boards available all day. Watch a chain saw carving demonstration by Ted Holzer and enter for a chance to win one of his beautiful carved benches.

HEALING MASS

Morrisonville — A Healing Mass to be held.

Date: Sept. 6 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: St. Alexander's Church Features: The evening includes

Anointing of the Sick, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Sacrament of Reconciliation and opportunity for individual prayer with members of Living Waters Healing Ministry.

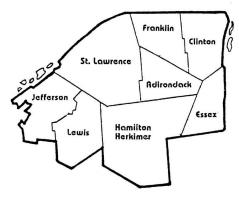
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Plattsburgh — National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children to be held.

Date: Sept. 8 Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Our Lady of Victory Church, Please gather at the memorial headstone by main entrance to church.

Contact: Deacon Jack Lukasiewicz at



The North County Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese".

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,

Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;

e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

518-562-1175 or visit Champlainvalleyrighttolife.org to view calendar of events.

FISHERS CLUB

Plattsburgh — The Lakesiders Fishers Club to have their fall discernment meeting

Dates: Sept. 9 & 23; Oct. 7 & 21; Nov. 4 & 18; Dec. 2

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Upper Room

Features: Discernment, Evening Prayer and Dinner.

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

APPLEFEST

Peru – The 41st annual St. Augustine's Applefest will be held.

Date: Sept. 15-16. **Place:** 3030 Main Street

Features: Saturday's giant parade begins at 11 a.m. at the Peru Elementary School and ends at the Applefest grounds. Two days of live music, a giant craft fair, a variety of foods, games and several new rides. Sunday afternoon there will be a chicken BBQ. Saturday's music features singer Mitch Willette followed by the Bootleg Band. On Sunday Taylor LaValley and the Intangibles will perform.

Contact: 518-643-2435, ext. 0

JEFFERSON

SPAGHETTI DINNER

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

Date: Sept. 8 Time: 4 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center **Cost:** Adults, \$7; Senior Citizens, \$6; Children under 12, \$5; Children under 5,

Contact: 315-629-4678

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: Sept. 20

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. **Place:** Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

IHC FALL FESTIVAL AND 5K

Watertown – IHC to have Fall Festival.

Date: Sept. 21 - 23

Place: Immaculate Heart Central High School

Features: Fun for the whole weekend. Family Fun Day (Free) Chicken BBQ/Pig Roast, Varsity Soccer Game. 5k AND Fun Run starts at 9 a.m. on Sept. 22. Pre-Register before Sept. 10. Cost is \$20 per runner. 1.5 MI/Run: 6 & under, Free; Students, \$8, Family, \$18. Includes T-Shirt for pre-registration only.

Contact: Lance Bombard at 315-778-7165 or lancelombard@gmail.com. For Complete Schedule of Events: https://www.ihcschool.org/aboutihc/social-events

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Houseville - Divine Mercy Devotions for the month of September.

Date: Sept. 2 Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Hedwig's Church Features: Vespers (Evening Prayer), Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and

Benediction. All are welcome. **Contact:** 315-348-6260.

CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE

Gouverneur — St. James School will hold their annual Chicken Bar-B-Que.

ST. LAWRENCE

Date: Sept. 9

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Cost: Adults, \$10; Children under 12, \$5;

under 5, Free

CABBAGE ROLL SALE

Norwood — The Norwood Knights of Columbus council 2309 will have their 23rd annual Cabbage Roll Sale.

Date: Sept. 15

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until all are

Place: St. Andrew's Church basement Contact: Mark Tebo 353-8821, Phil Regan 353-9917, John Murray 353-2334, Jim Murray 261-9975

DIOCESAN EVENTS

MARRIAGE AND CONSCRATED LIFE JUBILEE

Ogdensburg — The Marriage and Consecrated Life Jubilee to be combined this

Date: Sept. 23

Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: The Mass is to honor the Religious Sisters for their decades of service to the Church and all married couples celebrating their anniversaries (from one year and up). Family and friends of the honorees are welcome to attend. Bishop LaValley will host a light reception immediately following the Mass in the Brzana Hall at the Cathedral.

Contact: Married couples wishing to attend will receive a certificate from Bishop LaValley and have their names included in the program must register with their parish or register themselves at https://www.rcdony.org/marriagejubilee on or before Sept. 14

YOUTH LEAD

Saranac Lake — The 2018 youth leadership weekend to be held.

Date: Sept. 28-30

Cost: \$70, Workshops, meals, and accommodations, included

Features: Open to students in grades

Contact: For schedule information see https://www.rcdony.org/youth/leadership.htm or contact Tom Semeraro, Director of Youth Ministry at: 315-393-2920 ext. 1415

BLUE MASS

Plattsburgh – Diocesan Blue Mass to be

Date: Sept. 30 Time: 2 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: The Blue Mass the Church's way to offer thanks to God for the dedication and sacrifices made by the women and men in Law Enforcement/Corrections and to pray for their safety, as well as for their families and communities. In addition to members and their families, community members and supporters are invited to

Contact: to Father Christopher Carrara, Blue Mass Committee Chair at ccarrara@rcdony.org, or by phone at 315-

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

605-1039

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

Date: Session 3, Oct. 5 – 7

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

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

LIFECHAIN

Stand up for life at this year's LIFECHAIN offered in five locations across our diocese.

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

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

For more info: www.lifechain.net



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

Heading back to school

As summer break draws to an end, we still have new beginnings to look forward to also. The new school year is only a week away and our devoted teachers are gearing up for the challenge. We are reminded of how educators have joined with parents to commit to bringing to the world the uplifting message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Religious educators assist with reaching out in prayer and generosity to the suffering in our country and in the developing lands. The Mission Office is grateful for all the educators, parents and students who continue to help spread the Mission Message with both prayer and sacrifice.

Just as a new school year begins, the Mission Office is still getting used to some new things too. Missionary Childhood Association or MCA is a program now in its second school year of being spearheaded by Sister Cindy Sullivan, BVM, Massena native and real life Missioanary. Last year's MCA program went in the direction of promoting a goal driven campaign, whereby each school was encouraged to raise a certain amount of funds based on how many students are enrolled in their school.

We are so proud of the students shown below from Seton Academy, who continue to be our strongest fundraisers under years of guidance from Sister Helen Hermann, and who met their fundraising goal in the 2017-18 school year.

Missionary Childhood Association helps children put their faith into action locally and while reaching out to the global Church as well. Missionary Childhood Association teaches the children to be proud of being Catholic and brings their faith to the public arena.

We anticipate that the children of our Diocse will once again participate in the Missionary Childhood Association program.

We will have a presence at the Superintendent's day in October in Lake Placid, where our MCA experts will be available to answer questions.

I pray that the educators will have a school year filled with positive energy, strong experiences and prayerfilled lessons of love. I am grateful for the good they do and their commitment to excellence. Without the educators in our community, our job in the Mission office would be an uphill battle. Let us pray for each other in our missionary efforts! The missionary work of the church depends on each one of us. God Bless!

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

Services held for former young adult ministry director

PORT HENRY - A Mass of Christian Burial for Lorraine P. Turgeon, 55, was held August 14 at St. Patrick's Church in Port Henry. Turgeon, former Diocesan Director Young Adult Ministry, passed away on August 8, 2018 after a long battle with CNS Lymphoma.

She was born July 11. 1963 in Augusta, Maine, the daughter of Clermont and Colette Turgeon. Her mother survives.

She will be remembered as a joyful, carefree spirit, who knew how to make the absolute most out of any situation. Though reserved, she was a friend to all, and the light of many people's lives.

Although she was a pastoral associate for the Catholic Community of Moriah, her favorite occupation was being a mother, one that she did best and until she was called from this world to the next.

She is survived by her son Noah Arevalo, who stood by his mom to the end. In addition to her mother, she is also survived by her sister, France, and brother-in-law Allen, and their daughters, Lindand Hannah; her brother, Dennis, and sister-in-law, Donna, their sons, David and Tyler; and her brother, Tom, and sister-in-law, Darcy, and their daughter, Lilly Mae.

Turgeon was laid to rest in the Catholic Community of Moriah Cemetery.

OBITUARIES

Brasher Falls - Elizabeth (Pearl) Russell, 88; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 10, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Brushton - Wayne J. Goyea, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Brushton – Alliene Reyome, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 25, 2018 at St. Mary's Church.

Canton - Kenneth F. Smith, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 17, 2018 at St. Mary's Church.

Evans Mills - Phyllis Marie David Donaghy, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 21, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Houseville - Wadyslawa W."Lottie" (Cierniak) Szewil, 91; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 16, 2018 at St. Hedwig's Church; burial in Martinsburg Cemetery.

Keeseville – Susan Elizabeth (Riani) Turner, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 22, 2018 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in parish Cemetery.

Lake Placid - Margaret "Peggy" L. Jewtraw, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 21, 2018 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Lake Placid - William J. "Trapper" Nugent Jr., 65; Funeral Services Aug. 14, 2018 at the M.B. Clark Inc. Funeral Home; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Malone - Michael J. Meagan, Sr., 67; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Malone - Michael J. Raville, 52; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Malone - Theodore M. Taylor, 64; Funeral Services Aug. 28, 2018 at Bruso-Desnoyers Funeral Home; burial in St. George's Cemetery, Burke

Malone - Charles H. Webb, 92; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2018 at the Bruso-Desnoyers Funeral Home; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena – Mary Elizabeth (McGrath) Bonczar, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 18, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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Father Tandayu named local provincial for community

WATERTOWN - Missionaries of the Sacred Heart **Provincial Superior Father** Raymond Diesbourg announced recently that Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Father Jonas R. Tandavu has been named the local Superior for the Watertown and Northern New York Missionaries of the Sacred Heart community, effective Sept. 1.

Father Tandayu will maintain his duties as pastor at Our Lady of the



Father Jonas R. Tandayu

Sacred Heart Church in Watertown, where he has served since January of

In addition, Father Herman Pongantung, a Missionary of the Sacred Heart, has been appointed parochial vicar at St. Patrick's and St. Anthony's parishes in Watertown. From Indonesia, Father Pongantung is expected to arrive in Watertown on Sept. 15. He will reside at the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart on Thompson

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Students from St. Alphonsus Holy Name of Infant Jesus Parish met at HGA for a Vacation Bible School Program entitled "Son Rock Camp." The kids were treated to Bible stories, arts and crafts, music time, movement activities, and a daily lunch prepared by volunteers. Older students served as teen helpers, and one day all of camp was joined by Guggenheim campers, who chose Tupper's Vacation Bible School for their service day project, and Guggenheim counselor, Adam Branch.

Obituaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Mooers - Marcella T. (LaBarge) Rabideau, 89; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2018 at St. Ann's Church.

Ogdensburg – Katherine H. (Perry) Aumell, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 17.2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg - Carol Ann Fiset-Barber, 63; Funeral Services Aug. 20, 2018 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Marguerite "Peggy" A. (Deserre) LaVigne, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2018 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial

Ogdensburg - Wanda J. (Donnelly) McGaw, 68; Funeral Services Aug. 15, 2018 at the Fox & Murray Funeral Home; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Peru - Gerald A. L. "Jerry" Benoit, 78; Funeral Services Aug. 18, 2018 at Hamilton Funeral Home.

Peru - Scott Patrick Wright, 55; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 15, 2018 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in God's Acre Cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Faith M. (Dubuque) Garrant, 76; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 18, 2018 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh - Lt. Col. Theodore M. Graser, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 1, 2018 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery.

Redford - Ruth (Strack) Wood, 77; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 17, 2018 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

Saranac Lake - Robert John Gallagher, 58; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 18, 2018 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Harrietstown Cemetery.

Tupper Lake - Ruth Elizabeth LaRocque Churco, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 14, 2018 at St. Alphonsus

Tupper Lake - Gerald "Jerry" Manning, 71; Funeral Services Aug. 17, 2018 at the Stuart-Fortune-Keough Funeral Home; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Waddington - Mathew P. Lavo, 92: Mass of Christian Burial to be held Aug. 13, 2018 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Watertown - Ann L. (Mistersaro) Greico, 91; Mass of Christian Burial to be held Aug. 14, 2018 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

West Chazy - Theresa H. (Nephew) Baker, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 24, 2018 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in parish cemetery.



Marriage and Consecrated Life Jubilee

This Mass is to honor the Religious Sisters for their decades of service to the Church and all married couples celebrating their anniversaries (from one year and up).

> September 23, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. By Bishop Terry R. LaValley St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg

Family and friends of the honorees are welcome to attend. Bishop LaValley will host a light reception immediately following the Mass.

Married couples who wish to attend will receive a certificate from Bishop LaValley and have their names included in the program. Couples must register with their parish or register themselves at www.rcdony.org/marriagejubilee on or before

September 14, 2018

The Religious Sisters celebrating a special jubilee anniversary will be:

40 years

Sister Cindy Sullivan, BVN Sister Elizabeth Washburn, APB

50 years

Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ



60 years Sister Mary Louise Fiedler, SSJ Sister Marilyn McGillan, APB Sister Mary Patrick Murphy, SSJ Sister Elizabeth Menard, OP Sister Claire Michel Fortier, SCSL

70 years

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

This event is co-sponsored by the Vocations, Episcopal Delegate for Religious and the Family Life Offices.