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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 74, Number 4

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

MAY 8, 2019

Family Rosary Crusade to be held May 17

This year's Family Rosary Crusade, an annual event, will be held on May 17 at St. James Minor Church in Carthage.

The evening will begin with mass at 5:15, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and seven hours of praying the Rosary.

As in previous years, participants who spend three hours at the Rosary Crusade will receive a print of an original artwork by Carthage artist Bob Renaud, the organizer of the event.

This year's art piece, "The Key - a tribute to Padre Pio," is a depiction of the Capuchin friar and saint, who was dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

WELCOME HOME



JESSE SOVIE/THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Adam Campany is baptized by Bishop Terry R. LaValley at this year's Easter Vigil at St. Mary's Cathedral. Campany entered into full communion with the church, receiving the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist at the Vigil.

AWARD WINNERS



Bishop Terry R. LaValley presented the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service to Irving Papineau and Elaine Cook during the celebration of Confirmation on April 27, 2019 at St. Regis Mission at Akwesasne. The Bishop Wadhams Award was instituted by Bishop Paul Loverde, the eleventh Bishop of Ogdensburg, in 1996, to recognize exceptional service to the diocese.

FULL STORY, PAGE 11

Pope: Satan, not God, tricks with temptation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — God never tricks, traps or tempts his children to sin or commit evil, Pope Francis said.

God is with his people every step of the way — during times of joy and sadness, triumph and tribulation — and he always helps lead people away from the devil and his temptations, the pope said during his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square May 1, the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

In his main audience

talk, the pope continued his catechesis on the Lord's Prayer, looking at the next to last invocation, "Lead us not into temptation."

Modern translations from the original Greek expression "are a bit shaky" and do not give a precise rendering of the real meaning, he said. But recent Vatican-approved translations in some languages, like French, Italian and Spanish, include equivalents such as "Do not abandon

us to temptation" or "Do not let us enter" or "fall into temptation."

Pope Francis already highlighted the translation issue as part of a television series on the Lord's Prayer in 2017 when he said some translations of the "Our Father" can give believers the wrong impression that God can and does lead people into temptation.

"I'm the one who falls. But it's not (God) who pushes me into temptation to see how I fall. No, a fa-

ther does not do this. A father helps us up immediately," he had said in the interview.

The pope reiterated the same point at his general audience, saying that despite the various translations, one thing is undisputed: "We must exclude God as the source of the temptations that impede humanity in its journey as if God himself were on the prowl, setting snares and traps for his children."

In the Gospels, Jesus has revealed the true image of God as a loving, protective father, he said.

"Christians don't have anything to do with a jealous God who is competing with humanity or who enjoys testing them. These are images of many pagan divinities," the pope said.

God the father is not the source of evil, he said. Rather, when evil appears in people's lives, God is the one "fighting at their side so that they may be freed."

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EDITOR'S NOTE

An hour with Jesus and a mouse

I was spending my evening with Jesus at adoration, hoping to pass the hour in conversation with the Lord. Instead, my only prayer ended up being, "Jesus, please make the mouse go away!"

I'm terrified of rodents. While I'm a mere fraction of an inch shy of six feet tall, and I know with certainty that mice can't/won't hurt me, fear ignores logic. If there's a rodent anywhere near me, my instinctive reaction is to scream, cry and flee.

When I walked into the adoration chapel that evening, I saw it immediately. It was a tiny field mouse, and it was

standing in an open door across the room. I gasped and I froze.

A kind deacon, distracted from his prayer by my panic, asked if I was ok. I could produce only one word, "mouse," as I pointed to the doorway where the miniature monster was standing.

The deacon quickly crossed the room and closed the door, causing the tiny inducer of terror to run away. I was saved.

But I wasn't. The diminutive demon was small enough to make its way under the door and back into the adoration chapel. It then proceeded to scurry around the room,

mostly staying close to the walls.

Every time the mouse moved more than a few inches away from a wall, I gasped. I was terrified. I must've prayed "Jesus, please make the mouse go away" hundreds of times.

While I intended to spend the hour in conversation with the Lord, speaking what was on my heart and mind, and listening to what the Lord had to say to me, the best I could muster was to try to contain my terror so that I wasn't distracting the other people there praying – people who were delightfully unaware of the little furball of fright wandering around the room.

There are times when our prayer lives aren't as pro-

found or impactful as we'd like. There are times our hearts just aren't in it. There are times when something in our lives – or something in the chapel – consumes our thoughts and distracts us from our conversations with God. And we hit dry spells – periods of desolation.

God knows what's on our hearts – our intent and our desire to have a relationship with Him – even if we don't say it. While I'm no theologian, I'm pretty sure God's happy when we show up and try to give Him our time and attention, even if we're less than successful. He hears even our half-hearted and distracted prayers.

And, yes, the mouse went away.

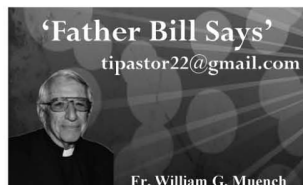
Darcy L.
Fargo

Easter Season is a time of hope

Today, I would like to consider hope. I believe that hope is rather badly needed now. This world of ours is in need of confidence in our God, confidence to support us and to guide us as we move into our future. This will only be possible when we strengthen our faith in our God. With God's help, we will recognize the many opportunities we have now for making our future good and alive.

This Easter Season is meant to be a time of hope. The celebration of Jesus' resurrection is the foundation of our faith in the Lord – the Lord will show us the way. Now the Church focuses our attention on the celebration of the Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit – a celebration of hope.

The Gospel stories that are read at Mass during the Easter Season help us to understand how the apostles and the disciples of Jesus struggled. There was the sadness and disappointment of Jesus' crucifixion, which was



transformed by the joy and celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Jesus' resurrection brought a new hope for them in a joyful future.

A good example is the Thomas story. You remember this Gospel reading from the Second Sunday of Easter. It is fairly obvious in this story Thomas was truly disturbed by the crucifixion of Jesus; it truly destroyed his faith in God. So he went off by himself. He was trying to decide just what he should now do, when Jesus first appeared to the other apostles. He was upset and angry. So, when he returns to join the others, they joyfully told him that they had seen the resurrected Jesus. Thomas responds with anger: "I will not believe unless I see the Lord

– I will not believe unless I can put my finger into the nail holes and touch the slash in his side."

Then Jesus appears again, and now Thomas was present. I can only imagine the conversion of heart that Thomas experiences at that moment. The presence of Jesus brings a new life to him – a new determination. I suspect that he nearly shouted, "My Lord and my God." This moment would be repeated through the centuries. Many will be like Thomas, disappointed and angry for one reason or another and completely without hope, and they find faith and hope, just as Thomas did through the presence of Jesus.

However, Jesus presents a new challenge to all of us – an expectation of our faith. Jesus says, "Thomas, have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." This is the lifelong challenge for you and I. We must ask ourselves,

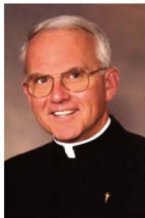
"do I have the faith to recognize the presence and the love of my crucified Savior – even if I do not see him personally?" Only then will I develop the hope and confidence to make myself a true disciple of the Lord and the faith to do something to make my life all it should be; only then can I truly make a difference in this world.

I realize well that with faith in Jesus, He directs my spirit to realize the hopes that I must work toward in my life. I have realized that Jesus has directed my thoughts and my writing and my homilies to work towards peace – a peace for this world, a peace for each person. I must encourage each person I meet to live with peace without anger, to speak with peace without anger and to remove anger and grudges from life. I have further discovered that I must direct all I do in some way to preach against violence in the hearts and souls of all that God brings into my life.

FOLLOW ME

Day of Prayer for Vocations, Mother's Day

We know that by virtue of our baptism, each of us is called to become a saint, to be holy. In his Message for the 56th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis wrote: "The Lord's call... is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a greater sea and an abundant catch." The awesome challenge and excitement of encountering Jesus – and sharing the fruits of that ever-developing relationship with Him – de-



**Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley**

finer each of our vocations. Because the Lord's invitation to participate in this great undertaking is steeped in Divine Love, we will know fulfillment and everlasting joy when we respond with a generous heart.

In a special way today, Mother's Day, we recognize the importance of our mothers' generous response to the Lord's call and her (and dad's) crucial role in helping our children encounter and then respond to the Lord's invitation to follow Him. We pay tribute today to our moms and promise them

our prayers as they live out their saintly vocation amid the worries and struggles to be a faithful disciple today.

We know that it's not easy to discern one's vocation. The Holy Father said that, for this reason, "there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church... to provide young people in particular with opportunities... that can open the way to discovering God's plan, above all through prayer, meditation on God's Word, Eucharistic adoration and spiritual accompaniment." As you know, we have made such a commitment as we continue to address our

diocesan Priorities of Creating a Culture of Vocations, Strengthening Faith Formation in Family Life and Building Parishes with Living Stones.

I'm grateful to all those in our parishes who serve on parish vocation committees, as well as Father Doug Lucia, Director of Vocations and Seminarians, and Catherine Russell, Diocesan Vocations Coordinator. We are blessed to have a very active Diocesan Vocations Society (DOV's) whose ongoing support of Church vocations in the Diocese of Ogdensburg is a great gift. The Church is blessed with parents, those living the single state, consecrated reli-

gious, deacons and priests who exude the joy of the Gospel in their chosen vocations. Let us continue to pray for our seminarians and deacon aspirants as they discern the Lord's call in their lives.

Our Blessed Mother's trusting response to the angel Gabriel didn't protect her from the struggles and challenges of discipleship. We should expect nothing less. We pray for the same courage and deep faith to embrace the difficult mission of discipleship and be a part of such a great undertaking. We ask the Lord to help us discover and celebrate His plan for our lives.

Called to ministry? Consider Formation program

Catherine Russell
Program Coordinator,
Formation For Ministry

During his homily at the Chrism mass in 2018, Bishop Terry R. LaValley challenged those in attendance to "Claim your anointing!" By virtue of baptism, every Catholic Christian is anointed and charged with accepting the call to become holy and to share in the saving mission of Jesus Christ. Bishops, priests and religious have their roles, but members of the laity have an indispensable role and are co-responsible for the mission of the church.

Now more than ever, there is a need for lay people to respond to the call of God to serve in roles of leadership and ministry in their parishes. The Formation For Ministry program is one way a person can become better equipped to carry out that role.

Formation For Ministry is a two-year commitment of classes, workshops and retreats, all geared toward assisting the candidate with his or her spiritual, academic and ministerial formation. At the end of the two years, candidates who have successfully completed the program will be commissioned for parish ministry by Bishop LaValley.

The new group begins formation in September of this year at two sites: St. Joseph's Church in West Chazy and St. Cecilia's Church in Adams. Classes meet weekly in eight-week sessions and include Old and New Testament, Creed, Ecclesiology, Spirituality, Eucharist, Sacraments, Moral Theology, Church History and Catholic Social Teaching.

Because the diocese is so spread out and travel can be a challenge, there will be a new pilot program in-

troduced this year for the Lewis and Hamilton-Herkimer deaneries. Candidates in these deaneries will be able to take all classes online through a partnering program. This will significantly cut down on travel. Candidates will need to travel only to attend the workshops and retreats.

Formation For Ministry has a rich legacy in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana initiated the program in 1990. Since that time, nearly 1,200 lay people have discerned their call to ministry in their parishes and completed the program.

The current challenges involved with parishes merging and the priority to "create parishes with living stones" requires that more lay people step up and step into ministry.

Bishop LaValley believes commissioned lay minis-

ters are important contributors to this initiative.

"By virtue of baptism, each of us has the responsibility of proclaiming what our God has done for us," he said. "The church is so enriched through the ministry that our commissioned lay ministers offer to their local parishes."

If you feel that call from God and might be interested in this program, start by meeting with your pastor. Candidates must be recommended by their pastor. There will be information sessions sched-

uled in June around the diocese. For more information now, contact Cathy Russell, the Director of the program at crussell@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920.

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Rosary Crusade, art work honors Blessed Mother

By Eileen Greenwood
Contributing writer

CARTHAGE – “The key to God’s heart is prayer.”

Padre Pio and his words are the inspiration for this year’s art piece for the 17th Annual Family Rosary Crusade.

Renown Catholic artist Bob Renaud of Carthage shared his vision for the piece and his dedication to the Family Rosary Crusade, an event he began 17 years ago.

“I was inspired to contemplate on the seven sorrows of the Rosary,”

Renaud said. “I know I was inspired by the Blessed Mother. She specifically gave me the idea after Father Patrick Peyton held a World-Wide Rosary Crusade.”

Renaud, a successful artist and art teacher at Carthage school, began an event that has grown in number and in worldwide participants joining in spiritual solidarity that evening.

This year’s event will be held on May 17 at St. James Minor Church in Carthage. The evening will begin with mass at 5:15,

followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and seven hours of praying the Rosary.

The Rosary will be led by families and various groups, prayed in sets of three per hour.

Renaud said the event is held in honor of our Lady’s Seven Sorrows.

Those unable to attend in person are asked to pray in their homes during that time.

“People from all over the world join us,” said Renaud, who often receives emails from participants praying with the Rosary

Crusade from such countries as Korea, Australia and other distant countries.

Those in attendance at St. James Church in Carthage, and who stay a minimum of three hours (in honor of our Lord’s passion), will receive a print of this year’s painting created by Renaud for the event.

The work, titled “The Key – a tribute to Padre Pio,” is a depiction of the Capuchin friar and saint, who was very dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

Renaud said he chose to create this year’s painting in his honor as he attributes a small personal miracle to the intercession of the Friar, sharing that this year, “Padre Pio, I will be dedicating this to you.”

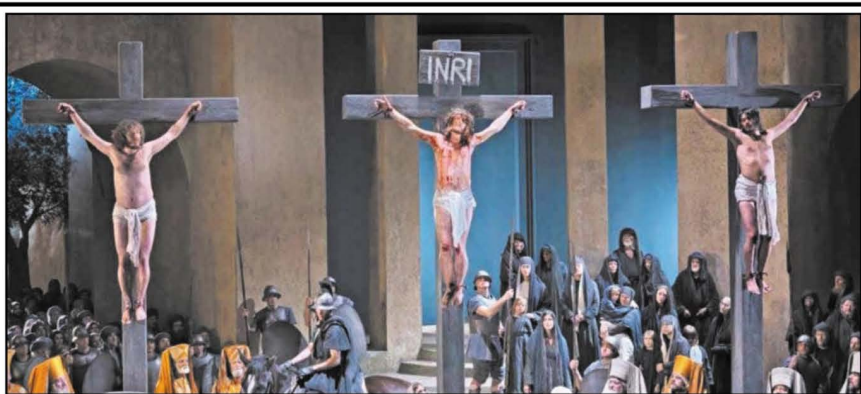
Renaud mentioned his concerns about the world’s evil influences on family life today, and his concern

for students living in today’s difficult world. Thus, he began his prayerful campaign 17 years ago to set aside a night of devotion to our Blessed Mother. This special evening is a dedicated prayerful effort of solidarity with people from all over the world.

It rings true of these words from Padre Pio, “The Rosary is the weapon for these times.” All are welcome to join the Family Rosary Crusade, either in person or in spiritual solidarity.

“Please help spread the word,” said Renaud. “May God and His Blessed Mother continue to bless you and bring you ever closer to the sacred Heart of Jesus.”

For more information about the Family Rosary Crusade, visit catholicsof-carthagecopenhagen.org.



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Prints of “The Key – a tribute to Padre Pio,” a painting by Carthage artist Bob Renaud, will be given to individuals who spend three hours participating in the Family Rosary Crusade. Renaud organizes the Rosary Crusade, which will be held May 17 at St. James Minor Church in Carthage.

More factors that impact parish vibrancy

William J. Amoriell
Member of Living Stones
Planning Committee

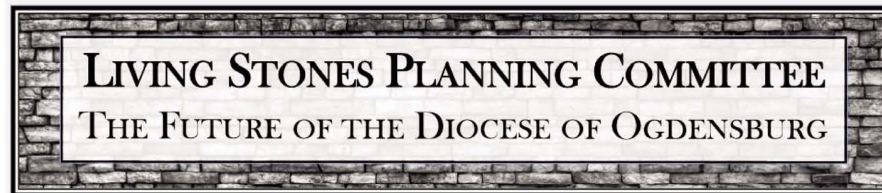
In the last issue of the North Country Catholic, we discussed three elements that can impact parish vibrancy: (1) leadership style, (2) communication, and (3) lay leadership. In this issue, let's look at (1) evangelization, (2) involvement of children and youth, and (3) music.

Evangelization: Children/Youth, Young Adults, Seniors

Comprehensive and strategic faith formation for all parishioners is critical to developing vibrant parishes, as well as in building parishes with informed and committed communities of intentional disciples. According to William E. Simon, author of "Great Catholic Parishes," "in vibrant parishes, the people themselves and the culture they build create an environment where faith has the freedom and the opportunity to grow. In other words, parishioners advance their own spiritual journeys and support the formation of those around them by contributing to the parish's prayerful culture."

Furthermore, parishes need to advance beyond what some call "maintenance parishes", satisfied with sustaining their current membership with little or no outreach and commitment to bringing back into the church those who have left, fallen away, or those who might be looking for a church that will offer a welcoming environment and nourish them spiritually.

"In the end, the purpose of evangelization is not to "make converts" or "fill the pews" but simply to open



doors – to let others know the Good News that Catholic faith has made a positive difference in our lives and that God's love is available to others as well... Evangelizing opportunities include community-service programs, social events, sacramental celebrations, and mission work," Simon wrote.

Evangelization and faith formation go hand-in-hand. "...discipleship is the central focus of vibrant parishes – an area in which they simultaneously excel and see potential for more growth toward spiritually mature faith," Simon wrote. "For our purposes, we use the terms spiritual growth and discipleship somewhat interchangeably to indicate the process by which individuals or parishes deepen their faith, become closer to Jesus, and draw others to him as they mature in their faith."

Parishes need to constantly survey their parishioners, youth as well as adults, to determine their areas of interest. They also need to develop scripture-based sessions for children and young adults, as they serve as the future of the Catholic Church. This is how faith formation communities are formed. As parishioners grow in their faith formation, they also begin to develop a strong bond with the other parishioners within the parish grouping. As these bonds develop, the parishioners then become

more committed and active members of the church community.

Faith formation does not happen by accident or incidentally. It can only occur through long-range planning that is developed, organized, and offered by the parish community. "From our interviews with pastors we learned that strategic planning is essential for deepening discipleship. How do parishes accomplish this strategic planning? They have parish leaders who (1) acknowledge spiritual maturity as a goal to be pursued, (2) allocate resources (human and financial) to support spiritual growth initiatives and (3) implement strategies and campaigns that respond to the current needs of their parishioners." (Simon, p. 59)

Engaging Children and Youth in Meaningful Ways

The need to engage children within our faith community in meaningful ways cannot be overemphasized. They are the future of the church. If we fail to get children connected with their faith, they will continue to be among the 50% of adult Catholics who leave the church at some point.

"Children are an integral part of the Sunday experience, and they need to be accommodated," Simon wrote. Some parishes designate certain masses as "children's Masses" and utilize children as lectors and cantors. Including young musicians is also a very good way to get chil-

dren involved in church services and in contributing to making the parish more vibrant.

It would be unreasonable to expect every parish grouping to hire an individual to develop and run a program for the children and youth within the parishes. This would be cost prohibitive. However, there is no reason why the diocese couldn't be divided into regions with the hiring of a Youth Ministry Assistant, reporting to the Director of Youth Ministry, for each region. Expenses could then be shared by groups of parishes, thus sharing resources and enabling the diocese to develop additional programs for youth in parishes across the diocese.

This would also provide a team for the Director of Youth Ministry to work with in developing ideas and programs. Parishes should also be encouraged to identify volunteers to assist with any of the activities as needed. The planning, organization, and execution of the activities would be the responsibility of the paid staff, but they will need support from volunteers to ensure adequate supervision and assistance for all activities.

Children and youth could grow spiritually through the careful selection of a variety of activities. In addition to scripture study, there could be activities and field trips that focus on areas such as: being better

custodians of the earth and our environment, building sound character and morality, assisting the sick and elderly, etc. These activities could involve service projects, carefully selected movies with follow-up discussions, game nights, sports competitions, etc. Programming for children and youth needs to be multifaceted and include meaningful learning and growing experiences that nurture and develop personal and spiritual growth. This can only occur, if there are a sufficient number of lay leaders with the time and responsibility to research, develop, and offer the kinds of activities mentioned.

Music

Music can inspire an emotional response and fully engage participation in the liturgy. "Music responsive to the liturgical seasons as well as the cultures and languages that make up different assemblies moves the hearts and spirits of those who play, listen and sing," wrote Denise Simeone in National Catholic Reporter. Music goes a long way to helping to create an active vibrant parish. We are fortunate to have an almost endless supply of wonderful, engaging, and meaningful sacred hymns. In some parishes, more care needs to be taken to select hymns that parishioners can sing, enjoy, and find inspiring. "Vibrant music is essential to the vibrant liturgies celebrated in the parishes of this study," Simon wrote.

Cantors sometimes feel they are offering a recital, as few parishioners join-in to sing. If you have a vibrant parish and everyone is engaged in singing, you

Environmental Stewardship

Earth Walk (Or Run)

The following installment of Environmental Stewardship was written by Kaylee F. Amoriell, a teen from Augustine's Parish in Peru.

Nestled amongst the new green shoots of spring – the early beginnings of wild Queen Anne's Lace and heavenly blue Chicory – are thousands of colorful aluminum "Easter eggs." Their distribution along North Country roads is not the work of the Easter Bunny, but rather that of the general public.

The North Country is littered with cans – a whole rainbow of sizes and brands, from Mountain Dew to Twisted Tea.

It's easy to look the other way – to pretend it isn't there, but I discovered there are more benefits to doing just the opposite.

One day, on a five-mile run for our high-school cross-country team, a friend and I decided to bring two garbage bags along with us.

Both bags were filled to the brim by the fifth mile.

Later, we dropped them off at a local charity running a can-collecting program.

All in one day, we managed to help the local eco-system, beautify our North Country, and support a non-profit (and also finish that five-mile run).

Two teenagers just proved how easy it is to make the world a better place.

The next time you go for a walk, consider making it an "Earth Walk" by bringing a garbage bag and a pair of gloves along with you.

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Bishop's Public Schedule

May 8 – 10:50 a.m. – Mass at St. Joseph's Home in Ogdensburg

May 9 – 9:45 a.m. – Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence followed by lunch

7 p.m. – Confirmation at St. Augustine's Church in Peru with the Catholic Community of Holy Name & St. Mathew in Au Sable Forks and the Catholic Community of Keeseville

May 10 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

May 11 – 10 a.m. – Confirmation at St. Mary's Church in Brushton with the Catholic Community of St. Augustine in North Bangor

4 p.m. – Confirmation at the Roman Catholic Church of St. Alexander and St. Joseph in Morrisonville with St. James Church in Cadyville and the Church of the Assumption in Redford

May 12 – 8 a.m. – Confirmation at Sacred Heart Church in Chazy with St. Joseph's Church in West Chazy

May 13 – 7 p.m. – Confirmation at the Catholic Community of Alexandria in Alexandria Bay with St. Mary's Church in Clayton and St. John the Evangelist Church in LaFargeville

May 14 – Noon – Memorare Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by lunch in the Brzana Hall

May 15 – 9 a.m. – Baptismal and Confirmation Mass at Watertown Correctional Facility

7 p.m. – Confirmation at St. Andrew's Church in Sackets Harbor with the Roman Catholic Church of Brownville & Dexter

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anne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth Counseling Services of Northern New York, 31 Sixth Street, Malone, NY 12953; terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com
Phone: Day: 518-651-2267, Night: 518-569-0612; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Personnel at 315-393-2920

Impact parish vibrancy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

will never know that there is a cantor at all. This is as it should be.

Large churches sometimes have different music styles designated to specific Masses. They might have the children's

choir on Sunday at 11 a.m. and a Folk Mass on Sunday at 9 a.m. That's fine for large churches, but certainly not necessary. What is important, however, is that we have music that, by its very spirit, engages parishioners.

As mentioned in the section, Engaging Children and Youth in Meaningful Ways, having young musicians involved with a small choir can get children involved in meaningful ways and add to the vibrancy of the service.

There is a wide variety of music to select from—some rather modern and others quite traditional. "There is no optimal type or style of liturgical music," Simon wrote. "The strong music ministries in our sample were diverse and mixed. One Midwestern parish exhibited a huge range in their music: one weekend it was contemporary, two weeks before that it was Celtic, the next week it was more traditional. Both the type of music and how that music is made were unique to each vibrant parish we surveyed."

The key here is balance. "Whether it is bringing in a marimba player the parish loved for the Christmas Mass or inviting a vocal group in to make the music more harmonious, our parishes work at developing music programs that resonate with the people they serve," Simon wrote.

Perhaps one cautionary note. Tastes in music vary greatly, depending on a person's age and music preference, so care needs to be taken so as not to alienate people with music that is too extreme for them to tolerate. Again, let's go back to the use of balance when deciding on what music to select. Nevertheless, music is an integral part of our liturgy and can serve as an excellent vehicle for engaging and inspiring those in attendance.

In the next article, we shall discuss (1) technology and (2) hospitality and socials. Again, it is hoped that you will find ideas presented in these articles that will lead to parish discussions and creativity.

Rest in Peace

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

May 8 – Msgr. Harold J. Martin, 1958

May 13 – Rev. William J. McCormick, O.S.A., 1935; Msgr. Clarence M. Devan, 2001

May 11 – Deacon Richard D. Hart, 2007

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

May 14 – Deacon Vincent E. Irvin, 2003

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

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:
May 21 – 6:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters from readers of the North Country Catholic.


- Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 300.
- We cannot accept letters which support ideas which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

- Send letters to North Country Catholic, PO Box 326, Ogdensburg, NY, 13669 or e-mail to news@northcountrycatholic.org
- Join the conversation!

Visit our website

www.northcountrycatholic.org

- Read local stories and commentaries
- Search archived papers
- View diocesan events and much more

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ADIRONDACK

AUCTION AND FLEA MARKET

Tupper Lake – The Annual K of C Auction and Flea Market sponsored by the K of C Council #2177 to be held.

Date: May 19

Time: 9 a.m. Flea Market; Noon, Auction

Place: Holy Ghost Parish Center

Features: Lunch Available, Cash prizes awarded every hour starting at 1 p.m. 50/50 Raffle (Pair Adirondack Chairs and Gas and Charcoal Grill combination).

CLINTON

EVANGELIZATION AND APOLOGETICS

Dannemora - The Eastern Region Commissioned Lay Ministers Association (ERCLMA) has organized the following event for continued formation: Evangelization and Apologetics with Marika Donders.

Date: May 11

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

Place: St. Joseph's Hall

Cost: \$10

Features: Father Mickey Demo will lead the celebration of a morning Mass followed by a presentation by Diocese of Ogdensburg Director of Evangelization, Marika Donders. A light lunch will be served. All Commissioned Lay Ministers and the current class of candidates set to be Commissioned in June, are welcome and encouraged to attend. The event will also be live-streamed, so if you cannot attend please join us on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Maalc60EIB0>.

Contact: Brenda Smith soundtech58@yahoo.com or Karen LeClair - k.leclair2@aol.com to RSVP.

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Lyon Mountain - Knights of Columbus Council #7215 & Mission of Hope 2nd Annual Mother's Day Brunch to be held.

Date: May 12

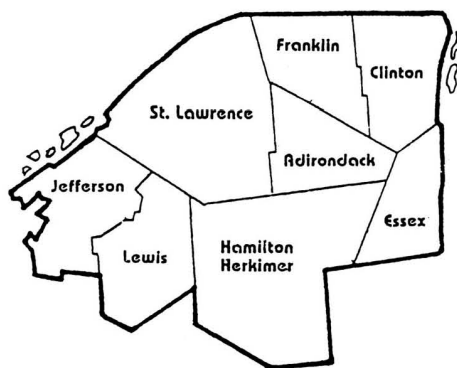
Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: Lyon Mountain American Legion Post #1623

Cost: Adults, \$12; All mothers, \$6; Children 6-12, \$5; 5 and under, Free

Features: 50/50 raffle. Proceeds to benefit Mission of Hope & St. Bernard's Capital Campaign Fund

Contact: Take outs available 518-735-4372. For more information call 518-578-2638 or 518-593-2052



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, 315-394-0670;
e-mail news@northcountycatholic.org.

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

SPRING FABRIC FUNDRAISER

Ellenburg - Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer is hosting another fabulous fabric fundraiser.

Date: May 18

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

Features: 75% off. Light refreshments served. Located at 7270 Star Road, Route 190 in Ellenburg.

Contact: Call Carol Alexander at 518-236-6016 or Jeanette Sans Souci at 518-594-3253 for more information.

HEALING MISSION

West Chazy - St. Joseph's Church will hold a Healing Mission.

Date: May 20, 21 and 22

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Joseph's Church
Features: Mission will be with Paul Rymniak. Confession will be available during the Mission. Healing is not just for the physically impaired. Mental and emotional stresses and strains can take a heavier toll on our lives, even more than the worst of diseases. So, if you or your family are in need of healing in these areas, come and experience the Lord, and what He can do for you.

Contact: For more information, call 518-493-4521.

BAZAAR & FESTIVAL OF CARS

Mooers Forks - St. Ann's Church Annual Bazaar and Festival of Cars to be held.

Date: June 9

Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's Grounds

Features: Craft Show, Big Ticket Pull Tabs, Bake Sale, Theme Baskets, Free Entertainment. To enter the car show it

is \$15 before or \$20 the day of the show. There will be top 40 picks and special awards.

ESSEX

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

Olmstedville - Please join St. Joseph's Parish to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Father Phillip Allen's Ordination to the Priesthood.

Date: May 19

Time: After the 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Joseph's Parish House

Features: Potluck luncheon, please bring a dish to pass.

JEFFERSON

WINE APPRECIATION

Evans Mills - Wine education experience to be held.

Date: May 11

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

Place: St. Mary's Church

Cost: \$10

Features: You will be experiencing Premium Finger Lakes wines hand-crafted by O-Neh-Da and Eagle Crest Vineyards.

Contact: For tickets please call Kareta at 315-629-4678.

ROSARY CRUSADE

Carthage - Please join in praying at the 17th Annual Family Rosary Crusade.

Date: May 17

Time: 5:30

Place: St. James Minor Church

Features: Mass followed by seven hours of praying the Rosary in honor of Our Lady's Seven Sorrows. Come for one or more hours. For those who stay

to pray the Rosary at St. James for at least 3 hours (in honor of Our Lord's Passion), they will receive a print of this year's painting, 'The Key - a tribute to Padre Pio'. However, for those who can't join the Crusade physically, please join your prayers spiritually from wherever you are.

Contact: For more information you may wish to check out the parish website: catholicsofcarthagecopenhagen.org OR event organizer/artist Bob Renaud's site: bobrenaudart.com

IHC MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Watertown - The 6th Annual IHC Memorial Golf Tournament to be held.

Date: May 31

Time: Registration, 9 a.m.; Shot-Gun Start, 10 a.m.

Place: Ives Hill Country Club

Cost: Team entry fee, \$400 4 Person Captain & Crew

Features: Frist Place, \$800; Second Place, \$400; Third Place, \$200

Contact: Registration Deadline is May 11. Register at Ives Country Club, Pro-Shop 315-775-4653; Make checks payable to IHC Booster Club, 1316 Ives Street, Watertown, NY 13601; Questions, email ihcboosterclub@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

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

Date: May 30

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

Place: Msgr. Sechi Hall

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

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

HEALING MASS

Clayton - St. Mary's to have its Annual Healing Mass and Antoine Tetrault Memorial Service.

Date: June 8

Time: 11 a.m.

Features: Father Arther LaBaff and Father Ray Diesbourg will be the celebrants, and the Anointing of the Sick Sacrament will be offered during Mass. Following the Mass, prayer teams will offer individual prayers and there will be light refreshments and social time.

Contact: For more information contact the Parish Office, 315-686-3398.

OPEN HOUSE

Carthage - Augustinian Academy to have an open house.

Date: June 9

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

Features: Meet the teacher, tour the school, learn about curriculum. All faiths welcome. Now serving PK (3 & 4) and K-8.

Contact: 315-493-1301, c-augustinian.org

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Watertown - The 4th Annual Frank Caprara Memorial Golf Tournament to be held.

Date: June 19

Time: Registration start at 8 a.m.; Shotgun start at 9 a.m.

Place: Ives Hill Country Club

Cost: Captain and Crew - \$380/Team; Singles - \$95/player. Includes Golf, cart, mulligans, dinner, prizes, two hole in one contests, and a hot dog or hamburger at the turn.

Features: All proceeds support the Sacred Heart Foundation mission to raise funds to provide financial assistance for the education of those studying to become priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Contact: Applications forms available at sacredheartfoundation.com/golf or contact 315-782-3344

GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE

Watertown - The Sacred Heart Foundation to have a raffle in connection with its golf tournament.

Date: Drawing will be June 19

Cost: Tickets are \$10 each

Features: 2 Grand prizes. Prize 1: 4 tickets to the Yankees Vs. Red Sox with an overnight stay included. Prize 2: 2019 Honda TRX-250TM Recon

Contact: For information or to buy tickets, contact Sacred Heart Foundation office by phone at (315)782-3344 or by email at mail@sacredheartfoundation.com.

ST. JAMES FAIR

Carthage - St. James to have its 45th annual fair.

Date: June 20, 21 & 22

Time: Thurs. and Fri., 6 p.m. to 10; Sat. 12 p.m. to 10

Place: State Street, Carthage

Features: Games of Chance, Ontario Amusement Rides (wristband day Sat from 12 p.m. to 4); Lots of food options and Entertainment.

Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal - May 12, 2019

Dear Friends in Christ:

As faithful disciples of Christ and as a Church in action, we work together to respond to those in need and offer guidance through quality services designed to respect the dignity of each person. Catholic Charities, as an agency, strives each day to address the many needs of the poor and marginalized of our North Country.



Inspired by the Gospel, the many programs and services that are offered by Catholic Charities throughout our diocese, focus on building a just and compassionate society that embraces the gifts given to us by Christ. Through *providing* help...we *create* hope.

Together, we bring *hope* to the families who are struggling to put food on the table, *hope* to the migrants seeking a safer environment to call home, *hope* to the addicts fighting to stay sober, *hope* to the disabled who have become so isolated and hope to so many families struggling in crisis.

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

The *Mother's Day Annual Appeal* for Catholic Charities will take place in all our parishes on the weekend of May 12, 2019. Let us continue to **Give Help** and **Create Hope** for the many families of the North Country that we serve as we continue the work of Christ on earth.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Terry R. LaValley

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg



Catholic
Charities

Catholic Charities

Annual Appeal

May 12, 2019

Please help us reach our GOAL: \$ 165,000

GIVE THE GIFT OF CHARITY



Providing Help...Creating Hope

For more information: Call (315) 393-2255 or

visit our website: www.cathcharities.org

Catholic Charities Mother's Day Appeal - May 12, 2019

Dear Friends,

Catholic Charities has been a resource for the poor for over one hundred years in the North Country and we continue to provide programs and services in response to the needs of the most vulnerable members of our communities. We see the hungry, the homeless, the addicted, the sick, the lonely, and all those who are suffering.

But Catholic Charities has never done this alone and cannot do it alone now. We need our volunteers, our supporters and our benefactors to be part of this mission of charity and justice. It is your financial gift to Catholic Charities that allows us to respond:

- To the parents with a sick child who need help with transportation to Syracuse or Burlington.
- To a family in need of home heating fuel to keep their family warm.
- To the parent and teen who are in a family crisis and need a compassionate counselor.
- A senior citizen in need of assistance to pay for essential medication.

Some examples of the people who we were able to help this past year:

- *TB writes "I am very thankful and much appreciative for Catholic Charities ...this organization helped me when I needed it the most... with getting my car fixed and being able to purchase Christmas presents for my kids at Christmas time. . . if it wasn't for Catholic Charities, things would have just continued to fall apart!!"*
- *"At Seaway House, I have found a general sense of acceptance for each individual person."*
- *"Staff are willing to go the extra mile to get the job done."*

These and thousands of individuals come to Catholic Charities across our Diocese of Ogdensburg ...and because of your financial gift, Catholic Charities can be there for them. Your financial gift will provide essential programs and services to people throughout all eight counties that we serve.

Through providing help...Let us create hope.



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



Imagine being a 65 year old adult and receiving a diagnosis of the onset of dementia. Living on a fixed income is difficult and you can't afford supportive counseling services. Then, you find out that Catholic Charities will never turn anyone away, because they cannot afford to pay for the counseling. You are able to receive compassionate and supportive counseling and casework services from Catholic Charities.

Providing Help...

Your gift provides:

- \$25 = Special formula for a baby with digestive difficulties**
- \$46 = Co-pay for a senior citizen's prescription medicine**
- \$50 = 4 nights lodging for parents of a sick child who needs to go to Syracuse/Burlington for medical care**
- \$100 = Subsidy for home heating fuel for a working family on a low income**
- \$200 = Car repair for a working parent to have a safe vehicle to get to work**
- \$300 = Temporary housing for a veteran in danger of being homeless**
- \$500 = Counseling subsidy for 5 families dealing with serious relationship challenges**
- \$1,000 or more = Support for the overall mission and works of Catholic Charities**

Every dollar makes a Difference!

Creating Hope...

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

I support the mission of Catholic Charities with my gift of: \$ _____

Check #: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Street /P.O. Box

City

State

Zip Code

Parish: _____

I am making a PLEDGE of: \$ _____

To be paid: (Check one) Monthly _____ Quarterly _____ Other: _____

All donations to Catholic Charities are tax deductible.

Mail to:
Catholic Charities, Appeal 2019
6866 State Highway 37
Ogdensburg, NY 13669



Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

LEWIS

LASAGNA DINNER

Harrisville — Lasagna Dinner to be held.

Date: May 10**Time:** 5 p.m. to 7; Take-outs available at 4:30 p.m.**Place:** St. Francis Solanus Church**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 12-5, \$6; under 5, Free**LEWIS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Lowville — Lewis Eucharistic Adoration to be held.

Date: May 16**Time:** 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**Place:** St. Peter's Church**Features:** To Thank God for & To Honor the Most Blessed Sacrament, all are invited to morning prayer, Mass, and Eucharistic Adoration.

ST. LAWRENCE

ITALIAN FEST

Gouverneur — Italian Fest to be held.

Date: May 10**Time:** 4:30 p.m.**Place:** St. James School**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 12 and under, \$5; under 5, Free**Features:** Chefs, Joe & Carolyn Pistolesi. Take-outs available. Raffles, games & face painting, fried dough and Italian Dessert sale. Open house to check out St. James School.**SPRING RETREAT**

Morristown — Spring retreat to be held with the theme of learning compassion from the heart of Christ.

Date: May 18**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**Place:** Cedarhaven**Cost:** \$25 (lunch and snacks included)**Features:** Reflecting on the Parable of the Prodigal Son this day will consider what compassion is, and how the teachings of Jesus on forgiveness may help one become a more compassionate person.**Contact:** Sister Berthany Fitzgerald, SSJ at 315-212-6592 or srbethssj@gmail.com by May 15**BLESSED IS SHE**

Norwood — Blessed is She workshop to be held.

Date: May 19**Time:** 12:30 p.m.**Place:** St. Andrew's Church Hall**Features:** Join us for a "Joy in Jesus" talk, then make your own scripture/prayer board. Snacks will be provided. Please bring a drink.**Contact:** There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP to Sara to reserve materials: call/text 315-212-7565, narow56@gmail.com**FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY RECOGNITION DINNER**

Colton — Faith Formation Ministry Recognition Dinner to be held for Catechists.

Date: May 22**Time:** 5 p.m. to 7**Place:** St. Patrick's Church**Cost:** \$12 per person**Contact:** Shayne Lippincott at slippincott@rcdony.org or call 315-782-3620. RSVP due date by May 13**CLM ASSOCIATION SLFA SPRING EVENT**

Norwood — CLM Association SLFA Spring event to be held.

Date: June 1**Time:** Program 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Mass at 4 p.m.**Place:** St. Andrew's Parish Hall**Features:** Marika Donders, Director for the Office of Evangelization will be presenting an afternoon workshop "Discipleship: Three Scripture Stories in Mark". Free to attend. Snack will be provided.**Contact:** early registration is appreciated at <https://www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-lay-ministers/clm-event-registration.html> or Contact Jeannie Grizzuto at 315-393-2920 Ext. 1413 or jgrizzuto@rcdony.org.**TRIP TO SEE YANKEES**

The Canton Knights of Columbus is once again sponsoring a trip to New York City to see the NY Yankees play the Toronto Blue Jays.

Date: July 12 & 13**Cost:** \$320 per person, double occupancy you will get Luxury Coach transportation, Ticket to the two ball games, one night hotel stay at the La Quinta Inn and breakfast on Saturday.**Features:** As an added bonus the July 12 game is a Mariano Rivera Bobble Head giveaway and the July 13 game is Yankees Camo Hat day.**Contact:** For more information or to reserve your spot email cantonkofc@gmail.com or call 315-

714-2016.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

CLEANING CAMP GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake — Looking for volunteers to help clean and prepare Camp Guggenheim for the summer.

Schedule: Arrive at noon May 17 and leave May 18 at 4 p.m.**Features:** We will be washing floors, windows, furniture, bathrooms, kitchens and just about anything you can imagine. The more bodies, the more we can do!**Contact:** For planning, contact Deacon Jim Crowley at 315-393-2920 or jcrowley@rcdony.org.**TEEN LIFE DAY**

Saranac Lake — Teen Life Day to be held.

Date: May 18**Time:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**Place:** St. Bernard's Church**Cost:** \$10 (includes lunch); Free for the 2019 Youth Bus for Lifers**Features:** Open to middle, high school and college students. Kate Maloney, Students for Life Northeast Regional Coordinator, along with guest speakers: Kathy Gallagher (NYS Catholic Conference), Dr. Jan Patterson (Gianna Center) and Nancy Belzile (Silent No More & 40 Days for Life) will present an educational day including games and prizes! Learn how to defend your prolife views, how birth control works, how to make NY an abortion-free state, how to start a prolife club at your school and about public witness with 40 Day for Life and Silent No More. Eucharistic Adoration available all day.**Contact:** Online registration www.rcdony.org/prolife Questions? The Respect Life Office 518-524-0774 (call or text) or Youth Ministry 315-393-2920 Ext. 1415**RACHEL'S VINEYARD**

Saranac Lake - The Spring Rachel's Vineyard after-abortion healing retreat will be held.

Date: May 31- June 2**Place:** Guggenheim Lodge**Features:** If you or someone you know is hurting after an abortion, consider attending this weekend retreat. You're not alone. Help is available.**Contact:** Confidential registration form available at the Respect Life web-page.rcdony.org/prolife. For more information call or text Colleen Miner 518-524-0774 or email cminer@rcdony.org.**FFM COMMISSIONED LAY MINISTER'S RETREAT**

Ogdensburg — The FFM Commissioned Lay Minister's Retreat to be held.

Date: June 7-9**Place:** Wadhams Hall**Cost:** \$10**Features:** Theme will be "The Coming of the Holy Spirit"**Contact:** To register for this event, simply go to: <https://www.rcdony.org/formation/commissioned-lay-ministers/retreat-registration-wadham-s-hall.html>**SUMMER DISCERNMENT WEEKEND FOR MEN**

Saranac Lake — Summer Discernment weekend retreat weekend for men to be held.

Date: July 5 at 5 p.m. to July 7 at noon**Place:** Guggenheim Main Lodge**Features:** for a time of prayer, reflection, fellowship, & recreation. Participants should bring Sleeping bag (or bedding), towels, toiletries, casual clothes, swim trunks, & sweatshirt. Overnight retreatants must be age 18 and over.**Contact:** Father Doug Lucia at dlucia@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 or 315-388-4466**DAY OF RECOLLECTION**

Saranac Lake — In conjunction with the discernment retreat there will be a Day of Recollection for High School Young Men age 14-17.

Date: July 6**Time:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**Place:** Guggenheim Main lodge**Features:** Participants may want to

bring swim trunks and towel. Parental Consent and Medical forms are required and will be provided when registering.

Contact: Father Doug Lucia at dlucia@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 or 315-388-4466**STEBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Attention all high school youth, the Steubenville Youth Conference to be held this summer.

Date: July 19 — 21**Features:** The best Catholic speakers, powerful praise and worship, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Celebrate of the Holy Mass, small groups, Adoration and more! All with 2,500 other faithful teens!**Contact:** For more information contact Dayna Leader, Family Life Associate, at dleader@rcdony.org 315-323-0827 and visit Family Life Office at www.rcdony.org <https://www.rcdony.org/family-life-marriage/marriage/steubenville-youth-conference/registration.html>**MATER DEI COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

Are you a Catholic High School Senior who currently resides in the Diocese of Ogdensburg and is planning to attend a Catholic College or University in the Fall? The Mater Dei College Foundation is pleased to offer a Scholarship opportunity to qualifying students going on to study liberal arts and sciences at a degree granting Catholic College or University.

Contact: To request an application form, please email Valerie Mathews, Mater Dei Foundation Scholarship Chair at vmathews@rcdony.org. Application deadline is June 1, 2019.

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Papineau, Cook receive Bishop Wadhams Award

AKWESASNE— Bishop Terry R. LaValley presented the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service to Irving Papineau and Elaine Cook during the celebration of Confirmation on April 27, 2019 at St. Regis Mission at Akwesasne.

The Bishop Wadhams Award was instituted by Bishop Paul Loverde, the eleventh Bishop of Ogdensburg, in 1996, to recognize exceptional service to the Diocese of Ogdensburg by people of the North Country.

Recipients of the Award include Father Richard Siepka (former rector of Wadhams Hall Seminary), Monsignor Lawrence M. Deno (former Superintendent of Catholic Schools), Mrs. Mary Lou Kilian (Former editor of the North Country Catholic), Monsignor Robert Giroux (former Vicar General), Dr. Gerald Irwin (former professor at Wadhams Hall and Peritus for the Diocesan Tribunal), Sister Kathryn Healy (Chaplain, St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center), Dr. A. B. DeGrandpre (former Knight of the Holy Sepulcher, friend and benefactor of St. John's Academy, Mount Assumption Institute and Seton Catholic Central School),



Elaine Cook

Clyde A. Lewis, Sr. (Knight of Malta, formation of Bishop's Heritage Circle), Thomas and Claudia Sanders (Pre-Cana directors and hosts in the international student program at Seton Catholic High School), Henry and Huguette Domingos of

Potsdam, New York (Formation for Ministry Program, Serra Club founders, ministry in their parish), Sister Donna Franklin, DC (Catholic Charities director for 22 years), and Sally Rusaw, Ogdensburg (prison ministry, archivist, teaching).

In bestowing the Award on Irving Papineau, Bishop LaValley noted both the quality and the length of his service to the Church.

Bishop LaValley stated, "Irving Papineau, with love and zeal has graciously and generously served our Diocese and the people of the North Country in ways that have touched our hearts and souls. Irving is a parishioner of St. Regis Church and has long served as a board member, catechist and treasurer at Saint Kateri Hall in Hogsburg. For more than 27 years Irving shared his faith as a catechist preparing young people for the Sacrament of Confirmation. As a trustee and treasurer of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Hall, he formed young people in the Catholic faith and helped them to recognize the grace of God in their lives. Irving is highly respected in the faith community of St. Regis and in the wider community of Akwesasne because of his generosity, integrity and dedication to serving others. With gratitude, we recognize the goodness of Irving Papineau for his leadership and faithfulness that have led us all closer to Christ our Savior." Irving served many

years as the principal of the Mohawk School at Akwesasne.

Elaine Cook has been a pillar of St. Regis Mission. Serving under twelve pastors, she gave wonderful service to the priests and people of the parish.

In bestowing the award on Elaine, Bishop LaValley stated, "Elaine Cook, woman of faith and daughter of the Church, has graciously and generously served our Diocese and the people of the North Country in countless ways. Accompanying Jesuit priests and brothers, Elaine served as guide and translator so that the poor, homebound, infirm and elderly could receive the care and comfort of the Church. With compassion, Elaine maintained parish records, prepared reports, assisted parishioners and performed all administrative tasks in St. Regis Parish for more than three decades. Elaine has witnessed to the Gospel with humility, perseverance and trust in the Lord, serving others with love, respect and kindness. We are all deeply grateful to her for leadership, which has been a source of unity." Elaine continues to be active in the life of her parish.



HONORED FOR SERVING THE SICK

Sister Mary Christine Taylor, a Sister of St. Joseph, was recently honored by the Diocese of Valleyfield, Quebec for her service to the sick. Sister Christine visits 120 people per week for sick calls. She is pictured with Bishop Terry R. LaValley, Father Jerome Pastores and local Knights of Columbus at St. Regis Mission Church.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Symposium considers future with Roe v. Wade decision repealed

WASHINGTON (CNS) – What would American society look like if the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade ruling, which legalized abortion on demand, were overturned? Panelists at a May 1 symposium sponsored by Americans United for Life stopped short of predicting when that would happen to the 1973 ruling, even with two new conservative justices, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh, on the Supreme Court. But all agreed that the language of the decision – based on the medical knowledge about fetal development in the early 1970s and lacking a strong constitutional foundation while asserting a constitutional right to terminate a pregnancy – has rendered it obsolete. "The Supreme Court needs to wake up," said Catherine Foster, president of Americans United for Life. "Roe is long past its expiration date and the American public knows it." Americans United for Life, formed in 1971, has adopted an approach chipping away at the ruling. Charmaine Yoest, vice president of the Institute for Family, Community, and Opportunity at the Heritage Foundation, said the symposium's goal in part was to rebut the idea of "reliance interest," meaning, "American women have to come to believe that they need to rely on abortion in order to ensure their place in society."

Pope: Nations stirring up nationalism betray their mission

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Migrants are not a threat to a nation's culture, traditions and values, Pope Francis said. Every nation is a product of immigration and the integration of diverse peoples, united by specific values, cultures and "healthy traditions," he said. That is why any nation that "stirs up nationalistic sentiments in its people against other nations or groups of people would betray their mission," the pope said May 2. Pope Francis gave a lengthy speech to members of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, who were holding a plenary meeting at the Vatican on the nature and role of the nation-state, the development of international cooperation and today's resurgence of nationalism. The Catholic Church, the pope said, has always promoted love and respect for one's nation and cultures while also warning against turning such affection into the hatred and exclusion of others – a "confrontational nationalism that puts up walls, indeed, even racism and anti-Semitism. The church notes with concern the reemergence, a bit everywhere in the world, of aggressive currents against foreigners, especially immigrants, as well as that growing nationalism that overlooks the common good," he said.

Letter writers accuse Pope Francis of heresy

LANCASTER, England (CNS) – A small group of Catholics has accused Pope Francis of heresy and has written to the world's bishops asking them to "take the steps necessary to deal with the grave situation of a heretical pope." The letter, originally signed by 19 people – mostly scholars and retired academics – was published April 30 by LifeSiteNews, a frequent critic of Pope Francis – and was posted on the change.org petition website by Nick Donnelly, a permanent deacon of the Diocese of Lancaster and one of the original signers of the letter. Much of the 20-page letter is focused on "Amoris Laetitia," the pope's 2016 exhortation on marriage and family life, and especially its suggestions for a process of guided discernment that might eventually lead to a determination that a couple who is divorced and remarried only civilly could access the sacraments. Looking at more current issues, the letter objects to a document on human fraternity that Pope Francis signed with a Muslim leader in Abu Dhabi in February.

Quebec considers strict law governing religious symbols

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) – The Quebec government is preparing to adopt what would become the most stringent secularism legislation in Canada, hoping to end more than a decade of acrimonious debates about religion's place in the public space.

Religious groups fear, however, that the legislation will be detrimental to their fundamental rights regarding freedom of worship.

Simon Jolin-Barrette, minister of immigration, diversity and inclusion, introduced Bill 21 in the National Assembly of Quebec March 28. The draft prohibits wearing religious symbols, such as a cross, a veil or a kippah, for some people "in the performance of their duties."

School teachers, as well as persons with authoritative power, such as judges or police officers, will not be allowed to wear a religious symbol. The Jolin-Barrette indicated, however, that the prohibition does not apply to persons already "in office at the time of the presentation of the new piece of legislation."

He explained that the bill requires every government employee to not cover his or her face and says that any citizen who wishes to obtain a service must have their face uncovered to allow for verification of identity or for safety reasons.

The draft is based on four principles: the separation of the state and religions, the religious neutrality of the state, the equality of all citizens and freedom of conscience and religion.

The Quebec branch of the National Council of Canadian Muslims declared that the proposal, if adopted, will make Muslims in Quebec and other minorities "second-class citizens."

The government "has introduced this discriminatory legislation without engaging in any consultation whatsoever with impacted communities," the organization said.

For Ihsaan Gardee, NCCM executive director, a secular state should protect freedom of religion and not be "coercing individual conformity to what the majority wants."

The Quebec government, led by Prime Minister Francois Legault, has argued that it has the support of a strong majority of residents. Indeed, polls show that a majority of Quebecers support the initiative.

Bishop Noel Simard of Valleyfield, Quebec, president of the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops, opposed the legislation, saying that "neutrality (of a state) must in no way restrict the fundamental rights of individuals and communities to express their spiritual and religious beliefs and to live on it."

A few days before the bill was introduced, the Quebec bishops said: "The wearing of signs or clothes showing religious affiliation is a clear case of the exercise of freedom of religion. Restricting this fundamental freedom in any way should be done only on the basis of grave and unassailable reasons."

Jewish, Anglican and United Church of Canada leaders voiced opposition

to the opposed the bill as well.

"The Jewish community of Quebec supports the religious neutrality of the state and recognizes that secularism has historically protected freedom of religion and conscience," said Rabbi Reuben Poupko, co-chair of the Center for Israel and Jewish Affairs in Quebec. "While we welcome the exemption to private schools, we are firmly opposed to any restriction of the freedom of religion of individuals in the name of secularism."

"The commitment to secularism does not rest on the outward appearance of individuals," he added. "Any legislation that aims to restrict individual freedoms must pass the test of its constitutionality and in this regard, we are troubled by the inclusion of the notwithstanding clause to shield this legislation from a legal challenge."

The government invoked Canada's notwithstanding clause in introducing the bill. The clause allows provincial governments to override some parts of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In this case, some provisions in the charter related to religious liberty would be overridden. Legault said the debate has lasted "for too long," and that his government's bill is "moderate."

Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson and Bishop Bruce Myers of the Anglican dioceses of Montreal and Quebec, respectively, said the proposed legislation may represent a type of political interference in religious life.

AT THE MOVIES

UGLYDOLLS

NEW YORK (CNS) – "UglyDolls" (STX) call to mind that age-old saying, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." They're based on a line of plush toys that are deliberately designed not to be among the fairest of them all. Lumpy and misshapen, missing eyes and teeth, UglyDolls teach children to look beyond the superficial for inner loveliness and true goodness.

That worthy lesson pervades this spirited animated musical, billed as "a classic 'under-doll' story,"

an empowerment fable where ugly ducklings face off against vain Barbies.

UglyDolls reside in – where else? – Uglyville, where life is one big party, a celebration of their dysfunction and differences run by the cheery mayor, Ox (voice of Blake Shelton). Free-spirited Moxy (voice of Kelly Clarkson) heads the welcome committee when a new arrival drops from the sky after being rejected by the toy factory above.

Beneath her sunny exterior, Moxy longs for what

every toy desires: to be loved by a child in the "real world" beyond Uglyville. One day she persuades her gaggle of friends, including Uglydog (voice of Pitbull) and Wage (voice of Wanda Sykes), to climb the mountain behind Uglyville and see what's on the other side.

There they encounter the place called Perfection (of course), a waystation where flaw-free toys are trained to be received and cherished by children.

Perfection's leader is

Lou (voice of Nick Jonas), a preppy hipster who heaps disdain on the new arrivals. Undeterred, Moxy insists that she and her crew be given the chance to prove themselves worthy of acceptance, warts and all.

"We are not rejects," Moxy proclaims. "Our flaws are what make us who we are."

Director Kelly Asbury ("Gnomeo & Juliet") makes a valiant effort to scale the lofty animation heights claimed by Disney/Pixar, which raised the bar very

high with its "Toy Story" and "Monsters, Inc." franchises. "UglyDolls" borrows heavily from those (far superior) movies but does offer a snappy, sing-along soundtrack.

The film contains brief cartoon peril. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I – general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG – parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Triple Crown winner relies on Catholic faith

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS) – Jockey Mike Smith, a Catholic who rode Justify last year to a Triple Crown victory, prays before every race, but he doesn't pray to win.

The 145th Run for the Roses on May 4, when he plans to try for his third Kentucky Derby win, is not going to be any different.

"It can be a dangerous sport. I don't pray to win, I just pray for safety," Smith said during a phone interview two days after riding Omaha Beach to victory in the April 13 Arkansas Derby.

Initially, he was set to ride Omaha Beach, a colt favored to win with 4-1 odds, but the horse was scratched from the race May 1 due to a respiratory condition. On May 3, it was announced that Smith would be in the Kentucky Derby after all, riding Cutting Humor, a 30-1 long shot, replacing the original jockey.

The Hall of Fame jockey credits his faith in God and hard work for his successes.

"My faith is my life, not a part of my life. Everything else is a part of it, except that," he told The Record, archdiocesan newspaper of Louisville.

He said he doesn't like to get the day started without prayer and that he also prays all day for whatever crosses his mind.

"It's funny, it's always been that way. I remember praying when I was in school, sometimes praying that I wouldn't get in trouble," he said with a laugh.

Ahead of the glitz and glamor of Louisville's most famous week, Smith headlined the Race for Grace charity dinner April 29 at Churchill Downs, Kentucky Derby's race-track.

Funds raised at the event, hosted by the Kentucky Race Track Chaplaincy, support the men and women who work on the backside of racetracks in Kentucky, including Churchill Downs.

Smith said he has a great deal of respect for the



Mike Smith

work of the chaplaincy to support track workers.

The jockey was born and raised on his family's ranch in New Mexico and knew from a young age his future would center on horses.

"As far back as I can remember, I always had a horse. While other kids got bikes, where I'm from, everyone got a horse," he said.

His parents and grandparents were the first teachers of his faith, he noted. His grandmother, Rosita Vallejos, in particular, instilled in him a love for the Catholic faith.

"She, without a doubt,

was the strongest influence on my faith. She prayed with me before bed when I was little. She taught me prayers in English and Spanish," he recalled.

"My faith means everything to me. I would not have anything if I didn't have it," he said. "Life wouldn't be worth living without my faith."

The jockey said he believes "we are put here to do the great things the Lord wants us to do – to help others if we can, be there for people, love people, to be humble, gracious, kind, considerate, caring."

His racing pedigree is well known to those who follow horse racing. He began racing in the early 1980 and was inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 2003.

In 2005, he rode long-shot Giacomo to victory in the Kentucky Derby. And in 2018, when he rode Justify at age 52 to a Triple Crown, he became the oldest jockey to win the title.

When he's at home in Southern California, he attends St. Rita Church in Sierra Madre, where he has been a parishioner for about 15 years.

And with all his successes in horse racing, he said, he's still not done.

"It's who I am. There's nothing like it," he said, adding that nothing compares to the "thrill of riding an amazing athlete like a horse, especially when you are crossing the wire."

"I don't want to give it up, not yet anyway," he said.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Hearing the voice of the shepherd

In Jesus' lifetime on earth as preacher and healer, He was known for His compassion and love. Shortly before His Passion and death, He stopped on his way to Jerusalem to weep over the city, crying out, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who were sent to it, how often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood together under her wings,



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

and you were not willing!"

Jesus is best known, however, as a shepherd, leading His flock to eternal life. He called himself the door, the gate, the sheepfold itself. The shepherd knows sheep by name, and each one of his flock are safe when they follow his call.

Today's Gospel emphasizes this aspect of a shepherd – his voice.

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give

May 12

Fourth Sunday of Easter

READINGS

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

John 10:27-30

them eternal life, and they never perish."

How often in Scripture we hear that gentle yet powerfully persuasive voice calling each apostle to follow Him. To the troubled and possessed, His voice sternly commanded the demons to depart; to the ill and infirm, His voice was that of a tender healer; to the

religious leaders, it was sometimes an angry voice denouncing them for refusing to believe the truths of the Father's message. After His resurrection, Jesus commanded the apostles to go out to the whole world and preach the Good News. For the first three Sundays, we heard how Peter followed the command of Jesus to "feed my lambs, feed my sheep." As Peter included the Gentiles in his preaching, so, too, did Paul. In today's first reading, and in subsequent Sundays after Easter, we will hear how Paul ex-

tended the message to the Jews first, then the Gentiles on his missionary journeys. They spoke with boldness as Jesus had commanded them, often experiencing imprisonment, beatings and rejection.

Christians throughout the centuries have experienced rough treatment and sometimes death for their faithfulness to the voice of the Good Shepherd. We, too, must never let hostile and strident voices drown out the message of salvation. There is no other voice by which the world can be saved.

Profile of women religious rising at Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Vatican can move at a snail's pace but looking back over the past six years, the profile of women, especially women religious, at Vatican events has risen sharply.

The Roman Curia is not teeming with women leaders and Pope Francis has given no indication, for example, that he will open the diaconate to women, but women are taking center stage more often and doing so with the "parrhesia" or boldness Pope Francis encourages.

And rather than having to beg for a hearing, members of the International Union of Superiors General – leaders of some 450,000 women religious around the world – are regularly invited now to Vatican meetings at every level.

Sister Carmen Sammut, UISG president and superior of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa, told reporters May 2 "with the Vatican dicasteries, many things have changed" over the past six years.

"We have, in fact, been knocking on doors, and doors have been slowly opening" at the Synod of Bishops and at the meetings of Vatican congregations and councils, she said.

Sister Sally Hodgdon, UISG vice president and superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery, said, "Since Pope Francis, things have changed radically."

Vatican offices, she said, "are much more open, more user-friendly."

"It seems each year they listen a little more and follow through more on our ideas," Sister Hodgdon said.

Vatican officials, she said, are realizing more and more that women have some of the skills and experience they need, and the sisters are realizing how they can be "prophetic in different ways."

One example is the Way of the Cross meditations written for Pope Francis' celebration at Rome's Colosseum by Consolata Sister Eugenia Bonetti, a pi-

oneer in the ministry of women religious to victims of human trafficking, particularly those forced into the sex trade.

Sister Bonetti's meditations for Good Friday were prayerful and pious, but also explicitly condemned men who go to prostitutes, governments who have slammed their borders closed against migrants and refugees, and Catholics who prefer to look the other way in both situations.

Another moment of holy feminine boldness came during the February summit on child protection at the Vatican when Sister Veronica Openibo, congregational leader of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, told Pope Francis and the presidents of the world's bishops' conferences that the hypocrisy of Catholic leaders who claimed to be guardians of morality yet remained silent about clerical sexual abuse has left the church's credibility in shambles.

A small sign of the

changing status of women also can be seen in the pope's interaction with participants at the UISG plenary meetings, which are held every three years in Rome. Pope Francis was scheduled to meet with some 850 women leading religious orders May 10.

The first plenary he addressed, in 2013, was held just two months after his election. The superiors were excited by the new energy the new pope brought and his renewed focus on the serving the poor, which was and is their forte.

But the women were the audience, not the protagonists of the meeting, with the pope giving a speech that included a quip about the women religious not being "spinsters" or "old maids," which brought laughter, but didn't sit well with everyone.

Three years later, in 2016, the format of the UISG meeting with the pope had changed. This time the sisters asked challenging questions and the

pope responded.

Describing the questions as courageous, Pope Francis was asked, among other things, about: opportunities for women to preach; the importance of involving women in church decision making, especially when the decisions impact women; and handling requests from bishops and priests looking for free labor from religious orders.

But the most newsworthy question was whether he'd be willing to set up a commission to explore the roles of the women identified as deacons in the New Testament and to try to tackle the question of whether they were ordained or simply "blessed" in some way for service.

The pope accepted the challenge and less than three months later, appointed 12 scholars, six women and six men, to a study commission. Two members of the commission said in January that their work had been completed and a report given to Pope Francis.



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director

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Honoring mothers

Mothers. Mothering is defined by most dictionaries as to watch over, nourish, and protect maternally. Mothers give us life. For some, becoming a mother is often referred to as life's defining moment. Motherhood is a responsibility that changes with each breath, each day, each moment.

The Catholic Church is rich with history of great women. These women often represented mothers or maternal figures. Some of these women include Eve, the Mother of all Living; Sarah, mother of Isaac; Mother Teresa of Calcutta; and Mary, the Blessed Virgin, Mother of Jesus and the most noteworthy of them all.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is our model of love and mercy, who through her Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, became a Mother to all children on earth.

Even today, Mary serves as the perfect example of motherhood for our modern world. Just as a good mother does not abandon her children, Mary too did not abandon, even in the midst of her own darkness and personal sufferings.

Just like Mary, we cannot abandon our mission family, often the poorest and most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters around the world.

Mothers teach of compassion, love and fearlessness. A mother can be the one to pick you up when you fall down or help you when you are in need. A mother is someone you can count on when no one else will answer your call.

The Missions are like a mothering presence in lands where despair and misery reign free. To some in the Mission Lands, missionaries are like parents to these poor souls who are in dire need of so much.

As Mother's Day approaches, take the opportunity to remember those in the Missions who continue to be nourished and loved through our prayers and sacrifice at home.

As the definition of mothering goes "to nourish and protect," may they know always the love of Mary, Blessed Virgin and guiding light to us all.

Please remember "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" in your Will.
www.rcdony.org/mission

OBITUARIES

Carthage – Leslie I. Gyurko, 97; Memorial Services May 11, 2019 at St. James Church.

Fort Covington – Lawrence A. Sovay, 91; Funeral Services May 6, 2019 at the Cappello-McKenzie and Cosgrove Funeral Home; burial in the old St. Mary's Cemetery.

Hogansburg – David L. Francis, 57; Mass of Christian Burial April 30, 2019 at St. Regis Church; burial in St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Keeseville – Lorraine Madeline Spooner, 80; Mass of Christian Burial May 6, 2019 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in St. John's Cemetery.

Lowville – Josephine (Pogozelski) Repak, 88; Mass of Christian Burial May 3, 2019 at St. Peter's Church; burial Lowville Rural Cemetery.

Lyon Mountain – Bruce R. Shutts, 71; Mass of Christian Burial May 2, 2019 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Gardens, Ellen-

burg Depot.

Malone – Patricia Bashaw Gokey, 88; Mass of Christian Burial May 1, 2019 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Malone – Paul J. Petell, 79; Funeral Services May 3, 2019 at the Brusio-Desnoyers Funeral Home.

Malone – Eileen R. (Johnson) Trippany, 91; Mass of Christian Burial April 30, 2019 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Norfolk – Cora "Josie Paige, 90; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2019 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Janine C. (LaMay) Brennan, 80; Funeral Services April 30, 2019 at Frary Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – 1st Sgt. (Ret) Donald F. Burns, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 3, 2019 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, Heuvelton.

Plattsburgh – Richard J. Buskey, 87; Mass of Christian Burial May 6, 2019 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Elizabeth (Burke) Conway, 90; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2019 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Chateaugay.

Plattsburgh – Mary D. (Tetreault) Perry, 89; Mass of Christian Burial May 1, 2019 at St. John's Church; burial in Mr. Carmel Cemetery.

Potsdam – Roy F. Patraw, 84; Funeral Services April 30, 2019 at the Donaldson-Seymour Funeral Home; burial in St. Anne's Cemetery, St. Regis Falls.

Redford – Alyson N. DellaPiana, 33; Mass of Christian Burial May 4, 2019 at Church of the Assumption.

Saranac Lake – Rogene Vosburgh LeMay, 91; Mass of Christian Burial April 29, 2019 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Harrietstown Cemetery.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor,

I want to express my appreciation to all who participated in the 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign. We had a very good turn out, many new people got involved from various Christian denominations.

Our campaign began on Ash Wednesday and ended Palm Sunday. We were dedicated to 12 hours of prayer seven days a week. Our closing vigil was beautiful, as we gathered,

young and old, in prayer for a candle-light service, placing red and white carnations around the tree.

Thank you to those who committed to fasting and prayer from their homes, churches, places of work, etc. A big thank you to those who traveled from afar to participate in this campaign.

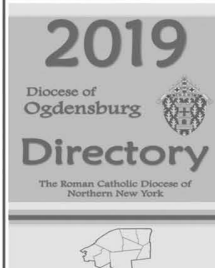
Prayer does change things and all are welcome. We hope you return for the fall campaign and join with many

new vigil participants to pray for the end of abortion in Plattsburgh.

It is a tragedy that little innocent lives are ended in our neighborhood. There are so many resources available to let life grow. For more information, go to www.40daysforlife.com.

Nancy Belzile
40 Days for Life
Plattsburgh Coordinator

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College students step away on spring retreat

By Amanda Conklin
Contributing writer

COLTON – Nine college students from Canton and Potsdam colleges attended a Lenten day retreat on April 13 at Higley Flow State Park Lodge.

The day served as preparation and a stepping-off-point for Holy Week. Students heard talks from their Campus Ministers and the Diocesan Coordinator of Campus Ministry on Christ's Passion, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday and the last seven phrases of Christ.

Students were asked to pause and reflect, answering questions in provided journals. Also provided were Magnificats and special Holy Week devotionals. The day included a hike on trails through the park. The retreat concluded with a Holy Hour at St. Paul's Oratory in South Colton with an opportunity for confession



Students from Potsdam and Canton colleges gathered in Colton for a spring retreat in preparation for Holy Week.

with Father Stephen Rocker.

A talk on Holy Thursday and the Eucharist, given by Tylor Starkey stood out to SUNY Potsdam sophomore Anthony Pelella.

"Tyler said that he struggled believing that the Eucharist actually turns into the body of Christ, when he converted to Catholicism," Pelella said. "Sometimes, when I think to myself about Catholicism,

I have questions and feelings of doubt like what Tyler experienced. The talks were good, but I found that Tyler's talk gave me inspiration to find deeper meaning through my doubts, and

to keep striving to be the best Catholic I can be."

Brooke Kelly, a junior at St. Lawrence University enjoyed her first Campus Ministry retreat.

"It provided not only the opportunity to reflect and prepare, but also to escape the chaos of college life and become grounded again, together with others who share our faith," she said.

The location of the retreat was new to Campus Ministry but provided the calm and quiet wilderness that lends itself to the contemplative nature of the retreat.

"It was really relaxing and great to get out and enjoy the wilderness again," said Jon Monnat, student at SUNY Canton appreciated the venue.

"It was great to go into nature and prepare for Holy Week by learning more about our amazing faith," echoed Conner Cummings, senior at SUNY Potsdam.

Officials pleased with conscience protection rule

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The announcement of a new conscience protection rule May 2 protecting health care workers who object to abortion procedures on religious grounds was welcome news to U.S. Catholic bishops and the president of the Catholic Health Association.

President Donald Trump announced the rule at the White House Rose Garden during a speech on the National Day of Prayer.

"Just today we finalized new protections of conscience rights for physicians, pharmacists, nurses, teachers, students and faith-based charities," Trump said.

The rule, issued by the

Department of Health and Human Services and enforced by that department's Office of Civil Rights, is more than 400 pages long with specific guidelines requiring hospitals, clinics and universities that receive federal funding through Medicare or Medicaid to certify that they comply with laws protecting conscience rights regarding abortion, sterilization and assisted suicide.

Under the rule, medical workers or institutions would not have to provide, participate in or pay for procedures they object to on moral or religious grounds.

"Laws prohibiting gov-

ernment funded discrimination against conscience and religious freedom will be enforced like every other civil rights law," said Roger Severino, director of the Office of Civil Rights in a May 2 statement.

"This rule ensures that health care entities and professionals won't be bullied out of the health care field because they decline to participate in actions that violate their conscience, including the taking of human life. Protecting conscience and religious freedom not only fosters greater diversity in health care, it's the law," he said.

Last year, the depart-

ment of Health and Human Services received more than 1,300 complaints alleging discrimination in a health care setting based on religious beliefs or conscience issues.

Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, chairman of the bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty, issued a joint statement May 2 commending the adoption of these new regulations to ensure existing laws protecting con-

science rights in health care are enforced and followed.

The statement said these laws have been policy for years, but "the previous administration did not fully enforce them and now they are increasingly being violated."

The bishops said health care providers such as nurses and medical trainees "have been coerced into participating in the brutal act of abortion against their core beliefs, while churches and others who oppose abortion are being compelled by states like California to cover elective abortion – including late-term abortion – in their health plans."