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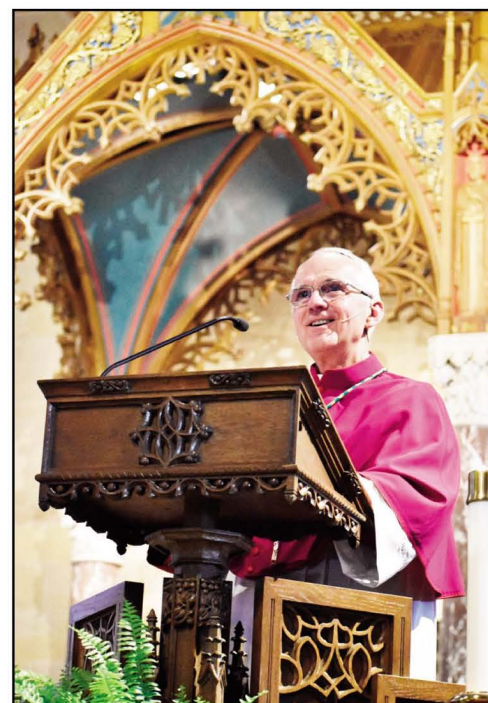
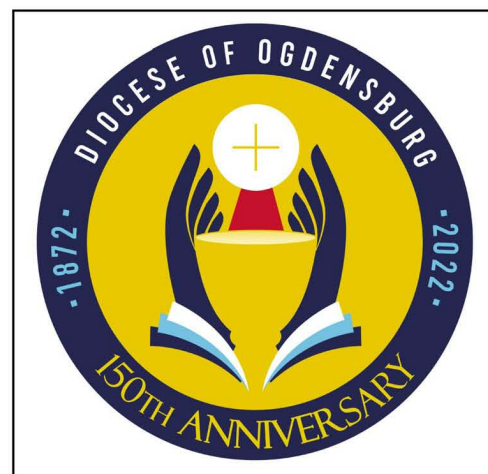
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The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 77 Number 15

# NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

AUGUST 3, 2022

## CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



NORTH  
COUNTRY  
CATHOLIC

Box 326

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

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Editor &amp;

Communications Director



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# 150 YEARS: REMEMBER, RENEW, REJOICE

On February 16, 1872, Pope Pius IX separated the northern portion of New York from the Diocese of Albany with the following declaration:

FOR FUTURE REMEMBRANCE. Whatever can turn out well, prosperously, and happily for Catholics, that we hasten to do, in keeping with Our Pastoral duty. Therefore, as soon as Our Venerable Brother, the Archbishop of New York, in the United States of North America, and all the other Bishops of that Ecclesiastical Province explained to Us that it would be of great profit to Christianity if the Diocese of Albany, which covers a vast territory, would be divided by the erection of another Episcopal See, We referred the matter to Our Venerable Brethren, the Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church who are in charge of matters pertaining to the Propagation of the Faith; after all the circumstances had been carefully and attentively weighed, we clearly realized that an increase in the number of Shepherds would be for the better interests of the Lord's flock and so we decided in favor of the proposed erection of a new Episcopal See. Since this decision is in conformity with the advice of the aforementioned Venerable Brethren, We, with definite knowledge, mature deliberation, and by our Apostolic Authority, in virtue of the present document, separate and sever from the Diocese of Albany the following territory - the counties of St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, Jefferson, Lewis, and Essex along with that part of the counties of Herkimer and Hamilton which lies to the north of Ohio and Russia; and this same territory we erect and

constitute - as a true and properly called diocese. It is our will that the Episcopal See of this new diocese be situated in the City of Ogdensburg where a church has already been established which can be used as the Cathedral and, therefore, that this diocese be named the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Furthermore, we decree that it be a suffragan see of the Archbishop of New York and that it have and enjoy individually and collectively the rights, privileges, honors, and prerogatives which other Episcopal Churches will enjoy and do enjoy. This we decree and order with the decision that this present document of Ours will be effective, valid, and efficacious and that it receive and obtain its full and complete effects and that, in all matters, in every way it completely support those to which it does pertain and will pertain according to circumstances in any way whatever, and that any contrary attempt made with regard to these matters by anyone with any authority whatever, wittingly or unwittingly, is null and invalid. Notwithstanding anything whatsoever to the contrary - whether a regulation of Ours or of the Papal Chancery about not removing a right that has been granted, or any law, general or special, whether Papal or passed in ecumenical or provincial or synodal councils or that of Our Predecessor of cherished memory, Benedict XN, concerning the division of material things.

# Congratulations

## Diocese of Ogdensburg

# 150

**1872-2022**

## Sisters of St. Joseph Watertown, NY

### Serving in the Diocese for 142 Years

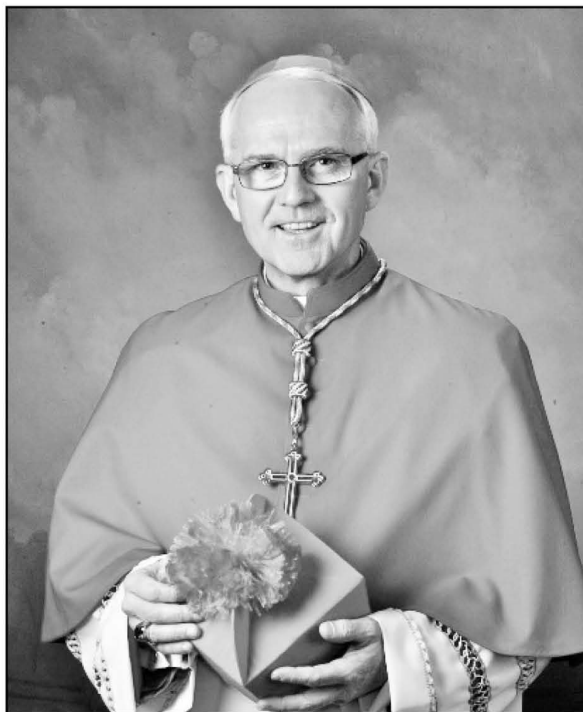
# SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK



## **Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams, DD** **First Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** May 5, 1872 to December 5, 1891  
**Motto:** "Iter Para Tutum," Prepare for a Safe Journey  
**Born:** May 21, 1817 in Lewis, New York  
**Died:** December 5, 1891

Edgar Prindle Wadhams was born in the town of Lewis to Brigadier-General Luman Wadhams and Lucy Bostwick Prindle Wadhams. Raised in an Episcopalian home, he enrolled in the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in New York City in 1840. After being ordained a deacon in that denomination, he converted to Catholicism and sought ordination in the Diocese of Albany. On January 10, 1850, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John McCloskey of that diocese.



## **Bishop Terry R. LaValley, DD, JCL** **14th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** April 30, 2010 to the present  
**Motto:** "Follow Me"  
**Born:** March 26, 1956

Bishop LaValley, the second of six children of Ronald (deceased) and Doris LaValley, is a native of Mooers Forks and was raised in St. Ann's Parish. He completed his primary and secondary education at Mooers Central in Mooers and Northeastern Clinton Central School in Champlain. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of the State of New York and a Certificate of Studies in Philosophy from Wadhams Hall Seminary-College. Prior to his entrance into Wadhams Hall Seminary-College in January 1983, Bishop LaValley served a six-year tour of duty with the United States Navy. He completed the Pre-Theology Program at Wadhams Hall in May 1984 and received his Master of Divinity degree from Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora in May 1988. He was ordained to the Diaconate on February 27, 1988, and to the Priesthood on September 24, 1988 by Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana.



## **Bishop Henry Gabriels, DD** **2nd Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** May 5, 1892 to April 23, 1921  
**Motto:** "In Virtute Dei," In the Strength of God  
**Born:** October 6, 1838 in Wannegem-Lede, Belgium  
**Died:** April 23, 1921



## **Bishop Joseph H. Conroy, DD, LLD** **3rd Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** January 18, 1921 to March 20, 1939  
**Motto:** "Dominus Confortabit," The Lord Will Comfort  
**Born:** November 8, 1858 in Watertown  
**Died:** March 20, 1939



St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus 7273 in Peru, NY congratulates the Diocese of Ogdensburg on reaching its 150th Anniversary. We thank Most Rev. Terry R. LaValley and all his predecessors for their longstanding encouragement and support.

We also thank the *North Country Catholic* for bringing the message of Christ and His Church to the North Country.



**Bishop Francis J. Monaghan, DD, LLD**  
**4th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** May 2, 1939 to November 13, 1942  
**Motto:** "Dominus Praeceptor," The Lord is my Teacher  
**Born:** October 30, 1890 in Newark, New Jersey  
**Died:** November 13, 1942



**Bishop Bryan J. McEntegart, DD, LLD**  
**5th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** August 10, 1943 to August 18, 1953  
**Motto:** "Estote Factore Verbi," Be Doers of the Word  
**Born:** January 5, 1893 in Brooklyn  
**Died:** September 30, 1968



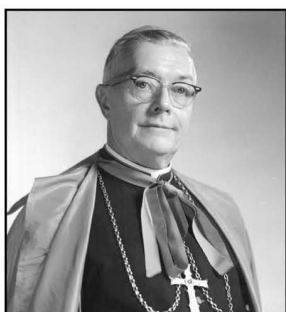
**Bishop Walter P. Kellenberg, DD**  
**6th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** March 25, 1954 to May 26, 1957  
**Motto:** "Regina Verte Lumina,"  
 Queen Guide Me By Thy Light  
**Born:** June 3, 1901 in Bronx  
**Died:** January 11, 1986



**Bishop James J. Navagh, DD**  
**7th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** June 14, 1957 to May 8, 1963  
**Motto:** "Ipsam Cogitans Non Eras,"  
 Meditating on Mary, You Err Not  
**Born:** April 4, 1901 in Buffalo  
**Died:** October 2, 1965



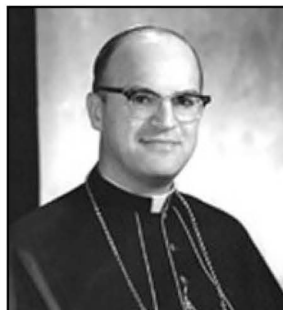
**Bishop Leo R. Smith, PHD, JCD**  
**8th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** May 13, 1963 to October 9, 1963  
**Motto:** "Ne Cesset Mater Manus Tua,"  
 Mother, May Your Hands Never Fail Me  
**Born:** August 31, 1905 in Attica  
**Died:** October 9, 1963



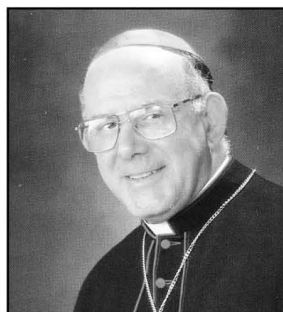
**Bishop Thomas A. Donnellan, JCD**  
**9th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** April 13, 1964 to July 14, 1968  
**Motto:** "Ministrare Non Ministrari,"  
 To Serve and Not Be Served  
**Born:** January 24, 1914 in Bronx  
**Died:** October 15, 1987



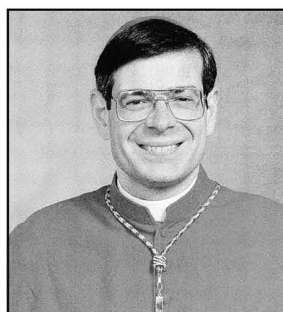
**Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana, STD, LLD**  
**10th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** October 22, 1968 to November 11, 1993  
**Motto:** "Deus Caritas Est," God is Love  
**Born:** July 7, 1917 in Buffalo  
**Died:** March 1, 1997



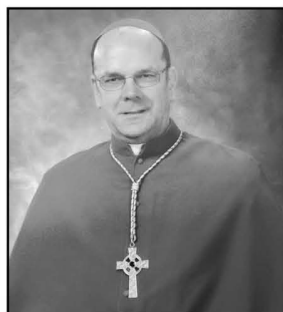
**Bishop Paul S. Loverde, DD, STL**  
**11th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** January 17, 1994 to January 25, 1999  
**Motto:** "Encourage and Teach with Patience"  
**Born:** September 30, 1940 in Framingham, Massachusetts  
**Currently:** Retired on October 4, 2016  
 as Bishop of Arlington, Virginia



**Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito, DD, JCL**  
**12th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** January 7, 2000 to July 1, 2003  
**Motto:** "Veritatem Facientes In Caritas,"  
 Let Us Profess The Truth in Love  
**Born:** January 4, 1950 in Brooklyn  
**Currently:** Bishop of Palm Springs, Florida



**Bishop Robert J. Cunningham, DD, JCL**  
**13th Bishop of Ogdensburg**

**Dates served:** May 18, 2004 to April 21, 2009  
**Motto:** "Ecclesia Mater Nostra," The Church Our Mother  
**Born:** June 18, 1943 in Buffalo  
**Currently:** Retired June 4, 2019  
 as Bishop of Syracuse

**Msgr. Charbonneau**

**Council 259**

**wish to congratulate the  
Diocese of Ogdensburg  
on the occasion of their  
150th anniversary.**

**We are proud to be a  
service to the Diocese for  
the past 125 years!**



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

BISHOP DOUGLAS J. LUCIA  
AND BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT J. CUNNINGHAM  
ALONG WITH THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS  
AND LAYPEOPLE OF THE  
DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE  
EXTEND THEIR CONGRATULATIONS AND  
PRAYERFUL GOOD WISHES TO  
THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG  
ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

# RELIGIOUS ORDERS: GIVING LOVE, HEALING, EDUCATION

By **Mary Beth Bracy**  
Contributing Writer

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, it is a joy to recognize the invaluable contribution of the many dedicated religious who have served from our earliest days to the present. Their dauntless service in education, healthcare, and pastoral work have fortified our Church and blessed the lives of the faithful in a myriad of ways. This begins a series of articles which provide glimpses at the expanse of their impact – yesterday, today, and going forward.

## HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In 1863, the Grey Nuns of Ottawa, Ontario (Canada), were invited to establish a school at the Ford mansion in Ogdensburg. They operated the Academy of Notre Dame des Victoires for

girls, and a co-ed elementary school. Demand for parochial education grew, and Catholic schools sprung up in several areas of our diocese, including Mohawk Hill and Croghan. Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams was enthusiastic about bringing more religious to our diocese. In 1872, he arranged for the Clerks of Saint Viator to open a boys' school in Averill Hall, Ogdensburg. That same year, the Sisters of Mercy began a school in Malone.

Then, in 1874, the Augustinian Order came to Saint James Church in Carthage. The Franciscan Friars of the Order of Recollects Minor came to minister to the Germans in our diocese in 1877 and educated young boys interested in the priesthood. In 1878 Sisters of Saint Francis opened a convent school for girls. Following, in 1882, Missionary Sisters of Saint Francis began staffing a



Sisters of Mercy

parochial school in Redford. According to the book published in honor of our diocese's centennial, "At the close of the first decade of the diocese, there were 1,681 children in Catholic parish schools" ("A History of Catholicism in the North Country," Sister Mary Christine Taylor, S.S.J., Ph.D., pg. 34).

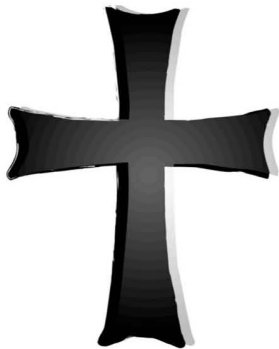
In addition to education, diocesan religious have cared for the sick and orphans. The Ogdensburg City Hospital and Orphan Asylum, run by the Grey Nuns, was incorporated in 1886. When D'Youville Academy in Plattsburgh celebrated its Silver Jubilee, 41,385 children had walked its halls. In 1887, a separate

school for boys was founded in Plattsburgh to help meet the needs of the numerous students, and it was operated by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Later, in 1897, the Sisters of Mercy's prayers were answered and they began caring for victims of tuberculosis when the Sanatorium at Gabriels was opened. Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart began ministering to those with tubercular cases at the extension of Ogdensburg Hospital that year.

Around 1900 our diocese had "187 religious women serving 3,400 children in the 16 parochial schools and caring for the 4 hospitals in the diocese" ("A History of Catholicism in the North Country," pg. 61). Sisters of the Holy Ghost came to staff a school in Tupper Lake in 1903. This same year the Brothers of Christian Instruction came to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

PROUD TO SERVE THE  
DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG  
AND JOIN IN  
CELEBRATING ITS  
150TH ANNIVERSARY



DIOCESAN FISCAL OFFICE

The Brothers of Council 291  
Congratulate Bishop LaValley  
and the Diocese of Ogdensburg for  
150 years of spiritual guidance for  
our North Country communities!

**Charity, Unity, Fraternity and  
Patriotism.**

Knights of Columbus  
Fr. John Cosmic  
Council #291



Carthage, NY

# Religious orders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

teach at Mount Assumption Insitute in Plattsburgh. In 1910, the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart began staffing the newly opened Champlain Valley Hospital. Many other orders served in our diocese over the years, including Marianite Sisters of the Cross, Pallotines, and Jesuits.

ORDERS SERVING IN OUR DIOCESE TODAY

## Sisters of Mercy

Sister Mary Camillus O'Keefe, RSM, Coordinator of the Sisters of Mercy (RSM), reflected upon their service in our diocese. "For over 100 years, the RSM have been extending love, healing and education to the people of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Our missions have extended compassionate care and teaching to all especially the poor, the sick, and the uneducated. As a result of many developments in the fields of education and health care, the Sisters have redirected their mission to meet the evolving needs of the people."

Their order, Sister Mary Camillus commented, labors both domestically and abroad.

"We serve in the diocese as members of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas whose membership includes the United States, South America, Central America, the Philippines, Guam and the Caribbean," she said. "Currently, there are seven RSM in the diocese. One is located in Saranac Lake, one in Plattsburgh, one in Watertown and four in Lake Placid."

The RSM have assisted in our diocese since its beginning 150 years ago.

"Our first mission in the diocese was in 1872 when we opened a school in Malone," Sister Mary Camillus recalled. "Over the years, sisters have served in schools in Malone, Hogansburg, Brasher Falls, Rouses Point, Lake Placid, Keeseville, Watertown, Brushton, Mohawk Hill, Chazy,

Saranac Lake, Ausable Forks, Plattsburgh, and Massena. In health care, the Mercy Sisters ministered in Gabriels, Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake, Watertown and Lake Placid. In Social Services, a Sister has served in Lake Placid."

They continue to minister to God's people in many ways. "Currently, a Mercy Sister is serving in Lake Placid in spiritual care. Another Sister serves as a volunteer tutor in Plattsburgh and the RSM sponsor and participate in addressing the needs of the elderly in the Adirondacks," Sister Mary Camillus recollected. "Our charism of Mercy has always sustained us as we use this special gift for the good of others."

## Missionaries

### of the Sacred Heart

Father Raymond Diesbourg, MSC, pastor of the Roman Catholic Community of Cape Vincent, Rosiere, and Chaumont, is superior of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC). He shared about the rich history of their order and charism.

"[We] are a community of priests and brothers founded in France in 1854 by Father Jules Chevalier, a priest of the Diocese of Bourges. He believed that if people truly knew the love of God, their lives would be changed. And so the goal or aim of the MSC is to help people experience and appreciate the love of God, especially as this love is revealed in the Heart of Jesus. Currently there are 1,566 men communicating God's love in over 50 countries."

"MSC first arrived in the Diocese of Ogdensburg from France via Montreal in 1876 to minister to French-speaking Catholics of the Watertown area," Father Diesbourg continued. "After purchasing a property on the north side of (Watertown) to be used as a community residence, the MSC then began to staff Our

Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish. Several years later a seminary building was added to the residence for the training of young men to become MSC priests and brothers. More French-speaking MSC came from Canada to assist in the growth of the community and its ministry."

The MSC reflect their devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their motto "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere!" Father Diesbourg explained, "That continues to sustain and inspire them to focus on God's love in whatever situation they find themselves. So in their preaching, counseling, teaching or any other ministry, they emphasize how much God's love can make a difference for people's lives. This same idea is expressed in Saint John's First Letter: 'We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us' (1 John 4:16)."

The impact of MSC in our diocese is significant.

"Since arriving in the diocese, some 85 MSC have worked in a variety of ministries," noted Father Diesbourg. "They have served as pastors and parochial vicars in the parishes of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and Saint Anthony's in Watertown, in Evans Mills, Theresa, Adams, Chaumont, LaFargeville, Cape Vincent, Rosiere, Rutland and most recently in Black River. They have been chaplains at Mercy Hospital (now Samaritan Medical Center), in several state prisons, for the Sisters of Saint Joseph Motherhouse, Gabriels' Sanatorium and at the Saint Lawrence Psychiatric Center in Ogdensburg. They have taught at Sacred Heart School and Immaculate Heart Central, both in Watertown, and served on the staff at Wadhams Hall in Ogdensburg."

Currently there are six MSC in the diocese. Two are retired and helping in parishes as senior priests,

Fathers Pierre Aubin and David DeLuca; three are serving as pastors and parochial vicar, Father Ray Diesbourg, Father Frank Natale and Father Joseph Kanimea; and Father Corneille Boyeye is a psychiatric center chaplain. The MSC have also participated as members of many different diocesan committees and commissions through the years.

Father Diesbourg added an interesting historical side note. "The first MSC pastor, Father Joseph Durin, in 1880 requested permission of Bishop Wadhams to bring three Sisters of Saint Joseph from Buffalo to start a French school at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish. The Bishop granted the request with the condition that the Sisters would withdraw in the event the MSC withdrew. Both religious orders are still here 142 years later, with no plans for either group to withdraw!"

## Sisters of Saint Joseph

Sister Shirley Anne Brown, major superior of the Sisters of Saint Joseph (SSJ), shared, "We currently number 35 members. The majority of our sisters are located at the Motherhouse in Watertown. From that location they minister at Immaculate Heart Central (IHC) High School and IHC Elementary School, Jefferson Community College, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church and Blessed Sacrament Parish, special education programs as well as outreach to Urban Mission, vocation work throughout the diocese and Faith and ecology groups throughout the diocese. We have sisters at Saint Mary's in Ticonderoga, Saint Mary's Cathedral in Ogdensburg, and the Chancery in Ogdensburg, Copenhagen and Carthage."

The SSJ were invited to our diocese soon after it was founded.

"[We] came to the diocese in 1880 under the sponsorship of the Missionaries of

the Sacred Heart. At their request, we were to begin schools to educate the youth. Our first schools were in Watertown, Carthage, Port Henry and AuSable Forks," Sister Shirley Anne explained. "As the only diocesan order, we are grateful to have served the mission of the diocese for 142 years of the 150 years that are being celebrated."

The reach of the SSJ and their service is nothing short of amazing. Sister Shirley Anne elaborated, "During our 142 years we have served at the wishes of the Bishop and the needs of the Diocese in ministries; elementary, secondary and collegiate education; parish religious education programs; special education programs; Native American ministry; pastoral ministries; social work; care of orphans; family life ministry; Catholic Charities; counseling; spiritual direction; Faith and ecology initiatives; and outreach to the poor and marginalized. We have served throughout the diocese. In Saint Lawrence Deanery in Massena, Norwood, Norfolk, Ogdensburg, Canton, Morristown, Hammond, Rossie, Gouverneur, Star Lake. In Franklin Deanery in Fort Covington, Constable, Chateaugay, Brushton, North Bangor, Malone, and Chasm Falls. In Clinton Deanery in Champlain, Ellenburg, Dannemora, Lyon Mountain, Mooers Forks, Plattsburgh, Peru and AuSable Forks. In Essex Deanery in Elizabethtown, Westport, Witherbee, Mineville, Port Henry, Crown Point, Ticonderoga and Schron Lake. In Jefferson Deanery in Cape Vincent, Rosiere, Brownville, Carthage, Watertown, Copenhagen, Lowville, Port Leyden, Evans Mills, Black River and Adams, Sackets Harbor. In Hamilton-Herkimer in Newcomb and Indian Lake. In Adirondack

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



# Sisters of St. Joseph

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Deanery in Lake Clear, Saranac Lake, Lake Placid and Tupper Lake.”

The mission of the SSJ continues to touch the lives and hearts throughout the North Country and beyond. “The charisma of SSJ is reconciliation and all-inclusive love. In every age including our current age, there is a great need to bring reconciliation and harmony at all levels – family, Church, community, nation and world. Likewise is the need for all-inclusive love – in family, races, cultures and immigrants and refugees and many others.”

## Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Many know Sister Mary Ann Gour, FCSJ, who serves as the chaplain of Hospice of the North Country. She works out of their Plattsburgh office, which covers all of Clinton County, and out of the Malone office, which covers the northern

part of Franklin County, including the reservation.

“I am currently the only sister of my Congregation living and doing ministry in New York State,” she said. “I live in Plattsburgh.”

Sister Mary Ann explained the importance of the Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus’ (FCSJ) way of life.

“As daughters of the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our charisma is our awareness that we are personally loved by God,” she said. “Our mission is to enable people to become more aware that they are personally loved by God through the compassionate way by which we minister to others.”

FCSJ celebrates a long history that has reached many souls.

“My Congregation which is International – France, USA, Canada, Lesotho, Republic of South Africa, Madagascar, Benin, Togo,

Burkina Faso (West Africa), Brazil, Tahiti – was founded in La Salle-de-Vihiers, France on December 18, 1923. Our founder was John Maurice Catroux, pastor of La Salle-de-Vihiers and our foundress was Rose Giet (Sister Marie), a parishioner,” Sister Mary Ann said. “We were founded to meet the local needs of the parish (faith education and care of the sick).”

Their Sisters aren’t strangers to the Champlain Valley. “We came to Newport, Vermont (Diocese of Burlington), in 1905 and then to Champlain, New York (Diocese of Ogdensburg) in 1906 to open and staff Saint Mary’s School and later to staff Saint Alexander’s School in Morristown. For many years, I was a fourth-grade teacher at Saint Mary’s School in Champlain. Later I was the principal of the elementary school.”

The spiritual heritage of

the sisters continues to bless many today.

“Faithful to our initial grace, our mission today is expressed in our common project of evangelization: Through total adherence to Jesus Christ we reveal that He is alive,” Sister Mary Ann said. “By the cordiality and simplicity of our relationships with others we witness that He is near. By our willingness to respond to the needs of others we announce that His love is universal.”

## Sisters of Charity of Saint Louis

Sister Bernadette Ducharme, SCSL, superior of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Louis (SCSL), recounted their service of love in the North Country.

“The SCSL are presently residing in Plattsburgh, New York, in Holy Family Parish,” she said. “Sister Claire Michel Fortier, SCSL and I are retired and living at Victory Place (formerly

the Sisters’ convent) at 4907 South Catherine Street, which now is an Adult Retirement Living Facility. Sister Claire Michel has a jovial presence among the residents, and you will find her praying for others in her room or little chapel. I help out where I can in the parish, at Victory Place, and volunteer to do Meals on Wheels.”

Time and obstacles haven’t slowed the Sisters down.

“Sister Louella Pelletier, SCSL, resides at Clinton County Nursing Home where she is active to the extent that she can be,” explained Sister Bernadette. “Her cerebellum atrophy does not prevent her from attending Mass on the weekends with the help of a parishioner as well as ministering with prayers, her many visits and activities with the residents. Sometimes she prays with them

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



## Francis X. Chagnon K of C Council 3525 Champlain, NY

We congratulate and give thanks for the 150 years of service to GOD and the North Country by the bishops, priests, deacons and religious of the Diocese of Ogdensburg



1872.....Diocese of Ogdensburg formed from the Diocese of Albany  
1872.....Fr. Francis X. Chagnon of the Montreal Diocese is named pastor of St. Mary’s Church, Champlain. He is responsible for building the current church and founding of St Mary’s School.  
1911.....Fr. Chagnon dies and is buried in the church yard at Champlain  
1952.....K of C Council 3525, Champlain is chartered and named for Fr. Chagnon  
1974.....Terry R. LaValley graduates from NCCS High School in Champlain  
1988.....Fr. Terry R. LaValley is Ordained a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
2010.....Fr. Terry R. LaValley is named the 14<sup>th</sup> bishop of Ogdensburg  
2022.....Diocese of Ogdensburg celebrates One Hundred Fifty Years

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***Congratulations and  
best wishes to the  
Diocese of Ogdensburg on  
their 150th Anniversary.***

# Sisters of Charity of St. Louis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

when they are on their last. Sister Louella is presently president of the Resident Council at the nursing home."

"When the Sisters retired from ministry in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, many of them returned to Canada where they had families and were cared for with the other SCSL," Sister Bernadette said.

Throughout their ministry, the sisters have tirelessly spent themselves for those in need.

"The Congregation of the SCSL participate in the educative mission of the Church exercised by forms of education adapted to the different cultures, with a special attention given to the young, the women and the persons who live in difficult situations," Sister Bernadette said.

It was the inspiration of a priest in Plattsburgh that first brought the sisters here.

"Following the persistent request of Father Desjardins, pastor of the newly formed parish of Our Lady of Victory, five SCSL arrived from Canada on August 10, 1910 to open and take charge of a building which in its early years served as church, school and parish hall," Sister Bernadette detailed. "This school was called Our Lady of Victory Academy (OLVA). In 1915, when the church was completed, renovations were done in the convent to receive boarders in addition to day students. As the number of pupils increased, in 1949, the new OLVA opened as a co-educational high school, a boarding school for girls, and a convalescent home for thirty ladies (1950-1965)."

Sister Bernadette described the many other roles of the Sisters over the years.

"The Sisters also staffed Saint John the Baptist School, which later became Our Lady of Grace from

1914 to 1980 in Keeseville, New York; Sallaz Academy in Redford, a high school from 1915 to 1964, and then an elementary school until 1970, when the students were transferred to the newly built Assumption of Mary School, where the Sisters continued to teach until 1973," she said. "In 1958 the SCSL staffed Our Lady of Victory Secretarial School in Plattsburgh until its closure in 1993. In May 1965 the SCSL opened and staffed Sacred Heart Home, in Plattsburgh until 1986, when the Sisters retired. From 1984 to 1995, the Sisters served as coordinators of the Christian Formation Program in Saint Patrick's Parish in Rouses Point."

Looking back, Sister Bernadette recalled, "I ministered at John XXIII Newman Center and at Saint John's Parish in Plattsburgh until such time as community service demanded more of my time. I also ministered at Seton Catholic until I retired when Covid 19 approached in 2020."

## Dominican Sisters of Hope

Sister Elizabeth Menard, OP, explained the history of the Dominican Sisters of Hope in the North Country.

"We first came in 1921," she said. "The sisters (Grey Nuns) at Saint Peter's who ran D'Youville Academy were leaving the school, and the Dominican Sister of Saint Catherine of Siena were asked if they would come. We said 'yes' even though our Mother House was in Fall River, Massachusetts. We said yes because our foundress actually grew up in Keeseville. When we knew that Plattsburgh was so close to Keeseville we said, 'We can't say no to that.' That was the deciding point."

The Sisters soon staffed many schools in the North Country.

"They would go and teach religion in Keeseville. They opened the school in Plattsburgh, probably four

grades and then they added on. It became a high school for girls as well. At one point there were 22 sisters there," Sister Elizabeth said. "The high school was completed by around 1933. When we had a high school we had a Sister (Sister Sybillina) who was excellent for English and Drama. And so, they began to have a huge production, a musical play, each year to try to raise funds to help them to continue in the ministry there."

"The next place would have been, in around 1942 in Mooers Forks. And that is my hometown, that is how I got to know them. And there were four Sisters there and they were there because one of our sister's parents bequeathed the house to us."

The sisters taught at Mooers Central, Mooers Forks, Altona Central, and Ellenburg, explained Sister Elizabeth.

"And then gradually, they actually split," Sister Elizabeth continued. "There became a small convent in Chateaugay and another convent in West Chazy. And West Chazy which took care of Beekmantown 'school of religion,' which included West Chazy and Chazy probably."

For years, catechism classes were provided inside public schools.

"When Sisters could no longer teach in public schools, there had to be catechetical centers in each of the parishes," Sister Elizabeth said. "The Dominican Sisters built centers in Altona, Mooers Forks, and possibly the one in Mooers. Daughters of Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus were in Champlain at Saint Mary's Parish. They had a high school that went all of the way up. There were Mercy Sisters, I believe, who were at Rouses Point and they were also at Saint John's in Plattsburgh."

Later, the Dominican Sisters were asked by the dio-

cese to open a school at Saint Augustine's Parish in Peru.

"Again, we said we would start with first four grades and add a class each year, until we had enough sisters, and go up to eighth grade," Sister Elizabeth said. "And then we began the high school."

Then, the schools gradually closed one by one: Mooers Forks, then Chateaugay, and West Chazy. The Sisters in the rural areas joined the Sisters who were in Plattsburgh. "Saint Peter's High School (D'Youville Academy) closed in the 1960s, the numbers were getting smaller. Saint Augustine's School in Peru closed in 2008.

"Most of our Sisters have served as either teachers or catechists," Sister Elizabeth said. "A lot of them were full time catechists. They did all of the parish programs in the area."

In 1986, Sister Barbara McCarthy, O.P. received an assignment at Saint Alphonsus Church in Tupper Lake as pastoral associate. Sister Elizabeth went to Tupper Lake in 1992 and coordinated the catechetical programs for both Holy Name and Saint Alphonsus Churches from K - 12, including Confirmation and all of the sacramental programs.

Sister Elizabeth described the purpose of their Order.

"The Dominican charism is always truth," she said. "Saint Dominic believed in truth. He spoke the truth and the reason why he started the Dominican Fathers is that he wanted the truth to be taught about the Gospels and the Scriptures. So we became what they call the Order of Preachers."

The order later began teaching.

"As soon as we were founded here, there were teaching sisters that came almost immediately," Sister Elizabeth said. "Truth and he wanted us to study. He

made sure that his men - and convents as well - were able to know the truth and be able to teach it or preach it. Those were the two aspects of what we would consider his charism."

Three groups joined together in 1995 (Fall River, Ossining, and Newburgh) as the Dominican Sisters of Hope.

The other Dominican Sisters of Hope in our diocese today are Sister Barbara Langlois, O.P., Sister Debbie Blow, O.P., and Sister Stephanie Frenette, O.P.

## Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood

The Institute of the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood was founded by Mother Catherine Aurelia Caouette in Saint Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada on September 14, 1861 (161 years ago). She was declared Venerable by the Church in December 1, 2016.

The Watertown Foundation of the Monastery of the Precious Blood was founded by the late Monsignor Robert McCarthy and Mother Mary Reparatrice Kelly in 1963. Both prayed and worked tirelessly to open the house, remaining fervent and faithful despite many obstacles. In 2023, the Sisters will celebrate their 60th Anniversary in Watertown.

The Sisters shared that they "live a life wholly dedicated to the prayer of adoration and reparation to give glory to God the Father through the worship His Son in the mystery of His Precious Blood. They pray for our Church and Priests, salvation of the all souls and mercy for the world."

They labor to spread devotion to the Precious Blood through prayer, the distribution of Altar Bread, and disseminating materials.

"We have a Card Shop in which we enroll members in the Precious Blood Treasury of prayers and masses.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

We also distribute Precious Blood devotionals, prayer cards and literature."

This includes Confession Guides and Daily Offering prayers in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, which they have sent to all 50 states and the seven continents.

The sisters have pamphlets available about their charism, which explain their vocation of love and constant prayer in service for the Church. "Contemplative prayer is a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and to the whole world... As the recipients of the spiritual heritage of our Mother Foundress, we are called to a life wholly dedicated to the prayer of adoration and reparation. The principle end of our Institute is to give glory to the Father through the worship of His Son in the mystery of His Precious Blood and to honor Mary Immaculate in her conception.

"While our physical presence among the People of God is limited, our apostolic zeal for souls, purchased with the Saving Blood of Christ, finds its effectiveness in our life of prayer, contemplation and union with God."

## Sister of Charity

### of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sister Cindy Sullivan, BVM is a unique treasure in our diocese, as the only member of her order who has served here.

"I am the only Sister of Charity BVM (Blessed Virgin Mary) in the diocese," she said. "We are a community based in Dubuque, Iowa. I was born in Massena. I was in Quito, Ecuador for 43 years. From 1974 to 1978 I was in Quito as a Peace Corps volunteer. I joined the BVM's in 1978. Ever since 1978, I would come back from Quito each summer and Father George Maroun would assign me a parish or two to speak in each year. So, actually I have been involved in the diocese as a guest missionary each summer since 1979. I returned to Massena in 2017. I have helped the mission office each year speaking in the schools and making appeals for the mission office. Bishop Terry invited me to be on the Mission Board. I am currently the Director of Meals on Wheels in Massena. Our charisms are Education, Freedom and Justice."

## Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod

Sister Jackie Sellappan, SCC,

house superior of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanod (SCC) in Cadyville, recounted that her order first came to our diocese in December 2009.

"They came in the heavy cold winter," she said. "There was zero visibility in the snow. We opened a house in Watertown, and the sisters were all called to be pastoral associates. One sister was working as a chaplain in Samaritan Hospital, another sister was working as pastoral associate in a parish, and a third Sister was working in Saint Joseph's Motherhouse in the infirmary. Then, afterwards we closed house in Norwich in 2012. When our Provincial came for a visit she asked Bishop Terry R. LaValley, because we were closing down that house and were left with only two sisters, if the Sisters could move into Watertown along with other Sisters. He said, 'Yes, you are most welcome.' He was so gracious to allow us to merge the communities together as one community. So, there were four of us. Two of us worked as pastoral associates (DREs, visiting the sick and shut-ins, office work). I was doing a lot of work, and I learned a lot from my predecessor – all the government works regarding BINGO, and all the different things that she taught me in two years' time. She taught me a lot. I helped to run the Mount Carmel festival along with the priests and other parishioners. And people were so good, so good in our parishes."

Sister Jackie went on a mission appeal in Morrisonville and Treadwells Mills in 2014. People asked me, "Sister Jackie, why don't you stay here and help us?" Then, the priest also asked, so I said, 'Why don't you inform the bishop? If that's where we're called, we'll extend ourselves.' That word went out and the bishop so graciously accepted that invitation asking us to live in Cadyville. Sister Ellen Donahue, S.A., then Episcopal Delegate for Religious, was happy to work on this new project of bringing the SCC to Cadyville.

The Sisters went to Cadyville in September 2017. Three Sisters from India came and two joined Sister Jackie when she went from Watertown to Cadyville. One Sister stayed in Watertown. The diocese wanted them to open a house to help at Saint Joseph's Nursing Home in Ogdensburg in 2021. For

whatever reason, that didn't work out, so the two Sisters moved back to Watertown. Since there weren't enough places to accommodate the Sisters, Father Arthur J. Labaff and all of the area priests decided to allow two Sisters to work in Sacketts Harbor. One is a nurse and the other is a pastoral associate. Three are in Watertown (one is a CNA at Summit Village in Watertown), and three are in Cadyville.

"We stay in Cadyville, but I work at the three Churches in Holy Cross Parish. Sister Deepali Bankar works for Morrisonville, Saint Alexanders, Saint James, and Saint Augustine. Sister Rani Selvaraj works for us as pastoral associate at Saint Patrick's in Rouses Point and Saint Mary's in Champlain.

In Watertown, Sister Angelica Rebello is pastoral associate at Holy Family, Saint Anthony, and Saint Patrick's. Sister Jessintha Xavier works at Samaritan Hospital as a chaplain. Sister Shin Treasa Devis works as a CNA at Summit Village Nursing Home in Watertown.

Sister Flavia D'Costa in Sackets Harbor, works for Watertown, Brownville, and Sacketts Harbor

parishes. Sister Rosie Soosairaj works as a nurse practitioner at the hospital. The Sackets Harbor community is a joined community with Watertown.

The SCC's have 1600 Sisters in Africa, Asia, America, Europe in 17 countries. Their vision is "To make the good God known and loved" and their motto is "Living the Paschal Mystery joyfully."

"The SCC are so happy for the Bishop's accepting us into his diocese, even though today everything seems to be changing and different, still we experience his care and his love, he wants us to grow in Christ closely and dearly," explained Sister Jackie. "He has a special respect for us, for our Congregation and so we want to express our gratitude for all that we have received from the Lord, first from Bishop Terry and his administration and the staff and the respective priests wherever we have worked, and the people at large for their love, concern, and care. We have grown because of all of these people who worked and helped us in many different ways to continue to proclaim and to tell the world that God is love."



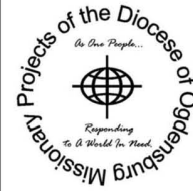
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*Congratulations to Bishop Terry LaValley  
and the Diocese of Ogdensburg on its  
150th Anniversary*



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As Knights of Columbus Chapter 308 in Malone celebrates the 150th anniversary of the diocese and prepares to celebrate our chapter's 125th anniversary, we thank God for inspiring our hearts and hands and the hearts and hands of those who came before us. We continue to pray for the Church, the diocese, our parishes and our Chapter as we work to share the Gospel and respect for all life, from conception to natural death.



As we look forward in hope, we thank God for all the blessings He has given the Diocese of Ogdensburg for 150 years. We also thank Bishop Terry R. LaValley for the many ways in which he has positively impacted our Parish Community and pray that he will continue to do for years to come.

## **Catholic Community of St. Peter-St. Mary-St. Hedwig**

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# A CENTURY OF SEMINARY FORMATION

By **Suzanne Pietropaoli**  
Staff Writer

On June 24, 1881, a newly ordained priest arrived in Churubusco for his first assignment. On August 2, the new priest left that assignment after the pastor declared he did not need an assistant who could not ride a horse. Yet clearly the Watertown-born priest had other talents. Named auxiliary bishop of the diocese in 1912, Joseph Henry Conroy later became the third Bishop of Ogdensburg, serving from 1921-1939. Among his many achievements was the establishment of Wadhams Hall Seminary College, which would be instrumental in the formation of diocesan clergy for the next 80 years.

In 1923, concerned that so few native sons were being ordained for the diocese, Bishop Conroy asked all parishes to join him in a novena for vocations prior to Pentecost – an effort for which he expressed deep gratitude. On September 8, 1924, Wadhams

Hall welcomed its first nine students at 214 Hamilton Street in Ogdensburg. While courses focused on the first two years of college studies, the new seminary also allowed students to complete later high school courses as needed. The seminary's success is clear from Bishop Conroy's own words of July 19, 1927.

"This coming September, Wadhams Hall College will send ten of its graduates to the seminary of philosophy. These, together with our students in Rome, Louvain, Montreal, Toronto, Rochester, Emmitsburg, and Ogdensburg will make a grand total of 43 candidates for the priesthood of our diocese – 35 more than we had 5 years ago."

In 1933, the seminary had added an adjacent property as a house of philosophy; a year later, there were 38 students enrolled. In 1940, thanks to a generous bequest, Wadhams Hall relocated to a larger property at 232 Washington Street. By 1955, there were 45 students at Wadhams Hall and 25

in major seminary. In 1962, with the diocesan seminary filled beyond capacity, Bishop James Navagh launched a \$1,200,000 campaign to build a new facility – and \$791,970 was pledged in the first month alone!

The new seminary would be located on more than a hundred rolling acres on Riverside Drive, a property bequeathed to the diocese some years earlier. The vast new building was designed to house 150 students and 10 resident faculty. While its centerpiece would be a unique modern chapel, the new facility would also include a large library, classrooms, infirmary, kitchen and cafeteria, reception rooms and offices, labs, and lecture rooms.

On September 14, 1963, students moved into the new building even before the construction dust had entirely settled. The next day, the recently installed Bishop Leo Smith blessed and laid the cornerstone, and Ogdensburg had a brand-new seminary college.

In 1965, it was decided to expand Wadhams Hall to a four-year college; third- and fourth-year high school classes were dropped, and third- and fourth-year college courses were added. This allowed the seminary to seek accreditation as a four-year college. That recognition by the NYS Board of Regents on June 24, 1966, allowed Wadhams Hall to grant 4-year degrees.



Around this time, the seminary reached its peak enrollment of 140 students.

Sweeping social, demographic, and ecclesiastical changes hit seminaries especially hard in the following decades. Among those who saw this firsthand was Father Albert Hauser. He joined the faculty in 1990, serving variously as vice-president, assistant professor of religious studies, chair of math/science area, and as a formation adviser until the seminary closed in 2002.

From that perspective, he explains how Wadhams Hall worked


CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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Bishop Terry R. LaValley  
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the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
on the occasion of its  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



# 'Human formation'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

to implement the Program for Priestly Formation, the directives that emerged following the Second Vatican Council to guide the formation of those preparing for priesthood.

While a college is primarily concerned with academics, The Program for Priestly Formation is based on four "pillars" of formation: academic, human, spiritual, and pastoral.

"This structure informed the life of Wadhams Hall, and required dedicated attention from the faculty," Father Hauser recalls. "Academic formation focuses on the humanities, including philosophy, as background for eventual theological studies. Education in the humanities helps form people able to think critically and to communicate clearly in both oral and written formats. Exposure to cultural ideas is important for understanding the world in which we live. And Religious Studies rounds out and solidifies a student's knowledge of the Faith."

"Human formation," the priest

continues, "focuses on forming students in human and social values – courtesy, life in community, serving others, working as a team. In this area, faculty living in the seminary allows the formators a first-hand view in guiding and evaluating student progress. Spiritual formation includes daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours in common twice daily, and weekly meetings in formation units with a priest providing formation in prayer and related topics. Each student is also required to have a personal spiritual director with whom he meets regularly. This provides an all-important personal, internal forum. In terms of pastoral formation, each student is assigned to some type of pastoral ministry—teaching religious ed, hospital ministry, social service, for example. Monthly meetings with an adviser allow for review and reflection on this process."

Yet despite the enormous commitment of personnel and resources that the diocese had made since 1924, by 2002 the seminary

was no longer sustainable.

"In the final years, with only 20 students," recalls Father Hauser, "the dynamics were just not there to sustain all we were trying to do. Clearly it was better for the students to be in a larger, more dynamic environment. But it is amazing for a small diocese to have successfully run a well-respected seminary for so many years."

The closing of Wadhams Hall did not mean the end of seminary formation, but it did require a fresh approach to applying the pillars of that formation in new and very different circumstances. Father Christopher Carrara is Episcopal Vicar for Clergy (priests and deacons), as well as Vocation director. He is also director of Seminarians, a role in which he "focuses on maintaining ongoing relationships with all seminarians and with the pre-ordained and working to implement the four pillars of Preparation for Priestly Formation."

An especially important question is deciding where best to place each seminarian, he explains.

"This is undertaken on behalf of the Diocese of Ogdensburg because Bishop LaValley is intimately involved in the formation of seminarians," Father Carrara said. "He and I meet regularly about the seminarians, more so when it is time for Bishop to assign them for undergraduate and graduate studies. We talk extensively! In the past, all seminarians went to one or two seminaries. Now the process is much more fine-tuned, according to the needs of the diocese, and of the man himself. Close attention may be paid to supportive academic opportunities – for example, if Bishop wants to give foreign stu-

dents the benefit of a strong ESL (English as a Second Language) component."

Seminary placement also depends on whether the individual needs to finish a bachelor's degree or is ready to move on to graduate level study. And of course, says Father Carrara, "Bishop LaValley strongly considers the preferences of each individual. Right now, our nine seminarians – five of whom are in graduate studies – attend, variously, Pontifical College Josephinum, Mount St. Mary's, Cathedral Seminary, and St. Vincent's/Latrobe. The focus is always, 'What does this particular man need?'"

According to Father Carrara, "Once a man is physically present at school, their seminary experience is all-encompassing. In addition to academics, the seminary oversees each one's spiritual, human, and pastoral formation. We try not to bother them too much, but Bishop and I do visit each one once a year. When we visit, Bishop is also involved in the formation meetings, which I think of as parent-teacher conferences. Similarly, Bishop and I confer in assigning seminarians to summer work in parishes since these opportunities are another dimension of formation for the men. Working with these young men is an absolute privilege," Father Carrara concludes. "Some need to be challenged, and it is important to respond to their different ages and stages. But we are very blessed to have such a solid group of seminarians." Surely that assessment echoes the past, even as it points to the future of priestly formation in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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**Bishop Terry R. LaValley**  
and all of the family of the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
from  
**Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito**  
and all of the family of the Diocese of Palm Beach  
on the occasion of your  
150th Anniversary as a Diocese.

*The Diocese of Ogdensburg truly is God's Country  
where the beauty of His creation is visible,  
most especially in the faith filled people who inhabit it.  
May He continue to bless you as  
He has for 150 years and for another 150 years to come.*



# 150TH ANNIVERSARY DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG



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# CELEBRATING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon  
Contributing Writer

A well-integrated program in a Catholic school produces academic excellence while maintaining Catholic identity.

That paraphrases the Superintendent's view of today's parochial school. Sister Ellen Rose Coughlin, a Sister of St. Joseph, is the director of Catholic Education, the superintendent of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. As superintendent she thinks of herself, and the diocesan Education Department, as helpers to the pastors, principals and staffs of the various Catholic Schools.

"The purpose of the Department of Education," Sister said, "is to provide oversight and to assist schools in any way that we can to make sure that the dual function of academic excellence and integration of Catholic values is supported, maintained and strengthened."

There are eight Catholic schools in the diocese now. The number

is dramatically fewer than in years gone by when almost every parish had a school.

A review of first 100 years of the diocese's existence, shows that education and the founding of schools in the various parishes, played an important role in the growth and maturity of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

When Edgar P. Wadhams was installed in 1872 as the first Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, there were 38 parishes with resident pastors in the region bounded by Lake Champlain on the east and Lake Ontario to the west. Prior to the formation of the diocese, there is little mention of Catholic schools in the marvelous history of the diocese' first 100 years compiled by Sister Mary Christine Taylor, SSJ.

Soon after Bishop Wadhams arrived in the diocese, he made quick work of adding education to the diocesan menu. He invited the Clerics of St. Viator, a French order with a foothold in Illinois, to come to Ogdensburg, where they established a school for

boys.

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart were invited by Bishop Wadhams to send a priest or two to Watertown to minister to the French speaking population here. The MSC not only established a presence in Watertown, but they were also responsible for bringing the sisters of the Society of St. Joseph to the diocese and opening a school.

Franciscans in Lewis County, the Sisters of Mercy in Franklin and others developed a significant number of schools in the diocese.

Here's an excerpt from Sister Christine's A History of Catholicism in the North Country.

At the close of the first decade of the diocese, there were 1,681 children in Catholic parish schools: at Ogdensburg, 221 in the Cathedral School for Boys, 255 in St. Jean Baptiste School; 150 in the Cathedral School for Girls; at Plattsburgh, 325 in the Free School for Boys and 240 in the Free School for Girls; at Croghan, 100 at St. Stephen's

School; at Champlain, 75 in Assumption School; at Mohawk Hill, 50 at St. Michael's School. In addition, there were convent boarding schools at Hogansburg, Ogdensburg, Plattsburgh, and Croghan and St. Philip Neri's Boarding Academy for Boys at Ogdensburg. During the summer of 1873, the Grey Nuns purchased the Curtis property on Ford Street, Ogdensburg, and subsequently began Sacred Heart Academy there.

Most Reverend Henry Gabriels succeeded Wadhams in 1892. By then there were Catholic schools at Ogdensburg, Plattsburgh, Hogansburg, Malone, Rouses Point, Keeseville, Brasher Falls, Brushton, Watertown, Carthage, Redford, Croghan, Champlain, Lyon Mountain, Gouverneur, Mohawk Hill and Port Henry.

The number of parochial schools almost doubled to 32 when Most Reverend Walter Kellenberg became the sixth Bishop of Ogdensburg in 1954.

Catholic education continued to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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# Optimistic about the future of Catholic education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

flourish over the decade that followed. In 1967, the diocesan historian tells us, Most Reverend Thomas Donnellan, the ninth Bishop of Ogdensburg, addressed a teacher's conference at the start of the school year. Sister Christine wrote of the bishop's talk in *A History of Catholicism in the North Country*.

"Education is 'the witness of the serving Church,' he urged all to excel in teaching the 14,000 students enrolled in the 52 schools of the Diocese of Ogdensburg."

Bishop Donnellan's comments came as the parochial system that had been growing steadily over the years was showing its first signs of decline.

Most Reverend Stanislaus J. Brzana succeeded Donnellan and became 10th Bishop of Ogdensburg. He inherited a system that showed declining enrollment, closed schools, and the elimination of the 7th and 8th grades by some schools.

Between 1962 and 1971, enrollment dropped by over 43% in the diocesan parochial and high schools. Sister Christine made

note of the decline in the History: "the matter has reached almost crisis proportion."

Over the next decades, more parish-based schools closed, high schools closed, Mater Dei College closed, and Wadhams Hall ceased to house a seminary college.

Today there are eight diocesan Catholic schools: Augustinian Academy in Carthage (grades pre-kindergarten to eight); St. James in Gouverneur (grades pre-kindergarten to six); St. Agnes in Lake Placid (grades pre-kindergarten to three); Trinity Catholic in Massena (grades pre-kindergarten to six); Seton Catholic in Plattsburgh (grades pre-kindergarten to 12); St. Bernard's in Saranac Lake (grades kindergarten to five); St. Mary's in Ticonderoga (grades pre-kindergarten to eight) and Immaculate Heart Central in Watertown (grades pre-kindergarten to 12).

Each school is supported financially by local parishes and other funding mechanism, including tuition. The diocesan Department of Education assists, and in some cases, guides their operation.

Monsignor Robert H. Aucoin is the Vicar for Education in the Dio-

cese.

"The mission is to make sure that the academic rigor is present so we're offering an academic education that is certainly top notch in terms of its adherence to state New York State standards with the added dimension that makes us different from the public school system. That difference is the integration of our Catholic worldview and therefore the gospel of the teachings of the Church."

Msgr. Aucoin is optimistic about the future of parochial education in the diocese and points to funding as an example of the new mentality for operating schools.

"Funding education has always been an issue because it's not cheap. What the schools have done, and the diocese has really promoted this, is design and implement advancement programs very similar to what you see in colleges and other nonprofit environments. Because of that, schools have become better at promoting their vision and are better at managing their resources. The result is less demand for a subsidy from the parishes," Msgr. Aucoin said. Advancement programs generally

establish endowments or other savings structures to help fund the school in the future.

Another challenge is maintaining enrollment. Sister Ellen Rose admits enrollment is not always predictable.

"Enrollment is the biggest challenge we have in any of our schools," she said. "I would say it's stabilized at our schools but when I say stabilized, it is at lower enrollments. We don't seem to be losing students unless they go away."

Students who move is a big factor for Augustinian Academy in Carthage, for example, where 70% of the enrollment is directly related to military families at Fort Drum, the United States Army's installation in Jefferson County.

"At Augustinian, when there is a large number of families moving out, they just hold their breath that the same number will move in" to keep the enrollment steady," Sister Ellen Rose said.

The Watertown student population at Immaculate Heart Central is about 25% military.

"We don't lose people," Sister said. "Our primary reason for people leaving is that they move out of the area."

She cites the situation in Ticonderoga, New York, where the biggest employer is International Paper Company. When that company makes changes in personnel, it has an impact on the enrollment of Saint Mary's.

"So, our biggest challenge is maintaining enrollment and maintaining competent and qualified teachers," Sister Ellen Rose said.

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, the 14th Bishop of Ogdensburg is the final authority for parochial education in the Diocese. He is "hopeful", an optimist, evidenced by comments made last week to deacons gathered for a Day of Reflection.

Pessimism is not faith in action, he said. "It's like driving a car with your eyes constantly on the rear-view mirror. We gaze at and long for the things that have just passed and in the process, we miss the possibilities ahead of us; not looking at the bigger picture through the much larger windshield."

This diocese celebrates 150 years of Catholic education and through its leaders looks forward to opportunities ahead.



*Congratulations to the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
on their 150th Anniversary!*

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*and*

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To

**BISHOP TERRY R. LAVALLEY**

*and THE FAITHFUL of the*

**DIOCESE of OGDENSBURG**

*as you celebrate your*

**150<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**

## Gratitude & Congratulations

We wish to extend a sincere congratulations to Bishop Terry LaValley as shepherd of our Diocese of Ogdensburg. We thank Bishop LaValley for his caring, strong Catholic guidance of our diocesan flock and pray for many more years with us.

We take this opportunity to thank Fr. Jay de la Rosa for leaving his Philippine homeland to come minister to us at St. Alexanders & St. James as our Parochial Vicar. We congratulate Fr. Jay on his recent assignment as Pastor at St. Ann's & Holy Angels parishes.

We thank Bishop LaValley for sending Fr. Leagon Carlin as our new Parochial Vicar and welcome Fr. Leagon with gratitude for his dedication and accepting this assignment.

Additionally, we sincerely and gratefully acknowledge Fr. Scott Seymour for all he has done in our parishes to build the Church, especially during some quite turbulent times.

**Knights of Columbus Council 6067  
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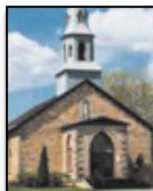
and

**Bishop Terry LaValley**

On the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese.  
May your service to the Church and its people continue!



St. Alexander's Church - Morrisonville



St. James Church - Cadyville



St. Augustine's Church - Peru

*Without the Diocese, we are not fully Church  
in sacrament, in word, in service.  
Thank you for making us Church.*



*The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano and the faithful of the Diocese of Rochester extend prayerful congratulations and blessings to the Diocese of Ogdensburg on your Sesquicentennial Anniversary. Ad multos annos!*



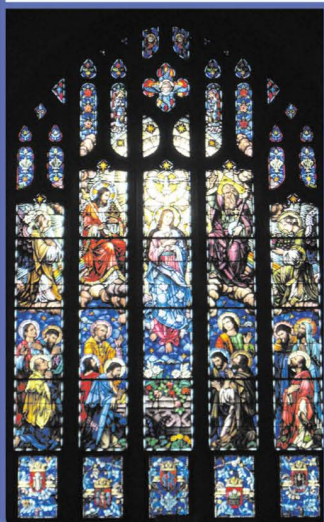
May God's blessings be upon the Diocese of Ogdensburg on the occasion of their 150th Anniversary.

*The pastor and parishioners of St. Bernard of Montjoux, Saranac Lake*

Painting by a parishioner of St. Bernard of Montjoux

# Congratulations

In the excitement of today, may the joy that knows no bounds be upon us all. May the joy of the Lord never be absent in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, now and forever.



*Happy 150th Anniversary!*

Grace and blessings from the parishes of St. Patrick's Church, Brasher Falls and North Lawrence, St. Andrew's Church, Norwood, and the Parish of the Visitation and St. Raymond's, Norfolk

The Board of Directors and Staff of Mercy Care for the Adirondacks ask God's blessing on Bishop Terry R. LaValley and the Diocese of Ogdensburg on celebrating your 150th Anniversary.



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# SEEDS ARE GERMINATING

By Sister Bethany Fitzgerald  
Sister of St. Joseph

Nearly ten years ago, a small group of people experienced the seed of God's love extending to embrace all of creation gathered in St. John in the Wilderness Parish House in Lake Clear. This small group included members from several other parishes, including members of St. Peter's Environmental Committee from Plattsburgh. The desire not only to share God's love as expressed in the natural world but to find ways to become better stewards of this precious gift became incarnated into this group that is presently known as the Faith and Ecology Group.

The mission of the group is to strive to be environmentally responsible, to educate in light of Catholic social teachings, and to discover new ways to weave together science and faith in order to create a more sustainable future.

More seeds of this newly formed Faith and Ecology group were ger-

minating in the Watertown area following a Lenten Program entitled "4.2 Caring for God's Creation" held at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse. Within a few years, other new seeds sprouted in the Canton/Potsdam area.

Some activities of these groups include encouraging Bishop Terry R. LaValley to install solar panels in the backyard of the diocesan residence. In an endeavor to reach out to youth and recognize their efforts to care for "our common home," the Pope Francis Green Apple Award was initiated. Recently the Syracuse Diocesan Laudato Si Task Force co-sponsored this project with our diocesan Laudato Si Committee. Students from several Catholic schools, religious education programs and individuals were recognized for their creative and amazing efforts to express their appreciation and their concerns for taking care of this precious gift of creation. Members of the Faith and Ecology Groups also participate in the annual Youth Rallies.

Some other fruits of these Groups appear in the weekly "Environmental Stewardship" column in the North Country Catholic and the weekly E-Notes for the parish bulletins. Several parishes have invited members to be part of their Lenten programs, including St. Bernard's in Saranac Lake, St. Agnes in Lake Placid and St. Mary's in Brushton.

In 2015, the release of Pope Francis' social encyclical Laudato Si: On Caring for Our Common Home provided a powerful framework for continued actions. It challenges us as faith-filled people to response to the urge 'cries of the earth' and the 'cries of the poor.' Now after five years since the En-

cyclical was published, each of us is called to participate in the Laudato Si Action Platform. This calls families, parishes, schools, businesses, health care facilities, as well as individuals to develop a seven-year plan to put into practice the seven goals outlined in Laudato Si Encyclical. For more information, see Laudato Si Action Platform on the USCCB (United States Catholic Conference of Bishops) webpage.

These north country "seeds" can be planted anytime, anywhere! To join one of these existing groups, to initiate a new one or for more information, contact Sister Bethany Fitzgerald at [srbethssj@gmail.com](mailto:srbethssj@gmail.com) or 315-212-6592.

Visit our website

[www.northcountrycatholic.org](http://www.northcountrycatholic.org)

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# Congratulations!

*We the people of St. Joseph's Church, Olmstedville, St. Paul's Church, Blue Mountain Lake & St. Mary's Church, Indian Lake sincerely congratulate the Diocese of Ogdensburg on their 150th Anniversary. Our prayer and best wishes to Bishop Terry R. LaValley as he continues to guide our diocese and churches.*



St. Joseph's Church,  
Olmstedville



St. Paul's Church,  
Blue Mountain Lake



St. Mary's Church,  
Indian Lake





*To God be glory  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus  
through all generations. AMEN!*  
(-Ephesians 3, 21)

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**DIOCESE OF OGDENBURG &  
BISHOP TERRY LAVALLEY**  
on the joyous occasion of the  
150th anniversary of the diocese



Congratulations on celebrating  
150 years of ministry.  
We are blessed to be a part of your  
past, present and future.

***Congratulations  
& Thank You***

**Bishop Terry R. LaValley**

and the

**DIOCESE  
OF  
OGDENBURG**

**150<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**

**Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood**



**DIOCESE OF OGDENBURG  
150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



Window at St. Mary's Cathedral  
in Ogdensburg.

"Hail, O Star of the Ocean, ...make our  
way secure till we find in Jesus, joy  
evermore."  
(Ave Maris Stella)

"Iter para tutum"... "make our  
way secure"  
(Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams,  
Coat of Arms)

We celebrate 150 years of vocations  
to the Diocese of Ogdensburg. We  
have much gratitude for those  
serving the priesthood, consecrated  
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# REMEMBERING A PREVIOUS CELEBRATION

By Darcy Fargo  
Editor

While the production didn't go exactly as planned, Father John L. "Jack" Downs fondly remembers producing a radio broadcast of a previous diocesan anniversary celebration.

As the Diocese of Ogdensburg celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1972, Father Downs was directing video and radio productions for the diocese. He and an associate, Jack Hunt, were tasked with recording and broadcasting the 100th anniversary Mass held at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid on May 16, 1972.

"We contacted all the radio stations," Father Downs said. "Nine said they would take live broadcasts. The ten biggest stations said 'no way' to a live broadcast. They had had bad experiences with delays and broadcast problems in the past. They insisted on tape recordings to be played after the 6 p.m. news."

Father Downs said he and Hunt acquired five high-quality tape recorders and set them up to record the Mass. On the day of the Mass, adjustments had to be made to the recording system, and everything was set for the start of the celebration, which newspaper accounts indicate was scheduled to begin at noon.

"About 20 minutes before, the skies opened up. The whole North Country was hit with a storm. The cardinal (Terence Cooke, archbishop of New York) and a number of bishops were on a charter plane scheduled to land in Lake Clear. Because of the weather, they couldn't land in Lake Clear, and they couldn't land in Lake Placid. I was up in the broadcast booth ready to go. No one bothered to tell me."

Because of the weather issue, the Mass started around 30 minutes late.

"I had enough filler prepared for that 30 minutes, but I had exhausted everything I had by the time the Mass started," Father Downs said. "The procession started 30 minutes late. I had a list of all the clergy that were going to be there to read for the

broadcast. I listed them all. After that, the bishop goes to the microphone and told everyone the plane carrying the New York area bishops and cardinal was not able to land."

According to newspaper reports from the time, Cardinal Cooke missed the Mass but arrived in time for other portions of the celebration.

"Poor weather forced the plane to go to Plattsburgh where the cardinal was taken to car (sic) and state police escort to Lake Placid," according to the Syracuse Standard. "He arrived here in time for a 2:30 p.m. luncheon."

According to media reports, Archbishop Luigi Raimondi, an apostolic delegate, delivered a message from Pope Paul VI at the Mass and served as celebrant. The homily was delivered by Archbishop Thomas A. Donnellan, then archbishop of Atlanta and former bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana and Bishop Walter P. Kellenburg celebrated the Mass.

Lectors were Francis LaVigne of Massena and Sister Mary Christine Taylor, a Sister of St. Joseph. A 90-voice choir directed by Msgr. Paul Whitmore provided music.

"The Mass went on beautifully," Father Downs said. "They did a great job decorating the sanctuary."

After the Mass, Father Downs and Hunt were unable to participate in the remaining festivities, as they had to copy the Mass recordings and deliver them to radio stations around the diocese.

"Because of the delay, the live broadcasts ended before the Mass did," Father Downs said. "They just lopped off the end with no explanation. When we were done copying the tapes, Jack took the eastern part of the diocese, and I took the western part. We got all the tapes delivered before the 6 p.m. news broadcasts were over."

Father Downs, 93, has served as a priest of the diocese since his ordination in 1955.



The cover of the Liturgy Aid for the diocesan 100th Anniversary Celebration in 1972.

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE DIOCESE OF  
OGDENSBURG  
ON YOUR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

from Archbishop Michael Mulhall  
& the people of the



ARCHDIOCESE  
of  
KINGSTON

MAY THE JOY OF GOD  
CONTINUE TO BE WITH THE  
PEOPLE OF YOUR DIOCESE



We would like to extend our warmest greetings and congratulations to the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the Most Rev. Terry R. LaValley on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary as a Diocese.  
Best Wishes!

The Catholic Communities of St. Ann's, Mooers Forks and Holy Angels, Altona  
Rev. Jay De La Rosa  
Pastor

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*May God and His Mother bless the  
Diocese of Ogdensburg on this  
special occasion.*



*Congratulations*

*to the Diocese of Ogdensburg on its  
150th Anniversary and gratitude to  
Bishop LaValley for his strong leadership.*

*From the faithful of*

*St. Raphael's Church, Heuvelton*

*&*

*Ss. Philip & James Parish, Lisbon*



*Congratulations*

from K of C Fr. Frederick C. Hatch Council 13102  
to Bishop Terry R. LaValley  
and the Diocese of Ogdensburg  
150th Anniversary!

# Bridges between past, present and future

I thought it was an interesting story.

Father Philip T. Allen called me recently to share information he discovered while looking through the history of St. Joseph's Church in Olmstedville, a small parish at the southern end of the Essex Deanery, right near the border to the Diocese of Albany.

Father Allen said he discovered that when construction began on St. Joseph's, the cornerstone of the was blessed by then Father Edgar P. Wadhams. Later, after the formal creation of the Diocese

of Ogdensburg, construction was completed, and the church was consecrated by Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams, the first bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg.



Darcy L. Fargo

"We're sort of the bridge, the connecting piece," Father Allen said, noting the parish is a bridge between the Diocese of Ogdensburg and the Diocese of Albany because of its location, and it was a bridge in the progression of Father/Bishop Wadhams' service to the Church.

Isn't it those bridges, those connections that we celebrate when we

celebrate an anniversary?

We're celebrating those who came before us, building a foundation of faith here in the North Country. In my life, that has meant thanking God for the dedicated individuals who made sure there were churches serving the tiny towns in northern Franklin County and for my grandparents, who modeled a love of Christ and Church and passed that love down to their children and grandchildren.

We're also celebrating our connection to the future. In this moment, God is working through all of us. God calls us to continue building on that foundation of faith, sharing His love with those around

us and with our children and grandchildren, the future of the Church.

While we celebrate those connections to past and future, let's also remember to thank God for today. God has given us a faithful, caring and loving bishop. God has given us outstanding priests, deacons and consecrated religious who serve Him, our parishes and our communities. God has given us one another, faithful individuals and communities dedicated to helping one another grow closer to the Lord.

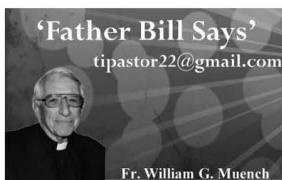
There are a lot of interesting stories, and I thank God for all of them.

## A priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg

I begin today by offering my congratulations to the Diocese of Ogdensburg on its 150th Anniversary. Personally, I did not grow up in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. I was born in Syracuse. However, when I decided to become a Catholic priest, for various reasons I was directed to the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Now, after all these years, I can tell you that I am happy to be a priest, and I am blessed to be a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. So, as my diocese now celebrates this anniversary, I am proud to be a part of all that is the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

Today, I was sitting in church for a while, taking time for my morning prayers. I noticed that in so many ways my relationship to my diocese was formed and fashioned by my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Lord has led and directed me in so many ways.

So, I began considering the parables of Jesus – those clever and brilliantly crafted stories of Jesus that have often been a part of my preaching and teaching – as I hoped to lead others to Jesus. My relationship to my ministry as a priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg



is laid out in these stories of Jesus.

Let me show you.

My favorite parable continues to be the story of the Good Samaritan. As a priest and a pastor, I have known many generous men and women who are and continue to be Good Samaritans. I know you remember in Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan. This Samaritan fellow stopped to help and care for a Jewish man who was robbed and badly beaten, even though Samaritans had nothing to do with Jews in those days.

In the parishes I was asked to serve, I knew so many Good Samaritans, those who were constantly ready to help in action and generosity to help those in need. They were the ones who gave me the opportunity as a pastor to make certain those in need in the parish were cared for.

Then I thought of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. In each parish, I do remember those young people

who made life rather difficult for their parents – those who lived rather selfishly.

As you probably remember, the real hero of this particular parable was the forgiving and loving father. The father solves the problems of the prodigal, welcoming him home with love and forgiveness, and the father lovingly touches the older son and resolves his anger with the prodigal. I have met and counseled many prodigals. I have known and learned so much from loving fathers and mothers whose forgiving love has made their families united and filled with love and understanding. These parents have sacrificed so much for their families, especially for those prodigals.

One more to mention: the parable of Lost Sheep. I have known as a pastor many lost sheep, those who have strayed from the Lord. Through the Lord's Sacrament of Penance, I have learned how the Lord continued to love them and follow them, gently leading them back to their God, to their Church, to their parish and to their family. Personally, the Lord has chosen me to say the right

things, so as to bring the Lord's loving forgiveness to so many.

So, I have been blessed to be part of the history of this diocese – my Diocese of Ogdensburg – as a priest of the Lord Jesus. It was truly a huge surprise that I

found a home and lived out my vocation here in the North Country. The Lord knew that this was the right place for me – the right place to find so many opportunities, to be a pastor of people here in the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

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**Rest in Peace**

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

- Aug. 4** – Rev. Alexandre Soulerin, O.M.I., 1892; Rev. Adolphe Saurel, 1925; Rev. Willie Caron, M.S.C., 1972  
**Aug. 5** – Rev. M. Calixte Mourier, O.M.I., 1912; Rev. David N. Burke, 1913; Rev. Gerald A. Sharland, 1973  
**Aug. 7** – Msgr. Edmund H. Dumas, 2000; Rev. Lawrence E. Cotter, 2016  
**Aug. 8** – Rev. Donald E. Seguin, 1976  
**Aug. 9** – Rev. Edward B. May, O.S.A., 1953; Rev. James N. Flattery, 1997  
**Aug. 10** – Rev. Walter J. LaRocque, 1936; Rev. Joseph Bolduc, O.M.I., 1956; Rev. Cornelius Vullings, M.S.C., 1971; Msgr. Anthony A. Milia, 2010; Deacon Bruce C. Wadsworth, 2013  
**Aug. 11** – Rev. Gilbert Monroe, O.F.M., 1958; Rev. John M. Kennedy, 1979  
**Aug. 12** – Rev. Pierre Gagnon, O.M.I., 1901; Rev. John M. Varrily, 1913  
**Aug. 13** – Msgr. Bernard F. Kellogg, 1993  
**Aug. 14** – Rev. Patrick Foley, 1839; Rev. George Dermody, O.S.A., 1956  
**Aug. 15** – Rev. Alfred Onesime Boyer, 1959; Msgr. Cornelius A. Collins, 1967  
**Aug. 16** – Rev. Peter Paladini, S.A.C., 1990

**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](http://www.virtus.org). Upcoming sessions:

- Aug. 17** – 6 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena  
**Aug. 18** – 1 p.m., St. James Minor Church, Carthage



*Support And Pray  
For Vocations*

**Bishop's Public Schedule**

- Aug. 3** – Noon – Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg  
 5 p.m. – Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Patrick's Parish Center in Port Henry  
**Aug. 4** – Noon – Mass at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg  
 5 p.m. – Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Mary's Parish Center in Indian Lake  
**Aug. 6** – 4 p.m. – Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Watertown  
**Aug. 7** – 8 a.m. – Mass at St. Anthony's Church in Watertown  
 11 a.m. – Mass at the Church of the Holy Family in Watertown  
**Aug. 8** – 11:30 a.m. – Mass for Family Camp at Camp Guggenheim in Saranac Lake  
**Aug. 10** – 1 p.m. – Mass Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**Aug. 11** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
**Aug. 13** – 11 a.m. – Mass at Our Lady of the Adirondacks House of Prayer in Ellenburg Center followed by lunch  
 4 p.m. – Mass at The Roman Catholic Community of Keeseville  
**Aug. 14** – 8:30 a.m. – Mass at St. Margaret's Church in Wilmington  
 10:30 a.m. – Mass at the Catholic Community of Holy Name and St. Matthew in Au Sable Forks  
**Aug. 15** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 5:30 p.m. – Mass at Our Lady of Grace Parish (at St. John the Baptist Church) in Morristown  
**Aug. 16** – 5 p.m. – Bishop's Fund Reception at St. Augustine's Parish Center in Peru  
**Aug. 17** – Noon – Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral  
 5 p.m. – Bishop's Fund Reception at the Malone Golf Club in Malone

**To Report Abuse**

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

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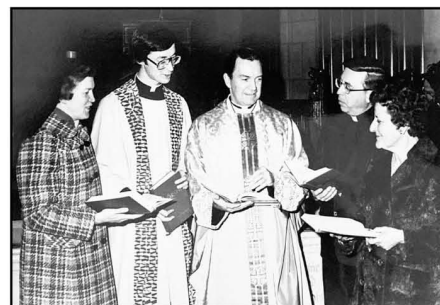
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# PICTURES OF THE PAST

Photos from the archives of the *North Country Catholic*



(Left) Pre-school students at Augustinian Academy in Carthage in 1993. (Right) St. Henry's Church in Long Lake was moved approximately 400 feet from its original location to address parking needs and to eliminate a traffic hazard on May 22, 1973.



(Left) Father Don Manfred, pastor, Rita Mangine, office manager, and Sister Elizabeth Menard, OP, the parish director of Religious Education, pose at St. Alphonsus Church in Tupper Lake in 1993. (Right) Sister Rita Brady, Father John Yonkovic, Msgr. John Pendergast, (then) Father Paul Whitmore and Gladys Gedbow review new hymnals at St. Mary's Cathedral in December of 1977.



(Left) Students at St. Anthony's School in Watertown dressed for All Saints Day in 1986. (Right) Youth from Lake Pleasant participated in a poster contest in this undated file photo.



The original St. Mary's Cathedral, located at Montgomery and Franklin Streets in Ogdensburg, was destroyed in a fire on November 25, 1947.



Construction of the current cathedral was completed in 1952. Bishop Bryan J. McEntegart consecrated the cathedral on October 22 of that year.

## Writing decision to overturn Roe an 'honor,' says justice

ROME (CNS) – In his first public comments since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned its nearly 50-year-old decision that legalized abortion, Justice Samuel Alito said writing the ruling was an "honor."

Delivering a July 21 keynote address at a gala dinner in Rome sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Law School's Religious Liberty Initiative, Alito said that at first he did not plan on providing examples of criticisms to decisions handed down by foreign courts.

However, "I've had a few second thoughts over the last few weeks since I had the honor this term of writing I think the only Supreme Court decision in the history of that institution that has been lambasted by a whole string of foreign leaders who felt perfectly fine commenting on American law," he said.

"One of these was former Prime Minister Boris Johnson, but he paid the price," he said, insinuating that Johnson's criticism of the court's ruling led to his July 7 resignation.

Alito's comments drew laughter and applause from participants.

In late June the Supreme Court issued a 213-page decision that stated there was no constitutional right to abortion in the United States.

"We hold that Roe and Casey must be overruled," Alito wrote in the court's majority opinion. Casey v. Planned Parenthood is the 1992 decision that affirmed Roe v. Wade.

The video of Alito's keynote address was released on the official YouTube page of Notre Dame Law School July 28, more than a week after he delivered his remarks.

Attendance at the Religious Liberty Summit was by invitation only. Furthermore, according to the summit's schedule on their website, Notre Dame Law School's Religious Liberty Initiative did not include Alito among its list of speakers.

In his address, Alito also noted criticisms made by foreign leaders against the Supreme Court's ruling, including French President Emmanuel Macron and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

However, he said he was particularly hurt by remarks made by Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, during a speech at the United Nations July 18 marking Nelson Mandela International Day.

In his address, Prince Harry said issues ranging "from the horrific war in Ukraine to the rolling back of constitutional rights here in the United States" were "a global assault on democracy and freedom."

"What really wounded me," Alito said, "was when the Duke of Sussex addressed the United Nations and seemed to compare the decision, whose name may not be spoken, with the Russian attack on Ukraine."

The justice also said that in order to "win the battle to protect religious freedom in an increasingly secular society, we will need more than positive law."

## Pope launches campaign to highlight migrants, refugees

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – As the church prepares to commemorate the World Day of Migrants and Refugees in September, Pope Francis launched a video campaign meant to highlight the spiritual and cultural contributions that migrants bring to people's lives.

"Migrants and refugees offer us a great opportunity for the cultural and spiritual growth of all of us. For this reason, it is essential to promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue and to build the

future on common values," the pope said in a video message released July 28.

The pope concluded his remarks by asking, "How do you think we can foster more enriching encounters with migrants and refugees?"

The video message launched a communications campaign that highlights the theme of the Sept. 25 world day celebration: "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees."

The theme highlights

"the commitment that we are all called to share in building a future that embraces God's plan, leaving no one behind," said an earlier statement from the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

The dicastery said the purpose of the communications campaign is to encourage support and prepare for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees through multimedia aids, informational material and theological reflections.

# CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

### Despite papal apology, some find it hard to forgive

The legacy of residential schools has been handed down to today's Native Americans. Jody Roy's uncle was sexually and physically abused in Canada. Terry Cornell had three family members who never came home from a residential school in the U.S. So when Pope Francis apologized to Canadian Indigenous for the ways in which many members of the church and of religious communities cooperated in projects of cultural destruction and forced assimilation at residential schools, Native Americans, like many Canadian Indigenous, said forgiveness was hard – despite their Catholic faith. "The U.S. government's assimilation policy was nothing short of murder," said Terry Cornell, whose heritage is Irish and Cheyenne Arapahoe. "All it was was a cash grab. The government paid these agencies to kill the Indian inside them." "The historical trauma is real," Cornell said. Cornell and Roy are on the coordinating team for the Catholic Native Boarding School Accountability and Healing Project, more commonly known as AHP. Cornell said he believes it would be really hard for many Native Americans to even accept an apology and that, as a Catholic, he struggles internally, even though he believes in forgiveness.

### Judge dismisses defamation suits against media outlets

COVINGTON, Ky. (CNS) – A federal judge in Kentucky July 26 dismissed defamation lawsuits filed against five media outlets by a former Covington Catholic High School student and his family over their coverage of an incident that occurred after the 2019 March for Life that quickly went viral. The coverage in question centered on Nicholas Sandmann's encounter with a Native American activist on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. A junior at the time, Sandmann was with other Covington students but he was the most prominent in viral footage of the Jan. 18, 2019, encounter in Washington. The widely seen footage prompted accusations the 16-year-old's conduct was racially motivated, which Sandmann denied. Sandmann, now 20 and a rising junior at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky, sued The New York Times, ABC News CBS News and Rolling Stone magazine for a combined \$1.25 billion. He also sued the Gannett Media Co. and five of its publications: USA TODAY, the Cincinnati Enquirer, the Detroit Free Press, The Courier Journal and the Tennessean, seeking \$195 million. He argued the media outlets' stories on his encounter with Native American rights activist Nathan Phillips were defamatory.

### Pope calls for care as consumption keeps outpacing resources

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Among the many environmental issues Pope Francis is concerned about, the one that "has shocked me the most," he once said, is the way resources are increasingly being consumed faster than they can be regenerated. "Earth Overshoot Day" is the day when resource consumption goes into "debt" because the annual demand on nature exceeds nature's annual "budget," that is, what the earth can regenerate in that year. The faster humanity consumes resources and generates waste compared to how fast nature can recover, the bigger humanity's "ecological footprint" and the earlier that overshoot date falls in the year. "It's very serious. It's a global emergency," the pope said in an interview in the summer of 2019, when Earth Overshoot Day fell on July 29. In the pandemic year of 2020, Earth Overshoot Day was Aug. 22. This year, the day fell July 28, with the treasures of Earth's yearly budget again being exhausted in less than eight months. It would take having another planet Earth and tapping into 75% of its resources in order to "break even."



# Pope in Canada: Church cannot flee failures

STE.-ANNE-DE-BEAUPRÉ, Quebec (CNS) – In the face of sin and failure, the temptation to wallow in despair and do nothing comes from the devil, Pope Francis said.

While commentators, politicians and survivors discussed whether Pope Francis' apology for the Catholic Church's role in running residential schools was enough, the pope insisted reconciliation requires faith, action and the courage to move forward.

"The enemy," or the devil, "wants to paralyze us with grief and remorse, to convince us that nothing else can be done, that it is hopeless to try to find a way to start over," the pope said July 28 during Mass at the National Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré.

The pope, continuing to experience knee pain, preached and led the Liturgy of the Word, but Cardinal Gérald Lacroix presided over the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Some 1,400 people – including many survivors of residential schools – were inside the shrine, while thousands of others sat in camp chairs or on blankets on the lawn outside.

Mary Ann Wapachee Linton, a residential school survivor from James Bay, Nunavut, was among the people outside.

She said she was sent to one of the schools at the age of 4. "My mother had packed a little case for me with new pajamas, panties and elastics for my long braids."

The case was taken from her as soon as she arrived, and she said she never saw it again. "And they cut off my braids that first night."

Wapachee Linton came to the shrine wearing a



CNS PHOTO/VATICAN MEDIA

**Pope Francis accepts the gifts from Indigenous people as he celebrates Mass at the National Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré in Quebec July 28, 2022.**

red ribbon skirt; the red, she said, was for the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls across Canada.

The orange ribbon at the bottom was for all the children who were sent to residential schools, she said. The white ribbon was "for purity" and symbolizes her relationship with her grandmother, who always loved and cared for her. The flowered ribbon was "for the relationship I'm still trying to grow with my parents."

She said she came to the Mass "because I wanted a glimpse of the pope. ... My grandmother always had a picture of the pope at home."

The woman, who teaches Cree and English at an elementary school, said, "I blamed my parents, not the church" for her experience at the residential school, including the loss of her language and culture.

At the "Mass of Reconciliation" at the shrine, the

Gospel reading was the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, dejected and confused after the crucifixion of Jesus.

"That experience also marks our own lives, and our spiritual journey, at those times when we are forced to recalibrate expectations and to cope with our failings and the ambiguities and confusions of life," the pope said.

It also is natural, he said, to "feel crushed by our sins and by feelings of remorse."

"What happened? Why did it happen? How could it happen?" are all legitimate questions, the pope said, and "they are the burning questions that this pilgrim church in Canada is asking with heartfelt sorrow on its difficult and demanding journey of healing and reconciliation" with the nation's First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities.

"In confronting the scandal of evil and the body of Christ wounded in the

flesh of our Indigenous brothers and sisters," he said, "we, too, have experienced deep dismay; we, too, feel the burden of failure," like the disciples when they fled Jerusalem and headed to Emmaus.

The "temptation to flee" is real and to stop thinking about the failure is real, the pope said.

But, he said, the Gospel teaches that "it is in precisely such situations of disappointment and grief – when we are appalled by the violence of evil and shame for our sins, when the living waters of our lives are dried up by sin and failure, when we are stripped of everything and seem to have nothing left – that the Lord comes to meet us and walks at our side."

Pope Francis encouraged Canadian Catholics to recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread as

the disciples did in the Gospel story and allow him "to show us the way to healing and reconciliation."

"In faith," he said, "let us break together the eucharistic bread, so that around the table we can see ourselves once again as beloved children of the Father, called to be brothers and sisters all."

At the beginning of the Mass, protesters held up a banner inside the shrine calling on the pope to "rescind the doctrine," an apparent reference to the so-called Doctrine of Discovery, a collection of old papal teachings, beginning in the 14th century, that encouraged explorers to colonize and claim the lands of any people who were not Christian, placing both the land and the people under the sovereignty of European Christian rulers.

WEEKEND RETREAT

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## 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

## SUMMER FESTIVAL

Plattsburgh – Holy Cross Parish to have their Summer Festival.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** 12:30 p.m. to 3:30

**Place:** St. Peter's Church Grounds

**Features:** Food, games, music, raffles, inflatable obstacle course for kids. Big item raffle, Toro 50 inch zero turn mower. Only 500 tickets will be sold, they are \$20 each. To get a ticket call parish office at 518-563-0730 or stop in at 7 Margaret Street.

BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL  
BREAKFAST

Altona – St. Ann's and Holy Angels Catholic Parishes are hosting a Blueberry Festival Breakfast.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** 8 a.m. to Noon

**Place:** Holy Angels Church, Altona

**Cost:** Adults, \$10; Children 6-12, \$5; Children 5 and under, Free

**Features:** Take-outs available, Bake sale with Blueberry items, 50/50 raffle

## FOUNDATION DAY

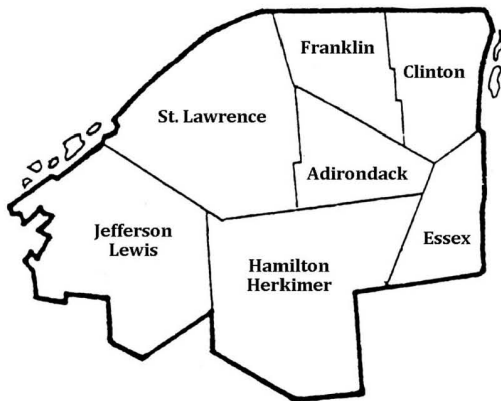
Ellenburg Center – Join for a festive celebration of Foundation Day at Our Lady of the Adirondacks.

**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, Father 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



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.

lunch!

## REDFORD PICNIC

Redford – The 167th Annual Redford Picnic to be held.

**Date:** Aug. 21

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Place:** Church of the Assumption Parish Center

**Features:** Ham and Roast Beef Dinner will be served in the Parish Center Gym. There will be games for all ages, such as Skilo, Pie Wheel, Fancy Booth, Craft Fair and our main attraction, a ride on one of the oldest merry-go-rounds in North America. Musical entertainment will be provided. The event will end with drawing of the cash raffle winner including the \$5,000 first prize at 6:15 p.m. You do not need to be present to win. The event is open to all, with free parking and admission.

## 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 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. 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

## 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 anti-cipated 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 with private meditation on the 15 Mysteries of the Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Prayers for the Holy Father and his intentions.

## 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

## BLESSINGS OF FLOWERS, HERBS

## JEFFERSON-LEWIS

## AND GRAINS

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

**Date:** Aug. 14

**Time:** 11 a.m.

**Features:** All are welcome to bring bouquets, pots, vases and stalks of flowers, herbs and grains, and place them in front of the altar. Blessed plants can then be taken to the home or cemetery or given as gifts.

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

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Carthage – Augustinian Academy to have Vacation Bible School.

**Date:** Aug. 22-26

**Time:** 5 p.m. to 7:30

**Features:** For grades K-6. There will be live music, new friends, games, crafts, stem.

**Contact:** Register online at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSc-E1gHGWCyj1V2A4dPCXEa82bJJSYx-g2VzztjGcqr7\\_jzVQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSc-E1gHGWCyj1V2A4dPCXEa82bJJSYx-g2VzztjGcqr7_jzVQ/viewform)

## 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, Ogdensburg

**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 Father Mark Reilly's 25th Anniversary of the Priesthood.

**Date:** Aug. 7

**Time:** Noon, following the 11 a.m. Mass

**Place:** St. Mary's Church

**Features:** Everyone is welcome!

There will be a pig roast from Pig and Moo BBQ, games for all ages, 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; Take-outs available

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

## SUMMER RAFFLE

Gouverneur – St. James School is having a summer raffle.

**Date:** Drawing will be Sept. 11 at

Chicken BBQ

**Cost:** Only 350 tickets will be sold, \$100 each

**Features:** Grand Prize, \$10,000; 2nd Prize: \$5000; 3rd Prize: \$2500; 4th Prize: \$1500; 5th Prize: \$500. All tickets will remain in the drum for every eligible prize. Per state Tax Law, withholding & tax documents will be completed upon payment of prize monies. Need NOT be present to win.

**Contact:** Tickets are available by calling the church office at 315-287-0114

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

## YOUNG ADULT WEEKEND RETREAT

Saranac Lake – If you are a young adult between the ages of 18 and 30 something, come away with us on retreat at

# Around the diocese

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

the Camp Guggenheim

**Date:** Aug. 12 to Aug. 14

**Cost:** \$25 per person

**Features:** Come for the entire weekend or Saturday only. It will be a relaxing retreat, with an optional hike Saturday morning, reflections and discussions on Sacramental Worldview, Participating in Christ, Obstacles to Encountering Christ, and The Church, the Universal Sacrament of Salvation. Father Leagon Carlin will be with us on Saturday afternoon and will celebrate the anticipated Mass. Meals will be potluck (we will coordinate with the participants.)

**Contact:** For more information contact Marika Donders at [mdonders@rcdony.org](mailto:mdonders@rcdony.org) or 315-393-2920 ext. 1380 and to register go to [www.rcdony.org/yamretreat](http://www.rcdony.org/yamretreat).

## 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 [rcdony.org/family-life/fg](http://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](mailto:startaglia@rcdony.org)

## RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

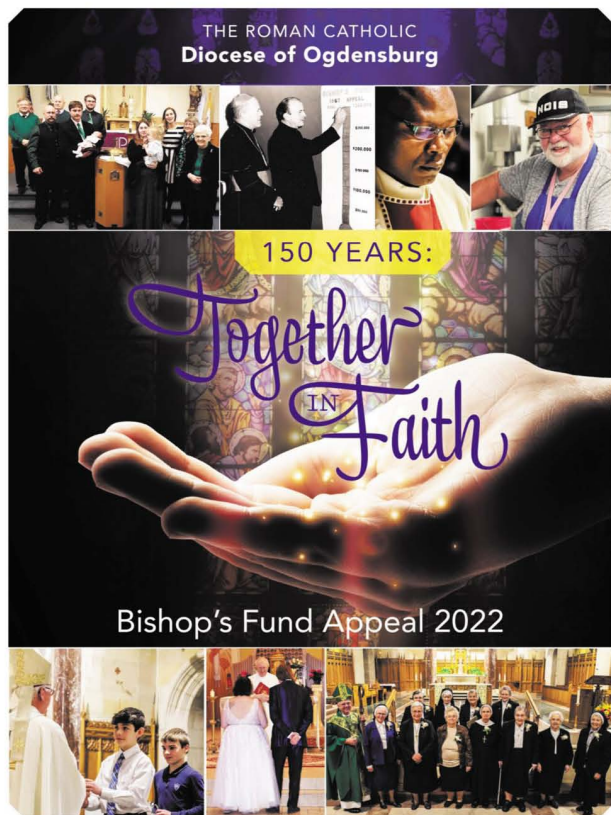
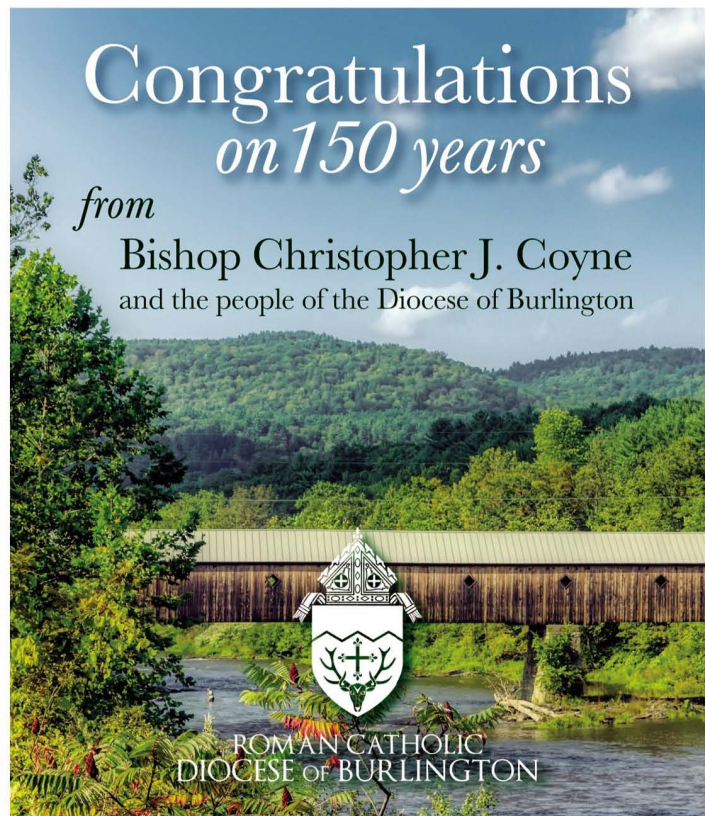
Saranac Lake – After Abortion Healing weekend to be held.

**Date:** Sept. 2-4

**Place:** Guggenheim Center

**Features:** If you (or a friend) are 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/p-life](http://rcdony.org/p-life) or contact the Respect Life office 518-524-0774 or [cmminer@rcdony.org](mailto:cmminer@rcdony.org)



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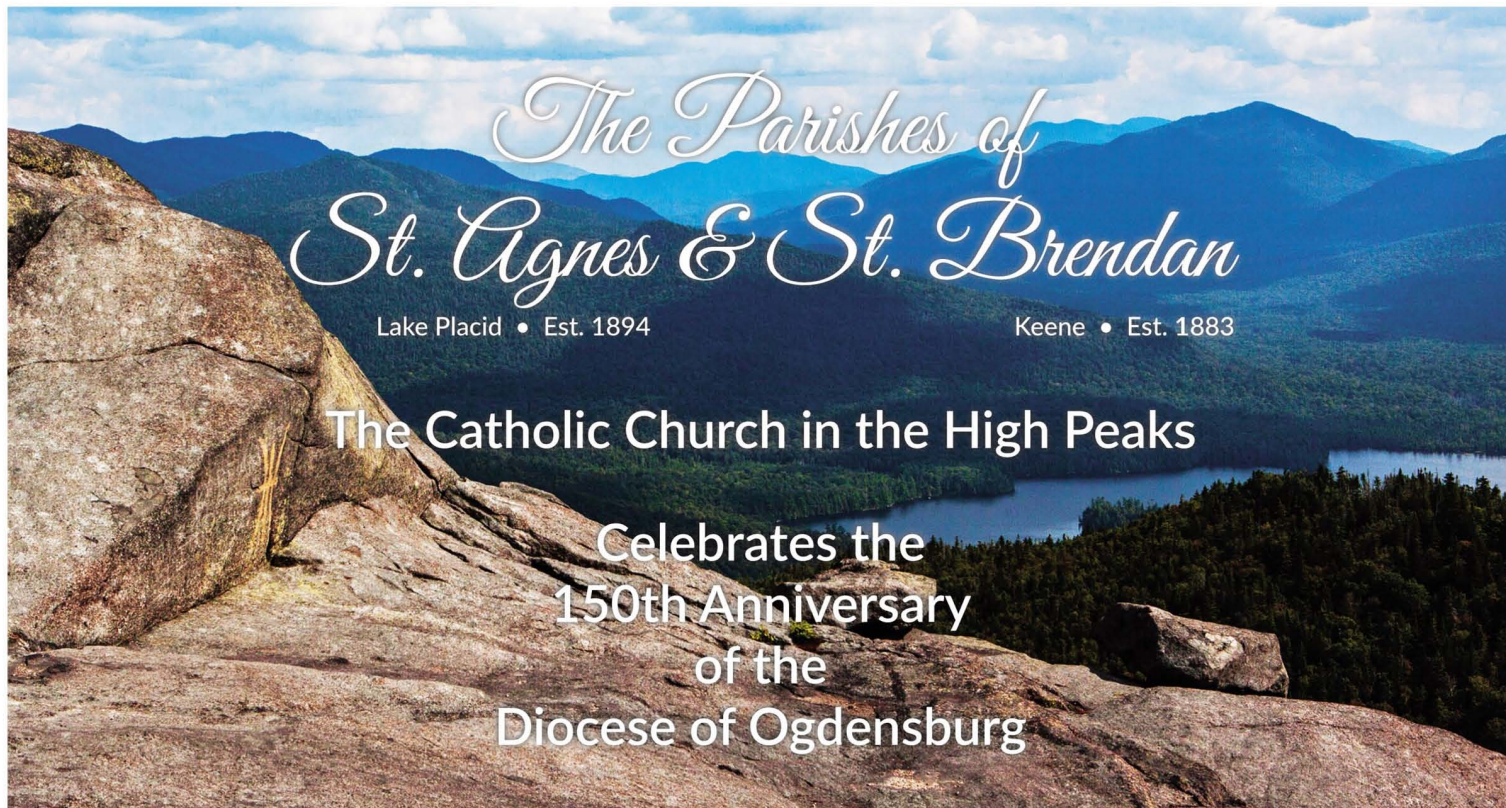
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Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_



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of the  
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*Congratulations to the Diocese of  
Ogdensburg celebrating 150 years!  
We are honored to have been part of  
this milestone from 1898-2016.  
- Blessings from the Ursuline Sisters*

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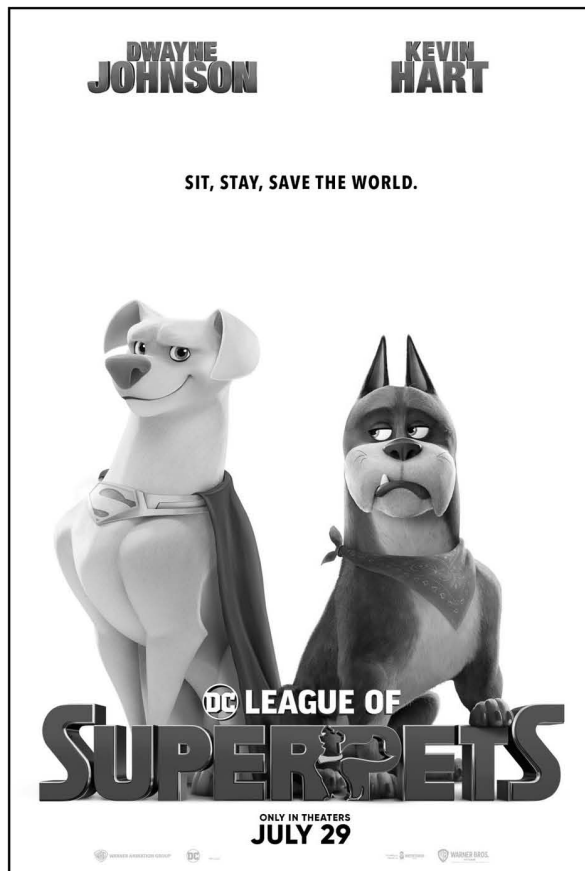
## PICTURES OF THE PAST



(Left) Knights of Columbus from Massena pose for this undated file photos. (Right) Students at St. John's High School in Plattsburgh participate in a snow sculpture contest in March of 1959.

## AT THE MOVIES

## DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS



CNS PHOTO/ALON AMIR, WARNER BROS.

This is the movie poster for "DC League of Super-Pets."

NEW YORK (CNS) – How to revitalize the oft-told story of Superman, who made his debut in print way back in 1938? By focusing on his canine best friend. At least, that's the gambit behind director and co-writer Jared Stern's reasonably fresh animated comedy "DC League of Super-Pets" (Warner Bros.).

Introduced in previous DC Comics lore and dubbed Krypto (voice of Dwayne Johnson), the pooch – according to Stern's screenplay, penned with John Whittington – has shown unwavering devotion to the Man of Steel (voice of John Krasinski) ever since he was a pup. But their close relationship is complicated by Superman's romance with Lois Lane (voice of Olivia Wilde).

More ominously, their welfare is endangered by the machinations of Lulu (voice of Kate McKinnon), a villainous guinea pig who has managed to acquire superpowers. To defeat her, Krypto turns to a

band of similarly gifted rescue animals led by Ace (voice of Kevin Hart), a scrappy hound whose gruff exterior hides a warm heart.

As the ensemble battle evil, they learn such life lessons as the need to be themselves, the value of working together and the self-sacrificial nature of real love. While overcomplicated – no fewer than three different types of kryptonite are mentioned in the script and a host of Superman's fellow characters from the DC stable put in brief appearances – their story is occasionally amusing and mostly unobjectionable.

Yet not entirely so. Besides the predictable potty jokes, a reference to Superman and Lois' habit of spending some of their nights together as well as several bleeped out – but

easily guessed – swear words bar endorsement of the film for very young viewers.

Teens, by contrast, will likely take these elements in stride. Whether they'll be as susceptible as their juniors to the cuddly cuteness on which Stern sometimes relies, however, is another question.

The film contains a vague reference to pre-marital sexual activity, censored vulgar language, a few scatological jokes and a single crass term. 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.



## SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

## Relying on God's power

How exciting it was as children when we heard that our favorite uncle and aunt were coming for a visit. How did we know? Our mother told us about the letter she had received. In it, they had promised her that they would be here two weeks from Monday. Everything was more exciting during those weeks of waiting. Nothing was too



Monsignor  
Paul E.  
Whitmore

hard. We had cleaned up our rooms and did extra polishing, making sure that everything was in order for their visit. On the day they were to arrive, we were ready! We couldn't wait for their car to pull into the driveway. And, of course, our uncle and aunt always had gifts for us.

Our readings this week are all about being pre-

August 7

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READINGS

Wisdom 18:6-9

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

Luke 12:32-48

pared for the Lord's coming! The reading from Hebrews says it all: "Faith is the realization of what is hoped for – and evidence of things not seen." If our faith is strong, we will endure anything rather than miss out on the day of the

Lord's coming. To journey in faith and trust in God always leads to life, not death.

The first reading from wisdom recalls the night before the flight of the Hebrew people into the desert. Faith alone in what God had promised could give them courage to actually flee into the unknown. And, of course, God rewarded their courage and dramatically helped them to escape. 14 other models of faith are mentioned in the second reading.

To those who have faith, all things are possible. Faith helps us to rely on God's power not on our own. As the gospel points out, we are to live in this world as strangers who are on the way home. People who move from one place to another, get rid of all they can from their old house and focus on furnishing the new house. They joyfully give away what they once cherished. Jesus said: "...for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

## CALLED TO SERVE

## Ad lib if you have to

The other day a bunch of deacons and our wives got together to pray and dine together.

The topics flowed freely and eventually came around to vocations.

When the church talks about vocations, when we pray for vocations, I'll bet most folks think about the priesthood. That's fine, but it doesn't cover the whole map.

We fervently pray for the men who are in formation now, hoping, if God wills, each will be ordained one

day to lead us spiritually as our priest. We definitely need more priests.

A vocation is not unique to the priestly life though. A vocation to serve the Church and its members includes deacons, consecrated sisters and brothers, and many lay people. There are men and women in formation for these vocations now too, and we pray as enthusiastically for them.

We should also think of marriage as a vocation. Some women and men

have chosen to remain single. That is their vocation.

I have a dear friend who was engaged when she was in her 20s. Her fiancé died. This friend chose never to consider marriage again. Now in her 90s, she has no regrets.

I recall preaching about the joy of marriage at Mass one Sunday. I was about halfway into the homily when a parishioner, one I knew well and one I knew was single, got up and left.

It upset me that she left, so I reached out to her

later that day. As I suspected, this lady, about 60 years of age then, thought my words of support for marriage carried a subliminal, negative message to single people. I assured her there was no hidden meaning and we resolved the misunderstanding.

By definition, vocation and career path are not synonymous. For example, the majority of my career was in broadcasting but my vocations, yes, two of them, are to my wife and family and the Church. Did you know a married man cannot be ordained a deacon without his wife's permission? In writing! Family first.

Deacons are important to the future of the Church in Ogdensburg. Given the priest shortage, the number of men who choose the diaconal vocation, become an important asset to the diocesan bishop.

"Contrary to what some may think," Bishop LaVal-

ley recently told a Council of Deacons, "I need, the Church needs, vocations to the diaconate badly.

Whether expressed or not, know where the heart of the bishop is."

The prayer of the faithful often included at Sunday Mass should be "for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life," Bishop LaValley said.

Bishop acknowledges that deacons are not always included in the general intercessions.

Deacons are ordained, are clergy, so those words could be substituted for priest in the prayers.

And to deacons who should be reading the intentions, ad lib "deacons" if they are not included in the intercession.

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



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

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSJ, Director  
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(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296  
mbretti@rcdony.org

# Celebrating two centuries of SPOF

We at the Mission Office would like to congratulate the Diocese of Ogdensburg on its 150th anniversary of serving the faithful in the north country. It is because of everyone's commitment to God and each other that we have been able to come this far, and we pray for many more years to come.

This is also the year the Society for the Propagation of the Faith (SPOF) celebrates its 200th anniversary. In the 200 years since Blessed Pauline Jaricot founded SPOF in 1822 with her "circles of 10," it has grown to cover 1,150 dioceses worldwide, primarily in Africa and Asia.

Although she faced opposition from parish priests in Lyons, France, Blessed Pauline persisted, and within a few years had 2,000 people praying and donating to the missions. The first donation from The United States of America came in 1833 in the amount of \$6. Today about 25 percent of the money raised by SPOF comes from the USA.

Since its inception, SPOF has expanded, with further focus on supporting priests, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters, and children in the mission territories. It was because of Pauline's sacrifices and tenacity that these societies were begun, and it is due to the continued sacrifices of many throughout two centuries that enable us to keep serving our brothers and sisters in need.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is enthusiastic to see what the next leg of our journey will bring, and we at the Diocese of Ogdensburg's local SPOF branch look forward to working with all of you for many more years to come. We are excited to work towards encouraging missionary spirits and helping our brothers and sisters in the mission territories.

As we work together towards a world where no one is hungry or afraid, may we truly remember Blessed Pauline's words spoken from the heart, "Oh! I'd love to have a well of gold to give some to all the unfortunate, so that there would not be any more poor people at all and that no one would cry anymore."

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

## OBITUARIES

**Altona** – Amanda R. Hilton, 39; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2022 at Holy Angels Church.

**Cape Vincent** – David L. Bonney, 76; Services held July 30, 2022.

**Carthage** – Anthony "John" Futia; Memorial Mass July 30, 2022 at St. James Church.

**Carthage** – Justin R. Runkles, 38; Funeral Services July 26, 2022 at Lundy Funeral Home & Cremation Service Inc.

**Chateaugay** – Sheila (Mills) Silver, 86; Mass of Christian Burial July 29, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Chateaugay** – Georgiana M. (LaFontaine) Stalter, 77; Mass of Christian Burial July 20, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**Clayton** – Gerald V. Hill, 66; Services to be held Aug. 14, 2022.

**Chazy** – Sherrie D. (Dufour) Stone, 76; Mass of Christian Burial July 25, 2022 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Town of Ellenburg Mausoleum.

**Croghan** – Nicholas J. Ferguson, 27; Mass of Christian Burial July 29, 2022 at St. Stephen's Church; burial in St. Stephen's Cemetery.

**Dekalb Junction** – John M. Fuller, 93; Funeral Services July 19, 2022 at Allen-Denesha Funeral Home; burial in Hermon Cemetery.

**Harrisville** – Margaret M. "Peg" (Lancor) Chamberlain, 95; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2022 at St. Francis Solanus Church; burial in St. Francis Cemetery.

**Heuvelton** – Alson T. Caswell, 82; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2022 at St. Raphael's Church.

**Hogansburg** – Tanner Austin Scott Jock, 31; Mass of Christian Burial July 15, 2022 at St. Regis Church.

**Hogansburg** – Sarah M. (Jackson) Mitchell, 89; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2022 at St. Regis Church.

**LaFargeville** – Margaret H. Gailey Schell, 90; Private services to be held;

burial in Grove Cemetery.

**Lake Placid** – Zackrey John Peck, 28; Funeral Services July 29, 2022 at the M.B. Clark, Inc., Funeral Home.

**Lowville** – Margaret K. (Fitch) Searl, 96; Mass of Christian Burial July 25, 2022 at St. Peter's Church burial in West. Lowville Rural Cemetery.

**Lowville** – John M. Terrillion, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 30, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in Beaches Bridge Cemetery.

**Lyon Mountain** – Gail M. Wilson, 84; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 3, 2022 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Malone** – James L. Yando, 92; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

**Massena** – Patrick D. Villano Sr., 73; Funeral Services July 29, 2022 at Frary Funeral Home.

**Morrisonville** – Dawn Lancto, 86; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 1, 2022 at St. Alexander's Church.

**Morrisonville** – Rita Marie (Carron) Larche, 85; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2022 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Dan-nemora.

**Ogdensburg** – M. Frances (Cothran) MacGregor, 94; Mass of Christian Burial July 27, 2022 at Notre Dame Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Adam Measheaw, 48; Funeral Services July 25, 2022 at Frary Funeral Home; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Ogdensburg** – Katherine "Patsy" (Far-rand) Thornhill, 88; Mass of Christian Burial July 19, 2022 at Notre Dame Church.

**Plattsburgh** – Joshua C. Boglisch, 42; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2022 at Our Lady of Victory Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

**Plattsburgh** – Patricia Girard, 91; Mass of Christian burial July 22, 2022 at St. Peter's Church.

**Plattsburgh** – Thomas McFadden, 80; Mass of Christian Burial Sept. 2, 2022 at St. John's Church.

**Plattsburgh** – John E. Moschelle, Sr., 89; Mass of Christian Burial July 20, 2022 at St. Peter's Church.

**Plattsburgh** – Dustin A. Pickering, 26; Mass of Christian Burial July 29, 2022 at St. Peter's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

**Port Henry** – David R. Malbon II, 33; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church.

**Saranac Lake** – Francis Dudley Turner, 84; Mass of Christian Burial July 21, 2022 at St. Bernard's Church; burial in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

**Saranac Lake** – Luke Anthony Wood, 90; Mass of Christian Burial July 27, 2022 at St. Bernard's Chapel; burial in St. John in the Wilderness Catholic Cemetery, Lake Clear.

**Ticonderoga** – Angeline LaRock Dedrick, 100; Mass of Christian Burial July 22, 2022 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Parish Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Thomas W. Comenole, 89; Mass of Christian Burial July 29, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**Watertown** – Matthew F. Bondellio, Sr., 55; Mass of Christian Burial July 26, 2022 at St. Anthony's Church.

**Watertown** – Constance M. "Connie" Guardino, 98; Mass of Christian Burial Aug. 1, 2022 at St. Anthony's Church; burial in Glenwood Mausoleum.

**Watertown** – Rosalie T. (Capone) Provost, 84; Funeral Services July 22, 2022 at Cummings Funeral Service; burial in Glenwood Cemetery.

**West Chazy** – Joseph M. LaPier, 92; Mass of Christian Burial July 22, 2022 at St. Joseph's Church burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

**West Chazy** – Valedia R. (Burdo) Seymour, 86; Mass of Christian Burial July 28, 2022 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in Plattsburgh Community Mausoleum.

# CELEBRATE 150 YEARS WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF OGDENSBURG

## ANNIVERSARY MASS

**AUGUST**

**10**

AT SAINT MARY'S  
CATHEDRAL,  
OGDENSBURG

1 P.M.

PICNIC TO FOLLOW



Parking in the area surrounding the Cathedral will be limited. Parking and a complimentary shuttle service will be available at Ogdensburg Free Academy in the large lot next to the Golden Dome starting at 11:30 a.m.

- 1100 State Street (State Hwy 812), next to State Hwy 37 overpass
- Across the street from NAPA
- Scan the QR code for directions.

