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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 74, Number 44

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

APRIL 8, 2020

Pope on Palm Sunday: Life is meant to serve others

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – With a small procession down the vast and empty central nave of St. Peter's Basilica, Pope Francis began the first of a series of Holy Week liturgies celebrated without the presence of the faithful from the general public.

Palm Sunday Mass, the liturgy that begins with a commemoration of Jesus entering Jerusalem among a jubilant crowd, was celebrated April 5 without the usual outdoor procession and blessing of the faithful's palm fronds.

A small number of pews were set out, with 13 people – each holding a woven palm frond – sitting one per pew; just eight people sang in the choir. The basilica was decorated with a potted olive tree and greenery. Also displayed were the "Salus Populi Romani" (health of the Roman people) icon and what Romans call the "Miraculous Crucifix," normally housed in the Church of St. Marcellus; over the centuries, both the icon and crucifix have been associated with miraculous interventions to save the city and its people.

Broadcast and livestreamed over a wide range of media, the pope preached in his homily about the betrayal and abandonment Jesus experienced before and during his Passion.

He was betrayed by a disciple who "sold him" and one who denied him, betrayed by people who sang "hosanna" to him and then shouted "crucify him," betrayed by "the religious institution that unjustly condemned him and by the political institution that washed its hands of him," the pope said.

Then, on the cross, Jesus asked God "the most excruciating question, 'Why.' 'Why did you, too, abandon me?'"

"Why did all this take place?" the pope asked. "It was done for our sake, to serve us."

"God saved us by serving us" and by taking upon himself all the punishment for people's sins "without complaining, but with the humility, patience and obedience of a servant, and purely out of love," he said.

"The Lord served us to the point of experiencing the most painful situations of those who love – betrayal and abandonment," he said.

The reason, the pope said, was so "when we have our back to the wall, when we find ourselves at a dead end, with no light and no way of escape, when it seems that God himself is not responding, we should remember that we are not alone."

PALM DISTRIBUTION



With public gatherings still suspended, many parishes are distributing palms to parishioners by leaving them in open churches, including St. Helen's Church in Chasm Falls, part of St. André Bessette Parish.

SHARING OUR STORIES



Colton resident Liz Tarbox says her faith has carried her through tough times, including the loss of her husband. Tarbox recounts how she continues to lean on her faith and tough times, and how her love of the Lord inspires her to share her faith by ministering to others.

FULL STORY, PAGE 5

Follow Me: Bishop LaValley delivers Easter Message

Bishop Terry R. LaValley delivers his annual Easter message:

He is Risen! Easter is more than a one-day affair. We are invited to make the truth of Easter a way of life, each in our own way striving to bring light where there is darkness, hope where there is discouragement, and community building where there is loneliness and division. We will continue to sing a song of

joy and live a life of confident courage as we follow the Risen Christ. He is Risen! The Risen Christ brings healing and lasting peace in the midst of an anxious and hurting world.

We come away with 2020 Vision this Easter because we see with the eyes of the Risen Christ all those hurting so much in our world.

FULL STORY, PAGE 3

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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: \$30Matters for publication
should be
addressed to
PO Box 326Ogdensburg, NY 13669
and should be received byThursday prior to
publication.Paper is printed each
Monday;dateline is Wednesday.
Member, Catholic Press
Association.**POSTMASTER:**Send address changes to
North Country Catholic,
PO Box 326
Ogdensburg, NY
13669-0326

EDITOR'S NOTE

Inspired to be North Country creative

It can describe it only as, "North Country creativity."

My pastor, Father Raymond J. Moreau, had asked for assistance in livestreaming and recording the Paschal Triduum from our parish. We needed a reliable internet connection in the church to make it work.

Armed with an internet signal extender, a small electronic device, we set to work. When we got the device connected, maintaining at least six feet of separation through the process, the signal in the church wasn't as strong as we had hoped.

"Let's try moving it outside

the garage," Father Ray suggested.

Problem: The exterior outlet didn't seem to have power going to it.

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

Father Ray to the rescue.

He grabbed an extension cord, plugged the cord in to an outlet inside the garage, plugged the device into the other end and strung the extender and cord over an overhang support outside the garage.

The device was under cover and out of the elements, and the signal strength was strong enough that we could livestream from inside the church.

It wasn't exactly advanced technology, but it got the job done quickly and affordably. It was North Country creativity.

While I found this solution a rather comical fix to a frustrating problem, I've seen similar examples of North Country residents following God's call to serve one another and doing it in creative ways.

I see people using their crafting talents to create face masks for others. I've seen people coming up with creative ways to safely deliver needed goods to individuals in need. I've seen parish after parish work to offer ways for parishioners to be able to connect with their home

parish during this holy season.

This has been far from an ideal Lent and Holy Week. Let's be honest: It's been hard. But it's also been beautiful to see the North Country get creative to bring worship, connection and service to one another.

We've been through what I can only describe as an enhanced Lent. Let's celebrate an enhanced Easter.

As we prepare to celebrate the Risen Christ, let us celebrate the fact that he continues to be with us now, inspiring us, sustaining us and nurturing us, even if it's not in the typical ways.

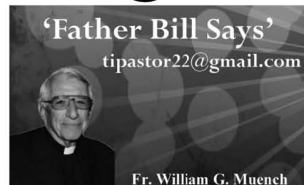
I guess our Lord originated "North Country creative."

'Our challenge is to remain in Jesus'

As a child, I remember that it seemed like each day of Lent seemed just the same. One day was just like the one before. My parents convinced me I should give up something during Lent. So, each day of Lent in those days, all I did was to think about my Lenten mortification. During Lent I became very anxious to get to Holy Week and Easter.

This year, because of the social distancing caused by the pandemic, each day during Lent has been very much the same – just like the one before – as we live separately and apart. Personally, each day has been a time of prayer and writing, however, the pattern of these days continues to be very much – the same each day.

Now, as we enter Holy Week and approach Easter, I urge you to join me in making this Holy Week a very special celebration, despite this pandemic. Each of us can celebrate from our own homes the special events of

**Fr. William G. Muench**

Jesus' Passion and the victory of the Resurrection of the Savior. The rituals of Holy Week will be missed, but we still should celebrate and meditate on the Lord's Passion, death and Resurrection.

I would like to suggest to you that you make a sacred space in your home for the prayer and remembrance of Holy Week and Easter. You could decorate your sacred space with a picture or a statue, a Bible, a prayer book. This could be the place to gather the family together for prayer as you remember the Lord's actions during that time that made us a saved people.

At the Last Supper, Jesus spoke a discourse to his apostles. Among other

things, He used the image of the vine and the branches. Jesus speaks of Himself as the vine, and we are the branches. Our growth depends on how well we are connected to the vine, connected to Our Lord Jesus. Our lives as branches depends on our connection to the life of the vine. Jesus tells us that the Father is the vine grower, the farmer. To help us grow as a fruitful branch, the Father, our farmer, will prune us. Those of you who are good gardeners understand pruning better than I do. I think this means a gardener will help a plant or a branch grow better and more fruitfully by cutting it back a bit, so that we find God more alive in our lives. God challenges us so that we become strong, so that we truly grow more faithful and more alive through the Lord.

As we celebrate Holy Week and Easter, our challenge is to remain in Jesus, to remain in the Lord's love. At the Last Supper, Jesus leads us to un-

derstand the great love the Lord has for us. He pronounces his great commandment, "Love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Holy Week and Easter help us to recognize the Lord's great love, as He climbed the cross and died for us and then found new life in the Resurrection.

Jesus tells the apostles and us that we are his friends. He tells us, "you have not chosen me, I have chosen you." Think of it: Our Lord Jesus wants to be our friend and for us to live as his friends, loving one another. Think of it, the Lord wants to be our friend. When we walk with Jesus on the road to Calvary, we walk with our friend. When we stand at the foot of Jesus' cross, we stand looking up at our friend. When we recognize the empty tomb, it is our friend who is resurrected. Jesus teaches us and ask us to "Love one another."

FOLLOW ME

'Make the truth of Easter a way of life'

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ: Event.

Easter 2020 – one we won't soon forget! Over the past several weeks, events in our world have impacted greatly our families, our work, and our educational and recreational lives. The coronavirus pandemic has upset our religious routine. Our Lenten disciplines have been compromised—we were unable to celebrate Mass, join our fellow parishioners in parish Lenten Penance Services, Stations of the Cross, Parish Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Lenten Adult Ed. Classes and Lenten Soup Suppers. We had all the best of intentions to be faithful to our Lenten resolutions. Then came that most unwelcome intruder, the COVID-19.

Perhaps it didn't "feel like Lent" to you. But hasn't it been a real desert experience? This year, the Lenten Season has truly been a pilgrimage of faith in the desert. Pilgrims often encounter the unexpected in their travels. How we deal with the unexpected can make a difference in the fruitfulness of the journey. The desert can provide the setting for conversion and intimacy with the Lord. Has this unique Lent prepared us well for the Easter event? I'm confident that through prayer, fasting and sacrifice you and your loved ones have been well equipped for the journey through the desert as we now arrive at the Easter



**Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley**

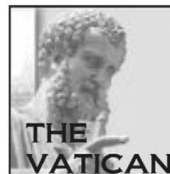
He is Risen! Easter is more than a one-day affair. We are invited to make the truth of Easter a way of life, each in our own way striving to bring light where there is darkness, hope where there is discouragement, and community building where there is loneliness and division. We will continue to sing a song of joy and live a life of confident courage as we follow the Risen Christ. He is Risen! The Risen Christ brings healing and lasting peace in the midst of an anxious and hurting world.

We come away with 2020 Vision this Easter because we see with the eyes of the Risen Christ all those hurting so much in our world. We are more attentive to the needs of others. We earnestly desire to bring the light of Christ into the lives of others. We resolve to grow even closer to Jesus through intimate prayer and works of mercy. We are meant for more than what this world has to offer. So, we rejoice: Alleluia! He has Risen!

Happy and Blessed Easter to you and your loved ones!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

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



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From Chaumont to NYC: A mission in the Bronx

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Contributing Writer

CHAUMONT – Nick Lapointe has been taking his love of Christ both overseas and to New York City.

Lapointe spent last semester in Austria. It was a study abroad experience for the sophomore at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

While in Europe, the 19-year-old Immaculate Heart Central graduate visited many other countries and sites.

“Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina was my favorite of the Marian apparition sites,” Lapointe said. “Our Lady of Lourdes and Fatima are wonderful too; I love them both so much.”

When he returned to school, Lapointe was approached by a friend who suggested he join a mission trip being organized at the school for March 2020. The mission was to be to the Bronx, one of the five boroughs (counties) that make up New York City. Although reluctant to make another trip so soon after Europe, the Chaumont resident agreed and signed up. The trip proved to be “incredible.”

“We encountered so much brokenness,” he said. “People on the subways did not want to even look at you when you tried to talk to them. But there was also so much goodness.”

Prior to leaving, he spoke to parishioners in Watertown about his pending mission trip with 22 other Franciscan University students and faculty.

“Our purpose is to truly encounter the poverty of the homeless and forgotten people we find in the Bronx and share with them the joy and love of Christ, even in a few min-



Nick Lapointe (center) gawking in Manhattan with two other Franciscan University student missionaries. Lapointe, a Chaumont native, went on a mission trip to New York City after a semester abroad in Austria.

utes, as so many are ignored and treated as barely being human in that massive city,” Lapointe said.

The parishioners from St. Anthony’s and St. Patrick’s supported Lapointe’s trip financially and in prayer.

The Franciscan University missionaries lived with the Franciscans at Our Lady of Angels Friary on 155th Street in South Bronx. South Bronx is in the southwest corner of the borough; across the Harlem River from the section of Manhattan that bears the same name, Harlem. South Bronx contains the poorest congressional district in the United States (NY-16) with a median household income of \$19,311. By comparison the national median household income is just shy of \$58,000. The North Country congressional district

(NY-21) median household income is \$56,487. (Source, US Census Bureau).

Ask an internet search engine (we used Google) if the South Bronx is dangerous. The answer was “Yes”.

This is where Lapointe and the cohort from Franciscan University went to work for a week in March 2020. March 7 to 14 to be precise. Just at the start of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic in New York City.

The missionaries worked with the Franciscans, the Sisters of Life and the Missionaries of Charity. Their work took them to the New York boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn, too, but highlights for Lapointe were the two retreats they offered in the Bronx, one for sixth and seventh graders, the other for eighth graders in local Catholic

schools.

“There was so much desire for church,” Lapointe said. “A lot of those kids have a very difficult time at home. We talked to them about identity; being a child of God. And we talked with them about seeing God as their father. So many of the kids only have one parent home at a time. We asked them to look at God as their all loving, perfect father.”

The third topic for their retreats encouraged the students to be men and

women of Christ, adopting His teaching as their own.

“The kids were pretty receptive to our message,” he said. “The questions they asked were insightful. There was nothing superficial about them.”

“Being able to affirm Christ was such a fulfilling experience,” Lapointe added. “It was so life giving to be able to confirm that truth to other people.”

New York City quickly became the center of coronavirus in the United States. The group from Franciscan University left the Bronx before the imposition of controls but the fear had already started to spread. Just a few days before they left, Lapointe said they ventured to a chain supermarket near the Friary. They managed to purchase everything they needed for the remainder of the trip.

“The next day, we heard, the store had been wiped out,” Lapointe said.

The tension was starting to build.

Because of the virus, Lapointe is not likely to be back on campus until fall. He is continuing his studies on-line. This will not be the last we hear of Lapointe’s travels. The next adventure for this young man is this summer.

“I am going to be counselor at a Catholic Youth Camp in Colorado,” he said.

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'God got me to the other side'

By Jonathan Monfiletto
Contributing Writer

COLTON—After her husband died suddenly in an accident in December 2016, Liz Tarbox said it was her faith and the people around her that got her through the tough time.

And it is her faith – and the thought of eventually rejoining the people around her – that is sustaining her once again, this time through the global coronavirus pandemic.

"God just led me down the road," Tarbox said, noting her husband died 23 days before Christmas and then a chimney fire damaged her Colton home three days after the funeral. "God has put little miracles in my life along the way, and I couldn't imagine my life without Him."

Now a widow with her children grown up, on their own, and scattered across the country, "it's me and the cat" for Tarbox, as she – like much of the rest of the country – navigates the global crisis in isolation.

Though she had to cancel an upcoming confirmation retreat because of the health risks involved, Tarbox said her motivation to keep going is the children and parishioners she serves as the Faith Formation director for St. Mary's Church in Potsdam and St. Patrick's Church in Colton, which share a pastor.

Her main focus right now, she said, is keeping herself safe and healthy so she can in turn care for her students and ensure they are safe as well.

Another motivation for Tarbox is knowing God got her through a difficult season in the past and He can do so again.



Colton resident Liz Tarbox poses for a photo with Bishop Terry R. LaValley after Tarbox was commissioned as a lay minister.

"God got me to the other side, and He gets me through every single day. My prayer life is very important to me," she said. "If I weren't for my faith, I really don't know how I would have dealt with this sudden loss of my husband. My faith got me through, a lot of prayer and an incredible pastor who was there for me and helped me get through."

Being active in her parish has helped Tarbox get through as well, and being active in the church is something she has done since becoming Catholic in 1983. She was brought up as a Methodist but had a friend as a teenager who was Catholic and with whom she would attend Mass from time to time.

"There was a mystery and a beauty in it that I did not find in the Protes-

tant church, so I made the decision to become Catholic," Tarbox said, adding she wanted to become active in the church and became a catechist at first.

Then, in 2011, she became the Faith Formation director for St. Patrick's in Colton and took on the same role for St. Mary's in Potsdam three years ago. She also serves as a lector and a member of the parish's Living Stones Committee, and she is a commissioned lay minister.

"I enjoy being active," Tarbox said. "I enjoy working with people, and I am very much an active part of my parish."

Tarbox was about a year and a half into the Formation for Ministry program to become a lay minister when her husband died. That was tough, she said, because the program was



something that was important to both her and her husband.

It was "kind of our night out," she said, as her husband drove them from Colton to Clayton for dinner on the way to class, and on the way home they would talk about everything she learned that evening.

"He was looking forward to being there at my commissioning," Tarbox said, adding that Bishop Terry R. LaValley attended the funeral and then told her upon her commissioning, "You know he's here."

Since becoming a widow, Tarbox said she believes God is calling her to start a bereavement group to support those in a similar situation, more than just helping plan the funeral. After the funeral, she said, everyone has to return to their normal lives and the grieving person is often left trying to figure out life on their own.

"We can do home visits. We can pray together," Tarbox said of the poten-

tial of a bereavement group. "We can help each other get through a lot of the milestones that happen in the grieving process."

For now, she enjoys her work with the Faith Formation program. Though she isn't as involved as a director as she was as a catechist, Tarbox said she makes sure to visit every classroom every Sunday, encouraging the children in their learning, doing special service projects with them, and using her personal life as an example.

"I'm always there for the kids. I'm always there listening to them," she said. "I help them see how much God is part of their lives and how much He loves them."

That's because Tarbox has seen how much God is a part of her life and how much He loves her.

"I don't know that I do anything special," she said. "I'm an ordinary woman who loves God and loves her faith and her fellow parishioners and tries to be a good example. That's just who I am."

Environmental Stewardship

What's on your list?

During our Lenten journey, Jesus walks with us during this time of great pain, suffering and uncertainty in our world community.

As Jesus entered his passion and death that culminated in His resurrection, He showed us that the way of the Cross is the way of love for all of us to carry.

While we are deprived of receiving the Eucharist during this time, we are challenged to be the presence of Christ to those around us through our prayers and actions.

We witness the presence of self-sacrificing love among us as people join together to find ways to relieve the suffering of the sick and the needs of children, families, workers, businesses.

Despite the uncertainty and fear evoked in these times there are some opportunities inherit in them also.

One blessing is the temporary reprieve from our often hectic lives that prevents us from taking time to stop, breathe and be grateful for the gift of life and/or all that we often take for granted. For many of us this shut-down period may offer more time to pray, to enjoy the beauties of springtime unfolding around us and to spend time with family and friends even if only by media.

As we unite as a human family to heal this sickness of the virus, there are two anniversaries being celebrated in the next two months that call our attention of the need to heal the sickness of the earth.

On April 22, we observe fiftieth Anniversary of Earth Day, and on May 24, we celebrate the fifth Anniversary of *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*.

Resources abound for learning more what we can do to heal this global sickness.

If you have not taken time to read Pope Francis' encyclical, you can access it on-line from USCCB or request a free copy from Dynamic-Catholic.com. Check out: Earth Day Eco-challenge and then challenge another family or parishioners to compete with you.

Rest in Peace

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

April 8 – Rev. Benjamin Grom, M.S.C., 1893; Rev. Patrick Carr, O.S.A., 1901

April 10 – Rev. Maurice Morin, M.S.C., 1976

April 11 – Rev. John P. Whalen, O.S.A., 1947

April 13 – Rev. Callistus Scheid, O.F.M. Conv., 1854; Rev. Emil Krancewicz, O.F.M. Conv., 1974; Deacon Richard Warner Sr., 2018

April 14 – Msgr. Richard F. Pierce, 1935; Rev. Alfred Valiquette, O.S.A., 1949

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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!

Surviving 'social distancing' with my large family

By **Andrew Lauria**
Contributing Writer

The term “social distancing” was originally coined to explain the phenomenon experienced by the people of the North Country during the transition from winter to spring. It is often called mud season, when the type of precipitation is unsure, but the sureness of complete and relentless cloud cover is not.

It is the time of year when the few local businesses close and everyone goes somewhere in Florida to recharge before the push for the upcoming summer vacation season. Roads are deserted. Public life seems to come to a halt.

Gatherings, parties, and bonfires are in the near future, and there is a heavy sense of anticipation of higher temperatures and clearing skies as the days ease into a more steady, even pace.

But now every part of our lives seems to be an expression of this sometimes dismal and depressing time of year. Universally, our overcast sky is in the form of the relentless coronavirus, and the news has not been good. But if we look closer, in the midst of the most unprecedented global crisis in the recent history of the world, there is an endless stream of beautiful, life-giving stories of hope and joy.

Many people are being excellent people, and I am proud to say that some of them are my family.

St. Ann Parish in Wells is the most southern parish in the diocese and is comprised mostly of senior citizens, seasonal parish-

ioners, and those in active retirement coupled with a bunch of very active young Laurias.

My family – a large family – have been longtime parishioners of St. Ann, and we continue to be so during this time of isolation.

While the adults understand what is happening, the kids, ranging from six months to eight years, have a more difficult time understanding what is happening and why there is no Mass on Sunday. So we have decided as a family to “do church” the best way we can.

Since we are all isolated together, Sundays have become a unique time as we have created our own family prayer service. We go to the church to check on the building, change any candles or water plants as necessary, but mainly to go see Jesus and pray for our parish community.

We thought it was important for the kids to continue the routine of Sunday being “church day” as well as an easy reminder to check the building and grounds, since there has not been any use of the building in weeks and our pastor lives at another parish out of town.

Our prayer service begins with a hymn, followed by a short reflection on the Mass from the Magnificat prayer book, and together we read The Collect. The readings and gospel are divided between the adults, while my nephew, Vinnie, reads the responsorial Psalm. Our “homily” is the daily reflection found in the Magnificat. Next, we begin the prayer

of the faithful, which always includes the people of our parish and our pastor, Father Sony, as well as the Mass intention for that particular day.

It is a beautiful and humbling experience to hear the kids pray for the needs of the community, as they share the same experience of uncertainty with us adults.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is comprised of the young ones leading us in the Our Father and then a period of silence while kneeling, as we pray for a spiritual communion with Jesus.

After a little while, together we read the prayer after communion then conclude with a hymn. And yes, everyone sings loudly! Our Sunday prayer service has helped us not only keep a routine with the littler ones, but has encouraged us older ones to take seriously our own faith and be an active example to each other.

Now we wait in anticipation of brighter, more predictable days. It is almost Holy Week as I write this, and for the past few weeks, the world has lived in a singular spiritual experience of Lenten anticipation for the resolve of the pandemic.

As we have reluctantly embraced social distancing, in a million tiny places, we have continued to live our lives under the cover of our own isolation.

While it may seem that the intricate fabric of our communal faith life is slowly being dismantled because of this nightmarishly long mud season, right before us is evidence of the tremendous hope of spring.

Keeping kids safe in these challenging times

Editor's note: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The North Country Catholic will be sharing information about preventing child abuse throughout the month.

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

While there's never a bad time to be vigilant to ensure children are safe and healthy, it's especially important during this pandemic, when their regular routines have been disrupted and they may be in unfamiliar situations, says the Diocese of Ogdensburg Safe Environment Office.

"Whether a child is staying home alone for the first time while parents work in essential services, or whether everyone is home together, it's a good time to review safety," said Safe Environment Director John Morrison. "It's a good time to review evacuation plans for fires, fire safety, home rules, like not answering the door for strangers, and it's a good time to review safe and unsafe touches, and safety as it relates to abuse prevention and reporting."

For children staying home alone, Morrison said experts recommend that parents and guardians have a plan to check in on them.

"If a parent or guardian is able to, it's a good idea to call, text or video chat at least a couple times a day," Morrison said. "Also, enlist the help of a neighbor or relative who can check on kids or who the kids can call or go to if there's an emergency, especially if the parent is unable to check in regularly. It's important that the child has a say in who that adult is, though. They might have a



strong preference. They're not going to pick someone that makes them uncomfortable."

Morrison also noted that it's important to also be aware that children may be experiencing stress or may be aware that parents or caregivers are experiencing stress.

"Parents need to have conversations with their children about what is going on, what we need to do and what we're expected to do," he said. "Keep that within a context that doesn't frighten or alarm kids too much. Kids are used to lots of contact – they're always wrestling, hugging, in close contact – and may have a difficult time understanding what social distancing means. Parents and guardians may need to explain what's going on in terms they understand – talk to them about how germs are passed, reinforce hand washing and distancing, and give them a chance to ask questions. And parents are increasingly stressed out. Kids will pick up on stress. It's a good

time to reassure kids that they're safe and things will return to normal at some point."

Morrison also noted that children are currently separated from one of the most common reporters of abuse and neglect, teachers, so it's especially important to be vigilant about the safety and health of children in our environments.

"Research shows the nation's biggest group of hotline tipsters are educators, those required mandated reporters," he said. "We've lost that group for the time being. These are people who see kids every day and may notice changes quickly. There's now more burden on the rest of us to ensure we're picking the slack. We need to be aware of child and youth behavior. We need to be alert for things like changes in hygiene, changes in personality or behavior."

For resources to educate yourself about safety and abuse prevention, including articles specific to the current pandemic situation, visit virtus.org.

Masses, Liturgies to be streamed from cathedral

Bishop LaValley will be streaming the following Masses/Liturgies from St. Mary's Cathedral. These livestreams, as well as other ways to stay connected to your faith during this time of isolation, can be found at www.rcdony.org/covid-19, on the diocesan YouTube Channel and on the diocesan Facebook page.

Sunday, April 5 – Palm Sunday
8 a.m. – Palm Sunday Mass**

Thursday, April 9 – Holy Thursday
8 a.m. – Morning Prayer
6 p.m. – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 10 – Good Friday
8 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4 p.m. – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 11 – Holy Saturday
8 a.m. – Morning Prayer
7 p.m. – Great Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday
8 a.m. – Easter Sunday Mass**


Sunday, April 19 – Divine Mercy Sunday
8 a.m. – Mass**

** Sunday Masses are broadcast on 92.7FM in Ogdensburg & WIRY in Plattsburgh

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Bishops: Moral principles must guide virus response

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The coronavirus pandemic is creating fear over limited resources for treating patients, especially the most seriously ill, but "this is not a time to sideline our ethical and moral principles," said the chairmen of three committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"It is a time to uphold them ever more strongly, for they will critically assist us in steering through these trying times," said the chairmen of the USCCB's doctrine, pro-life and domestic policy committees in a joint statement April 3.

The statement came in response to recent news reports highlighting policies and practices relating to rationing protocols in response to COVID-19.

"Foremost in our approach to limited resources is to always keep in mind the dignity of each person and our obligation to care for the sick and dying," the prelates said. "Such care, however, will require patients, their families, and medical professionals to work together in weighing the benefits and burdens of care, the needs and safety of everyone, and how to distribute resources in a prudent, just and unbiased way."

The statement was signed by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine; Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities; and Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the Committee on Domes-

tic Justice and Human Development."

"This pandemic has highlighted the fact that we have limited resources and therefore may be facing some difficult decisions ahead. At all times resources are limited – there are only so many beds and so many supplies – but this crisis has and will continue to challenge us greatly," they said. "Every crisis produces fear, and the COVID-19 pandemic is no exception."

Across the country, a critical shortage of personal protective equipment for medical personnel who are treating patients with the highly contagious virus and a lack of equipment such as ventilators has prompted some U.S. hospitals to consider instituting a blanket DNR, or "do not resuscitate" order, for COVID-19 patients despite their wishes or those of their family.

Bishop Rhoades and Archbishops Naumann and Coakley praised hospitals and medical personnel for their courage and compassion in treating the nation's COVID-19 patients.

"Hospitals and health care systems are the true epicenter of this pandemic and our health care professionals – doctors, nurses, technicians, administrators and support staff – have all demonstrated courage, compassion, and truly remarkable professional care in a time of growing crisis.

They acknowledged the difficult decisions about care confronting these health care workers, and urged them to read a number of important

statements from Catholic health care and medical ethical organizations reminding them – and the general public – of ethical and moral principles to be applied in these difficult circumstances.

"The Catholic Health Association of the United States, the Catholic Medical Association, the National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA, and the National Catholic Bioethics Center have all published excellent reminders of these principles and guidelines," they said. "We ask people, especially medical professionals, to read these documents and apply them appropriately in their work."

The statements they cited can be found online at these organizations respective websites: Catholic Health Association, <https://www.chausa.org>; Catholic Medical Association, <https://www.cathmed.org>; National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA, <https://nacn-usa.org>; and National Catholic Bioethics Center, <https://www.ncbcenter.org>.

Bishop Rhoades and Archbishops Naumann and Coakley also commended the Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services "for issuing a reminder that in a time of crisis we must not discriminate against persons solely on the basis of disability or age by denying them medical care."

"Good and just stewardship of resources cannot include ignoring those on the periphery of society," they said.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

USCCB president calls for moment of prayer on Good Friday

WASHINGTON – Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has invited U.S. Catholics to join him on Good Friday, April 10, to pray the Litany of the Sacred Heart at noon (EDT). "Praying together as a nation, the archbishop asks that we seek healing for all who are unwell, wisdom for those whose work is halting the spread of coronavirus, and strength for all God's children," said USCCB news release issued late April 2. A livestream of the Litany of the Sacred Heart with Archbishop Gomez will be available on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles' website: www.la-catholics.org and on the USCCB Facebook page: www.facebook.com/usccb. The text of Litany of the Sacred Heart can be found in English and Spanish on the Los Angeles archdiocesan website. Additionally, with special permission received from the Apostolic Penitentiary of the Holy See, a plenary indulgence is available for those who join Archbishop Gomez in praying the Litany of the Sacred Heart on Good Friday.

Googling 'prayer' has skyrocketed with coronavirus spread

ROME (CNS) – Google searches for "prayer" have surged worldwide in step with the surge of emerging cases of COVID-19, according to a European researcher. The rising interest in seeking information about "prayer" on Google "skyrocketed during the month of March 2020 when COVID-19 went global," wrote Jeanet Sinding Bentzen, an associate professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, and executive director of the Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture. Using Google Trends data on internet searches for "prayer" for 75 countries, she said she found that "search intensity for 'prayer' doubles for every 80,000 new registered cases of COVID-19." The findings were part of a preliminary draft study titled, "In Crisis, We Pray: Religiosity and the COVID-19 Pandemic," released online March 30 for public comment. The working paper was to be updated with new data "regularly," she wrote. Bentzen, who authored a paper in 2019 looking at the impact natural disasters had on "religiosity," said she wanted to study whether the COVID-19 crisis was impacting "one of the deepest rooted of human behaviors – religion."

Court allows temporary ban on elective abortion

AUSTIN, Texas (CNS) – By allowing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's temporary block on unnecessary medical procedures, including abortion, to remain, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit March 31 was paying "careful attention to the health and safety needs of Texans" amid the coronavirus pandemic, said Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. A week earlier, Abbott issued an executive order requiring all health care facilities and professionals in Texas to postpone any unnecessary medical procedures "to preserve desperately needed medical supplies" needed to combat the spread of COVID-19. Planned Parenthood Federation of America, along with other organizations that support legal abortion, filed a lawsuit March 25 against Abbott, Paxton and several other state officials over the temporary ban on elective abortion during the pandemic. The ban was briefly lifted the evening of March 30 when a lower court ruled suspending abortion services, even temporarily, was unconstitutional and in violation *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision that legalized abortion nationwide. The 5th Circuit the next day ruled Abbott's executive order stopping elective abortions temporarily could remain in place, pending an appeal.

Economic toll starting to show for nation, church

WASHINGTON (CNS) – After 11 years of U.S. economic growth, the statistics are staggering.

First-time applications for unemployment benefits, which had been hovering in the low 200,000s from week to week, soared to 3.3 million in the March 26 report, then nearly doubled to 6.58 million in the April 2 report. Those two weeks by themselves topped all unemployment benefit filings for the first six months of the "Great Recession" of 2008.

All of the jobs added in the U.S. economy since Donald Trump assumed the presidency in 2017 are now effectively gone. And, depending on whether there's another round of bad news or some thread of hope to cling to by Wall Street traders, all of the stock market gains since January 2017 are gone, too. And fast.

The March unemployment figures released April 3 go through only March 12 – the day after the National Basketball Association suspended its season, with pro hockey and baseball following suit – at that time the most shocking signal yet that these were new and highly uncertain times.

Even so, the climb from a 3.5% unemployment rate in February to 4.4% in March, representing a loss of 701,000 jobs, does not reflect all that has happened in the following weeks: spiking COVID-19 positive tests results – and death rates; restrictions on public gatherings and the issuance of "stay at home" orders; the closure of shops, stores and restaurants, throwing as-yet-untold numbers of people out of work; and people who do have money having far fewer places, and inclinations, to

spend it.

The May jobs report, due May 8, will take into account all that has happened with jobs and the economy into mid-April, said Elise Gould, a senior economist with the Economic Policy Institute. It also will show which sectors of the economy were hit hardest, as well as the demographic groups affected most severely by the pandemic-related economic stall.

Figures from Washington state, the first epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak, while themselves preliminary, give a clue to what the rest of the nation could expect. Three job categories suffered month-to-month double-digit job losses: accommodation and food services, 16.5%; arts, entertainment and recreation, 11.3%; and "other services" outside of public administration, 10.9%.

The \$2 trillion stimulus package hammered out by Congress and signed into law by Trump in late March is "not stimulus so much as relief and recovery," Gould said. "What we need to do right now is ease people's pain ... ease people's pain from these job losses."

She added, "People are losing their job and they're not going to be able to put food on the table, this CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act, what it does, it expands unemployment insurance so that more people can get it for a more expansive number of reasons related to COVID-19." Gould said more action will need to be taken in Washington to get the country through and past the pandemic.

Clayton Sinyai, executive director of the Catholic Labor Network,

said: "It's probably a good generalization" that those who have the least have thus far been hurt the most by the sudden economic upheavals.

For Sinyai, it's personal. "My brother-in-law is a cab driver in Honolulu and is an immigrant. He is trying to figure out how to navigate the system," he said. "It's really challenging for someone who does not have a lot of experience accessing benefits or things like that."

The Catholic Labor Network has been working with food service workers at the airports serving the Washington area. "They've all been furloughed or something similar to that. Restaurants are in the same category," Sinyai said. "Those of us who are able to continue working are disproportionately in white-collar jobs and able to work online and not working with our hands – and not sitting on our hands and hoping to get the relief Congress and the taxpayers have just offered."

At Georgetown University in Washington, the contractor that employs food service workers sent them home without pay when Georgetown closed the campus. After complaints to university leadership by the union representing those workers and by students, a deal was worked out that paid workers until the end of the term. "That was at some expense to Georgetown itself," said Sinyai, noting the university also had rebated dorm-dwelling students the unused portion of their dorm charges.

In the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the nation's largest diocese, "where we can, we will continue to have folks working," said

Annabelle Baltierra, senior director of human resources. "As this continues to go on, we don't have donations coming in, although our bishop (Archbishop Jose H. Gomez) is encouraging, for example, our parishes talking with their donors about continuing, our parents continuing to pay their tuition. Resources will make it doable."

Next steps? "Then we start thinking about reducing staff hours across the board. The bishop encouraged the clergy to set an example and consider taking a cut in their salary," Baltierra said, although they should not go below the minimum wage in doing so. "A last resort," she added, "is to have our employees go on furlough, which would mean they wouldn't have any income, but they would be able to utilize their vacation time until the government passes another emergency bill."

The National Conference on Catechetical Leadership had to call off its annual conference in Dubuque, Iowa, even though its bylaws mandate an annual meeting. "We didn't realize how much the Spirit would force us to look at who we are and how we do things," said executive director Margaret Matijasevic, noting that was part of the conference's theme. "It forced us to do that quicker than we thought."

The future requires a longer-range look than merely rescheduling a meeting, according to Matijasevic.

"What other options we move into, it would be completely shifting our business model," she said. "We really have no measurement of engagement or buy-in for anything that

we consider moving into. There will be some loss, some loss of our identity as an organization, which we've already been looking at" as a result of a leadership crisis in the church, she added.

Membership dues are one source of revenue for many national Catholic organizations. For the NCCL, it lost members who were laid off when diocesan and parish revenues were reduced following a fresh wave of revelations of clerical sexual abuse; Matijasevic told Catholic News Service more could be let go if contributions wither during the pandemic. Another revenue source is convention and conference fees. NCCL's convention is over before it began; strike two.

"The other main revenue stream for many Catholic organizations is their investments. That becomes a point of crisis for some of us, as it is for many dioceses," Matijasevic said. "Most nonprofits are using that as their supplemental reserve."

She added, "Now you're in the crisis point where you're losing your main business model, which is based on the parish business model – and the same thing is happening with many national organizations that have mimicked that model." And if reserves are compromised because of investments in a tailspin, "that's going to hit us tremendously," Matijasevic said.

"We had no concept that COVID-19 would be coming down the pike and force us to refocus who we really are," she added. The challenge comes in "how to be pastoral in that, but taking a good hard look at how we do business," Matijasevic said. "We'd better rethink it."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Celebrating an Easter Sunday like no other

Easter Sunday this year is like no other in memory. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, we have been deprived of celebrating in our churches the great days of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday. The determined among us have attended online Masses and Stations of the Cross. Only



**Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore**

through our faith do we now face the greatest feast of the Church year, the Feast of the Resurrection. And the paschal mystery is as real as ever. The Church itself is built on the rock of Christ's rising from the dead. God's promises in our own resurrection are more desperately needed than ever.

The process of coming to Resurrection faith for

us is similar to what the apostles experienced that first Easter. They were totally discouraged at his capture and crucifixion. And now, they have a greater shock in Jesus alive again in that same body! Now the "fact" was there, and it was necessary for his followers, on the basis of that fact, to take a fresh look at all that Jesus had told them before His death on the cross.

As we listen to the first reading, we experience one of Peter's very first sermons. The curious bystanders were astounded at the change in this man. He comes fresh from the fiery tongues of Pentecost, still in shock at the dream he had on the way to Cornelius' house. Nothing any more was to be consid-

April 12

The Resurrection of the Lord

READINGS

Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4 or
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Matthew 28:1-10

ered unclear. So, he is free to preach to Gentiles the Good News of God's forgiveness. Peter and the others are commanded to baptize any who believe in the Christ. So, the word spreads through the whole countryside and beyond. Resurrection is the hope of every living person.

No wonder they preached with such courage and enthusiasm!

They preached about a God who cared **first** for people who were poor and powerless, a God whose love governed all His relationships. And He taught

us to not only believe in justice, but to act justly.

The Scripture readings during these 50 days between Easter and Pentecost are among the most exciting in the Church year. We give over to "Alleluias" and a joyful shout of "Christ has Risen" this Sunday, and then settle in for a new time of reflection on our own program for resurrection in these very troubled times. After all, it is our mission to bring new life to a troubled world.

And so, we begin a new journey this week, our Easter journey. As followers of the Risen Christ, the time has come for greater attention to where our legislators are going with all the many life issues that affect the unborn, the elderly, and immigrants. We need to take much better care of our veterans. We need to safeguard against

every form of injustice. Faith and action begin with understanding and loving the teachings and plans for action of our Church.

We have so much to do as hope-filled Easter Catholics. These are critical times, and we must not fall back into laziness or complacency now that Lent has ended.

May the Holy Spirit guide us into a higher level of faith as He did the apostles and other followers of the risen Christ. Now they knew that he was truly God and Lord of Life, and their new journey would lead through suffering to their own resurrection.

As our Holy Father prays for the whole world to be freed from the coronavirus, may we pray with him with belief in the Easter power of Jesus to save us from this scourge.

CALLED TO SERVE

Discovering the diaconate

The first time my wife, Kathy, and I went to Rome we were on a pilgrimage with Father Tim Canaan. I was so jealous of Deacon Tom Sharrow, a deacon from St. Mary's Cathedral parish in Ogdensburg.

I was jealous because Tom was able to assist at every Mass Father Tim celebrated during our days in that Holy City.

I was in formation for the diaconate. Father did ask me to be the lector a couple of times, but I was far enough along in my diaconate formation that I longed for the day I could stand with the priest in the Sanctuary of the Lord and serve as a deacon.

Fortunately, several years later, I was privileged to assist Bishop Terry LaValley and then Father, now Bishop Doug Lucia as they celebrated Mass in many of the same locations. It was our second trip to Italy.

This time I was ordained. What a joy, and yes, privilege it is to be a permanent deacon.

This will be a column about the Permanent Diaconate. I hope to share with you what the diaconate life is all about. It was on that trip to Rome

several years ago with Bishop that the idea for this column first occurred to me. So many of the pilgrims on the trip were curious about deacons, what we are permitted to do, or not; how we became a deacon; what effect it has on our marriages and family life.

Deacons Tom Killian and Henry Leader were on the trip too, with their wives. We were all quizzed about our ministry.

Bishop asked me to preach at the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy.



**Deacon
Kevin Mastellon**

those words through the example of deacons who are doing the work, with their pastors, fellow clergy, and the lay people in parishes throughout the diocese.

And I promise it will not always be serious.

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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

Holy Week 2020: A week to pray

It is Holy Week 2020.

The world that we know needs prayers and love and healing more than ever before.

As we near the end of this most Holy Week for the followers of the Catholic faith, let us all bond together in a supportive and compassionate way.

Despite all the current suffering, the Missions, made up of local priests, religious sisters, brothers and lay catechists, still continue to reach out to the suffering in Jesus' name, offering them His love and His message of hope.

They remind us all that God does not abandon us. When we help them experience Good Friday in the Mission world, it only makes the hope and joy of Easter Sunday even more promising.

Missionaries are the first line of defense to the negative impacts of globalization on the integrity of human beings and their cultures.

We pray for missionaries in our World and we remember that we are neighbors in a global village that is the Catholic Church.

We are so grateful for them as they continue to minister in these difficult times of pandemic.

On behalf of the Pontifical Mission Societies, we pray that you have a blessed Holy Week and a beautiful Easter celebration.

This Holy Week, most importantly, pray. Pray for our world.

Pray for Peace. Pray for healing. Pray for the Missions. Take the time to remember the Journey that Jesus took for us.

The Mission Office would also like to express, again, our gratitude to our readers.

God Bless.

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

OBITUARIES

Brushton – Ronald A. Casey, Sr., 70; Private services March 28, 2020 at St. Mary's Cemetery.

Carthage – Carol Lee "Chip" Bartell Ashcroft, 76; Private Mass of Christian Burial at St. James Church; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Carthage – Leona M. (Trombley) Moore, 94; Private Funeral Services April 2, 2020 at Bezanilla-McGraw Funeral Home; burial in St. James Cemetery.

Croghan – Harold E. Wood, 82; Private Funeral Services to be held.

Malone – Gerald Halsey Boyea, 84; Funeral Services to be held at a later date.

Malone – Bryan W. Duso, 70; Mass of Christian Burial to be held at a later date.

Massena – Elizabeth "Betty" A. Catanzarite, 89; Funeral Services to be held at a later date.

Massena – Marie G. (Silver) Charleston, 83; Mass of Christian Burial to be held at a later date at St. Peter's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena – Beatrice (Catanzarite) Hurley, 85; Memorial Mass to be held at a later date at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Morrisonville – Marion A. Badger, 96; Private Services to be held; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Alan "Lanny" Richard Rule, 77; Private Mass of Christian Burial to be held at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Pauline E. (DeCelle) Egan, 93; Memorial Mass to be held at a later date at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Lorraine B. (LaValley) Hart, 92; Memorial Mass to be held at a later date at St. Peter's Church; burial in Schenectady.

Port Henry – Genevieve "Gena" Huchro Haley, 94; Private Mass of Christian Burial at St. Patrick's Church.

Rossie – Linda Ann (Miles) Gardner, 72; Mass of Christian Burial to be held at a later date at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Phillip Charles Capone, 89; Funeral Services to be held at a later date.

Watertown – Janice (Capone) MacCue, 89; Funeral Services to be held at a later date.

Willsboro – Joseph Herbert Barnaby, 86; Memorial Mass to be held at a later date; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Willsboro – Lois Ann (Fitzgerald) Thompson, 87; Private Funeral Service March 28, 2020 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Archdiocese of Turin to stream display of shroud

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – With people forced to stay home, even during Holy Week, because of the coronavirus pandemic, the archbishop of Turin has announced a special online exposition of the Shroud of Turin, which many believe is the burial cloth of Jesus.

On Holy Saturday, April 11, as Christians contemplate Jesus lying in the tomb, Archbishop Cesare Nosiglia will lead a liturgy of prayer and contemplation before the shroud at 5 p.m. local time (11 a.m. EDT).

The prayer service will be live-streamed along with live images of the 14-foot-by-4-foot shroud, which has a full-length

photonegative image of a man, front and back, bearing signs of wounds that correspond to the Gospel accounts of the torture Jesus endured in his passion and death.

As of April 5, the Archdiocese of Turin said it was finalizing the plans and would publish a list of participating television stations and links to the livestream later in the week.

Announcing the special display, Archbishop Nosiglia said April 4 that he had received "thousands and thousands" of messages "asking me if, in this time of grave difficulty we are going through, it would be possible to pray this Holy

Week before the shroud" and ask God for "the grace to defeat evil as he did, trusting in the goodness and mercy of God."

The archbishop told Vatican News that the online viewing of the shroud could be "much better" than seeing it in person because the cameras will allow viewers to see it up close and to remain at length with the image.

The image of the crucified man on the shroud, he said, "will go to the heart and the sadness of many people who will follow us. It will be like staying with the Lord on the day we await his resurrection."

Cabrini Foundation offers COVID-19 grant funding

NEW YORK – The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation announced recently that it is dedicating \$50 million in funding to support nonprofit organizations addressing the health-related needs of New Yorkers as a direct result of COVID-19.

The Foundation will distribute the \$50 million across New York State via Coronavirus Emergency Support Grants to community-based emergency response funds, hospital systems, Catholic Charities affiliates serving all faiths, and other organizational efforts. Grants will address the health and economic impact of those most affected by this pandemic, including elderly individuals and those with preexisting medical conditions.

“As the largest health-care foundation in New York State, it is a vital part of our mission to be on the front lines assisting during this pandemic,” said Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., Chief Executive Officer of Visa and Chair of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation Board. “We are working to get urgently needed funds across the state to organizations supporting New Yorkers most in need.”

“New York’s poorest and most vulnerable communities are facing unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19,” said Msgr. Gregory Mustaciolo, the Foundation’s Chief Executive Officer. “Honoring the legacy of Mother Cabrini, we intend these grants to have a significant impact in ameliorating food insecurity, helping providers

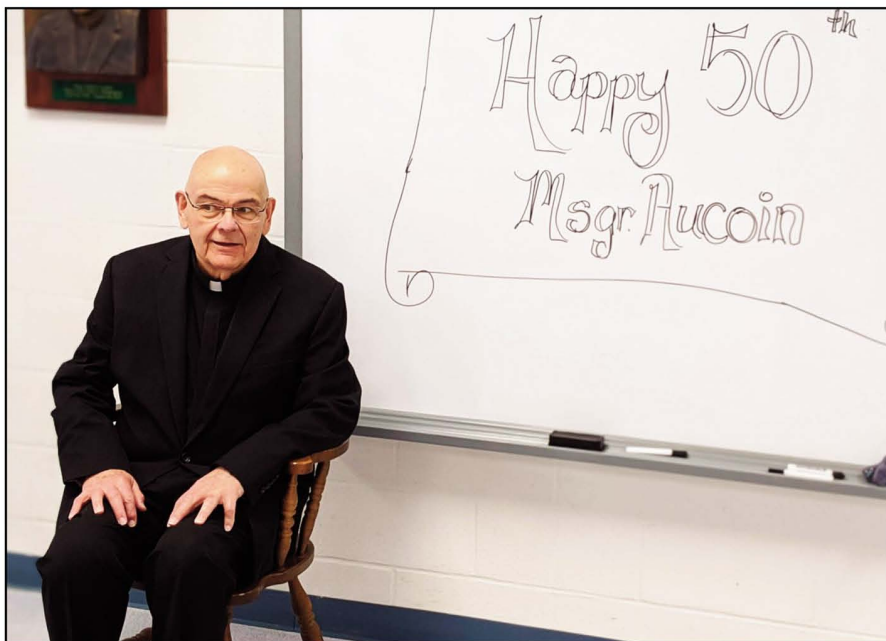
as they deliver care and services in this challenging environment, offering mental health services, and sustaining other essential resources. We plan to continue to monitor the crisis, and we will continue to adjust our response as needs arise.”

In order to expedite the process, emergency grants will be distributed by invitation at this time for efforts focused on addressing New Yorkers’ health needs, as well as the social determinants of health: from supporting food banks across the state and bolstering shelter providers’ ability to provide care for some of New York’s most vulnerable populations, to assisting clinics as they administer care to individuals with COVID-19.

Earlier this month the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation announced nearly \$150 million in inaugural grants.

The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization with the mission to improve the health and well-being of the vulnerable New Yorkers, bolster the health outcomes of targeted communities, eliminate barriers to care, and bridge gaps in health services. The Foundation – which is named in memory of a tireless advocate for immigrants, children, and the poor – provides flexible support for new and innovative approaches that enhance health and wellness across New York State. For more information, visit <https://www.cabrini-health.org/>

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



Msgr. Robert H. Aucoin celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with parishioners of St. John the Baptist in Madrid and St. Mary’s in Waddington on March 14, prior to the implementation of social distancing protocols.

STILL PARTICIPATING



A Plattsburgh family follows mass in spiritual communion on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Mass was broadcast in Plattsburgh by the churches of Our Lady of Victory, Saint John’s and Saint Peter’s.