

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Retreat seeks to help female abuse victims find healing | PAGE 6

Tributes mark legacy of philosopher, professor | PAGE 12

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 76 Number 38

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

FEBRUARY 9, 2022

IT'S SNOW FUN!



Thomas Brockway and his classmates at Trinity Catholic School in Massena enjoyed winter fun, sledding on a small slope near the school.

April Youth Rally planned

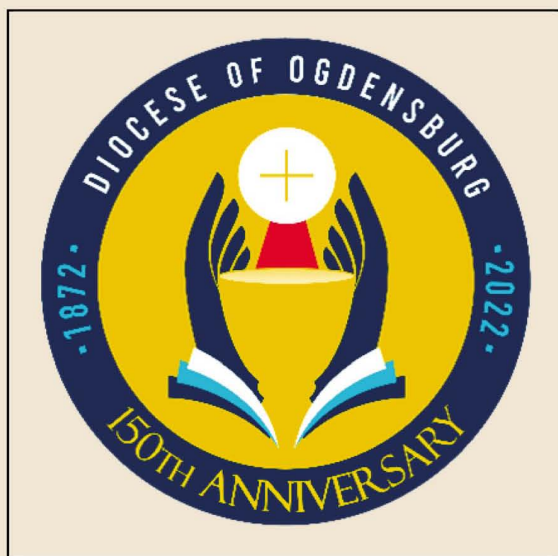
The Office of Youth Ministry is excited to offer a day of celebration for young people living in the Diocese of Ogdensburg on April 2 with the 2022 Youth Rally.

This year's theme, "In HIS House," imbues a sense of home and belonging to God. The opening of doors and arms to everyone sets the tone for an upbeat and lively event with fun games, entertainment, great food, a wonderful resort location, dynamic presenters and closing Mass offered by Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

The Youth Rally will be held on April 2 at the High Peaks Resort, 2384 Saranac Ave., Lake Placid. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with closing Mass at 5 p.m. in nearby, St. Agnes Church.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

DIOCESE CELEBRATES 150 YEARS



FULL STORY, PAGE 3

On February 16, 1872, Pope Pius IX separated what was then a sprawling Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, and the Diocese of Ogdensburg – encompassing Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties, as well as northern Herkimer County – was created. The Diocese of Ogdensburg is opening its celebration of its 150th anniversary, themed "Remember, Renew, Rejoice," with a Holy Hour – time for prayer with the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Jesus – on February 12 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg. Additional events are planned throughout the year. The main anniversary event will begin with Vespers, evening prayers, on August 9 and include an anniversary Mass on August 10, the Feast of St. Lawrence.

Pope: People must overcome challenges together

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The time has come to live in a spirit of fraternity and build a culture of peace, sustainable development, tolerance, inclusion, mutual understanding and solidarity, Pope Francis said.

"Now is not a time for indifference: either we are brothers and sisters or everything falls apart," he said in a video message marking the International Day of Human Fraternity Feb. 4.

The international celebration is a U.N.-declared

observation to promote interreligious dialogue and friendship on the anniversary of the document on human fraternity signed in Abu Dhabi in 2019 by Pope Francis and Sheikh Ahmad el-Tayeb, grand imam of Al-Azhar in Egypt.

The pope, the sheikh and U.S. President Joe Biden all issued messages for the commemoration.

"Fraternity is one of the fundamental and universal values that ought to undergird relationships

between peoples, so that the suffering or disadvantaged do not feel excluded and forgotten but accepted and supported as part of the one human family. We are brothers and sisters," the pope said in Italian in his video message.

People must walk together, aware that, "while respecting our individual cultures and traditions, we are called to build fraternity as a bulwark against hatred, violence and injustice," he said.

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Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669
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President**REV. JOSEPH A. MORGAN**
Vice President
JAMES D. CROWLEY
Secretary-Treasurer
DARCY L. FARGO
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Thankful for the 'memories'

It's one of the first things I look at when I unlock my iPhone in the morning.

One of the popular social media platforms includes a "memories" feature. Clicking on that portion of the app/website allows users to see every post they made and posts others made that included them on that particular date over the years since they started using the platform.

For example, my memories from Feb. 5 included a 2011 photo I posted of my son, Jake, playing in the snow; a post from that same year from a friend teas-

ing me about how good I was going to look in a Green Bay Packers cheese head hat after losing a Super Bowl bet; and a 2017 post a college friend shared after she found a photo of our college powder puff football team (the photo was from around 2001).

**Darcy L.
Fargo**

That "memories" feature gives me an opportunity to reflect on where I've been. It shows me photos and videos from experiences and events big and small. It gives me little reminders of how far my son, Jake, has progressed since his early days being completely non-verbal and being

diagnosed with autism. It gives me chances to see conversations with people who are no longer here with us.

Sometimes, seeing my posts from years past shows me how much I've grown and changed over the years. Those old posts remind me where I've been.

I thought about how much I value that feature as I reflected on the theme of our diocesan 150th anniversary celebration, "Remember, Renew, Rejoice."

In a special way this year, we're called to remember our history as a family of faith, including those who came before us. We're called to renew our commitment to Christ, his Church and one another.

We're called to rejoice in the gifts and blessings we continue to receive from God as we work to be His voice and hands here in the North Country.

It's also a good time to "Remember, Renew, Rejoice" in our own lives. It's a good time to remember the experiences, events and people God has placed in our lives and the ways He's helped draw us unto Him through them. It's a good time to renew our commitment to at least trying to choose God and His ways every day of our lives. It's a good time to rejoice that we have a Savior and His Church guiding us to eternal lives.

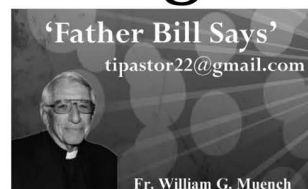
It's a good time to be thankful for the "memories."

Considering the 'call narratives'

Today, I would like to share with you my homily for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. It's based on the three Scripture readings read at that Mass. They are what we designate as "call narratives." These readings describe God's call of Isaiah, God's call of St. Paul, God's call of St. Peter. Each of their calls helps us understand our own all from God. These call narratives are very fundamental to the spread of our Catholic faith during the foundation of the Catholic Community.

In this Sunday's first reading, Isaiah tells how God called him to announce the coming of the Messiah. This was nearly 800 years before the birth of Jesus. Isaiah speaks of a divine vision of the angelic choir. This vision disturbs Isaiah. He feels unworthy and anxious "to have seen the Lord of Lords."

However, God recognizes something worthy in Isaiah, so God sends a seraphim to touch his lips with a burning ember from the heavenly altar and saying "your



wickedness is removed, your sin purged." In faith, we believe God continues to forgive. He forgives us now and frees us from our sins.

Isaiah tells us that God asks, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Isaiah is the one who is filled with courage and faith, and he speaks out, "Here I am, send me." In our time, each time you and I go to Mass, the Lord asks again, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Today, will there be anyone who will answer like Isaiah - "Here I am, send me"?

The second reading is from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. St. Paul describes to us of his call from God. He reminds the Corinthians of his teaching. He shared with them what he had learned: that Christ died for our sins, he was

buried, he was raised to new life on the third day. Christ appeared to many, and Paul tells us that Christ appeared to him. Yet, Paul humbly admits that he is the least of the apostles, not fit to be considered an apostle because he persecuted the Church.

However, Paul's life was transformed by the grace of God. "His grace to me has not been ineffective." That grace of God gave him the power to minister to the Lord. The forgiving grace of God has given each one of us today to wisdom and power to make this world a better place. Have we, like Paul, followed the Lord's lead and grace to bring the word of the Lord to this world.

Finally, the Gospel reading of this Mass is the story of the call of St. Peter. Jesus is teaching at the Lake of Genesaret, and as he often did, he climbs aboard Peter's boat and continues to teach the people who are on the shore. When he finishes, he shouts to Peter to go out into

deep water and fish. Peter, the skilled fisherman, knows this is not a good time for fishing. He has worked all night and has come up empty. He certainly doubts Jesus' wisdom, but he is loyal to the Lord, so he heads out.

As you remember, they catch a great number of fish. Somehow Jesus, though not a fisherman, figures things out. Peter is humbled. He says, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Peter believes that there is no place for him with Jesus' community. However, Jesus knows that Peter has all the qualities that he expects in his apostles. Jesus supports and calls Peter. "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

Today, the Lord continues to surprise many of us, calling us to be his apostles, to be the wise and powerful disciples who will make our Church alive and strong. Jesus reaches out and calls us. Jesus lets us know that he truly needs us and wants us to be his apostles.

Diocese celebrates 150 years

ODENSBURG – On February 16, 1872, Pope Pius IX separated what was then a sprawling Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, and the Diocese of Ogdensburg – encompassing Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties, as well as northern Herkimer County – was created.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is opening its celebration of its 150th anniversary, themed “Remember, Renew, Rejoice,” with a Holy Hour – time for prayer with the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Jesus – on February 12 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Ogdensburg. Parishes, organizations and faithful around the diocese are encouraged to join the celebration by hosting similar prayer services the week of February 16.

The capstone of the celebration will begin with Vespers, evening prayer, on August 9 and continue with an Anniversary Mass on August 10, the Feast of St. Lawrence, both at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg. Events are also planned throughout the year, including:

- An Octave of Service – eight days set aside for parishes, organizations and individuals to serve each other, their communities and the Church – from May 19 to 26.

- Celebrations highlighting the 70th anniversary of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Ogdensburg and the 50th anniversary of Camp Guggenheim, the diocesan youth camp in Saranac Lake.

- A website and “story map” devoted to collecting and sharing stories of historical significance of the diocese. That website



can be found at 150.rc-dony.org.

“As we celebrate 150 years as the Church of the North Country, we remember those who came before us, sowing the seeds of faith and building the foundation upon which we stand now; we renew our commitment to Christ, the mission He gave the Church and to serving the lost, rejected and forgotten; and we rejoice in the many gifts and blessings which come from the Lord,” said Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

In conjunction with the 150th anniversary, the Diocese is participating in the “Synod on Synodality” called by Pope Francis to create opportunities for what Vatican documents describe as “listening and dialogue on the local level” with the goal of “humbly learning together how God is calling us to be as the Church in the third millennium.” Dialogue is being fostered at the diocesan and local parish and organization levels.

Additionally, as the diocese celebrates its anniversary, it is refocusing on the Eucharist, Jesus Christ present body and

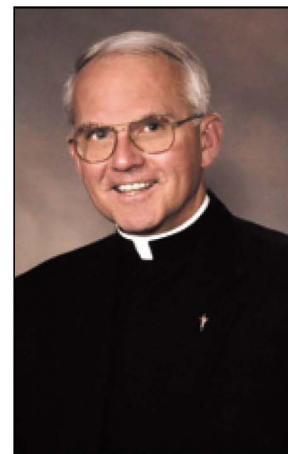
blood, soul and divinity in the form of bread and wine by offering faith formation opportunities.

The Diocese of Ogdensburg, covering an area of 12,036 square miles, was established by Pope Pius IX on February 16, 1872.

The diocese is comprised of 78 parishes and three mission parishes made up of 101 worship



Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams, D.D.
First bishop of Ogdensburg



Bishop Terry R. LaValley
Current bishop of Ogdensburg

sites, 16 parochial oratories, two high schools, eight elementary schools and one nursing home. Catholics are served by 49 active diocesan priests, nine priests belonging to religious institutions, and five priests belonging to other dioceses. At Fort Drum, two priests of the Archdiocese for Military Services

serve as chaplains. The Diocese of Ogdensburg has 37 retired and disabled diocesan priests, many of whom continue to minister in various roles. The diocese is blessed with one transitional deacon, 96 permanent deacons, 66 religious sisters and 753 commissioned lay ministers.

What is a Foster Grandparent?

Foster Grandparents are role models, mentors, and friends to children with exceptional needs. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. They are placed in a classroom setting with a child or children who are in need of emotional support, development of basic learning skills, friendship, companionship, encouragement, individual attention, and unhurried help. The program currently has 40 volunteers and serves more than 100 kids per year.

The Foster Grandparent Program is hosted by the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Ogdensburg and supported by AmeriCorps Seniors, a federally funded agency responsible for building volunteer based programs for over 50 years and counting.



Sometimes when you get to be my age, you wake up and say what good am I and along came the Foster Grandparent Program that keeps me going! *

Roy Foote
age 83
Foster
Grandparent



Am I Qualified to be a Foster Grandparent?

All you need to join is the ability to give the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on the path toward a successful future. If you're 55 or older and want to share your experience and compassion, you have what it takes to be a Foster Grandparent.

You'll also receive a small bi-weekly, non-taxable stipend that cannot be held against any current benefits you may already have as well as paid mileage for your travel. Additionally, you receive paid holidays, vacations, sick and personal leave.



Want more info about how to get started?

Contact Melissa Howard,
Volunteer Coordinator

PHONE:
(518)359-7688

EMAIL:
mhoward@cathcharities.org

80 Park Street, Suite 2
PO Box 701
Tupper Lake, NY 12986

Youth invited to gather, celebrate 'In HIS house'

By Thomas Semeraro

Director, Office of Youth Ministry

The Office of Youth Ministry is excited to offer a day of celebration for young people living in the Diocese of Ogdensburg on April 2 with the 2022 Youth Rally.

This year's theme, "In HIS House," imbues a sense of home and belonging to God. The opening of doors and arms to everyone sets the tone for an upbeat and lively event with fun games, entertainment, great food, a wonderful resort location, dynamic presenters and a closing Mass offered by Bishop Terry R. LaValley.

The Youth Rally will be held on April 2 at the High Peaks Resort, 2384 Saranac Ave., Lake Placid. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with closing Mass at 5 p.m. in nearby, St. Agnes Church.

Youth in grades seven through 12 are invited to attend.

This year's keynote speaker will be Michael Mette. Mette is a dynamic and energetic speaker with more than 15 years in youth ministry.

Mette's presentations



*Support And Pray
For Vocations*

inspire and motivate people to live their Catholic identity in an authentic way through knowing, loving and serving God. Mette has presented to parishes, conducted retreats and performed at Catholic conferences across the United States.

Mette shares his wisdom and his love of the Catholic Faith in a way that inspires young hearts and minds.

The Youth Rally will include a concert by the nationally known Catholic family band MJM7. MJM7 is made up of Mette and his children.

The Mettes' gifts of music, joy and family life offer the boldness and innocence of youth with the wisdom and depth of lived experiences. MJM7 concerts fall somewhere between a rock concert and a parish mission, with vibrant lights, powerful music, faith sharing and an invitation to prayer.

The music is uplifting without being preachy, creating an environment that is engaging without being confrontational.

MJM7 have performed for thousands of young people from parishes to conferences and World Youth Day.

Youth at the Rally will also be encouraged to visit vendor booths, compete in special events and win prizes. They can visit the contemplative chapel for some quiet prayer or meditation, and they can have some art and craft fun at the creation station.

There will also be a photo station to create unique souvenirs to remember the event.

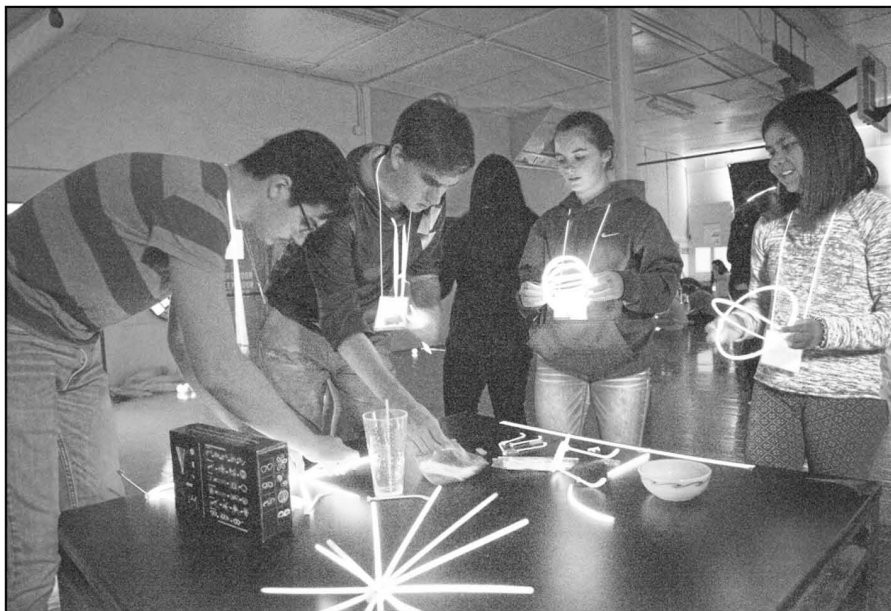
In addition to all the great things to see and do, a tasty buffet lunch



MJM7.BAND



(Above) Catholic family band MJM7 will bring their unique blend of rock concert and parish mission to the diocesan Youth Rally on April 2. (Below) Youth at a previous Youth Rally enjoyed a 'Glow Room.' The Rally gives teens an opportunity to combine fun and faith.



will be provided by the High Peaks Resort culinary specialists.

Youth from around the diocese are encouraged to attend and bring a friend or a few friends. As Christians, we are called to invite all people to the Lord's house and to the

Lord Himself. It's "In HIS house," that all are welcome!

This is an all-inclusive event and is made available at the low price of \$35 per youth thanks to the generous support of the Bishop Fund Appeal and donor organizations.

Registration is required. To register please visit rcdony.org/youth/rally.

For more information, contact the Youth Office at 315-393-2920 or email Jeannie Grizzuto at jgrizzoto@rcdony.org or Tom Semeraro at tsemeraro@rcdony.org.

Of tiny cars and big hearts

By Andrew Lauria
Contributing Writer

WELLS – Big things often come in small packages. And sometimes deliberately small things come in small packages, too. This past year, I was blessed with obtaining one of my dream cars, an original Fiat 500. Being nine feet long and weighing just over 1,000 pounds, the small packaging is the point of the vehicle, known the world over for its profound ability to do everything a “real car” can do but in almost half the size.

Old cars hold many surprises, and this one has brought more than a few. But the most unexpected surprise has been its ability to bring me closer to my two-year-old nephew, KAL, and to be reminded again of what it means to be childlike.

Designed in Torino, Italy, in the mid-1950s, Fiat set out to build a very inexpensive, supremely practical car to get the Italian people moving again after WWII. With very limited resources in a nation decimated by war, this unique car came out of the imagination of Dante Giacosa, a brilliant engineer who solved this practical problem by creating one of the most ingenious and iconic



Andrew Lauria and his two-year-old nephew, KAL, pose with the Fiat 500 that has helped draw them closer together.

vehicles ever built. Nearly 70 years after its debut, it is still a benchmark in automotive design and, furthermore, it captures something of the human spirit in a way that few in-

dustrial objects have achieved. It is useful, beautiful and happy (there's one in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City).

And so it should come as no surprise that a two-year-old boy who has a vivid imagination, supremely active sense of play and highly contagious joy would be fascinated with this little car, as they seem to personify each other. The vehicle is scaled well for a child, and it holds many surprises; the tiny two-cylinder engine hides in the back, most of the roof opens with one lift of the canvas, and all the curves and chrome act like a fun-house mirror (points if you can find the gas tank, which can be adventure-some to fill). The combination of it all works well and when underway, somehow feels happy. And it makes KAL pretty happy, too. Or maybe it's simply that the tiny round headlights and chrome Fiat “mustache” badge make it look like the car is smiling at him, either way, it is a joy to be around him when he is around “uncle vroom-vroom”.

And we have a lot of fun together in it. Because of its tiny size (it weighs less than a large riding lawnmower and can fit on a sidewalk), I offer tours of the family compound, which entails driving around the yard, circling the various trees and features of our property, al-

ways with the large canvas roof open and always wearing huge smiles on our faces. It is joyful, fun and entertaining. In a world that is increasingly polarizing, fearful, and seemingly obsessed with the ominous, going on a family tour in the 500 is the antidote. KAL gets it.

God is reminding me through my nephew and this old car that joy is a remedy for the deadness we experience in daily life. God is joy. He is the bringer of life! And imagination, which is evident in my nephew and in every part of the design of this car, is a glimpse into His eternal power of creation. To see with the eyes of a child is to get back to the very basic understanding of reality, who is God, our joyful creator.

Sometimes I forget that the Good News is the real news and not what I see and hear through the media. I am grateful to have a little boy and a happy old car to bring me back to what is important in life, to what is ultimately real. And if you need a lift-me-up and happen to be under 5'10" with a narrow build and small feet, then come down to the family compound and I'll let KAL and the Fiat remind you again of what it's like to be a child.

Event eyes ‘Transforming Power of Confession’

Explore the transforming power and the healing grace of the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, and discover the merciful way that God calls us back to Himself when we have sinned by

participating in “Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession: A Continuation of the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist.”

This event will be held on Saturday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

in seven locations:

- St. Mary's Parish Center in Clayton
- Dostie Hall in Watertown
- St. Peter's Church in Lowville
- St. Edmund's Parish

Center in Ellenburg

- St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake
- The Emmaus Room inside St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh
- Fr. Amyot Parish Center in Norfolk

There will be time for discussion during the event, which is free to attend. Please bring a bagged lunch.

Register for a location at www.rcdony.org/forgiven

Environmental Stewardship

A puzzling disconnect

During an interview for the *Adirondack Daily Enterprise* on April 28, 2020, Nicholas LaScala, a Clarkson student, spoke of a puzzling disconnect he witnessed while working on an internship with Clarkson Institute for Sustainable Environment. He described himself as a conservationist who is concerned about what is happening with the changes in climate. His project produced 14 videos on the reality of these changes in the Adirondacks. He said, "I talk with a lot of snowmobilers who say the winters aren't as cold or as snowy anymore, but then I ask them about climate change and they are likely to say, 'Oh no, climate change is a hoax.'" Most people said the winters are becoming unreliable. However, he stated "There is clearly a disconnect between scientists and the American people." His approach was to focus on how climate change is affecting lives of people in the North Country right now.

What would some very devout religious people say if asked about their concerns relating to climate change? Would we find a disconnect with some of them also? The Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, took this question seriously. They created a 43-page illustrated publication, *Why Should We Care about Planet Earth, Our Home? A Religious Response to 9 Simple Questions*. The first question addressed is: "Why is care for creation a Christian responsibility?" What would your response to this question be?

When we view our role in creation as dominators of creation rather than caretakers of God's garden, we will miss its beauty and reflection of God's goodness. It becomes simply an object for our use only and is given no value in itself. However, if like St. Francis, we see nature as magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness, then we experience God's presence everywhere. St. Pope John Paul II stated, "The root cause of our violence with one another and the increasing destruction of all of created reality is our lack of proper respect for life. Respect for life and for the dignity of the human person extends also to the rest of creation."

Bishop's Public Schedule

Feb. 9 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

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

Feb. 11 – 9 a.m. – New York State Catholic Conference Board of Bishops Conference Call
Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 12 – 3 p.m. – Holy Hour in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the establishment of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg at St. Mary's Cathedral

4 p.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Feb. 13 – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Rest in Peace

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

Feb. 9 – Rev. Claude M. F. Sallaz, O.M.I., 1873; Rev. Joseph Weldon Barry, 1945; Rev. Howard James Kennedy, 1971

Feb. 10 – Rev. Zephirin Pelloquin, M.S.C., 1944; Msgr. William J. Argy, 2005

Feb. 11 – Deacon David P. Wells, 2017

Feb. 12 – Rev. Richard O'Donnell, 1949

Feb. 13 – Rev. Richard J. Maloney, O.M.I., 1893; Deacon Edward F. McAuliffe, 1986; Rev. Harry E. Giroux, 2012

Feb. 14 – Msgr. Gerald F. Kellogg, 1979; Rev. Charles Joseph Richard, 2007

Feb. 15 – Msgr. James H. Driscoll, 1928

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg uses the training, Protecting God's Children for Adults. If you need to complete VIRTUS training, contact Jean Grizzuto, jgrizzuto@rcdony.org or 315-393-2920 x 1413.

Retreat seeks to help female abuse victims find healing

By Darcy Fargo
Editor

PARADOX – A retreat planned for Pyramid Life Center aims to help female victims of all types of abuse find healing.

Though operated by the Diocese of Albany, the Pyramid Life Center is located in Paradox, Essex County, within the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the Adirondack Park.

The retreat, titled "The Way Retreat for Women: A Healing Retreat for Female Survivors of Abuse," will be held May 20-22.

"This is for female survivors of all types of abuse," said Brian Evers, Pyramid Life Center director. "This is a great opportunity for women to come away in a safe and private setting to be with other survivors and talk about their experiences in a faith context. Women of all faiths are welcome. The retreat is based in Catholic theology, but all faiths are welcome and

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terrianne 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.

invited. We have a team of good, solid, empathetic listeners who can journey with them on that weekend."

According to the event description, the retreat includes "three days of guided meditations and prayer crafted around the Stations of the Cross will show you the steps Christ took to overcome dread, confusion, deep hurt, betrayal and anger not only for his experience of abuse – which culminated in his death on the cross and new life in the Resurrection – but for your abuse as well. You can choose to walk The Way with him, learn his ways, transform your pain and suffering into a new life, the life God has always wanted for you but that the sins of another has disfigured in countless ways."

Evers indicated that similar retreats would be planned for men in the future.

"We'd like to keep this as an annual offering," Evers said. "Next, we'd

like to offer a retreat for male survivors of abuse. Our goal is to develop a local team to do these retreats."

Pyramid Life Center hosts a variety of retreats.

"We draw people from all over the country," Evers said. "People come from all over the northeast, and from as far away as California. Most have some connection to the camp. For this particular retreat, we wanted to cast a wide net. We find a lot of people are looking for a chance to get away and disconnect while they grow in their faith and find healing."

Previous Marian Lodge, a girls' camp, Pyramid Life Center has been run by the Diocese of Albany since 1976. The property includes 750 acres, complete with lakes, streams and woods.

The cost to attend "The Way Retreat for Women" is \$250.

For more information or to register, visit pyramidlife.org/retreats.

MORE REASONS TO CELEBRATE



Three second grade students of St. Bernard's School in Saranac Lake were baptized at the 10 a.m. Catholic Schools Week Mass. The youth are pictured with St. Bernard's pastor, Father Martin Cline.

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Emotional tributes recall NYPD officer's love of life, family

NEW YORK (CNS) -- In emotional remarks Feb. 2 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, the sister of slain Officer Wilbert Mora paid tribute to her brother and his late partner, Officer Jason Rivera, but also decried the "violence and crime" taking the lives of police as they try to protect the citizenry. "It hurts me to know that two exemplary young men, like Officer Jason Rivera and Wilbert Mora, were taken before their time," Karina Mora told the mourners who packed the cathedral for the funeral Mass for her brother. The service took place less than a week after Rivera's funeral Mass, also at the cathedral. These were two young men "who wanted to make a difference and a change in their city with their service and their sacrifice," said Karina Mora, who spoke in Spanish, with her words interpreted in English for the congregation. "Now I only ask myself, how many Wilberts, how many Jasons, how many more officers will have to lose their lives for this system to change?" she said.

Survey: Path to citizenship for migrants has majority support

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Though immigration remains a polemic topic in political circles, just 44% of Americans recently surveyed by the Public Religion Research Institute said it was a "critical issue" in the U.S. A majority favored a path to citizenship for those who are in the country without legal permission. By and large, Americans had a positive view of immigrants, saying they strengthen the country, with a minority seeing immigrants as a burden to the U.S., the survey found. Those were among findings released Feb. 3 by PRRI from a survey examining American perspectives on immigration policy. The survey, conducted online between Sept. 16 and 29, interviewed a representative sample of 2,508 adults (age 18 and up) living in all 50 states in the United States. It focused on welcoming views about immigration to the U.S. and whether it's a critical issue at all. The survey looked at how political affiliation, the kind of media some respondents digested, race and sometimes age affected the answers given. It also asked questions about whether respondents viewed immigration favorably or otherwise. While a majority of Americans "support offering immigrants living in the U.S. illegally a way to become citizens, provided they meet certain requirements" and nearly two-thirds support "allowing immigrants brought illegally to the U.S." as children to gain legal resident status, white evangelical Protestants and Republicans resoundingly do not support those policies, the survey found.

Vatican official inaugurates nunciature in Abu Dhabi

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The opening of a new apostolic nunciature in the United Arab Emirates is a testament to fraternity and goodwill between Muslims and Christians, said Archbishop Edgar Peña Parra. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony in Abu Dhabi Feb. 4, Archbishop Peña, the substitute secretary for general affairs in the Vatican Secretariat of State, said the new nunciature is also "a further sign of the Holy Father's solicitude and concern for all the people in this land. May this new embassy of the Holy See serve as a place of encounter and dialogue for our bilateral cooperation for many years to come," the archbishop said. Among those present at the inauguration were Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the crown prince and minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Bishop Paul Hinder, apostolic vicar for Southern Arabia; and Msgr. Yoannis Gaid, member of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity. The Holy See and the United Arab Emirates established diplomatic relations in 2007, but the nuncio resided in Kuwait.

Criticism over immigration continues for Biden

Immigration supporters say that while they welcomed President Joe Biden's 2020 election, when it comes to immigration policy, his administration, a year into its first term, has left much to be desired.

"There's no doubt that the Biden administration is a welcome departure from the appalling cruelty and blatant racism of the Trump years, but in key (immigration) areas, the Biden White House continues to uphold the hateful spirit of Trump migration policies," Hazel Contreras, of the nonprofit Alianza Americas, said Feb. 1.

The organization was one of various groups to voice discontent with the White House on immigration policy one year after the Biden-Harris administration unveiled its strategy to address immigration flows at the southern border.

From being tied to pandemic health restrictions preventing entrance of some migrants into the U.S., to court battles blocking attempts at unraveling Trump-era immigration policies, the Biden White House has faced obstacles, to be sure. But there are those who say some of the wounds are self-inflicted.

The latest complaints are focused on reports that administration officials are expelling Venezuelan migrants to a third country, namely Colombia, if they recently resided there.

Even Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey, a Democrat, came out swinging against the administration Feb. 1.

"The recent reports of the Biden administration removing Venezuelans through third countries is

extremely disturbing," Menendez said in a statement. "By continuing to use a page from Trump's immigration enforcement playbook, this administration is turning its back on the immigrants who need our protection the most."

He referenced Venezuela's plight. The country has been embroiled in political conflict and an economy in a downward spiral that has caused more than 6 million Venezuelans to flee the once rich nation since 2014, according to figures from the United Nations.

Many Venezuelans have fled to neighboring countries such as Colombia and Chile, where they have encountered hostility. On Jan. 30, a camp of Venezuelan migrants in northern Chile was trashed following protests against the migrants.

Other Venezuelans have made the longer trek to the U.S., where approximately 323,000 currently hold Temporary Protected Status and more recently have been trying to enter.

TPS, an immigration designation, grants a work permit and reprieve from deportation to certain people whose countries have experienced natural disasters, armed conflicts or exceptional situations so they can remain temporarily in the United States.

But shortly after U.S. Customs and Border Protection said officials encountered more than 13,000 single adults from the country at the U.S.-Mexico border in December 2021, reports began trickling out about deportations of Venezuelans who had lived in Colombia.

Those like Menendez

said that while the U.S. has concerns of letting in some migrants during the pandemic, Venezuelans are battling a "brutal dictatorship" at home as well as deteriorating humanitarian conditions.

"While I recognize the importance of carefully managing cross-border travel to facilitate our nation's pandemic response, now that nonessential travel has resumed at our nation's borders, the administration should rip off the Band-Aid, end these expulsions and restore the regular processing of asylum claims," Menendez said.

In late January, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas visited the southern U.S. border. On Jan. 27 in El Paso, Texas, he tried to make a distinction between the way the Biden and Trump administrations have handled incoming flows of migrants.

"We have ended policies of cruelty that defined the prior administration," he said.

But Menendez, in his statement, said that deporting Venezuelans was a "cruel course of action," calling it "unconscionable" and said it had to stop.

Alianza Americas also spoke of what it called Vice President Kamala Harris' "troubling" message during a trip to Mexico and Guatemala in June 2021 when she told would-be migrants: "Do not come."

"A message that many advocacy groups found troubling, as it does not account for the reality that many asylum-seekers and migrants have little choice in fleeing living conditions that are intolerable," the organization said.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

HOW TO: SMALL GROUP YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP

Join fellow ministers, volunteers, and anyone interested in working with young people for a video series and discussion on Small Group Discipleship for youth.

Date: March 1 and 2

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Features: The five-video series provided by YDisciple will be spread out over the two sessions, and we will meet via Zoom to view and discuss how to best apply these techniques in our parishes, homes, and schools. Each video is 10 to 15 minutes long and easy to absorb. To Register for this free webinar please visit: <https://www.rcdony.org/ministrydevelopment> For more information please contact Tom Semeraro: tsemmeraro@rcdony.org 315-393-2920

ADIRONDACK

FIRST FRIDAY PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Lake Placid – Monthly praise and worship to be held.

Date: First Friday of the month

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Agnes Church

Features: Music led by Joey and MC Izzo. Time for fellowship and snacks afterwards. Will be livestreamed as well on St. Agnes Facebook page.

PARISH NURSE TRAINING

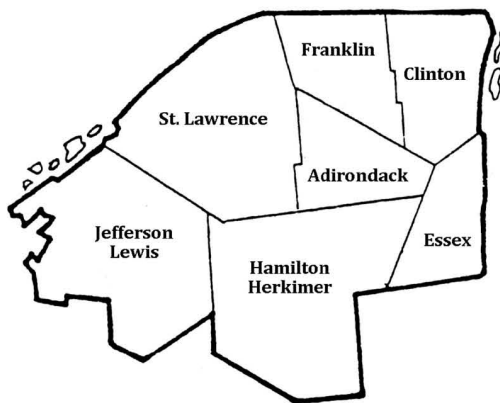
Lake Placid – Mercy Care for the Adirondacks, a mission sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, will offer the Foundations Course for Faith Community Nursing.

Dates: March 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 and 26 (All 6 sessions are required).

Place: to be determined or can be attended virtually.

Features: The course is offered to registered nurses of all faiths. Mercy Care provides the training at no cost to participants but pre-registration is required. Parish Nurses (Faith Community Nurses) assist the members of their faith community to maintain or regain wholeness in body, mind and spirit. They promote wellness by health screening, health education, advocating for clients, connecting them to services in their community, listening and providing support.

Contact: To register, visit our website at www.adkmercy.org. If you have any questions please contact Lexi Bevilacqua, Education and Volunteer



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

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

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

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

Training Manager at abevilacqua@adkmercy.org or by phone at 518-523-5446.

CLINTON

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Ellenburg Center – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on the Fridays during Lent.

Date: March 4th to April 8th

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer.

Contact: Deacon Ken Lushia 518-493-6671 or Sarah Anderson, OFS 518-534-9976

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST: JESUS PRESENT AND HOW TO SHARE IT

Plattsburgh – As a continuation of the Eucharist Initiative a presentation to be held on the Liturgy of the Eucharist: Jesus Present and how to share it.

Date: March 12

Time: 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Holy Cross Parish Center

Speaker: Fr. Tojo Chacko, HGN

Features: Cost is free. Please bring a bagged lunch for food and conversation afterwards.

Contact: To register for a location go to: www.rcdony.org/liturgyeucharist

ESSEX

NO LATIN MASS

Port Henry – There will not be an Extraordinary Form Latin Mass held until Feb. 20.

JEFFERSON-LEWIS

HOLY HOUR AND DIVINE MERCY

Houseville – A Holy Hour of Adoration with the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be observed the first Sunday of the month.

Date: Feb. 6

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass

Place: St. Hedwig's Church

Contact: 315-348-6260

ST. LAWRENCE

11TH AND 12TH GRADE RELIGION CLASSES

Ogdensburg – St. Mary's Cathedral Parish is kicking off its 11th & 12th grade religion class. Youth in the applicable grades from outside the Cathedral Parish are welcome to attend.

Date: Monthly Feb. 13, March 13, April 10, May 15

Time: 5 p.m. to 7:30

Place: Brzana Hall below St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: We have no curriculum; YOU will help decide what we discuss! Lots of discussion, less lecture. Games with prizes. Classes are self-contained units. No makeup assignments! Guests welcome! Bring a friend!

Contact: If you have questions or concerns that can't wait, contact Deacon Jim Crowley via email jcrowley@rcdony.org or Jessica Hargrave via email jhargrave@rcdony.org.

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY DEVOTION

Massena – Sacred Heart Church to have first Saturday Rosary Devotion.

Date: Feb. 5

Time: 3:15 p.m.

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

PRAYER AND ADORATION

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

Date: Every third Wednesday of the month (Feb. 16)

Time: 6:30 to 7 p.m.

Place: Sacred Heart Church

MISSION RETREAT

Gouverneur – Father Pompei OFM will be leading a mission retreat.

Date: March 6-8

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: St. James Church

Features: Father Pompei is a Franciscan priest from Holy Name Province and lives in Syracuse. He has spent his ministry working with the poor and has done extensive retreat work with both adults and teenagers. This is not just for Catholics, but for everyone suffering for answers to fear, evil, life, suffering, doubt, death and your resurrection.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST: JESUS PRESENT AND HOW TO SHARE IT

Waddington – As a continuation of the Eucharist Initiative a presentation to be held on the Liturgy of the Eucharist: Jesus Present and how to share it.

Date: March 12

Time: 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Waddington Parish Center

Speaker: Sister Mary Eamon Lyng, SSJ

Features: Cost is free. Please bring a bagged lunch for food and conversation afterwards.

Contact: To register for a location go to: www.rcdony.org/liturgyeucharist

DIOCESAN EVENTS

SURVIVING DIVORCE

The Family Life Office is offering the Surviving Divorce Program, beginning mid-February in Watertown, Gouverneur, Canton and Potsdam.

Dates: To be determined (will be held once a week)

Time: 2-3 hours

Cost: \$25

Features: This program helps participants find personal healing and hope by working through the emo-

tional upheaval of separation and divorce.

Contact: Register online at www.rcdony.org/survivingdivorce. For more information contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org.

LOVING AUTHENTICALLY

Commissioned Lay Ministers and candidates are invited to this program that is designed to strengthen the participant's conviction about the truth, beauty and importance of church teaching on natural law and sexual morality and to give participants a basic understanding of the ethical basis of the teaching.

Date: April 23 at St. Peter's Church, Lowville.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Presenters: Deacon John Fehlner & Dr. Maura Fehlner, Mr. Steve Tartaglia and other members of the Family Life Department.

Features: Cost is free and all are welcome. Must watch an 80-minute video prior to the event. Link to video will be sent after registration. Bring your own lunch.

Contact: Register at: <https://www.rcdony.org/lovingauthentically>. If you have questions, contact Family Life Director, Steve Tartaglia at startaglia@rcdony.org or call 315-393-2920

REFLECT AND RECONCILE

A Diocese of Ogdensburg youth Lenten retreat to be held for all young people in grades 7 to 12.

Schedule: March 12 at St. Mary's Cathedral Brzana Room, Ogdensburg; March 26 at St. Mary's Parish Center, Champlain.

Time: 1 p.m. to 5

Features: As we dive deeper into the sacrament of Reconciliation and the season of Lent, we should center ourselves and work to understand who we are. Join fellow youth in grades 7 to 12 as you get a chance to dive deeper, to understand more in a space that is judgment-free and supportive. The pace of this retreat experience will contain moments of fun, quiet reflection, candid conversation, and a presentation. Drinks and Snack included.

Contact: Registration: <https://www.rcdony.org/lentenretreat> For more information please **Contact:** Tom Semeraro - Office of Youth Ministry - 315-393-2920 ext. 1415 tsemmeraro@rcdony.org

NOW SHOWING

HOME TEAM

NEWYORK(CNS)—Kevin James plays former New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton in the fact-based sports comedy "Home Team" (Netflix).

Unfortunately, under the direction of Charles and Daniel Kinnane, lame humor mars what might have been a good-hearted drama about family reconciliation.

A climactic sequence, moreover, features visuals that register as more distasteful than amusing. Still, overall, the film is acceptable for teens and their elders, a bit of less-than-polite dialogue notwithstanding.

In February 2010, Payton led his squad to their first Super Bowl victory.

Two years later, as early scenes show us, he was in the news for a very different reason.

An investigation by the NFL had implicated Payton in a scandal known as Bountygate, essentially a scheme to reward his players for injuring their opponents on the field. As a result, Payton was suspended from his job for the entire 2012 season.

At a loose end, Payton temporarily relocates to his home town of Argyle, Texas, a suburb of Fort Worth where his ex-wife, Beth (Jackie Sandler), and preteen son Connor (Tait Blum) still live. Finding Connor alienated by his neglect, previously work-

obsessed Payton tries to bond with the lad by becoming the offensive coordinator of the Warriors, the Pop Warner football team for which Connor plays.

Naturally, he soon overshadows the other members of the coaching staff, made up of amiable skipper Troy Lambert (Taylor Lautner) and his buffoonish, perpetually tipling number two, Mitch Bizone (Gary Valentine). Payton also initially allows the desire to win to crowd out the more modest goal of having fun.

The movie's serious moments are much superior to the jokes in Chris Titone and Keith Blum screenplay. A range of re-

curring gags about a noisy hotel room Jacuzzi, the New Age-y mannerisms of Connor's stepdad Jamie (Rob Schneider) and the past adventures of the Warriors' bus driver, Gus (Lavell Crawford), fall flat far more often than they succeed, leaving viewers in the lurch.

The script's points about prioritizing parenting over professional aims, the importance of loyal friendship such as that between Connor and the Warriors' woefully underperforming place-kicker, Harlan (Manny Magnús), and the need to let everyone – even Harlan – participate, are well-taken. But they would be more effective without

the hollow jibes by which they're surrounded.

Surprisingly, the unappealing scenes referenced above, which showcase a barrage of projectile vomiting, do lead on to a genuinely ironic twist. But, as with much else in "Home Team," there's a penalty to be paid for every yard gained.

The film contains graphic gross-out humor, a few mild oaths and several crass expressions. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II – adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG – parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Book on creation helps readers mull core questions

"Creation: A Catholic's Guide to God and the Universe" by Christopher T. Baglow. Ave Maria Press (Notre Dame, Indiana, 2021). 141 pp., \$14.95.

This excellent book is sponsored by the McGrath Institute for Church Life of the University of Notre Dame.

The book provides a sound introduction for general readers to church teaching on a number of theological and moral issues, providing an easy-to-read overview of and deep engagement with a number of core questions that Catholics, from teenagers to elderly adults, will find both interesting and illuminating.

It can also spark deeper discussions for groups in dialogue together for better understanding of our faith and how we can best live it, individually and communally, in this com-

plex world of ours.

The book has six chapters and a brief conclusion, corresponding to the six days of creation and a thoughtful divine rest on the seventh.

The first chapter delves into the Christian doctrine of creation, which the author rightly sees as an act of divine love.

The Trinity, properly understood, is a unity but also a community. So too is humanity, created as the image and likeness of God, composed of individuals who are called to come together. Coming together in love involves devoting oneself to working for the betterment of all.

So Baglow, following the thinking of St. Thomas Aquinas, rightly defines love as a combination of justice and mercy, treating each other fairly, ensuring that offenders are stopped, but also forgiv-

ing them when they repent and seek to live better lives.

Chapter 2 raises the question of the interconnectedness of good and evil. Here the author cites the encounter of the French Catholic novelist, Francois Mauriac, when he was interviewed for an article in an Israeli paper by a young man in 1956.

Mauriac speaks of how his wife watched the cattle cars filled with Jewish children being taken somewhere, and how she wept when she later learned where they were taken, to the death camps. The journalist, Elie Wiesel, replies simply: "I was one of them." Mauriac's detailed response may make readers stifle their own tears.

Mauriac encouraged and helped the young man to write his memoir of his time in Auschwitz, the short book, "Night," which

Baglow rightly notes "would forever change the world's understanding of the Holocaust." The chapter ends with a quote from the Bible offering hope for a better world of love and justice for all.

Chapters 3 and 4 engage the issue of reconciling the biblical stories of creation in the first and second chapters of Genesis with the science of evolution.

Baglow notes that science helps us understand how humanity came to be what it is, while Genesis teaches us the why of who we are and what we can strive to be, again individually and communally.

Chapters 5 and 6 deal with good and evil, what it means to sin and how one can find mercy and love in the sacred heart of Jesus, who sacrificed his human life so that we all might rise from our sins to live a new life of love,

justice, mercy and forgiveness.

In Jesus' life, death and resurrection, all humanity can find a new hope, a new and renewed Adam and Eve. Jesus, he states, is "the final Adam."

I would note, in conclusion, that the creation/evolution of humanity is not yet complete or its hopes fully fulfilled.

This will only come at the end of time when Jesus returns as the Messiah and ushers in the age of permanent love and justice for all humanity. Then all will see Jesus as the final Adam.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Finding strength, happiness in the Lord

We're not far into the new year, and it's obvious God's beautiful world is far from what He planned. There is so much fear, danger, mistrust division, and hatred, and so much careless destruction of nature and life. We so need the consolation and strength of God's Word.

Taking a look at Jeremiah first, we



Monsignor
Paul E.
Whitmore

how hard this prophet worked to prevent the Israelites from being made slaves in Babylon in the year 587 B.C. Why? Because they didn't listen to Jeremiah's plea, "Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings – whose heart turns away from the Lord....he is like a barren bush in the desert." By contrast, "blessed is the one

February 13

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

READINGS

Jeremiah 17:5-8

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Luke 6:17,20-26

who trusts in the Lord...He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream..." What a beautiful image, one God also uses in several of the psalms! It's a message for

government leaders, business people, and society in general. If we want peace, we must work for justice as God's law directs us.

The Beatitudes teach us that God's way for us contradicts what the "world" says will bring us happiness. If we seek riches and hoard our possessions instead of sharing them with the poor, if we engage in evil practices for the sake of popular approval, then we risk divine punishment

and loss of eternal life. On the other hand, those who go against the stream and endure insult and abuse in this life should "rejoice and leap for joy... for your reward will be great in heaven." It's all about focusing (purity of mind and heart). By living the Beatitudes, we are restoring God's plan from the beginning. Their power will also keep us in His Providence.

By the way, Jesus is sending us all a Valentine for tomorrow!

CALLED TO SERVE

The final dismissal

What commands come to mind when you think about the various ways groups of people are told the gathering is over? They can disperse, go home...or wherever.

I immediately thought of *fall-out, dismissed, scam, get-outa-here* (this last item is most effective if yelled with a Brooklyn accent).

At Mass, the deacon says, "Go forth, the Mass is ended" or "Go and announce the Gospel of the

Lord" or "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life" or simply "Go in peace."

I still chant "The Mass is ended. Go in Peace."

We respond, "Thanks be to God."

Some interpret that dismissal, officially part of The Concluding Rites of Mass, as license to bolt out the door. You can almost hear them saying, "there, that hour is over!"

They don't get it. This is not the final punctuation

mark in an hour-long recreation of the Last Supper. It is a renewal of our mission to "do good works, praising and blessing God."

The celebrant priest has blessed us. Now the deacon reminds us that it is time for all of us, laity, consecrated and ordained, to hit the bricks and evangelize the world.

It is appropriate for the deacon to give us those marching orders. The deacon spends most of

his life with the laity. He is usually employed outside the Church. He is usually married and has children. The deacon worries about the mortgage payment, the heating bill, the food on the table, the future for their kids and their homework assignments and all those things you worry about.

The deacon chooses to make his life more interesting, and yes, complicated, by listening to God's voice that called him to ministry. The deacons in our diocese spent five or six years in formation before ordination. They persevered with the help of their spouses and children and the support of friends, relatives and colleagues.

Who better to encourage us each week to "Go in Peace, glorifying the Lord by your life"?

We see the deacon most often as he assists the

celebrant at Sunday liturgy. Every word he speaks, every action he performs in that liturgical role is for the congregation, the folks in the pews.

Deacon James Keating, a professor and published author on the diaconate, wrote in his book, *A Deacon's Retreat*, "At the dismissal rite, the Eucharist

processes out of the church doors in the hearts of parishioners as a living call from Christ to go and transform culture. In so doing, the people extend the Eucharistic presence of Christ by way of their service and witness."

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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



Deacon
Kevin Mastellon



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The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

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

Mission begins in the home

It is in loving our spouses, parents and children that we foster a community of concern for others' welfare and their wellbeing. When parents encourage their children to think about those less fortunate in other countries, or even our own, it begins creating a mindset of giving that will stay with their children for the rest of their lives.

By spending time with their grandparents and other elderly relatives, children learn about their past and gain a respect for those older than them. They learn the importance of life experience and develop a bond with those of a different age group.

Similarly, through spending time with their siblings and cousins of a similar age, they learn empathy, sympathy and compassion for those different from them. It is in growing and fostering these connections that they develop a support base for when they are older and learn to think about others.

Parents can also do activities with their children to further encourage a giving mindset and a missionary spirit. Encouraging children to give 10% of their allowance to charity, for example, trains them to remember this when they get older. Additionally, participating in Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), the rice bowl and similar appeals is a fun way for children to learn about the people for whom the money is raised. They are able to put a face to their giving, and it will stay with them longer.

Teaching children about cultures different from their own broadens their horizons and allows them to sympathize with those different from them. This helps them to think about others, not only in the missions, but in their daily lives as well.

Through activities and discussions involving the missions, we can begin building a giving and mission mindset early in life. This helps children to become more aware of and involved in the world around them, for both their benefit and the benefit of those less fortunate than themselves.

Both love and mission begin in the home.

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

OBITUARIES

Altona – Midred Barber; Mass of Christian Burial at Holy Angels Church.

Brasher Falls – Gregory James Buckley, 61; Private Mass of Christian Burial March 11, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Riverside Cemetery, Westville.

Brushton – William Russell Palmer, 14; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 5, 2022 at St. Mary's Church.

Chateaugay – Austin Thomas "Ike" Sucato, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 5, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church.

Chazy – Douglas E. Pilon, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 5, 2022 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Clayton – Theresa (Cheney) Hof, 91; Memorial Mass to be held at a later date.

Constableville – Lillian Pauline (Korman) Paluck, 87; Mass of Christian Burial Jan. 27, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Copenhagen – Phyllis I. (Simmons) Gaines, 77; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 3, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Dexter – Myrna G. (Weston) Jobson, 79; Funeral Services Jan. 30, 2022 at the Johnson Funeral Home; burial in Dexter Cemetery.

Fort Covington – Alfred D. Almond, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 3, 2022 at St. Mary's of the Fort.

Keeseville – Richard J. Lavalley, 72; Funeral Services Feb. 12, 2022 at the Hamilton Funeral Home; burial in Evergreen Cemetery.

Keeseville – Peter R. Prescott, 78; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 3, 2022 at St. John's Church; burial in Evergreen Cemetery.

Madrid – Hilda Emily O'Neil Smith, 96; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 3, 2022 at St. John the Baptist Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Massena – Yvette May Perry, 89; Mass of Christian Burial at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Norfolk – Arlene M. (Haggett) Harris, 83; Private Services held; burial in Visitation Cemetery.

Norfolk – Alice Joan (Davey) King, 83; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 4, 2022 at Church of the Visitation.

Ogdensburg – Dolores Margaret (Lashomb) Girard, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 2, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Ogdensburg – Michael M. Whalen, 64; Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Canton.

Peru – David T. Sears, 55; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 4, 2022 at St. Augustine's Church.

Plattsburgh – Richard McCarthy, 81; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 5, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Doris Elene Rury, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 7, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Plattsburgh Community Mausoleum.

Upper Lake – Ginny (Stanton) Frenette, 93; Memorial Services in the summer.

Upper Lake – Randall Mark Rolley, 70; Funeral Services Feb. 8, 2022 at Frary Funeral Home.

Watertown – Paul A. McManaman, 95; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 4, 2022 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Timothy C. Phillips, 66; Mass of Christian Burial Feb. 9, 2022 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Melinda S. Smith, 54; Funeral Services Feb. 3, 2022 at the Reed & Benoit Funeral Home.

West Chazy – Andrew N. Bedard, 93; Mass of Christian Burial in spring at St. Joseph's Church.

'Called to Joy of Love' is National Marriage Week theme

WASHINGTON (CNS) – "Called to the Joy of Love" is the theme of this year's National Marriage Week USA Feb. 7-14. The week includes World Marriage Day, which this year is Feb. 13.

The annual observances "are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family," said a Feb. 3 news release from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bish-

ops.

The theme for this year's celebration of National Marriage Week mirrors the title of a national pastoral framework for marriage and family life ministry approved by the U.S. bishops in June 2021.

Each day of National Marriage Week, digital content will be made available through USCCB's social media channels: Twitter (@USCCB), Facebook (www.facebook.com/uscc

b) and Instagram (<https://instagram.com/usccb>).

Daily content will include a series of videos featuring how various ministries are fortifying married couples in the midst of challenges such as infertility, grief for the loss of a child, and the stressors of daily life.

Livestreamed events also will be available through USCCB social media channels.

Tributes mark legacy of philosopher, professor

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (CNS) – When Alice von Hildebrand wasn't promoting her late husband's work, the Catholic philosopher, professor and author spent most of her life "reminding women of the privilege of femininity and the gift of motherhood," said Rachel Bulman, a blogger and popular speaker.

She made the comments in a Jan. 28 appreciation she wrote on the life and work of von Hildebrand, who died peacefully at home in New Rochelle Jan. 14. She was 98.

"Alice invited women to be women, to have their power rooted in their own femininity. She believed that women could be receptive, nurturing, demure, and empathetic while also wielding the dynamism of intellect and culture," said Bulman in an essay posted on the website www.wordonfire.org.

Bulman, who is a wife, mother of four and a regular contributor to the Word on Fire blog, said she never met von Hildebrand but knew her writing well, including her book "The Privilege of Being a Woman," a reflection on "woman as a unique, mysterious creation of God and the blessings of traditional femininity."

"She taught me that women do not need to all but become men in order to be empowered, but that femininity contains and wields a necessary power in and of itself," Bulman said. "She also continues to inspire me toward a male/female complemen-



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Alice von Hildebrand, widow of philosopher Dietrich von Hildebrand, is seen in Rome May 27, 2010. A philosopher in her own right and a widely published author, von Hildebrand died Jan. 14, 2022, at age 98.

tarity that simultaneously honors the male and female differentiation while upholding gender equality."

Bulman's article on Alice von Hildebrand was among many tributes pouring in after her death. Her funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 22 at her parish church, Holy Family in New Rochelle.

Alice Marie Jourdain, known as "Lily" to family and friends, was born March 11, 1923, in Brussels, Belgium, the third of

Henri and mother Marthe Jourdain's five children. The family fled to France in May 1940 when the Nazis invaded Belgium. Alice was 17. In June of that year, she and her sister Louloute went to New York to live with an aunt and uncle.

Alice enrolled at Manhattanville College, where she earned a bachelor's degree. But before she finished her degree, she began taking classes at Jesuit-run Fordham University in New York that were taught by her future husband, Dietrich von Hildebrand, a German-born Catholic philosopher and religious writer who left a teaching post in Germany to escape the Nazis.

Alice first heard Dietrich speak in 1942 – on "the readiness to change." "From the first moment he

began to speak," she recalled, "I felt that he was feeding my soul with a food that I had always longed for. He spoke out of a deep recollection, and I drank in every word."

She became acquainted with Dietrich's first wife, Margarete (who died in 1957), and became an integral member of the Hildebrands' circle of friends. Soon after beginning her studies with Dietrich, she began to assist him as his secretary. Over the coming decades, she typed many of his book manuscripts, which he always wrote by hand, and translated a number of his essays into English.

In December 1947, Alice was hired for a three-week substitute position at Hunter College and then was offered a permanent teaching position.

"From the start, she faced opposition from her own colleagues, in part out of professional rivalry – she quickly became one of the most popular professors – and in part because of anti-Catholic sentiment," according to an obituary from the Hildebrand Project, which she co-founded.

"The latter surprised her, because she never spoke of Catholicism in the classroom. The difficulty was that several of her students began converting to Catholicism," it said. "She soon realized that it was her defense of the objectivity of truth against the prevailing relativism of the day that prepared the ground for these conversions. 'If someone finds the truth,' she would say, 'he automatically finds God, because God is the truth.'"

She and Dietrich married in July 1959. She often spoke of their unique partnership: complete unity in love of philosophy, music, literature, art "and above all, their Catholic faith," the

Hildebrand Project said.

"They had a great love for the sacrality of the liturgy and the church's heritage of sacred music. Together they formed an extraordinary partnership in bearing witness to Christian culture and Christian life," it added.

Dietrich taught philosophy at Fordham from 1942 until his retirement in 1960. He died in 1977.

After his death, Alice wrote "By Grief Refined" about the experience of becoming a widow. She also saw her primary mission as preserving his legacy.

Besides Hunter College, she taught at several other institutions, including the Catechetical Institute of St. Joseph's Seminary in Dunwoodie, New York; the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, where she served on the board of trustees from 1987 to 1999; the Thomas More Institute in Rome; Ave Maria College in Michigan; and the Notre Dame Institute in Arlington, Virginia.

Alice retired from Hunter College in 1984 and went on the lecture circuit, speaking in 35 U.S. states, Canada, Mexico and in many countries in South America and in Europe.

Throughout her career she received numerous awards and three honorary degrees, including from Franciscan University. In 2013, she was received the Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order of St. Gregory.

Among her books are "The Soul of a Lion: The Life of Dietrich von Hildebrand," published in 2000, and "Memoirs of a Happy Failure," a 2014 autobiography. She wrote she wrote numerous essays on the nature of education, reverence, liturgy, marriage and other themes. The website www.alicevonhildebrand.org is devoted to her work.

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