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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 76 Number 10

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JUNE 16, 2021

North Country Catholic wins award



For the second year in a row, the North Country Catholic has won a Catholic Press Award from the Catholic Media Association (formerly Catholic Press Association).

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

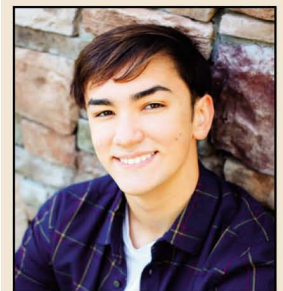
FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI



DARCY FARGO/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley kneels in reverence as Father Mark R. Reilly places Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in a monstrance for adoration during the North Country Cursillo Corpus Christi Day of Reflection on June 6.

TOP GRADS



As the school year comes to a close, the two Catholic high schools in the diocese, Seton Catholic and Immaculate Heart Central announce the top graduates of the class of 2021.

STORIES ON PAGES 5 & 6

Pope: Christian unity must start with love

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – While theological dialogue is important in the search for Christian unity, it cannot take the place of Christians simply sharing a meal, recognizing they are brothers and sisters and loving one another, Pope Francis said.

"Together in love, we Christians can change the world, we can change ourselves, because God is love," the pope said in a

video message to evangelical and Pentecostal pastors and Catholic Church leaders gathered at St. Joseph's Seminary and College in Yonkers, New York, and online for a retreat June 9-10.

The retreat, which included Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, New Jersey, and Auxiliary Bishop James Massa of Brooklyn, was sponsored by the John 17 Movement, an

Arizona-based initiative founded by a Pentecostal pastor to promote Christian unity.

The initiative is inspired by John 17:21: "That they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me."

In his message, Pope Francis said, "The John 17 Movement is about those who, around the table,

drinking a cappuccino, dining or eating a gelato, discover they are brothers and sisters, not on account of their color, nor their nationality, nor their place of origin, nor the different forms in which they live out their faith, but as children of the one same Father."

And even when poverty means "there is no table" and not food to share, he said, people are still

brothers and sisters and must acknowledge that they are children of the same God.

The John 17 Movement focuses on building friendship and sharing prayer, but, unlike the church's formal ecumenical relationships, it does not involve theological dialogue and the examination of doctrinal similarities and differences.

NORTH
COUNTRY
CATHOLIC

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Those times you burn the biscuits

She burned the biscuits. I recently had an opportunity to visit my dad's sister, my aunt and godmother, and her husband at their new home in Champlain. While the primary purpose of my visit was delivering a family heirloom to them, the errand gave me an opportunity to see their new home and catch up after an extended time not seeing each other due to the pandemic. My aunt offered to make lunch for the occasion.

Shortly after I arrived at their home and unloaded the

heirloom, my aunt gave me a tour of their new home. As we ended the tour, we heard a loud, high-pitched beeping noise. It was the smoke detector.



**Darcy L.
Fargo**

My aunt had forgotten about biscuits she had baking for strawberry shortcake. The beeping smoke detector and the smell of smoke filling the house told us what happened: my aunt had burned the biscuits.

Quite a bit younger than my father, my aunt was born almost directly between my father and my older sister. She's always

been more like an older friend than an aunt.

My aunt is normally a good cook. She doesn't usually blacken food to the point it sets off the smoke detector, at least. Because we're like friends, we all got a good laugh at the burnt biscuits, and we ate our strawberries over ice cream instead of on top of biscuits.

But haven't we all those moments? Sometimes, things go wrong despite our best intentions.

Even in ministry, there are times when things don't go the way we hope they will, even though we may think we're doing what God has called us to do. I can think of

at least a couple instances in my own life when my feeble attempts at planning an event or group or some other ministry fell flat.

I firmly believe that God has a purpose for even our failures. We may fail because we need to learn some lesson, because we need a dose of humility, to better prepare us for future ministries or for some other reason God has planned that I don't recognize or understand.

There are times when the failure gives us nothing but maybe the ability to laugh at ourselves and our struggles.

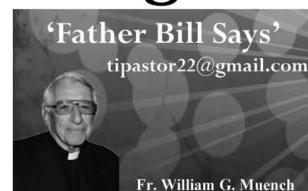
Especially when the failure is something as simple as burning the biscuits.

Thinking about confession

Today, I was listening to a talk given by John Allen at the Los Angeles Religious Congress. He presented an interesting review of Pope Francis' seven years as pope. Among many things, he spoke about the holy father's concern as to the neglect of confession by Catholics throughout the world. Pope Francis has realized that long before he became pope, fewer and fewer Catholics were going to confession.

Allen told the story that Pope Francis likes to visit the various parishes of Rome for Mass. Often he will come early and ask to join with the priests who were hearing confessions before the Mass much to the people's surprise.

I also remember seeing a video of Pope Francis entering St. Peter's Basilica and going to join the priests who were hearing the confessions of the people who were visiting the basilica. Before he entered his confessional, he walked over to one of the other priests and



made his own confession.

Today, I would like to use this opportunity to join Pope Francis to encourage the people of our diocese to make the sacrament of penance, to make confession a regular part of their spiritual lives.

So, let's talk about confession. In faith, we believe that one of the reasons Jesus came to our world was to teach us of God's great love and that our God forgives us our sins. Many of Jesus' parables, like the parable of the Prodigal Son, demonstrates the sublime meaning of Jesus' earthly ministry, which is to forgive sins, reconciling people to God, leading them to true happiness.

Jesus laid the foundation of this sacrament when he prayed over his apostles

and sent the Holy Spirit to them. "Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain are retained."

We prepare for this sacrament of penance – also called reconciliation today – with a prayer of sincere gratitude. Jesus has done so much for us. We must be a grateful people. Jesus continues to love and guide us. We must be a grateful people. The Lord has been so good to us, coming to be one of us, to teach us, to die for you and me, to rise to new life, to forgive our sins. We must be a grateful people.

As we prepare for confession, we must consider our own lives, seeing the good things that we have accomplished and seeing the sins and failings that interfere with our relationship with our loving God. We have missed so many opportunities to follow the guidance of Jesus, to do something to demonstrate our love for God and for our neighbor,

making our world a better place. Then we need a plan – a new way to make our lives more alive with the Lord, to open our hearts in love for Our Lord and Savior.

This demands a change of heart, a real conversion in the Holy Spirit, a plan that will develop a new and better relationship with our God and make our lives more loving, demonstrating our sorrow and contrition for the sins we have committed or the actions we failed to make part of our lives.

So, we are ready to bring our confession to the priest, who through his ordination can bring us God's forgiveness. This confession liberates us from sin, making it possible that we can reconcile ourselves in love with our God and others. In this way, we open our hearts to God with a new plan to make a new and loving relationship with our God. There is more to say about this important sacrament of Penance. We'll continue next week.

FOLLOW ME

Seeking reconciliation after 'horrific' discovery

We have been following the shocking news of the recent discovery of the buried remains of 215 lost indigenous children, students at the site of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School located in British Columbia, Canada. One tribal chief described the scene as a "horrific illustration of consequences



**Bishop
Terry R.
LaValley**

of racism, settler-colonialism and privilege... against indigenous nations." A Roman Catholic Religious Order operated the school for many decades and then, in the 1960s, the Canadian government ran the facility.

We apologize to family members and to all indigenous people for the de-

plorable mistreatment caused by those Catholics who took any part in the abuse suffered by children in these Catholic residential schools. While we cannot bring back the lives of these precious children or erase the pain, anger, and anguish suffered by families and communities, we can offer prayers with a resolve to work to ensure that such atrocities will never happen again. We especially want to assure

our sisters and brothers at the St. Regis Mission and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe of our prayers. Why is it that so often it is the vulnerable, the innocent, our children who suffer such heinous crimes because adults have not learned how to get along?

As you know, the first Mohawk and first Native American to be canonized, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, lived in our area. We honor our saint, seeking her intercession as we

seek truth, healing and reconciliation. Let us make an effort to learn the true history of the struggles of the Native Americans. We have a moral responsibility to learn about the suppressed histories of our neighbors. Once truth is found, justice is attainable. In so many ways, ignorance of the past opens the doorway for humanity to recommit the crimes perpetuated previously.

Saint Kateri, Pray for Us.

AT THE ROSARY CRUSADE



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

(Above) Dave Heywood provides violin music at the Family Rosary Crusade held May 21 at St. James Church in Carthage. (Left) Families and organizations led the rosary in shifts as part of the crusade, which went from 5:15 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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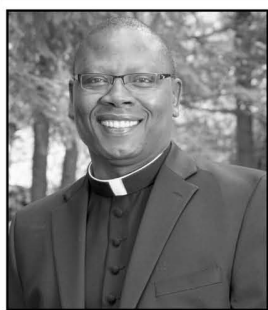


Diocese of Ogdensburg



North Country Catholic wins award

North Country Catholic



Father John K. Ojuok



Father Medenel Angrand

Immigration issue prompts role change

Due to unforeseen challenges navigating the U.S. immigration system, Father John K. Ojuok will need to return to his native country of Kenya for a 12-month period before he is eligible to return to the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Father Ojuok remains a priest in good-standing with the Ogdensburg Diocese, and we anxiously look forward to his return.

The above situation has necessitated a personnel change. Effective June 23, Father Medenel Angrand, currently parochial vicar at St. Andre' Bessette Roman Catholic Parish in Malone, is assigned as parochial vicar at Holy Cross Parish in Plattsburgh.

OGDENSBURG—Two for two.

For the second year in a row, the *North Country Catholic* has won a Catholic Press Award from the Catholic Media Association (formerly Catholic Press Association).

This year, the *North Country Catholic* won third place in the category "Best Regular Column - Pandemic" for three installments of editor Darcy Fargo's column.

The entry included Fargo's column from March 25, 2020, "You're bitter? Don't be," one from April 15, 2020, "Seeing the beauty, not the stumbles" and a column from June 17, 2020, "But Jesus was there."

"It's an honor to win this award," said Fargo. "We compete with much larger newspapers and media organizations, so it's really gratifying to know our work here in our small diocese and for this small newspaper is strong



Three columns by NCC editor Darcy Fargo garnered a third place Catholic Press Award in the category "Regular Column - Pandemic."

enough to win." Top honors in the category went to the Clarion Herald for a column by Peter Finney Jr.; second place went to the Arlington Catholic Herald. Honorable mentions were also given to Catholic New York and

The Observer (Diocese of Rockford, Illinois). Other winners in the commentary awards included Aletheia.org, Catholic News Service, The Tablet (Diocese of Brooklyn), The Catholic Register, National Catholic Reporter, The

Compass (Diocese of Green Bay) and Denver Catholic.

In 2020, the *North Country Catholic* was awarded first place in the category, "Best Reporting on the Celebration of a Sacrament" for the piece "Finding faith in a fortress."

Catholic Conference names new director

Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York and president of the New York State Catholic Conference, with the consent of the other seven diocesan bishops of the state, has appointed Dennis Poust as executive director, effective immediately.

Poust, a 20-year veteran of the Conference, has been serving in an interim capacity since January. He succeeds Richard E. Barnes, who resigned late last year to take a position with the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

"My brother bishops and I are grateful that Dennis has accepted the position of executive director on a permanent basis," Cardinal Dolan said. "He has

brought welcome continuity as the staff navigated the 2021 Legislative Session in Albany. At the same time, we Bishops have been impressed with his vision for the Conference going forward, with a focus on further engaging the Catholic people of our state toward faithful citizenship."

Poust, who received a bachelor's degree in politics from New York University in 1988, came to the Conference as Director of Communications in 2001 after having lived and worked in Austin, Texas, the previous six years. Born and raised in the Bronx, Poust began his career as a reporter and editor at *Catholic New York*, newspa-



Dennis Poust

per of the Archdiocese of New York, and also contributed regularly to several national Catholic publications.

"I am humbled by this appointment, and I'm so grateful to Cardinal Dolan and the Bishops for their confidence in me," Poust said. "I'm also tremen-

dously grateful to our incredibly talented and dedicated Conference staff. They have been instrumental in the smoothness of this transition and our successes. I have been very fortunate for nearly two decades to serve under my friend Rick Barnes, whose example I hope to emulate and whose counsel I will continue to value."

Poust is married to Mary DeTurriss Poust, a Catholic spiritual writer and the Director of Communications for the Diocese of Albany. They live in Delmar, N.Y., and have three children, Noah, Olivia and Chiara.

The Catholic Conference represents the Bishops of New York State in public policy matters.

Palma, Boulé lead Seton graduating class

PLATTSBURGH – Seton Catholic has announced its class of 2021 top graduates.

Nicholas Palma is the school's valedictorian, while Gillian Boulé has been named salutatorian.

Nicholas Palma

Nick Palma is a scholar athlete who excelled in varsity soccer, varsity tennis, and especially varsity swimming, in which he broke many records.

Palma served as Student Council president, and National Honor Society, Faith Ambassadors, and Band are just a few of the clubs and extra-curriculars he participated in every year.

Palma plans to continue his education at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, where he plans to study Computer Science.

Gillian Boulé

Boulé is a scholar athlete who excelled in varsity hockey and varsity soccer.

She was vice president of Student Council and in



Nicholas Palma



Gillian Boulé

National Honor Society as well. and Faith Ambassadors, Boulé plans to continue

her education at Lafayette University in Pennsylvania where she plans to study Biology/Pre-Med.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!



The Seton Catholic class of 2021 includes Olivia Barnett, Marine Beauduin, Gillian Boulé, John Conti, Savannah De-Jordy, Sara Di Patrizio, Kolbee Lapoint, Haley Murnane, Emma Nidasi, Nicholas Palma, Morgan Reid, Kennedy Spriggs and Alexander Wendling.

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Gonas, Kamide are top graduates at IHC

WATERTOWN – Rose Gonas has earned top honors as the valedictorian of the Immaculate Heart Central (IHC) class of 2021, while Sarah Kamide is the class salutatorian.

Rose Gonas

Gonas earned the top graduating spot with an overall GPA of a 96.5.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Gonas, she resides in Watertown along with her three siblings.

Gonas has been actively involved in multiple extracurricular activities during her time at IHC. She has been a team member of the following sports all four years of high school: soccer, basketball and lacrosse. She was also active in Odyssey of the Mind.

Gonas is a team player on and off the field and has balanced her extracurricular with her academic with great success. She has been on the High Honor Roll all four years of high school and is president of the National Honor Society.



Rose Gonas

Gonas is very active with our Faith Community Service, having served over 200 hours.

Gonas was a Scholar Athlete all four years of

high school sports. Some of Gonas' community involvement include peer tutoring, Rotary Interact, yearbook committee member, a Jr. Investor



Sarah Kamide

through the Morgia Group, Mystery Players participant, variety show participant, and submissions of her art work were included in the Tri-County Art show since the sixth grade.

Gonas plans to attend Scranton College in Pennsylvania to pursue a degree in business.

Sarah Kamide

Sarah Kamide earned the salutatorian spot with an overall GPA of a 95.5. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kamide, she resides in Watertown.

Kamide has been actively involved in multiple extracurricular activities during her time her at IHC. She is treasurer of the National Honor Society and is the Senior Class president.

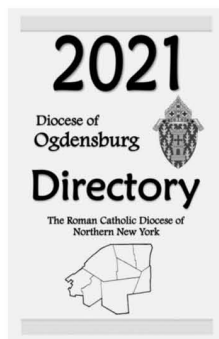
Kamide has been a varsity team player in the following sports: basketball, lacrosse, serving as the team captain her sen-

ior year. She was a Frontier League All-star in 2019 for Tennis.

Kamide has been very involved in the community as a member of the Rotary Interact, Faith Community Service participant with over 100 hours of community service, and peer tutoring. One of Kamide's unique talents to make note of is her musical abilities. She has played various supporting roles in our school musicals, and her singing is outstanding. Kamide has been a member of the IHC performing arts club and senior chorus.

Kamide plans to attend SUNY Oswego and has been accepted into their Honors Program to major in business administration with a minor in political science and journalism. Her future plans are to pursue a master's degree in law.

2021 Diocesan Directories now available!



The Official 2021 Directory of the Diocese of Ogdensburg includes detailed information about parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

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Mass of Christian Burial celebrated for Jim Coughlin

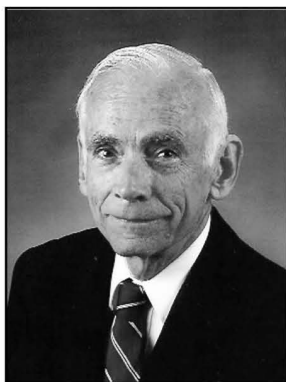
A Mass of Christian Burial for James "Jim" Coughlin, 89, a longtime northern New York businessman, was held Friday, June 11 in Notre Dame Church in Malone. Private services were also held Saturday in Watertown at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

Jim died Sunday June 6, 2021, at his Pine Crest Farm home in Malone following a brief illness.

Born July 14, 1931, in Watertown, he was the son of the late William M. and Irene Lynch Coughlin. He was married to Elizabeth Jane Horr on April 22, 1950, in St. Andrew's church, Sackets Harbor. She predeceased him on May 19, 2019. He was also predeceased by his oldest daughter Alice on Feb 8, 1972.

Survivors include one brother, Joseph of Watertown; along with one daughter, Barbara Coughlin and her husband John Fallon of Delmar; 11 sons, James (Monte) Jr. and Liz of Wilmington, North Carolina, Kevin and Sandra of Sandy Springs, Georgia, John and Ann of Tampa, Florida, William of Gig Harbor, Washington, Richard and Zaya of Arlington, Virginia, Robert and Sonya of Woodbridge, Virginia, Paul and Laurie of Annandale, Virginia, Francis and Mary of Germantown, Maryland, Tim and Shon of Atlanta, Georgia, Ted of Brickell, Florida, and Thom and Lora of Alpharetta, Georgia; 18 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Jim graduated from Immaculate Heart Academy in Watertown in 1949 and Clarkson University, Potsdam in 1953. He was em-



James 'Jim' Coughlin

ployed in Sales for New York Airbrake Company for 15 years moving to Malone in 1968 to become general manager of Elliott & Hutchins, a distributor for recreational and industrial equipment. He was named president when that firm was sold to Bombardier of Canada in 1978. In 1980, Jim became President of Steyr Daimler Puch of America in Greenwich, Connecticut. He later moved that company's corporate US headquarters to Malone in 1984. He retired in 1998.

Jim served on the Immaculate Heart school board while in Watertown and was a Boy Scout leader and district committee member. After moving to Malone, he became a member and served as president of Malone Central School Board. Jim served on the Alice Hyde Hospital board for 35 years. He also served on the boards of Mater Dei College in Ogdensburg, the Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg and the sisters of St Joseph finance committees. He was a member and past president of Potsdam College foundation and the board for St. Joseph's rehabilitation center in Saranac

Lake, and past member of Malone Rotary Club.

In 1988, Jim received the Clarkson University Golden Knight award for outstanding community service.

He was an avid skier and mountain climber, having climbed all the peaks over 4,000 feet and becoming an Adirondack 46er.

Memorials can be made to the scholarship in his name at Franklin Academy High school in Malone, The Alice Ballard Fund of Hospice of the North Country or to the Alice J. Coughlin memorial scholarship at Immaculate Heart Central High school in Watertown.

Burial was in the family gravesite in Glenwood cemetery, Watertown.

Online condolences may be made to the family at brusofuneralservice.com.

Rest in Peace

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

June 16 – Rev. James L. Meehan, 2004; Deacon John Dwyer, 2007

June 17 – Rev. Thomas J. Thotumkal, 1992

June 19 – Rev. Gerard Chouinard, O.M.I., 1955; Deacon David F. Moltz, 2011

June 20 – Rev. James O'Hara, 1949

June 21 – Rev. Joseph T. Moriority, O.S.A., 1905; Msgr. Joseph F. Luker, 1972

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg uses the training, Protecting God's Children for Adults. There are no live trainings scheduled. If you need to complete VIRTUS training, contact Jean Grizzuto, jgrizzuto@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 x 1413.

Bishop's Public Schedule

June 16 – 1 p.m. – Virtual USCCB Summer Plenary Assembly

June 17 – Virtual USCCB Summer Plenary Assembly

June 18 – 4 p.m. – Virtual USCCB Summer Plenary Assembly

June 19 – 10:30 a.m. – Council of Deacon Meeting at St. Mary's Cathedral (Brzana Hall)

June 20 – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

11 a.m. – Closing Mass for St. John the Evangelist Church in LaFargeville

June 21 – Noon – Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg

June 22 – 10:30 a.m. – Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence

Letters to the Editor

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

- Due to space limitations, we ask that the number of words be limited to 500.

- 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!

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terri- anne Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terri-annyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-651-2267 days; 518-569-0612 evenings; or Father Christopher Carrara, the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy; ccarrara@rcdony.org Phone: 315-393-2920 ext. 1340. If you have a complaint of suspected sexual abuse or related misconduct by the bishops, contact the **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service** at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

Environmental Stewardship

What are youth saying?

In the spring, our Diocesan Laudato Si Committee, along with Syracuse Diocesan Laudato Si Task Force, invited students from around the two dioceses to submit projects, poems, posters, videos, etc. of what they have done to care for God's creation. Over 150 students responded from the two dioceses. We will be sharing some of these projects in the weeks to come. This week, we would like to share one of Deidre Kleemann's "Poems for Change."

"Recently I was driving down the highway with my family, and I saw a small plastic bag rolling down the road. My dad said to me, 'Hey, that kind of looks like a plastic tumbleweed.' I agreed. If you look anywhere, beaches, highways, neighborhoods, you will see litter. Some places have less, but you will always find some trash wherever you go. I wrote this collection of poems to help make others aware of all the issues I'm seeing with the environment. Remember, when you go to a park, or in the woods, you are the tourists. When you go to an amusement park, you don't cut down the roller coasters, but at any other park, you're allowed to cut down the trees."

Plastic Tumbleweeds

*A poem by Deidre Kleemann
St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga*

Driving on an asphalt snake
with a stripe along its back
We fly by new neighborhoods
without a single leaf
A plastic tumbleweed comes by
And joins its friends in the ditch.

Farther along the snake now,
passing by the once blue sea
The weeds in the dune are all but
gone, the crabs have left
A plastic tumbleweed comes by
And joins its friends in the sand.

Almost at the end now, where the
grass was once a lush green
But that was before gray factories,
whose oil is drilled
A plastic tumbleweed comes by
And joins its friends in the grease.
We are at the tail now,
where an emerald forest once stood
But now it's gone, and stripped into
deep, black, mines
A plastic tumbleweed comes by and
joins its friends in the coal.

Church pledges support for Muslims after Ontario attack

OTTAWA, Ontario (CNS) — Faith communities and politicians condemned an attack on a Muslim family in London, Ontario, that police have labeled a hate crime.

The CCCB Executive Committee in a June 10 statement called for an end to religious violence in Canada and specifically hatred against Jews and Muslims.

Signed by Archbishop Richard Gagnon of Winnipeg, Manitoba, CCCB president, it said the bishops "adamantly object to all forms and expressions of hatred and they strongly denounce the recent violence seen in Canada against the Jewish People and Muslims, for which there can be no possible justification ever."

The statement came in response to what London police said was the killing June 6 of four members of a Muslim family by a driver. A 9-year-old boy also was seriously injured. London police believe the family was targeted because of their Muslim faith.

The driver of the vehicle has been arrested and faces four counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder.

Auxiliary Bishop John A. Boissonneau of Toronto and Archbishop Paul-André Durocher of Gatineau, Quebec, representing the CCCB's Canadian Rabbinic Caucus Bilateral Dialogue, endorsed the statement.

The bishops noted "a disturbing rise in harmful and violent acts against the Jewish People and Muslims" in recent weeks, including "offensive slurs, prejudice, hostility, and

even terror claiming lives."

The bishops also appealed to "the minds and hearts of the Catholic faithful, and all people of goodwill, to denounce antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all similar forms of extremism and violence against fellow human beings of all faith traditions."

The statement included a promise to pray for "an increase in tireless, sincere and constructive dialogue, greater understanding, social harmony, and mutual respect, in order that Canadians from all backgrounds, faith traditions and cultures may live not as strangers or adversaries, but peacefully as brothers and sisters."

In a statement released on social media hours after the incident, the Archdiocese of Toronto lamented that Canadians appear to have been targeted because of their faith.

"We join the Muslim community, London Mayor, Ed Holder, and all those who condemn this heinous act of violence," the archdiocese said June 7 while offering prayers and condolences to the family "targeted for their faith."

Bishop Ronald Fabbro of London pledged that the Catholic Church there will work with the Muslim community to root out hate.

"I am horrified by the hate-motivated killing of an innocent Muslim family in London," Bishop Fabbro said. "I unconditionally condemn acts of hatred and violence. People of all faiths, and all people, should always feel safe, everywhere in our country.

"The Catholic community in London offers our support to our Muslim brothers and sisters, pledging to work together with them to end crimes of hate," the bishop added. "I ask the faithful of the diocese to keep the family of those killed and their community in our prayers, asking God to bring them comfort in this time of grief and to grant the full recovery of the survivor."

A London police official told a news conference June 7 that "there is evidence that this was a planned, premeditated act, motivated by hate." Police arrested a 20-year-old who is alleged to have plowed a vehicle into the family walking in their neighborhood the evening of June 6.

Afterward, political leaders in the Canadian House of Commons echoed Bishop Fabbro when they condemned what London police alleged was a premeditated hate crime.

"We cannot allow any form of hate to take root," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in the House of Commons June 8. "We must confront the ugly face of hatred."

"We know we need to look truth in the face, this hatred does exist in our country," he said of those who dismiss the idea that racism continues to affect many Canadians of different races and faiths.

Conservative Party leader Erin O'Toole called the killings a "brutal act of terror" in the House of Commons. New Democratic Party leader Jagmeet Singh, who is Sikh and wears a turban, said that people such as himself know what looking different or praying differ-

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Canadian bishops: Indigenous delegation to meet with pope

OTTAWA, Ontario (CNS) — A delegation of Indigenous people from Canada will meet with Pope Francis at the Vatican before the end of the year, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops said. The delegation will include representatives of First Nations, Métis and Inuit national organizations, the bishops said in a statement released June 10. The statement follows the May 30 announcement by the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation of the discovery of 215 bodies buried on the site of the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in Kamloops, British Columbia. "The delegation to the Holy See represents an important step on the journey of reconciliation and shared healing for Indigenous Peoples and the Church in Canada," the bishops said. "With the strong encouragement of Pope Francis, the Bishops of Canada have pledged true and deep commitment to renewing and strengthening relationships with Indigenous Peoples across the land," the statement said, citing regional and diocesan-wide listening circles that have been established in recent years.

Vatican bank posts profit despite economic shock of pandemic

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Institute for the Works of Religion, commonly known as the Vatican bank, showed a net profit of 36.4 million euros (\$44.1 million) in 2020, according to its annual report. Compared to a net profit of 38 million euros (\$46 million) the previous year, "this is a very significant result" considering the low yields and high volatility of financial markets triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, wrote Cardinal Santos Abril Castelló, president of the Commission of Cardinals supervising the bank. It is also significant given that the Holy See "lost much of its income from its most substantial contributor, namely the Vatican Museums, which were closed for a large part of the year due to the pandemic," he wrote. According to the 136-page report published online June 11, the Commission of Cardinals decided to donate 75% of the net profits, that is 27.3 million euros (\$33.1 million), to Pope Francis "or to specific entities" and allocated the remaining 25%, that is, 9.1 million euros (\$11 million), to its reserve and increase its equity, according to the report. Administrative expenses totaled 19.3 million euros (\$23.5 million), it added.

Vatican orders term limits for leaders of lay movements

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In an ongoing effort to promote Catholic lay movements and associations and protect their members from possible abuse by the groups' leaders, the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life has imposed term limits on leadership and ordered the groups to ensure all members have a voice in choosing their leaders. "Not infrequently, for those called to govern, the absence of limits in terms of office favors forms of appropriation of the charisma, personalization, centralization and expressions of self-referentiality, which can easily cause serious violations of personal dignity and freedom, and even real abuses," said the dicastery's explanatory note, which was published June 11 along with the new norms. Under the new norms, those who hold offices in the central leadership of international Catholic lay movements and associations may serve a maximum of two five-year terms. The dicastery will consider granting an exemption for the founder of a movement or an association to lead a group longer "if a dispensation corresponds to the clear will of the central governing body," but it is not automatic, the note said. The norms take effect in September and were approved by Pope Francis, said Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect of the dicastery.

CLINTON

ERLMA SPRING EVENT

Morrisonville – Faith around the world: The Philippines. Father Jay de la Rosa, a priest from the Archdiocese of Caceres in the Philippines, will celebrate Mass and discuss faith and ministry, and his experience of two very different cultures!

Date: June 16
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 (Check in at 5:30)
Place: St. Alexander's Church
Features: There will be time for a meet and greet. Light refreshments will be served. There is no cost to attend. There will be a gift basket raffle.
Contact: Registration to attend is required at www.rcdony.org/clm-event

ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Morrisonville – The RCC of St. Alexander and St. Joseph to hold their 16th Annual Golf Classic.

Date: July 9
Time: Shotgun start at noon
Place: Barrack's Golf Course
Cost: \$50 for Barrack members and \$60 for non-members (includes golf, cart, complimentary gifts, BBQ chicken dinner and much more.)
Contact: Applications can be picked up at the Barracks or by calling Jackie at the Parish Office at 518-561-5039. Registrations are due by July 2. For more information call the parish office or Cheryl Dodds at 518-572-4622.

ESSEX

LATIN MASS

Port Henry – Extraordinary Form Latin Mass to be held each Sunday.

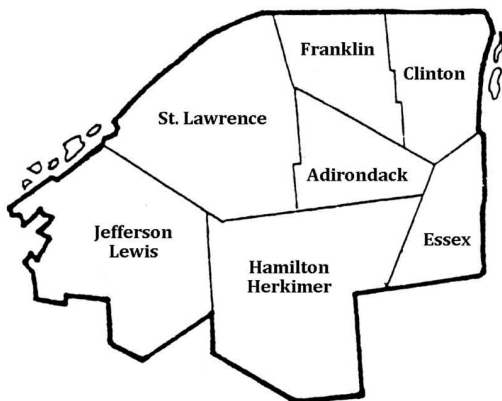
Schedule: 1 p.m. on Sundays
Place: St. Patrick's Church
Features: The traditional Latin Mass celebrated according to the 1962 Missal of St. John the XXIII.

FRANKLIN

ROSARY NOVENA WALK

Malone – Mark your calendars to participate in the St. André Bessette Parish Rosary Novena Walk and Eucharistic Adoration for the intentions of an end to violence against human life, for conversions, and for parish priests.

Dates: June 16, 23, 30; July 7, 14, 21, 28; Aug. 4, 11
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Notre Dame Church
Features: The Rosary will begin in the church processing out to Arsenal Green to Elm Street down to Main Street ending back inside Notre Dame. For those unable to join the rosary pro-



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese." Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:
 North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
 Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
 e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

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

cession walk, there will be Eucharistic Adoration and the recitation of the rosary inside of the church.

JEFFERSON—LEWIS

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Port Leyden – St. Martin's and St. John's will hold their annual Strawberry Social as a drive thru.
Date: June 27
Time: 3 to 5 p.m.
Place: Port Leyden Community (Fire) Hall

Features: To benefit numerous building projects. The Social is offering a picnic menu: hamburgers, hot dogs, hot and sweet sausage, strawberry shortcake, sundaes, and milkshakes. There will be a Chinese Auction, a fancy cake silent auction and several raffles.
Contact: To pre-order, call Stacey McCall at 315 348-5138 or Chris Chaufty at 315-766-6897.

ST. LAWRENCE

PRAYER AND ADORATION

Massena – Commissioned Lay Ministers are invited to gather for Adoration and Rosary.
Date: Every third Wednesday of the month (June 16)
Time: 6:30 to 7 p.m.
Place: Sacred Heart Church

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DAY OF REFLECTION

Virtual presentation about putting forgiveness into practice.
Date: June 19
Time: 9:45 a.m. to Noon
Place: Zoom

Features: We all know from the Scriptures that we are called to forgive others and ourselves as well. We also know the challenge this call can be in our daily encounters. This reflection day will consider the dynamics of forgiveness, some obstacles often experienced in becoming a forgiving person, and some aids from our Catholic tradition. It includes presentations, time for personal prayer and reflection with opportunities for sharing. The speaker will be Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ.

Contact: Cost is free. To register go to www.rcdony.org/reflection Zoom link will be emailed as date approaches.

PILGRIMAGE TO ISLE LAMOTTE

Vermont - Knights of Columbus from throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg will participate in their 73rd annual pilgrimage to St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte.
Date: July 18
Features: Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate Mass at 12:15 p.m. Knights and their families can enjoy

lunch in the shrine cafeteria, or they can bring a lunch to enjoy on the shrine's beautiful grounds. St. Anne's Shrine is located on the shores of Lake Champlain, only a few miles from the Rouses Point Bridge.
Contact: For more information, please call Pilgrimage Coordinator Peter Keenan at 518-643-9241.

MYSTERY OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Special event to be held for those serving in any ministry in their parish. Time to refocus our attention on the Holy Eucharist as a "Mystery to be believed, a Mystery to be celebrated, a Mystery to be lived."

Date: Sept. 18
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Locations: IHC in Watertown, St. James School in Gouverneur, St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga, Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh, St. Edmund's Parish Center in Ellenburg, St. Peter's Church in Lowville, the parish center in Waddington, and St. Mary's Parish Center in Brushton

Features: This is an in-person event only. Attendees must bring their own lunch. Light refreshments will be provided.
Contact: Registration is due by September 1. Space is limited therefore registration is first come, first serve. Register at: <https://www.rcdony.org/mysteryeucharist>

CLM ANNUAL MEETING AND BBQ

The Commissioned Lay Ministers Association in SLFA Deaneries are invited to attend an annual meeting and barbecue. For the St. Lawrence, Franklin and Adirondack deaneries.
Date: Sept. 19
Time: 1 p.m. to 4
Place: Camp Guggenheim
Features: Celebrate Mass with Bishop LaValley at 1 p.m. It is free to attend, just enjoy the beautiful scenery

and a hotdog and hamburger cookout.
Contact: Registration to attend is required at: www.rcdony.org/clm-event

FORMATION FOR MINISTRY

Looking to grow in faith and service? God continues to call everyone to use their gifts in service to others. Formation for Ministry registration is open!
Contact: For more information about the two year program, go to www.rcdony.org/formation/candidate or contact Cathy Russell at 315-393-2920 or email at crussell@rcdony.org. Registration deadline is July 15th. "Be not afraid" of God's invitation!

SIDEWALK ADVOCATES FOR LIFE

Experience Sidewalk Advocated for Life's new virtual basic training 2.0.
Features: Sidewalk Advocates for Life employs peaceful, prayerful, loving, and law-abiding outreach outside of abortion centers to aid mothers in crisis and connect them with life-affirming resources in the effort to save their preborn children and end abortion. By God's grace, this effort has witnessed over 9,000 women turn around at abortion centers and CHOOSE LIFE!
Contact: To get started, YOU'RE INVITED to fill out the brief application at sidewalkadvocates.org/trainingapp. Upon receipt, we'll be in touch with next steps for accessing the online training.



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SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Weathering the storms

Our readings this week are all about storms. Storms can be very frightening. My mother would sprinkle the house with holy water during thunder and lightning storms. At the age of four, I got hold of the bottle and drank the holy water! My mother was horrified and called the priest! After he stopped laughing, he calmed her down. Maybe it was the start of my vocation!

The theme of our Scripture readings this Sunday might be stated as "overcoming fear through trust." In the first reading, Job has lost his trust in God's justice because of his terrible afflictions,

and he is about to demand that God give an explanation for treating his servant so unjustly. At that point, God speaks to Job "out of the storm," calming Job's anger, and reducing his complaining to silence.

Today's reading gives us a mere fragment of a much longer speech in which God says to Job, "Gird up your loins like a man...will you condemn me that you may be justified?" Job, aware of his lack of trust in the Almighty, cries out, "...I repent in dust and ashes!"

The setting of the Gospel is a violent storm on the sea of Galilee. Even

June 20

12th Sunday of Ordinary Time

READINGS

Job 38:1, 8-11

1 Corinthians 5:14-17

Mark 4:35-41

though Jesus is with them asleep in the boat, they awaken him in their great fear, and, like Job, they reproach him with the complaint, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus immediately calms the sea, and the storm ceases! Then He, in turn, rebukes his disciples for their lack of faith in His power.

The most reasonable human beings are afraid of storms. Storms in our world are increasing in intensity. Even more frightening are the storms that

beset us in the form of constant attacks on Christians by Isis and other Islamic terrorists, We need to fear most of all the "storms" that are caused by those in our own society who systematically undermine the moral dignity of all life, and little by little are removing laws which were designed to protect the lives of the unborn, the helpless, the elderly, and the consciences of religious people who seek to live by their faith.

God urges us this Sunday to stir up our faith in His power to bring right order and harmony to the disorderly times in which we live. There is nothing that a rock-like faith cannot overcome. And fear not! God is not asleep! He expects us first to calm

the disorder in our souls. Then He, the Lord of the universe, can calm the fierce storms that are out of our control.

On this Fathers' Day, we need to pray for all fathers whose role reflects the protective and nourishing role of God Himself towards their children and their spouses. We pray that they will show firm and steady love, wise and understanding care always. We pray also for fathers who are deceased or absent, that we will always pray for them, and forgive them for any hurts we bear because of weakness or neglect on their parts.

We pray, too, that God will help them forgive us any neglect or lack of love we showed them while they were with us.



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

CALLED TO SERVE

Who did you say is in charge?

"Hey, boys and girls, it is pop quiz time." I remember a teacher in grammar school who seemed to take great joy in making that announcement each week. That cruel humor must have rubbed off on me because I decided to start this rambling with a quiz for you, dear reader.

Here it is. Can you name the Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio?

"Aaaaa" (that's the sound of a wrong answer buzzer or time's up).

The correct answer is Most Reverend Daniel Edward Thomas has been bishop of Toledo since 2014. I had to look it up.

In reality, I would not expect more than a handful of people in our neck of the woods to know that

answer. I picked Toledo for no special reason. However, here's my point, we should know who our bishop is, and I contend we should at least know the names of the bishops in our province, in our case, New York State.

Most Rev. Terry R. LaValley is the bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. You might be amazed to learn how many Catholics in our diocese could not tell you who their bishop is. That is a scary fact. Sorry, bishop.

The names of the other bishops in New York State might not roll off your tongue but here they are. Cardinal Timothy Dolan is the Archbishop of New York. That diocese includes Manhattan, Bronx

and Staten Island in New York City and a bunch of "upstate" counties south of Albany and west along Route 17. It is the second largest diocese by population in these United States. There are almost 3 million Catholics in the archdiocese.

Then we have Bishop Douglas Lucia in Syracuse. His name should be familiar since he was a priest in our diocese. The other bishops along the Thruway are Bishop Edward Scharfenberger in the Albany Diocese, Bishop Salvatore Matano in Rochester and Bishop

Michael Fisher in Buffalo.

The bishops on Long Island are Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio in Brooklyn and Bishop John Barres in Rockville Center. There are also three bishops of Orthodox Eparchy based in New York.

"So what?", you ask. Well, a diocesan bishop really sets the tone for the Catholics in parishes under his care. He is the shepherd of we sheep and the principal teacher in matters of faith.

I read somewhere that "nothing any pope ever does is as critical to shaping culture in the Church as the bishops he ap-

points."

A New York Times article, first published in October 2019, made that point. Reporter Jason Horowitz wrote, "By appointing cardinals and more than a thousand bishops on the front lines of the faith, (Pope) Francis is reconstituting a church in his image. It is one that decentralizes power from Rome to the bishops around the world."

You can quickly learn a bit more about each of the New York State bishops on-line. It might be worth your time.

Deacon Kevin Mastellon ministers in Watertown. He is the Director of Permanent Deacons for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Deacon
Kevin Mastellon



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSI, Director

622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@rcdony.org

The small coin

I am a penny, I am little,
But I thank the one who created me
Because the good Lord of something
humble
Often does great things...

The drop of water laughing on the grass,
Reflecting a glimmer of the sky,
Recalls the magnificent river
That follows its eternal course...

Yes, the superb bags
Repel me from their treasure,
But take me by the hundreds
And you will obtain coins of gold...

I'm a penny, nothing more, I say,
And yet with me you can make a great
miracle,
Because you can spread the faith.

(From the Annales of the Holy Childhood
of the Diocese of Quebec 1025, p. 56)

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

OBITUARIES

AuSable Forks – Margaret "Maggie" Shaw, 88; Mass of Christian Burial June 8, 2021 at Holy Name Church.

Blue Mountain – Joan (Raymond) Pope, 80; Mass of Christian Burial June 19, 2021 at St. Paul's Church; burial in Blue Mountain Lake Cemetery.

Brownville – Beatrice M. (St. Pierre) Crane, 96; Mass of Christian Burial June 14, 2021 at Immaculate Conception Church; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

Cadyville – Joseph E. St. Denis, 94; Mass of Christian Burial June 11, 2021 at St. James Minor Church.

Champlain – Theresa (LaCount) Ero, 79; Mass of Christian Burial June 12, 2021 at St. Mary's Church.

Constableville – Thomas G. O'Brien, 89; Mass of Christian Burial June 8, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Heuvelton – Louis Conte, 93; Mass of Christian Burial June 10, 2021 at St. Raphael's Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Lake Placid – Lois C. (Andrews) Peryea, 90; Graveside services June 12, 2021 at North Elba Cemetery.

Lowville – Richard A. LaBuz, Sr., 79; Funeral Services June 14, 2021 at the Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in Brantingham Cemetery.

Madrid – Irene G. (Austin) Mitchell, 86; Funeral Services June 12, 2021 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in St. John the Baptist Cemetery.

Malone – Richard F. King, Sr., 84; Mass of Christian Burial June 11, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in North Burke Cemetery.

Malone – Darrell B. "Skip" Tatro, 80; Private Services to be held.

Massena – Joellene M. Adams, 76; Mass of Christian Burial June 8, 2021 at Church of the Sacred Heart.

Ogdensburg – Mary Elizabeth (Alexander) Beauchamp, R.N., 93; Mass of Christian Burial June 8, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – David A. Franz, 77; Mass of Christian Burial June 12, 2021 at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Plattsburgh – Mary L. Spear, 80; Mass of Christian Burial June 10, 2021 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery Columbarium.

Port Henry – Frank M. Bexon, 74; Mass of Christian Burial June 10, 2021 at St. Patrick's Church.

Saranac Lake – Doris Yelle Shatraw, 98; Mass of Christian Burial June 10, 2021 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in Pine Ridge Cemetery.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the editor:

Recently the NCC has had several articles by Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk on COVID-19 vaccines and vaccine mandates. He has "ethical concerns about the way certain COVID-19 vaccines are connected to cell lines derived from abortions." Pope Francis has indicated that it is morally acceptable to receive the COVID-19 vaccinations. To continue to bring up the cell lines from abortions that occurred long ago muddies the water and confuses people.

I earned my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Cornell University. With my science-based education, I understand why governments have to mandate certain vaccines or movement restrictions to keep animals healthy in the face of a disease outbreak.

Father Pacholczyk does not like the fact that some Catholic colleges like Notre Dame and Le Moyne as well as the SUNY and CUNY systems are mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for students to attend face-to-face classes in the fall. The MMR and DPT vaccines are already required by schools. One more required vaccine should not be a big inconvenience.

Having college students on crowded campuses make "informed choices" on

Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the author only and do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper or the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

whether to get vaccinated will not get us over this pandemic. Overcoming polio required vaccinating all children starting in the 1950s. We were trying to keep children from dying or being paralyzed for the rest of their lives.

This pandemic is not over. Cases are dropping because people are getting vaccinated or have achieved some natural protection by having survived a COVID-19 infection.

Some have put off vaccination saying that they are not sure that the vaccine is safe, effective or necessary. Some do not want a sore arm. For me, the shingles and human rabies vaccines had a lot more side effects than the COVID-19 vaccines. People who die from COVID-19 infections do not die peacefully. Having blood clots in your lungs is a painful way to die.

Countries like India are in crisis. People are literally dying in the streets due to an overwhelmed health care system. They are having over 200,000 new cases

and 4,000 deaths per day. This reality is not a hoax or a political game.

The US is not getting this crisis under control due to divine intervention or good luck. Vaccinations and spending more time outside are what is helping. Achieving herd immunity by vaccinating 80-90% of our population gives us a realistic chance to get back to a more normal life for the long term. Only vaccinating 60-70% may offer us a decent summer much like we had in the summer of 2020, but we may have the virus come back with a vengeance as we move back indoors in the fall. Letting the virus circulate, gives it more opportunity to mutate into something that our vaccines may not protect us from.

Everyone wants masks, social distancing and temporary morgues in refrigerated trucks to be things of the past. To make this a lasting reality, we must all get vaccinated as soon as possible. Let's do the right thing for ourselves and for each other.

Tony Beane, DVM



Celebrating the Eucharist on Corpus Christi

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

SARANACLAKE—It was a gathering focused on the Eucharist.

On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Corpus Christi Sunday, June 6, faithful from around the diocese gathered at St. Bernard's Church in Saranac Lake for a North Country Cursillo Day of Reflection focused on the Eucharist.

After opening prayer led by North Country Cursillo Lay Director Dwane Bast and his wife, Krissie, Cursillista Ken Racette gave a witness talk focused on why he believes "that the Eucharist is the real and substantial body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Racette said his faith in the Eucharist was confirmed by studying Church teaching and Scripture.

"Some argue the Eucharist is only a symbol of Christ," he said. "This has never been the teaching of the Church nor of Jesus himself. At the end of the last supper, Jesus clearly and unequivocally instituted the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. His words are recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke."

Racette pointed to scriptural text in which Jesus instructed his followers to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

"To the Jews, these words were horrifying," he said. "First, it was an abomination to eat human flesh. And to the Jews, it was sacrilegious to eat any flesh that had blood still in it. Many left Jesus at that time, and even the disciples were shaken by these words. Why would Jesus speak in such a shocking way if he was speaking symbolically and not with literal meaning? Jesus was telling the crowd and us today that his body and his blood are nec-



DARCY FARGO/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Participants in North Country Cursillo's Corpus Christi Day of Reflection participated in a traditional Eucharistic procession to mark the feast.

essary for our eternal life. Without the Eucharist, we cannot remain in him, nor can Jesus remain in us."

Diocesan Director of Evangelization Marika Donders, also a Cursillista, also gave a witness talk. Donders noted that when she was a young child, she was alone in a church when she witnessed an elderly Franciscan friar enter the church and solemnly genuflect toward the Blessed Sacrament, making her aware that something different and special was in that Church.

Donders said she later fell away from practicing her faith before her love of music and desire to hear a good choir led her to the cathedral in Atlanta, where she attended college.

"I'm letting my eyes wander around and letting my mind wander around as well," Donders said. "All this beauty. At a certain point of the Mass, my eyes came forward again and focused on the action in the sanctuary. It was just as the

priest was holding up the host, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' Something in me said, 'I remember this.' Something in me remembered. I remembered the old friar genuflecting. I remember sensing something is different here. I began to recognize a presence I could not name."

Donders encouraged those in attendance to bring their love of Jesus in the Eucharist to others.

"It starts with Jesus," she said. "It starts with our personal relationship with him. Build that relationship and make friends. Introduce those friends to Jesus. He wants to love them as he loves us, and he wants to love them through us. My conversion to Jesus grew through a very small seed planted by the action of an elderly friar... What small thing can you do? What small sacrifice can you offer to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with great love and devotion? Because seeing your love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament may

just make another kid wonder, 'you know? There is something different here.'"

The Day of Reflection participants then joined a Eucharistic procession, taking Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament to the streets around St. Bernard's Church.

Father Albert J. Hauser, spiritual director for North Country Cursillo, then gave a reflection during Holy Hour. Father Hauser spoke of the gifts God gives us by giving us himself in the Eucharist.

"In the Eucharist, we have Jesus," Father Hauser said. "We have his redemptive sacrifice. We have his resurrection. We have the gift of the Holy Spirit. We have adoration, obedience and love of God the Father. In the Eucharist, we have Jesus. In some ways, it's easier to relate to Christ than to the other members of the Trinity because, out of love, which is almost impossible to fathom, he became human to be with us and for us. That very hu-

manity should not cloud it for us that this Jesus who we have in the Eucharist is the eternal word of God, that word which he spoke and brought the whole universe into being; that word that even now sustains this vast and glorious universe. This Jesus is the creative work of God's love that brought us into being, and it sustains us in the love almost impossible for us to imagine its immensity. In the Eucharist, we have Jesus, the eternal son of the almighty God, but there's more. We have his redemptive sacrifice. How often have we been discouraged by our sins, by our weakness, by our bad habits? Have there been times we have been overwhelmed with guilt, with inadequacy, with shame. Brothers and sisters, in the Eucharist, we have this redemptive sacrifice, the blood that washes us clean and makes us new, clothed in the radiant white of our baptismal innocence once again whenever we approach it to wash us clean."

The event concluded with Mass celebrated by Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

"Today's Mass – every Mass – should remind you of the unconditional generosity of Jesus Christ," Bishop LaValley said. "He didn't use his human and divine powers for his own benefit. He used them tirelessly for our good. The sad part: most of the people in the world don't even know he did it, or if they have heard it, they ignore it or they become so involved in themselves, it becomes squeezed out of their minds. It is the very core of our Catholic faith that bread and wine we take up the aisle – under normal circumstances anyway – will become the body and blood of Christ. As we heard earlier in the excellent presentations, it's nowhere near a symbol. It is real."