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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 76 Number 14

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JULY 28, 2021

## World Day for Grandparents, the Elderly

*Editor's Note: July 25 is World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Bishop Terry R. LaValley offers his reflections on the occasion.*

"Last January, after praying the Angelus, Pope Francis declared the Fourth Sunday in July as **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**. He wanted the date chosen to be near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Anne and Joachim (July 26), grandparents of Jesus. The theme: *"I am with you always"* (Mt.28:20) expresses the closeness of the Lord and the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging pandemic times."

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

## KNIGHTS SUPPORT SPORTS



The Knights of Columbus Sarto Council 1059 in Canton recently made a \$2,000 contribution to the ongoing Outdoor Sport Court renovation project. Volunteers, supported by Canton Minor Hockey, are working to raise money to revitalize the outdoor rink adjacent to the Canton Recreational Pavilion. Pictured, from left, are volunteers Tim Abplanalp, Miranda Schryver, and Scott Nickerson, accompanied by Knights of Columbus Grand Knight John Taillon, Deputy Grand Knight Corey Swinwood, and former Grand Knight Dan Fay. Anyone interested in donating to the sport court renovation is encouraged to contact Tim Abplanalp at 315-323-5671

## SUMMER SCHEDULE

The *North Country Catholic* is now on summer schedule and prints every other week. There will be no newspaper next week. The next edition will be August 11.

## NFP WEEK

TO HAVE  
TO HOLD  
TO HONOR

Natural Family Planning  
Supporting God's gifts of  
love and life in marriage

July 25 to 31 is National Natural Family Planning (NFP) Awareness Week. This year's theme is "To Have, To Hold, To Honor." Read Bishop LaValley's reflections on NFP and learn more about living God's plan in marriage.

SEE STORIES, PAGE 3, 5, 6, 7

## Vatican reports \$78 million deficit for 2020

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican reported the Roman Curia had a \$78 million deficit in 2020, and on the same day, the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, which administers Vatican properties and investments, made a summary of its annual budget public for the first time.

Releasing both reports July 24, the Vatican said the coronavirus pandemic had a serious negative impact

on the Vatican's financial situation, including the 66.3 million euros (\$78 million) deficit in the consolidated budget report for 2020.

In an interview with Vatican News, Bishop Nunzio Galantino, president of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, known by its Italian initials APSA, said making the budget synthesis public was "a step forward in the

direction of transparency and sharing."

"The release of the balance sheet is a sign of great respect for all those who, with trust and generosity, have placed and continue to place part of their resources in the hands of the Catholic Church," Bishop Galantino said.

"I harbor a secret hope: I hope that the publication and reading of the numbers and the important

notes that accompany them will foster more correct and complete information," he added.

In 2019, Italian journalist and author Gianluigi Nuzzi claimed in his book "Giudizio Universale" ("Universal Judgment") that decades of mismanagement of the Vatican's investment portfolio and real estate holdings by APSA would leave the Vatican no choice but to default by

2023.

APSA directly administers 4,051 properties in Italy and entrusts to outside companies the administration of some 1,200 properties in London, Paris, Geneva and Lausanne, Switzerland, the Vatican report said.

During the 2020 fiscal year, APSA reported a profit of almost 22 million euros (\$25.8 million), compared to 73.21 million in 2019.

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# My husband was right again

It sometimes annoys me when he's right and I'm wrong, but I'm not annoyed in these instances.

This column is generally the last thing finished before I'm ready to send the *North Country Catholic* to the presses. It's not uncommon for me to struggle developing an idea until the very last minute – usually Sunday morning (deadline is Sunday afternoon).

On a recent weekend, my husband and son left the house for a while to give me

time to write in solitude.

As soon as they got home, my husband asked, "did you get everything done?"

My response: "I did. I don't love my column, though. Sometimes, I feel very connected to the idea and very passionate about it. Other times, I feel like I'm just filling the space. Today, I filled the space."

"Yet you'll have two or three people email you, call you or write to you saying something you wrote was exactly what they needed to hear or saying it meant

something to them."

My husband was right. The column I thought was a total dud elicited three email responses, all from people who related to it or took something from it.

This scene has played out almost identically at least three or four times over the last couple years.

It's a beautiful reminder of how the Holy Spirit works. The ideas for these columns jump in my brain at random. I'll be driving to work, cooking dinner or drying my hair, and a sentence or an idea will jump into my brain. Since I used all my best column ideas in the first six months

I worked in this position, I can only attribute these ideas to the workings of the Holy Spirit.

I've come to realize that the Holy Spirit is much better at this than I am. It's ok if I don't feel connected to a column. If I'm truly listening and going where God leads me with it, He'll all the real work and make all the real connections. I'm really just the fingers on the keyboard.

It's a humbling reminder that it's not about me, and it's a beautiful reminder of how our Lord can work through us.

And I'm not annoyed by that.



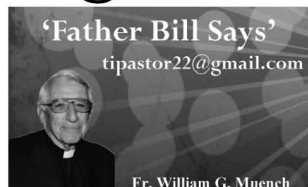
Darcy L.  
Fargo

## Hearing about the Eucharist

Today begins a time for the consideration of the very special sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. You will hear a great deal about the Eucharist in the next few weeks, especially at Church. During the month of August, the Gospel readings at Mass will be from the same chapter of St. John's Gospel – the sixth Chapter of John's Gospel.

This chapter is rather unique. It contains a discourse in which Jesus answers questions from the people concerning the Bread of Life, the Eucharist. Jesus declares his concern and readiness to satisfy the hunger of those in need. Jesus wants to save us by feeding the hungry and by bringing the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist to the spiritually hungry.

The synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark, and Luke – describe for us the Last Supper and show us the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the ordination of the apostles as the new priests who will bring the Eucharist to all God's people. The Gospel of John dedicates a complete chapter of his Gospel, John 6,



to an intensive teaching on the Blessed Eucharist, the Bread of Life.

This chapter, John 6, begins with the story of Jesus who feeds 5,000 people with only five barley loaves and two fish. When we read of this miracle, we recognize something very Eucharistic – Jesus takes the loaves, gave thanks and distributes them to the people. We can clearly see what happens every time we celebrate the Eucharist at Mass.

Jesus is teaching a vast crowd of people. The Lord recognizes that they have become hungry. He calls upon his apostles to assist him in feeding the people. Jesus miraculously feeds them with this small amount of food.

Jesus cares and wants to solve our hunger. It is all about hunger. The compassionate Jesus realized the

needs of his people. Jesus knows me; Jesus knows his disciples of all time. He recognizes our need for strength and the nourishment of the bread of heaven. The Lord wants to help those in need, and he is generous with us all. We experience that generosity every time we sit down to eat and each time we come to the altar of the Lord for Holy Communion. This generosity of the Lord must make us personally generous towards those who are less fortunate. We are Christians. Our example is always our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Jesus also reminds us that the heart and spirit will suffer hunger. In my study this week, I was helped to understand that there are many other ways to consider the hunger that we may suffer. The compassionate Jesus cares for us in so many ways, especially spiritually through the Blessed Eucharist, as the Lord reaches out to satisfy all our hungers.

We may hunger for a feeling of importance. We all want to matter to another person. We hunger for acceptance. We hunger for rela-

tionships. We hunger for motivation. We hunger for faith and beliefs to guide us. We hunger for hope and with the Lord we want to see good things in our future. We hunger for love. When this is satisfied, most of our other hungers would disappear.

The food Jesus gives sustains life permanently. Jesus comes with the promise: "He who eats the bread that I give will live forever." There is another, more important hunger. It is the hunger for eternal life. This is the hunger for God. This experience of hunger is much like a blessing, as we anxiously learn to yearn and hunger for the love and care of our Savior. We hunger for the Lord's coming to us in the Blessed Eucharist.

The Lord want to be part of our lives. The Lord wants to be with us always. When we receive Our Savior in Holy Communion, the Lord stays with us into the day with its challenges and opportunities. Truly, Our Lord gives us the power – power to do the right thing, to say the right thing – to make our world a better place.

FOLLOW ME

# NFP Week 2021: To Have, to Hold, to Honor

**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:**

Paul Anka wrote the lyrics. Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley made the tune a hit: “*I Did It My Way.*” The theme captured well the spirit of the day as well as the current philosophy of life. In too many cases, when it comes to decision-making, God’s ways take a back seat (if God is in the vehicle at all). Persuasive commercials and alluring ads exert a certain seductive power over our decision making. “Have it your way.” “Just do it.” Such is the world that tries to distance itself from the Divine, or at least ignore, restrict, or usurp God’s reign.

National **NFP Awareness Week (July 25-31)** provides you and me the opportunity to study God’s ways in one important element of family life.

Natural Family Planning leaves God’s sovereignty over marital life intact. The married couple cooperates with God in planning to have or not have children at a given time, rather than leaving God out of the picture by using artificial barriers in the couples becoming one flesh. NFP is about fidelity to God and making God the center of married life and love.

Following the teachings of the Church seems especially difficult today for many reasons. I might find myself struggling to follow Jesus because: 1) I don’t fully understand Church teaching; 2) outside pressure, stress or even ridicule from others sours me toward it; 3) it affects my personal pursuit of worldly goods; or

4) my pride convinces me that the Church has got this wrong. Struggle can be good and healthy, so can obedience to a higher Power.

It is only by taking the time to reflect on Scripture and on the life of Christ, by praying regularly and celebrating the Eucharist, will I gain the humility to allow God to be God and not me. As Catholic Christians, we owe it to ourselves to understand Church teachings.

To help you in your faith journey, I encourage you to learn more about what the Church teaches about marital love by vis-

iting our Natural Family Planning office at our diocesan webpage: <https://www.rcdony.org/nfp.html>.

We are truly blessed to have Suzanne and Angelo Pietropaoli directing our diocesan NFP efforts as well as all those who assist with its instruction in our marriage preparation classes.

This year’s theme: **To Have, To Hold, To Honor**, focuses our attention on how NFP supports God’s gifts of love and life in marriage.

Pope Francis tells us that NFP is about healthy, effective, morally acceptable and truly organic approaches to family



**Bishop Terry R. LaValley**

planning. He wrote: “These approaches are to be promoted, since these methods respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between husband and wife, and favor the education of an authentic freedom.”

(Amoris Laetitia, 222) Respect, Tenderness, Authentic Freedom are the fruits realized by those who practice NFP

and live marriage God’s Way.

A child is never a threat, a diminution of freedom, a limitation of self-fulfillment.

The future will surely suffer if we deny ourselves the one force that can give us the future: children.

St. Joseph, Pillar of Families, Pray for Us.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

*+ Terry R. LaValley*

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

## TO HAVE TO HOLD TO HONOR

Natural Family Planning

*Supporting God’s gifts of love and life in marriage*

Diocese of Ogdensburg  
Natural Family Planning Office  
518-483-0459  
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Website: [www.rcdony.org/nfp](http://www.rcdony.org/nfp)

[www.usccb.org/nfp](http://www.usccb.org/nfp)



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# World Day for Grandparents, the Elderly

## Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Last January, after praying the Angelus, Pope Francis declared the Fourth Sunday in July as **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**. He wanted the date chosen to be near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Anne and Joachim (July 26), grandparents of Jesus. The theme: *"I am with you always"* (Mt.28:20) expresses the closeness of the Lord and the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging pandemic times. This celebration involves all generations and is born from the knowledge that the Lord is close to the

lives of the elderly a well as the young, for God is with us always.

*"I am with you always"* is a promise of closeness and hope that the young and the not-so-young can mutually share. Not only are grandchildren and young people called upon to be present in the lives of older people, but the elderly and grandparents also have a mission of evangelization, prayer, and of encouraging young people in their faith. As the Holy Father wrote: "There is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel

and handing down traditions to your grandchildren."

This *World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly* we redouble our efforts to dismantle the throw-away culture and to enhance the charisms of grandparents and the elderly. May our seniors accompany their families with wisdom and pass on the treasure of faith to their grandchildren and to the younger generations. Our grandparents need to help the young to avoid losing touch with their roots and to build their lives on solid, faith-

filled foundations.

I remember well each summer spending time during my school years at my grandparent's farm. Every night we would pray the Rosary before bedtime. Although my grandfather prayed in French, I figured the Lord would understand what I was saying if I stuck with English. I remember, too, helping my other grandfather who was the parish sexton. Both of my grandmothers were active members of the Ladies of St. Anne. The Catholic faith defined my grandparents. Both my parents grew up in devout Catholic homes where family life and parish life continually intersected. Such an environment helped to create

and nurture a culture of vocations in my family.

So many of our grandparents today work hard to foster the faith of their adult children and grandchildren. This is an opportunity time to thank them for their enduring faithfulness. Our pastors and parish families pledge our love and support as all our elderly meet unique challenges that come with growing in wisdom and years.

Faithfully yours in Christ,



Most Reverend  
Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg



Bishop  
Terry R.  
LaValley

## Family Guggenheim will not run in 2021 season

OGDENSBURG— It is with great sadness that the Family Life Office announces we will not be holding the Family Guggenheim program for the 2021 season.

The Family Guggenheim Ministry Team had been planning the retreat with the hopes that the health and safety restrictions of the pandemic would lighten by August. In the Spring the Ministry Team sent out a survey to families who had participated within the past five seasons. Many of these

families said they were willing to participate even with some safety restrictions.

While restrictions for vaccinated people have largely been lifted, under the guidelines provided by NY State for overnight camping, unvaccinated people would be required to wear masks while indoors and social distance both indoors and outside.

Children under 12 cannot be vaccinated for the COVID virus. Most families that participate in the program have a mix of younger and older children.

This makes for a situation in which some participants, even within the same family, would have

restrictions and others would not.

It would be difficult to ensure that camp would be a safe environment without significantly changing the normal, highly interactive dynamic of the program and likely making the experience very unenjoyable for most of the participants.

Steve Tartaglia, Director of the Family Life Office would like to take the opportunity to thank the families on the Ministry Team, who were equally heartbroken and convinced that a program that is meaningful, enjoyable and safe was unlikely.

We will begin planning early for the 2022 season and, in the meantime, find other ways of staying in touch and supporting the families of this diocese throughout the year, Tartaglia said.

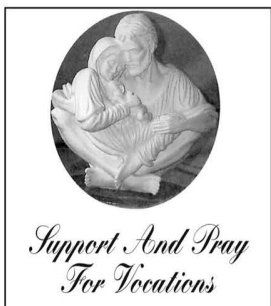
## Bishop to consider apostolic letter

*Editor's note: Bishop Terry R. LaValley issued the following letter to priests and deacons of the diocese on July 20.*

As you know, Pope Francis published an Apostolic Letter, *Traditionis custodes* [Guardians of the Tradition] on July 16, 2021. The purpose of the Holy Father's letter is to strengthen the bond of unity among all Catholics who celebrate the Eucharist in the Roman Rite and to provide for their spiritual nourishment.

Pope Francis, after consultation with the bishops of the Roman Rite throughout the world, has provided new direction for the celebration of the Mass in Latin according to the 1962 Roman Missal. I am committed to serving the spiritual well-being of those Catholics in our diocese who pray the Mass according to the 1962 Roman Missal as well as all who pray the Mass according to the reforms of the Second Vatican Council.

Given that the norms were promulgated only a few days ago, it will take some time to study them, examine our local situation and seek counsel from within the Diocese of Ogdensburg, from other bishops, as well as from the Roman Congregation responsible for the document's implementation. In the meantime, I am happy to grant the necessary faculties so that those priests who are already celebrating the rites of the Extraordinary Form (according to the 1962 Roman Missal) may continue to do so in those locations where they are currently celebrated. No new public liturgical celebration of the Extraordinary Form should be introduced anywhere in the diocese at this time without my written permission. Further guidance will be offered as study of the document proceeds.



NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK 2021: TO HAVE, TO HOLD, TO HONOR

# Children are a gift from the Lord

By Suzanne Pietropaoli  
Natural Family Planning Director

A conversation with a friend made me realize how unusual my childhood was. Not for any bad reason, but simply because it was so filled with children. In the (largely Irish) Catholic enclave where I grew up in coastal Massachusetts, children – like the sunshine, the sand, and the salt air – were everywhere.

Blessed with eight brothers and sisters, surrounded by families that included six, eight, or ten children, I never lacked for playmates.

But there was an added vibrancy, a pulsation, to life in our small town as one family or another seemed always to be welcoming a new baby. What excitement that generated among us children! No matter that we all had younger, even infant, siblings at home; we were quite enchanted by each new arrival. Even now I can see myself, circa 1965, part of a small crowd of children gathered around a cradle, silent with wonder as we met a family's newest member. Then, as if seeing such things for the first time, we would ooh and aah over the tiny fingers, the downy head of hair, the color of her eyes. It was like Christmas!

No one needed to convince us that children are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3). How amazing to have been formed in a world where, despite the inevitable human flaws, children were welcomed and cherished, blessed to grow up in



homes with the mother and father whose love – together with God's – had given them life. Not surprisingly, these same families overflowed the pews at Mass each week, dressed in their Sunday best and exceptionally well-behaved. Some families even spilled over into a second pew.

All this came to mind recently as I pondered Bishop LaValley's pastoral letter for NFP Awareness Week 2021. What a clear teaching, and what a clarion call to all of us to seek first the kingdom of God: "It is only by taking the time to reflect on Scripture and on the life of Christ, by praying regularly and celebrating the Eucharist, will I gain the humility to allow God to be God and not me."

This decision to acknowledge the sovereignty of God, to choose his ways and thoughts above my own, is central to discipleship, whatever one's vocation.

But as Bishop LaValley reminds us, this can be especially challenging for married couples in a culture that "tries to distance itself from the Divine," especially in matters of sex and family planning. In contrast, he writes, "NFP is about fidelity to God and making God the center of married life and love."

After all, God created us male and female in his image and willed that sexual union should reflect his own free, permanent, faithful, fruitful love – a total gift of one spouse to the other. That gift is seriously incomplete when fertility is deliberately withheld.

Our wise and loving Creator designed sex for the permanent union of husband and wife, and he chose to make it both love-giving AND life-giving. To deliberately interfere with the life-giving reality of sex is to say NO to God. Contraception and sterilization emphatically

reject the beautiful plan of God: he clearly made a mistake in connecting sex and babies, but medical technology lets us correct the "error" – or so we imagine. The real error lies in thinking that we know better than the God who created us. And contrary to both common sense and God's word in Scripture, we even buy into the cultural myth that a child has no intrinsic value but is a threat to be protected against.

Bishop LaValley calls us instead to think with the mind of Christ. In the Gospels, Jesus commands, "Let the little children come to me. Do not shut them off, for of such is the kingdom of

heaven." How blessed I was to have been formed by a community that so warmly welcomed children! Similarly, what a blessing it has been in NFP ministry, to accompany couples seeking to live in harmony with God's plan for life and love – and to watch their love, and their families, grow.

By drawing closer to the Lord who made us, may we rediscover the truth, of which we are so beautifully reminded in Vatican II's GAUDIUM ET SPES (50, 1) : "Children are the supreme gift of marriage, and contribute greatly to the good of their parents." And to all of us.

## THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

WOULD YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

— PRAYER SUGGESTION —

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

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



### AUGUST

DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG, NY		2021					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY	2 REV. SCOTT A. BELINA	3 REV. PETER M. BERG	4 REV. CORNELLE BOYEYE, MSC	5 REV. TIMOTHY G. CANAAN	6 REV. CHRISTOPHER C. CARAKA	7 REV. GERALD A. CERANK	
8 OUR PASTOR	9 REV. TOJO CHACKO HGN	10 REV. DANIEL L. CHAPIN	11 REV. MARTIN E. CLINE	12 REV. DOUGLAS G. COMSTOCK	13 REV. MATTHEW S. CONGER	14 REV. NORMAND C. COTE	
15 POPE FRANCIS	16 BENEDICT XVI POPE EMERITUS	17 REV. THEODORE A. CROSBY	18 REV. PEDRO EDGARDO DE LA ROSA	19 REV. DOUGLAS A. DECKER	20 REV. ROBERT L. DECKER	21 REV. DAVID DELUCA, MSC	
22 RETIRED PRIESTS	23 REV. GARVIN J. DEMARAIS	24 REV. RICHARD D. DEMERS	25 REV. JOHN M. DEMO	26 MSGR. LAWRENCE M. DENO	27 REV. RAYMOND DIESBOURG, MSC	28 REV. JOHN L. DOWNS	
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A donation to help support THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS will be appreciated. The Monthly Prayer Request for Priests is graciously underwritten by: Diocese of Ogdensburg, Vocations Society, www.nfpvocation.net

## Environmental Stewardship

## Celebrate what's right with the world

A former *National Geographic* photographer, Dewitt Jones, advises us to celebrate what's right with the world. Then, we will have what we need to fix what is wrong with the world. In these days of turmoil and unrest around us in the world, it may be challenging to see what's right with the world. From his work with the *National Geographic*, Dewitt realized that the publication's vision was to offer, through their photographs and articles, what possibilities the world had to offer. Do we choose to see the possibilities? Do we really believe they are there? Do we view life from the vantage point of scarcity or abundance?

During these bountiful and beautiful summer days have you noticed and been in awe and wonder in the unfolding mystery of life unfolding around us in nature? Do you see it in the wild and cultivated flowers, the gardens and fields around us, the songs of birds or the beauty of the butterfly? Are you enjoying the fruits of the earth pollinated by the bees this summer? Have you been graced to witness the folic of fawns in the fields or other young creatures? If so, then maybe you may have been unknowingly following Dewitt's advice.

The other part of Dewitt's advice suggests that if we take time to celebrate what is right and beautiful in life, we will have what we need to fix what is wrong with the world. We don't have to look too far to see what is happening to mar this beauty. For instance, we know there is an increasing number of species that are becoming extinct or impacted by the overuse of pesticides. There is increasing evidence that one of the major causes of cancer and disease come from environmental contamination as well.

One suggestion to help "fix" what harm we have been doing to mar the sacred beauty of life is to shop at your local hardware store for green products for your lawn/garden care and household uses that will protect the quality of life now and in the future. Although they may cost a little more, consider it your donation as an environmental steward.

## Rest in Peace

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

- July 30** — Rev. Francis Smyth, 1902; Rev. Patrick Majock, O.S.A., 1922; Rev. Jeremiah P. Murphy, 1925; Rev. Moses Minnie, 1935  
**July 31** — Rev. Napoleon Brisson, 1950; Rev. Michael O'Reilly, 1980  
**Aug. 1** — Rev. J. Everett Denesha, 2013  
**Aug. 2** — Rev. Zephyrin Jutras, 1919  
**Aug. 4** — Rev. Alexandre Soulerin, O.M.I., 1892; Rev. Adolphe Saurel, 1925; Rev. Willie Caron, M.S.C., 1972  
**Aug. 5** — Rev. M. Calixte Mourier, O.M.I., 1912; Rev. David N. Burke, 1913; Rev. Gerald A. Sharland, 1973  
**Aug. 7** — Msgr. Edmund H. Dumas, 2000; Rev. Lawrence E. Cotter, 2016  
**Aug. 8** — Rev. Donald E. Seguin, 1976  
**Aug. 9** — Rev. Edward B. May, O.S.A., 1953; Rev. James N. Flattery, 1997  
**Aug. 10** — Rev. Walter J. LaRocque, 1936; Rev. Joseph Bolduc, O.M.I., 1956; Rev. Cornelius Vullings, M.S.C., 1971; Msgr. Anthony A. Milia, 2010; Deacon Bruce C. Wadsworth, 2013

## To Report Abuse

**If you have a complaint** of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact **Victims Assistance Coordinator**, Terri-ann Yanulavich, Ph.D., LMHC, 5050 Route 374, Merrill, NY 12955; terriannyanulavich@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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org).

## Bishop's Public Schedule

- July 28** — Noon — Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg  
**July 29** — Noon — Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg  
**July 31** — Noon — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**August 1** — 8 a.m. — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**August 4** — 5 p.m. — Picnic with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at Dablon Point in Cape Vincent  
**August 5** — 3 p.m. — Uncle Sam's Boat Tour on the St. Lawrence River with the Deacons and their Wives followed by dinner at the Edgewood Inn in Alexandria Bay  
**August 8** — 11 a.m. — Installation Mass of Reverend Joseph W. Giroux as Pastor of The Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary in Potsdam and St. Patrick's Church in Colton  
**August 9** — 5 p.m. — Bishop's Fund Appeal Reception at St. Patrick's Parish Center in Port Henry  
**August 10** — 5 p.m. — Bishop's Fund Appeal Reception at the Malone Golf Club  
**August 11** — 5 p.m. — Bishop's Fund Appeal Reception at Holy Ghost Parish Center in Tupper Lake

## 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](mailto:jgrizzuto@rcdony.org) or 315-393-2920 x 1413.

## 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 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](mailto:news@northcountrycatholic.org)
- Join the conversation!

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK 2021:

TO HAVE, TO HOLD, TO HONOR

NFP: It's worth it!  
Join the revolution

By Jill Cherrey  
 Courtesy of USCCB

In marriage preparation programs, couples frequently ask: "What is the difference between contraception and Natural Family Planning (NFP)?" Although I am happy to explain, I often realize that words are inadequate. I try to encourage them to ask a better question: "How can a couple have 'authentic sexual intimacy' and responsibly plan their family?" The difference between the two questions is deep and wide. The answer has to do with joining a revolution—God's revolution!

God's love is revolutionary. It is freely given. It is permanent, total, faithful, and fruitful. And, God shares His love with us as gift. When man and woman marry, they make a vow at the altar to love each other as God loves. In their consent, the "I" becomes "we!" And, there is more. God's gift of sexual relations to husband and wife gives them a particular way to "seal" or "perfect" their vows in a physical reality where the "we" can become "us" in a child.

With NFP, spouses say, "I love you freely" because the time of sexual abstinence demonstrates that they can say "No" and do no harm to God's gift of fertility. This makes their times of "Yes," more meaningful. To put it another way, if we cannot say "no" to our sexual urges then we are not truly free and our "yes" really means nothing. When a couple jointly respects

God's gift of fertility rather than seeking to manipulate it, they offer the total gift of their persons to each other. A faithful gift is one that is always in the best interest of the person, and NFP allows a couple to say, "You are amazing just the way you are" (remember, when using NFP, the couple does not seek to alter their fertility through chemicals, devices, or procedures). In addition, the discipline of periodic sexual abstinence helps couples to resist temptations that offend sexual fidelity and the virtue of chastity. NFP allows the couple to give God the final word on whether their sexual union will result in pregnancy. In turning over physical fruitfulness to God, the couple practices spiritual fruitfulness as they open their hearts to God who is love.

A revolution is not an easy endeavor. It can be exciting, but it inevitably will require personal sacrifice and even suffering. NFP is no different. Accepting God's invitation to live His plan for married love is both humbling and wondrous. It involves many blessings. And, yet, it will also have its difficulties. For example, when postponing a pregnancy, some couples may experience prolonged periods of sexual abstinence due to unclear fertility signs—and they will feel the loss of their physical intimacy. When facing the challenge of postpartum and breastfeeding or during perimenopause, other couples may wonder if

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK 2021: TO HAVE, TO HOLD, TO HONOR

**Strengthening connections**

By Jennifer and John Campbell  
Courtesy of USCCB

For a newly engaged couple, learning Natural Family Planning is informative, interesting, at times a little embarrassing, but always enlightening. Living NFP, on the other hand, is a different story. It is a story about connections, very unique and fulfilling. It involves the use of information learned which we then apply to the reality of everyday married life.

At the beginning of our married life, we used NFP to avoid pregnancy, as the time was not right for it. Currently, we are using NFP to achieve pregnancy. We were delighted to find that the two focuses of NFP have made our young marriage both more focused and more intimate.

Unlike artificial contraception which usually places full burden of family planning on the woman-NFP promotes shared responsibility of the fertility of both the husband and wife. It lends a spirit of togetherness to a marriage. There's no, "Have you taken your pill?" That is, "are you safe?" In our marriage there's no holding back that precious part of ourselves, our fertility.

Rather than a burden to be dealt with, for us it is a blessing to be understood and respected. The complete self-giving says, I love all of you.

The benefits of NFP extend beyond family planning. We'd heard that often times the husband will develop a deeper respect for his wife and the gift of her fertility. In practice, we've found this

to be noticeably true. A constant awareness of cycles and phases makes it easier to perceive when to be loving and gentle, extra patient and thoughtful, and when to resume physical intimacy.

Unlike a couple using contraception in their marriage, sex is not always an option for two who are living NFP. That's a good thing, contrary to what popular culture might imply. By experiencing times when we can not engage in physical intimacy, the moments that we can are made all the more poignant and precious. Even when we want to engage, and the chart says no way, buddy, it lends an element of bittersweet waiting. After all, consider the alternative: when a woman is on the pill or using some other kind of chemical contraceptive, she's always available for sex. There's no waiting, no longing, just indulging whenever you want. Nice at first, perhaps, but over time spontaneity and passion fade all the more quickly by the frequency of the intimacy. Oftentimes sexual intimacy will become less mutual over time in a contracepting marriage and more mandatory, and thus less rewarding for one or both spouses.

Periodic abstinence in our marriage has opened up broader channels of communication between us. Like many young couples, we both are currently employed. Commuting, daily exercising, paying bills, preparing dinner, outside commitments . . . all are busy but necessary activities in a healthy lifestyle,

but collectively tiresome as well. Tired couples find it difficult to talk in the evenings, and would prefer to veg out. We're no different. But since NFP holds the key to our family planning, we necessarily discuss personal and intimate topics about our fertility that most couples never broach. These NFP talks are portholes to deeper discourses and more personal dialogue between us. We've both noticed that with time, open and intimate communication is becoming less a difficulty and more a reflex, and we both attribute that in part to NFP. We've found that subjects such as our budget, work, saving for a house, and where we'll spend Christmas are child's play after you can discuss mucus and temperatures with a straight face!

Yes, NFP can be a challenge and a sacrifice at times, and were not saying it's always easy, but that is part of true love a bit of sacrifice for the beloved. We find a noble joy in sacrificing ourselves for each other, even in so private a way as withholding intimacy until the time is right; self-sacrifice is an important root element of love, and it builds respect for each other and ourselves. We've also found that a sense of humor helps during the times of no physical intimacy.

When the signs of fertility were apparent, we'd jokingly say, "Ok, see you in a few days." We've heard some people say they could never follow NFP since they can't have intercourse during the time that they want. We've found that the time

of abstinence gives us moments when we can just be together and talk, play tennis, joke, or go out to dinner. It reminds us that we're much more than just physical beings wanting to satisfy a desire.

We're both happy to have learned NFP and to be living it. We know that it is enriching our marriage in our every day life and even in ways we

probably won't realize until much later.

Knowing that we're building a strong foundation of love, mutual respect and faith gives us confidence in our future. We're best friends who love each other enough to want the best for each other and our marriage!

*Jennifer and John Campbell, "Connections." Used with permission.*

**NFP: It's worth it**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

being. Unfortunately, today we live in a culture that has tried to redesign love and in particular, sex. In doing so, it has eliminated the language of love which is the language of self-sacrifice. NFP supports the language of love. It stands against any notion that love is about self-satisfaction to the exclusion of self-donation. NFP allows couples to honor God by respecting His design. It both respects man and woman as created by God, and values God's gift of fertility. NFP therefore values the child as gift.

What is God's design for men and women but that which is love and life, babies and bonding, unitive and procreative, together! With NFP, a couple can trust the gift as it was made, and when they do so, they can truly renew their vows and invite love, God's love into their marriage. This is a revolution worth joining!

Most importantly, when facing challenges, NFP couples should be encouraged to turn to God in prayer—as individuals and as a couple. In my own life, I have both worn down rosary beads and the path to the Adoration chapel during spiritual battles in my life—and God never failed to give me consolation and direction!

*Jill Cherrey is the NFP coordinator for the Archdiocese of Newark. Jill Cherrey, "NFP, It's worth it! Join the Revolution!" Used with permission.*

# St. Joseph's Outreach Center is 'oasis of beauty'

By Mary Beth Bracy  
Contributing Writer

TREADWELLS MILLS – St. Joseph's Community Outreach Center is "an oasis of beauty in the darkness and a light to everyone who encounters it," reflected Father Scott R. Seymour, pastor of St. Alexander, Morrisonville, St. James, Cadyville and St. Augustine, Peru. "God has really been the source of the project. We always knew there was a great need."

When St. Joseph's Church in Treadwells Mills closed, the parish prayed about what to do with the building. At first, it seemed like they should sell the property, so they buried a St. Joseph statue and prayed for his intercession. Then, Father Seymour had a dream and Jesus said: "If you leave, who is going to take care of My poor?"

When Father Seymour met with Bishop Terry R. LaValley, the bishop gave permission for the St. Joseph Outreach Center, if the parish was supportive. The parish council thought it was a great idea. However, there was the concern of how they



(Left) Starr Burke, St. Joseph's Program Coordinator; Father Scott R. Seymour, pastor of St. Alexander, Morrisonville, St. James, Cadyville and St. Augustine, Peru; Claudine Dailey, Regional Director, Clinton and Essex County, Catholic Charities; Johanna Cubi, Deputy Director of Catholic Charities. All four can frequently be found at the new St. Joseph's Outreach Center in Treadwells Mills. (Right) The thrift shop at the outreach center offers low-cost clothing and goods to community members.



would raise money; a new heating system would cost \$30,000. Father Seymour said: "If Jesus wants it, He'll have it and provide." It cost the parish only \$5,000 in materials.

About 11 years ago, Sister Donna Franklin gave the parish money to start a soup kitchen. Many others have supported the effort as well, including Deacon Patrick Donahue of Catholic Charities and the Knights of Columbus at Treadwells Mills. Venès Lainé, a seminarian at

their parish, helps in the soup kitchen too. Sister Donna Franklin also donated statues of Mary and Joseph, and the Sisters of St. Joseph gave them the parish grant.

A Mother Cabrini Health Foundation grant the parish gave the outreach center another boost, funding St. Joseph's many programs, including meal delivery and food distribution. But running an outreach center involved more than just funding.

"The volunteer hours alone are stunning," Starr Burke, St. Joseph's Program Coordinator relayed, it has brought "communities together."

Catholic Charities is also located at the center. The organization's regional director for Clinton and Essex, Claudine Dailey, commented on the "amazing" renovations at St. Joseph's and the transformation "from then to now."

They are "blessed" to be "all under the same roof," with a "common goal," added Father Seymour. It is really a "team effort for God's people."

Father Seymour said the outreach center has a "great community of volunteers, (in) every aspect" there is parish "cooperation."

Volunteers begin each Monday working to prepare the Thursday community meal, mostly homemade, including vegetables and herbs grown in St. Joseph's garden. The outreach center currently supplies 275 to

300 takeout meals weekly. Food is delivered throughout Clinton County, including Redford.

Father Seymour noted that we should never "presume or judge" in this work. A woman with a "magnificent car" came to obtain meals. It turned out that that she was bringing them to the homeless in the area.

Some mothers came during the COVID pandemic and were embarrassed, Father Seymour continued. Since St. Joseph's had some extra cereal, they gave it to the children for breakfast the next morning. The kids were so hungry, they started eating it right away.

Father Jay de la Rosa and Father Seymour greet people as they enter the center. Many people ask for their prayers and "bare" their souls to them. Father Seymour is struck by the number of people who say, "I love you, Father." The people are

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## TRANSFER OF LEADERSHIP



The Sisters of St. Joseph recently held their General Chapter of Affairs the week of July 11-16. Evening Prayer was held on Sunday July 11 with the Transfer of Leadership. Lighted candles were given to each of the sisters reminding them that the light of the Holy Spirit would guide them. LPictured are (above, from left) Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, Sister Shirley Anne Brown, Sister Bernadette Marie Collins, Sister Kathleen DeBoalt, Sister Mary Anne Croitz. Sister Shirley Anne Brown opened Chapter introducing Sister Janet Mock, CSJ, Baden, Pennsylvania (pictured on the right) as the facilitator. The Chapter concluded with a Missioning Ceremony sending forth the Sisters in the ministry among the people of the North Country and the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



## 'Oasis of beauty'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

very thankful," added Dailey.

Since there is a food pantry at St. Joseph's as well, they are able to provide people with bonuses and extras. JCEO will be moving into St. Joseph's the first week of July.

Burke noted that this will be a "tremendous asset," with their "food pantry and all the other services they offer to the community."

Catholic Charities offers a variety of assistance to those in need, including "fuel, electric, gas cards, and furniture," added Dailey. The organization usually offers "one time" assistance, and help people develop a plan for going forward. However,

there are some exceptions, depending on the need. Catholic Charities partners with JCEO, United Way, and local businesses who donate items (e.g. Bushey's Furniture and American Mattress).

"We give them the fish, then teach them how to fish," Father Seymour summarized.

The outreach center is a "one stop shop." People visit to pick up meals, go to the food pantry, receive services and visit the outreach center's thrift store.

The store includes high quality clothes at almost no cost, including "dress for success" interview apparel. A few months ago, the hospital reached out to them to see if St.

Joseph's could supply clothing to patients in need.

St. Joseph's networks to offer a variety of other services, including: RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program), E-MDT (for Elder Abuse preventions), haircuts at BOCES, High School Equivalency diploma classes, help with writing resumes and tutoring. When people come for free classes, they are able to take home a meal from the soup kitchen.

Father Seymour emphasized that, with all of the parish's outreach, "We don't stop being Catholic. We don't hide who we are." St. Joseph's mission is honoring the parishes past, since the church was

founded to care for the poor.

The parish recently completed some demolition in the old rectory, attached to St. Joseph's, and renovations are under way. This will serve as a respite home for people who need temporary shelter and "fall through the cracks" due to various circumstances. It will be mobility accessible.

Beginning in July, St. Joseph's is partnering with a local farmer who will offer fresh produce. SNAP and WIC are accepted. The food pantry is adding hours and will be open from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. St. Joseph's will also begin hosting Veterans Feed Veterans soon. Through

that program, the outreach center will provide a monthly food box to over 100 veterans' households.

St. Joseph's Community Outreach Center is always in need of monetary donations to continue its work. The center accepts gently worn clothing, especially for children, and food pantry donations. The Cart bus stops at St. Joseph's.

For more information, visit the St. Joseph's Community Outreach Center Facebook page or St. Alexander's bulletin. Contact St. Joseph's at 1349 Military Turnpike, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 or 518-825-0697. Catholic Charities website is [www.cathcharities.org](http://www.cathcharities.org)

## CLINTON

## CHINESE AUCTION

Lyon Mountain – Chinese Auction to be held.

**Date:** Sept. 5

**Time:** 3 p.m.

**Place:** Lyon Mountain American Legion Post

**Features:** There will be a 50/50, Michigan platter, and some special drawings. If you would like to donate gifts or gift cards, please give to Jean LeClair (518-735-4782) or leave them at the Legion with your name on it so we will know who donated it.

## 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:** July 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 procession walk, there will be Eucharistic Adoration and the recitation of the rosary inside of the church.

## JEFFERSON-LEWIS

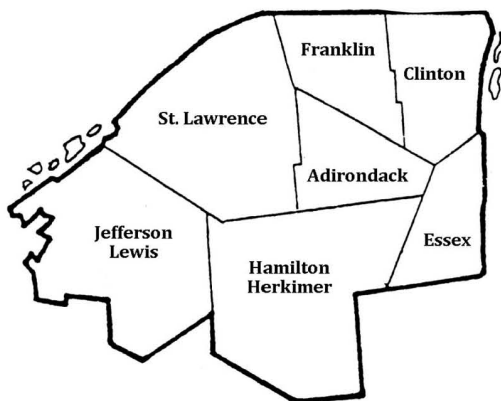
## BLESSING OF FLOWERS, HERBS AND GRAINS

Houseville – St. Hedwig's to observe the Polish custom of blessing flowers, herbs and grains.

**Date:** Aug. 15, The feast of the Assumption

**Time:** 11 a.m. Mass

**Features:** To honor our Blessed Mother, Matka Boska Zielna, Our Lady of the Greens. There are over 2,000 plants named after our Blessed Mother. All are welcome to bring bouquets, pots, vases and stalks of flowers, herbs and grains and place them in front of the altar. These blessed plants can then be taken to the home or cemetery, or



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@northcountycatholic.org.

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

be given as gifts.

**Contact:** Call 315-348-6260 for more information.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Carthage – Through a generous grant from the Mother Cabrini Foundation, Augustinian Academy is excited to offer: Treasured Vacation Bible School!

**Date:** Aug. 23-27

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 8

**Place:** Augustinian Academy.

**Features:** VBS is for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. It is open to the public, and all denominations are welcome.

**Contact:** For more information and registration forms please visit the school website at [www.c-augustinian.org](http://www.c-augustinian.org).

## ST. LAWRENCE

## PRAYER AND ADORATION

Massena – Commissioned Lay Ministers are invited to gather for Adoration and Rosary.

**Date:** Every third Wednesday of the month (Aug. 18)

**Time:** 6:30 to 7 p.m.

**Place:** Sacred Heart Church

## FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Massena – First Saturday Rosary to be held.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** 3:15 p.m.

**Place:** Sacred Heart Church

**Features:** The First Saturday Rosary Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. Confessions will be available. Saturday Vigil Mass will be at 4 p.m.

## GOLF TOURNAMENT

Gouverneur – St. James School Vikings to have their Annual Golf Tournament.

**Date:** Aug. 22

**Time:** 9 a.m. Registration; 10 a.m. Shotgun start

**Place:** Emerald Green Golf Course.

**Cost:** \$50 per person, \$200 per team. Includes green fees, cart, welcome gift, hot dog lunch, cash bar, dinner and a chance to win great prizes.

**Features:** \$1000 cash split for best team score. Proceeds to benefit St. James School.

**Contact:** Pre-register at St. James Parish office or print a form from FB page or [www.stjamesk-6.org](http://www.stjamesk-6.org). For more information call 315-287-0114 or 315-487-8173

## HOLY EUCHARIST SERIES

Ogdensburg – Deacon Bill O'Brien will be presenting this 6-week series on the Holy Eucharist called "PRESENCE: The Mystery of the Eucharist."

**Date:** Starting every Wednesday Aug. 4 to Sept. 8

**Time:** Two options to choose from, 9:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** Brzana Hall, Cathedral

**Features:** Come join us exploring the Church's teaching on the Real Presence in the Eucharist. Come see what the Bible has to say about this teaching, what the Church Fathers believed, and why each of us is so blessed by the Real Presence. Workbooks will be provided.

**Contact:** Please sign up by emailing Deacon Bill @ [billob315@gmail.com](mailto:billob315@gmail.com) by July 25th to ensure having a workbook

for the study.

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## GUGGENHEIM FUN DAYS

Saranac Lake – Camp Guggenheim to have summer fun day camp.

**Date:** July 30 for 12 to 15 years old and July 31 for 16 to 18 years old.

**Cost:** \$15 per day

**Features:** There will be swimming to Super Scavenger Hunt, Beach Luau, youth focused Liturgy and more! You are guaranteed a great day at Camp Guggenheim. We will provide snacks and drinks. Please bring your own bag lunch. You will also need to bring a bathing suit, towel, sunscreen, and bug spray. You must be vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus to attend and participate in a Guggenheim Summer Fun Day.

**Contact:** To register go to: [www.rcdony.org/summer-fun-days-guggenheim](http://www.rcdony.org/summer-fun-days-guggenheim) For questions contact: Jeannie Grizzuto, Youth Office Administrator at: [jgrizzuto@rcdony.org](mailto:jgrizzuto@rcdony.org) or 315-393-2920 ext. 1413

## HEALING MASS

Saranac Lake – Healing Mass to be held for Separated and Divorced.

**Date:** Aug. 18

**Time:** 4 p.m.

**Place:** Camp Guggenheim

**Features:** Join in prayer for all those hurting from the pain and loss of separation or divorce. Resources available.

**Contact:** For more information contact the Family Life Office 315-393-2920 Ext 1420 [startaglia@rcdony.org](mailto:startaglia@rcdony.org)

## MYSTERY OF THE 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: [rcdony.org/mysteryeucharist](http://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](http://www.rcdony.org/clm-event)

## SACRED HEART FOUNDATION DINNER

Watertown – Sacred Heart Foundation to have 48th Annual Benefit dinner with Bishop Lucia as guest speaker.

**Date:** Sept. 21

**Time:** 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. dinner

**Place:** Hilton Garden Inn

**Cost:** \$40 per person (tickets must be pre-purchased at [sacredheartfoundation.com/benefit-dinner](http://sacredheartfoundation.com/benefit-dinner))

## 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, fill out the brief application at [sidewalkadvocates.org/trainingapp](http://sidewalkadvocates.org/trainingapp). Upon receipt, we'll be in touch with next steps for accessing the online training.

## VIRTUAL FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE

Watch the "Iron Sharpens Iron" project from the virtual Family Life Conference at <https://www.rcdony.org/vflc>

**Description:** see the videos from the Virtual Family Life Conference or to submit a video of your family doing something fun.

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

## Policy keeping migrants out may stay in place longer

WASHINGTON (CNS) — News reports say the Biden administration may not roll back at the end of July a policy that keeps migrants out of the country, citing health measures given the rising number of coronavirus cases in the U.S. Immigrant advocates were already pressuring the Biden administration to end what's known as Title 42 of the Public Health Safety Act, a policy the Trump administration began using in March 2020 as knowledge of rising infections of the coronavirus began to surge in the U.S. — and around the world. Advocates said they had heard reports that it would soon change, at least for some, and parents migrating with children would not be subject to the rule by the end of July, a first step in lifting the restrictions altogether. U.S. Customs and Border Protection said the policy was needed to keep people out on the Mexico and Canada borders "in the interest of public health." Border Patrol agents were instructed to expel anyone caught trying to illegally enter the U.S. instead of processing them under existing immigration law. That policy has remained under the Biden administration with some exceptions made. But CNN and NBC News reported that sources in the administration have said the plan is now "in flux," noting the rising number of COVID-19 infections driven by the Delta variant.

## Groups criticize Catholic university for hosting Biden town hall

CINCINNATI (CNS) — A few hours before CNN's evening town hall with President Joe Biden on the campus of a Cincinnati Catholic university, the congregation of women religious that founded the school said the sisters were not involved in planning or hosting the July 21 event. "All decisions about the event are being made" by CNN and Mount St. Joseph University "and do not involve the Sisters of Charity," the statement said. "CNN is utilizing the Mount's facility and will make the decisions on attendance at the event, whose questions will be asked of the president, etc." Objections from Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati and other pro-life groups were mounting ahead of the one-hour evening event on the Catholic campus because Biden, who is Catholic, supports keeping abortion legal. He also has disavowed his decades of support for the long-standing Hyde Amendment, which bans federal funding of abortions except when the mother's life is endangered and in cases of rape and incest. A statement issued by the Cincinnati Archdiocese said Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr had not been contacted by "any involved party" about Biden's participation, and if it had been up to the archbishop, it said, he would not have allowed Biden to hold a July 21 town hall event at the Catholic university.

## Catholics weigh in on scandal years after McCarrick, Pa. report

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although some Catholics' memories of the clergy sex abuse scandals that rocked the U.S. church in 2018 have dimmed, a majority of those who recalled the scandals said in a survey conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate they felt more positive about the church's progress in confronting the issue. Overall, 76% of respondents said sexual abuse of minors by clergy has hurt the church's reputation "at least somewhat," with 45% saying it's been hurt "a great deal." The report, commissioned by America Media, the Jesuit ministry, was released July 19. Fifty-seven percent of respondents said they pay either "quite a bit" or "a great deal" of attention to clergy sex abuse reports in the media. Another 27% said they've paid "some" attention to them. They also have at least some confidence in Pope Francis "more than others" in addressing the abuse problem, followed by their parish priest, their local bishop, and "Catholic bishops as a whole."

# Report that led to priest's resignation prompts journalism ethics questions

By Tom Tracy  
Catholic News Service

High-tech data collection and cellphone tracking services allegedly used in a report by The Pillar that triggered the resignation of a high-ranking U.S. Catholic official July 20 has sparked a fresh discussion about journalism ethics.

The report also has sparked a backlash from a variety of religious media outlets and individual writers concerned over national security-level surveillance tools being used to track church staff.

Msgr. Jeffrey D. Burrill resigned his post as general secretary at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops after the conference was contacted by The Pillar, an online outlet that covers the Catholic Church and provides news and analysis, regarding evidence the news outlet claimed to have "of a pattern of sexual misconduct" on the priest's part.

Privately available location data and mobile phone app tracking services of the sort detailed in part in a 2019 New York Times investigation may have been directed at Msgr. Burrill.

Apart from the serious issues of alleged clergy misbehavior, covert data collection in religion news reporting on clergy and church staff may have run well afield of the written code of ethics for both the Society of Professional Journalists and the revised Fair Publishing Practices Code of the Catholic Media Association.

The information gathering reported on by The Pil-

lar July 20 was allegedly based on sophisticated, covert tracking and analysis of Msgr. Burrill's cellphone data that revealed his location and alleged use of a dating application over a period of years.

The Pillar said an analysis of commercially available app signal data correlated to Msgr. Burrill's mobile device showing he had "visited gay bars and private residences while using a location-based hookup app in numerous cities from 2018 to 2020."

The Pillar reported that the data "does not identify the names of app users, but instead correlates a unique numerical identifier to each mobile device using particular apps."

It is not clear who first orchestrated the priest's data collection and analysis from reading the report published by The Pillar — a point vigorously discussed in a July 20 essay published by Religion News Service.

Catholic News Service sent an interview request July 22 to JD Flynn, The Pillar's editor-in-chief, but had not received a reply as of midday July 23.

The Society of Professional Journalists' Code of Ethics offers several principles that should have readily come into play in the Msgr. Burrill case, including that journalists should:

- "Identify sources clearly. The public is entitled to as much information as possible to judge the reliability and motivations of sources."

- "Consider sources' motives before promising anonymity. Reserve anonymity for sources

who may face danger, retaliation or other harm, and have information that cannot be obtained elsewhere. Explain why anonymity was granted."

- "Avoid undercover or other surreptitious methods of gathering confirmation unless traditional, open methods will not yield information vital to the public."

- "Provide access to source material when it is relevant and appropriate."

For its part, the Catholic Media Association of the U.S. and Canada has its Fair Publishing Practices Code that also emphasizes the need to identify sources of information and includes a section on individual privacy rights. The CMA is the new name of the Catholic Press Association.

Mark Lombard, business manager of the Clarion Herald, newspaper of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, and a key author of the CMA's revised Fair Publishing Practices, said the document addresses a number of concerns that face any journalist wrestling with the complex issues of what, when and how to publish particularly sensitive information.

"In the 'Individual Privacy Rights' section, discussion is fulsome concerning violations of a person's right of privacy and avoidance of unreasonable intrusion upon someone's person" Lombard told Catholic News Service by email.

"The 'Accountability and Transparency' section of the code also makes note of respecting the right of privacy, of the importance of transparency, of being free from any 'undisclosed interest,'" he said.

# Dioceses respond to papal document

## Pope Francis restored limits on the celebration of the Mass according to the Roman Missal in use before Second Vatican Council

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) – Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda of St. Paul and Minneapolis said July 16 that, for now, parishes that celebrate Mass in the extraordinary form – also known as the "traditional Latin Mass" or "Tridentine Mass" – should stick to the status quo.

Archbishop Hebda has formed a task force to review Pope Francis' new law to place greater oversight on the use of that form of the Mass.

Auxiliary Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens is chair of the task force, which will take time to understand the new law and consider the next steps to take to implement it in the archdiocese.

Noting that the norms were effective as of July 16, Archbishop Hebda said he "will need some time to study the new norms, examine our local situation and seek counsel."

"With that in mind, I am happy to grant the necessary faculties so that those priests who are already celebrating the rites of the extraordinary form may continue to do," he said. "I similarly direct that the Mass in the extraordinary form continue in those locations where it is currently being offered in the archdiocese.

"No new public liturgical celebration of the extraordinary form, however, should be introduced anywhere in the archdiocese at this time without my written permission."

Currently, Mass in the extraordinary form is regularly offered in the archdiocese at seven parishes.

Saying he was acting for the good of the unity of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis July 16 restored limits on the celebration of

the Mass according to the Roman Missal in use before the Second Vatican Council, overturning or severely restricting permissions St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI had given to celebrate the so-called Tridentine-rite Mass.

His apostolic letter "Traditionis Custodes" ("Guardians of the Tradition") declares the liturgical books promulgated after the Second Vatican Council to be "the unique expression of the 'lex orandi' (law of worship) of the Roman Rite," restoring the obligation of priests to have their bishops' permission to celebrate according to the "extraordinary" or pre-Vatican II Mass and ordering bishops not to establish any new groups or parishes in their dioceses devoted to the old liturgy.

Priests currently celebrating Mass according to the old missal must request authorization from their bishop to continue doing so, Pope Francis ordered, and for any priest ordained after the document's publication July 16, the bishop must consult with the Vatican before granting authorization.

In a statement issued late July 16, Los Angeles Archbishop José H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, encouraged his brother bishops "to work with care, patience, justice and charity" as "these new norms are implemented ... (and) as together we foster a eucharistic renewal in our nation."

Like Minnesota's archbishop, a number of other U.S. bishops similarly told their priests who celebrate the Mass in the extraordi-

nary form and their parishes that already are allowed to have the celebration of this Mass that they can continue to do so while they further study the document.

Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory of Washington told priests of the archdiocese July 16: "I will prayerfully reflect upon 'Traditionis Custodes' in the coming weeks to ensure we understand fully the Holy Father's intentions and consider carefully how they are realized" in the archdiocese.

In the meantime, until there is "further guidance," he said, he would allow "those who celebrate the Mass using the liturgical books issued before 1970 to continue to do so ... in the days to come."

In a July 19 statement, Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori said that further study of the norms by individual bishops and the USCCB "will help determine how these norms apply here in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. In the meantime, the current practice will continue and going forward every effort will be made to meet the pastoral needs of those who frequent Holy Mass in the extraordinary form."

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City tweeted shortly after the papal document was released:

"Many questions have been raised by today's publication of Pope Francis' motu proprio 'Traditionis Custodes.' I have informed our clergy that I am granting temporary permission for those priests competent in offering Mass in the Extraordinary Form to continue to do so in churches that al-

ready have an Extraordinary Form Mass on their schedule or in a private setting until further study and clarification can inform an appropriate implementation of this document. Thank you for your patience."

Bishop Anthony B. Taylor of Little Rock, Arkansas, in a July 16 statement said it was "incumbent on me as your bishop to indicate the implications of this change for our diocese."

The new norms "do not apply to our two personal parishes for the celebration of the Latin Mass: St. John the Baptist Parish in Cabot and Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Springdale," he explained. "There is no change for these parishes or the priests serving them.

"All that is required of them and the Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) priests serving them is that they accept the validity and legitimacy of the liturgical reform of Vatican II, which they do. 'Traditionis Custodes' does caution me not to establish any additional personal parishes for the celebration of the Latin Mass going forward."

"Summorum Pontificium" (issued by Pope Benedict) sought to foster the healing of the schism of Archbishop (Marcel) Lefebvre and others who rejected not only the liturgical reforms of Vatican II but indeed often the council itself," Bishop Taylor explained. "As it turned out, not only did 'Summorum Pontificium' not achieve that purpose, the unintended result in many places was to create further division within parishes and among priests."

"Traditionis Custodes, the result of consultation among bishops in 2020, 'seeks to foster unity by removing this source of di-

vision in our parishes," he said.

The document also means, Bishop Taylor said, that three "regular parish churches" where the Mass in the extraordinary form has been celebrated can no longer have the Mass – Holy Redeemer Church in El Dorado, St. Peter the Fisherman Church in Mountain Home and St. Michael Church in Cherokee Village.

The bishop said he is required to decide where the Latin Mass can be celebrated and is designating the churches in the personal parishes in Cabot and Springdale.

In San Francisco, responding to a request for comment from Catholic News Agency July 16, Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone said: "The Mass is a miracle in any form: Christ comes to us in the flesh under the appearance of bread and wine. Unity under Christ is what matters.

"Therefore the traditional Latin Mass will continue to be available here in the Archdiocese of San Francisco and provided in response to the legitimate needs and desires of the faithful."

Archbishop Alexander K. Sample of Portland, Oregon, said in a July 16 statement that while many might want him "to respond immediately and publicly" to "Traditionis Custodes," he will need "time to study, pray and reflect on the implications of this new law for the church and its effect on the celebration of the traditional liturgy."

"I will want to be as merciful and generous as the law allows," said the archbishop, who has been accommodating to those who want the extraordinary form. "Let us all pray for unity and charity in the church."

NOW PLAYING

# BLACK WIDOW

**NEW YORK (CNS)** – As an addition to the Marvel Comics cinematic universe, the origin story "Black Widow" (Disney) provides the expected elements of large-scale special effects and intrepid derring-do.

Screenwriter Eric Pearson's script, moreover, weds these ingredients to a number of morally respectable themes.

In the end, however, the former aspects of the movie overshadow the latter, weakening the ethical impact of director Cate Shortland's action adventure.

As opening scenes set in 1995 show us, young Natasha Romanoff (Ever

Anderson), from whose adult alter ego (Scarlett Johansson) the film takes its title, was raised, for a time, by sleeper agents working against the United States. Along with ostensible mom Melina Vostokoff (Rachel Weisz) and supposed dad Alexei Shostakov (David Harbour), Natasha had a fake younger sister, Yelena Belova (Violet McGraw).

Once their undercover mission ended, the two girls were forcibly inducted into a program called the Red Room. Run by villainous Gen. Dreykov (Ray Winstone), this ruthless training regime deprived its subjects of free will and compelled them to do

Dreykov's bidding.

Thus, by the time we arrive in the present, not only is Black Widow Natasha's personal moniker, it's also a collective term for all Red Room alumnae, a group to which both Melina and the now-grown Yelena (Florence Pugh) belong. As for Alexei, he has an alternate persona in the form of Red Guardian, the Soviet Union's rather inadequate answer to Captain America.

With the Avengers ensemble of superheroes Natasha joined after undergoing a conversion temporarily in disarray, she and Yelena try to overcome their fraught past and collaborate in the battle to

thwart Dreykov's ongoing scheme for world domination. Alexei and Melina, with whom they are eventually reunited, may or may not turn out to be their allies in this struggle.

Amid the gunplay and the unfolding of the complex backstory, Pearson explores the proper limits on the use of force and touches as well on such topics as clan solidarity, compassion toward adversaries and contrition for past misdeeds. All of these are treated in a way congruent with Gospel values, yet the film, while visually rich, ultimately fails to deliver an emotional wallop.

As a result, moviegoers

and streamers will probably be satisfied with Natasha's globetrotting quest as pure spectacle. It's more doubtful that they'll feel any deep connection to her character or that the lessons underlying her life story will linger with them.

The film contains frequent stylized but sometimes harsh violence, a few mild oaths and about a half-dozen uses each of crude and crass language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III – adults. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG-13 – parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

## 'Dr. Death' now streaming on Peacock

**NEW YORK (CNS)** – The Wondery podcast "Dr. Death," which recounts the horrific malpractice engaged in by former Texas neurosurgeon Christopher Duntsch, has attracted 50 million listeners since its 2018 inception.

In a bid to capitalize on this popularity, Peacock has produced a limited-series namesake drama.

They've stocked it with a high-profile cast, including Alec Baldwin, Christian Slater and Kelsey Grammer. The presence of these heavy hitters, however, fails to redeem what turns out to be a banal, tedious and belabored production.

All eight hourlong episodes are streaming now. The first three of these are free. To watch the others, though, viewers must subscribe to Peacock Premium.

Patrick Macmanus developed the show and actress Jennifer Morrison ("Once Upon a Time") is one of the three women filmmakers who directed it. Baldwin and Slater are among those

credited as executive producers.

As the title alone suggests, the program isn't suitable for children. Along with the mature central topic, a morally dubious scheme involving stem-cell technology figures prominently in the plot.

The sexual content, moreover, is considerable and includes a gratuitous glimpse of full nudity. Substance abuse, an out-of-wedlock pregnancy and references to abortion are also included. Taken together, these elements make "Dr. Death" a dicey option even for adults.

When Duntsch (Joshua Jackson) joins the staff of the Lone Star State's Dallas Medical Center, it doesn't take long for at least two of his new colleagues, Dr. Robert Henderson (Baldwin), a fellow neurosurgeon, and vascular specialist Dr. Randall Kirby (Slater), to realize what a hack he is. So the duo teams up to ensure, if they can, that he never operates again.

They make for unlikely partners. Kirby is an unfettered, shoot-from-the-hip maverick while Henderson is both tightly-wound and exceedingly cautious.

To build their case, they investigate Duntsch's past. His time as a surgical fellow with his Memphis, Tenn.-based mentor, Dr. Geoffrey Skadden (Grammer), seems especially germane.

During this period, Duntsch was seeking financial backers for a medical research and development startup called Disgenics. As an investor in this project, Skadden appeared willing to turn a blind eye to Duntsch's growing drug dependency and continual neglect of his surgical training. Nor will he implicate his former protege even now.

With Skadden uncooperative and the Texas Medical Board refusing to withdraw Duntsch's license, Henderson and Kirby appeal to Dallas County District Attorney

Ed Yarborough (Danny Burstein) to file charges against the miscreant.

Yarborough is initially skeptical. Eventually, however, his subordinate, Michelle Shughart (AnnaSophia Robb) – whom Yarborough identifies as "the youngest assistant district attorney in the history of this office" and who describes herself as "naive and idealistic" – manages to change his mind.

The show succeeds best as an expose of the grave injustices surrounding Duntsch's misdeeds. The disgraced physician was ultimately given a life sentence, but not before killing or maiming as many as 33 people, including his good friend Jerry Summers (Dominic Burgess), whom he left paralyzed.

Slater gives an energetic performance and develops a nice chemistry with Baldwin. But too many deficiencies plague the series for them to be able to save it.

Duntsch's backstory, for instance, isn't that interest-

ing or appealing. A plot line about his failed career as a Colorado State University football player is particularly problematic since the 43-year-old Jackson is hardly credible in the role of a college student.

Duntsch's juvenile antics with Summers, moreover, soon grow tiresome. So, too, do his angry disagreements with his girlfriend at the time, former stripper Wendy Young (Molly Griggs).

Finally, the writers make such a convincing case, early on, that Duntsch should be put away that his downfall, when it comes, feels anti-climactic. "Dr. Death," as a result, goes out with a whimper.



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## How are we fed?

The famous Roman poet and satirist, Juvenal, once wrote that common people are not really interested in freedom, but only in "bread and circuses," i.e., food and entertainment. That was true in second-century Rome, as well as of people today. It was certainly true of the Israelites whom Moses led from slavery in Egypt into the desert, God had promised them freedom, but they were more interested in food. So, God heard their grumbling,

In today's first reading,

the Israelites were always running after the manna which God sent from heaven. They were happy only when they had full stomachs!

The same is true in today's Gospel. Crowds pursued Jesus all the way across the lake, looking for more of that delicious bread he had provided the day before. Jesus chided them for longing only to feed their stomachs when He had much more to give them of the spiritual bread of eternal life. When they asked him what they could do to ac-



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

August 1

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

READINGS

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

John 6:24-35

complish the works of God, he told them bluntly, "This is the work of God: that you believe in the one He sent."

The entire sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel is concerned about Jesus' teaching that He himself is the Bread of life and is far superior to the bread for our stomachs that satisfies only for a short time. He affirms that this precious gift from the Fa-

ther is of no avail unless we have faith and truly believe. We must get rid of any indifference, doubt or skepticism about the words of Jesus, and just abandon our minds and hearts to unqualified acceptance. God the Father has sent us Jesus from heaven to be our food, our strength, our hope and our joy in living. Nothing else in life can surpass this Bread of Life. The Israelites died after eating delicious manna and quail from the skies, and so will we die after acquiring all earthly food, including money, success, and other earthly treasure. God's life-giving Bread

has in it the power of eternal life, but it will nourish only those who truly believe,

Before we approach the altar at Mass again to receive this precious gift, let us stir up in our hearts full assent to what we proclaim at the Creed, "We believe!"

Without faith, we may receive into our bodies the true Body and Blood of the Son of God, but we will never know the full transforming effects we should desire so earnestly. The pleasure of "bread and circuses" fades away overnight; the joy and strength of the Eucharist will last into Eternity.

## CALLED TO SERVE

## Is anything normal?

An announcer on satellite radio posed this vexing question the other day: are artichokes really asparagus that grew funny? Hmhmhm.

I didn't spend a long time thinking about that one. To be honest, I didn't care. My mind had been occupied with something much more serious and timelier: what is normal?

Normal is a word we are throwing around a lot lately. I heard the mayor of Miami-Dade Florida,

Daniella Levine Cava, say she hopes things can return to normal soon in Surfside where the condominium collapsed.

A German citizen sobbed as she told a reporter she hoped for a return to normalcy after a record rainfall caused widespread flooding in Western Europe. Dozens have died and hundreds are missing.

COVID has killed more than 4 million people world-wide, over 600 thousand in the US. Among other inconveniences, our churches were closed and then gradually re-opened as the number of people vaccinated increased and the incidents of COVID cases decreased. Thankfully, we clergy and parishioners said, things are returning to normal.

Let's ignore the virus mutations that are crop-

ping up, especially among the non-vaccinated. For the rest of us, who have gotten used to carrying a mask in our pockets just in case we need it, life is becoming normal again.

Well, I submit we will never see normal again. At least not what was typical in the past. We are creating a new normal.

My oldest grandson is off to college this fall. He will be on-campus, in a dorm, making new friends, learning new things, expanding his horizon and understanding. That feels normal. But things will not be normal, not the way incoming freshmen found things when they first arrived on that or any other campus.

That's not bad. In fact, the new normal might be, probably will be, better for everyone.

All of us approach each day aware that life is changed; it is different. Our planet is different. Our relationships are different. We are compelled to face the new normal, whatever that may be.



Deacon  
Kevin Mastellon

For the Church of Ogdensburg emerging from restrictions and lockdowns has become an opportunity. We can use each day to renew ourselves as Christians, as Catholics. This is the time for us to revisit what we believe and look forward to sharing what we have rediscovered with others.

St. Matthew was inspired to write in his

Gospel that we should "seek first the kingdom (of God) and his righteousness" then everything will take care of itself.

Whether our lives are affected by pandemic, climate change, inflation, economics, social media, politics or our favorite team's winning or losing record, our lives are and will constantly change.

Normal is an overused word. It is a moving target. The one thing we can count on, the one constant is Jesus, present in the Eucharist.

"He will provide for you," Matthew wrote. Cling to that, normal seekers.

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

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## CELEBRATING WITH THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH



(left) Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer, SSJ celebrated her 50th Jubilee as a Sister of St. Joseph on July 10 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown. Bishop Terry R. LaValley celebrated the Liturgy along with priests from the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Father Richard Kennedy, Provincial of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, was the homilist. The theme of Sister Diane Marie's Liturgy was "The Lord is my Strength and my Song," a theme that continues to give Sister Diane Marie joy and gratitude. (Right) The following Sisters celebrated their 50th Jubilee and 60th Jubilee as Sisters of St. Joseph: Left to right: Sister Cecilia Marie Hermann, 60 years, Sister Shirley Anne Brown, 60 years, Sister Gregory Munger, 60 years, Sister Judy Adams, 60 years, Sister Diane Marie Ulsamer, 50 years, Sister Juliana Raymond, 60 years, Sister Mary Ellen Brett, 60 years, Sister Carol Louise Kraeger, 60 years.

## Remembering those still suffering in pandemic

The excitement of many following the easing of New York State's Covid restrictions is almost palpable. Walk into any grocery or department store and you will see more people than not wandering the aisles as they do their shopping, going both directions and with no face coverings. While some still choose to wear masks for personal, health or other reasons, many people are fully embracing the return to normalcy that so many have craved.

This ability is owed, at least in part, to the sanitizing, personal protective equipment (PPE), and vaccinations that we in the United States have had the privilege to have in abundance. Other, poorer countries have not been so lucky.

In the country of Nicaragua, the Covid situ-



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ation has become increasingly worse over the past year. There is no known vaccine available to the public.

Small, unsanitary shacks in the barrios often house extended families, making it nearly impossible for those living there to spread out. This becomes particularly dangerous when a family member becomes ill. When the sick are referred from their local clinic to a hospital, they are often unable to make it to the city where the

hospitals are located, even if doing so is the only thing that will keep them alive.

While the people of Nicaragua are doing their best to social distance, wear masks and stay safe, the lack of access to medical care and the vast gulf between the rich and poor often makes a positive diagnosis a death sentence.

In Ecuador the situation is no better.

Vaccines are slowly becoming available for the general population; how-

ever political corruption has made equal distribution a very difficult task. Citizens are only allowed to leave their shacks Tuesday through Friday to prevent spread of the disease.

Many of the poorer residents make their money by selling items in the streets. This new requirement, therefore, does not allow them to make enough money to provide themselves with the bare essentials, such as food and water, PPE notwithstanding. As in Nicaragua, there is a lack of access to running water and ppe, which makes it almost impossible for both citizens and healthcare workers to protect themselves from contracting the virus.

The situation is so dire that many are stealing the coffins of the prede-

ceased to bury their own loved ones.

While we in the United States, and many other first world countries, are seeing a decrease in Covid cases, many of the world's poorer countries are seeing the exact opposite.

As we embrace the return to our pre-Covid normalcy, it is important to remember that this pandemic is a global crisis. Many of our brothers and sisters not only continue to suffer, but are suffering now more than ever.

We cannot leave them to suffer alone.

*Information for this article was provided by Sister Cindy Sullivan, BVM of the Lenity Project and Sister Debbie Blow, OP of North Country Mission of Hope*

## OBITUARIES

**Adams** – Donald H. Gillespie, 83; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Cecilia's Church; burial in St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery.

**Black River** – James T. Cavellier Sr., 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 13, 2021 at St. Paul's Church; burial in Black River Cemetery.

**Boonville** – Sally Dunay, 66; Funeral Services July 16, 2021 at Trainor Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Beeches Bridge Cemetery.

**Brushton** – Helen E. (Kennehan) Stearns; Mass of Christian Burial July 27, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Brasher Falls Cemetery.

**Canton** – Shirley (Gauthier) Lamendola, 87; Mass of Christian Burial July 20, 2021 at St. Mary's Church.

**Cape Vincent** – Sally Ann O'Neill

Dugan, 92; Mass of Christian July 24, 2021 at St. Vincent de Paul Church.

**Carthage** – Patrick J. Keogh, 84; Mass of Christian Burial July 24, 2021 at St. James Church; burial in St. James Cemetery.

**Champlain** – Simonne (Boire) Monette, 99; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery

**Chateaugay** – Robert Joseph "RJ" Duffey, 82; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2021 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Chaumont** – Ann M. West, 84; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2021 at All Saints Church; burial in New Cedar Grove Cemetery.

**Clayton** – Francis W. Farrell, 96; Mass of Christian Burial July 14, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's

Cemetery.

**Colton** – Gloria (Myers) Garlough, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 19, 2021 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Constable** – Leona Catherine (Garrow) Hughes, 84; Graveside services July 14, 2021 at St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery.

**Copenhagen** – Ronald L. Dolan, 78; Funeral Services July 12, 2021 at the Sundquist Funeral Home; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Constableville.

**Edwards** – Ralph W. Gayne, Jr., 83; Private services to be held.

**Elizabethtown** – Conrad "Connie" Sherman Hutchins, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 14, 2021 at St. Elizabeth's Church.

**Harrisville** – Bonnie M. (Trombley) Martin, 71; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2021 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in St. Francis Solanus Cemetery.

**Lowville** – Frieda M. (Bragg) Hunziker, 87; Funeral Services July 26, 2021 at the Iseneker Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Brantingham Cemetery.

**Lowville** – Jeremy J. Mullin, 42; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Lowville Rural Cemetery.

**Massena** – Betty V. Lamendola, 86; Mass of Christian Burial July 26, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Massena** – Kathryn B. O'Geen, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Moers Forks** – Joan Mary (Beebe) Bulriss, 86; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2021 at St. Ann's Church; burial in Town Of Ellenburg Mausoleum.

**Norfolk** – Sara (Hill) Hayes, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2021 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

**Norfolk** – Jacob M. Ladouceur, 29; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at Church of the Visitation; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

**North Bangor** – Ralph J. Perry, 75; Mass of Christian Burial July 16, 2021 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Norwood** – Edward W. Sudol, 96; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2021 at St. Andrew's Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Marina "Mae" (Tanglao) Baildon, 83; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Ronald A. "Joe" Corrice, 77; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2021 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Marie C. (Marshall) Laboda, 97; Mass of Christian Burial July 22, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Gerald D. McRoberts, 72; Mass of Christian Burial July 22, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Judith Ann (Miller) Poirier, 80; Mass of Christian Burial July 26, 2021 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Roxanne (Baker) Yer-

den, 56; Funeral Services July 15, 2021 at Foxwood Memorial Park Mausoleum.

**Peru** – Nancy Defayette, 65; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

**Peru** – Eileen Joan Bradley LaDuke, 82; Funeral Services July 16, 2021 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in St. Augustine's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Robert G. "Jerry" Scully, 78; Mass of Christian Burial July 14, 2021 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

**Plattsburgh** – Edward "Pete" Webber Jr., 97; Mass of Christian Burial July 22, 2021 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Potsdam** – Hildegard M. (Schulte) Pahler, 95; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Potsdam** – Frederick C. Peets, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 24, 2021 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Redford** – Elizabeth "Betty" A. Carter, 97; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2021 at Church of the Assumption; burial in parish cemetery.

**Star Lake** – Aletta J. Crane, 86; Mass of Christian Burial July 24, 2021 at St. Hubert's Church; burial in St. Hubert's Cemetery.

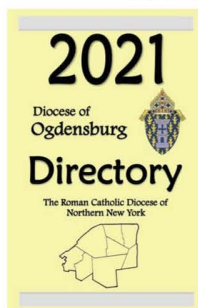
**Tupper Lake** – John Amoriell, 109; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2021 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

**Tupper Lake** – Timothy Clark, 59; Funeral Services July 16, 2021 at Tupper Lake Country Club.

**Watertown** – Leo A. Anzalone, 85; Funeral Services July 22, 2021 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home, Inc.; burial in Brookside Cemetery.

**Westport** – Robert McDermott; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 3, 2021 at St. Philip Neri Church; burial in Essex County Veteran's Cemetery, Wadhams.

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