

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Follow Me: Time of prayer, dialogue at *ad limina* visit | PAGE 3

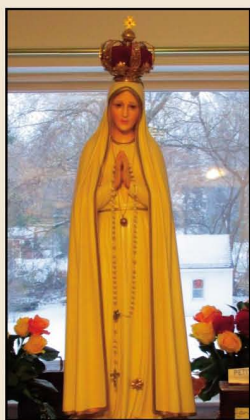
Bishop LaValley reassigns pastors in Plattsburgh | PAGE 5

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 74, Number 26

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

NOV. 27, 2019

OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITS



In mid-November, homes in Plattsburgh, Potsdam, Malone and Brushton hosted the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

The International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima travels to about 120 churches a year. The statue was sculpted in 1947 by famous sculptor José Thedim.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Happy Thanksgiving!



CNS PHOTO/MICHAEL ALEXANDER, GEORGIA BULLETIN

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, 2019, celebrates an abundant harvest and the blessing of family and friends. "Bless the God of all, who has done wondrous things on earth." – Sirach 50:22.

Diocesan financial reports

The Diocesan Fiscal Office, under the direction of Michael J. Tooley, diocesan fiscal officer, presents the annual report reviewing the financial condition of the Diocese of Ogdensburg in this week's issue of the *North Country Catholic*.

In his introduction to the report, Bishop Terry R. LaValley writes, "our Diocese is blessed with individuals and families who so generously support the many ministries of our Church here in the North Country."

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is available to answer questions.

Please feel free to call the Diocesan Fiscal Office at 315-393-2920 for more information.

FULL STORY, PAGES 6-18

Pope to leaders: Be brave enough to dialogue

BANGKOK (CNS)—Meeting Thai religious leaders and then celebrating Mass with Catholic young adults, Pope Francis encouraged them to strengthen a culture that treasures the past, holds fast to faith, is unafraid of differences and always seeks a way to promote dialogue and cooperation.

No single nation or religious or ethnic group can guarantee itself a future "in

isolation from or immune to others," the pope told Thai Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, Sikh and Muslim leaders at Chulalongkorn University Nov. 22.

The global migration phenomenon, climate change, technological advances, conflict and war all "require us to be bold in devising new ways of shaping the history of our time without denigrating or insulting anyone," Pope

Francis insisted at his meeting with the religious leaders.

An "insular" way of thinking and acting will not work, he said. "Now is the time to be bold and envision the logic of encounter and mutual dialogue as the path, common cooperation as the code of conduct, and reciprocal knowledge as a method and standard."

At the university named for King Chulalongkorn of

Siam, who reigned from 1868 to 1910 and abolished slavery, Pope Francis asked all religions in Thailand to work together to end "the many present-day forms of slavery, especially the scourge of human trafficking," which in Thailand includes trafficking both for prostitution and cheap domestic labor.

With dialogue and cooperation, the pope said, "we can provide a new para-

digm for resolving conflicts and help foster greater understanding and the protection of creation."

By promoting justice and peace, he said, the religions of Thailand will give their younger members "the tools they need to be in the forefront of efforts to create sustainable and inclusive lifestyles" based on respect for human dignity and concern for the environment.

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLICBox 326
Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
USPS 0039-3400**BISHOP TERRY
R. LAVALLEY**

President

REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN

Vice President

JAMES D. CROWLEY

Secretary-Treasurer

DARCY L. FARGO

Editor &

Communications Director



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 andadditional 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 326Ogdensburg, NY 13669
and should be received byThursday 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

We put the 'fun' in 'dysfunctional'

When it comes to holidays with my family, I generally say, "we put the 'fun' in 'dysfunctional.'"

Thanksgiving is typically one of the larger holiday gatherings in my family. It's not uncommon for us to cram more than 20 people into my parents' home in Bombay, a tiny town in northern Franklin County.

When we all get together, it's extremely loud. We joke with each other relentlessly. My sisters and I are notorious for trying to steal the turkey skin from the platter as my father carves, and dad usually responds by

slapping our hands with the large two-pronged fork he's using (it stings, but it's worth it if you get away with a piece of the crispy skin). It's

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

not uncommon for there to be minor food fights – whipped cream is generally the weapon of choice, especially the kind in the aerosol can. Someone is bound to get an ice cube stuck down the back of their shirt. Family members get whipped with dish towels as the dishes are washed and dried.

Our family functions probably aren't what everyone would consider the "perfect holiday gatherings," but our

gatherings seem pretty perfect to us (ok, maybe I could do without whipped cream in my hair). The silliness, the laughter and the insanity are blessings. Being together is a blessing.

As I prepared this weekend for Thanksgiving, I was reflecting on the fact that what is a blessing to us – a holiday filled with noise and silliness – would probably seem chaotic, unruly and undesirable to others. I'm guessing other families don't want food fights and hands slapped with utensils on holidays.

It sometimes amazes me how blessings can be found in all types of situations, even those that may not seem like blessings at first or

be perceived as blessings to others.

Looking back on this year, some of the most profound graces I've received have come in times of stress and struggle.

This Thanksgiving, I'm thankful for those graces. I'm thankful for the prayers, support, assistance and love I've received from family, friends, colleagues and readers. I'm thankful our loving God has provided for me, even in times of struggle. I'm just plain thankful.

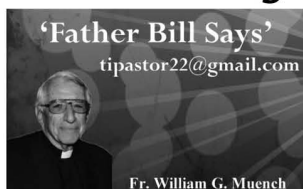
We at the *North Country Catholic* wish you all a happy Thanksgiving. May it be full of family, friends, food and graces, and maybe a little fun. But I recommend you avoid the whipped cream.

Gratitude: It's not just for Thanksgiving

The message for today is gratitude. As you know, I often return to gratitude as I write. I believe that gratitude is the center and the most important quality of the life of a disciple of Jesus. Gratitude comes to my mind today as I look forward to the approach of Thanksgiving Day.

First of all, the usual reminder as we approach Thanksgiving Day. Gratitude is not a one-day-a-year event. Gratitude is an everyday remembrance, an everyday celebration. However, Thanksgiving Day does remind us of the importance of making gratitude a part of everyday of our lives.

I know you have heard many my ideas about gratitude often before. Yet, I encourage you to stay with me as I again share with you about something I believe is the very heart and soul of my faith in the Lord. Every Sunday, as you and I celebrate

**Fr. William G. Muench**

Eucharist as disciples of Jesus, our hearts must be filled with gratitude for our loving God. I am certain that you remember that the word Eucharist means "thank you." Each time we celebrate Mass together, each time we celebrate the Eucharist together, we are worshipping our Lord with gratitude. This gratitude comes to our hearts over and over again because of all that Jesus did for us. Jesus came among us to bring the message of God to us; Jesus died for us because his message was so important to him; Jesus brought us all new life through Resurrection. What a gift Jesus is for us! For all of this, I am so intensely grateful.

As a Christian, my gratitude influences the way I live my life. My gratitude is reflected in the way I strive to live each day. I believe a person who lives a grateful life must bring joy and peace to the world. A grateful person is bursting with love, recognizing the blessings and gifts that God brings into life each and every day. This spirit of gratitude transforms every day. Gratitude is a recognition of how gifted we are – all of us. Gratitude must influence everything I do.

At the same time, I am grateful because my life has been touched by the many wonderful people the Lord has placed in my life – my family, my friends, and even the strangers I meet. I am a different person because of so many others – these are my saints. My gratitude demands that I live a better life and strive to bring God's love to others myself.

Let me share here my grati-

tude to the Lord in a special way for words. My life has been filled with words. I deal with words every day. In faith and trust, I believe that God gives me the right words when teaching, when speaking, when writing. I am humbly grateful to God for this gift. I am confident in the Lord's concern for me. I recognize that the Lord wants to be part of my life. He wants to show me the way. I am so confident that when I need the right words, I stop to pray. I have been called innumerable times to visit a home and a family at the time of a tragedy, a death, a major problem. Each time I prepare a homily or begin to write something, even a letter to a friend, I stop to pray for the right words, and the Lord reaches out to me. The Lord is there with the proper words. This for me is my loving God showing me the way, being a friend to me.

FOLLOW ME

Time of prayer, dialogue at ad limina visit

In the November 6 issue of the North Country Catholic, I gave a broad overview of the *ad limina Apostolarum*. From November 10-16, the New York State bishops (Region 2) made the *ad limina* visit to the Holy See. The eight diocesan bishops and their auxiliaries, as well as some retired bishops made this pilgrimage "at the threshold of the Apostles."

A major feature of the *ad limina* visit was prayer. We celebrated Masses at the tombs of the Apostles, Peter and Paul, as well as at St. Mary Maggiore and St. John Lateran, the four Basilicas of ancient Rome. I felt particularly honored to be the principal celebrant and homilist at the Pope's cathedral as the Bishop of Rome at St. John Lateran.

As I was praying at the tomb of St. Peter, I thought that if these walls could talk about what had transpired there through the ages, they would speak of the struggles of our Church in an antagonistic, pagan world. The walls would tell me about the many heresies that confronted the Church; the extreme poverty that was endured by so many, tyrant rule, slaughter of the innocent, anti-popes, Inquisitions, schisms. The walls would weep with such anguish as so much evil would try to have its way. Then I recalled what Jesus told Peter: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt.16:18). Over two millennia later, Jesus' words continue to ring true! The gates of hell shall not prevail against our Church today despite the evil that



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Bishop Terry R. LaValley of Ogdensburg, center, and other U.S. bishops from the state of New York concelebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome Nov. 11, 2019. The bishops were making their "ad limina" visits to the Vatican to report on the status of their dioceses to the pope and Vatican officials.

has infiltrated it! Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. We follow Him.

In the quiet of my prayer, God's Spirit reminded me of His Presence throughout the ages. I reflected on the tremendous courage and rock-solid faith of the early Christian women and men. I thought of how the gifts of the Holy Spirit would aid Church leadership as the Church met one challenge after another as the decades passed.

Much has happened in the world, our Church and our Diocese since Monsignor Murphy and I made my first *ad limina* visit back in 2011. In his homily at our Mass at the tomb of St. Peter, Cardinal Dolan reminded us that St. Peter was crucified upside down. The Cardinal invited us to consider how Christ turned the first Pope's world upside

down. Is that not the fate of any who would seek to follow Jesus, be it in the first or twenty-first century? Those same gifts of God's Spirit are available to you and me today in a special way, by virtue of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

After Mass, while at St. Peter's tomb, the bishops chanted together the Nicene Creed in Latin. This was a particularly powerful moment for me. Given the divisiveness and disunity among Christians today, this gesture reminded me of the unique responsibility I accepted on the day of my consecration as bishop. On April 30, 2010, at St. Mary's Cathedral, Cardinal Dolan asked me: "Do you resolve to guard the deposit of faith, entire and incorrupt, as handed down by the Apostles and preserved in the Church everywhere and at all

times?" I responded: "I do." This was truly a graced opportunity for me to rededicate myself to this awesome duty and privilege as a successor to the Apostles.

A second feature of the *ad limina* are meetings with many of the staff (Congregations or Dicasteries and Councils) that assist the Holy Father in ministry to the Church Universal. Some of the Pope's curia that I visited were: Congregations for Bishops, Clergy, Institutes of Consecrated Life, Catholic Education, Sacraments and Divine Worship, and Doctrine of the Faith. We, also, met with the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors; Council for Laity, Family and Life, Causes of Saints; as well as the Secretary of State. There was little time for sightseeing, but I confess I did find time for certain pasta

pleasures and gelato breaks.

Most of these meetings lasted almost two hours. The topics ranged from faith formation, Christian marriage, family life, clergy sexual abuse, Church closings, Church vocations, gender identity, consecrated life, Catholic schools, religious freedom, the non-affiliated youth and so much more. There was excellent discussion as we were consistently told of their desire to assist the bishops in carrying out our pastoral responsibilities. I came away very much impressed by the depth of discussion and fruitful dialogue that took place. Our Diocesan Priorities that we established several years ago and we continue to address were timely topics of concern.

With the other bishops, on Friday, November 15, I had the blessed opportunity to be welcomed by the Successor of St. Peter to his home and share concerns about the flock entrusted to our care. I look forward to sharing with you my experience of this most inspiring personal encounter with Pope Francis in next week's issue of the *North Country Catholic*, the third and most treasured feature of my *ad limina Apostolarum* 2019.

Ciao for now!

For a New or Used Car

**Mort
Backus &
Sons**

On Canton-Ogdensburg Rd.
315-393-5899



CHEVROLET

Our Lady of Fatima statue visits North Country

By Mary Beth Bracy
Contributing writer

"I was privileged to honor Our Lady of Fatima when the pilgrim statue came to Plattsburgh," said Sister Mary Helen Hermann, a Sister of St. Joseph. "I have always been moved by the feast of Our Lady of Fatima and was delighted to gather with other people to honor Mary . . . We had the opportunity to pray the rosary together and write down petitions that will be brought to the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal . . . Let us all continue to pray the rosary for peace in the world."

In mid-November, homes in Plattsburgh, Potsdam, Malone and Brushton hosted the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Faithful sang "Immaculate Mary," while crowning Our Lady.

"I believe we need more Fatima visits at homes in the North Country," said Lisa Mockus, an attendant. "It's an excellent worship and learning opportunity."

Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children on May 13, 1917 – St. Jacinta Marto (age 7), St. Francisco, her brother (9), and Bl. Lucia dos Santos (10), their cousin. She was dressed in light like crystal, more brilliant than the sun. Our Lady's face was gentle, with a serious expression, and her hands were folded in prayer – with the Rosary in her right hand. She asked that everyone recite the Rosary daily. She visited on the 13th of each month for six consecutive months, asking for prayer, sacrifice, and repentance. Our Lady told the children "Do not fear" and asked that we make reparation for sins against Our Lord.



MARY BETH BRACY/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

North Country residents gather in a Plattsburgh home to pray before the International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, which made several stops around the region in November.

Kenneth Murphy, 31, a custodian of the statue, noted that in her apparitions, the Blessed Mother appears with bare feet since it is her "job to crush the head of the serpent" with only her heel.

Murphy has traveled to homes nationwide for nearly 13 years. The star on the statue, he explained, is to remind us that Mary is our guide, the Star of the Sea, to help us reach our heavenly homeland.

Carol Hoover, who visited the statue, said she was touched to learn Jacinta suffered from a terrible illness and, due to the mistreatment of medical professionals, underwent a painful operation without anesthesia.

Murphy described that, at the time of the apparitions, the mission of Portugal – a communist country – was to destroy the faith in one generation. The government took over religious schools and hospitals. In 1910, all public manifestations of faith and prayer were banned. Soon, indoor Christmas decorations and gifts were forbidden! People were no longer allowed to name their children after saints.

Consequently, the Fatima children experienced resistance from government authorities. Once, the mayor took them to prison and threatened to boil them alive in a cauldron of oil. When they went to the apparition site, the mayor ordered guards to bayonet pilgrims. However, pilgrims took out their Rosaries and marched around town. The guards joined the children in prayer.

When the sun danced at Fatima, it whirled like an immense globe of fire for ten minutes and zig-zagged toward the people. 100,000 people witnessed this event. People were covered in mud after days of rain. Their clothes not only dried, but looked clean and bright, Murphy recounted. Lisbon, Portugal was known at this time as the "atheistic paradise of the world." Two months after the miracle, communism ended there. The mayor later converted and began praying the Rosary!

There were three secrets revealed at Fatima: first, the children saw a vision of hell; next, they received a warning that—unless the world stopped offending God—there would be a

war that would be worse than the first World War; finally, due to persecution, it was foretold that the pope, as well as, many bishops, priests, religious, and laity would be martyred.

Mother Mary promised "In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph." Murphy elucidated: "Our Lady does have victories over these errors that come into society. Is this victory going to be the end of the world? The answer is no. She also promised God wants to establish devotion to her Immaculate Heart in the world. For there to be devotion to Our Lady's heart, we have to have people."

Custodians travel with the statues to college campuses—both religious and secular.

Rose Trevail, a local student, said "I learned a lot about the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima. I feel that I have a better understanding of her message and the importance of prayers for the conversion of the world."

"As I reflect upon the afternoon we honored Mary when the pilgrim statue visited Plattsburgh, the words of a hymn come to

mind: 'Dear Lady of Fatima, we come on bended knee. To beg your intercession for peace and unity,'" shared Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann, a Sister of St. Joseph. "I also thought about one of our sisters, Sister Claudia, who has gone on to her heavenly reward. Sister had great devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and was privileged to visit the shrine in Portugal. I am sure that Sister Claudia is now honoring Mary, whom she loved so much. It was wonderful to share my own devotion to Our Lady of Fatima with the other people who had gathered . . . It deepened my own commitment to fulfill the requests of Our Blessed Mother – mainly to pray for sinners and for peace in the world. This was a spiritually enriching call to prayer."

The visit of Our Lady's statue was "filled with grace, personal revelations, and such peace," said Perry Provost. "Our Lady's Blessings were so present, and her presence filled the space. The love and devotion of Our Blessed Mother magnified God in her honor with each person's arrival. As a Body of Devotees assembled, God's Grace and Our Lady's Love permeated the room, and our hearts. All Praise to God, Father, Son, and Spirit, and Our Mother! Amen."

The International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima travels to about 120 churches a year.

The statue was sculpted in 1947 by famous sculptor José Thedim. The image reflects the precise instructions of Sister Lucia (the surviving seer at Fatima).

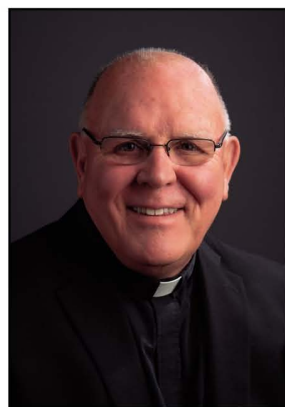
More information may be found at fatimatourforpeace.com.



Father Kevin D. McEwan



Father Eduardo C. Pesigan III



Msgr. Dennis J. Duprey

Bishop LaValley reassigns clergy at Plattsburgh parishes

PLATTSBURGH – The parishes in the City of Plattsburgh, along with the all parishes of the Diocese, have undertaken pastoral planning over the past couple of years. The plan for Plattsburgh developed locally and approved by Bishop Terry R. LaValley, is for the City parishes to be merged into one parish with four worship locations (sites).

The future merged parish, Holy Cross would be led by one pastor, one full-time parochial vicar and one half-time parochial vicar. Bishop LaValley has set the date for this to take effect as of January 1, 2020.

Bishop LaValley has appointed Father Kevin D. McEwan pastor, Father Eduardo C. Pesigan III, full-time parochial vicar, and Msgr. Dennis J. Duprey, special interim parochial vicar as of Jan. 1. Father William G. Reamer will become full-time Catholic chaplain at The University of Vermont CVPH Medical Center.

If by the effective date the ecclesial and legal process to form the new parish has not been completed, Father McEwan will be appointed pastor of



Father William G. Reamer

each existing parish, with the priests and deacons assigned to all three parishes and Father Reamer being assigned to CVPH.

This would remain until such the legal process is complete.

While challenges will always come up, we are confident the new parish configuration will give new strength and vitality to the Catholic community that makes up the three Catholic Parishes.

The new weekend Mass schedule was approved as part of the planning process several months ago.

As a reminder, the new times, which begin the

weekend of Dec. 1, are listed below:

NOV. 30 & DEC. 1

- Saturday – 4 p.m. at St. Peter's
- Saturday – 5:15 p.m. at St. John's
- Sunday – 8:30 a.m. at St. John's
- Sunday – 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory
- Sunday – 11:15 a.m. at St. Peter's
- Sunday – 5 p.m. at the Newman Center

Besides the clergy changes, effective Jan. 1, the Offices for all three parishes will be located at 7 Margaret St. on the property of St. John's, the priests' residence will be at 114 Cornelia Street on the property of St. Peter's and the Social and Outreach Center will be on the property of Our Lady of Victory on South Catherine Street.

Over the past two years, several of the ministries of the three parishes have been coordinated and expanded.

It is anticipated that this spring Msgr. Duprey will retire from his interim ministry having reached his 75th birthday. It is expected that he will be replaced at that time.

Bishop's Public Schedule

Nov. 28 – 9 a.m. – Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg

Dec. 1 – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Dec. 4 – 9:30 a.m. – Department Head Meeting at Wadhams Hall followed by lunch

Rest in Peace

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

Nov. 27 – Rev. Joseph Cole, 1929; Rev. Maurice O'Neil, 1999

Nov. 28 – Rev. Edward Gabriel Brice, 1929

Nov. 29 – Rev. John F. Meaney, O.S.A., 1942; Msgr. Michael Kelly, 1957; Rev. Peter A. Ward, 1984

Dec. 1 – Rev. Charles Goulet, 1913; Rev. George J. Bouchard, 1967

Dec. 2 – Rev. Charles Desrosiers, 1944; Rev. Joseph A. R. Cote, 1969; Rev. Joseph Fortier, M.S.C., 1970

Dec. 3 – Rev. Michael O'Neill, 1899; Msgr. Walter Funcke, 1958

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.

Upcoming sessions:

Dec. 3 – 5 p.m., St. André Bessette Parish, Malone

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 Clergy at 315-393-2920

Environmental Stewardship

Thanksgiving and Advent joy

This week seems packed with many celebrations.

Last Sunday began with the Feast of Christ the King, who revealed to us that his kingship was based on giving of His life for the good of others.

On Thanksgiving, we take time out to give thanks for all the gifts we have received.

Then, this Sunday we enter the joy-filled Season of Advent. Is there any thread that might connect these celebrations?

The quote from *Laudato Si'*... "the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others."

The gifts we receive are not just for us but are to be shared with our sisters and brothers with whom we inhabit the earth. Treasuring and sharing these gifts is part of our call as Christians.

As Advent approaches, we eagerly await time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, to cherish our friends and family and to serve those who most need us.

It is a wonderful opportunity to focus on our call to love. Protecting vulnerable people and all of creation can enrich our joy during Advent.

As Pope Francis says in *Laudato Si'*, "creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of all."

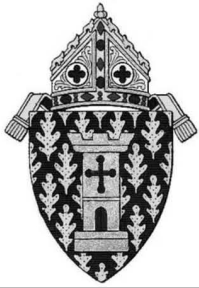
How shall we celebrate this Season this year?

How might it become a more joyful, relaxed and spiritual time of the year for you and your family?

One way is described in a book entitled, *Hundred Dollars Holiday*.

The authors found that some people who tried to limit the amount of money they spent at Christmas to about a hundred dollars per family found it was a real spur to their creativity and a real anchor against the relentless message to buy more.

How might the virtue of Christian simplicity affect your Advent celebrations this year?



Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements

Most Rev. Terry LaValley, Bishop of the Diocese

Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien

Moderator of the Curia/Episcopal Vicar
for Pastoral Services

Mr. Michael J. Tooley

Diocesan Fiscal Officer

A Message from Bishop Terry LaValley

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Every year around this time, the Diocesan Fiscal Office provides us with a detailed statement of the financial condition of our local Church. In this week's issue of the *North Country Catholic*, we have the opportunity to review the audited Financial Statement of the Diocese of Ogdensburg for the July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019 Fiscal Year.



As we study this report, it quickly becomes clear that our Diocese is blessed with individuals and families who so generously support the many ministries of our Church here in the North Country. *Christ-led, Christ-Christ-fed and Hope-filled*, the mission of Christ and the building up of His Church continues in an environment of economic uncertainty and when much pain is suffered by the faithful because of the sinful behavior of some clergy. The sacrificial giving reflected in this statement speaks loudly of the depth of faith and generosity of heart of so many. I am particularly grateful for the strong support of our diocesan Capital Campaign that enables our parishes and diocese to engage in needed capital projects and special ministries.

As your bishop, I receive expert assistance from our Diocesan Fiscal Officer, Michael Tooley, and his very capable staff in the managing of the Church's financial affairs. They carefully safeguard all that has been entrusted to our Diocese. The Fiscal Office provides prompt, professional support to our parishes and related institutions, enabling us to be good stewards of the gifts with which we have been entrusted. In addition to the staff of the Diocesan Fiscal Office, I also wish to thank the members of the Diocesan Finance Council and the Diocesan Investment Advisory Committee for their invaluable counsel throughout the year.

Please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Tooley at the Fiscal Office, should you have specific questions about this report. God bless you and your loved ones for such faithful stewardship and prayerful support!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

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

DIOCESAN FISCAL OFFICER REVIEWS HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is pleased to present in the *North Country Catholic* the audited financial statements for the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2019, as audited by the certified public accounting firm of Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co., Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

The audited statements include the central diocesan offices and programs but do not include parishes, Catholic Charities, schools, cemeteries and institutions. The report is presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and the norms of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The audited financial statements are formatted in accordance with pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). Accordingly, all financial transactions have been recorded by net asset class as required by the pronouncements of the FASB.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 INCLUDE:

- The Independent Auditor's opinion that the diocese has received on its financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, is an unmodified opinion. This is the 23rd consecutive year that the diocese has had an unqualified/unmodified opinion expressed by its auditors. In this letter the auditor includes an "Emphasis of Matter" that states multiple lawsuits have been filed against the diocese since June 30, 2019, and "it is not possible to predict at this time the extent of the Diocese's liability."
- The investments shown in the Statements of Financial Position have a market value of \$74,961,662 as of June 30, 2019. This amount consists of investment of funds for the following purposes:

1. Amounts owed to investors in Diocesan Trust Fund	\$ 26,016,901
2. Amounts owed to investors in Deposit & Loan Fund, net of loans receivable from borrowers in the Fund.....	\$ 25,622,857
3. Reserves for Charitable Gift Annuities.....	\$ 1,128,106
4. Reserves for Pending and Unreported Insurance Claims	\$ 1,292,522
5. Reserves for Priests' Retirement.....	\$ 9,936,661
6. Other Investments.....	\$ 10,964,615
Total	\$ 74,961,662

The market value of investments as of June 30, 2019 is \$3,109,410 lower as compared to one year earlier, as the diocese withdrew central office monies to help fund payments to claimants in the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program (IRCP) during the year, and to fund the cost of consultant expenses for the diocese's Capital Campaign.

- The Statements of Financial Position shows the market value of assets restricted for support of the Lay Employees' Retirement Plan is \$27,406,902, which is \$320,285 lower than their value as of June 30, 2018. The Plan remains underfunded due to significant investment losses ten years ago, and negative investment performance in two of

the past five fiscal years. Its funded status as of July 1, 2019 is 74.5% of the present value of accrued benefits, as compared to 75.2% one year earlier. The diocesan central office share of this unfunded liability as of June 30, 2019 is \$374,110 and is recorded as Accrued Pension Obligations. The present value of accrued benefits for retirees and beneficiaries is 109.7% funded.

- The Statement of Activities is presented in a format that presents the revenues, gains and other support as well as the expenses by net assets without donor restriction and net assets with donor restriction.
- The expense section of the Statement of Activities reflects in the unrestricted column all expenses of the diocese. New this year is the inclusion in the audit report of the Statement of Functional Expenses.
- On the Statement of Activities, the Change in Net Assets shows net assets without donor restriction operated at a gain of \$199,178 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. Net assets with donor restriction had a gain of \$68,910 in 2018-19.
- Total revenues, gains and other support were \$495,697 higher when compared to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. This is primarily due an increase of \$1,605,768 in contributions as the diocese's share of contributions to the Capital Campaign totaled \$1,088,124. Total expenses decreased by \$4,954,235, as the diocese's liability for IRCP claims payable was \$5,495,000 on June 30, 2018. During 2018-19 the diocese settled 10 sexual misconduct claims, paying \$985,000 from the net assets of the diocese's Protected Self Insurance Program.
- The Statements of Cash Flows show cash flows from operating activities, investing activities and financing activities of the diocese had a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents for the year ended June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$266,716.
- The Schedules of Functional Expenses provide a breakdown of the various categories of expenses shown on the statement of activities. These include pastoral, religious personnel development, education, social services, cemeteries, diocesan administration and auxiliary services.
- The notes to the financial statements represent additional information and are an integral part of the financial statements. A reading of the financial statements should include a thorough reading of the notes as the additional information provided is designed to prevent the reader from misinterpreting the financial statements or making incorrect conclusions or assumptions about the amounts shown in the financial statements. The audited financial statements are presented in their entirety to provide a complete accounting of the financial condition of the diocese and the results of its operations for the year ended June 30, 2019.

The Diocesan Fiscal Office is available to answer questions a reader may have after review of the audited financial statements for 2018-2019. Please feel free to call the Diocesan Fiscal Office at 315-393-2920 or visit the Fiscal Office in the Spratt Memorial Building at 604 Washington Street in Ogdensburg during normal office hours.

Michael J. Tooley
Michael J. Tooley
Diocesan Fiscal Officer

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements Independent Auditor's Report



Pinto-Mucenski-Hooper
Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

42 Market Street
P.O. Box 109
Potsdam, NY 13676
(315) 265-6080
Fax: (315) 265-3530
www.pmhvcpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg
Ogdensburg, New York

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 20 to the financial statements, the Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg is a defendant in multiple lawsuits alleging sexual misconduct by certain members of the clergy. It is not possible to predict at this time the extent of the Diocese's liability. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Report on Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Schedules of Program and Other Expenses on Pages 36 and 37 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Pinto Mucenski Hooper Van House & Co.
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.
October 29, 2019

Diocesan Fiscal Office Staff

*Serving the fiscal needs of the
Diocese of Ogdensburg*



Michael J. Tooley
*Diocesan Fiscal
Officer*



Peggy Garrison
*Senior Diocesan
Accountant*



Karen Ruddy
*Diocesan
Accountant*



Heather Ladouceur
*Fiscal Office
Assistant*



Cindy Granger
*Parish Administrative
Services Coordinator*



Kim Snover
*Director Human
Resources*

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2019 and 2018

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,813,541	\$ 3,080,257
Accounts Receivable	571,312	633,827
Accrued Interest Receivable	182,169	153,196
Due from Lay Employees' Retirement Obligation	615,461	318,579
Inventories	17,018	19,625
Prepaid Expenses	299,562	398,088
Investments at Fair Value	74,961,662	78,071,072
Other Investments	444,099	462,934
Loans Receivable - Ministry - Net of Loan Loss Reserve	805,857	446,080
Loans Receivable - Parishes and Affiliates - Net of Loan Loss Reserve	2,303,080	1,974,294
Land, Building, and Equipment - Net of Accumulated Depreciation	1,922,679	2,096,866
Restricted Assets	<u>27,406,902</u>	<u>27,727,187</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 112,343,342</u>	<u>\$ 115,382,005</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 252,209	\$ 213,927
Accrued Compensation	94,562	92,537
Collections Payable	211,513	252,307
Accrued Interest Payable	117,085	111,512
Deferred Revenue	504,960	599,507
Insurance Claims Payable	2,714,373	2,969,618
Reserve for Insurance Claims	1,292,522	1,517,771
IRCP Claims Payable	-	5,495,000
Deposits Payable	27,925,937	25,465,479
Diocesan Trust Fund	26,016,901	25,340,119
Charitable Gift Annuities Payable	464,493	515,202
Disaster Relief Funds Collected	12,371	12,006
Accrued Pension Obligation	374,110	382,517
Lay Employees' Retirement Obligations	<u>27,406,902</u>	<u>27,727,187</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>87,387,938</u>	<u>90,694,689</u>
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restriction	10,474,596	10,275,418
With Donor Restriction	<u>14,480,808</u>	<u>14,411,898</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>24,955,404</u>	<u>24,687,316</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 112,343,342</u>	<u>\$ 115,382,005</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Statements of Activities

**For the year ended
June 30, 2019**

Statements of Activities

**For the year ended
June 30, 2018**

	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	2019 Totals		Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	2018 Totals
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT				REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT			
Diocesan Assessments	\$ 1,972,566	\$ 73,313	\$ 2,045,879	Diocesan Assessments	\$ 1,952,768	\$ 74,130	\$ 2,026,898
Contributions	2,595,012	963,037	3,558,049	Contributions	1,526,951	425,330	1,952,281
Bequests	-	26,907	26,907	Bequests	423,075	-	423,075
Contributed Services	58,986	-	58,986	Contributed Services	92,025	-	92,025
Investment Income (Net)	924,186	391,839	1,316,025	Investment Income (Net)	1,007,266	380,693	1,387,959
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and (Losses) on Investments	1,005,846	501,641	1,507,487	Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and (Losses) on Investments	1,091,516	797,603	1,889,119
Grants	51,509	32,500	84,009	Grants	73,811	39,078	112,889
Management Fees	432,021	-	432,021	Management Fees	464,786	-	464,786
Other Revenue	363,661	22,975	386,636	Other Revenue	427,306	28,099	455,405
Auxiliary Services	2,366,766	-	2,366,766	Auxiliary Services	2,360,506	-	2,360,506
Gain or (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	(106,826)	-	(106,826)	Gain or (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	(10)	-	(10)
Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity	-	(28,272)	(28,272)	Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity	-	(12,963)	(12,963)
Net Assets Released from Restrictions Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	1,915,030	(1,915,030)	-	Net Assets Released from Restrictions Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	1,669,812	(1,669,812)	-
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	11,578,757	68,910	11,647,667	Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	11,089,812	62,158	11,151,970
EXPENSES				EXPENSES			
Pastoral	523,154	-	523,154	Pastoral	521,398	-	521,398
Religious Personnel Development	2,290,131	-	2,290,131	Religious Personnel Development	2,043,492	-	2,043,492
Education	1,515,739	-	1,515,739	Education	1,550,418	-	1,550,418
Social Services	298,356	-	298,356	Social Services	309,205	-	309,205
Cemeteries	5,321	-	5,321	Cemeteries	4,819	-	4,819
Diocesan Administration	3,064,302	-	3,064,302	Diocesan Administration	8,580,464	-	8,580,464
Auxiliary Services	3,690,983	-	3,690,983	Auxiliary Services	3,332,425	-	3,332,425
Total Expenses	11,387,986	-	11,387,986	Total Expenses	16,342,221	-	16,342,221
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	190,771	68,910	259,681	CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(5,252,409)	62,158	(5,190,251)
CHANGE IN FUNDED STATUS OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN	8,407	-	8,407	CHANGE IN FUNDED STATUS OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN	(140,230)	-	(140,230)
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	10,275,418	14,411,898	24,687,316	NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	15,668,057	14,349,740	30,017,797
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 10,474,596	\$ 14,480,808	\$ 24,955,404	NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 10,275,418	\$ 14,411,898	\$ 24,687,316

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper, Van House & Co.

Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

Members of the Diocesan Finance Council

Bishop Terry R. LaValley
Rev. Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin
Rev. Christopher C. Carrara, V.F.
Rev. Joseph A. Morgan
Rev. Kevin J. O'Brien

Deacon James Crowley
Deacon Kevin T. Mastellon
Ms. Barbara Criss
Mr. John Knox
Mrs. Michelle Ladouceur
Mr. John Mullikin

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Statements of Functional Expenses For the year ended June 30, 2019

	Religious Personnel			Social Services	Cemeteries	Diocesan Administration	Auxiliary Services	2019 Totals
	Pastoral	Development	Education					
Salaries	\$ 210,458	\$ 162,044	\$ 392,975	\$ 105,886	\$ -	\$ 1,002,755	\$ 219,986	\$ 2,094,104
Retirement Benefit Payments	15,803	884,307	25,168	4,894	-	89,931	17,388	1,037,491
Payroll Taxes	13,090	3,902	23,013	8,071	-	71,527	16,284	135,887
Employee Benefits	23,404	345,538	23,775	4,613	-	104,649	21,501	523,480
Total Salaries and Related Expenditures	262,755	1,395,791	464,931	123,464	-	1,268,862	275,159	3,790,962
Travel and Mileage	19,050	14,568	11,326	4,217	-	11,252	970	61,383
Postage	2,680	2,654	802	196	-	15,496	2,572	24,400
Printing and Photocopying	1,531	4,061	328	141	-	42,727	273	49,061
Newspaper Print	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,165	50,165
Insurance	9,664	450	1,200	100	-	24,040	1,032,292	1,067,746
Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-	-	-	964,424	964,424
Utilities	4,247	-	-	-	-	25,456	-	29,703
Telephone and Fax	2,572	129	5,378	2,766	-	19,886	789	31,520
Repairs and Maintenance	11,799	-	874	369	-	43,886	902	57,830
Office Supplies	1,180	298	1,450	274	-	54,389	629	58,220
Advertising	80	1,855	51	210	-	2,511	3,539	8,246
Dues and Memberships	310	14,128	1,441	706	510	53,447	751	71,293
Meetings and Conferences	9,357	40,771	18,739	1,622	65	22,513	466	93,533
Grants	106,791	22,350	899,900	101,506	-	214,534	-	1,345,081
Professional Services	69,001	68,639	10,281	30,003	4,746	1,009,466	180,516	1,372,652
Awards and Gifts	1,547	4,274	372	1,553	-	8,978	-	16,724
Books, Periodicals and Subscriptions	2,248	2,994	834	46	-	5,960	388	12,470
Residence and Building Supplies	463	-	-	1,743	-	4,958	-	7,164
Workshops	12,066	22,601	31,441	4,517	-	1,686	-	72,311
Licensing Fees	415	487	-	-	-	17,304	-	18,206
Liturgical Supplies	1,274	45	-	-	-	154	-	1,473
Special Care of Priests	-	122,378	-	-	-	-	-	122,378
Program Supplies	4,124	4,221	60,608	24,923	-	6,631	-	100,507
Bad Debt Expenses/Forgiveness of Debt	-	234,418	-	-	-	-	225,602	460,020
Depreciation and Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	121,332	-	121,332
Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program Claims	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
Interest and Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	66,907	951,296	1,018,203
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	250
Charter Audit	-	-	-	-	-	6,927	-	6,927
Tuition	-	333,019	5,783	-	-	-	-	338,802
Total Expenditures	\$ 523,154	\$ 2,290,131	\$ 1,515,739	\$ 298,356	\$ 5,321	\$ 3,064,302	\$ 3,690,983	\$ 11,387,986

Statements of Functional Expenses For the year ended June 30, 2018

	Religious Personnel			Social Services	Cemeteries	Diocesan Administration	Auxiliary Services	2018 Totals
	Pastoral	Development	Education					
Salaries	\$ 187,950	\$ 168,492	\$ 374,087	\$ 95,236	\$ -	\$ 834,040	\$ 251,780	\$ 1,911,585
Retirement Benefit Payments	16,667	882,662	22,990	4,248	-	116,023	23,208	1,065,798
Payroll Taxes	12,490	5,013	21,717	7,250	-	65,914	19,582	131,966
Employee Benefits	40,991	334,592	48,439	14,768	-	218,802	53,872	711,464
Total Salaries and Related Expenditures	258,098	1,390,759	467,233	121,502	-	1,234,779	348,442	3,820,813
Travel and Mileage	20,644	9,982	12,780	2,987	-	9,522	2,089	58,004
Postage	2,894	1,126	1,028	214	-	15,293	2,387	22,942
Printing and Photocopying	1,710	1,073	630	227	-	51,917	273	55,830
Newspaper Print	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,762	60,762
Insurance	8,823	263	900	100	-	23,767	982,439	1,016,292
Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-	-	-	337,600	337,600
Utilities	4,600	-	-	-	-	26,465	-	31,065
Telephone and Fax	2,038	167	5,518	2,807	-	14,780	813	26,123
Repairs and Maintenance	11,970	16	1,449	1	-	70,532	844	84,812
Office Supplies	1,570	1,421	2,349	787	-	49,126	824	56,077
Advertising	419	2,265	297	899	-	16,294	2,336	22,510
Dues and Memberships	1,089	5,011	9,526	70	-	50,832	811	67,339
Meetings and Conferences	8,453	15,733	20,703	4,450	-	13,491	174	63,004
Grants	125,015	25,911	882,400	92,819	180	200,384	500,000	1,826,709
Professional Services	23,916	77,235	7,055	4,777	4,639	1,104,886	88,825	1,311,333
Awards and Gifts	1,648	1,088	535	7,794	-	16,769	-	27,834
Books, Periodicals and Subscriptions	7,703	7,327	893	65	-	14,711	344	31,043
Residence and Building Supplies	568	-	245	1,628	-	5,914	-	8,355
Workshops	35,105	42,780	58,623	25,892	-	10,394	-	172,794
Licensing Fees	836	555	9	-	-	15,920	61	17,381
Liturgical Supplies	1,087	869	-	113	-	390	-	2,459
Ordination	-	4,497	-	-	-	-	-	4,497
Special Care of Priests	-	111,965	-	-	-	-	-	111,965
Program Supplies	3,212	7,786	78,245	42,073	-	7,267	-	138,583
Bad Debt Expenses/Forgiveness of Debt	-	23,904	-	-	-	-	-	23,904
Depreciation and Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	131,019	-	131,019
Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program Claims	-	-	-	-	-	5,495,000	-	5,495,000
Interest and Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,003,151	1,003,151
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	250
Charter Audit	-	-	-	-	-	1,012	-	1,012
Tuition	-	311,759	-	-	-	-	-	311,759
Total Expenditures	\$ 521,398	\$ 2,043,492	\$ 1,550,418	\$ 309,205	\$ 4,819	\$ 8,580,464	\$ 3,332,425	\$ 16,342,221

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Statements of Cash Flows For the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in Net Assets	\$ 259,681	\$ (5,190,251)
ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CHANGES IN NET ASSETS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Depreciation	121,332	131,019
Net Realized and Unrealized (Gains) Losses on Investments	(1,507,487)	(1,889,119)
(Gain) Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	106,826	10
Change in the Value of Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)	28,272	37,127
Decrease (Increase) In:		
Accounts and Loans Receivable	(297,262)	(163,636)
Accrued Interest Receivable	(28,973)	10,434
Due from Lay Employees' Retirement Obligations	(296,882)	84,857
Inventories	2,607	2,376
Prepaid Expenses	98,526	6,999
Increase (Decrease) In:		
Accounts Payable	38,282	37,191
Accrued Compensation	2,025	5,772
Accrued Interest Payable	5,573	3,033
Deferred Revenue	(94,547)	(30,977)
Insurance Claims Payable	(255,245)	26,439
Reserve for Insurance Claims	(225,249)	(660,825)
IRCP Claims Payable	(5,495,000)	5,495,000
Other Liabilities	(40,429)	(64)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	(7,577,950)	(2,094,615)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Sale of Equipment	6,255	12,000
Purchase of Furnishings and Equipment	(60,226)	(170,984)
Net Change In:		
Restricted Assets	320,285	(1,293,289)
Investments	4,635,732	1,712,596
Loans Receivable - Parishes and Affiliates	(328,786)	195,728
Deposits Payable	2,460,458	(234,266)
Diocesan Trust Fund	676,782	1,304,272
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	(320,285)	1,293,289
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	7,390,215	2,819,346
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from New Annuities	-	-
Annuity Payments and Payoffs	(78,981)	(185,653)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	(78,981)	(185,653)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(266,716)	539,078
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of Year	3,080,257	2,541,179
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 2,813,541</u>	<u>\$ 3,080,257</u>

**SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW DISCLOSURES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 AND 2018**

Cash Paid During the Year for Interest	\$ 951,296	\$ 1,003,151
--	------------	--------------

Schedules of Program and Other Expenses For the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
PASTORAL		
Respect Life	\$ 55,579	\$ 45,505
Pastoral Grants	45,330	60,703
Tribunal	71,802	73,055
Hospital Apostolate	13,856	13,368
Evangelization	83,930	76,057
Formation for Ministry	87,105	92,296
Department of Worship	25,861	22,587
Indian Apostolate	30,800	30,800
Missionary Projects of the Diocese	64,783	62,719
Guggenheim Center	43,491	43,900
Other Pastoral	617	408
Total Pastoral Expenses	<u>523,154</u>	<u>521,398</u>
RELIGIOUS PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT		
Priest and Pastoral Personnel	40,424	20,509
Vicar for Religious	21,004	13,303
Council of Women Religious	990	733
Vocations	62,761	64,860
Education of Priests and Seminarians	694,598	429,466
Care of Clergy	1,400,016	1,421,359
Council of Priests	3,000	3,005
Permanent Diaconate Formation Program / Ordained Deacons	67,338	90,257
Total Religious Personnel Development Expenses	<u>2,290,131</u>	<u>2,043,492</u>
EDUCATION		
Education Grants	230,200	225,900
Catholic Schools	901,077	949,936
Communications	13,844	9
Christian Formation	157,516	159,296
Family Life/Natural Family Planning	117,152	122,751
Campus Ministry	95,950	92,526
Total Education Expenses	<u>1,515,739</u>	<u>1,550,418</u>
SOCIAL SERVICES		
Social Service Grants and Donations	101,570	96,993
Catholic Youth Ministry	196,786	212,212
Total Social Services Expenses	<u>298,356</u>	<u>309,205</u>
CEMETERIES		
Operations	5,321	4,819
DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATION		
Diocesan Administration	890,245	875,440
Solidarity in Faith	90,000	65,000
Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program	409,508	5,857,489
Bishop's Residence	89,080	76,672
Planning	18,495	14,774
Development Office	783,829	953,252
Diocesan Fiscal Office	350,225	358,905
Catholic Charities Fiscal Office	89,395	88,051
Parish Services	96,673	86,903
Safe Environment	104,262	64,472
Information Technology	140,983	138,470
Archives	1,607	1,036
Total Diocesan Administration Expenses	<u>3,064,302</u>	<u>8,580,464</u>
AUXILIARY SERVICES		
Protected Self-Insurance Program	2,220,531	1,468,762
Disability Insurance	81,311	84,153
Unemployment Insurance	44,099	348,569
North Country Catholic	146,176	203,167
Diocesan Loan Fund	1,190,490	1,216,941
Charitable Gift Annuity Program	8,376	10,833
Total Auxiliary Services Expenses	<u>3,690,983</u>	<u>3,332,425</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 11,387,986</u>	<u>\$ 16,342,221</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of
these financial statements

**Pinto, Mucenski, Hooper,
Van House & Co.**
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

See Auditors' Report

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2019

NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg (Diocese) was incorporated in 1945 to oversee the theological and financial affairs of the parishes and missions within the northern counties of New York State. The accompanying financial statements include the assets, liabilities, net assets and financial activities of the offices and departments directly under the control of the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg.

The accompanying financial statements do not include the assets, liabilities, net assets, and financial activities of certain entities which operate within the Diocese such as Catholic Charities, parishes, schools, cemeteries, etc. Each is an operating entity distinct from the Diocesan administrative offices.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements are as follows:

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of support, revenues, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Financial Statement Presentation

The Diocese has adopted FASB ASC 958-205. Under this standard, the Diocese is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets: net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions.

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions: Net assets not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions: Net assets whose use is limited by donor-imposed time and/or purposes restrictions.

Revenues are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in net assets without donor restrictions. When restrictions expire, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Contributions and Bequests

Contributions are generally available for use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Pledges not received at year end are deemed uncollectible and are not reflected in these financial statements.

Other contributions of cash and other assets are reported as net assets with donor restriction support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the Statements of Activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Endowment contributions and investments are classified as net assets with donor restriction. Investment earnings available for distribution are recorded in net assets with donor restrictions until used for their designated purpose.

The Board of Trustees of the Diocese have interpreted the current state law as requiring the preservation of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor as restricted endowment funds, absent donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Diocese classifies the original value of the gift donated to net assets with donor restriction endowments and the original value of subsequent gifts to the restricted endowment. The donor restricted endowment fund earnings are classified in net assets with donor restrictions, until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Diocese.

Bequests are recorded as revenue at the time an unassailable right to the gift has been established and the proceeds are measurable.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Management reviews the status of accounts receivable due from parishes, related entities, and others. If an account is determined to be uncollectible, it is written off. Therefore, all accounts in this category of receivable as outlined in Note 4 are considered to be fully collectible.

Loan Loss Reserve

Management also reviews the outstanding loans receivable. As a result of this review, a Loan Loss Reserve has been set up for loans whose repayments are doubtful (see Note 5 and 13).

Investments

Marketable securities are recorded at their fair value. Other investments as outlined in Note 6 are carried at cost or book value.

The Diocese invests in various types of marketable securities. These securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rates, market conditions and credit risks. Due to these risks, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in values could occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect the market values reported in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories consist of various religious items and publications related to the work of the Catholic Church.

Land, Buildings, and Equipment

Land, buildings, and equipment acquired before June 30, 1977 are reflected at their appraisal value as of June 30, 1977. All acquisitions subsequent to that date are reflected at cost.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

• Land Improvements	10 years
• Buildings and Improvements	10 – 40 years
• Furnishings and Equipment	5 – 15 years

Insurance Claims Reserve

The Diocese and participating entities are self-insured for certain risks associated with their operations. These self-insured programs are as follows:

- General Insurance - This program includes property and auto physical damage, general liability, workers' compensation, and sexual misconduct.
- New York State Disability Insurance
- New York State Unemployment Insurance

Each of the participating entities are assessed their portion of the estimated expense of these programs. The accompanying financial statements reflect claims currently payable and an estimated amount for incurred but not reported claims.

Contributed Services

The contributed services of clergy and religious who work for the Diocese have been recognized in the accompanying financial statements. The computation of the value of these services represents the difference between the compensation paid to religious personnel and the comparable compensation which would have been paid to lay persons if lay persons were to occupy these positions. No computation is made for positions which can be held only by religious personnel. For the years ending June 30, 2019 and 2018, the recognized value of these services was \$ 58,986 and \$ 92,025, respectively.

Income Taxes

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg qualifies as a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, has no provision for federal income taxes. The Diocese is also classified by the Internal Revenue Service as an entity that is not a private foundation. Similar tax exempt status has been obtained under New York State tax laws.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to evaluate all significant tax positions. Management believes their tax positions are appropriate based on current facts and circumstances. As of June 30, 2019, the Diocese does not believe that it has taken any positions that would require the recording of any tax liability.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of cash flows, the Diocese considers all highly liquid unrestricted investments available for current use with an initial maturity of three months or less to be a cash equivalent.

The Diocese maintains cash deposits in bank accounts which may at times exceed the F.D.I.C. limit. The Diocese has not experienced any losses on such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risks on these cash and cash equivalents.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The cost of providing programs and services is summarized on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Expenses directly supporting programs run or administered by the Diocese are allocated directly to program expenses. Costs common to multiple functions have been allocated among various functions benefited using a reasonable allocation method based on the total expenses of the program and administration costs.

Subsequent Events

The Diocese has reviewed and evaluated all subsequent events from July 1, 2019 through October 29, 2019, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for possible disclosure and, or, recognition in the financial statements. Note 20 of the financial statements provides an update on legal proceedings. There were no other events or transactions that existed which would provide additional pertinent information about conditions at the balance sheet date which are required to be recognized in the accompanying financial statements.

New Accounting Pronouncement

In 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2016-14, *Presentation of Financial Statements for Not-for-Profit Entities*. The Diocese adopted this new standard during the year ended June 30, 2019. In addition to changes in terminology used to describe categories of net assets throughout the financial statements, new disclosures were added regarding liquidity and availability of resources and the functional allocation of expenses.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements - June 30, 2019

NOTE 3 - LIQUIDITY

The following reflects the Diocese's financial assets as of the balance sheet date, reduced by amounts not available for general use within one year of the balance sheet date.

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,813,541
Accounts and interest receivable	753,481
Short-term loans receivable:	
Ministry	62,973
Parish and affiliates	331,892
	<u>\$ 3,961,887</u>

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg has a goal to maintain financial assets on hand to meet 60 days of normal operating expenses, which is on average, \$ 750,000. The Diocese structures its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due.

In addition, as more fully described in Note 9, the Diocese has a letter of credit in the amount of \$ 1,598,910, which could be drawn upon in the event of unanticipated liquidity needed to pay claims in the self-insured New York state worker's compensation program.

NOTE 4 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable for the years ending June 30, 2019 and 2018 consists of the following:

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
North Country Catholic	\$ 1,848	\$ 1,782
Excess Insurance Carriers	196,803	222,100
Due from Other Dioceses	-	202,500
Due from Parishes and Other Diocesan Entities:		
Protected Self-Insurance Premiums	58,600	17,153
Health Insurance Premiums	76,380	69,741
Parish Assessments	48,039	21,034
Other	189,642	99,517
Total	<u>\$ 571,312</u>	<u>\$ 633,827</u>

NOTE 5 - LOANS RECEIVABLE - MINISTRY

The Diocese provides financial assistance as needed to students attending Seminary College. Students receiving financial assistance sign a note guaranteeing repayment to the Diocese of one-half of the amount loaned. If a student leaves during the course of seminary study the student is responsible for repayment to the Diocese of the total amount of financial assistance. The indebtedness is payable over 15 years at 2% interest, and the minimum monthly payment is \$ 100. If a student proceeds to theological studies, the terms of the Diocese's Major Seminary Tuition Policy will govern repayment of this indebtedness by the student.

The Diocese pays tuition, room, and board not covered by other sources for its students in an approved program for pre-theology or in theological studies. At time of payment, the seminarian signs a note guaranteeing repayment of the total amount paid for his theological education. The indebtedness shall be paid over 15 years at 2% interest, and the minimum monthly payment is \$ 100.

If a seminarian transfers to another diocese or religious community, then the Diocese of Ogdensburg shall request of the diocese or community the seminarian is joining reimbursement of the total amount paid by the Diocese for his theological education.

If a student is ordained a priest, the indebtedness shall be repaid over 20 years at 2% interest. The priest shall make monthly payments of \$ 100 on the first day of each month beginning January 1 following ordination. A balloon payment of the balance of principal and interest as of the last month of the repayment term shall be made by the priest. Priests may apply to the Diocese for assistance with or relief from payments on the promissory notes. The Diocese may grant assistance in the form of a gift, extension of the loan, reduction of interest rate, or forgiveness of all or part of the debt.

The loans receivable at June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$ 1,239,780 and \$ 686,277, respectively. The loan loss reserve at June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$ 433,923 and \$ 240,197, respectively.

Future maturities of the loans receivable are as follows:

June 30,	
2020	\$ 62,973
2021	57,815
2022	52,225
2023	49,980
2024	47,424
Thereafter	969,363
	<u>\$ 1,239,780</u>

NOTE 6 - INVESTMENTS

Investments carried at fair value at June 30, 2019 and 2018 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2019		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 20,844,430	\$ 21,465,993
Stocks	17,204,330	21,215,244
Mutual Funds	16,445,397	16,727,968
Corporate Obligations	5,186,742	5,258,038
Dimensional Fund Advisors	990,750	875,334
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund	254,286	318,891
Christian Brothers Investment Services	7,674,494	9,100,194
Total	<u>\$ 68,600,429</u>	<u>\$ 74,961,662</u>

Investment income consists of the following

Interest and Dividends	\$ 1,489,123
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	927,774
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments	579,713
Total Investment Income	2,996,610
Investment Fees	(173,098)
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 2,823,512</u>

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2018		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 21,509,364	\$ 21,004,212
Stocks	20,474,024	24,417,146
Mutual Funds	16,449,163	16,782,310
Corporate Obligations	5,809,926	5,671,246
Dimensional Fund Advisors	990,750	879,196
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Fund	448,837	541,114
Christian Brothers Investment Services	7,674,494	8,775,848
Total	<u>\$ 73,356,558</u>	<u>\$ 78,071,072</u>

Investment income consists of the following

Interest and Dividends	\$ 1,564,801
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	419,052
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments	1,470,067
Total Investment Income	3,453,920
Investment Fees	(176,842)
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 3,277,078</u>

NOTE 7 - OTHER INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2019 and 2018, other investments consisted of the following:

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group (at cost)	\$ 132,248	\$ 132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	311,851	330,686
Total	<u>\$ 444,099</u>	<u>\$ 462,934</u>

NOTE 8 - LAND, BUILDINGS, AND EQUIPMENT

Land, buildings, and equipment as of June 30, 2019 and 2018 consist of the following:

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
Land and Improvements	\$ 957,034	\$ 957,034
Buildings and Improvements	2,351,773	2,414,599
Furnishings and Equipment	378,023	1,065,189
	3,686,830	4,436,822
Accumulated Depreciation	(1,764,151)	(2,339,956)
Land, Buildings, and Equipment - Net	<u>\$ 1,922,679</u>	<u>\$ 2,096,866</u>

Depreciation charged to operations for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$ 121,332 and \$ 131,019, respectively.

NOTE 9 - GENERAL INSURANCE PLAN

The Insurance Department of the Diocese manages a protected self-insurance program in conjunction with Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. and Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc. on behalf of the Diocese, parishes and other related entities of the Diocese. The protected self-insurance program consists of a combination of self-insurance retentions, participation in liability risk retention groups with other Dioceses, and the purchase of excess insurance coverage above the self-insured levels. Excess insurance coverage is provided by the purchase of various policies carried through Arthur J. Gallagher and Co.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2019

NOTE 9 - GENERAL INSURANCE PLAN (Continued)

The schedules below summarize the benefit structure for each line of coverage for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

	Self-Insured Retention	Maximum Coverage
Coverage 2018 - 2019		
All Risk, Property, Equipment, and Auto Physical Damage.....	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000,000
Boiler and Machinery	2,500	50,000,000
General Liability, Auto Liability, Directors and Officers Liability ...	250,000	10,000,000
Workers' Compensation	200,000	Statutory
Sexual Misconduct	250,000	3,000,000
Coverage 2017 - 2018		
All Risk, Property, Equipment, and Auto Physical Damage.....	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000,000
Boiler and Machinery	2,500	50,000,000
General Liability, Auto Liability, Directors and Officers Liability ...	250,000	10,000,000
Workers' Compensation	200,000	Statutory
Sexual Misconduct	250,000	3,000,000

The Diocese has an accrued liability which is the difference between the maximum estimated claims less payments made against the open claims and an actuarially determined amount for claims incurred but not reported. For fiscal years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, this accrued liability amounted to \$ 1,292,522 and \$ 1,517,771, respectively.

In the year ended June 30, 2016, the Diocese's insurance program received a significant payment from an excess insurance carrier in partial settlement of a claim. As the claimant expends monies for this claim, funds are transferred from the Diocesan program to the claimant. The balance of this claim remaining for fiscal years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 amounted to \$ 2,714,373 and \$ 2,969,618 respectively, and is shown in the statement of financial position as a liability.

The Diocese had in place a letter of credit in the amount of \$ 1,598,910 as of June 30, 2019, and June 30, 2018. This letter of credit is required by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, since the Diocese maintains a self-insured workers' compensation program. The letter of credit is not to be used for any other purpose. There was no outstanding balance on this letter of credit at June 30, 2019 and 2018.

Diocesan entities are billed premiums to defray the cost of the protected self-insurance program. A summary of the insurance activities for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 follows:

	2019	2018
For the Years Ended June 30,		
Premium Revenue	\$ 2,004,982	\$ 1,896,398
Investment Earnings	36,373	115,837
Other	55,000	-
Total Revenues	<u>2,096,355</u>	<u>2,012,235</u>
Net Claims and Reserve Expense	899,035	311,938
Administrative Costs	342,325	232,585
Departmental Grants	125,062	816,032
Commercial Insurance Premiums	985,351	928,239
Total Expenses	<u>2,351,773</u>	<u>2,288,794</u>
Net Insurance Activity	(255,418)	(276,559)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	<u>1,530,616</u>	<u>1,807,175</u>
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 1,275,198</u>	<u>\$ 1,530,616</u>

NOTE 10 - INDEPENDENT RECONCILIATION AND COMPENSATION PROGRAM

On March 1, 2018, the Diocese of Ogdensburg established a voluntary Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program ("IRCP") to assist victims of clergy sex abuse in their healing process. The IRCP moves beyond the long-standing diocesan programs that offer professional counseling and other assistance to victims of abuse.

Mr. Kenneth Feinberg and Ms. Camille Biros serve as the independent administrators of the program. Mr. Feinberg and Ms. Biros have vast experience in administering voluntary compensation programs including the World Trade Center compensation program and IRCP's undertaken in other NYS dioceses. The independent administrators evaluate claims submitted by those who previously reported incidents of clergy sex abuse to the diocese and determine what compensation will be awarded.

The Diocese mailed letters to known victims which informed them of their potential eligibility to participate in IRCP. Additionally, some previously unreported claims were submitted to the IRCP when they were reported to the Diocese in response to the IRCP. The claims were reported to the appropriate district attorney. Participation in the IRCP by the victim is voluntary. The independent administrator determined whether the victims were eligible for compensation and the amount of compensation awarded.

The program ended in the 2018-19 fiscal year. 38 claimants have received \$ 5,510,000 in compensation through IRCP.

NOTE 11 - NEW YORK STATE DISABILITY INSURANCE

The Diocese has a self-insurance program for New York State disability benefits which is administered by Association Plan Administrators, Inc. This program covers the employees of the Diocese, parishes, and other related entities of the Diocese.

NOTE 12 - NEW YORK STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The Diocese has a self-insurance program for New York State unemployment insurance benefits. The Diocese assumes the responsibility for reimbursing the State of New York for unemployment insurance benefits paid by the State to former employees of the Diocese, parishes, and other related entities.

NOTE 13 - DIOCESAN DEPOSIT AND LOAN FUND

Loans Receivable

The Diocesan Deposit and Loan Fund receives deposits from the Diocese, parishes, and other related entities that in turn are loaned or become available for loan to parishes and other related entities. As of June 30, 2019 and 2018, the loans receivable outstanding totaled \$ 2,972,340 and \$ 2,417,952, respectively. The loan loss reserve at June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$ 669,260 and \$ 443,658, respectively.

The Diocese's policy is to loan funds for a period of ten years with interest and principal payable quarterly, or in the case of autos five years, unless other terms are agreed upon. The interest rate charged was 4% for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, unless agreed upon otherwise. Interest received on outstanding loans amounted to \$ 77,378 and \$ 67,779 for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Future maturities of the loans receivable are as follows:

June 30,	
2020.....	\$ 331,892
2021.....	317,596
2022.....	296,481
2023.....	287,044
2024.....	281,996
Thereafter.....	<u>1,457,331</u>
	<u>\$ 2,972,340</u>

Deposits Payable

Deposits payable are due to the Diocese, parishes, and other related entities on demand. As of June 30, 2019 and 2018 these deposits payable totaled \$ 27,925,937 and \$ 25,465,479, respectively. Interest on deposits was paid at 3% for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 and amounted to \$ 951,296 and \$ 1,003,151, respectively.

NOTE 14 - DIOCESAN TRUST FUND

The Diocesan Trust Fund is a mutual fund operated by the Diocese for the investment of endowment and other similar long-term investments of the Diocese, parishes, and related entities. The fund is designed to pay quarterly dividends and to grow the principal to offset inflation. As of June 30, 2019 and 2018, the Diocesan Trust Fund balance was \$ 26,016,901 and \$ 25,340,119, respectively.

Total dividends paid from the Diocesan Trust Fund for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 were \$ 876,251 and \$ 751,251, respectively.

The value per share is determined quarterly based upon the number of shares outstanding in the fund and the market value of the fund at the end of the quarter. As of June 30, 2019 and 2018, the value per share was \$ 37.330 and \$ 36.409, respectively. The original per share value in 1977 was \$ 10 per share.

NOTE 15 - CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PAYABLE

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a contract between the donor and the Diocese. The beneficiaries of the Charitable Gift Annuity program can be designated by the donor to benefit the Diocese, parishes, or other related entities of the Diocese. In exchange for an irrevocable gift of cash, securities, or other assets, the Diocese agrees to pay the annuitants a fixed sum each year for life. The annuity payments are guaranteed by the general resources of the Diocese.

The Diocese was granted a permit by the State of New York Insurance Department to operate a Charitable Gift Annuity program. This permit authorizes the Diocese to receive gifts of money conditioned upon, or in return for, its agreement to pay an annuity to the donor, or his/her nominee, and to make and carry out such annuity agreements within New York State as specified in Section 1110 of the New York State Insurance Law. In accordance with New York State law, the Diocese maintains assets of at least 126.5% and reserves of at least 105% of the annuity payable. The Diocese uses the United States Internal Revenue Service's discount rate and mortality table 80 CNSMT to compute the annuity payable. In addition, the Diocese has been granted approval by the State of Florida to operate a Charitable Gift Annuity program.

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2019

NOTE 16 - LAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT TRUST

The Lay Employees' Retirement Trust is a qualified multi-employer defined benefit plan which includes lay employees of the Diocese, parishes, and other related entities under Diocesan control. The current funding policy of the plan is to collect 9% of eligible wages from the employer since this Plan is entirely employer funded. The contributions are used to pay current pensions, overhead costs and provide funding for the actuarial present value of accumulated plan benefits as well as to fund future benefit enhancements.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg serves as the Trustee of the Plan. The pension funds are invested by Manning and Napier, Dimensional Fund Advisors, the Investment Fund for Foundations, and Christian Brothers Investment Services as investment managers of the Plan. NBT Bank is the custodian bank for assets invested by Manning and Napier.

A summary of the lay employees' pension activities for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 follows:

	2019	2018
For the Years Ended June 30,		
Employer Contributions.....	\$ 1,372,320	\$ 1,462,221
Realized and Unrealized Investment Gains	979,417	1,918,407
Investment Earnings	560,055	566,437
Department Grants	-	500,000
Total Revenues	<u>2,911,792</u>	<u>4,447,065</u>
Pension Payments	2,977,611	2,876,483
Administrative Costs	<u>254,466</u>	<u>277,293</u>
Total Expenses	<u>3,232,077</u>	<u>3,153,776</u>
Net Lay Employees' Pension Activity.....	(320,285)	1,293,289
Restricted Assets - Beginning of Year....	<u>27,727,187</u>	<u>26,433,898</u>
Restricted Assets - End of Year.....	<u>\$ 27,406,902</u>	<u>\$ 27,727,187</u>

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the fund received contributions of \$ 1,372,320 of which \$ 137,278 were for Diocesan employees.

The assets and liabilities of the fund at June 30, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	2019	2018
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,090,556	\$ 265,165
Investments at Fair Value	26,855,941	27,597,023
Employers' Receivable	40,344	37,795
Accrued Investment Income	35,524	26,910
Prepaid Expenses.....	-	243,274
Due to Operating Fund	(615,463)	(318,579)
Deferred Revenue	-	(124,401)
Restricted Assets.....	<u>\$ 27,406,902</u>	<u>\$ 27,727,187</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits	<u>\$ 27,406,902</u>	<u>\$ 27,727,187</u>

The net assets available for benefits of the Lay Employees Retirement Trust are classified as restricted assets on the accompanying statement of financial position.

Investments with readily determinable market value at June 30, 2019 and 2018 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value
June 30, 2019		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations .	\$ 3,391,817	\$ 3,553,508
Equities	8,572,229	10,097,688
Mutual Funds	4,587,688	4,515,850
Corporate Obligations	683,603	678,764
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,034,250	937,449
The Investment Fund for Foundations-		
Real Opportunity Fund	191,684	240,385
Christian Brothers Investment Services	<u>5,765,334</u>	<u>6,832,297</u>
Total.....	<u>\$ 24,226,605</u>	<u>\$ 26,855,941</u>
Investment income consists of the following		
Interest and Dividends	\$ 560,055	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments....	312,066	
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	<u>667,350</u>	
Total Investment Income	1,539,471	
Investment Fees	<u>(80,159)</u>	
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 1,459,312</u>	

NOTE 16 - LAY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT TRUST (Continued)

	Cost	Fair Value
June 30, 2018		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations .	\$ 3,186,928	\$ 3,118,469
Equities	9,658,831	11,300,371
Mutual Funds	4,514,882	4,496,341
Corporate Obligations	764,894	743,576
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,034,250	941,585
The Investment Fund for Foundations-		
Real Opportunity Fund	338,339	407,899
Christian Brothers Investment Services	<u>5,765,334</u>	<u>6,588,782</u>
Total.....	<u>\$ 25,263,458</u>	<u>\$ 27,597,023</u>
Investment income consists of the following		
Interest and Dividends	\$ 566,437	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments....	594,883	
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	<u>1,323,524</u>	
Total Investment Income	2,484,844	
Investment Fees	<u>(134,712)</u>	
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 2,350,132</u>	

Generally accepted accounting principles requires an employer to recognize the funded status (i.e. difference between the fair value of Plan assets and projected benefit obligations) of its defined benefit pension plan as an asset or liability in its balance sheet and to recognize changes in that funded status in the year in which the changes occur through changes in net assets without donor restrictions.

The funded status of the Plan and amounts recognized in the balance sheet at June 30, 2019, are as follows:

	2019
Total Plan Funded Status, End of Year	
Fair Value of Plan Assets	\$ 28,022,364
Projected Benefit Obligation	<u>37,335,648</u>
Prepaid (Accrued) Pension Obligation	<u>\$ (9,313,284)</u>
Total Central Office Pension Obligation Recorded in Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year	
Net Actuarial Loss.....	<u>\$ 374,110</u>

NOTE 17 - PRIESTS' RETIREMENT PLAN

The Diocese has a non-qualified retirement plan which covers all eligible Diocesan priests. During the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 the Plan paid retirement benefits and the total cost of health insurance premiums for the retired priests.

The Plan assesses the Diocese and its parishes and other related entities to fund the Plan. Other financial support includes bequests designating the Plan as beneficiary and investment income on accumulated funds.

The assets and liabilities of the fund at June 30, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	2019	2018
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 481,986	\$ 461,854
Investments at Fair Value	11,664,735	11,727,200
Accounts Receivable	8,455	6,294
Accrued Investment Income	19,912	13,225
Due to Operating Fund	<u>(2,238,427)</u>	<u>(2,003,667)</u>
Total Assets.....	<u>\$ 9,936,661</u>	<u>\$ 10,204,906</u>
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	<u>\$ 9,936,661</u>	<u>\$ 10,204,906</u>

Investments with readily determinable market values at June 30, 2019 and 2018 consist of the following:

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2019		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations .	\$ 2,677,647	\$ 2,768,711
Corporate Obligations	637,699	646,984
Mutual Funds	2,420,177	2,459,651
Equities	2,097,745	2,632,910
Dimensional Fund Advisors	364,750	324,362
The Investment Fund for Foundations-		
Real Opportunity Funds.....	74,790	93,791
Christian Brothers Investment Services	<u>2,309,545</u>	<u>2,738,327</u>
Total.....	<u>\$ 10,582,353</u>	<u>\$ 11,664,735</u>
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends	\$ 237,123	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments....	260,586	
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	<u>165,828</u>	
Total Investment Income	663,537	
Investment Fees	<u>(33,747)</u>	
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 629,790</u>	

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2019

NOTE 17 - PRIESTS' RETIREMENT PLAN (Continued)

	Cost	Fair Value (Carrying Amount)
June 30, 2018		
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 2,444,077	\$ 2,375,290
Corporate Obligations	532,024	516,987
Mutual Funds	2,312,525	2,374,798
Equities	2,802,866	3,334,453
Dimensional Fund Advisors	364,750	325,793
The Investment Fund for Foundations- Real Opportunity Funds	132,011	159,151
Christian Brothers Investment Services	2,309,545	2,640,728
Total	\$ 10,897,798	\$ 11,727,200
Investment income consists of the following:		
Interest and Dividends	\$ 252,711	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	161,325	
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments	524,390	
Total Investment Income	938,426	
Investment Fees	(33,118)	
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 905,308</u>	

NOTE 18 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The fair value measurement accounting literature establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of fair value hierarchy are described below:

(a) **Level 1:** Quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical assets and liabilities. Level 1 includes fixed income and equity securities that are traded in an active exchange market, as well as U.S. Treasury securities.

(b) **Level 2:** Inputs, other than quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly and fair value is determined through the use of models or other valuation methodologies. This category generally includes certain U.S. Government and agency obligations, fixed income securities and alternative investments.

(c) **Level 3:** Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the asset or liabilities. Level 3 assets and liabilities include financial instruments whose value is determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies, or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation. This category generally includes private debt and equity instruments and alternative investments.

The following tables present the Diocese's investments at June 30, 2019 and 2018, that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Investments are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements:

	Total 2019	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 25,019,501	\$ 12,273,852	\$ 12,745,649	\$ -
Stocks	31,312,932	31,312,932	-	-
Equity Funds	3,675,559	3,675,559	-	-
Bond Funds	15,995,324	-	15,995,324	-
Real Estate Investment Funds	1,572,935	-	1,572,935	-
Corporate Obligations	5,936,802	-	5,936,802	-
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,812,783	1,812,783	-	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Real Opportunity Fund	559,276	-	-	559,276
Christian Brothers Investment Services	15,932,491	-	15,932,491	-
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group	132,248	-	-	132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	311,851	-	-	311,851
Total	\$ 102,261,702	\$ 49,075,126	\$ 52,183,201	\$ 1,003,375

NOTE 18 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

The above fair value measurements consist of the following:

	Total 2019	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Diocesan Investments	\$ 75,405,761	\$ 35,429,581	\$ 39,213,190	\$ 762,990
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	26,855,941	13,645,545	12,970,011	240,385
Total	\$ 102,261,702	\$ 49,075,126	\$ 52,183,201	\$ 1,003,375

The table below presents additional information about assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis by reliance on Level 3 inputs to determine fair value:

	Real Opportunity Fund	National Catholic Risk Retention	Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	Total
Balance at June 30, 2018	\$ 949,013	\$ 132,248	\$ 330,686	\$ 1,411,947
Purchases	16,100	-	-	16,100
Capital Distributions	(375,306)	-	-	(357,306)
Sales	-	-	-	-
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	(48,531)	-	-	(48,531)
Increase (Decrease) in Members Surplus	-	-	(18,835)	(18,835)
Balance at June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 559,276</u>	<u>\$ 132,248</u>	<u>\$ 311,851</u>	<u>\$ 1,003,375</u>
The following table presents the Diocese's investments at June 30, 2018, that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis. Investments are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements:				
	Total 2018	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
U.S. Government and Agency Obligations	\$ 24,122,681	\$ 9,815,750	\$ 14,306,931	\$ -
Stocks	35,717,517	35,717,517	-	-
Equity Funds	3,483,866	3,483,866	-	-
Bond Funds	16,236,267	-	16,236,267	-
Real Estate Investment Funds	1,558,518	-	1,558,518	-
Corporate Obligations	6,414,822	-	6,414,822	-
Dimensional Fund Advisors	1,820,781	1,820,781	-	-
The Investment Fund For Foundations - Real Opportunity Fund	949,013	-	-	949,013
Christian Brothers Investment Services	15,364,630	-	15,364,630	-
The National Catholic Risk Retention Group	132,248	-	-	132,248
The Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	330,686	-	-	330,686
Total	\$ 106,131,029	\$ 50,837,914	\$ 53,881,168	\$ 1,411,947

The above fair value measurements consist of the following:

	Total 2018	Quoted prices in markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant other unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Diocesan Investments	\$ 78,534,006	\$ 36,730,736	\$ 40,799,222	\$ 1,004,048
Lay Employees' Retirement Trust	27,597,023	14,107,178	13,081,946	407,899
Total	\$ 106,131,029	\$ 50,837,914	\$ 53,881,168	\$ 1,411,947

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg

Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2019

NOTE 18 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

The table below presents additional information about assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis by reliance on Level 3 inputs to determine fair value:

	Real Opportunity Fund	National Catholic Risk Retention	Bishop's Plan Insurance Company	Total
Balance at June 30, 2017	\$ 1,010,888	\$ 132,248	\$ 297,499	\$ 1,440,635
Purchases	-	-	-	-
Capital Distributions	(61,733)	-	-	(61,733)
Sales	-	-	-	-
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	(142)	-	-	(142)
Increase in Member's Surplus	-	-	33,187	33,187
Balance at June 30, 2018	\$ 949,013	\$ 132,248	\$ 330,686	\$ 1,411,947

Level 3 investments are non-traditional investments which are not listed on national exchanges or over the counter markets, and quoted market prices are not available. The fair values of these investments are measured based on a review of all available information provided by fund managers, general partners or the management of the respective investment. These fair value estimates are evaluated on a regular basis and are susceptible to revisions as more information becomes available. Because of these factors, it is reasonably possible that the estimated fair values of these investments may change materially in the near term.

NOTE 19 - NET ASSETS AND ENDOWMENTS

Net assets without donor restrictions at June 30, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
Operating Funds	\$ 2,488,874	\$ 2,805,483
Board Designated:		
Capital Improvements	80,498	80,498
Charitable Needs of the Diocese	226,146	235,314
Catholic Education	4,907	4,907
Bishop's Discretionary	82,627	82,627
Guggenheim Maintenance	111,881	64,771
St. Joseph's Emergency Fund	31,416	31,416
St. Paul's	21,312	21,312
Bishop's Retirement	561,416	763,610
Bishop's Contingency	130,000	130,000
Bishop's Heritage Circle	89,756	98,100
Priests' Graduate Studies	72,704	66,786
Support of Priests Not in Ministry	340,678	398,630
Protected Self-Insurance	1,275,198	1,530,616
Unemployment	287,701	264,670
Disability	242,034	229,581
Deposit and Loan Fund	2,629,679	2,692,000
LEAD	1,243	2,677
Good Samaritan Fund - Housing	9,000	9,000
Clergy Education	5,000	5,000
World Youth Day	2,281	2,281
Special Care of Priests	38,219	38,219
Celebrate Christ	6,257	6,257
Archives	-	70
North Country Catholic	26,550	30,000
Support of Future Operating Budgets	40,000	40,000
Support of Action Plan Committee	166,031	172,736
Catholic School Financial Support	134,636	130,896
Catholic School Curriculum	12,681	13,816
Youth Ministry	3,789	4,130
Vocations (Youth)	3,789	4,130
Evangelization	4,905	4,905
Youth Adult Ministry	1,247	1,247
Respect Life	1,507	5,208
Solidarity (Diocese of Latakia, Syria)	250,110	302,125
Support from Capital Campaign		
Guggenheim	141,768	312
St. Mary's Cathedral	316,252	696
Benefits for Retired Priests	316,252	696
Education of Seminarians	316,252	696
	\$ 10,474,596	\$ 10,275,418

NOTE 19 - NET ASSETS AND ENDOWMENTS (Continued)

Net assets with donor restrictions at June 30, 2019 and 2018 are as follows:

	6/30/2019	6/30/2018
Annuity Funds	\$ 150,247	\$ 150,247
Charitable Gift Annuities	152,107	135,551
Annie Peck	13,525	13,065
Indian	15,977	23,570
Missionary Projects	208,328	177,262
Priests' Disability	80,120	73,214
Bourdon Estate	118,953	115,605
Priests' Retirement	9,936,661	10,204,906
K of C Foundation Fellowship	100,419	96,476
Communications	10,192	8,355
Mallette Scholarship	17,662	17,960
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	13,208	12,395
K of C for Handicap Children	1,585	1,585
Education of Seminarians	1,713,590	1,446,357
Mear Scholarship Endowment	42,505	42,505
Education Grants	5,706	5,705
Rachael's Vineyard	4,549	6,205
Spratt Memorial	10,627	5,081
Bishop's Good Samaritan Fund	3,624	3,029
Formation for Ministry	23,732	19,835
Vocation	3,545	3,796
Foundation Support for Education	56,837	50,879
Special Care of Priests	506,446	520,917
Continuing Formation of Priests	400	400
NYS Paid Family Leave	15,060	1,795
K of C Foundation Fellowship	20,000	20,000
Reverend O.L. Bentley Fund	11,781	11,781
Kelly-Rivette Trust Fund	4,703	4,703
Annie Peck Fund	5,000	5,000
Mallette Catholic School Endowment Fund	207,854	207,854
Youth Sports Camp Endowment Fund	58,665	58,665
Weidner Memorial Endowment	967,200	967,200
	\$ 14,480,808	\$ 14,411,898

NOTE 19 - NET ASSETS AND ENDOWMENTS (Continued)

The Diocese endowments consist of seven individual funds established for a variety of purposes. The endowments are restricted by the donor. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported basically on the existence or absence of donor imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of Relevant Law

The New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA) is New York State's version of the Uniform Management of Institutional Funds Act and governs the management and investment of funds held by not-for-profit corporations and other institutions.

Under the law, institutions are allowed to spend endowment funds below their original historic dollar value without government approval or attorney general review if the institution's Board concludes that such spending is prudent.

The Act also provides that each person responsible for managing and investing an institution's fund does so in good faith and with the care that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar circumstances. The Act sets forth basic requirements for establishing the standard of prudence, including a requirement that an institution make a reasonable effort to verify facts relevant to the management and investment of the fund.

In deciding whether to appropriate from an endowment fund, the institution must act in good faith and must consider, if relevant, the following factors:

1. The duration and preservation of the endowment fund;
2. The purpose of the institution and the endowment fund;
3. General economic conditions;
4. Possible effect of inflation or deflation;
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments;
6. Other resources of the institution;
7. Where appropriate and circumstances would otherwise warrant, alternatives to expenditure of the endowment fund, giving due consideration to the effect that such alternatives may have on the institution; and
8. The investment policy of the institution.

Federal judge blocks scheduled executions

WASHINGTON (CNS) – A federal judge Nov. 20 temporarily blocked the executions of four federal death-row inmates scheduled for December and January, saying the lethal injections they were to receive goes against the Federal Death Penalty Act.

When U.S. Attorney General William Barr announced in July that the government was reinstating the federal death penalty after a 16-year hiatus, he said the executions would use a single drug in-

stead of a three-drug protocol used in recent federal executions and used by several states. Several of the inmates have challenged the use of the single lethal injection.

In her ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Chutkan of the District of Columbia said that since the inmates were likely to win their case, their executions should be blocked until their legal challenge is resolved. The 1994 Federal Death Penalty Act says federal executions should

be carried out "in the manner prescribed by the law of the state in which the sentence is imposed."

Shawn Nolan, an attorney for the inmates facing execution, praised the judge's decision, saying it "prevents the government from evading accountability and making an end-run around the courts by attempting to execute prisoners under a protocol that has never been authorized by Congress."

He said in a Nov. 21 statement that the prelim-

inary injunction makes clear "that no execution should go forward while there are still so many unanswered questions about the government's newly announced execution method."

A fifth federal execution scheduled for December was already blocked in October by the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

In her ruling, Chutkan said "requiring the federal government to follow more than just the state's method of execution is

consistent with other sections of the statute and with historical practices. For all these reasons, this court finds that the FDPA (Federal Death Penalty Act) does not authorize the creation of a single implementation procedure for federal executions."

She added that there is no statute that gives the Bureau of Prisons or the Department of Justice the "authority to establish a single implementation procedure for all federal executions."

Central Administrative Offices of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg *Notes to the Financial Statements- June 30, 2019*

NOTE 19 - NET ASSETS AND ENDOWMENTS (Continued)

Changes in endowment net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019:

With Donor Restriction:	
Endowment Net Assets,	
Beginning of Year.....	\$ 2,221,779
Investment Return:	
Interest and Dividends.....	64,101
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Losses) ...	56,191
Contributions	-
Appropriations for Expenditure	(64,101)
Endowment Net Assets,	
End of Year	<u>\$ 2,277,970</u>

Changes in endowment net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018:

With Donor Restriction:	
Endowment Net Assets,	
Beginning of Year.....	\$ 2,096,132
Investment Return:	
Interest and Dividends.....	54,457
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Losses) ...	125,647
Contributions	-
Appropriations for Expenditure	(54,457)
Endowment Net Assets,	
End of Year	<u>\$ 2,221,779</u>

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The Diocese has adopted an investment policy for endowment assets that will attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to the beneficiaries supported by the various endowments, while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets, including those assets of donor restricted funds that the Diocese must hold in perpetuity or for a donor specified period. The Diocese utilizes the results of Morningstar U.S. Balance Universe, Wilshire 5000 Index and LB Aggregate Bond Index to evaluate performance. The Diocese expects its endowment funds over time to provide a total rate of return equal to or exceeding any approved distribution rate. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate of return objective, the Diocese relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Diocese targets a diversified assets allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity based investments to achieve its long-term objectives within prudent risk constraints.

According to its distribution policy, the Diocese may make quarterly distributions from the total growth of each endowment in an amount up to 5% on an annualized basis of the fair market value of the total assets of that endowment at the beginning of each quarter. In no event shall the quarterly distribution exceed 5% on an annualized basis of the total growth of the fair market value of the total assets in that endowment at the beginning of the quarter. The Board of Directors shall review this limit on an annual basis.

NOTE 20 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Legal Proceedings

As of the date of these financial statements, various claims and lawsuits not related to the New York State Child Victims Act are pending against the Diocese. The outcome of these matters is not currently determinable. In the opinion of management, after consultation with counsel, the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Diocese.

In early 2019, the New York State Legislature passed the Child Victims Act to allow previously barred claims to be asserted against the abuser and their employer. The window for filing under this Act is scheduled to close on August 13, 2020.

As of the date of these financial statements, seventeen abuse claims have been filed against the Diocese with indications that fifteen more claims will be filed in the next month. In addition, the Diocese has been put on notice of eight claims that have not been filed, but are in the process of settlement/investigation. The potential financial impact of this matter on the Diocese is not presently determinable.

Commitments

On April 6, 2017, the Diocese of Ogdensburg announced a "twinning relationship" with the Diocese of Latakia, located in Syria. This relationship, named Solidarity in Faith, is established to allow the diocese to be a source of Christian gladness and hope to this Middle East diocese whose Christian faithful face tremendous challenges in the practice of their faith. War has wreaked havoc in the region. In addition to normal pastoral activities, the Diocese of Latakia must minister to thousands of displaced Syrians who seek safe refuge within its borders.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg will encourage missionary animation highlighting the needs of the faithful in Latakia through presentations in our local Catholic schools, religious education programs, adult faith formation programs, and parishes. Such presentation shall share with our faithful information about the challenges facing the faithful of Latakia, their efforts in dealing with these challenges, and promote spiritual and financial support for the Diocese of Latakia.

One component of the Solidarity in Faith initiative is a charitable financial commitment by the Diocese of Ogdensburg to the Diocese of Latakia. Initial funding of designated net assets set aside by the diocese came from unrestricted bequests and contributions dedicated for program support. In 2017-18, the diocese announced a formal policy for support of the Diocese of Latakia in its Solidarity in Faith program. Included in this policy is a contingent commitment to contribute \$ 20,000 each calendar quarter over the next four years to the Diocese of Latakia. Additional contributions may be considered depending on the needs of the Diocese of Latakia and the funding available by the diocese for such support. The Diocese of Ogdensburg has designated 10% of unrestricted bequests or testamentary substitutes to provide this support. Additional appeals for charitable contributions may be made by the Diocese of Latakia as part of the Diocese of Ogdensburg's Mission Co-op Program. This policy will be reviewed every four years.

NOTE 21 - RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the current year presentation. These reclassifications have no effect on the change in net assets.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Church becomes morgue as Bolivian violence continues

EL ALTO, Bolivia (CNS) — A church located on the outskirts of Bolivia's capital city became an improvised morgue Nov. 20, following another deadly day of protests in the South American country. Father Gechi Revelin of St. Francis Parish in El Alto said protesters started to bring corpses into his small church late Nov. 19 following intense clashes between Bolivia's military and supporters of former President Evo Morales at a nearby gasoline depot. Protesters said they brought the corpses to the brick and mortar church in an effort to stop government officials and the military from getting ahold of the bodies and "hiding the truth" about what happened to those killed. By early Nov. 20, seven bodies had been brought to the church by protesters and were laid down on its pews, where they were covered with flags and blankets. The demonstrators then had Bolivian forensic scientists conduct autopsies on site. "We don't trust the government," said Sandro Tenorio, an indigenous resident of El Alto whose 23-year-old brother was killed in the protest.

Archbishop Sheen's beatification greeted with thanksgiving

PEORIA, Ill. (CNS) — With joy and thanksgiving, officials and faithful throughout the Diocese of Peoria and around the globe welcomed the announcement Nov. 18 that Pope Francis has called for the beatification of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in Peoria Dec. 21. "It was a surprise, an early Christmas present from the pope, and it is truly a great blessing for our diocese, for so many people who have worked and sacrificed and prayed," said Msgr. Stanley Deptula, executive director of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation. "I've believed for a long time that Fulton Sheen is a gift to the church, a hero that we Catholics need in our day." The beatification ceremony will take place during Mass at 10 a.m. (local time) at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria, where the famed media evangelist and author was ordained to the priesthood 100 years ago. Peoria Bishop Daniel R. Jenky announced the beatification date.

Daleiden to appeal judgment in Planned Parenthood lawsuit

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — After a 10-member jury handed down a nearly \$2.3 million judgment against David Daleiden late Nov. 15, a Chicago-based pro-life law firm said it would appeal the judgment on behalf of Daleiden and his organization, the Center for Medical Progress. The verdict against Daleiden came in Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc. et al v. Center for Medical Progress et al, a civil suit argued before Judge William H. Orrick III in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. Planned Parenthood and 10 of its abortion affiliates brought the lawsuit in 2016 over undercover investigative videos filmed in 2015 by Daleiden and his colleague Sandra Merritt that showed Planned Parenthood officials discussing fees related to fetal tissue. The two posed as representatives of a mythical fetal tissue procurement firm. The monetary damages the jury awarded to Planned Parenthood included \$870,000 in punitive damages that Daleiden, his associates and the Center for Medical Progress will pay, along with another \$459,361 in compensatory damages they must pay to cover the costs of increased security measures the abortion organization said it had to take because of Daleiden. The verdict was handed down under the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations law, or RICO, so compensatory damages will be tripled, bringing the amount of all damages to \$2,278,083.

NCYC goes from rowdy to reverent for Eucharist, pope

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Outside, a cold drizzle dampened Indianapolis Nov. 21.

Inside the city's convention center, however, it seemed as if the pure joy and enthusiasm of 20,000 people — mostly high school youths — would have held off the damp chill even if the building hadn't.

But in a heartbeat, the crowd went from rowdy to reverent. They knelt in silence as a eucharistic procession twined through the Indiana Convention Center, the Blessed Sacrament held aloft in a monstrance carried by Indianapolis Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

These joyful, worshipping people hailed from 145 dioceses around the country — and even from Australia, Canada and England. They came to participate in the largest biennial Catholic youth gathering in the United States: the National Catholic Youth Conference, or NCYC, held this year from Nov. 21-23.

The theme this year is "Blessed. Broken. Given." To explore the theme and to encourage youths to read the Scripture daily, four general sessions held in Lucas Oil Stadium across from the convention center will dive into the story of the Road to Emmaus (Lk 24:13-35) during the course of the conference.

At the opening general session on a chilly night, the youths first warmed up with the musical praise of the band For King and Country.

The sound level and energy were high. But when the 20,000 participants tilted their heads up to watch a videotaped wel-

come, the sound turned from dull roar to deafening.

"Dear young people of NCYC," said Pope Francis in his first recorded address to conference participants.

But as with the eucharistic procession, the youths' shouts turned to silence as Pope Francis read his message.

"I send you an affectionate greeting and my prayers at this moment of encounter that you are living," he said, occasionally lifting his eyes from a transcript to the camera. "May it be an opportunity to deepen your faith and communion. May it light your missionary hearts with the courage and strength to live in and with the Lord, always as a church sent forth.

"Go and fill your surroundings, even the digital ones. Not of convictions," Pope Francis said, setting his paper down and speaking off-script directly to the youths. "Not to convince others. Not to proselytize. But to bear witness of the tenderness and mercy of Jesus."

He closed his message by blessing the participants with the sign of the cross. "And don't forget to pray for me," he added.

Moments later, the darkness of the stadium was broken as one ambassador from each delegation present streamed into the arena, each carrying a candle.

With the area encircled in candlelight, several singers dressed in choir robes ascended the stage and chanted the Emmaus story from the Gospel of Luke.

From the stage, Cleve-

land Bishop Nelson J. Perez reflected on the reading.

"This Gospel that you just heard sung to you today tells a story that is actually being lived out in these days," he began. "We've been on the road to get (to NCYC). Some have flown, some have driven long hours."

"As you came here ... in your mind you were already thinking of things going on in your life," he added, much like the two disciples traveling to Emmaus. "In these days, Jesus, through his word and his abiding presence in the Eucharist, begins to walk with you."

And as with the two disciples, said Bishop Perez, "he's asking you, 'What are you talking about? What's going on in your lives? What's going on in your hearts? I want to know. I want to listen.'"

He encouraged the youths to consider how they would respond if Christ asked them these questions.

"You might say, 'Well, Lord, don't you know everything? You know what's going on,'" said the bishop. "But he wants to hear it from you. So talk to him these days, before his presence in the blessed sacrament, in moments of prayer."

Bishop Perez told the young people they would be hearing many inspiring speakers in the following days.

"God will speak to you through the word, but also through their words," he said. "Listen, because God has something powerful and beautiful to tell you."

Participants were asked to bring a Bible to each of the general sessions.

ADIRONDACK

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Lake Placid – St. Agnes school to have its Christmas Bazaar.

Date: Dec. 7

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

Place: St. Agnes School

Features: A great way to start your holiday shopping. There are trees, wreaths, plants, toys, crafts, gifts, baked goods, raffles, silent auction items and so much more. Lunch will be served and Santa will make a visit.

Contact: Vendor space is available. Please call Kathleen Murphy at 518-523-3771 or email info@stagneslp.org.

CLINTON

WINTER CRAFT FAIR

Peru – CDA #2598 to have Fall into Winter Craft Sale.

Date: Dec. 7

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

Place: St. Augustine's Church

Features: Vendors from all around the area with craft items, household items and more. Café lunches, soup, sandwiches and chips. Bake Sale with lots of goodies.

Contact: For more information contact Judy Akey at 518-643-8716

CRAFT SHOW

Morrisonville – St. Alexander's Church will be having their 8th Annual North Country Christmas Craft Show.

Date: Dec. 14

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

Features: The works of local vendors, a fabulous Bake Shop with all your favorite Christmas treats, basket raffle and more... and don't forget to stop by and have lunch at Padre's Café. See you there!

FRANKLIN

CHRISTMAS TEA

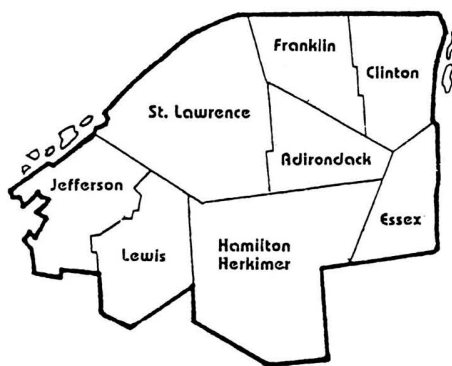
North Bangor – St. Augustine's Parish will hold its annual Christmas Tea.

Date: Dec. 1

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: Parish Hall

Features: There will be a luncheon with homemade soups, sandwiches, and beverages. In addition, there will be crafts, baked goods, The Cake Walk, a Chinese Auction and 50-50 raffle. Cookies, coffee, tea and punch are available for everyone. Santa will make a surprise visit around noon to see the children in the afternoon. Please come and enjoy the festivities!



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese"

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

JEFFERSON

CATHOLICISM

Watertown – Bishop Robert Barron's "Catholicism" DVD presentation and discussion to be held.

Date: Dec 5. (Part 4); Dec. 12 (Part 5)

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Dostie Hall at Sacred Heart Church

Features: Explore the faith through stories, biographies, & images; like a world tour of persons, places, & cathedrals. All believers welcome. Refreshments.

Contact: Holy Family Rectory, 315-782-2468

IHC MYSTERY PLAYERS ADVENT

Watertown – IHC Mystery players to present their Advent play.

Schedule: Dec. 1 at Summit Village, Watertown at 2 p.m.; Dec. 8 at United Methodist Church, Alex Bay at 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 15 at Village Baptist Church, Adams at 6 p.m.; Dec. 22 at Holy Family Church, Watertown at 7:15 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TABLE

Clayton – Community Christmas Table and Living Nativity to be held.

Date: Dec. 7

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Center

Cost: \$8, over 50 delicious dishes to sample

Features: Stop in for the Community Christmas table. Again this year, students will present a living nativity.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Adams – The Knights of Columbus will have a spaghetti dinner.

Date: Jan. 18

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Cecilia's Church

Cost: Adults, \$7; Seniors, \$6; Children, \$4; Children 5 and under, Free

Contact: For more information call Joe Hulbert at 315-465-6543

LEWIS

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

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

Date: Dec. 1

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 for more information.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Lowville – All are invited to a Day of Reflection on "True Hospitality of the Heart" with Sister Bethany Fitzgerald.

Date: Dec. 7

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

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: Lunch will be served.

Contact: Please call Deb Mullin at the Parish Office 315-376-6662 or 315-523-0336 to RSVP.

ST. LAWRENCE

CRAFT FAIR & BOOK SALE

Gouverneur – Craft fair and book sale

to be held.

Date: Dec. 7

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

Place: St. James School

Features: Santa will visit at 1 p.m. Items available will include: Jewelry, woodcrafts, ceramics, stuffed animals, homemade dolls, leather goods, candles, knitted items, country crafts, Christmas ornaments and decorations, baskets, etc. Over 50 vendors will be there. Lunch will be available. Admission is a donation.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Ogdensburg – North Country Cursillo event to be held.

Schedule: For Women Dec. 12-15

Place: Wadhams Hall

Features: Cursillo is a means to help Catholic Christians realize the depth of God's love for each of us and the beauty of our Catholic Faith. It provides a simple method to help one develop and grow in Faith and better live the daily struggle of the Christian life. A Cursillo Weekend is an encounter with Christ, others and self. Cursillo means "short course" and consists of talks given by priests and lay persons with participation in small group discussions. Weekend participants also share the Eucharist, sing, pray and fellowship together.

Contact: For more information please contact the person in your area: Watertown/Ogdensburg Area: Anne Seegebarth Email: ams2962@gmail.com, Phone: 315-783-4596; Canton/Massena Area: Michael Neaton Email: neaton-michael@yahoo.com, Phone: 315-335-6302 or 315-261-4150; Port Henry/Ticonderoga Area: Dan Stewart Email: dshope4444@gmail.com, Phone: 518-898-6851; Plattsburgh Area or other not listed above: Ken Racette Email: kracette1a@gmail.com Phone: 518-314-1505 or 518-578-3056

YOUTH BUSES FOR LIFE

Washington, DC – Registration is now open for the Youth Buses for life.

Date: Jan. 26, 2020

Cost: \$200

Features: Buses depart the North Country and the cost will include transportation, three hotel stays, three breakfasts, two dinners, two lunches, t-shirt, slingbag and an awesome experience! Western bus departs from IHC in Watertown. Northern bus departs from

Massena with stops in Canton and Gouverneur. March for Life in our nation's capital and participate in the Life is Very Good Rally and Mass and the National Prolife Summit!

Contact: Registration and more information at www.rcdony.org/prolife

LEAD EVENT

Lake Placid – Diocesan LEAD event to be held.

Date: March 9-10

Place: Crowne Plaza

Cost: One LEAD member is free, Additional members cost \$50. If you have a team of 3 the cost is \$120. Non-LEAD parishes cost \$75 per person.

Features: The theme will be "The Catechumen's Journey: The Initiation process". Creating Holy Moments for New Disciples. Participants are responsible for their own hotel accommodations and expense. Mention the event when registering with the hotel.

Contact: Jessica Hargrave by email: jhargrave@rcdony.org or by phone: (315)393-2920

DAY OF REFLECTION

Lead event to be held in the Eastern and Western region of the diocese.

Date: March 21

Time: 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Place: Eastern Region, St. John XXIII Newman Center, Plattsburgh. Speaker will be Deacon Mark Bennett. Western Region, Wadhams Hall, Ogdensburg. Speaker will be Deacon Jim Crowley.

Cost: One LEAD member is free. Additional Lead member and non-members fee is \$20

Contact: Jessica Hargrave at jhargrave@rcdony.org or call 315-393-2920

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Net Ministries challenges young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the church.

Schedule: March 28, St. Augustine's Church, Peru 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; March 29, at Sacred Heart Church, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: \$30 per student (meal included)

Contact: These are a first come, first served basis registration, so don't be the last and miss the chance to attend. Register by March 18 by emailing crusell@rcdony.org or by calling 315-393-2920

AT THE MOVIES

FROZEN II

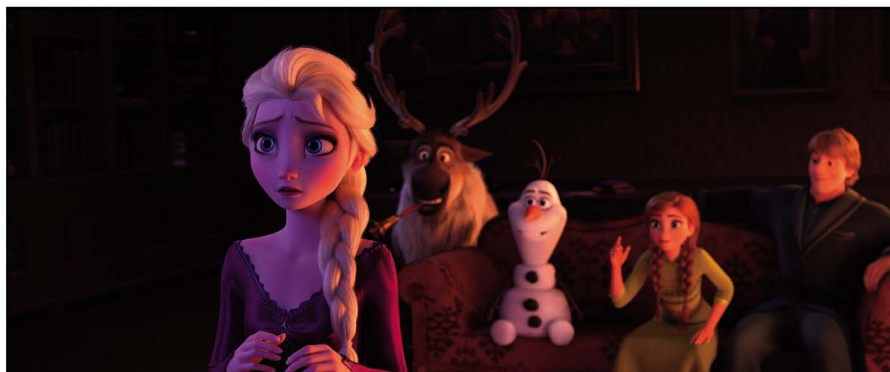
NEW YORK (CNS) – Both the filmmakers and the central voice cast of the much-loved 2013 original are reunited in "Frozen II" (Disney). They deliver an exuberant animated musical adventure that's suitable for a wide demographic.

While generally wholesome, however, this sequel is not appropriate for all. Too scary for the youngest patrons, the film's nature myths – which deals, among other things, with the "spirits" of the four elements, earth, air, fire and water – may also be confusing for impressionable moviegoers. Teens solidly instructed in the faith, by contrast, will easily let such ideas go.

Queen Elsa of Arendelle (voice of Idina Menzel), having succeeded her father on the throne and healed the breach with her younger sister, Princess Anna (voice of Kristen Bell), is reigning contentedly over her realm and has little use for the magical power to create ice and snow with which she's endowed.

But such placidity will never do, so a complication necessarily arises.

Elsa begins to hear a



CNS PHOTO/DISNEY

Elsa, voice of Idina Menzel, and other animated characters appear in the movie "Frozen II."

mysterious voice calling her into the wilderness beyond Arendelle and holding out to her the prospect of discovering the origins of her supernatural gift. Rather than consult a psychiatrist, she responds by embarking on a quest.

Along with Anna, Elsa is accompanied on her journey of discovery by Kristoff (voice of Jonathan Groff), the iceman who would like to make Anna his own, and by merry sentient snowman Olaf

(voice of Josh Gad).

As the quartet, together with Kristoff's faithful reindeer sidekick, Sven, become entangled in a long-standing conflict between the Inuit-like Northuldra tribe and some exiles from Arendelle, Kristoff's repeated attempts to propose go disastrously – and amusingly – awry. Irrepressible Olaf provides further comic re-

lief.

Screenwriter and co-director Jennifer Lee and her partner at the helm, Chris Buck, stress teamwork, family solidarity and upright values.

But, along with the somewhat unscriptural outlook on the natural

world Lee's script establishes, at least some adult viewers may find its exaltation of the life of indigenous people over industrialized societies heavy-handed.

But why look beyond the obvious charm of "Frozen II" and the fun it evokes? Its flaws are ultimately outweighed by sympathetic characters, visual flair and skillful, if sometimes overly complicated, storytelling.

The film contains stylized combat and considerable peril. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II – adults and adolescents.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG – parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.



Warm up with Good News!

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

OR Send this coupon with payment to:

North Country Catholic
PO Box 106, Canajoharie, New York, 13317

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

Inside Diocese \$27 Outside Diocese \$30

I want to be a Patron: \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250

New Subscription Renewal

Please send my
subscription to my
e-mail address:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parish _____



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

THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

— PRAYER SUGGESTION —

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name a priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life.

Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (...) Amen.

DECEMBER

DIocese OF OGDENSBURG, NY 2019 Divine Infancy

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY	2 REV. ALBERT J. HAUSER	3 REV. PETER G. HELFRICH	4 REV. MICHAEL J. JABLONSKI	5 REV. VINCENTE F. LAZMINES	6 REV. DANIEL T. KEEFE	7 REV. PAUL J. KELLY
8 OUR PASTOR	9 REV. JOHN P. KENNEHAN	10 REV. THOMAS E. KORNMAYER	11 REV. STEVE KOVACEVICH	12 REV. DONALD F. KRAMBERG	13 REV. ARTHUR J. LABAFF	14 REV. ALAN J. LAMICA
15 POPE FRANCIS	16 BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS	17 REV. ROBERT O. LAMTIE	18 REV. KRIS C. LAUZON	19 REV. CLYDE A. LEWIS	20 REV. CHRISTOPHER J. LOOBY	21 REV. JOHN J. LOOBY
22 RETIRED PRIESTS	REV. SHANE M. LYNCH	REV. DONALD J. MANFRED	REV. LAWRENCE E. MARRILLO	MSGR. C. JOHN MCAVOY	REV. KEVIN D. MCEWAN	REV. J. ROGER MCGUINNESS
29 DECEASED PRIESTS	REV. BERNARD D. MENARD	REV. GILBERT B. MENARD	For more copies contact: Diocese of Ogdensburg PO Box 369 Ogdensburg, NY 13669			

A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated. The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: Diocese of Ogdensburg Vocations Society www.myvocation.net

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Advent is a time of anticipation

Another Advent begins this Sunday. It's a time to prepare for the coming of the Messiah again. It's a time to stir up in our faith communities the reason for celebration. It's time to open the doors of our hearts to God's Son, who comes again from heaven to save us from sins and betrayals of His love and mercy.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

In the first reading from Isaiah, God invited the divided kingdom of Israel to climb

the holy mountain to God's house. There, He will melt down their swords and turn their hearts to thoughts of peace. What seemed to them an impossible dream actually came true 700 years later when Jesus was born. The kingdom was united, and peace ruled the whole world.

The message for us is clear. We must continually strive to work for a peaceful and just world, so Christ may have

December 1

First Sunday of Advent

READINGS

Is. 2:1-5

Rom 13:11-14

Mt. 24:37-44

room in all our hearts. How? We must listen carefully to the thoughts inspired by the daily Scripture readings.

The second reading from Paul to the Romans insists that we wake up and throw off the works of darkness. If we follow Paul's advice to walk in the light, then Advent is a

time for sincere riddance of sinful ways and sluggish response to the teaching of Jesus and His Church.

In the Gospel, Jesus warns us that we must be prepared, for "at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." We wonder for how many people, this Christmas will be the last time they will celebrate on this earth. We need to take this Advent seriously, for the Second Coming of the Lord will be the actual day of judgment.

The readings this Sunday alert us to something

about to begin, and we must be ready for the newness. Night is ending. Dawn is at hand. "Stay awake." Put on "the armor of light." And "let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." There is a sense of anticipation. Advent is that anticipation, that moment of joyful hope. We do not light all four candles of our advent wreaths at once. We go one at a time so that our light will gather and grow.

For a starter, read your whole parish bulletin today. There you may find ideas for some special Advent activities.

Carrying on the suffragists' pro-life message

The following was written by Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life, and Brandi Swindell, founder and CEO of Stanton Healthcare. It was first printed in the Oct. 15 edition of the Washington Examiner.

By Jeanne Mancini & Brandi Swindell

The coming election year marks the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote. It was a long-fought battle led by courageous women who saw an injustice and fought to correct it in spite of public opinion.

In addition to issues affecting women, many of these early suffragists first became advocates for the abolition of slavery and were ahead of their time condemning the violence of abortion and infanticide.

The heroic example of these women has inspired the March for Life to choose the theme "Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-

Woman" for the 47th annual March for Life. Throughout the year, the March for Life will highlight the pro-life views of the suffragists and the way in which the pro-life movement is the true heir of these earliest feminists. Just as the suffragists peacefully advocated for women's equality — and made great progress — pro-life advocates peacefully advocate for equality for the unborn.

One of the most remarkable suffragists is Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Born in 1815, Stanton was one of the founders of the U.S. suffragist movement and faced immense obstacles in her struggle for equal rights. During her lifetime, the United States condoned slavery and didn't allow half of its population to vote just because of their sex. Meanwhile, Stanton was juggling the raising of her seven children with her advocacy work, which

would one day change the course of history.

Stanton, spurred on by the United Kingdom's suffrage movement, joined with other American activists and gathered a group of like-minded women in July of 1848 at the Seneca Falls Convention. Over 300 people attended and Mrs. Stanton was a star of the convention, presenting her Declaration of Sentiments, which mirrored the Declaration of Independence. Her declaration asserted what we take for granted today: that men and women are created equal. It was there she proposed the then-controversial resolution demanding voting rights for women.

The Seneca Falls Declaration passed. Stanton was subsequently asked to speak at numerous other women's conventions, cementing her role alongside Susan B. Anthony as a leader of the American women's suffrage movement.

The fight for women's right to vote wasn't the only cause Anthony and Stanton shared. Both denounced in their writings the horrors of infanticide. In the 1868 weekly suffragist periodical *Revolution*, Stanton makes clear she viewed abortion as infanticide. She said that abortion contributed to the oppression of women as second-class citizens — calling it "inconceivable" as well as a "crying evil."

It is the legacy of Elizabeth Cady Stanton that has led to the creation of Idaho-based Stanton Healthcare, the purpose of which is to offer life-affirming solutions and resources to abortion-vulnerable women; to provide hope to those struggling with the pain of past abortion; and to share the message of sexual integrity in a confidential and professional environment that promotes physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness. Like the early

suffragists, the founders of Stanton Healthcare believe that all life is created with intrinsic value and are motivated to uphold the dignity of women and the lives of their children.

Together, those that make up the pro-life movement strive to complete the work of the suffragists by laboring to ensure every human life is treated with dignity and, as Stanton writes, endeavoring to "end this wholesale suffering and murder of helpless children."

Thanks to the early feminist suffragists we have put the time when women were denied the right to vote behind us. One day, we hope to put behind us this time where the most innocent and vulnerable are denied the right to live.

It is time to expose abortion as a grave injustice that marginalizes and devalues women, and that steals the lives of their children.



The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSI, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669

(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296

mbrett@rcdony.org

Keeping the thanks in Thanksgiving

Well it is that time again! The rush of the holidays seems suddenly upon us.

As we sit down to Thanksgiving with family and friends, take a moment to remember those who live in developing lands and those who dedicate their lives to spreading the word of the Lord to those less fortunate than us – the missionaries.

Let us pray for the Missions and show thanks to all those who do so much for so many so far away. Remember that their lives are a challenge.

In the Mission Lands, remember those who suffer: the diseased, the poor, those denied dignity, and those who live without hope, grant them the peace of knowing Jesus will never abandon them ...

For this great country, where our voices do make a difference and where we have the opportunity to raise our families in comfort and abundance, we thank you Lord;

For the children of the world, may they be protected from hunger, abuse, illiteracy, disease, neglect, and violence, and allowed to enjoy lighthearted and carefree childhoods, gently molded by God's laws and loving discipline.

For those tormented by disease, depression, addiction, abuse, and hopelessness, and for those who love and suffer with them, may they be comforted by God's love and God's promise of deliverance.

It's a time of reflection on what God has done this past year and a time to praise Him for His goodness and faithfulness.

Don't let thankful spirits only show up on Thanksgiving Day.

Let your praise and thankfulness shine for God at every moment.

God Bless the Missions!

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

OBITUARIES

Canton – Arlene D. (Runions) Maroney, 85; Memorial Services Nov. 23, 2019 at St. Mary's Church.

Carthage – Ronald J. Novak, 71; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 21, 2019 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Croghan – Edward R. Widrick, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 25, 2019 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery, Belfort.

Elizabethtown – Elizabeth (DeMar) Perry, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 18, 2019 at St. Elizabeth's Church; burial in New Burt Cemetery, Whallonsburg.

Ellenburg – Gloria M. (Perkins) Lashway-Manor, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 20, 2019 at St. Edmund's Church; burial in St. Ann's Cemetery, Mooers Forks.

Fort Covington – Ethan Michael Handley, 15; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 25, 2019 at St. Mary's Church.

Fort Covington – Beverly Rita (Bashaw) Tremblay, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at St. Mary's Church.

Keeseville – Teresa M. (Pfohler) Whitaker, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Lowville – Ania A. (Leszkowicz) Emery, 40; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 25, 2019 at St. Peter's Church.

Lowville – Gertrude A. (Hodkinson) McDonald, 93; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lowville – Gordon E. Peebles, 86; Funeral Services Nov. 13, 2019 at Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Lyons Falls – John Robert West, 91; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 23, 2019 at St. John's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Malone – Scott A. Casey, 44; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 23, 2019 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's

Cemetery, Brushton.

Malone – Frieda L. (Schmidt) Willett, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena – Kip M. Orosz, 53; Funeral Services Nov. 22, 2019 at Phillips Memorial Home.

Morrisonville – Daniel Saucier, 57; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Duane Richard "Rusty" Adams, 77; Funeral Services Nov. 21, 2019 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Stone Church Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Douglas H. Ahrens, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Clint A. Gardner, 63; Funeral Services Nov. 23, 2019 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in Ogdensburg Cemetery.

Olmstedville – Patrick C. McNally, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 19, 2019 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Irishtown.

Plattsburgh – Lon R. Coleman, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 21, 2019 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Carlton Rizzie, 91; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 20, 2019 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in Carmel Cemetery.

Potsdam – Lois Jane (Gilbert) McCasland, 90; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 18, 2019 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Sackets Harbor – Lloyd G. Miller, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 18, 2019 at St. Andrew's Church.

Tupper Lake – David E. Jones, 62; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 15, 2019 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in Holy Name Cemetery.

Watertown – Nancy Kelly McCarthy, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 20, 2019 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church; burial in Martinsburg Cemetery.

West Chazy – Donald J. Peryer, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Nov. 22, 2019 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

BARSTOW

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION BUICK PONTIAC GMC SUBARU
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

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

For more information, visit our Website
at: www.barstowmotors.com

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

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

FACES OF FAITH



The Knights of Columbus Father John Cosmic Council 291 in Carthage was recently presented the Star Council Award for the 2018-19 Columbian year. Accepting the award is Grand Knight James T. Gratch from District Deputy and Knight Michael Sligar. "This award reflects the efforts of our brother knights, united in serving our Church, families and communities in charity; we are blessed to have and appreciate the support of our pastor and parishioners," Gratch said.



Bishop Terry R. LaValley recently visited Trinity Catholic School in Massena. In addition touring the school and meeting staff and students, Bishop LaValley celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart Church, part of St. Peter's Parish.



St. John's in Madrid had its annual Autumn Potluck dinner on Nov. 3. Twenty-seven people attended. The dinner is sponsored by the Altar Rosary society.

Sallie E. Patterson

1929 - 2019



Massena: Sallie E. Patterson, 90, formerly of Helena, passed away Thursday, November 14, 2019 at Massena Memorial Hospital, surround by her loving family. Friends and family may be received on Monday, November 25, 2019 from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M. at Phillips Memorial Home, Massena. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. at Sacred Heart Church, with Interment held in Calvary Cemetery following the services.

Sallie was born on March 11, 1929 in West Hartford, CT the daughter of the late Clarence and Margaret (Mannix) Shean.

She grew up in Hartford, Woodbury and Ridgefield, CT, areas graduating from Cushing Academy in Ashburnham, MA, and also became a graduate of the Whitney Art School in New Haven, CT.

Sallie would go on to produce fashion sketches for local newspapers and other publications.

She was married to her loving husband Robert O. Patterson, on November 27, 1954 at St. Mary's Church in Ridgefield, CT. by the Rev. Msgr. Edward Duffy. He predeceased her on December 12, 2001.

They later moved to Brasher Falls, NY where she purchased her great-grandfathers farmhouse with her family in 1963, and became a teacher's aide at Salmon River School in Fort Covington, NY.

Sallie established her own Art Studio, Sallie's Studio in Helena for many years, and was known throughout the area for her beautiful award winning paintings which she often donated, and can still be seen displayed in North Country homes and Church Parish buildings. She was a communicant for over 50 years at St. Patrick's Church in Hogsburg, NY and belonged to the Altar Rosary Society and held officer positions many times.

She was a member of the Massena Artist Association, was an accomplished pianist that shared her talents with friends and family and at many award ceremonies. She also belonged to the Massena Garden Club, was a past member of the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary along with numerous art associations in the North Country and was also a member and volunteer at the Akwesasne Senior Center. Sallie will be sorely missed by the tremendous number of people that knew her as "Grandma Sal", friends and family alike.

She is survived by her children; Robert R. and Wanda of Hogsburg, NY; Mark K. and Susan of Massena, NY, Paul F. and Maribeth of Massena, NY, Dr. Patricia M. Patterson and husband James Bisbee of Hobe Sound, FL. She is also survived by her loving grandchildren, Ryan K. Patterson, Eric and Raquel Patterson, Courtney and Colin Patterson, Allianne Love, a great-grandson, Riley K. Patterson along with her sisters Nancie Roth of Port St. Lucie FL, Suzanne Jarvis of San Gabriel, CA, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, Tom and Jack Shean and sisters, Lucille Shean, Margaret Bennett, Millicent O'Connor.

In lieu of flowers the family of Sallie Patterson request memorial contribution to that of one's choice or Catholic Charities; 716 Caroline St, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 Family and friends are welcome to share online condolence and memories of Sallie by visiting www.PhillipsMemorial.com