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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 77 Number 14

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

JULY 20, 2022

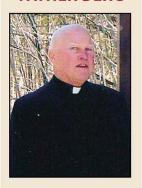
CELEBRATION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

On Sunday, July 10, Bishop Terry R. LaValley honored 33 individuals with the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service at the Celebration of the Body of Christ, part of the celebration of the diocese's 150th anniversary. See the full story on Page 5. See additional photos on Pages 8 & 9.

REMEMBERING FATHER BERG



Father Peter M. Berg, most recently pastor of St. Therese in Newcomb and St. Henry's in Long Lake, died July 3, 2022, in Bennington, New York. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, at 1 p.m. on August 5 at St. Therese Church in Newcomb. Father Berg was remembered for his simplicity, generosity and love of the Eucharist.

FULL STORY, PAGE 4

Pope's Canada trip starting, ending with 'sorry'

WATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis said all the speeches he has prepared for his trip to Canada "begin and end" with asking forgiveness.

In an early July interview, he acknowledged the "cruel way" the Catholic Church collaborated with the Canadian government in "colonization" by uprooting Indigenous children from their families, cultures and spiritualities and forcing them to attend residential schools where many suffered emotional, physical and

sexual abuse.

Cutting children and young adults off from their cultures "is diabolical, it is to kill life and richness," the pope said in the interview that aired July 11 on Univision.

Pope Francis is scheduled to be in Canada July 24-29, flying to Edmonton, Quebec and Iqaluit. He also will visit the site of a former residential school near Edmonton, join Indigenous pilgrims at Lac Ste. Anne and celebrate Mass

at the National Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré near Quebec.

Ted Quewezance, a former chief of the Keeseekoose First Nation and former executive director of the National Residential School Survivors Society, was at the Vatican in early April when Pope Francis apologized to delegates of Canada's Métis, Inuit and First Nation communities.

And he plans to be there July 25 when Pope Francis visits Maskwacis, Alberta, home of the

former Ermineskin Residential School, one of the largest residential school sites in Canada.

Quewezance was one of the first survivors in Canada to speak publicly about having been sexually abused at a church-run residential school. While he still gets emotional talking about it — "when you shed a few tears, more weight comes off your chest," he said — after the Rome trip he decided it was time to forgive and move forward.

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Box 326 Ogdensburg, N.Y. 13669 USPS 0039-3400 **BISHOP TERRY** R. LAVALLEY

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Moving past the fear

from a total hip replacement, I didn't know I could "hit the deck" like that.

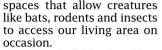
What caused me to hurl my body to the floor with reck-

less abandon? There was a bat in my house, and it was flying toward me.

I am terrified of bats. That's actually an oversimplification. I'm 100 percent ok with bats when they're outside eating insects (something else I don't love). When there's a Darcy L. bat in my home, how- Fargo ever. I am not ok.

Our house was built in the late 1800s. While it's had a number of upgrades over the years, it's not per-

fect, and there are gaps and



My wonderful husband has no problem removing ro-

dents and insects on my behalf, but even he has a healthy amount of apprehension about dealing with bats.

Despite his reservations, and likely at least a bit of fear, my husband securely netted the offending flying creature and removed it - completely unharmed from our house (I'm

pretty sure the bat escaped with fewer injuries than I did; while my hip was fine from my encounter with the floor,

Just a few years removed spaces that allow creatures my elbow was bruised for a few days). Despite his reservations and fear, my husband stepped up and did what needed to be done.

I thought of Adam's bat heroics as I attended the Celebration of the Body of Christ on July 10.

The individuals honored at that celebration serve in a variety of ministries. Some of the honorees are catechists, some serve the disadvantaged among us, some participate in organized ministries, and some serve their communities as foster parents, volunteers, firefighters and emergency medical responders. All of them love the Lord and seek to serve him and bring his love to their neighbors.

And while 33 people were

honored, they're not even close to the only ones undertaking such activities. There are many, many individuals in our diocese who serve the Lord and their neighbors in various ways.

It can be scary following the Lord's call, especially in this culture that tells us to serve ourselves and our own wills. Those who serve do what needs to be done, relying on the Lord for their strength, regardless of their fears and apprehensions. They help us. They inspire us.

Congratulations to the honorees, and thank you to all who serve their families. parishes, communities, diocese and Church in response to the Lord's call.

While some of us hit the deck, you're lifting us up.

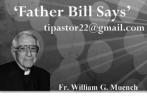
Considering the opening prayer

I celebrated Mass this morning. As I began to pray the words of the opening prayer, I realized that this prayer was so very meaningful. This opening prayer, often called the Collect, is the prayer at the beginning of Mass that unites the prayers of the whole community, drawing us all into prayer.

This prayer today was the Opening Prayer for the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time. Today, I would like to take some time with you to consider this prayer. I hope to show you how special and unique this prayer is.

This prayer begins in praise of our God. We pray, O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path."

I am leading this community in prayer that our God will bring his light of truth to all those of this parish and Church. This light of truth brings the message of Jesus – the Lord's words of



peace and love – especially to those who have gone astray. The whole congregation prays that the Lord's truth is light into the darkness that blocks so many in our community from the light of the Lord, the darkness that causes some to stray from the way of the Lord Jesus and his message.

I noticed that the purpose of my prayer was to pray for those who have gone astray. I must dedicate myself that they will return to the right path of the Lord. My place as the presider at this Mass was to pray in hope and confidence that the light of the Lord will find those who have strayed from the way of the Lord. They are truly special in my thoughts and intentions.

prayer at the Mass, I realized I was also praying for myself. There have been times when I was that stray. There were times I had allowed my life to stray from the path of my Lord Jesus. So, I must pray that the Lord would always find me, bring his truth and message, his light into my darkness, so that I will stay on the right path, the path of my Savior, my Lord Jesus.

Today's prayer then goes on asking God "to give all who for the faith they profess as accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ."

I must continue to pray for all in this community who declare themselves as Christians, ready to walk with the Lord and establish a strong relationship and friendship with Our Lord Jesus. And so, I pray for all of those that the Lord will flood into their lives the grace and protection to re-

As I proclaimed this ject all that is contrary to the name of Christ.

> The name of Christ is a powerful symbol. As the people join with me in the celebration of the Eucharist. We are rededicating ourselves to our Lord, striving always to a life lived well in the Spirit of the Lord, dedicated always to reject all that is contrary to the way of the Lord and "strive after all that does it honor.'

> My life as a Christian and disciple of Jesus – the lives of my congregations as Christians and disciples means more than a readiness to reject all that is contrary to my Lord and Jesus. It also means doing all that we can as a parish and a community to bring constant honor and glory to the Lord.

> "My sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

FOLLOW ME

Celebrating grandparents and the elderly

Sunday, July 24th is the **Second** are, or we can become, teachers of my expressions of gratitude. How-World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis chose a

verse from Psalm 92 as the theme for this special day. It highlights how grandparents, and the elderly are much-valued gifts for society and for our parishes: "In old age they will still bear fruit." He asks us to make it a feast day of special encounter between grandparents and grandchildren and between Terry R. the young and the not-so- LaValley

In such an encounter, the Holy Father points to a fundamental role for the elderly generation. He writes, "We elderly people often have a special sensitivity for care, for reflection, and affection. We tenderness. In this world accustomed to violence and terror we

need a true revolution of tenderness. We have a great responsibility towards new generations about this." In our world today, tenderness is too often considered a sign of weakness. As our society is getting older and older, it should also become increasingly tender and car-

At the conclusion at those Masses where I con-

firm our youth, I think it important to thank the many people who are instrumental in the faith life of the newly confirmed. After one Mass, a parishioner approached me and thanked me for

ever, he noted that I neglected to thank the grandparents. "Bishop, don't forget to thank the grandparents!" Boy, was he right! Our grandparents are critical witnesses of faith for the newly confirmed. As we continue to seek to strengthen faith formation in family life, our grandparents are key partners with our parents. Especially today, our grandparents' prayers, en-couragement and faithful witness to the Catholic faith are crucial for the faith formation of our youth. You know that so many of our grandparents today work hard to foster the faith of their adult children and grandchildren.

On July 26th the Church celebrates the Memorial of Saints Anne and Joachim, grandparents of Jesus. Undoubtedly, their strong belief in God provided the environment from which their daughter, the Blessed Virgin Mary would proclaim her magnificent fiat: "Let be done to me according to your Word!"

Let us pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people. May their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

Our pastoral outreach to the elderly should not be sporadic but routine, especially since so many in our diocese are isolated, a situation exacerbated by the pandemic. Join me in thanking our grandparents for their witness to the Faith. God's blessings to all our not-so-young family members and neighbors! Happy Grandparents and Elderly Day!



Bishop

Fourteen Respect Life Grants awarded

By Colleen Miner

Diocese of Ogdensburg Respect Life Co-Director

Many thanks to all those who donated to the Respect Life second collection taken up in churches the third weekend in January. When all the collections were received in the total was May, \$53,554. Special thanks to those parishes who collected \$1,000 or more: St Anthony's in Watertown (\$1,024), St. Patrick's in Watertown (\$1,076),Adams (\$1,123), Ellenburg (\$1,178),Mor-(\$1,194),risonville Saranac Lake (\$1,407), (\$1,468),Carthage Croghan (\$1,622), Ticonderoga (\$1,757), Lowville (\$1,819), Malone (\$2,004), Holy Family in Watertown (\$2.017).Ogdensburg (\$2017), Massena (\$2,650) and Plattsburgh (\$3,339).

On May 24, the grant board met to discuss the suggested grant amounts for Bishop LaValley's con-

Massena Gabriel Project:

34 new moms in program, 23 babies born (some sign up after baby is born), 119 appointments for clothing, 102 active families total in program, 554 inactive families. 309 helped with diapers and formula.

Ogdensburg Gabriel Project:

12 in program currently, 45 in 2021 "as needed"

RESPECT LIFE GRANT 2021 SUMMARY

Brasher Falls Gabriel Project:

16 new moms/58 previously total of 76 moms helped

Potsdam Gabriel Project:

8 new moms. Increase in services. Several moms helped one time due to lack of funds because of Covid.

Gouverneur Gabriel Project:

15 moms helped in 2021

Catholic Charities Malone:

Parenting Program - Six women delivered babies, 13 entered employment, two further education, 27 attending parenting classes, 33 supportive services. 2022 began with two expectant moms, five new referrals, current caseload 24.

Birthright in Plattsburgh:

Hand out approximately 72 layettes a year. Approximately 20 moms a month come in looking for diapers and clothing. Currently mentoring four moms.

sideration. The committee members are Father Martin Cline, Stephen Tartaglia, Angelo and Suzanne Pietropaoli and John and Colleen Miner. On June 8, Bishop LaValley approved the grants.

Fourteen grants were awarded.

Five Gabriel Projects received grants, Potsdam, Brasher Falls, Massena, Plattsburgh and Ogdensburg.

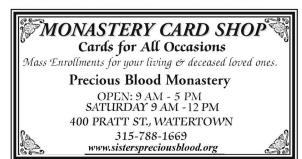
Other direct service ministries who received grants are Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center (six months of rent), Plattsburgh Birthright and Watertown Walking with Moms in Need (outreach services), Malone Catholic Charities (Childbirth/Parenting program).

Education efforts receiving grants included Lewis County Right to Life (pro-life summer fair booth), Liferight of Watertown (tv ads, oratorical contest, newsletter), Light of Truth Radio (Human Sexuality & Life Issues series, Loving Authentically seminar) and Natural Family Planning (Awareness week materials).

Thank you to all those

who work to promote the sanctity of human life. Please continue to pray for and support all those faced with an unplanned pregnancy, suffering after the loss of their child and those strug-gling to care for the elderly, sick or dying.

Please also pray for guidance for those who make the laws that protect the vulnerable.



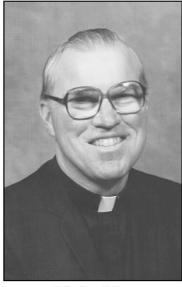
Remembering Father Peter M. Berg

By Darcy Fargo Editor

Serving the Diocese of Ogdensburg for more than 50 years, Father Peter M. Berg will be remembered as a "caring and giving priest," said Father Sony G, Pulickal, vicar forane of the Hamilton-Herkimer Deanery and pastor of St. Ann's Church in Wells and St. James Major Church in Lake Pleasant.

"He was a super nice priest," Father Pulickal said. "He was a simple priest. He lived a simple lifestyle. He was always thinking about his people, especially the less fortunate, and sharing what he had, both money and time."

Since his ordination in 1971, Father Berg served at St. Patrick's, Watertown; St. Peter's, Lowville; St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg; Sacred Heart, Massena; St. Vincent of Paul, Cape Vincent; St. Mary's of the Lake, Plattsburgh; St. Michael's, Antwerp; St. Joseph's, Philadelphia; Holy An- from June 2003 until April of



Father Peter M. Berg

gels, Altona and St. Alexis, Jericho; Notre Dame, Malone and St. Augustine, North Bangor. His final and longest assignment, 2022, was as Pastor of St. Therese in Newcomb and St. Henry's in Long Lake. Father Berg also served as full-time Catholic Chaplin at Clinton Correctional Facility, a maximum-security prison in Dannemora from 1991-

Father Pulickal said he brought those communities a reverent love of the Eucharist and service.

"He loved the Eucharist," Father Pulickal said. "Even when he was sick, he wasn't able to stand for Mass, but he still wanted to celebrate. He'd collapse between Masses. He was that committed to the Eucharist. He went to the nursing home in North Creek regularly. He and Father (Philip T.) Allen would take turns covering Mass there. North Creek is pretty far away from Newcomb. He was committed and dedicated.'

Father Pulickal said Father Berg was also known for his generos-

"People would give him gift certificates for the restaurant in Long Lake," Father Pulickal said. "He'd collect all the gift certificates. He'd wait until he had \$100 or \$150 in gift certificates, and he'd invite all the priests from the area to the restaurant and give us lunch. People would give him something for himself, gift certificates for his own food, and he'd share it with others."

Father Berg also had a reputation for being an "independent thinker," Father Pulickal said.

"He'd read all the articles and news and what all the bishops think, yet he was always his own man and an independent thinker," he said. "He disliked clericalism, and he worked to dilute that image of clericalism. He was a quality priest. I liked him."

The two also shared an inside

"Among all the meat items, he only ate chicken," Father Berg said. "I called him 'the chicken

A complete obituary is printed below.

Mass of Christian Burial to be held August 5

Berg, a beloved parish priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, peacefully passed away at his home in Bennington, New York, surrounded by loved ones on July 3, 2022.

Born February 16, 1941, the son of Louis and Agnes (nee Quinlan) Berg. Father Berg grew up and school attended Tonawanda, New York, graduating from Bishop Duffy High School. Following his father who was a career postal employee, he worked for a short time at the Tonawanda Post Office. Father Berg then once again followed his father's footsteps joining the US Navy, serving proudly on active duty from 1960-1962. He then began his priestly studies, graduating from St.

Reverend Peter Michael Bernards School of Theology and Ministry in Rochester in 1971. On December 5, 1971, he was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in St. Patrick's Church in Watertown, New York, by the Most Reverend Stanislaus Brzana, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

For the next 50 years, he traveled throughout the North Country serving the faithful at numerous parishes including, St. Patrick's, Watertown; St. Peter's, Lowville; St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg; Sacred Heart, Massena; St. Vincent of Paul, Cape Vincent; St. Mary's of the Lake, Plattsburgh; St. Michael's, Antwerp; St. Joseph's, Philadelphia; Holy Angels, Altona and St. Alexis. Jericho: Notre Dame, Malone and St. Augustine, North Bangor. His final and longest assignment, from June 2003 until April of 2022, was as Pastor of St. Therese in Newcomb and St. Henry's in Long Lake. Father Berg also served as full-time Catholic Chaplin at Clinton Correctional Facility, a maximum-security prison in Dannemora from 1991-2002.

Whenever Father Berg arrived at a new church, he began a process of visiting every parishioner in the parish, which sometimes took over a year. For many of those visited, it began a lifetime relationship.

Father Berg lived a spartan life, spending almost nothing on himself, yet he would give away anything to anyone in need. As one parishioner described him, "he was a saintly man who lived the Beatitudes." Father Berg made a lasting impact on those he shepherded, right up to his death he was corresponding with hundreds of former parishioners going back to his first assignment.

Father Berg also served as his family's genealogical researcher and keeper of family records. He was a member of the Knights Columbus, Tonawanda Historical Society and the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society.

Father Berg is survived by his brother, David Berg, and his wife, Dawn, with whom he spent the last three months of his life: his sister. Mary Io Butler, and her husband, Bob: along with many nieces, nephews and

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, at 1 p.m. on August 5 at St. Therese Church in Newcomb.

Father Sony G. Pulickal, vicar forane of the Hamilton-Herkimer Deanery, will be the homilist.

Father Berg's ashes will be interred in the historic Chapel of St. Francis of Church, Assisi Tonawanda, the same chapel where he received the sacraments of baptism, First Communion and confirmation, and where he served as an altar boy.

Memorial donations may be made to the Tonawanda Historical Society. 413 Main St. Tonawanda, NY 14150.

Thirty-three honored at Celebration

By Darcy Fargo Editor

OGDENSBURG – Joy filled St. Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg as Bishop Terry R. LaValley honored 33 individuals for their faithfulness and contributions to the Church during the Celebration of the Body of Christ on July 10.

The event began with an organ recital by Donald K. Fellows, former director for music for St. Mary's Cathedral and Wadhams Hall Seminary College on the cathedral organ.

"I just want to say thank you for attending this part of this afternoon's festivities," Fellows said. I am really honored to be back here after quite a few years ago. I'm humbled, too, to see all names in program of all you wonderful people that make the North Country Catholic life alive and well. Congratulations to all of you."

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed the recital. Judy Pearson served as lector. Adoration included a Litany of Parish Patrons that invoked the intercession of the saints for whom diocesan parishes are named.

Following Adoration, Bishop LaValley addressed the assembly.

"While there are so very many faith-filled individuals in our diocese who are worthy of this special recognition, it is with great pride and much gratitude that I'm pleased to confer special honors to some parishioners as we acknowledge their exceptional discipleship in the Church," Bishop LaValley said. "As we continue to celebrate the 150th anniversary of this family of faith of the North Country, Bishop Wadhams Award, named in honor of



JESSE SOVIE/NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Bishop Terry R. LaValley prays before the Blessed Sacrament during the Celebration of the Body of Christ, held July 10 at St. Mary's Cathedral. During the event, part of the 150th Anniversary celebration, Bishop LaValley honored 33 individuals from around the diocese with the Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service. See additional photos on Pages 8-9.

our first bishop, recognizes individuals for their outstanding service. As we celebrate 150 years as a diocese, this is but one expression of gratitude to our honorees and to all those who so faithfully support and build up our local Church. You live humbly what we celebrate. You live humbly what you believe. You challenge all of us to reflect on the depth of our own faith and how we give witness to it in our local parishes and so often with much personal sacrifice."

Bishop LaValley noted that the honorees are living examples of discipleship and mission.

"In his exhortation, Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis said that 'everyone can share in some way in the life of the church," Bishop LaValley said. "Well certainly today's honorees do just that. The holy father said that 'people of faith are needed who, by the example of their lives, point out the way to the promise land and keep hope alive.' Sisters and brothers, the citations you will soon receive attest to

the hope that you instill in the rest of us. My sisters and brothers, the citations you will soon receive help us to keep faith alive. Yes, we journey into the future with great hope. Yes, we know well the challenges that lay ahead. But we know, too, the wonderful possibilities we have to grow as Church, energized and inspired by the faith life of our honorees this day. We are impelled, with these honorees as remarkable examples, to continue to follow Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. Our journey in this life has as its ultimate end - sometimes the world forgets this: Our ultimate end is our full encounter with God, and through the journey, the Holy Spirit purifies us, lifts us up and sanctifies us so that we may enter into the happiness for which our hearts long. Jesus is and must always

be the center of our lives."

The bishop then congratulated the honorees and encouraged all to continue in the celebration of

the diocesan anniversary. With the Church of Og-

gratulate our honorees and their families," he said. "Thank you. Thank you for your faithfulness and the support of your parish family. Let us all now continue our anniversary celebration with dogged determination and fortified faith to heed Jesus' call – follow me. Together with much gratitude, we remember the clergy, consecrated religious and lay women and men who followed Jesus in years past. We renew our baptismal promises to be joy-filled disciples in mission. We rejoice in being Christ-led, Christfed and hope-filled."

Honored at the Celebration of the Body of Christ were:

- Mr. Bruce P. Bombard –
 St. Peter's Parish, Massena
- Mrs. Jane A. Boyea St. Mary's Church, Brushton
- Mr. James T. Brady St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton
- Mr. Michael B. Bresnahan, Jr. – Catholic Community (CC) of Alexandria, Alexandria Bay
- Mr. Glenn R. Burdo CC of St. Alexander and
- St. Joseph, Morrisonville
- Ms. Starr L. Burke Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh
- Mr. David M. Cline St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls
- Mrs. Valerie R. Cline St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls
- Sister Sharon A. Dalton, SSJ St. Mary's Church, Ticonderoga
- Mrs. Ruth C. Demarse
 St. André Bessette Parish,
 Malone
- Mr. Joseph E. Denoncourt – St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
- Mrs. Patricia J. Fassett
 St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg
 - Mr. Pasquale A.

densburg, I want to congratulate our honorees Church, Watertown

- Deacon Gary A. Frank
 St. Mary's Church, Clayton
- Mrs. Gayle G. Frank St. Marv's Church. Clayton
- Mrs. Connie M. Hatch-Young – St. Patrick's Church, Colton
- Mr. Jeremiah M. Hayes
 St. Alphonsus Holy Name of
- Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake
- Mrs. Eileen K. Hayes –
 St. Alphonsus Holy Name of
- Jesus Parish, Tupper Lake
- Mr. Gerald J. LaValley St. Ann's Church, Mooers Forks
- Mrs. Darlene M. LaValley St. Ann's Church, Mooers Forks
- Dr. Victor W. Ludwig Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh
- Mrs. Barbara C. Ludwig
 Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh
- Ms. Leslie A. Marvel Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh
- Mr. Angelo E. Pietropaoli St. André Bessette Parish, Malone
- Mrs. Suzanne R. Pietropaoli St. André Bessette Parish, Malone
- Mrs. Elsie L. Scruggs St. Peter's Parish, Massena
- Mrs. Mary Catherine Spilman – Our Lady of Grace Parish,
 - Morristown
- Mrs. Donna J. Steenberg St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls
- Mr. Daniel J. Sweeney St. Mary's Church, Canton
- Sister Mary Christine Taylor, SSJ – Diocese of Ogdensburg)
- Mr. Michael J. Tooley –
 Diocese of Ogdensburg
- Miss Michelle E.
 Watkins St. Stephen's Church, Croghan
- Mrs. Linda F. Young St. Agnes Church, Lake Placid

Supporting work in Latakia. mission areas

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Missionary zeal has always been a telling sign of the vitality of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The annual collection for the Missionary Projects of the Diocese of Ogdensburg (MPDO) offers us the opportunity to further our own zeal in supporting the ministry of our missionaries who faithfully serve in often forgotten places in our world.

The parishioners of Franklin, Hamilton-Herkimer, Essex, Clinton, and Adirondack Deaneries will be given an opportunity to support our missionaries during the weekend Masses of July 30th and 31st. This year, our focus continues to be the Diocese of Latakia in Syria where our twinning relationship continues. Located on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, Latakia is home to the oldest Christian settlements on earth. Our Solidarity in Faith endeavor provides concrete ways for the faithful of our diocese to learn about Latakia while supporting their relief programs. Due to a large influx of refugees, relief efforts have had to expand, increasing the need for donations. Your sacrifices will assist with providing for basic needs, as well as support their marriage preparation and faith formation programs.

The MPDO collection will also continue to be used to provide financial support of our former mission in Mollendo in Peru, support the United States Bishops' annual appeal for Latin America and assist with other missionary projects throughout the world as part of our evangelization efforts.

The money raised in the 2021 MPDO collection contributed to a \$25,000 donation to Latakia in Syria and a \$10,000 donation to Ukraine. Let us continue to pray for Bishop Chbeir and his diocesan church and for the victims of terror and violence in the Ukraine.

I am very grateful for your gift to this year's MPDO collection. God bless you for your generous support of the Church's missionary efforts.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

t leny R. Faballey

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley Bishop of Ogdensburg



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- Latin America Appeal
- Evangelization efforts
 - Relief to Ukraine

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Thank you for supporting the Mission Office

Women's Rosary Retreat to focus on healing

By Suzanne Pietropaoli Staff Writer

OGDENSBURG - A retreat is a time-honored way to step out of the busy routines of daily life to make more room within ourselves for God. The women's retreat scheduled for October 6-9, 2022, at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg offers this opportunity with a specific focus on healing.

Sponsored Sisters, André's the women's group of St. André Bessette Parish in Malone, this retreat has been a long time in the making.

Nichols, Kathleen spokesperson for the retreat committee, explains that the idea for such an event originated in a Judith Retreat she attended several years ago in western New York.

"I realized how wonderful it would be to offer a healing retreat to the women of our own diocese," Nichols said. "St. André's Sisters really helped make the retreat a reality. With our ongoing focus on women gathering to grow in faith through prayer, study, and fellowship, our group was immediately enthusilast October, a committee grated his faith into his (including Charlotte Broeker, Darcye Gervais, Charlotte Broeker, Judy Pelkey, and Kelly Mc-Givney-Petrelli) had formed, and work began in earnest. After seeking and receiving permission from Bishop LaValley, we were fortunate to have the help of Father Joe Giroux, and of Father Kevin O'Brien with respect to the necessary paperwork.'

With the groundwork laid, the organizers began planning for the retreat itself. They were blessed when Father Bryan Stitt agreed to serve as chaplain for the retreat, with Capuchin Sisters Nazareth Sister Kelly Francis and Sister Grace Marie serving as speakers and prayer leaders. Dave McClow, M.Div., LCSW, LMFT, a clinical associate for the Pastoral Solutions Institute, brings more than 30 years' experience to this retreat. His counseling specialties include depression, anxiety, trauma, and the building of practical skills to cope with such emotions. Mc-Clow has always recognized God as the source

astic about the retreat. By of healing and has intecounseling practice.

The retreat, which begins Thursday evening and concludes with 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, likewise integrates faith with insights gained from psychology and counseling. Holy Mass (including one with Bishop Terry R. LaValley on Friday afternoon) anchors the daily schedule, along with Eucharistic Adoration, selected Hours of the Divine Office, the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and time for personal prayer and reflection. Complementing these daily prayer opportunities will be talks, meditations, and small group sessions led by Dave Mc-Clow, Sister Kelly Francis, and Sister Grace Marie. They will also be available at stated times for those desiring spiritual guidance, as will Father Stitt, who will also hear confessions. To ensure the privacy of participants, cell phones are not allowed during group sessions; retreatants also make a pledge of confidentiality.

This retreat is open to all women, aged 18 and over.

"All of us are wounded and in need of healing," Nichols said. "And it is difficult with the daily routine of life to address that. Whether our wounds are spiritual, mental, emotional, due to our own sin or the sins of others, or to our fallen nature: This retreat is time set aside to allow God to enter in and heal what he desires to heal, to make us whole - especially in our relationship with him. Without time set apart, it is hard to fully surrender our fears, hurts, and wills to God's healing mercy." In fact, the retreat has been purposefully placed under the patronage of three women who knew great suffering – but also profoundly experienced the mercy of God: Our Lady of the Rosary, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. Josephine Bakhita.

The retreat committee

expresses their gratitude for the great outpouring of support – prayerful and financial - the people of St. André Bessette Parish have contributed to this effort. The final prayer project will begin on the Feast of the Assumption (August 15) and finish on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7) as St. André's Sisters and others pray the 54-Day Rosary Novena for God's blessings on all those participating in the retreat. All prayers are welcome. Anyone wishing to join this prayer can google "54 Day Rosary Novena" for various format options.

Registration for the retreat will open by the end of July on the diocesan website, rcdony.org. For further information, please contact Kathleen **Nichols** jnichol1@twcny.rr.com or at 518-651-6895.

WIN \$10,000!

CELEBRATE ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, **TICONDEROGA EDUCATING FOR 63 YEARS!**

- only 500 tickets sold
- 23 chances to win
- your ticket is included in each drawing: Second Prize \$500 (Four awarded) Third Prize \$250 (Eight awarded) Fourth Prize \$100 (Ten awarded)
- you need not be present to win
- **Donations: \$100**

Drawing to be held Labor Day, September 4th Any questions, call 518-585-7433

If you wish to buy tickets by mail, please fill out the form & enclose your check made out to: St. Mary's School 64 Amherst Avenue Ticonderoga, NY 12883 NAME ADDRESS Phone.

We need your support more than ever!



Relax this summer with your subscription to the I North Country Catholic, The newspaper for the Diocese of Ogdensburg Parish

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CELEBRATION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Photos by Jesse Sovie & Darcy Fargo







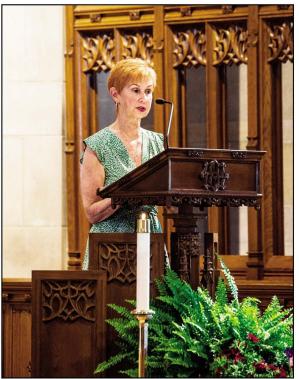


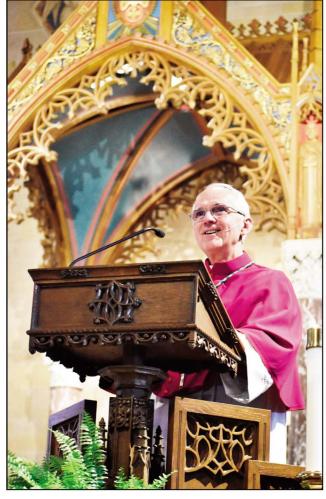








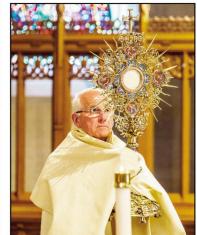


















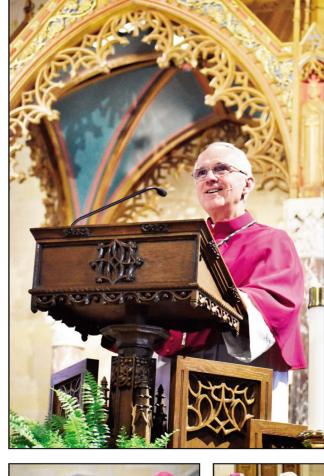


















Environmental Stewardship

More care for creation

We express our thanks for all God's gifts as our care for them becomes part of all we do in our daily lives just as we know God is always, at every moment, caring for and loving us. Here are a few more suggestions to which even more can be added by you.

REUSE/RECYCLE/DONATE

- Eyeglasses and cases at an optician's offices
- Usable clothing at St.Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, local fundraising efforts or reselling through garage sales and internet sites
- Collection boxes that can be found at various sites around the counties for textiles, shoes and leather items no longer usable
- Used printer ink cartridges are accepted at most office supply stores, can be returned to the manufacturer or be refilled
- Appliances in good working order, furniture, household goods and tools can be donated for local use
- Water house/garden plants with water used to rinse fruits and vegetables

OTHER CLIMATE HELPERS

- Grow your own vegetables or buy from local growers
- In unmowed areas, plant native wildflowers and other bird, butterfly, pollinator friendly plants
- Do not use garden/yard chemi-
- Choose electronic delivery of business statements, magazines, newspapers and monthly bills
- Inquire about leaving current but finished print magazines in nursing homesand office waiting areas

SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

• Local ecology groups and colleges, church bulletins and your neighbors as well as nysar3.org, recycleacrossamerica.org and epa.gov **PEOPLE**

• Our most important resources are people, those around the world as well as those in our own community. Anything done to protect and sustain environmental resources is a benefit to all. We need to continue to educate ourselves in this world of constant change, to gratefully share what we know and what we have with openness, kindness and generosity.

Valleyfield Bishop visits St. Regis Mission



RJ DOLLY MCDONALD/FOR THE NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

Pictured after confirmation at St. Regis Mission Church are, from left, Father Jerome Pastores, Tobilee Marie Roundpoint, Most Reverend Bishop Noel Simard Diocese of Valleyfield, Christopher James Cook and Ryder Sunday.

Rest in Peace

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

July 20 — Rev. Francis Leo Desrosiers, 1956; Rev. Gerald F. Mc-Grath, 2016

July 21 — Msgr. John H. O'Neill, 1938

July 23 — Rev. Pierre Casenave, 0.M.I., 1884; Rev. Francis J. Casey, 0.S.A., 1958

July 24 – Rev. George Burque, 1897; Rev. James Joseph Gainor, 1946; Rev. Bartholemew Aloysius O'Connell, 1963; Rev. Henry Wilcott, 1965; Rev. Francis Edic, 0.F.M.Conv., 1975

July 25 — Rev. Simon Wallace, M.S.C., 1941

July 26 – Rev. J. Owen Barry, O.S.A., 1978

July 27 – Rev. John B. Chappel, M.S.C, 1884; Rev. Matthew J. Sweeney, 1935; Rev. Daniel A. Harron, O.S.A., 1942; Rev. Harold J. P. McCabe, 1976; Rev. Daniel F. Lyddy,

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,

Aug. 2 — Rev. Zephyrin Jutras,

Bishop's Public Schedule

July 23 – 11 a.m. – Sisters of St. Joseph Jubilee Mass at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Watertown

July 24 – 8:15 a.m. – Mass at St. Martin's Church in Port Leyden 10 a.m. – Mass at St. Mary's

Church in Constableville

July 25 — Noon — Mass at St.

Mary's Cathedral

July 26 – 9:45 a.m. – Episcopal Council Meeting at Bishop's Residence

July 27 – 11 a.m. – Bishop's Day of Reflection with His Deacons at St. Andre Bessette Roman Catholic Parish in Malone (at Notre Dame Church)

July 28 – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

July 29 – 10 a.m. – Gathering of the Diocesan Prison Chaplains at Bishop's Residence followed by lunch

July 30 — 4 p.m. — Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

July 31 – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Agnes Church in Lake Placid 10 a.m. – Mass at St. Agnes

Church in Lake Placid

in Vermont

August 2 – 10 a.m. – Mass and Annual Pilgrimage with the Catholic Daughters of America to St. Anne's Shrine at Isle La Motte

August 3 – 5 p.m. – Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Patrick's Parish Center in Port Henry

By Dr. RJ Dolly McDonald

St. Regis Mission Communications Liaison

ST.REGIS – St. Regis Mission Church hosted its 2022 confirmation with Bishop Noel Simard of the Diocese of Valleyfield on Sunday June 12.

Confirmandi included Ryder Sunday, Christopher James Cook and Tobilee Marie Roundpoint.

The confirmation was part of a pastoral visit from Bishop Simard, which also included a gathering with St. Regis Mission lay leaders, ministers and members of the Mission Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils.

The culminated with a luncheon hosted at the Tsi

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults.

Pre-registration online is required.
Participants may preregister at
www.virtus.org.

Upcoming sessions: **Aug. 17** – 6 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

Aug. 18 – 1 p.m., St. James Minor Church, Carthage

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; terrianneyanulavich@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 Serv**ice at 800-276-1562 or www.ReportBishopAbuse.org.

Snaihne Recreation Center

Bishop Simard shared with the representatives gathered, an update on the Pope Francis "Synod on Synodality."

The Synod on Synodality is a two-year process that Pope Francis began last October. Officially known as "Synod 2021-2023: For a Synodal Church," the Synod is a process that allows bishops to consult with Catholics – parishioners to priests – in a spirit of collaboration and openness.

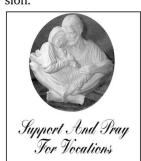
Bishop Noel Simard closed the gathering by reporting on the greatly anticipated visit of Pope Francis to Canada in July.

The Vatican formally announced the visit by Pope Francis to Canada which will be from July 24 to 29.

Pope Francis will make three stops to sites of former Indian residential schools, in Edmonton, Quebec City and Igaluit.

The St. Regis Mission is hoping to charter a group of parishioners to attend the Papal visit when the date is confirmed.

For more information for anyone who might be interested in traveling to Quebec City for the papal visit, please contact the St. Regis Mission Rectory between Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 613-575-2753 or leave a message via the St. Regis Mission Facebook page at facebook.com/stregismission.



CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Pro-life leader: House bills 'promote extreme abortion agenda' WASHINGTON (CNS) — Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life, said that two abortion measures passed by the House July 15 "promote an extreme abortion agenda." In a mostly party-line vote of 219 to 210, House members approved an updated version of the Women's Health Protection Act, which would codify a right to abortion into federal law. An earlier version was passed in March by the House, but it failed in the Senate. The House also passed the Ensuring Access to Abortion Act, which would ban states from punishing those who travel out of state "for reproductive health care." This vote also was largely along party lines; the measure was approved in a 223-205 vote. March for Life "strongly opposes the extreme pro-abortion legislation on the House floor today," Mancini said in a statement issued ahead of the vote. She also called the Women's Health Protection Act "deceptively named." "These bills are designed to undermine and eliminate the states' rights to protect women and their unborn children through laws passed by their elected representatives, a right restored by the Supreme Court in the landmark Dobbs decision," she said. On June 24, in its Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision upholding a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks, the high court overturned 1973's Roe v. Wade, sending the abortion issue back to the states.

Indigenous traditions will be included in pope's Canada trip

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Francis travels to Canada to apologize to Indigenous communities for the way the Catholic Church joined efforts to uproot them from their traditional culture and spirituality, their traditions will be on full display. The First Nation, Métis and Inuit people will welcome Pope Francis to their lands July 24-29 wearing their traditional dress, speaking their languages, performing their songs and dances and sharing elements of their traditional styles of prayer. Father Cristino Bouvette, a priest of the Archdiocese of Calgary, Alberta, has been working with the pope's master of liturgical ceremonies, Msgr. Diego Giovanni Ravelli, to plan the Masses and prayer services for the trip. Father Bouvette is Italian on his mother's side and Cree and Métis on his father's side. "For Indigenous Catholics to see the Holy Father welcomed to some place like Sacred Heart Church by having smudged the space first, or facing the four directions to offer his blessing — as simple as those gestures may seem - clearly demonstrates a sensitivity on his part to their traditions which, though outside of any particular Catholic expression of faith, are certainly not contrary to it," the priest said in an email response to questions.

Pope: Humanity has 'moral obligation' to fight climate change

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The care of the environment and the fight against climate change is not a lofty goal for humanity but a moral imperative, Pope Francis said. The worsening climate crisis can no longer be ignored, and it is up to all human beings, who were entrusted by God as "stewards of his gift of his creation," to act, the pope said in a message July 13 to participants at a Vatican conference on climate change. "Care for our common home, even apart from considerations of the effects of climate change, is not simply a utilitarian endeavor but a moral obligation for all men and women as children of God," the pope said. "With this in mind, each of us must ask: 'What kind of world do we want for ourselves and for those who will come after us?"

USCCB issues annual audit on compliance with charter by dioceses, eparchies

WASHINGTON (CNS) – The U.S. bishops' annual report on compliance with the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" shows that 2,930 victim survivors came forward with 3,103 allegations during the audit year of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

The number of allegations is 1,149 less than that reported in 2020, according to the audit report released July 12 by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection.

"This decrease is due in large part to the resolution of allegations received as a result of lawsuits, compensation programs, and bankruptcies," said a news release accompanying the report. "Of the allegations received, 2,284 (74%) were first brought to the attention of the diocesan/eparchial representative by an attorney."

The majority of allegations received were "historical in nature," meaning the alleged victim is now an adult and the abuse happened in years or decades past. During this audit year, there 30 were new allegations.

The report is based on the audit findings of StoneBridge Business Partners, a specialty consulting firm based in Rochester, New York. Also included in the report are results of a survey on allegations conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown.

The charter was adopted in 2002 by the U.S. bishops following widespread reports of clergy abuse and has been revised several times since to adapt to changing situations surrounding the question of clergy sexual abuse of minors. It was revised in 2005, 2011 and 2018.

Of the new allegations made by current minors, six were substantiated; nine are still under investigation; nine were unsubstantiated; five could not be proven; and one was referred to the provincial of a religious order.

"This year's audit, once again, shows that new cases of sexual misconduct by priests involving minors are rare today in the Catholic Church in the United States," Los Angeles Archbishop José Gomez, USCCB president, said in a preface to the report. He added that "every offender was removed from ministry. Every allegation was reported to law enforcement.

"As we know, one allegation of abuse is too many," he said, "But my brother bishops and I remain firmly committed to maintain our vigilance in protecting children and vulnerable adults and providing compassion and outreach to victim-survivors of abuse."

"On behalf of my brother bishops, I again want to express our sorrow and apologies to every person who has suffered at the hands of someone in the church. And again, we pledge our commitment to the healing of victim survivors and to doing everything in our power to protect children and vulnerable adults."

The report shows that

dioceses and eparchies provided outreach and support to 285 victim survivors and their families who reported an allegation during the audit period. Continued support was provided to 1,737 victim survivors who had reported in prior audit periods.

In 2021, the church conducted 1,964,656 background checks on clergy, employees and volunteers. In addition, over 2 million adults and over 2.4 million children and youth were trained in how to identify the warning signs of abuse and how to report those signs.

Data from CARA said the costs related to allegations for diocese and eparchies for fiscal year 2021 were: s e t t l e m e n t s , \$118,516,493; other payments to victims, \$13,103,280; support for offenders, \$9,972,414; attorneys' fees, \$45,597,100; and other costs, \$6,930,931.

The grand total of costs was \$194,120,218. This figure is 38% less – or \$117,860,448 less – than the grand total of \$311,980,666 for fiscal year 2020.

"Six-tenths of the payments made by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, were for settlements to victims (61%) and almost a quarter of the total cost is for attorney's fees (23%)," CARA said.

Despite restrictions experienced due to the pandemic, elements included in the charter audit process conducted by StoneBridge Business Partners, were not altered:

ADIRONDACK

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.

CLINTON

FOUNDATION DAY

Ellenburg Center — Join for a festive celebration of Foundation Day at Our Lady of the Adirondacks.

Date: Aug. 13

Schedule: 9:30 a.m., Welcome and coffee; 10 a.m. Guest Speaker Mary Beth Bracy, from Holy Cross Parish, Plattsburgh, who will share thoughts on her blessed vocation in Christ; Special Music with Permelia (Perry) Provost; 11 a.m., Celebration of Sat Morning Mass with Bishop Terry R. LaValley; Noon, Luncheon

Features: We remember, with gratitude, Fr. Joseph Trombley and all whose joy in Christ led to the establishment of this treasured 'listening' House. "Listen to Him!" the Holy Spirit states. "Do as He tells you," our Blessed Mother says. All are welcome!

Contact: Please call 518-534-9976 (Sarah) or 518-594-3253 (House) to indicate how many will be joining us for lunch!

APPLEFEST

Peru – The 44 Annual St. Augustine's Applefest to be held.

Date: Sept. 17

Schedule: Craft fair at 10 a.m., community parade at 11 a.m., Chicken BBQ at 1:30 p.m.

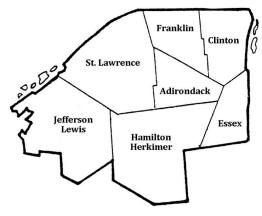
Place: St. Augustine's Church Features: Food, games, and raffles.

HOUSE SITTERS

Ellenburg Center — Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer is looking for many Volunteer "House Sitters".

Time: The responsibility is to arrive by 10 a.m. on your chosen day(s) and remain on premises until 4 p.m. to welcome visitors.

Features: Lunch and snack items on hand along with tea, coffee, soda, and bottled water. Training will be provided on the history of the House of Prayer, its mission, and the various ways to carry out this gentle ministry of hospitality for those seeking time in a home



The North County 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.

of Mary to listen to our Lord, browse in the library, or visit the "Gift Shop". Flexible schedule (and hours) are fine.

Contact: If interested in volunteering for one day a month, or week, or more, please call Sarah Anderson at 518-534-9976.

FRANKLIN

GIGANTIC YARD SALE

Brushton — St. Mary's to have a gigantic yard sale.

Schedule: July 22, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; July 23, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Features: Nice variety of items, good prices. Have lunch, enjoy our famous Michigans, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and food sale items.

DEVOTION AND HOLY HOUR

St. Regis Falls — All are invited to the monthly first Saturday Devotion and Holy Hour for Vocations.

Date: First Saturday of the Month **Time:** Following the 4:30 anticipated Mass

Place: St. Ann's Church

Features: Prayer after Mass, Night Prayer, Prayer for All Souls and the Holy Souls, Novena in Honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, The Reparation Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the Tabernacle, and Prayers for the Holy Father and his intentions.

JEFFERSON

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: Aug. 7

Time: Following 11 a.m. Mass Place: St. Hedwig's Church Contact: 315-348-6260

ST. LAWRENCE

HOLY HOUR

Canton — Holy Hour for Vocations to be held.

Date: Every Tuesday
Time: 4:10 p.m.
Place: St. Mary's Church
Features: Holy hour followed by
Mass at 5:15 p.m. and confessions at

5:45 p.m.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

Canton — Rosary for life to be held. **Date:** Every Saturday

Time: 4:25 p.m. preceding the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass

Place: St. Mary's Church

ROSARY WITH DEVOTIONS

Ogdensburg — The Legion of Mary will pray the rosary with devotions for First Saturday.

Date: Aug. 6 Time: 8 a.m.

Place: Notre Dame Church, Ogdens-

urg

Features: Rosary with devotions

FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

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

Date: Aug. 6 **Time:** 3:15 p.m.

Features: First Saturday Rosary De-

votion to OUR Lady of Fatima. Confessions will be available. Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 p.m.

PICNIC AND CELEBRATION

Massena — Parish picnic to be held along with the celebration of Fr. Mark Reilly's 25th Anniversary of the Priesthood.

Date: Aug. 7

Time: Noon, following the 11 a.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: Everyone is welcome! There will be lots of food (featuring a pig roast from Pig and Moo BBQ), games for children (and adults, too!), great company and conversation and loads of fun for all!

Contact: We ask that if you plan to attend, please contact the parish office at 315-769-2469 and let us know how many are coming, so we can properly plan for the food.

MONTHLY BRUNCH

Norfolk — Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond's will have their monthly Knights of Columbus Brunch.

Date: Aug. 14 (Second Sunday of each month)

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$10; under 12, \$5; under 5, Free; Omelets, add \$3; Takeouts available

Contact: For more information contact Grand Knight Gil Gonthier 315-212-5166.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

150th ANNIVERSARY MASS

Ogdensburg - To give praise and glory to the Lord for the One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, His Excellency, The Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, cordially invites all the faithful to a special Eucharistic Celebration of Thanksgiving.

Date: Aug. 10 Time: 1 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Cathedral Features: Picnic to follow on the Cathedral lawn. For those unable to attend, Mass will be livestreamed at www.rcdony.org/livemass.

FAMILY GUGGENHEIM

Saranac Lake — Online registration is now open for Family Guggenheim.

Date: Session 1 Aug. 18-21; Session 2 Aug. 25-28; Session 3 Oct. 7-9 **Place:** Guggenheim

Cost: Visit www.rcdony.org/family-life/fg for more information

Features: Family Guggenheim welcomes families of all dimensions to come enjoy a special weekend in the beauty of the Adirondacks. Expect fun family workshops and activities that will have you working and laughing together. Celebrate Christ's presence in your lives through liturgy (often outside) and special prayer services. Take time for great outdoor activities like paddle boat rides, beach volleyball, and hiking. You are never too young or too old to enjoy being family at Camp Guggenheim!

Contact: For more information, please contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Saranac Lake — After Abortion Healing weekend to be held.

Date: Sept. 2-4

Place: Guggenheim Center **Features:** If you (or a friend) are

Features: If you (or a Triend) are suffering after an abortion, you're not alone. Consider participating in the next Rachel's Vineyard retreat. The weekend will be held at the main camp to provide more social distancing. Each retreatant will have their own room. Open to women and men. Don't suffer alone. Help is available.

Contact: Registration is online at rcdony.org/pro-life or contact the Respect Life office 518-524-0774 or cminer@rcdony.org

MARRIED AND RELIGIOUS JUBILEE 2022

Ogdensburg — We invite all families to join us at the annual Married and Religious Jubilee.

Date: Sept. 11 **Time:** 2:30 p.m. **Place:** St. Mary's Cathedral

Features: Bishop LaValley will be presiding. Whether you have been married for less than 1 year, over 50 years, or anything in between, we want to acknowledge your commitment and celebrate with you. There will be a gathering with refreshments after the

Contact: Married couples that wish to receive a certificate signed by Bishop LaValley and have their names appear in the program should register no later than Sept. 2nd at https://www.rc-dony.org/family-life/jubileereg.html. For more information please contact Steve Tartaglia at 315-393-2920 or startaglia@rcdony.org.

AT THE MOVIES

THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER

NEW YORK (CNS) - Tongue-in-cheek humor paces the vivid action in "Thor: Love and Thunder" (Disnev), the third direct seguel to the Marvel Comics-based franchise's 2011 original.

While it makes for an aesthetically satisfying extension of the saga, however, the film pushes the series' previous boundaries in a number of ways, making it unsuitable for any but grown moviego-

Via the script he wrote with Jennifer Kaytin Robinson, returning director Taika Waititi, who helmed the previous outing, presents the Norse deity of the title (Chris Hemsworth) with a formidable new adversary, Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale). A disillusioned former believer in the divinities of paganism, Gorr has obtained a magical sword capable of slaying them and has launched a killing spree targeting them.

(Tessa Thompson), the sovereign of New Asgard, and another of his sidekicks, Korg (voice of Waititi), an anthropomorphized pile of rocks, to stop the villain. But his crusade takes an unexpected detour when he's reunited with his true love, Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), a human astrophysicist who now turns up as his female alter ego, wielding his trademark hammer.

Thor's romance with Jane has been hampered by his fear of commitment in the past and continues to be hobbled by his amusingly excessive emotional neediness and endless desire for affirmation. Waititi and Robinson also garner laughs with material satirizing the series itself.

However, while some of the picture's underlying values – exalting teamwork and the importance of enduring relationships - are

Father Tadeusz

Pacholczyk

Ph.D.

In response, Thor rallies Valkyrie straightforward enough, others range from the complex to the downright murky. What are viewers to make, for example, of early scenes showing the futility of Gorr's faith, depicting humans as the playthings of the gods and denying the afterlife?

> If all this applies only to the imaginary immortals of the ancient world, fair enough. But is the audience meant to apply Gorr's bitter lesson to religion more broadly? The wrap-up eventually mitigates Gorr's nihilism but not so decisively as to relieve moviegoers of the need to interpret his experience carefully.

> The screenplay also includes some problematic elements of gender-bending and homosexuality. Thus Valkyrie, a lesbian, is referred to as the King, rather than the Queen of New Asgard.

Thor's buff physique has long been both a drawing card and a

subject of jokes for the franchise. Here, though, the comedy surrounding it veers briefly into bawdiness.

All told, this latest visit to the Marvel Cinematic Universe cannot be endorsed even for mature teens. That's a shame because, so long as it sticks to its real job of diverting popcorn-munching movie patrons, "Thor: Love and Thunder" succeeds quite well.

The film contains frequent bloodless but sometimes intense battle violence, fleeting rear male nudity, some sexual humor, references to lesbianism, about a halfdozen mild oaths, several crude terms and at least one crass expression.

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.

A great nation begins to come to its senses

Houston, I had the opportunity to speak at a religious liberty conference about transgender issues, homosexuality and contraception. The conference happened to open on the same day that the Dobbs decision overturning Roe vs. Wade was released by the Supreme

There was a noticeable "buzz" in the air because of the Court's decision. Whenever a speaker would mention the ruling, spontaneous applause would erupt from the audience. Young and middle-aged conference attendees, most of whom had grown up with Roe vs. Wade, couldn't recall a time in their lives when abortion-on-demand had not been legal in all states. There was a strong sentiment that because of the decision, we had

as a society, with an onerous weight finally being lifted from the conscience of the nation.

Abortion-on-demand was the law of our land

for nearly a halfcentury, ending the lives of more than 63 million vulnerable unborn humans. Because of judicial brute force for five decades, the moral sense and reasoning ability of many citizens was weakened. with many Americans growing ac-

customed to the ongoing practice. A number of other nations also legalized abortion, following our troublesome lead.

This historic reversal by the Supreme Court has myriad implications. People are stirring again and

This past weekend in reached a turning point beginning to ponder their profitable enterprise of complalongstanding cency. Many are starting to ask how a country professing "liberty and justice for all" could tice could enshrine killing on such a

> colossal scale. Other nations are re-examining their policies. The jolt from the court's decision is also prompting questions about the enormous sums of American taxpayer money that have been funneled into the cof-

> > of

the

abortion industry. We stand at a pivotal moment, a moment of reawakening, dialogue, conversion and renewal.

fers

This historic Dobbs decision has also sent shock waves through the abortion industry as it suddenly realizes that its

death is facing an existential threat in many states. Its forces are certain to intensify the relentless misinformation campaigns that have misled people for decades, relying on support from corporate America, Hollywood, and the media. Those same forces have already shown that they will not hesitate to gin up noisy, and sometimes violent, protests around country.

With the Court's decision, a first and important first step has taken place. What Dobbs did, as noted on the first page of the decision, was to leave abortion policy "to the people and their elected representatives.'

Now that the Court has assumed a neutral position on the issue, and state or federal legislatures can enact measures to protect moms and their unborn children at any stage of pregnancy, the door has finally been opened to protect human life by revamping and strengthening state and local laws.

As new legal initiatives made possible by Dobbs begin appearing on state legislative dockets, Americans will have an opportunity to mount a full court press to bring abortion to an end in their home states. Bold legislators, courageous governors and informed voters will need to work to-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Considering prayer

today, we find how powerful is the righteousness

of only a few people in saving a city, a nation, or even the whole world from destruction.

This is why prayer is so important to save the darkness, fear, and division of our own troubled world.

Whitmore In the second reading, the power of our prayer is again emphasized.

Monsignor

Paul E.

Only a few people can make such a tremendous difference.

Today's Gospel from Luke urges us not to refuse the request of a neighbor in need. Last

In our first reading Sunday's Gospel expands on our narrow perceptions of just who "neigh-

> bor" includes. We all struggle with that question. With solemn promises, God assures us to ask Him, to knock at His door.

> He always answers our prayers in a manner this is best for us.

> He is our powerful and loving Father.

Sometimes the answer is no, but something better will come. That takes so much faith and trust!

So many people no longer believe in this loving God, much less in praying to Him daily. It takes perseverance in our

July 24

After all, it's God's world. With all the dangers of the COVID pandemic and dominance of dictators with their lust for power, all the hunger and poverty among the nations, our job is to be ambassadors for God's love and care.

bers, but all through the centuries, He has always been dependent on a faithful remnant to accomplish His Will.

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time

READINGS Genesis 18:2032 Colossians 2-14 Luke 11:1-13

times.

the needed

We are so few in num-

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CALLED TO SERVE

Luggage carts

Deacon

Kevin Mastellon

house recently.

Someday is the shortened version of, "I'll get around to doing that someday."

With the help of my able assistant Jack, who happens to be one of my grandsons. I started the noble attack of the dreaded honeydo list that has plagued me for about a decade.

Granted, some of the debris that removal. repositioning, repair

or replacement, is the product of my own doing. Like the perfectly good bi-fold door set that we removed from a downstairs room in 1975 and stored in the attic of our house since.

"It is a perfectly good set of doors," I remember commenting to my bride at the time. "Let's hold onto them. I'm sure we will have a use for them!"

I couldn't believe it took three days recently before someone rescued the door set from in front of my house. Hopefully the new owners will find a suitable use for them.

The attic of the house, the scene of our initial foray, held other treasure.

There was the accumulated luggage. We do travel a bit. Not nearly as much as we used to. So, luggage is a necessary item. Ten bags of various sizes and shapes may be a little over the top. We tend to use soft bags for short stays and more stable luggage for longer trips. However, we do like the luggage with wheels that allows you to drag the bag rather than carry it.

Just about anything that fit the carry category has found a new home in a thrift shop.

Speaking of drag, the attic held a surprise when I found the collapsible luggage cart that I used a cou-

Someday came to my ple of decades ago to haul texts books to and from Wadhams Hall for deacon formation classes. Come to think of it, I believe that cart

> was my introduction to bungee cords too. Can't part with that.

One corner of the attic held a collection of toys that were my daughter's when she was little. Most of the items were Barbie doll furniture and Sesame Street vehicles. We found a

bunch of little wooden Sesame Street characters. too - Big Bird, Grover, Oscar the Grouch, among others. We found Bert but alas, Ernie is among the missing. All that stuff found suitable homes where little people can enjoy them in future years.

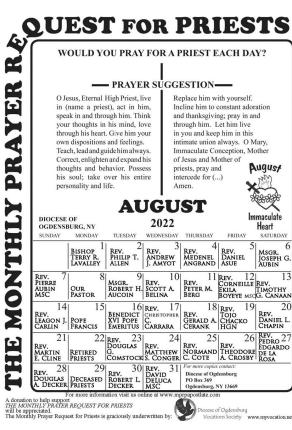
There was a perfectly fine, in fact pristine, highchair that will be put to good use by someone someday. There is a wonderful crib too but I'm sure the wooden crib would not pass current regulations, since the slats are too far apart and the side drops down... apparently a no-no in our current conscious-

This just gives you a taste of what Jack and I found in the attic. We are not really done but our efforts did prompt Jack to say, "it looks pretty good up here, Pop!" That is like get-ting an "A" on your report card.

We still have the end of July and all of August to work on the list. One item checked but plenty to go.

It sure beats putting your feet up and reading a book. Not.

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



OBITUARIES

Bombay – Dean M. Yaddow, 85; Mass of Christian Burial July 8, 2022 at St. Mary's Church.

Canton – James F. Barry III, 75; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Canton – John B. Bessette, 60; Mass of Christian Burial July 8, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in parish Cemetery.

Canton – Louise Mary Shaw, 90; Funeral Services July 7, 2022 at the Lawrence Funeral Home; burial in Fairview Cemetery.

Champlain — Germain C. Suprenant, 93; Mass of Christian Burial July 12, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Chateaugay — Rita Mary Dudak Dwyer, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 1, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Dannemora — Anita (Bergevin) O'Neill, 95; Mass of Christian Burial July 11, 2022 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Saranac.

Gouverneur — Patricia (Rumble) Hilts, 76; Mass of Christian Burial July 14, 2022 at St. James Church; burial in Old St. James Cemetery. **Hopkinton** – Lawrence J. Mitchell, Jr., 83; Mass of Christian Burial July 11, 2022 at Holy Cross Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Potsdam.

Keeseville – James Henry Mc-Cormick, 93; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2022 at Church of the Immaculate Conception; burial in parish cemetery.

Keeseville – Lori A. McLean, 63; Graveside Services July 12, 022 at St. John's Cemetery.

Lake Placid — Gertrude Winifred Lamb, 93; Mass of Christian Burial July 7, 2022 at St. Agnes Church; burial in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Lowville – Beverly Katheryn (Rogers) Hardie, 83; Funeral Services July 7, 2022 at Iseneker Funeral Home Home, Inc.

Malone – John B. Connors, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 18, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena — Phyllis (LaFlesh) St. Amand, 89; Mass of Christian Burial July 6, 2022 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Mooers Forks — Robert E. Rabideau, 77; Mass of Christian Burial July 7, 2022 at St. Anne's Church; burial in parish cemetery. Morrisonville – Barbara Lawliss Monto, 75; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2022 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Newcomb – Lorraine Lumbra Austin, 89; Funeral Services July 14, 2022 at St. Isidore Cemetery, Montgomery Center, VT.

Ogdensburg – Cora Louise Mary (Dings) Joanette, 82; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg – Dalton "Jerry" Miller, 77; Mass of Christian Burial July 13, 2022 at Notre Dame Church.

Ogdensburg — Troy M. Taylor, 47; Funeral Services July 8, 2022 at Fox & Murray Funeral Home.

Ogdensburg – Gary E.Thompson, 84; Mass of Christian Burial July 11, 2022 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Foxwood Memorial Park.

Plattsburgh – Edward William Graf, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2022 at Our Lady of Victory Church.

Plattsburgh — Angela (Tetreault) House, 84; Mass of Christian Burial July 8, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery. **Plattsburgh** – Robert J. Peryea, 69; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2022 at St. John's Church; burial in Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Paul Don Sansone, 80; Mass of Christian Burial July 13, 2022 at St. Peter's Church.

Plattsburgh — Travis Skelly, 41; Mass of Christian Burial July 18, 2022 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh – Helen A. Whalen, 94; Mass of Christian Burial July 16, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in

Redford – Thomas Walter Petrashune, 91; Mass of Christian Burial July 8, 2022 at Assumption of Mary Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery, Lyon Mountain.

Rossie – Marjorie Ann (Campbell) McCullouch, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 9, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Saranac Lake – Louise Mary (Branch) Wilcox, 92; Mass of Christian Burial July 7, 2022 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Waddington – Ann M. (Shoen) Ruddy, 70; Funeral Services July 13, 2022 at the Phillips Memorial Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery. **Watertown** – A. Eileen (Leonard) Bleibtrey, 96; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2022 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – William L. Gillette, 80; Mass of Christian Burial July 16, 2022 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Angela A. (Derrigo) Howard, 2; Mass of Christian Burial July 12, 2022 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Jennie E. (Crupi) Liberatore, 100; Mass of Christian Burial to be held.

Watertown – Mary Lou (Marzolf) McDonald, 88; Graveside Services July 18, 2022 at Glenwood Cemetery.

Watertown – Julia Gallo Pecori, 72; Funeral Services July 11, 2022 at D.L. Calarco Funeral Home.

Watertown – Anne Marie (Vande-Woestyne) Seegebarth, 59; Mass of Christian Burial July 23, 2022 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

Watertown – Agnes T."Timmie" White, 91; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2022 at Holy Family Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

A great nation begins to come to its senses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13 gether.

Steven Mosher of the Population Research Institute offers some helpful recommendations:

"In states that do not yet ban abortion, we must work with pro-life state legislators to protect all human lives. Where a complete ban is not possible, we must advocate for Heartbeat legislation, that will prevent all abortions after six weeks, understanding

that this is only a way station on the way to a complete ban.... At the local level, talk to your councilman county supervisor about making the place where you live a sanctuary for the unborn. Outlawing abortion within city or county limits is possible even in hostile states like New York or California if you happen to live in the more socially conservative parts of these states. Even closer to home, sup-

port your local crisis pregnancy centers, whose services will now be more in demand than ever before from young women who have nowhere else to turn.... Volunteer if you can, donate if you can't.

The years of dedicated work that have gone into educating people about the harsh realities surrounding abortion, setting up crisis pregnancy centers, drafting pro-life legislation and electing

pro-life candidates has created critical momentum for definitively enacting pro-life laws and securing the human rights of unborn children the country, around state-by-state, instead of having such initiatives almost continually enjoined by courts. We should all have a renewed sense of hope and determination as a great nation once again comes to its senses in the face of abortion's longstanding

injustice and violence.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org and www.fathertad.com.

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AUGUST 10

AT SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL, OGDENSBURG

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